

**SAINT TIKHON
ARCHDIOCESAN
STEWARDS**



"ORTHODOX PEOPLE!..
YOU MUST DEVOTE
YOURSELVES TO THE
ORTHODOX FAITH NOT IN
WORD OR TONGUE ONLY,
BUT IN DEED AND IN
TRUTH." 1903

**St. Tikhon Archdiocesan Stewards
Report from the Chair
Spring 2010**

Your Eminence, Your Grace, Fathers, Mother, brothers and sisters.

Bless Master.

St. Tikhon Archdiocesan Stewards (STAS) was introduced in October 2008, and has since become a major source of income to the Archdiocese. It has been inspiring to see that individuals have come together in the name of supporting the administration surrounding our Archbishop.

Now more than ever, with plans to assist and support deans, seminarians and missions for the future growth of this Church, the support of STAS's administration and operations by the Archdiocese is a priority.

There existed duplication in the administrative functions of the Archdiocesan Council and STAS. With that in mind, a decision was made this past October, to formally incorporate STAS into the Archdiocesan Council, and to have the Archdiocesan Executive Committee assume the administrative functions of STAS. This has allowed STAS's operations, including administration, promotion and communication, to be streamlined. As well the STAS vision committee was renamed the STAS committee.

This change now means that STAS is formally an Archdiocesan initiative, and makes each member of the Archdiocesan Council, responsible for its proper support, and promotion within their respective deaneries.

Financially, STAS's contributions have decreased in the past year. We received \$48,185 in contributions for the 2009 fiscal year with 133 of members, falling about \$7282 short of supporting the Episcopal Secretary¹. This is disappointing, but not unsurprising given that there was no formal STAS funding campaign for 2009, as STAS Sunday was moved from October to April and several of larger parishes did not receive a formal STAS presentation.

The STAS committee has plans to increase contributions to STAS. It has planned presentations across the Archdiocese for this year, trying as best to "piggy back" on the schedules of Archbishop Seraphim and Bishop Irenée. In addition, the Committee will be personally contacting individuals across this Archdiocese who are leaders within their parish communities but not yet members of STAS. In addition, the Committee has asked current contributors to consider increasing their monthly donations. The STAS Committee hopes that the current level of contributions can increase by 3-5% with about 30 new members with these two initiatives.

We have come so far with STAS and have done what many thought was impossible. The challenge now for STAS and the Archdiocesan Council is the active and consistent support and promotion of STAS. We trust the Lord to bless our work.

By the prayers of Sts. Tikhon and Arseny.

Dn. Gregory Scratch
STAS Chair.

¹ Expenditures for the Episcopal Secretary amounted to the following:

Salary and benefits - \$46,083

Operating expenses - \$3,665

Taxes paid (including includes the Diocesan part of the benefits we have to cover for CPP and EI)

for a total of \$51,802

While this shows a deficit of \$7282 we must be conscious that it is through the work and contacts of Protodeacon Nazari that the Pochaiev Icon was brought to Canada and measured in dollars, and not the immeasurable spiritual and miraculous benefits, the Archdiocese has gained approximately \$30,000 over expenditures.