

Acts of the 108th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land

Resolutions arising from the Bishop's Address

Resolution A-1:

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this 108th Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land support the concept of parishes assessing their ministry and mission as outlined in the Bishop's Address to Garrity / McCuaig Synod.

CARRIED

Resolution A-2:

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this 108th Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land affirm the Osborne/ Routley establishment of a Diocesan Stewardship Council to assist parishes with stewardship education.

CARRIED

Resolution A-3:

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this 108th Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land express its McCuaig/ Karlowsky - Clark thankfulness for the work and ministry of Primate's World Relief and Development Fund for the past fifty years and encourage parishes to support the work of this Fund through promotion and education.

CARRIED

Resolution A-4:

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this 108th Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land encourage parishes to engage in promoting and working towards achieving the Millennium Declaration and Development Goals which were adopted in 2000 by all of the member Garrity/ Karlowsky- Clark states of the United Nations.

CARRIED

Resolution A-5:

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this 108th Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land encourage McCuaig Routley congregations to explore the significance in their parishes of the Synod theme "Living as an Easter people in a Good Friday world".

CARRIED

Resolutions From the Convening Circular

Resolutions B-11, B-13, B-14, B-15, and B-16, all from the Board on Canons & Rules of Order were carried as printed in the Convening Circular. For sake of saving paper, they are not re-printed in this report. Resolution B-12 was amended and Carried. The amended resolution appears below.

Amended Resolution B -12 Subject: Parish Property on Amalgamation of Parishes

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT:

Braid/Deacon a) Canon 19, section 3 be amended be inserting new subsection 3 (c) as follows:
"When the parishioners of two or more parishes have passed resolutions expressing the desire to amalgamate, the parishes shall submit a proposal to the Bishop that includes the plan for ordained and lay ministries as well as the plan for the use and disposal of the real and personal property of the parishes. If the Bishop approves the proposal in principle, the Bishop shall submit the proposal to Diocesan Council. If Diocesan Council approves the proposal in principle, the proposal shall be referred to the Diocesan Executive to finalize the details of the proposal in consultation with the churchwardens and the incumbents of the parishes. Diocesan Council shall ensure that the retained real and personal property of the parishes is available for the continuing ministry and mission

Diocesan officials to discuss the parish's financial position and means of working toward the objective.

3. Other parishes currently contribute in excess of this level and are capable of continuing to do so. Until the program is fully established, such parishes are requested to not reduce their contribution by more than 1% per year, of its operating income, without prior discussion with Diocesan officials. Such discussions may include the feasibility of the parish entering into a mission arrangement with another parish to assist the other parish by contributing to the Diocese a portion of the other parish's Common Ministry and Mission Contribution.

4. A program of **Parish Ministry and Mission Assistance** will be established in the Diocesan Budget for 2010 to provide assistance to those parishes which provide Ministry and Mission programs that are of a truly Diocesan nature. Application criteria will be developed for approval by Diocesan Council. Eligible parishes may then apply to the program for assistance.

5. **CM&M Contribution Rate** will be reviewed at every second meeting of Diocesan Synod. The range established for the budgets of 2009 to 2012 will be from 12% to 15%. Diocesan Council shall have the authority between Synods to set the contribution rate applicable for the coming budget year. The rate shall not be increased by more than 1% from one year to the next.

PARISH OPERATING INCOME – GUIDELINES

Total of Receipts from

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| (i) | Offerings – Identifiable | Envelopes, cheques from members, Pre-authorized remittances, Automatic deposits. |
| (ii) | Parish Organizations | Donations to the parish from ACW, Men's group, Youth group, etc., |
| (iii) | Net income from Projects | Net income from dinners, garage sales, Plant sales, events (Income less costs incurred) |
| (iv) | Donations (General) | Special operating donations received. |
| (v) | Investment & Endowment Income available for operating purposes | (Interest, dividends, capital gains etc. Does not include capital transferred from investments to operating.) |
| (vi) | Net Rental Income | Rent received for church, rectory, parish hall, church property, less direct costs associated with rental, (Property taxes and insurance on rented rectory or church property, Additional security & caretaking costs on rental of parish hall) |
| (vii) | Other undesignated income used for operating purposes. | |

It Does Not Include

- A) Investment & Endowment Income designated for non operating purposes. (Cemetery, capital purposes, etc.)
- B) Bequests
- C) Funds received for capital purposes or to retire capital debt
- D) Donations specified for Parish Outreach purposes.

- E) Donations specified for Diocesan and national outreach (PWRDF, Anglican Appeal, Rupert's Land News, etc.)
- F) Other receipts which flow through the parish books for non operating purposes.

RESOLUTION AS AMENDED CARRIED

2007 Audited Financial Statements

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT the audited financial statements for 2007 be received.
Pawling/Clarkson

CARRIED

Resolution C – 1

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT the 2009 and 2010 budgets as presented to the session of Synod be approved, with authority to Diocesan Council to make necessary adjustments required by changes in income received and program directions approved within the parameters of the Way Forward Program.
Clarkson/
Pawling

CARRIED

Resolutions from the Convening Circular

Resolution B – 1 *Subject: Visioning & Planning Process*

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT Every parish in the diocese be challenged and encouraged on an annual basis to undertake an intentional process of visioning and planning with a focus on the parish's mission to the surrounding community and wider world.
Waring/
Blaikie

CARRIED

Resolution B-2 *Subject: Diocesan visioning and budget-planning process*

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT Diocesan Council be charged with overseeing the development of a diocesan visioning and budget-planning cycle, hinged to the two-year Synod interval, which would incorporate the outcomes of parish visioning and planning processes focused on mission.
Regehr/
Blaikie

CARRIED

Resolution B-3 *Subject: Content of Faith Horizons 2009*

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT the Way Forward Management Council together with Diocesan Council be given responsibility for coordinating the content of Faith Horizons 2009 with a view to supporting the parishes' processes of visioning and planning for mission.
Waring/
Regehr

CARRIED

Resolution B-4 *Subject: Setting priorities for aboriginal ministry*

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this synod affirm that aboriginal ministry is a priority in the Diocese of Rupert's Land and ask Diocesan Council to consider, consistent with the Way Forward and the budget process, implementation of the following proposals:
Stagg/
Still

1. Developing a deliberate strategy to foster, encourage and support understanding, healing and reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people and that this be undertaken based on parish activity.

2. Putting in place and implementing a deliberate strategy to fund, from the budget, the equivalent of one full-time stipendiary position with Rupert's Land Wechetowin Inc.
3. Putting in place and implementing, by the year 2012, a strategy for the Diocese to provide four full-time stipendiary positions in areas with predominant Aboriginal presence.
4. Providing training resources in ministry and mission (e.g. bursaries, travel related programs) for mature Aboriginal students.
5. Developing, funding and implementing culturally appropriate training for the Aboriginal community, leading to a theological degree, Aboriginal Spiritual Care Giver certificate or other recognized certificate.
6. Requesting that the Way Forward Committee continue to work with the Rupert's Land Aboriginal Circle to ensure these actions are a priority within the diocese.

CARRIED

Resolution B-5 *Subject: The Proposed Anglican Covenant*

AMENDED MOTION:

Duggan/
Widdicombe That this Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land commends the process of the development of an Anglican Covenant, and memorializes the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada to declare itself to be a partaker in that process, subject to the Anglican Church of Canada's remaining a full participant in the Anglican Consultative Council.

AMENDED RESOLUTION CARRIED

Resolution B-8 *(From Diocesan Council) Subject: Gay and lesbian issues*

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this Synod affirms:

Bob Webster

1. That gay and lesbian persons in our society should continue to receive full protection under the law with respect to the fundamental principles of equity and justice.

CLAUSE CARRIED

2. That gay and lesbian civil unions be fully supported by the Church.

CLAUSE CARRIED

3. That committed gay Christian relationships receive the maximum recognition, ministry, and support this Diocese can provide compatible with our desire to remain a part of the Anglican Communion.

CLAUSE CARRIED

4. That this diocese assure those members of the Church who struggle with homosexual desires and believe them to be wrong, or at least incompatible with God's original design, that they will not be marginalized within the life of the diocese nor their witness dismissed.

CLAUSE CARRIED

Amended Clause

5. That we assure both our own national church and other churches within the Communion that in these as in other matters we wish only faithfully to hear the testimony of the apostles and prophets and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to embrace the great and central doctrinal commitments of the past, and to obey Christ in seeking the common good.

AMENDED CLAUSE CARRIED

Vote on Resolution B-8

For: 153 Against: 18

AMENDED RESOLUTION CARRIED

MOTION: That abstentions be counted for Resolutions B8 and B9.
Flynn/Jamieson

CARRIED

MOTION: That the vote on B 8, paragraph 5 be re-taken.
Dixon/Goodwin

CARRIED

For: 144 Against: 14 Abstentions: 10

AMENDED RESOLUTION CARRIED

Resolution B- 9

from the Diocesan Council

Subject: Requesting permission for blessing of civil marriages of same-sex couples

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this Synod request the Bishop, upon the passage by General Synod of an enabling doctrinal resolution, to allow clergy, whose conscience permits, to bless the duly solemnized and registered civil marriages between same-sex couples, where at least one party is baptized, in parish churches whose members have, by resolution, authorized such ceremonies to take place; and to authorize rites for such blessings.
Braid/
n/a

Voting by secret ballot, ordered as to clergy and laity:

Clergy: For: 32 Against: 23 Abstentions: 0
Laity: For: 69 Against: 51 Abstentions: 3

RESOLUTION B- 9 CARRIED IN BOTH HOUSES

Original Resolution B-6

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert’s Land express its dismay that bishops of some Canadian dioceses have resorted to secular courts when congregations within those dioceses have aligned themselves with other ecclesial jurisdictions and urges all parties to exhaust all reasonable Christian measures of resolution first.
Cornell
Holmes

AMENDED SUBSTITUTE MOTION B-6: *Subject: Lawsuits in the Church*

Webster/
Howison That the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert’s Land express its dismay that some dioceses and congregations have felt it necessary to resort to the courts over property conflicts and encourage all parties to exhaust all reasonable Christian measures of resolution first before taking such action.

AMENDED SUBSTITUTE MOTION CARRIED

Resolution B -7 *Subject: Circulation of Resolution B- 6 on lawsuits in the Church*

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT Resolution B 6 be forwarded to the Council of General Synod for its
Cornell/
Holmes concurrence and that the motion be circulated to all Canadian Diocesan bishops.

CARRIED

Resolutions from the Floor

Revised Resolution C – 2

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT capital income realized from the sale of properties of disestablished
Preston churches, and investment income beginning in Budget year 2011, be directed towards
Parsons/
Joy new church development, unless otherwise directed by the Synod of the diocese.

Revised Resolution C- 2 CARRIED

Resolution C -3

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT this Synod express its sincere thanks to all members of our Diocese
Osborne/
Beare who served as volunteers at the General Synod 2007 held in Winnipeg, for the
ministry of hospitality and welcome they offered to the members and staff of the
General Synod Anglican Church of Canada.

With the permission of synod, resolution C3 was put and carried by applause.

MOTION: RESOLVED THAT notice of motions C 4, C-5, C-7, and C-8 be referred to Diocesan
Beare/
Condo Council.

CARRIED.

Notices of Motion C – 4

Moved by: Mr. Fred Zeggil

Seconded by: The Ven. Godfrey Mawejje

Resolved that the date of Synod be moved to either late September or early October and that the Diocesan Council work out the best way of implementing this decision.

Notice of Motion C- 5

Moved by: The Ven. Fletcher Stewart

Seconded by: Mr. Roger Stagg

Resolved that this Synod authorize Diocesan Council to develop a policy to guide the funding of major mission initiatives in keeping with the budget, the Five Directions of the Way Forward, and prudent financial management; and THAT this Synod refrain from authorizing new funding for major mission initiatives until such a policy is in place.

Resolution C – 6 was withdrawn

Notice of Motion C – 7

Moved by: The Rev. Jamie Howison

Seconded by: Dr. Chris Holmes

Resolved that this Synod mandate a study of the implications to traditional understandings of marriage as a result of current and potential civil legislation and request a theological response for the consideration of the Bishop and members of Synod at its next meeting.

Notice of Motion C – 8

Moved by: The Rev. Geoff Woodcroft

Seconded by: The Rev. Mary Lysecki

Resolved that Synod direct and empower each parish to foster healthy and sustainable relationships locally between aboriginal and non-aboriginal peoples.