

Addendum to the Acts & Resolutions of Diocesan Council

Executive Committee – August 2016

- #135 Approved a \$600 grant from the 2017 Youth Ministry budget to St. Paul, Middlechurch for its vacation bible school program kit.
- #136 Approved in principle the proposed digitization project, (of select Archival records) and authorized the Bishop and Registrar sign the contract when they are satisfied with the content of the contract.
- #137 Endorsed, on behalf of the Diocese, the “Circles of Reconciliation” program, and commends it to our diocese to grow and encourage a process of reconciliation and adoption of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s 94 Calls to Action.
- #138 Commended the Ven. Geoff Woodcroft, the Parish of St. Paul, Fort Garry and the Diocesan Refugee Committee for its successful one – day fund raiser for the Rupert’s Land Refugee Fund.
- #139 Commended the Draft Budgets for 2017 and 2018 to Synod for consideration.
- #140 Recommended to Diocesan Council that the following persons be appointed as Synod Appointees: Mrs. Gail Schnabl, the Rev. Robert Murray; Mrs. Sylvia J. James.
- #141 Received a report on St. John’s College Justice Camp.
- #142 Received the annual report of usage of Anglican Foundation grants and membership.
- #143 Received the report on the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and approved a grant of \$1000 from the Youth Ministry budget for 2016.
- #144 Authorized the balance of funds in the Diocesan Council Project budget line be allocated for local hospitality for delegation coming from Uganda in 2016.

Diocesan Council – September 2016

- #145 Received with thanks the Report of the Archives and noted with interest the upcoming projects being undertaken in the Archives.
- #146 Endorsed the “Circles of Reconciliation” program, and commended it to our diocese to grow and encourage a process of reconciliation and adoption of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s 94 Calls to Action.
- #147 Received the Draft 2017 and 2018 Diocesan budgets and commends them to Synod.
- #148 Received the Report of the Diocesan Compensation Committee.
- #149 Approved the Diocesan Minimum Clergy Stipend scale to be increased by 1.5% for 2017 as a cost of living allowance as per Diocesan Policy.
- #150 Approved an increase in the 2017 Housing Allowance by 1.5% to \$15,225.

- #151 Approved, as of January 1, 2017, an increase by \$.02, to \$0.45 per km, to the Diocesan Travel rate, as per Diocesan Policy.
- #152 Recommended to Synod that the following persons be appointed as Synod Appointees: Mrs. Gail Schnabl, Mrs. Sylvia James and The Rev. Robert Murray
- #153 Received from the Bishop the names of the members of the Theological Implementation Team as follows and commended them to this work:
The Ven. Godfrey Maweje (as convener)
Mr. Geoff Dean
The Rev. Helen Kennedy
Ms Kirsten Pinto-Gfroerer (former chair of the Theological Education Commission)
The Rev. Vincent Solomon
Dr. Chris Trott
The Rt. Rev. Donald Phillips.

Throughout the course of the two year term, the Diocesan Council and Executive Committee received a number of reports as well as monthly financial statements. These actions are not recorded in this report, but can be found in the minutes of the meetings of Diocesan Council and the Executive Committee.

Addendum to Convening Circular - September 22, 2016

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee, made up of seven members of the Anglican Community plus the Director of Finance of the Diocese, meet on a regular basis to review the Operating Fund performance compared to the approved operating budget. The preparation of the year end consolidated financial statements is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to be presented to both the Executive Committee and the Diocesan Council for final approval by the auditors of the Diocese.

Following is a summary of recommendations made to the Executive Committee since the last Synod.

December 17, 2014

- Investment funds totaling \$ 217,788 received from the Diocese of Keewatin for the Archdeaconry of St. Alban's, Kenora will be invested with Integra Capital Management under a trust agreement. Additional funds of \$ 60,000 were received into a designated account.
- An amount of \$ 3,000 owing for Common Ministry and Mission from St. George, Transcona for the 2014 be forgiven.

February 24, 2015

- That the 2015 budget be presented to Executive showing an Operating Fund loss of \$ 3,778. That the investment income distribution rate be 4%.

April 22, 2015

- The 2015 operating fund budget has been approved by Council.
- Arrangements were made for the Treasurer's Workshop to be held May 23. The agenda will include Manitoba Hydro initiatives for the benefit of parishes, stewardship, investments, accounting systems

August 10, 2015

- Recommend ratification of the sale of the Diocesan property located at 3202 Bird's Hill Road at the price of \$ 290,000.
- Recommend to appropriate the net proceeds of the sale to the Property Capital Fund so that the investment earnings from the proceeds would offset the annual amortization of fixed assets of the Diocese which is charged to the Property Capital Fund.
- The net sale proceeds of the Fairford rectory of \$ 23,035 is invested with Integra Capital Management and allocated to the General Fund.
- Ontario treasurer's workshop is scheduled for September 26, 2015 in Dryden, ON.
- The June 30, 2015 operating fund statements were reviewed and forwarded to the Executive and Council.
- The 2014 audit report of PricewaterCoopers of the Diocese of Rupert's Land consolidated financial statements was received as a clear opinion certificate.

December 11, 2015

- Recommend that the Archives Committee be permitted to invest funds in the Diocesan General Fund with Integra Capital Management.
- Recommend to Diocesan Council that the 2014 Peguis Reserve Churches insurance premium owing of \$ 2,503.48 be written off.
- Recommend that the September and October financial statements of the Operating fund be forwarded to Executive and Council.
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The following invested trust funds have been reinvested with Integra Capital Management from CIBC:

- 1) Fairford trust fund \$ 36,402.00
- 2) DA Thompson trust fund 19,488.00

These funds are held in the General Trust Fund and controlled by the terms of the individual trust agreements.

Proceeds from the sale of the rectory in Woodlands, MB in the amount of \$ 40,055 have been invested with Integra and shown as capital funds in the Property Capital Fund.

- Recommend to Diocesan Council that \$ 650 be made available from the Diocesan Council Projects budget for the Uganda visitation.

March 2, 2016

- Recommend draft 2015 yearend financial statements be forwarded to Executive/Council.
- January, 2016 operating fund statements reviewed and forwarded to Executive.

April 21, 2016

- February operating statements reviewed and approval given to forward to Executive.
- Rupert's Land News has hired an advertising agent on a trial basis until June 30, 2016.
- March operating statements reviewed and approval given to forward to Executive.
- Research was completed to consider moving investment funds presently held by the Anglican Church Consolidated Fund to Integra in order to improve earnings rate from these funds.
- The first \$ 10,000 grant from the Anglican Foundation has been returned pending the hiring of the UMID on May 1, 2016. The grant will be re-applied for in 2018.
- The Executive Committee has approved the recommendation from Finance for St. Peter, Dynevor to undertake a line of credit of \$ 16,000 for renovation work at the parish from Rupert's Land Capital Fund Inc.

Respectfully Submitted by Gordon Pawling

The Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2014

9 Net assets

								2014	2013	
	Operating Fund	Property Capital Fund	New Church Development Fund	General Trust Fund	Hobson Trust Fund	Bird Trust Fund	Shared Ministry Investment Fund	Healing and Reconciliation Fund	Total	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Unrestricted										
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	29,848	(32,112)	63,468	95,429	8,465	17,422	30,710	(1,151)	212,079	167,986
Internal fund transfers (note 11)	27,449	125,228	(125,228)	(9,900)	-	(7,982)	(9,567)	-	-	-
Allocation to externally restricted	-	-	-	(49,054)	-	-	-	-	(49,054)	(7,783)
Allocation to (from) internally restricted	(7,538)	5,000	112,556	(28,311)	-	(6,016)	(19,698)	1,151	57,144	(52,986)
Balance - beginning of year	(4,491)	138,367	91,292	60,603	7,450	16,702	39,326	-	349,249	242,032
Balance - end of year	45,288	236,483	142,088	68,767	15,915	20,128	40,771	-	569,418	349,249
Externally restricted										
Allocation from unrestricted	-	-	-	49,054	-	-	-	-	49,054	7,783
Balance - beginning of year	-	-	-	902,816	334,110	172,467	-	-	1,409,393	1,401,610
Balance - end of year	-	-	-	951,870	334,110	172,467	-	-	1,458,447	1,409,393
Internally restricted										
Allocation to (from) unrestricted	7,538	(5,000)	(112,556)	28,311	-	6,016	19,698	(1,151)	(57,144)	52,986
Balance - beginning of year	43,616	24,848	845,961	155,744	14,258	20,288	419,175	13,517	1,537,407	1,484,421
Balance - end of year	51,154	19,848	733,405	184,055	14,258	26,304	438,873	12,366	1,480,263	1,537,407
	96,422	256,331	875,493	1,204,692	364,283	218,897	479,644	12,366	3,508,128	3,296,049

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Addendum to Resolutions from the Convening Circular

(This resolution was received in time for inclusion in the Convening Circular, but was inadvertently omitted from the list of resolutions that appeared in the Circular).

B - 15 Subject: Study of the Diocese of Rupert's Land's Present Model of Governance, with a view to recognizing the value and sacred process of the Circle

Moved By: The Rev. Brian B. Ford

Seconded by: The Rev. Mary Lysecki

RESOLVED THAT a committee be formed, half of whose membership shall consist of Indigenous persons, for the following purposes:

1. To review the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese to examine the relative roles of the Diocesan Bishop, Clergy and Laity in the decision making processes of Diocesan Synod;
2. To research alternative methods of decision making in use by Synods in other parts of the Anglican Communion, in other denominations and in Aboriginal bodies, taking into consideration the recommendations made in The Report of the Primate's Commission on the Doctrine of Discovery, Reconciliation and Justice¹ made to General Synod in July 2016;
3. To present a report of their findings for discussion by attendees at the 2017 session of Faith Horizons;
4. After consideration of the response of members of the Diocese, to place before the 2018 Diocesan Synod recommendations in the form of motions for changes to the Constitution and/or Canons of the Diocese related to the decision making processes of the Diocese and the relative roles of the diocesan Bishop, Clergy and Laity.

¹The report of the Primate's Commission on the Doctrine of Discovery, Reconciliation and Justice:

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/v3->

app_crowdc/assets/2/25/25b4238d3e24a275/018 Primate's Commission Report to General Synod.original.1466193677.pdf

Explanation

An important question for us to be asking in this Year of Reconciliation is: "How can we as one partner in the process of reconciliation further that work?" Truly, the Anglican Church has taken a number of steps to improve its relationship with the Aboriginal people of Canada:

- the apology given in 1993 by then Primate Michael Peers;
- the sponsorship of Sacred Circles both nationally and within our Diocese;
- the support of the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission;
- the growing practice of publicly acknowledging our presence on Treaty Land;

- the inclusion of smudges and readings and prayers in Aboriginal languages at Diocesan celebrations and worship events;
- the installation of a National Aboriginal Bishop and the creation of the Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh;
- The hiring of an Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer.

These are positive developments, but this Synod's theme begs the question: are they enough? Our understanding, attitudes and behaviors are beginning to change, but there is another equally significant piece that has been overlooked: that of our church's organization and structure.

If we wish to be a community of grace and a reflection of the light of Christ, we must attend to more than just how we behave, we must also address how we form and define ourselves as an institutional body. There is much in our Constitution and Canons that portrays us as an institution of Orders; an institution whose structure has remained largely unchanged for decades, if not centuries. When missionaries came to North America they brought with them a mixed message: they brought the gospel of Jesus Christ, but it was a gospel that got overlaid with the laws, customs and structure of an institution that was tied to a colonial, imperial power. As others have said, we promised Christ, but we delivered the Church. This is not a compliment.

Therefore, the purpose of this motion is not to examine what we are currently doing in our relationships and ministry with First Nations people, but to examine the structure of our institution. Specifically to examine it in light of our claim to be a treaty people and participants in the work of reconciliation, and to examine it in light of the Gospel imperative to love our neighbor as ourselves. Are we willing enough to examine our Diocese's structure and bold enough, where necessary, to bring it into line with the Gospel we profess, and in the process become a better partner in the reconciliation process?

REPORT ON GENERAL SYNOD 2016 TO THE 113TH SESSION OF THE DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND

On balance, General Synod 2016 offered blessings through worship, dialogue and conversations to the 285 Anglican delegates from the nation.

Spiritually uplifting sermons from the Primate Fred Hiltz during the worship, were augmented by elements of old Anglican tradition, such as the rite of asperges (sprinkling water on the congregation in remembrance of baptism); the awesome stirring and enriching day of Indigenous Liturgy, presided by Bishop Mark MacDonald together with the update on discipleship and work in the Anglican diaspora, created an otherwise inspiring Synod. It was much more than a contentious debate on same sex marriage, though media headlines suggested otherwise. Furthermore, the emergence of somewhat chastened delegates dampened the earlier vitality.

The venue, Sheraton Hotel, Richmond Hill, was a great location. All delegates were together in one place, the infrastructure and the physical layout of Synod, and the availability of live streaming made it a technologically sound real, world event. Yes, the overall experience was positive, however the delegates, Bishop Don Phillips, Dean Paul Johnson, The Rev. Allison Chubb, The Rev Vincent Solomon, Ms Tannis Webster, Dr. June James, Mr. Connor Blaikie, and Mr. Matthew Terlinski acknowledged areas of concern manifested during the six day religious conference. (Rev. Barbara Shoomski was also present on behalf of the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples).

Sessions began with morning prayers, followed by neighbourhood discussion around tables which were decorated with canvas paintings to provide a focus to our discussions. These discussions, involving delegates from three or more dioceses were named as a strength of the daily sittings. There was some push back as one diocese insisted on staying together, another refused to have any discussion. Each diocese has been gifted with a prayer cloth. (However two days would have sufficed to allow for speakers from ancillary groups to acquaint us with the national and global work of the Anglican clergy and laity.) The dialogue on same sex marriage was intentionally allocated a great deal of time, discussed initially in neighbourhood then diocesan groups, with civility and respect but this was not a universal occurrence. One of us stated "I was grateful to be there, but overall it was emotionally exhausting."

We heard from the Bishops in the Pan Anglican Diaspora. Bishop Griselda Delgado Del Carpio indicated the Cuban church continues to grow focussing on mission, community projects, agriculture (planting, food security) education, and housing. The Church in Canada was the conduit when the USA placed the Cuban embargo. We provided financial and spiritual support. These programs, led by 24 priests, empower the 6000 Anglicans, change additional lives, and also make the church very visible.

Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the USA, a powerful orator, had to shorten his presentation when another round of gun violence had occurred in Baton Rouge and in Minneapolis. Citing Spiritual malady, he added, "We in the USA are struggling now with how we can learn to become a country and culture where human life is sacred. Enough is enough."

Archbishop Josiah Idowu- Fearon, former Bishop of Kaduna in the Church of Nigeria, now Secretary General of the Anglican Consultative Council, added that ever since the first Lambeth conference in 1867 Canada has played an important role, and continues to with our current 77 million members. He noted that the struggle for legal, spiritual and physical safety of the gay and lesbian community continues in Africa. He remarked that attitudes must change and time and space are required. The Bishop of Brazil, Francisco de Assis Da Silva commented about the effect on Brazilian economy with the fall in oil prices, and the degree of negativism by some with going ahead with the Rio 2016 Olympics.

On the day set aside for plenary discussion of the proposed motion on the Marriage Canon, the differing views and perspectives were put on the floor quickly as over 60 people were at the microphones. The loss of the cohesiveness and compassion among the delegates was palpable. The healthy energy dissipated. It appeared to some that there was an implicit "promotion for a yes vote; no balance", which morphed into "them and us".

When the first vote was announced lack of respect by a few members of the polarised groups was apparent and a "blame" game emerged for some. At one juncture the Primate called a time out went to the altar to lead us in prayer.

At this time much of our Indigenous leadership and a few other Dioceses are not in favour of a change while others believe it is time to end the perceived second class status for LGBTQ2S persons in the Anglican Church.

We believe there should be a different way to allow for dialogue and debate at General Synod. The present methodology worked in the past but is now broken. Perhaps it should allow for a blend of Roberts Rules of Order and traditional Indigenous Circle discussions that end in consensus. Out of this negative experience should emerge opportunities. Dialogue among dioceses, within parishes, and at a Bishops' level, should start prior to the 2019 synod when the motion is up for second reading. On the plus side the newly-elected Council of General synod has more diversity - conversations can start.

Lessons learned will permit our own Synod to act in a more sensitive manner.

Conclusion. There is presently no new policy in effect regarding same sex marriage since the amendment has passed only First Reading. With respect to our church's structural processes, amendments can be made prior to the 2019 General Synod which can accommodate any changes proposed to the policy.

Prepared by

June Marion James, O.M.,M.D.