

Diocese of Rupert's Land  
Diocesan Council

MINUTES

(revised) May 30, 2015  
St. Alban's Cathedral, Kenora

Present = Y    Regrets = R    Absent = A    (\*) = *ex officio* (a) = *appointed*

Y	Bardsley, The Ven. James*	Y	Maweje, The Ven. Godfrey*
Y	Blanchard, The Rev. Jonathan	Y	Norman, Mrs. Patricia
R	Braid, Mr. E. Arthur*	Y	Pawling, Mr. Gordon*
Y	Bruce, The Rev. Michael	Y	Phillips, The Rt. Rev. Donald*
R	Carlson, Mr. Sean (a)	R	Relf, Mrs. Donna Lee
Y	Cook, Mrs. Ellen V.	Y	Silk, Mr. Ian
Y	Dolloff, The Rev. John (a)	Y	Sisson, The Ven. Jennifer*
Y	Dugan, The Ven. James*	Y	Slipetz, Ms Willie
R	Elliott, The Rev. Dr. Brad	R	Solomon, The Rev. Vince
Y	Fortier, Ms Roselyn	Y	Thagard, Mr. Dan
Y	Hunter, The Rev. Deacon Helen	Y	Trott, Dr. Christopher* (Warden St. John's College)
R	Ingram, Mrs. Barbara	Y	Webster, Ms Tannis
R	Jackson, Mr. Gary	Y	Wedlake, Mr. Bob* (Secretary of Synod)
Y	James, Dr. June	Y	Whitmore, The Rev. Judith
Y	Ives-Lewis, Mrs. Diane		
Y	Johnson, The Very Rev. Paul*		
Y	Kennedy, The Rev. Helen		Staff:
Y	Kennedy, The Rev. Dick	Y	Funk, Mrs. Bernice – Director of Finance
R	Lysecki, The Rev. Mary	Y	Suppes, Mrs. Susan - Secretary
Y	MacDonald, The Rev. Deacon Lynn		

The meeting commenced at 10:00 am with the Bishop in the Chair. Worship was led by The Ven. James Dugan.

Diocesan Council Minutes of March 21, 2015

The motion presented and passed by Diocesan Council in March with regard to 'lodging and meals' referred to a 'per diem' rate, but also requested receipts for reimbursement. A per diem rate is a flat amount provided per day for meals or accommodation and does not require receipts. The intent of the policy was to pay a maximum of \$100 plus taxes per day for lodging, and a maximum per day of \$45 including taxes for meals (with receipts.) The Executive Committee passed a motion to clarify the wording of the Council motion to support the intent of the policy by removing the words 'per-diem'. The motion recorded in the minutes of the Diocesan Council will be amended to reflect this clarification.

MOTION:            THAT the minutes of the Meeting of Diocesan Council of March 21, 2015 be approved  
L. Macdonald/    as amended as follows:  
M.Bruce            Lodging: a maximum daily rate of \$100/night, plus applicable taxes;  
                          Meals: a maximum daily rate of \$45 (including taxes) for meals (with receipts required).

Carried.

Minutes of the Executive Committee of April 21, 2015

MOTION:            THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee of April 21, 2015 be received.  
P. Johnson/D. Thagard

Carried.

There was no meeting of the Executive Committee in May.

### Theological Education Commission Task Force

The Diocesan Council has received the report, and recommended the Bishop appoint the working group referred to in the report. The Bishop was pleased to announce that the Rev. Canon Dr. Cathy Campbell will chair the group, but the other membership has not yet been set.

The College has lifted the suspension on the Faculty of Theology, which reactivates its statues. The College will not be appointing a Dean of Theology, or offering programs, but lifting the suspension allows the College to accredit programs.

The Bishop advised that the Theological Education Commission Task Force report was a major consideration at Clergy Day at end of April. The conversation was very helpful. Feedback from the Clergy Day suggested:

- The report needs to find its way down to the parish level
- Each section of the report may need a small working group to help develop it.
- Need to ensure a measured presentation of the report to the parishes, otherwise it would have the appearance of being completed. A suggestion that a simplified summary be prepared around vision and principles of the report with recommendations be put forward.

Distribution will begin to parishes to help them own it. It can be used as a spring-board for further discussion. The first working group is expected to report by end of 2015. Recommendations should come back directly to Executive and /or Diocesan Council.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council acknowledge the progress (and feedback) received to date on C.Trott/  
Maweije the Theological Education Commission Report and endorse a plan to share the Report in an appropriate way with congregations and encourage their responses.  
Carried.

### Anti Racism Task Force

The Bishop was requested by Diocesan Council to establish an Anti-Racism Task Force. In reviewing our files, in 2009 anti-racism training for clergy was held with National Church Staff as resources. Maweije served on the National Anti-Racism Task force between 2004 and 2008. The Bishop has asked Maweije if he will convene/chair the Task Force. He has agreed. The Bishop will appoint the other members of the Task Force whose role will be to review the Policy of the Diocese of New Westminster, when that is available, along with the Charter for Racial Justice of the National Church, and come back to Diocesan Council with a recommendation for a diocesan protocol, with actions and training. Tannis Webster advised that the Council of General Synod just went through the training at its last meeting.

There are other resources in the City of Winnipeg, including the University of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority who may be able to assist us as resources to do this training.

### Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer:

The Very Rev. Paul Johnson reminded Council that the Job description was presented in March to the Executive Committee and Council. He has nothing new to report at this point.

### Faith Horizons:

The Rev. Helen Kennedy, Chair of the Planning Team, advised that the planning committee has met several times. The focus will be on "reconciliation". The Speaker has been secured; musicians are in place, dates confirmed, (Oct 16 & 17, 2015 – being two separate events, in different venues). Publicity will be ready within the next week. Information will be sent to all parishes with registration forms. The Friday night event (Oct 16) will be open and free. It is to be different than the Saturday event. Friday's event is at the Canad Inn, Garden City, with the Saturday event @ The Maples Collegiate.

The Saturday event will consist of a guided conversation with the key note speaker. There will be a sending ritual, which we hope will further the ongoing reconciliation process -- very much in keeping with TRC in the background in how it will be presented – The ending is only the beginning.

#### Draft Audited Year End Financial Statement for December 31, 2014

Draft audited statements were circulated as prepared.

MOTION: THAT the Draft Audited Financial Statement for the year ended December 31, 2015 be approved.  
G. Pawling/  
P. Johnson  
Carried.

The Treasurer offered the following comments:

The audited report is clear; the meeting with Auditors occurred a few weeks ago. Not much has changed from the draft statements reviewed by Council in March. The operating fund is exactly as presented then. Excess of revenue over expenditure for the Operating Fund is \$29,848. Total excess of revenue over expenditures for all funds \$212,079. The Bishop offered a vote of thanks to Bernice Funk and Gordon Pawling for their excellent work on the audited financial statements. This was acknowledged with applause.

#### Financial Statements to April 30, 2015

Bernice Funk reported that Investment earnings are 8.41% as of May 28/15. Total Revenue is \$277, 884 with expenses of \$264,087, resulting in a surplus of \$13,797 to April 30/15. The statements have been prepared with 4% investment earnings. Common Ministry and Mission acceptances have been received from 50 parishes. The total to date for these is \$633,162.92. This amount exceeds the budgeted amount by \$12,067. There are still 14 parishes whose approvals for 2015 have yet to be received.

The Rupert's Land News initiative has realized \$9,250 in donations in 2015. Shared Ministry Fund spent – \$5000 for youth (Emmanuel Sudanese Summer Program). Most other expenses are in order.

MOTION: THAT the financial statements to April 30, 2015 be received.  
L. Macdonald/ H. Hunter  
Carried.

#### Update on resolutions of Synod:

Bishop Don updated Council on the resolutions of Synod that were assigned to the Associates in Episcopal Ministry, together with three lay people appointed by Council, who may or may not be members of Council.

Resolutions A-2, A-3 and A-5 received some volunteers from the Associates, and some suggestions for lay persons. He asked Council how it wants to handle these appointments. The consensus was to go through the resolutions and take suggestion from this Council for membership, then ask the Executive committee to ratify the membership of the groups.

#### *Resolution A-2*

Requires AEM, and 3 lay people, to prepare theological reflection of reconciliation with God within the context of, but not limited to, our response in Indian Residential Schools. 3-4 clergy (Clergy suggested: Vincent Solomon, Murray Still) plus: Chris Trott, Ellen Cook, Robert Thomas;

#### *Resolution A-3*

Also requires AEM and 3 lay to design an appropriate public response mandated by A-2; Could some of those from A-2 be invited to carry on? They may agree.

### Resolution A-5

Missional conversations – AEM and 3 lay people

We need to assemble group for the purpose of discerning, creating, dissolving structures to serve the diocese now and in future. The Chancellor would act as a consultant. Names Suggested: Jim Dugan, Simon Blaikie, Gerry Miller, Margaret Clarke, Krista Warring, Heather Payne

### Appointee to Spirit Path Advisory Committee:

Jennifer reported that with the joint effort toward an ecumenical Advisory Committee, up to three appointees of the other denominations. Dr. June James has agreed to sit on it as an Anglican representative on this body. We may need to appoint an additional person in time to this group. Larry Ulrich, Cole Grambo and Jennifer have requested time to meet with members of the Executive Committee in June to discuss further this initiative.

### Trip to Central Buganda and Tanzania:

The Bishop reported on his, and Sean Carlson's, trip to Uganda. This was a pre-visit to our companion Diocese in advance of an international gathering of companion dioceses about mission / what works, what are some of the issues, and how things could be done better. Bishop Jackson and representatives of Central Buganda were unable to attend the consultation. The Bishop and Sean spent a week in Central Buganda Diocese (CBU) to nurture the companionship as we haven't been there since 2007. There is talk that it is Rupert's Land's turn to send a delegation in 2016. They met with the Outreach Committee of the CBU. Bishop Jackson is retiring at end of Jan 2017; successor will be likely elected summer of 2016. The proposal is for us to send our team in the mid-winter of 2016 (Jan 2016) and if desired, Bishop Jackson to come here in fall 2016 and bring the bishop-elect with him to the synod.

Our Companion Diocese Committee will be more strategic about who goes on these visits. We will try to choose people who would have much to give and receive, such as teachers, and farmers, have been good areas of expertise.

These relationships complete something of our journey of discipleship. We know about what that is in Canada, and now in the world-wide communion. They went to see all 154 orphans, and it was good to see the students, from youngster up to college age. The Orphans' program has committed \$20,000 a year for about 8-10 yrs.

The Consultation in Tanzania shed new light on the continuing struggles of South Sudan. The situation is dreadful with the ongoing war and devastation of people. African contingent spoke with confidence and assertiveness as equal partners. It is clear that in spite of what you read about the fractured Anglican Communion that is only one view of the story. We have many flourishing relationships with African Dioceses -- clearly sharing in mission.

The Rev. John Kwifanka, Director of Partnerships for the Anglican Communion referred to Diocese of Rupert's Land Discipleship theme as important. It is possible that intentional discipleship will become a real unifying factor around the Anglican Communion.

### Provincial Synod

The Provincial Synod will convene in three weeks in Saskatchewan:

Delegates are: The Very Rev. Paul Johnson, The Rev. Helen Kennedy, The Ven. Godfrey Mawejje, and The Ven. Geoff Woodcroft.

Lay Delegates are: Connor Blaikie, Elaine James, Ian Silk and Dan Thagard.

Other business: Remember the 22 Days Campaign and the event at the Cathedral on May 31. Go every day to the 22 Days Campaign to listen to a survivor's story. Opening ceremonies at the University of Winnipeg will be web-streamed across the country at 10 am local time.

The Dean asked for prayer for the Diocese of Jerusalem – a high priority for the Anglican Communion. The Christian population in Middle East is shrinking. He spent a week there with some North American Deans and brings greetings from the Bishop and people there.

Dates for fall 2015 meetings:

The dates for the fall meetings of the Executive and Diocesan Council are deemed to be set as distributed. The dates of the 2016 meetings to June are to be considered tentative, but please pencil into your calendars.

**Fall 2015 meetings:**

Executive Committee – September 8 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)  
Diocesan Council – September 29 (Tues. 5:30 – 6:30 dinner; 6:30 to 9:30 pm meeting)  
Executive Committee – October 13 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)  
Diocesan Council - N/A  
Executive Committee – November 10 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)  
Diocesan Council – November 28 (Sat. 9:30 am to 12:30 pm)\*  
Executive Committee – December 15 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)

**January 2016 (Tentatively proposed)**

Executive Committee - January 12, 2016 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)  
Diocesan Council – January 23, 2016 (Sat. 9:30 am to 12:30 pm)\*  
Executive Committee – February 9 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)  
Diocesan Council – n/a  
Executive Committee – March 1 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)  
Diocesan Council - March 19 (Sat. 9:30 to 12:30 pm)\*  
Executive Committee – April 12 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)  
Diocesan Council - n/a  
Executive Committee – May 10 (Tues., 1 – 4 pm)  
Diocesan Council – **May 28 (Saturday - Kenora, 10 am to 1 pm)**  
Executive Committee – June 14, 2015

\*It was requested that we consider the possibility of meeting from 2pm to 5 pm (or 1 pm to 4pm )on Saturdays in the Winter months. The Executive should consider this and make a recommendation to Council.

Thanks to St. Alban’s Cathedral for hosting the meeting and for our lunch.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.