

Diocese of Rupert's Land  
Diocesan Council

MINUTES

September 29, 2015  
St. Philip's Church, Winnipeg

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

The meeting was called to order by the Bishop at 6:40 pm. He extended a welcome to all. The Ven. Jennifer Sisson led the opening worship and Gospel-based Discipleship. The regrets were read.

Minutes of the meeting of Diocesan Council of May 30, 2015

The minutes were presented and a few corrections were noted.

MOTION: THAT the minutes of May 30, 2015 be approved as corrected.

G. Maweje/J. James

Carried.

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of June 16, 2015

MOTION: THAT the minutes of June 16, 2015 be received.

W. Slipetz/ P. Norman

Carried.

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of August 11, 2015

MOTION: THAT the minutes of August 11, 2015 be received.

R. Kennedy/J. Bardsley

Carried.

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of September 8, 2015

MOTION: THAT the minutes of September 8, 2015 be received.

J. Dugan /S. Carlson

Carried.

Arising from the minutes

The Executive Committee is in need of a lay member to replace The Rev. Deacon Dan Thagard who was ordained to the Diaconate and is therefore no longer able to represent the laity on the Executive Committee. The Bishop declared nominations open.

Dr. June James was nominated. As there were no further nominations, a motion to close nominations was put.

MOTION: THAT nominations close.

C. Trott/T. Webster

Carried.

Dr. June James was acclaimed as a member of the Executive Committee.

With the departure of the Rev. Michael Bruce, (from both Council and Executive) the next alternate in order of votes received at Synod was invited to serve on Diocesan Council. The Rev. Edmund Laldin has accepted membership on Council. Since Michael Bruce was also on the Executive Committee it is necessary for Diocesan Council to elect a clergy member to replace him.

The Bishop declared nominations open.

The Rev. Deacon Helen Hunter was nominated. As there were no further nominations, a motion to close nominations was put.

MOTION: THAT nominations close.

C. Trott /B. Elliott

Carried.

The Rev. Deacon Helen Hunter was acclaimed as a member of the Executive Committee.

Ratification of Date of November Diocesan Council Meeting

The Executive Committee has recommended to Council that it change the date of the November Diocesan Council meeting from November 28 to November 21, because the Bishop, an Archdeacon and the Secretary of Council will be out of town. After a discussion, it was determined that several other members will be away on the 21<sup>st</sup>, so consideration was given to the date of November 14<sup>th</sup>. A straw vote was taken which indicated the preferred date as November 14.

MOTION: THAT the November Diocesan Council meeting be held on November 14, 2015.

C.Trott/G. Mawejje

Carried.

In light of this change the Executive Committee will determine when it will hold its in November meeting.

Proceeds of the Sale of the Anglican Church in Birds Hill

The Finance Committee and the Executive Committee have made recommendations to Council concerning the disposition of net proceeds of the sale of the Church in Birds Hill. As per the motion by the Executive Committee (August 11, 2015), the following motion was put:

MOTION: THAT, pursuant to Canon 19, section iv, the net proceeds of the sale of 3202 Birds Hill Road be allocated as follows: \$10,000 to Archives, and the balance to the Property Capital Fund.

Carried.

### Update on Spirit Path

The Bishop reported on how the ministry is unfolding in Waverley West. A delegation of The Ven. Jennifer Sisson (Anglican), The Ven. Larry Ulrich (Lutheran) and the Rev. Cole Grambo (United Church) attended the June Executive Committee meeting. A full account of the conversation is recorded in the minutes of that meeting; copies of which Council members have received. A recent meeting with denominational heads was very helpful. All denominational leaders had some of the same questions and concerns. As we move forward with this tri-denominational venture, it is clear that the ministry model will be more of a hybrid, rather than a United Church model. Another meeting will be held shortly, and a report will be provided to the Executive Committee. This matter will come back to Council on November 14<sup>th</sup>, in one of two ways, either a general proposal, with the details to be handled by the Executive, or a detailed proposal from the Executive. How this unfolds will depend on the timing of meetings.

### Companion Diocese Committee

Mr. Sean Carlson, Chair of the Companion Diocese Committee, reported on the visit he and Bishop Phillips made to Central Buganda in May. Arising from the meetings with the Outreach Committee of Central Buganda Diocese, it was decided that a delegation from Rupert's Land should visit Central Buganda Diocese in mid-January 2016. (Actual dates: Jan 19 to Feb 3, 2016). One of the reasons for the visit is the upcoming retirement of Bishop Jackson Matovu (Feb 2017). Bishop Phillips, along with Archdeacon Mawejje and the members of our Companion Diocese Committee, have met to consider priorities of the trip as outlined below:

- Advocacy and understanding for the Companion relationship and intentional discipleship with the Companion Diocese
- Strengthening parish links for the 33 parishes currently linked.
- The Orphan's project – and continuing to building its financial capacity. It is a challenge to raise funds for these orphans. \$20,000 goes annually to 138 Orphans for meals and education.
- Involve the Northwestern Ontario parishes
- The Ndoddo water project. It is about half done. The area in which most of the Christians live is still waiting for the completion of the project, and the delivery of water.

Sean spoke about who will be invited to be part of the delegation. They want people who can best assist with these priorities. A letter will be going out later this week to invite approximately 15 people who have been selected to be part of the delegation.

The wider purposes of the visit are to gain a better understanding of God's mission in the wider world; share practices of discipleship; Grow in intentional discipleship; grow in experience of the diversity in the body of Christ in the Anglican Communion, and to intercede and advocate for others in the world. The current Companion Diocese Covenant expires at the end of 2016. The Bishop thanked Sean for this update.

After a brief coffee break, the Bishop invited the Treasurer and Director of Finance to give the report of the Finance Committee.

### Statements to July 31, 2015

Ms. Bernice Funk reported that the July statements have been prepared with 4% investment earnings. Current investment earnings are now at 2.5% for the year. The Investment Committee will meet in mid-October with the Fund Managers, when it is hoped they will share more positive news about market forecasts.

As of July 31, 2015, the surplus is \$26,725. The reasons for this surplus continue as previously noted: under-spent budgeted funds in Aboriginal and Youth Ministry areas of the budget. As well, Fairford has been covering costs for priestly ministry for a good portion of the year, so costs in that area are down.

Fifty four parishes have sent in their approved Common Ministry and Mission figures for 2015. They total \$7,105, over the budgeted figure for Common Ministry and Mission. The Rupert's Land News initiative has brought in \$10,500, with another cheque of \$2100 yet to come. \$12,116 is available in the Diocesan Healing & Reconciliation Fund.

MOTION: THAT the financial statements to July 31, 2015 be received.  
G. Pawling /P. Norman  
Carried.

#### Funding the Rupert's Land News and other budgetary items

Earlier this year the decision was made to change the way in which the Rupert's Land News is funded -- from a subscription based model to a model where the new communications strategy is funded by the whole diocese. This communications strategy is not just the monthly RLNews Magazine, but the weekly updates, and other social media communication tools. The 2016 Budget needs to include funds for the Rupert's Land Media Strategy, additional funds for increased travel and accommodations costs for members travelling to meetings, as well as for the two new areas of focus: Mission and Stewardship.

Common Ministry and Mission was set at 12% in 2008 and there has been no increase since then, in spite of increases in the cost of living. A proposal to increase the Common Ministry and Mission percentage from 12% of parish operating income to 12.5% is being put for Council's consideration. Inflation, itself, is far greater than the .5% increase being requested of parishes. A ½ percent increase is warranted. This additional income will be used to fund the items referred to above.

After a full discussion, and an understanding that this increase is not only for the Rupert's Land News, but also for the other new funding areas (Mission and Stewardship and increased travel and accommodation) a motion was put as follows:

MOTION: THAT the Common Ministry and Mission percentage of 12% be increased to 12.5%,  
G. Pawling/ effective as of 2016.  
J. Sisson  
Carried.

#### Report of the Compensation Committee

Dr. June James presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

The Executive Committee approved a .9% Cost of Living increase, in accordance with the diocesan policy which stipulates increases in stipend are tied to Consumer Price Index. Because it increased .9% there was a corresponding .9% increase of COLA for stipends.

The Compensation Committee is not recommending any increase to the housing allowance for 2016. An analysis of housing and utility related costs will be done for the 2017 year.

The Compensation Committee is recommending an increase in the "Fee for Service" (Sunday Supply) from \$110 to \$120 for the first service, and from \$50 to \$60 for each subsequent service (in the same parish on the same day).

MOTION: THAT the 'Fee for Service' rate for 2016 be \$120 for the first service and \$60 for the  
 J. James each subsequent service.  
 Carried.

*(Note: The second service is only applicable to parish groupings or parishes that have more than one service per Sunday).*

The Compensation Committee has prepared a guideline to be used to compensate people attending meetings and events, and to designate which body should be the paying sources for such compensation.

MOTION: THAT the following guidelines be approved for use in the Diocese of Rupert's Land,  
 J. James effective January 1, 2016:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	
Synod	Diocese	casual travel rate + hotel + meals per policy
Faith Horizons	Diocese	casual travel rate + hotel + meals per policy (for # of clergy & lay parish-invoiced)
Council	Diocese	casual travel rate + hotel + meals per policy
Executive	Diocese	casual travel rate + hotel + meals per policy
Other Committees - Diocese	Diocese	casual travel rate + hotel + meals per policy
Diocesan worship services i.e. Mothering Sunday	Diocese	reimburse individuals who have been asked to participate casual travel rate + hotel + meals per policy
Diocesan ordinations	Parish	for other representatives in attendance
	Diocese	(most ordinations are local) reimburse if an individual has a role in the service (includes priests at priestly ordinations) casual travel rate + hotel + meals per policy
Diocesan celebrations of New Ministry	Parish	lay not applicable clergy within deanery reimbursed by parish
Archdeaconry meeting	Parish	lay delegates clergy within archdeaconry
Deanery Meeting	Parish	lay delegates
Clergy Days	Diocese	casual travel rate + hotel + meals per policy

Carried.

The Compensation Committee is recommending the Diocese move from a two-level travel allowance policy ("X" for the first some many Km's and "V" for Km's thereafter in a calendar year) to a one-level travel allowance regardless of kilometers travelled in a calendar year.

MOTION: THAT, effective January 1, 2016, there be one flat rate for vehicle allowance paid at  
 J. James \$0.43 per km, and that reimbursement for travel entirely within Ontario be paid at an additional \$0.02 per km;  
 and that casual travel for the Diocese be at \$0.35 per km.

Carried.

The Compensation Committee further recommends that the Diocese begin working toward increasing travel allowance a rate that is within 5 cents a km of the Federal rate by small yearly increases.

MOTION: THAT starting January 1, 2016 the Diocese of Rupert's Land work toward a flat  
J. James rate that is within \$0.05 of the Federal rate by increasing the flat rate \$0.02 per year.  
Carried.

*The question was asked whether this motion would see a \$0.02 increase to the flat rate just established for 2016. The Bishop's response was that this was the date by which the policy would become effective. He indicated the Compensation Committee would have to bring a motion as to when the increase would become effective. There was no objection to this statement by the members of the Compensation Committee who were present at the Council Meeting.*

#### Diocesan Appointees to St. John's College Council

Dr. Chris Trott reported that the Diocese has six representatives on St. John's College Council. Three appointees terms have concluded, as of June 30/15, and new appointees are required. After consulting with the Bishop as to the nominees, the following motion was put:

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council appoint the following persons for three year terms on St. John's  
C. Trott/  
Maweije College Council effective July 1, 2015 (to June 30, 2018):  
Dr. Bill Pope, The Rev. Helen Kennedy and Mr. Charles Loewen.  
Carried.

#### Update on the Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer

The Bishop reported that the position was posted and applications were received. The Selection Committee met to review the applications. Unfortunately the Committee did not believe any of the applicants should be interviewed for the position. It was clear that a re-posting will need to happen, but in addition to simply re-posting, the Committee, and others, will need to go out and look for persons and invite them to apply. The position was announced on the final day of the Sacred Circle in Port Elgin and generated some interest.

#### Update on Resolutions of Synod

This item was deferred to the November meeting. The Bishop assured the Council that good progress is being made, and many of the required task forces have been established. A full report will come to the November meeting.

#### Verbal reports for information

Update on Faith Horizons – a report will be given after the event.

Report on Sacred Gathering at Port Elgin – deferred to November meeting.

Report on the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 'confrontation' at 7 Oaks - deferred to November meeting

#### Other business - Request from the Archdeaconry of Kenora – St. Alban

The Archdeacon of Kenora – St Alban, The Ven. James Dugan, advised that normally a matter such as this would come to Executive Committee as it is 'day to day business'; the policy already having been set by Diocesan Council. Because of time constraints, however, this request is coming to Council.

Background: As the Diocese of Keewatin was winding up, the assets were distributed to the three regions. The Southern Region (now the Archdeaconry of Kenora – St. Alban) proposed the establishment of a Mission and Ministry Trust be established to hold their portion of these funds for work in this Archdeaconry. Diocesan Council approved the establishment and terms of the Trust. The Clergy of this Archdeaconry met last week and are recommending an action to the Diocese.

The Parish of Emmanuel Anglican /United Church, in Ignace, Ontario, has requested a grant of \$4720 from the Mission and Ministry Trust Fund for a project entitled “Blessings in a Back Pack”. The project identifies children living in poverty in need of food, and the parish would load the back pack with food and would provide food for them through the school year. Because the school year has already begun, there is a desire to move swiftly. Prior to the recent downturn in the markets, the balance of the Mission and Ministry Trust Fund was approximately \$255,000. Grants will come from the capital of the fund. The Archdeaconry wishes to support this application and is requesting the Diocesan Council approve a grant from the Mission and Ministry Fund for this purpose.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council approve a request from the Emmanuel Church, Ignace, Ontario  
J. Dugan/ for a grant of \$4720 from the Mission and Ministry Trust Fund for its “Blessings in a Back  
J. Bardsley Pack” program.  
Carried.

#### Announcements

The Bishop reminded members that The Hon. Justice Murray Sinclair will be the guest speaker at the Annual Bishop’s Dinner. The title of his address will be: Reconciliation is a Spiritual Journey.

The Ven. Godfrey Maweje advised that the Rev. Stephen Wamboga of Kasaka Cathedral, in Central Buganda Diocese, died recently of cancer.

Various other parish-related announcements were made, followed by a motion to adjourn at 9:35 pm.

The meeting ended with prayer led by Archdeacon Maweje.