

The Diocese of Rupert's Land
Diocesan Council

Amended Minutes

September 17, 2016
Church of the Ascension, Stonewall, MB

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

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

Breakfast was served at 8:45 am with the meeting commencing at 9:30. The meeting opened with prayer, followed by gospel based discipleship. The regrets were read.

Minutes of the Diocesan Council of May 28, 2016

MOTION: THAT the minutes of May 28, 2016 be approved as printed.

P. Johnson/J. Dugan

Carried.

The Bishop relinquished the Chair to Mr. Art Braid so that the Annual General Meeting of the Rupert's Land Capital Fund could convene. The minutes of this meeting are printed separately. At the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting of the Rupert's Land Capital Fund Inc., Mr. Braid returned the Chair to the Bishop.

Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee of June 14, August 9, and September 6, 2016

The secretary reviewed the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings as noted above.

MOTION: THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee of June 14, August 9, and September 6, G.Mawejje/ 2016 be received.

R. Fortier

Carried.

Matters arising from the minutes:

Balance of funds in Diocesan Council Project budget line:

MOTION: THAT the balance of funds in the Diocesan Council Project budget line be allocated for local hospitality for delegation coming from Uganda in 2016.
P. Johnson/
J. Sisson
Carried.

Archives Report:

Consideration of The Archives Report was deferred at the May meeting of Diocesan Council until the next meeting. Members of Council reviewed the report outlining the tremendous amount of work being done in Archives by the Archivist and archival volunteers.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council receive with thanks the Report of the Archives and note with interest the upcoming projects being undertaken in the Archives.
C. Trott/
J. James
Carried.

Anglican Lutheran Missional Initiative Update:

The Bishop referred to the minutes of the August 9 Executive Committee meeting as a place of reference. At that time there was concern about the mounting cost of this initiative. He was pleased to report that in subsequent negotiations, we have signed a contract for the “ramp up phase” which is to end of 2016 at a cost of \$40,000 for the two denominations (\$20,000 each).

He reported the excitement of the launch of ALIGN (Anglicans and Lutherans In God’s Neighbourhoods) He explained that the six-member “J-Team” is getting a very clear idea together what it is all about, and writing an elevator speech. The elevator speech is well-distilled and collaborative (it has been tested by 8 persons at two separate gatherings) and refined yet again. On Sept 14th, the launch occurred with 79 Anglicans and Lutherans present. He was pleased to report there is definite interest out there. This missional initiative (ALIGN) has provided a platform for people who already want to be working in the neighbourhoods can work. Alan Roxborough was pleased with the response and energy he encountered at this gathering.

The next steps will be to follow up within the various areas identified which can become the target groups. At this point, it appears the target groups will be in the following areas:

The Kildonans (West and East)

Wolesley Area (and west-end)

Southwest Winnipeg (including Linden Woods, Whyte Ridge, Fort Richmond)

And the Selkirk Area

Circles of Reconciliation.

The Rev. Vince Solomon has come across a program called Circles of Reconciliation. It consists of a series of meetings (10) of indigenous and non indigenous people to work together to talk, to listen and to share and acknowledge issues; that we don’t know anything about one another, and to start there. Whatever comes out of these dialogues will help people begin to understand one another and the various perspectives and assumptions. The program has an outline with topics for discussion. There is no cost. Vince is hoping that these ‘circles’ can develop as part of the call to become reconciled. He hopes to have one “Circle” in each deanery. Vince has been taking training for facilitation of the circle.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council endorse the “Circles of Reconciliation” program, and commend 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.
C. Trott/
M. Lysecki
Carried.

Vince also reported to Diocesan Council that we now have the St. Francis Mission Centre (formerly St. Barnabas Church) as a place out of which some indigenous ministry initiatives will happen. Vince will be moving in and setting up an office there. The office is being readied for him. He has a numbers of priests and counselors who want to be part of the healing program, and is now working on standards and insurance for the counseling. He is working on a time line to begin a worshipping community using indigenous images and theology in appropriate ways. Hopefully by the end of January (the last Sunday) the first service will be held for a new worshipping community. On Oct 25th there will be a commissioning of the new ministry. All of this is being done with support and endorsement of the Elders Circle of Rupert's Land.

The Council thanked Vince for this work and wished him continued success in this ministry.

Report of the Finance Committee:

Financial Statements to July 31, 2016

Mr. Gordon Pawling presented the financial Statements to July 31, 2016. He indicated favourable variances in July and August has had an even better result. The major difference in revenue is Common Ministry and Mission which is \$9143 below budget to date. He is hopeful that by year-end that this will improve. Expense variances are also favourable at \$13,088 under-expended to date. There is nothing major to report. Mr. Pawling reported that investment income earnings to date are at 4.6%, having dropped slightly from the 5% return of the past month.

MOTION: THAT the financial statements to July 31, 2016 be received.

G. Pawling/T. Webster

Carried.

2017 and 2018 Draft Budgets:

Ms. Bernice Funk presented the draft budgets for 2017 and 2018 stating they are an estimate at a place and time. This is a draft, which shows much activity happening in the Diocese. The investment income is based on 4% investment earnings (based upon an estimate of year-end balances for trusts). Grants for Aboriginal ministry are budgeted as previous year's amounts and the RLNews is hard to judge as this is the first full year we will be on line and advertising revenue is variable. The Common Ministry and Mission is based on information received from parishes. Total revenue for 2017 is budgeted at \$839,511 and \$855,191 for 2018

Aboriginal support has decreased as Fairford is now receiving investment earnings and using revenue from that source. The Aboriginal Outreach Ministry section is increased and will increase annually. Youth ministry revenue is based on trust income. Parish program support remains similar to previous years. A new position of Formation Director appears under Diocesan Program which has increased this area of the budget by \$44,403 in 2017 and \$45,291 in 2018. Administration and General figures are close to prior year's amounts. Total Expenses for 2017 are estimated at \$860,005 and \$873,519 for 2018. The anticipated deficit for 2017 is \$20,494 and \$18,428 for 2018.

The Bishop explained that the diocesan contribution to St. John's College has been included in the new Formation Director budget line, but the line for St. John's College remains in the budget with a 'token' \$1 in 2017 and 2018 budgets. The position of Director of Formation is a new line and is part of a new program as recommended by the Theological Education Commission Report.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council receive the draft 2017 and 2018 Diocesan budgets and

G. Pawling/ commends them to Synod.

J. Bardsley

Carrie.

The Bishop thanked Bernice Funk and Gordon Pawling for their work on the draft budgets.

Diocesan Compensation Committee Report:

Dr. June James presented the Report from the Compensation Committee with respect to stipend, housing and vehicle allowance. She noted that the cost of living based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to July is at 1.5%. Therefore an increase in the cost of living for stipend is recommended to be 1.5%.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Minimum Clergy Stipend scale be increased by 1.5% for 2017 as a cost of J. James/
living allowance as per Diocesan Policy.

Carried.

Housing allowance 2017

In 2013 the diocesan housing allowance was increased to \$15,000. The Compensation Committee reviewed statistics Canada for housing in Ontario and Manitoba. Utilities and home purchase prices also increased by 1.5% to July 2016. Therefore Compensation Committee is recommending housing be increased by 1.5%, (equivalent to \$225 per annum), raising the Diocesan Housing allowance from \$15,000 to \$15,225.

MOTION: THAT Housing Allowance for 2017 be increased by 1.5% to \$15,225.

J.James/

Carried.

Travel Allowance:

Last year Diocesan Council passed a motion that would move us gradually towards the Federal Government rate of \$0.55. That rate has now decreased to \$0.54. Our policy is that we would increase by \$0.02 per year until we are within \$0.5 of the Federal rate.

MOTION: THAT as of January 1, 2017 the Diocesan Travel rate be increased by \$.02, up \$0.45 per J.James/
km, as per Diocesan Policy.

Carried.

June James reported that other matters were discussed but will not be recommending any other increases at this time.

MOTINO: THAT the report of the Compensation Committee be received.

P. Johnson/B. Ingram

Carried.

Other business:

Synod Appointees

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council recommend to Synod that the following persons be appointed as J.James/
Synod Appointees: Mrs. Gail Schnabl, Mrs. Sylvia James and The Rev. Robert Murray

G. Mawejje

Carried.

Theological Education Implementation Team Membership

At recommendation of the Diocesan Council in March 2016, the Bishop was requested to appoint the membership of the Theological Education Implementation Team.

Bishop advised the persons who have been appointed are:

The Ven. Godfrey Mawejje (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.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council receive from the Bishop the names of the members of the
A. Braid/ Theological Implementation Team as follows and commend them to this work:
J. Bardsley The Ven. Godfrey Mawejje (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.

Carried.

Uganda Visit: The Bishop is “keeping his fingers crossed and saying prayers” that six person delegation will be able to visit us this October (Bishop Jackson and his spouse, new bishop and his spouse and Jason Masoke and his spouse [the Orphans’ Program Coordinator]). The new Bishop-elect is Canon Michael Lubowa. Tentative dates are: Oct 7 – 24, 2016.

Recipients of the Order of Rupert’s Land

Three persons will receive the Order of Rupert’s Land this year at the Opening service of the Synod: Mrs. Gail Schnabl, The Rev. Canon Dr. Cathy Campbell and The Rev. Canon Peter Flynn.

Acknowledging we are meeting on Treaty One Territory.

It was requested that at the beginning of each meeting we begin the meeting with an acknowledgment that we are meeting in Treaty One Territory. Perhaps it could also be printed on the agenda.

Other items to note:

The Primate and National indigenous Bishop have come out in support of the Standing Rock issue. Rebecca Deng has begun an initiative to build a women’s centre in Bor, South Sudan. Concern that South Sudan is in war again and initiatives toward peace will likely come from women. She has taken a course in peacebuilding from the Society of Friends and the Mennonites have come up with some funds for the building.

The Bishop’s Annual Dinner will be held on Nov 9, at the Best Western Plus Downtown.

Staff changes: The Rev. Allison Courey has resigned from her position as Chaplain at St. John’s College as of Thursday. A Committee has been struck to search for a ½ time Chaplain. Allison has accepted full time at CMU doing much of the same work as she has done with the Rupert’s Land News. Allison is giving us some transition time on RLNews. The Bishop will be putting together a transition team to look at applicants for the position. He encouraged members of Council to encourage those whom they know may have the skills to apply.

The Bishop thanked the members of the Council for their work and time over these past two years. He hopes many who are eligible may consider standing for election to Council for a further two-year term. The meeting was adjourned by motion of June James.

