

**MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE 115<sup>TH</sup> SESSION  
OF THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND  
held Saturday, June 16, 2018 In St. John's Cathedral, Winnipeg**

The Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, The Most Rev. Greg Kerr-Wilson, Chair of the Synod, called the assembly to order at 9:30 a.m. with opening prayers.

Appointment of Secretaries

On the nomination of the Commissary for the Bishop (the Administrator), the Chair, Archbishop Kerr-Wilson appointed:

- as Clerical Secretary - The Rev. Canon James Bardsley
- as Lay Secretary – Ms Tannis Webster
- as Secretary of the meeting of Synod – Mr. Bob Wedlake

Credentials Committee:

The Chair announce the members of the Credentials Committee:

Claudine Thagard (Chair), Judy McIvor, Penny Single, Pat Norman, Patsy Grant, Joyce Breckman, Sharon Cortrivendt, and Susan Suppes

Appointment of Scrutineers

On the nomination of the Commissary/Administrator the Chair appointed the Scrutineers:

Scrutineers for the Clerical voting:

- The Rev. Canon Helen Kennedy
- The Rev. Deacon Karen Terlinski
- Mrs. Davida Carlson

Scrutineers for the Lay voting:

- Mrs. Lynn Doyle
- Mr. Iain Hope
- The Rev. Paul Lampman

and The Secretary of Synod, Mr. Bob Wedlake, as Convener of the Scrutineers.

Appointment as Advisor to the Chair

The Chair appointed, Diocesan Chancellor, Mr. E. Arthur Braid, as an Advisor to the Chair.

Roll Call

The Lay Secretary, Tannis Webster, called the roll of the laity who had registered as present. The Clerical Secretary, The Rev. Canon James Bardsley, call the roll of the clergy who had registered as present.

Report of the Credentials Committee:

The Chair of the Credentials Committee, Claudine Thagard, moved acceptance of the rolls as presented:

MOVED BY: Claudine Thagard

SECONDED BY: Bob Wedlake

RESOLVED THAT the rolls of clergy and lay rolls as presented be accepted by Synod, subject to late registrations, which will be announced following the Eucharist.

Carried.

The Chair of the Credentials Committee reported to the Chair of Synod the numbers of registered clergy and lay delegates in attendance. Chair announced to the meeting that the following members have registered attendance:

Clergy - of a possible 84; 67 are in attendance (51 = 60%)

Laity - of a possible 154; 126 are in attendance (93 = 60%)

The Chair announced that a quorum was in attendance.

**Archbishop's Declaration:**

"Notice of this Session of the Synod having been given as required by the Canons of the Diocese, and a quorum of the Synod being present, I declare this electoral synod to be regularly called and ready to proceed in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land as agreed to by this Diocese."

**Remarks from the Chair:** (The Metropolitan)

1. Wear your nametag throughout the Synod, as this identifies you as a voting member of Synod; authorizes seating in the nave of the Cathedral; and is your lunch ticket.
2. Do not misplace your ballot forms. They will not be replaced.
3. Washrooms are located downstairs in the John West Hall; a handicap washroom is located in the Cathedral office area.
4. The Cathedral nave will be a place for reflection, prayer and **quiet** conversation between ballots. The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer is conducting a Prayer Vigil throughout Synod in the Chapel. Members of Synod are free to join them between ballots.
5. Seating is by parish. Always return to your designated pew.
6. Once the Chair has received the report of the scrutineers, and prior to the results of each ballot being made public, the Chair will ask the candidates for Bishop-Coadjutor to meet him (along with their assigned prayer partner) in the Chapel. The results will be shared privately with the candidates. Delegates will be asked to re-assemble in their appropriate pew. The chair will then read aloud the results of each successive ballot. Delegates may record the votes on the Tally Sheet provided at registration. After the results have been announced publically, they will be projected on the overhead screen.
7. Any point of order desired to be raised by a member during the meeting of Synod shall be submitted in writing to the Chair and determined by the Chair without discussion and debate.
8. Due to limited seating, assigned seating in the nave of the Cathedral is for voting delegates only. Therefore we must ask that all observers, be they spouses, family, friends or members of the Diocesan community, remain in the area designated for observers. Observer seating is limited to those who have registered and received an Observer nametag.

9. Registration for latecomers will be **allowed up until 11:00 a.m.** at which time registration will close for the day.
10. The voting procedure will be explained following the Eucharist, prior to the first ballot being cast. Prayers will be offered prior to each ballot being cast, and a hymn will be sung at the conclusion of each ballot as the scrutineers retire to count the ballots.

The Chair asked if there are any questions for clarification or information.

#### Diocesan Search Committee

The Chair of the Diocesan Search Committee, The Ven. James Dugan, presented the report of the Committee, and moved the following motion:

MOVED BY: The Ven. James Dugan

SECONDED BY: The Ven. Dave Labdon

RESOLVED THAT the following persons be nominated for election as Bishop Coadjutor of Rupert's Land:

- David Anderson
- Elwin Cockett
- Paul Johnson
- Donna Joy
- Terry Leer
- Laura Marie Piotrowicz
- Vincent Solomon
- Murray Still
- Marc Torchinsky
- Geoff Woodcroft

Carried.

The Chair of the Search Committee reported that no further nominations had been received prior to the 72 hour deadline.

The Metropolitan announced that we will proceed now with the Celebration of Holy Eucharist. The location of communion stations were announced, and that no offering would be taken. A brief break was held to ready the chancel for the Service. Those who had not registered prior to 9:15 when attendance was taken, were encouraged to register now, as registration would close for the day at 11 am.

Elder Sylvia James offered the Welcome to the Land

The Eucharist commenced at 10:15 am and concluded at 11:20 am.

The Metropolitan after a short introduction of himself, resumed the Chair and reconvened the Synod at 11:30 am.

#### Additional Registered delegates

The Lay Secretary called the names of additional Lay members who had registered.

The Clerical Secretary called the names of the additional Clergy members who had registered.

The Chair of the Credentials Committee, Mrs. Claudine Thagard, reported to the Chair the names of additional persons registered since the previous roll was read. The Metropolitan announced the new registration numbers.

Clergy - of a possible 84; 69 are in attendance (51 = 60%)

Laity - of a possible 154; 135 are in attendance (93 = 60%)

MOVED BY: Mrs. Claudine Thagard

SECONDED BY: Mr. Bob Wedlake

RESOLVED THAT the revised clerical and lay rolls be accepted by the Synod.

Carried.

The Metropolitan explained voting procedures as follows:

1. Ballot forms: Use ballots in numerical order. Write the first and last name **of only one candidate on the line**; fold the ballot **ONCE ONLY, PLEASE!** Proceed forward to deposit your ballot **when called by the Secretaries**. Clergy and lay ballots for each vote are different colours.
2. In order to facilitate voting, The Lay Secretary and Clerical Secretary will call the roll in order by Parish (stating the names of the lay and clergy delegates from that parish). As your name is called **please proceed up the centre aisle** to deposit your ballot in the appropriate ballot box. Youth appointees, Officers and other special categories will be called after the parish delegates.
3. After casting your ballot, proceed back to your designated pew **via the side aisles**.
4. When all voting is completed you will be given instructions about lunch.
5. Lunch will not be provided to observers.
6. Please return in approx. 45 minutes after we recess, to the same pew to facilitate subsequent balloting. A bell will be rung to summon delegates back to the Nave.
7. Questions?
  - A question was raised on what is concerned a "spoiled ballot"? The Chair provided some examples and concluded with "anything that does not clearly indicate which candidate. The final decision will be made by the scrutineers.

#### **First Electoral Ballot (11:40 am)**

The Metropolitan offered a prayer, and following a period of quiet, invited delegates to please fill in their first ballot. (The names of the candidates were displayed on the overhead screen.) The Secretary of Synod called the name of the parish and the Lay Secretary and Clerical Secretary called the roll and delegates proceeded to the ballot boxes to deposit the first ballot. After all names in both houses had been called and all ballots cast, the Chair declared the voting on ballot one closed at 11:50 am.

Lunch instructions were provided by the Secretary of Synod, Bob Wedlake.

- Two lunch stations: one downstairs, the other outside the west doors; a tent and some chairs are located outside. You may opt to get your food from either station, (they are the same). For those who had previously notified us of special meal requirements, please see the kitchen in the John West Hall. Fortunately we believe we have sufficient lunch for observers. Please proceed to lunch immediately following grace.

Archbishop Greg Kerr-Wilson said grace and asked delegates to be ready to re-convene by 12:50 pm.

The Chairman of the Scrutineers accompanied the Scrutineers to the area designated for counting the ballots.

Lunch was served.

The Chairman of the Scrutineers reported the results of the first ballot to the Metropolitan (Chair of Synod). The Chair recalled the assembly to order at 12:50, at which time he summoned the candidates and their prayer partners to the Chapel to receive the results of ballot one privately prior to the public announcement. Candidates who were not present at the Synod were able to receive the results (via cell phone) at the same time as those who were present.

The Chairman of the Scrutineers reported to the Chair, in writing, the results of the first ballot noting the number of votes required for election by the Clergy, the number of clergy votes, the number of votes required for election by the Laity, the number of lay votes, and the number of spoiled ballots as follows:

**Ballot One**

Clergy votes cast – 68

Number of spoiled ballots - 1

Number of votes required for an election - 34

Lay votes cast – 135

Number of spoiled ballots – 1

Number of votes required for an election – 68

**The Chair announced the results of ballot one, at 1pm.**

Results of Ballot 1 (One)		
Candidates in Alphabetical Order	Clergy Votes	Lay Votes
Anderson, David	6	26
Cockett, Elwin	9	12
Johnson, Paul	10	21
Joy, Donna	8	7
Leer, Terry	3	4
Piotrowicz, Laura Marie	3	15
Solomon, Vincent	2	5
Still, Murray	2	5
Torchinsky, Marc	5	19
Woodcroft, Geoff	19	20

The results were posted on the screen and remained there until the next ballot was called. The Chair announced that the candidates with the lowest aggregate number of votes received would be removed from subsequent ballots. Candidates Terry Leer, Vincent Solomon and Murray Still were removed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot, in accordance with Provincial Canon IX.

### **Ballot Two**

The Chair announced his decision to dispense with the calling of the roll, in accordance with section 9.22 (17) of Canon IX, and requested the lay and clerical secretaries to call members forward by parish only. The Chair also noted that there was a written point of order summited regarding the need to call out everyone's names. The Chair noted this will not be done on the remaining ballots.

At 1:05 pm, after a prayer offered by the Metropolitan and a time of silence, the Chair requested the Lay and Clerical Secretaries to call forward members by parish only to cast their ballots for Ballot Two. Members were asked to return to their seats via the side aisles. Balloting for Ballot Two concluded at 1:12 pm and a hymn was sung as the ballot boxes were removed by the scrutineers. Members of Synod recessed for a break. A bell was rung to signal delegates to return to the Nave of the Cathedral.

The Chair recalled the assembly at 1:29 pm to order to receive the results of ballot two – the candidates' having received the results in private prior to the announcement being made.

The Chairman of the Scrutineers reported to the Chair, in writing, the results of the second ballot noting the number of votes required for election by the Clergy, the number of clergy votes, the number of votes required for election by the Laity, the number of lay votes, and the number of spoiled ballots as follows:

Clergy votes cast – 68  
 Number of spoiled ballots - 0  
 Number of votes required for an election - 35

Lay votes cast – 135  
 Number of spoiled ballots – 1  
 Number of votes required for an election – 68

**The Chair announced the results of Ballot Two, at 1:30 pm.**

Results of Ballot 2 (Two)		
Candidates in Alphabetical Order	Clergy Votes	Lay Votes
Anderson, David	12	30
Cockett, Elwin	5	9
Johnson, Paul	10	19
Joy, Donna	5	5
<del>Leer, Terry</del>		
Piotrowicz, Laura Marie	4	9
<del>Solomon, Vincent</del>		
<del>Still, Murray</del>		
Torchinsky, Marc	7	28
Woodcroft, Geoff	24	34

The Metropolitan announced that Donna Joy was removed from the ballot having received the lowest number of aggregate votes, and Laura Marie Piotrowicz withdrew her name from further consideration.

**Ballot Three**

At 1:35 pm, following a prayer offered by the Metropolitan and a time of silence, the Lay and Clerical Secretaries called members forward by Parish. Balloting for ballot three concluded at 1:47 pm and a hymn was sung as the ballot boxes were removed by the scrutineers. Members of Synod recessed for a break. A bell was rung to signal delegates to return to the Nave of the Cathedral.

The Chair recalled the assembly at 2:08 pm to order to receive the results of Ballot Three – the candidates having received the results in private prior to the announcement being made.

The Chairman of the Scrutineers reported to the Chair, in writing, the results of the third ballot noting the number of votes required for election by the Clergy, the number of clergy votes, the number of votes required for election by the Laity, the number of lay votes, and the number of spoiled ballots as follows:

Clergy votes cast – 67  
 Number of spoiled ballots - 0  
 Number of votes required for an election - 34

Lay votes cast – 134  
 Number of spoiled ballots – 0  
 Number of votes required for an election – 68

**The Chair announced the results of Ballot Three, at 2:08 pm.**

Results of Ballot 3 (Three)		
Candidates in Alphabetical Order	Clergy Votes	Lay Votes
Anderson, David	19	33
Cockett, Elwin	1	2
Johnson, Paul	9	11
<del>Joy, Donna</del>		
<del>Leer, Terry</del>		
<del>Piotrowicz, Laura-Marie</del>		
<del>Solomon, Vincent</del>		
<del>Still, Murray</del>		
Torchinsky, Marc	10	35
Woodcroft, Geoff	28	53

The Chair announced that Elwin Cockett was removed from the ballot having received the lowest number of aggregate votes. The Very Rev. Paul Johnson withdrew his name from further consideration.

**Ballot Four**

At 2:10 pm, following a prayer offered by the Metropolitan and a time of silence, the Lay and Clerical Secretaries called members forward by Parish. Balloting for Ballot Four concluded at 2:22 pm and a hymn was sung as the ballot boxes were removed by the scrutineers. Members of Synod recessed for a break. A bell was rung to signal delegates to return to the Nave of the Cathedral.

The Chair recalled the assembly at 2:38 pm to order to receive the results of ballot four – the candidates having received the results in private prior to the announcement being made.

The Chairman of the Scrutineers report to the Chair, presented to the Metropolitan, in writing, the results of the second ballot noting the number of votes required for election by the Clergy, the



number of clergy votes, the number of votes required for election by the Laity, the number of lay votes, and the number of spoiled ballots as follows:

Clergy votes cast – 69

Number of spoiled ballots - 0

Number of votes required for an election - 35

Lay votes cast – 134

Number of spoiled ballots – 0

Number of votes required for an election – 68

**The Chair announced the results of Ballot Four, at 2:39 pm.**

Candidates in Alphabetical Order	Clergy Votes	Lay Votes
Anderson, David	19	37
<del>Cockett, Elwin</del>		
<del>Johnson, Paul</del>		
<del>Joy, Donna</del>		
<del>Leer, Terry</del>		
<del>Piotrowicz, Laura Marie</del>		
<del>Solomon, Vincent</del>		
<del>Still, Murray</del>		
Torchinsky, Marc	10	33
Woodcroft, Geoff	40*	64

\*received sufficient votes to elect in the order of clergy

The Chair advised that no names would be removed from the next ballot as the no candidate had less than 1/5<sup>th</sup> (20%) of the votes in both orders.

### **Ballot Five**

At 2:40 pm, following a prayer offered by the Metropolitan and a time of silence, the Lay and Clerical Secretaries called members forward by Parish. Balloting for the fifth ballot concluded at 2:48 pm and a hymn was sung as the ballot boxes were removed by the scrutineers. Members of Synod recessed for a break. A bell was rung to signal delegates to return to the Nave of the Cathedral.

The Chair recalled the assembly at 3:05 pm to order to receive the results of ballot five– the candidates having received the results in private prior to the announcement being made.

The Chairman of the Scrutineers reported to the Chair, in writing, the results of the second ballot noting the number of votes required for election by the Clergy, the number of clergy votes, the number of votes required for election by the Laity, the number of lay votes, and the number of spoiled ballots as follows:

Clergy votes cast – 68  
 Number of spoiled ballots - 0  
 Number of votes required for an election - 35

Lay votes cast – 136  
 Number of spoiled ballots – 1  
 Number of votes required for an election – 69

**The Chair announced the results of Ballot Five, at 3:05 pm.**

Candidates in Alphabetical Order	Clergy Votes	Lay Votes
Anderson, David	16	32
<del>Cockett, Elwin</del>		
<del>Johnson, Paul</del>		
<del>Joy, Donna</del>		
<del>Leer, Terry</del>		
<del>Piotrowicz, Laura-Marie</del>		
<del>Solomon, Vincent</del>		
<del>Still, Murray</del>		
Torchinsky, Marc	4	27
Woodcroft, Geoff	48	75

**The Chair declared that The Ven. Geoffrey Woodcroft had received the requisite majority of votes in the order of clergy and in the order of laity and declared Geoffrey Woodcroft to be Bishop Coadjutor-elect.** Members of the assembly responded with enthusiastic applause.

The Chair advised that the Bishop Coadjutor-elect, having previously been made aware of the results, has consented to the election. The Chair announced to Synod confirmation of the election, subject to the concurrence of the other bishops of the Province of Rupert's Land.

The Chair invited Bishop Donald Phillips to come forward and welcome the new bishop coadjutor-elect, the Ven. Geoff Woodcroft. Archdeacon Jennifer Sisson, spouse of Archdeacon

Geoffrey Woodcroft, was invited to join her husband at the Chancel steps.

Bishop Phillips congratulated Bishop Coadjutor elect Woodcroft, on his election with words of welcome and enthusiasm for the future of the diocese. Bishop Phillips also thanked those who allowed their names to be considered and asked for prayers for the Bishop Coadjutor-elect, his spouse and family, as well as the other candidates.

The Metropolitan added his congratulations to the Ven. Geoff Woodcroft on his election; thanked all the nominees present in Synod; and thanked the delegates for their discernment.

Vote of Loyalty and Support:

MOVED BY: The Ven. James Dugan

SECONDED BY: Mr. Bob Wedlake

RESOLVED THAT this Synod extend to the Bishop Coadjutor-elect Geoffrey Woodcroft, warmest congratulations and good wishes on being elected Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Rupert's Land and assure him of our prayers as he prepares to assume this office.

Carried with applause.

MOVED BY: The Ven. James Dugan

SECONDED BY: Mr. Bob Wedlake

RESOLVED THAT the ballots be destroyed.

Carried.

Vote of Thanks (3:12 pm)

MOVED BY: The Rev. Deacon Tanis Kolisnyk

SECONDED BY: The Rev. Deacon Dan Thagard

THAT on behalf of the 115<sup>th</sup> Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, a vote of thanks be extended to:

The Most Rev. Greg Kerr-Wilson, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land for his charring and faithfully guiding this electoral Synod;

The Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Donald Phillips, Bishop of Rupert's Land for his guidance and leadership in our Diocese; and wish him God's healing mercies as he returns to full health.

The Archdeacons for their assistance and leadership in the diocese, particularly during the bishop's sick leave;

The Ven. James Dugan, chair of the Diocesan Search Committee and members of the Diocesan Search Committee; and to those who assisted the Committee in its work.

All candidates for consenting to be nominated in election for Bishop Coadjutor for the Diocese of Rupert's Land and to their families;

The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer and the Prayer Partners for upholding the candidates, and the Synod in prayer, prior to and during the Synod;

The Rev. Canon James Bardsley, Clerical Secretary and Ms . Tannis Webster, Lay Secretary;

Mrs. Claudine Thagard and members of the Credentials Committee;  
The Scrutineers for carefully and accurately tallying the ballots;  
The Cathedral staff, Dean Paul Johnson, and the Cathedral staff: Mr. Wallace Desmarais, and Ms Carol Hargraves;  
Mr. Bob Wedlake, Secretary of Synod for his organization and preparation for Synod;  
The Synod Office Staff: Susan Suppes and Judy McIvor for all their work prior to and during the synod.  
The volunteers who assisted with the Synod  
Ms Mavis Ford, and those who assisted with the refreshments for Synod.  
Carried.

Concurrence:

The Chair of Synod, the Metropolitan of the Province of Rupert's Land, declared his concurrence with the proceedings of this electoral Synod.

Announcements:

The Secretary of Synod asked members to please clean up their pews, and to keep their lanyards for the fall synod.

Adjournment:

MOVED BY:           The Ven. Jim Dugan  
SECONDED BY:        Bob Wedlake

RESOLVED THAT this 115<sup>th</sup> Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land be adjourned.

Closing prayers were offered by the Metropolitan.

The Synod adjourned at 3:25 pm.

SS/ss