

Diocese of Rupert's Land
Diocesan Council

MINUTES

January 23, 2016
St. John's College, Winnipeg

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

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

The meeting was called to order by The Ven. James Bardsley, Commissary for the Bishop. Following a brief welcome, he invited Dr. Chris Trott to lead the opening worship.

Following the opening worship, Archdeacon Bardsley welcomed Vice Chancellor, The Hon. Justice Robert Doyle, to the meeting. This was his first time attending a Diocesan Council meeting. The Vice Chancellor serves in the place of the Chancellor when the Chancellor is not able to be present. The regrets were read.

Minutes of the Diocesan Council Meeting of November 14, 2015.

The minutes of the Diocesan Council meeting were reviewed and a correction was noted changing "Mrs." To "Ms".

MOTION: THAT the minutes of the Diocesan Council meeting of November 14, 2015 be approved.
A.Braid/L. MacDonald
Carried.

Minutes of the Executive Committee of December 15, 2015

MOTION: THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee of December 15, 2015 be received.
S.Carlson/L. MacDonald
Carried.

Minutes of the Executive Committee of January 12, 2016.

The date on the first page of the minutes was corrected to read January 12, 2016

MOTION: THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee of January 12, 2016 be received.

J. James/P. Norman

Carried.

The Secretary was asked to highlight for Council members specific items of note.

- Responding to the TRC – Calls for Action

The Secretary commented on the undertaking by some members of the Executive Committee to source out resources for parishes to respond to the Calls for Action (particularly as they relate to the Church) in the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. These resources are being collected and some are already posted on the Diocesan Website. A recent publication by the University of Manitoba Press entitled “A Knock at the Door” was also highlighted as a good resource. The Rev. Mary Lysecki noted that St. Mary Magdalene has been looking at how it can respond to the recommendations of the TRC. To that end, the parish is offering to come out to any parish to do a ‘blanket exercise’ which gives an overview of the history of the relationship with indigenous people. It is very powerful. Further, they have placed a notice on their weekly parish bulletins that they are on traditional lands, and will print one of each of the 46 articles in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.

Council members felt that it is important to know what other parishes are doing in response to the TRC Calls for Action and have suggested each parish be asked to notify the Diocesan Office of actions and initiatives taking place in their parishes so we have a good understanding of how we, as a diocese, are responding to this important work of reconciliation and healing.

- Refugee Update:

The Diocese of Rupert’s Land, in conjunction with Hospitality House, has sponsored 10 orphaned Somali refugees who arrived in mid-January. These children will be housed for the time being at Hospitality House, a non-profit organization in Winnipeg. The reception centre where refugee families stay initially is owned and operated by St. John’s Anglican Cathedral. The Office of Hospitality House is located in Micah House (owned and operated by the Roman Catholic Church).

The Diocese has a Refugee Fund that was established (in 2013) to receive funds in support of two families who were initially sponsored by the late Rev. Jim Wolf and other refugee families who arrive under Diocesan sponsorship. Of the two families that Fr. Wolf initially sponsored, one has been taken over by Crossed Hands (St. Paul’s Fort Garry and St. Peter Wpg - two Anglican Parishes working together) and it appears that St. Mary Magdalene is readying to be supportive to the other family. A number of other parishes are working cooperatively or ecumenically to sponsor refugees. St. John’s College is in the process of sponsoring two Syrian students.

Diocesan Refugee Coordinator, Gail Schnabl, will attend the next Executive Committee to answer questions and inform the Executive of the work being done in this area.

Election of a Lay person to the Executive Committee:

The Ven. James Bardsley gave notice of a vacancy on the Executive Committee, created by the resignation of Gary Jackson, and the need for a lay person to fill that vacancy. The chair listed the names of those eligible for nomination. Nominations were opened.

Mrs. Ellen Cook was nominated. As there were no other names nominated, a motion to close nominations was put.

MOTION: THAT nominations close.

J. Sisson/ J. James
Carried.

With that, Ellen Cook was acclaimed to the Executive Committee.

Report of the Finance Committee:

Mr. Gord Pawling presented the financial statements for the period ending November 30, 2015 showing surplus of \$56,291. The year-end budget was proposed with surplus of \$3,776. Investment earnings in the diocesan portfolio with Integra in balanced funds produced a return of 6.7% for the year. The Integra portfolio did very well in 2015 because of the American market which was up. The Canadian market is down but there has been a bit of recovery in the past few days. With this return of 6.7% we will have sufficient income to make the 4% distribution for the 2015 year, as noted in the budget revenues for the year.

The Treasurer then spoke about the main reasons for the improved surplus position for the year. Two areas (indigenous and youth ministry budgets) were under spent; hiring was not concluded in 2015 for the Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer, but this position hopefully will happen in 2016. Common Ministry and Mission revenue is up, but there was a reduction in RLNews revenue. The Treasurer doesn't anticipate any major changes for the month of December, so it would appear we will have a surplus for 2015.

MOTION: THAT the financial statements to November 30, 2015 be received.
G. Pawling
Carried.

Ms Funk drew the attention of Council members to one of the actions by the Executive Committee at its December meeting: a decision to transfer the balance left in the budget line for attention for Diocesan Council projects to assist with travel for the delegation to Uganda. After a brief coffee break, the meeting resumed with the presentation of the 2016 budget.

Budget 2016:

Ms Bernice Funk presented the proposed budget for 2016. The draft has been prepared with 4% investment earnings. Mr. Pawling explained that 4% is in accordance with diocesan policy previously approved by Diocesan Council. The calculation is 4% of opening capital balance of investment funds. Any actual earnings above the 4% are accumulated excess and these funds are recapitalized into the fund, after the management and administration fees have been deducted.

Ms Funk advised that it is difficult to prepare a draft budget prior to year-end because we need to know the income on the investment funds. It is important to note that although figures have been shown for 2015, these are draft as expenses for 2015 are still being received.

Common Ministry and Mission for 2016: This year parishes have been asked for an increase of 0.5% bringing the recommended CMM percentage to 12.5%. The increase from 12% to 12.5% for Common Ministry and Mission will help with some of the mission work of the diocese. If we received the 12.5% from all parishes, income from CMM will be \$791,982. However an estimate of actual CMM is set at \$656,756 for 2016. She explained the various budget lines resulting in a total revenue of \$811,295.

In reviewing the expenses, Ms Funk reported total budgeted diocesan program funding of \$115,116 indicating there was not a lot of change in this section. Wider Church contribution is set at \$177,522, which is 22% of 2014 operating income. This has increased because our income has increased with the boundary changes.

The RLNews is included in the operating budget as one of the missions of the Diocese. The RLNews cost \$41,000 in 2015 because we were part of the Anglican Journal distribution; that will not be the case in 2016.

Operational Expenses Total \$17,515; Episcopal Supervision & Pastoral Care totals \$125,256. Diocesan Staff totals \$234,365; with Administration and General totaling \$41,700. Building expenses have been budgeted at \$29,000. Total Expenses are \$827,629, leaving an anticipated net deficit of \$16,334. The full budget amount has been included for the Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer for entire year. This amount, plus other sources of income assigned (grant and trust money) will be available for this ministry.

Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Pawling indicated that while we try to bring in a balanced budget, we also take into consideration the accumulated surplus within the operating account of the Diocese. Upon review of the budget we anticipated a surplus for 2015 which would be carried in the accumulated surplus (or sometimes referred to as retained earnings). He noted the accumulated surplus in the operating account should be around \$100,000. For a number of years it has been considerably less than that. At end of 2014 we were at \$96,000. To that, we will add any 2015 surplus. If we do have a deficit for 2016 we will still have close to \$100,000.

The budget is always under review. During the year variances to budget are explained.

MOTION: THAT the Diocesan budget for 2016 be approved.
G. Pawling/C. Trott
Carried.

Thanks were offered to those responsible for this work.

The Chair expressed thanks to the Hon. Justice Bob Doyle for attending the meeting, and for all the members of Council who attended the meeting. Thanks were extended to all those working with refugees, on our behalf.

The next scheduled meeting is Saturday, March 19th. The Secretary asked that anyone who would like to host the meeting speak to her.

The Warden and St. John's College was thanked for their hospitality.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Dr. June James.
The meeting adjourned with the Grace.
SS/ss
25/01/16