



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Approved 09 November 2005

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

30 September 2005

Canadian Forces Base Gagetown, Oromocto

Pre-meeting circulation:

- Development Session Schedule
- Business Meeting Agenda
- Draft Minutes (22 June 2005)
- Report RE Letting Down the Nets Consult
- Report to Provincial Council (21 September)
- Finance Committee Report
- Camps Campaign Report
- Mission Outreach Team Report
- B-14 Privacy Policy Appendix "C"
- RS Partial Release Issue

Meeting circulation:

- Response to the Bishop's Charge
- September Forums Feedback
- September Forums Presentation

In attendance:

Stuart Allan, Murray Arnott, Elizabeth Belyea, Malcolm Berry, Heather Carr; John Cathcart, Patricia Drummond, Charles Ferris, Geoffrey Hall, Don Hamilton, Vicars Hodge, Mohan Iype, Keith Joyce, Hazel MacKenzie, Claude Miller; Keith Osborn, Elizabeth Reid, Robert Salloum, Fred Scott; Don Thompson, Cecil VanBuskirk.

Guests:

George Porter.

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Members of Diocesan Council and guest gathered at CFB Gagetown in the late afternoon 30 September 2005. The meeting included a schedule of development and Council business. Preceding the business meeting was a short presentation for the purpose of Council orientation. The business meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. with the Right Reverend Claude Miller, Chair. Members briefly introduced themselves.

1.2 Regrets:

Robyn Cuming (on leave), George Connor, Caryn Crowe, Keith Dow, Bonnie Hunt, Richard McConnell(sabbatical), John Sharpe.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - 22 June 2005

MOTION 1: V. Hodge / M. Arnott - **That the agenda be accepted.**

MOTION 1: Carried unanimously.

2.1 Acceptance of Minutes

MOTION 2: M. Iype / K. Joyce - That the minutes of the 22 June 2005 meeting of Diocesan Council be accepted as circulated with the correction of P. Drummond on list of Constitution and Canons membership (5.1).

MOTION 2: Carried unanimously.

2.2 Arising from minutes and unfinished items

2.2.1 Sexual Harassment Policy introduction and implementation (01 Sept/30 Nov 2005)

Workshops scheduled for October 08 (Chatham), 15 (Saint John), and 22 Fredericton).

2.2.2 Privacy Policy introduction and implementation (01 Nov 2005)

Part of Policy Training Workshops in October.

2.2.3 Signing authority Canon change

Synod in 2007.

2.2.4 Companion Diocese Committee

Mission Outreach Team Report.

2.2.5 Stewardship Pilot Program Proposal

Report on consultation between Diocesan Executive and representatives of Letting Down the Nets 08 and 09 September 2005. Recommendations on a way forward are part of that report.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Letting Down the Nets

Council provided with report including “key messages” heard by the program representatives and their recommendations. It will be the Bishop’s intention to follow-up on these in the next few months. A first step is a resource person provided to assist in articulating the diocesan vision with goals and objectives. Council will hear more as we progress.

3.2 Report to Provincial Council

For Diocesan Council’s information and reference.

3.3 Finance Committee

Report includes 5 recommendations regarding stipend, travel and housing allowances. Motion will follow.

3.4 Mission Outreach Team

A comprehensive report included up-date on progress with Companion Diocese situation. Negotiations confidential at this time.

3.5 Diocesan Executive

The Secretary offered a brief verbal report on the business meeting of Diocesan Executive held 08 September 2005 at the request of the Bishop. Two decisions: 1. That the Bishop be encouraged to withdraw the application for a grant from ACOA for the Camps Project. 2. That we direct the Treasurer to pay the invoice for new Diocesan Registers in an amount up to \$10,000.

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Council Membership

MOTION 3: J. Cathcart / V. Hodge. That the Kingston/Kennebecasis Archdeaconry election of the Rev’d Peter Gillies as clerical representative to Council be ratified.

MOTION 3: Carried unanimously.

MOTION 4: G. Hall / M. Arnott. That the Rev’d Douglas Painter, nominated by the Woodstock Archdeaconry, be appointed to Diocesan Council filling the vacancy created on the departure of the Rev’d David Perks.

MOTION 4: Carried unanimously.

4.2 Sexual Misconduct Policy

MOTION 5: C. Ferris / M. Arnott. That the current Sexual Harassment and Assault Policy (B-12) be revised to reflect a title change to “Sexual Misconduct Policy” and minor revisions including: a.

“the Committee” b. “Investigative Panel” replacing “fact finders” c. “sexual abuse” added to definition of misconduct, as per the revision draft.

Discussion: The Chancellor clarified the intended changes pointing out that the substance of the Policy remains the same. Reference was made to a document outlining the places of revision.

MOTION 5: Carried unanimously.

MOTION 6: C. Ferris / M. Iype. That the following appointments be made in support of the Policy on Sexual Misconduct: Mr. Ken Fitch (Panel of Investigators); Mr. Wayne Nightingale (Panel of Investigators and Panel of Mediators); Professor John McEvoy (Panel of Mediators).

Discussion: Some clarification on the individuals nominated was requested. When the question was called,

MOTION 6: Carried unanimously.

4.3 General Synod Partial Release Proposal

MOTION 7: C. Ferris / H. Carr. That this Council, on behalf of the Diocese, express our concern (opposition) to reopening the issue of whether the Anglican Church can move to accepting, as the government and the other churches have done, a partial, rather than a full release.

Discussion: A lengthy conversation followed. The Primate has put his request on hold pending the further report. Mr. Justice Iacabucci has a mandate to negotiate a resolution to outstanding claims.

MOTION 7a: S. Allan / R. Salloum. That the word “concern” be replaced with the word “clear” and the brackets be removed.

Discussion: It was suggested that we add “and forward to the Primate.” The original memo directs our response be communicated to the General Secretary.

MOTION 7a: Carried unanimously.

The amended motion read:

That this Council, on behalf of the Diocese, express our clear opposition to reopening the issue of whether the Anglican Church can move to accepting, as the government and the other churches have done, a partial, rather than a full release.

MOTION 7: Carried unanimously.

4.4 Privacy Policy Revision

MOTION 8: C. Ferris / J. Cathcart. That the current Privacy Policy (B-14) adopted January 2005 be revised by adding "Appendix C" Access to Archival Records" as in the draft revision.

MOTION 8: Carried unanimously.

4.5 Clergy Remuneration (Stipend), Travel and Housing Allowance Recommendations

MOTION 9: That Council accept the recommendations 1-5 RE: 2006 Minimum Stipend Scale (1) travel allowances (2, 3 and 4) and housing allowance (5) as outlined in the 30 September 2005 Report of the Finance Committee.

MOTION 9: Carried unanimously.

4.6 Atlantic School of Theology Board of Governors

Item for information and recommendation. Bishop Hockin has resigned. The Bishop asked for recommendations from members of Council as soon as possible.

4.7 Financial Request - Parish of Harwicke

MOTION 10: V. Hodge / J. Cathcart. That the letter of request from the Parish of Hardwicke be referred to the Diocesan Finance Committee for consideration.

MOTION 10: Carried unanimously.

4.8 St. Michael Report Study and Response

The Bishop communicated this request of the General Synod Faith, Worship and Ministry Committee to be a priority and will be referred to the Episcopal Team of Council to facilitate.

George Porter was asked to share an informal youth ministry report. Dr. Porter offered a summary of events and activities including: C2C, Youth Action Committee; Nbay web site being re-built; re-working of the NB Anglican youth page; Growing Youth Ministries; Christian Education Conference 01 October; a Riverview parishioner attended Ask and Imagine. Information in the NB Anglican.

4.2 Future Meeting Schedule

MOTION 11: M. Iype / E. Reid. That the future meeting schedule be: Wednesday, 09 November 2005 (Trinity, SJ); Saturday, 14 January 2006; Wednesday, 15 March 2006; and Saturday, 10 June 2006.

MOTION 11: Carried unanimously.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 12: H. Carr - That this meeting of Council be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned for Night Prayers at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Hall (The Ven.)
Secretary of Synod
07 October 2005

NOTE: The item of the forming of a diocesan nominating committee delegated to the Administration Team was omitted from business arising (MOTION 16 - 22 June 2005). No action has yet been taken. GH.