



# THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Approved 11 April 2007

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

17 January 2007

Christ Church Parish Church

Parish of Fredericton

### Pre-meeting circulation:

- Agenda
- Draft Minutes 24 November 2006
- Attendance Report (07 December 2006)
- Team Reports
- Diocesan Roles
- Finance Committee Report
- Camps Vision Task Force
- Draft Dissolution Memorial
- RNS Governance Review
- RNS Act of Legislature Draft
- Layreaders' report (at meeting)
- Camps Capital Campaign Report (at meeting)
- Financial Update re: parish budget support (at meeting)

### In attendance:

Stuart Allan, Elizabeth Belyea, John Cathcart, Patricia Drummond, Keith Dow, David Edwards, Charles Ferris, Peter Gillies, Geoffrey Hall, Vicars Hodge, Keith Joyce, Hazel MacKenzie, Mary MacDonald, Richard McConnell, Betty McNamara, Claude Miller, Keith Osborne, Elizabeth Reid, Robert Salloum, Fred Scott, John Sharpe, Donald Thompson, Cecil VanBuskirk, Walter Williams

### Regrets:

Murry Arnott, George Connor, John Edwards, Don Hamilton, Douglas Painter,

### Guests:

Phyllis Cathcart, Peter Irish, Paul Kitchen, Sylvia MacVey, Leo Martin, George Porter, Maureen Vail, Ana Watts. Sylvia MacVey and Paul Kitchen (1:00 - 1:30 p.m.)

## 1. Call to Order

### 1.1 Welcome and Prayer

This session of Diocesan Council was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by the Right Reverend Claude W. Miller. The Bishop offered a welcome to all present and thanked the Rector of the Parish of Fredericton for the hospitality extended to Diocesan Council members.

The Bishop requested the ratification of those nominated to fill the vacancies on Diocesan Council at this time. The call for further nominations was made three times.

MOTION 1: D. Thompson / E. Reid - **That nominations cease.**

MOTION 1: Carried unanimously.

New members of Diocesan Council are David Edwards, Betty McNamara and John Edwards.

## 1.2 Regrets:

The Secretary of Synod offered the list of regrets.

## 1.3 Reflection and opening comments

The Bishop explained the work of Diocesan Council is always in progress and this may sometimes lead to frustrations. With Diocesan Synod in June 2007, this will be a busy year. There is a lot of work being done at the committee level. While we are all busy, every effort is made to keep effective communication in place. The Diocese is at a critical stage as it recognizes struggling parishes. It is a challenge to find new models of ministry. The Bishop closed his opening remarks with the following: "The Body of Christ is a wounded Church needing all the pastoral care it can get."

## 1.4 Discussion and study

P. Drummond read Luke 4:14-21. Members of Diocesan Council then entered into a discussion centering on the following two questions:

- ⌘ How is this a passage appropriate for the theme of Epiphany?
- ⌘ What evidence is there that "the scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing"?

## 1.5 Correspondence

There was no formal correspondence received; however, discussions with RNS are continuing.

## 1.6 The Agenda: modification requests

The Dean asked that a motion on Canadian Forces Support be added.

The Chancellor asked that item 4.6 "Dissolution of the Parish of St. Paul" be removed from the agenda.

MOTION 2: J. Cathcart/R. Salloum - **That the agenda be accepted as modified.**

MOTION 2: Carried unanimously.

## 2. Minutes of Last Meeting: 24 November 2006

### 2.1 Modifications and acceptance

MOTION 3: J. Sharpe/K. Dow - **That the minutes of the 24 November 2006 meeting of Diocesan Council be accepted as circulated.**

MOTION 3: Carried unanimously.

### 2.2 Unfinished business

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 2.2.1 Code of Pastoral Conduct              | - ongoing                    |
| 2.2.2 Parish Budget Support                 | - ongoing (meeting Jan 19th) |
| 2.2.3 Shared Ministry Plan Implementation   | - Motion below               |
| 2.2.4 Camps Ministry Vision                 | - Report and motion below    |
| 2.2.5 Facilitator for healing relationships | - Bishop investigating       |

## 3. Reports

### 3.1 Council Team reports:

#### 3.1.1 Youth

P. Gillies highlighted the team is recruiting outside Diocesan Council in order to offer some continuity on the team. He added two others (not mentioned in the report) are confirmed as members. He reminded everyone the Camp Medley annual meeting would be held in Sussex Corner on January 31<sup>st</sup> and the Camp Brookwood annual meeting would be held February 8<sup>th</sup> in Florenceville.

MOTION 4: P. Gillies/J. Cathcart - **That the Youth Team report be accepted.**

MOTION 4: Carried unanimously.

3.1.2 Stewardship

No report.

3.1.3 Spiritual Formation

J. Cathcart added the Layreaders' report to the Spiritual Formation presentation.

MOTION 5: J. Cathcart / P. Gillies - **That the Spiritual Formation report be accepted.**

MOTION 5: Carried unanimously.

3.1.4 Parish Support

C. VanBuskirk underlined the note that Ten Thousand Villages were in discussion with Anglican House and that Anglican House was now a profitable entity.

MOTION 6: C. VanBuskirk / H. Mackenzie - **That the Parish Support report be accepted.**

MOTION 6: Carried unanimously.

Words of appreciation were extended to C. VanBuskirk for his excellent leadership in improving the financial situation at Anglican House.

3.1.5 Mission / Outreach

K. Osborne added the Seafarers' Mission now had a full time chaplain in the person of the Orthodox priest from St. Nicholas Church in Saint John.

MOTION 7: K. Osborne / S. Allan - **That the Mission and Outreach report be accepted.**

MOTION 7: Carried unanimously.

3.1.6 Episcopal

No report.

3.1.7 Administration

MOTION 8: G. Hall / P. Gillies - **That the Administration report be accepted.**

MOTION 8: Carried unanimously.

3.1.7.1 Nominating Committee

The new chair of the committee is Barb Landry. The committee is achieving some success in nominations.

The Bishop noted the listing of all diocesan positions on pages 20-26 of the pre-meeting circulation package as excellent source of information.

3.1.7.2 Finance Committee

F. Scott raised the question of where the Human Resources Committee should be in the organization of Diocesan Council: continue under Finance Committee or be a committee of Diocesan Council. Also, he handed out an update on Parish Budget Support as of January 12, 2007.

MOTION 9: F. Scott / H. Mackenzie - **That the financial report be accepted.**

MOTION 9: Carried unanimously.

3.2 Other Reports

3.2.1 Camps Ministry Vision

The Bishop invited G. Porter to present the report who stressed three concerns in the areas of policy, safety and program. Questions were directed to G. Porter in regards to changes in governance and the proposal of a part time director year round.

MOTION 10: J. Cathcart/D. Thompson - **That the Camps Ministry Vision Report be accepted.**

MOTION 10: Carried unanimously.

MOTION 11: P. Gillies/K.Osborne - **That the Camp Vision Task Force be dismissed with thanks for the work they produced.**

MOTION 11: Carried unanimously.

### 3.3 Discussion Items

#### 3.3.1 Rothesay Netherwood School Act (P. Kitchen / S. MacVey - 1:00 p.m.)

The Bishop welcomed Paul Kitchen (Head of School) and Sylvia MacVey (Chair of the RNS Governance Committee) who presented information regarding the proposed changes in governance and the draft of the Act of the Legislature.

The Bishop thanked P. Kitchen and S. MacVey for their time and presentation.

## 4. Business

### 4.1 Shared Ministry Plan

MOTION 12: C.VanBuskirk / D.Thompson - **That Diocesan Council appoint an Implementation Team for the purpose of recommending a change management process, presentation of the Plan, and monitoring its progress, reporting regularly at each future meeting of the Council. Membership to include, the Bishop and Vice-chair of Diocesan Council with power to add membership.**

MOTION 12: Carried unanimously.

### 4.2 Camps Ministry Vision

Several modifications to the proposed motion were discussed and agreed upon before the motion was put.

MOTION 13: G.Hall / V.Hodge - **Be it resolved that Diocesan Council approve the following in response to the Camps Visioning Group report:**

- 1. That the mission statement of the Diocesan camping program be: to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the making of disciples among children and youth.**
- 2. That Diocesan Council assign responsibility for the Camp Medley maintenance and management to a new Camp Medley Facilities Committee, which shall operate under the Diocesan Property Committee.**
- 3. That Diocesan Council assign responsibility for the Camp Medley summer camps program to a new 6-8 member Camp Medley Program Committee, which shall operate under the Youth Team of Diocesan Council.**
- 4. That the Bishop appoint a new part-time (but working year round) staff person (Camp Director), who will report to the Bishop and work closely with the new Facilities and Program Committees and oversee the annual programming, staffing and operation of the camp.**
- 5. That the Diocesan Council ensure the annual diocesan budget includes sufficient funds to cover all property-related costs including annual maintenance, repairs and upkeep, major equipment and insurance; and that these funds be managed by the Camp Medley Facilities Committee in cooperation with the Diocesan Property Committee.**
- 6. That Camp Medley's annual program/operations budget be administered separately, and that fees be set by the new Program Committee so as to ensure campers' fees and other revenue covers staff salaries and operating costs,**

**recognizing that the surplus funds each year belong to the Diocese which has primary responsibility for maintaining the facilities.**

- 7. That no action be taken or changes made to normal operation of Camp Brookwood until there has been a thorough review of its current situation and future needs by a separate committee.**

MOTION 13: Carried with one member opposed.

The Bishop called a recess for lunch and requested everyone reconvene at 12:45 p.m. The Bishop offered a blessing for the food. The meeting reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

The Bishop broke from the agenda and asked Peter Irish to give a brief report on the Camps Capital Campaign. P. Irish handed his report to all present and underlined highlights.

#### 4.3 Nominations

- 4.3.1 Diocesan Council (Appointed by electronic vote 15 January 2007)

This item was dealt with at the beginning of this session under item 1.1

- 4.3.2 Diocesan Executive

David Edwards' nomination was presented and the chair asked for further nominations three times.

MOTION 14: D. Thompson / C. VanBuskirk - **That nominations cease.**

MOTION 14: Carried unanimously.

- 4.3.3 Sexual Misconduct Panel of Mediators / Panel of Investigators

MOTION 15: C. Ferris / W. Williams - **That David Bell be nominated for the Panel of Mediators, the Panel of Investigators and the Committee on Constitution and Canons.**

MOTION 15: Carried unanimously.

MOTION 16: K. Joyce / E. Reid - **That nominations cease.**

MOTION 16: Carried unanimously.

- 4.3.4 Nominating Committee

MOTION 17: C. VanBuskirk / K. Joyce - **That Hazel Mackenzie be nominated to fill the vacancy.**

MOTION 17: Carried unanimously.

MOTION 18: K. Joyce / C. VanBuskirk - **That nominations cease.**

MOTION 18: Carried unanimously

#### 4.4 Nurturing Healthy Parishes Symposium (21-24 March 2007)

MOTION 19: C. VanBuskirk / C. Ferris - **That the Diocese take advantage of the offer of General Synod to subsidize cost of attendance of two individuals (1 cleric and 1 lay) at the Symposium AND that the lay person be Hazel Mackenzie with the cleric being named at a later date by the Bishop.**

MOTION 19: Carried unanimously.

#### 4.5 Sexual Misconduct Policy Amendment

MOTION 20: C. Ferris / G. Hall - **That the Sexual Misconduct Policy (B-12-3(b)) be amended using the revised definition of sexual assault to be arranged alphabetically.**

***"Sexual Assault"***

***For the purposes of this policy, a sexual assault is an assault which happens in circumstances of a sexual nature and violates the sexual integrity of the person who is assaulted.***

***These definitions and principles shall be considered when applying this definition and this policy:***

1. An "assault" happens when:
  - a) one person applies force to another person or threatens to apply force
  - b) intentionally, and
  - c) without consent.
2. The assault will be "aggravated" if the person who is assaulted is wounded, maimed or disfigured or his or her life is endangered.
3. In deciding if an assault is sexual, many factors may be considered including the part of the body touched or threatened to be touched, the situation in which it occurred, the words and gestures of the person alleged to have committed the assault and any words and gestures of the person alleged to have been assaulted.
4. Gender is not relevant to a determination of whether a sexual assault has occurred.
5. Sexual Offences are described in Part V and Part VIII of the Criminal Code of Canada and some of those offences are:
  - \* sexual interference which is sexual touching of a person under the age of fourteen
  - \* inviting a person under the age of fourteen to touch for a sexual purpose
  - \* sexual exploitation which is sexual interference of invitation by a person in a position of trust or authority (a) towards a young person, (b) towards a person in a relationship of dependency or (c) towards a person with a mental or physical disability
  - \* incest
  - \* bestiality
  - \* sexual assault
  - \* sexual assault with a weapon or sexual assault causing bodily harm; and
  - \* aggravated sexual assault

MOTION 20: Carried unanimously.

#### 4.6 RNS Act of the Legislature Draft

C. Ferris explained the importance of the proposed changes in the RNS documentation. He stated the important areas which were negotiated in the 99 year lease and suggested these not be forgotten. Diocesan Council members also added their concerns which were recorded and will be shared with the group from which advice will be drawn.

MOTION 21: D.Thompson / M.MacDonald - **That the proposed draft of the Rothesay Netherwood School Act of the Legislature be tabled until the next meeting of Diocesan Council for consideration of its referral for acceptance by Diocesan Synod in June 2007.**

MOTION 21: Carried unanimously.

#### 4.7 Nominating Committee Terms of Reference

MOTION 22: G. Hall / C. Ferris - **That the following change be made in the terms of membership of the Nominating Committee:**

**"The Bishop or representative  
No less than two members of Diocesan Council  
Members-at-large  
Total of five"**

MOTION 22: Carried unanimously.

#### 4.8 Canadian Forces Support

MOTION 23: K. Joyce / H. Mackenzie - **That Diocesan Council formally express its support of and with assurance of our prayers for Joint Task Force Afghanistan including the Rev'd Canon Malcolm Berry and the Rev'd Steele Lazerte in their strategic roles as Chaplains with the Canadian forces going to Afghanistan this year, and that we, as Council and as a Diocese, determine to do our best to uphold and support their**

**families in their absence in this time of great apprehension for them and for all the men and women serving in Afghanistan.**

MOTION 23: Carried unanimously.

#### **4.9 Future Meetings of Diocesan Council**

- Saturday, 17 March 2007 - St. Paul's, Bushville
- Wednesday, 16 May 2007 – pre-Synod – Saint John area
- Wednesday, 27 June 2007 - post-Synod - Fredericton area - afternoon meeting
- Saturday, 15 September 2007 - location to be announced
- Wednesday, 07 November 2007 - location to be announced

The Bishop offered his thanks to everyone for their participation and work.

#### **5. Adjournment**

MOTION 24: K. Joyce moved adjournment at 2:30 p.m..

The Bishop closed with prayers and blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev'd Leo Martin, Recording Secretary  
The Ven. Geoffrey Hall, Secretary  
The Rt. Rev'd Claude Miller, Bishop and Chair

18 January 2007