



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted 05 November 2008

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

17 September 2008

Christ Church (Parish) Church, Fredericton

Pre-meeting circulation (electronically):

- § Agenda 17 September 2008
- § Draft Minutes (27 August 2008)
- § Attendance (27 August 2008)
- § Team Reports
- § Interim Report: Diocesan Budget Support Task Force
- § Regulation under Canon Seven "Remuneration and Benefits"
- § Memorials

Meeting circulation

- § John 3: 1-8
- § Episcopal Team report
- § Youth Team Report
- § Year Book of the Anglican Foundation
- § Printed copies of Regulations under Canon Seven "Remuneration and Benefits"

Attending: William Chilton, Patricia Drummond, David Edwards, Geoffrey Hall, Donald Hazen, Vicars Hodge, Martha Jo Hoyt, Robert LeBlanc, Jon Lownds, Hazel MacKenzie, Gerald McConaghy, Richard McConnell, Falen McNulty, Claude Miller, Keith Osborne, Ted Quann, Fred Scott, John Sharpe, Clyde Spinney, Gordon Thompson, Christopher Waldschutz, Walter Williams.

Guests: Neville Cheeseman, Ted Curry, Robert Marsh, Leo Martin, George Porter, Ana Watts.

Regrets: David Barrett, Judith Campbell, Heather Carr, Greg Frazer, Keith Joyce, Douglas Painter.

Guest Regrets: Charles Ferris, Julian Dickson

1. Call to Order

1.1 Welcome members and guests

The Right Reverend Dr. Claude Miller, Bishop of Fredericton called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. with prayer. He offered a warm welcome to Council members and guests. The Bishop took this opportunity to give thanks to his Executive Assistant, the Venerable Geoffrey Hall, for gathering the information and preparing the agenda for this meeting of Diocesan Council.

1.2 Regrets

Regrets noted. The Bishop read a note from the Dean, the Very Reverend Keith Joyce, communicating regrets to Diocesan Council, with the Bishop's permission, until the next Synod while work at the Cathedral requires an increasing amount of his time.

1.3 **Opening comments and study** - The Bishop

The Bishop invited Falen McNulty and Gerald McConaghy to read John 3:1-8 in turn.

The Bishop then commented that since Bishop Edward Salmon's visit, he had received many positive comments and felt a sense of renewal for the Diocese. The theme which keeps resonating from Bishop Salmon's visit is his theology on the 'risk of God.' This theme can be applied to Nicodemus as he takes a risk coming to see Jesus, because of his position within the Jewish leadership. Nicodemus comes in the night to seek the light (of Christ).

The Bishop then recounted his own experience, during his sabbatical, of waking up in the middle of the night in complete darkness as opposed to waking up at the Bishop's Court with the street lights offering a shadowy light in the home. The link was made that the Diocese and its work is sometimes done in the shadows of the light. While Bishop Salmon was not THE light, he certainly was a light for us as the leadership of the Diocese. It tells us we need a paradigm shift beginning with the leadership so we stop hiding our blessings. We need to bring these in the light so we can be seen walking with God in both the mission and the ministry of the Church. In order to answer the call of the Gospel, we need to take risks and stop playing it safe; to stop walking in the shadows; to trust God and not economics; to be reminded the vision and the resources belong to Christ.

Additional comments:

- If there is no movement, there is no wind
- Bishop Salmon was an opportunity to see with different eyes what God is already doing.

1.4 **Correspondence**

A note was received from the Archdeaconry of Saint John nominating the Reverend Greg McMullin to the position on Diocesan Council left vacant with the appointment of the Reverend David Edwards as Archdeacon of Saint John.

1.5 **Agenda Modifications**

MOTION 1: John Sharpe/Robert LeBlanc

That the agenda be accepted as circulated.

MOTION 1: Carried unanimously

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

2.1 **Corrections and adoption** - 27 August 2008

Needed corrections noted:

- i. The 3rd bullet under Business and Discussion be changed to *"10-10-10 is a slice of an institutional transformational process, not a technique."*
- ii. The last line of Business and Discussion read "Bishop Miller noted a suggestion by some clergy that Bishop Salmon return so that we become accountable to what he has taught us."
- iii. The date under Next Meeting be change to "17 September."

MOTION 2: Clyde Spinney/Vicars Hodge

The minutes of 27 August 2008 be adopted as corrected.

MOTION 2: Carried unanimously

2.2 **Completed items from past minutes**

- 2.2.1 Adopted Minutes of 31 May 2008 posted with date correction
- 2.2.2 Anglican Foundation Application (Parish of Upham) returned to the parish for their submission
- 2.2.3 Regulations 3-1, 5-1, 6-1, 8-1 posted to Red Book
- 2.2.4 A-19 Insurance Standards Addenda posted to Red Book

- 2.2.5 Memorials of Dissolution - Parish of St. James, SJ executed and registered
- 2.2.6 Adopted minutes of 27 August 2008 posted
- 2.2.7 Memorials of Adjustment (Parishes of St. Philip's, St. James, Moncton, Wickham, Londonderry) and Dissolution (St. James, SJ) posted to Register

2.3 Unfinished items from past minutes

- Code of Pastoral Conduct
The Clergy Review Group will not meet its target date for completion; however, a report will be made at the next meeting of Council.
- Marriage and Sexuality
Discussions are ongoing at all levels including local levels of the Church and people need to be encouraged to have charity in their discussions. The Bishop's commitment to this remains.
- Water as Sacred Gift
Referred to the PWRDF working group and this topic has been placed on the agenda of the 18 October workshop. This topic was also discussed at Lambeth with one member saying "we do not inherit the land from our ancestors, we borrow it from our grandchildren."
- Embryonic Stem Cell Research
The Episcopal Team is working at putting a Task Force together. A long discussion ensued centering on the words of the Synod motion in question (129-22) and the action required by Diocesan Council.
- Support of the Diocesan Budget
Task Force working.
- Rural And/or Struggling Parishes
Task Force working.
- Diocesan Budgeting Process
Finance Committee has appointed a Budget Management ad hoc committee which will meet 30 September.
- Camp Brookwood Task Force
A sub-committee of the Board is looking at a three year plan expected soon. The Task Force work is completed and a written report will be presented at the next meeting of Council.
- Protocol on Applications to the Anglican Foundation
A proposal from the Finance Committee is on the agenda for this meeting
- Evaluation of Diocesan Synod Services
No specific assignment of this task had been made.

MOTION 3:C. Spinney / D. Edwards

That the Finance Committee be requested to cost ministry areas provided by the Diocese and then pass the information to the Diocesan Executive Committee for further action.

MOTION 3: Carried unanimously

- Partnership with General Synod re Stewardship
Ongoing. A report from Canon Geoff Jackson and Rob Waller is expected this month.
- Residential Schools Returned Funding
Underway.
- Primate's Request for Acc Ministry/mission Review
This will be discussed at the upcoming meeting of Provincial Council. The discussion on the process is ongoing.
- Shared Ministry Plan Tracking and Implementation
There are many pieces to a comprehensive strategy that need to be coordinated before Synod 2009.

MOTION 4: Clyde Spinney/Patricia Drummond

That Diocesan Council refer to the Diocesan Executive Committee, with the power to add, the responsibility for coordinating the reports to be produced, including:

- **Rural and/or struggling parishes**
- **Financial Task Force**
- **Shared Ministry Plan**
- **Letting Down the Nets**
- **Response set out by Bishop Salmon**

And that the Diocesan Executive Committee report back to Diocesan Council before the next Synod.

MOTION 4: Carried unanimously

3. Reports

3.1 Team and Standing Committee Reports

MOTION 5: J. Sharpe / V. Hodge

That the Council Team and Standing Committee reports be received.

MOTION 5: Carried unanimously

ADMINISTRATION - No report.

Finance Committee - G. McConaghy

Human Resources Committee - G. Hall

Nominating Committee - G. Hall.

The Bishop noted his recent appointment of William Turney, chair of the Communications Committee.

Constitution and Canons Committee - No Report. The Chancellor will speak later on the Regulations.

EPISCOPAL - J. Lownds

MISSION AND OUTREACH - K. Osborne

PARISH SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT - H.I MacKenzie.

Noted the target date for the creation of the 'bank' of individuals had been postponed in order to create a proper bank. Archdeacon Stuart Allan plans to have a report for Diocesan Council on Anglican House very shortly.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT - No report.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT - G. Hall

YOUTH MINISTRIES - G. Porter

Generation 2008 should read 'completed.' On 17 October 2008 a youth presentation on PWRDF would be offered at the Cathedral Hall. The Christian Education Director, Elizabeth Harding, has recently broken her arm and as a result of this accident MANNA was canceled and the Spiritual Spa is postponed until spring.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened 1:15 p.m.

3.2 Items for Discussion

3.2.1 Action following Bishop Salmon sessions

The Bishop indicated the Task Force made the suggestion that Bishop Salmon be approached and asked if he would be willing to do a video Bible Study to be used during Lent.

4. Business

4.1 Diocesan Council Membership

MOTION 6: V. Hodge / K. Osborne

That the Reverend Greg McMullin be appointed to Diocesan Council as the clergy representative to fill the vacancy created by the September 01 2008 appointment of the Venerable David Edwards as Archdeacon of Saint John.

MOTION 6: Carried unanimously.

4.2 **Appointment to Constitution and Canons Committee**

Motion 7: C. Spinney / H. MacKenzie

That Canon Charles Ferris be appointed to the Committee on the Constitution and Canons.

MOTION 7: Carried unanimously.

4.3 **Regulation 4-1 Regional Governance**

MOTION 8: R. McConnell / W. Williams

That draft Regulation 4-1 be tabled until the next session of Diocesan Council in order to give members an opportunity to review this document and communicate concerns to the Chancellor and/or Canon Charles Ferris.

MOTION 8: Carried unanimously.

4.4 **Regulation 4-2 Rules of Order of Diocesan Council**

MOTION 9: C. Spinney / V. Hodge

That Regulation 4-2 "Diocesan Council Rules of Order and Procedure" be adopted.

MOTION 9: Carried unanimously.

MOTION 10: C. Spinney / G. Hall

That Red Book A-20 "Diocesan Council Rules of Order and Procedure" be repealed.

MOTION 10: Carried unanimously.

4.5 **Regulations under Canon Seven** [1:47 p.m.]

The Bishop offered words of welcome members of the Human Resources Committee: Mr. Ted Curry, chair and the Reverend Canon Neville Cheeseman, member. Other members of the Human Resources Committee were introduced and identified. Mr. Curry presented the Executive Summary on the draft Regulations under Canon Seven.

MOTION 11: W. Williams / F. Scott

That Regulations 7-1 to 7-9 "Remuneration and Benefits" be adopted.

MOTION 11: Carried unanimously.

MOTION 13: G. Hall / F. McNulty

That Red Book A-2 "Remuneration for Clergy and Layreaders;" A-3 "Clergy Loans;" A-4 "Relocation Expense Policy;" A-9 "Clergy Remuneration;" A-10(1) "Clergy Benefits Package;" A-10(2) "Travel Reimbursement Policy;" A-10(3) "Benefits - Short Term Disability and Sick Leave Plan;" A-11 "Clergy Retirement Allowance Plan;" A-12 "Rectory Standards;" A-13 "Policy re Clergy-owned Housing;" A-14 "Continuing Education Plan for Clergy;" A-18 "Part-time Remuneration and Allowances" be repealed.

MOTION 13: Carried unanimously.

On behalf of the members of Diocesan Council, the Bishop extended thanks to the Human Resources Committee and the Constitution and Canons Committee working group for this document. The Council concurred with applause.

4.6 **Procedures for Anglican Foundation Applications**

Motion 14: G. McConaghy / F. Scott

That the draft "Applications to the Anglican Foundation" (21 July 2008) be adopted as Red Book A-2 "Applications to the Anglican Foundation."

Motion 14: Carried unanimously.

4.7 Sexual Misconduct Policy Revision

Motion 15: C. Spinney / G. Hall

That changes to B-14 Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure as presented be adopted to address a change in the definition of "sexual assault."

Motion 15: Carried unanimously.

4.8 Register of Memorials, Names, Boundaries and Communities

Motion 16: G. Hall / F. McNulty

That the revised Register be received.

Motion 16: Carried unanimously.

4.9 Diocesan Legislation Table of Contents

Motion 17: G. Hall / W. Chilton

That the Table of Contents be adopted retiring the current Diocesan Policies, Regulations, Guidelines and Directives ("Red Book"). Necessary changes to ordering and numeration will be made. Incomplete components will be completed as possible (eg. additional episcopal directives). Present regulations, policies and episcopal directives will be known as the "Diocesan Handbook."

Motion 17: Carried unanimously

4.10 Next Meetings

- Wednesday 05 November 2008 - Saint Mary's Church, Miramichi
- Saturday 17 January 2009 - Christ Church (Parish) Church, Fredericton
- Wednesday 18 March 2009 - The Church of the Resurrection, Grand Bay-Westfield
- Saturday 16 May 2009 - Saint Martin's in the Woods, Shediac
- Wednesday 24 June 2009 (1:30 - 4:00 p.m.) Fredericton (location TBA)

NOTE: The Bishop confirmed his intention to call a session of Diocesan Synod 04-06 June 2009 with the location being Saint John.

4.11 Announcements

F. Scott drew attention to the Year Book of the Anglican Foundation as a very good resource and he called on all parishes to become members of the Foundation.

5. Adjournment

Motion 18: G. McConaghy

That this session of Diocesan Council be adjourned.

Motion 18: Carried unanimously.

The Bishop dismissed the members of Diocesan Council with prayers and blessing.
Time 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Leo Martin
Recording Secretary

The Venerable Geoffrey Hall
Secretary of Synod

The Rt. Rev'd Dr. Claude W. Miller
Chair

22 September 2008