



**THE ANGLICAN SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of April 28, 2018 at St. Philip, Cedar, 10am

EX OFFICIO

Bishop	Rt. Rev. Dr. Logan McMenamie
Chancellor	Canon Dr. Constance Isherwood
Vice Chancellor	Bob Gill R
Dean	The Very Rev. M. Ansley Tucker
Registrar	Nathan Lampard R
Lay Secretary	Canon Judy Trueman
Clerical Secretary	The Rev. Canon Susanne House R
Treasurer	Michael Murgatroyd R

ELECTED BY SYNOD

The Rev. Canon Dr. Dawna Wall	The Rev. Clara Plamondon
Canon Ian Alexander	Aidan Cunningham R
Bruce Winter R	Elizabeth Walker R
David Stewart	Catherine Yeo R
Penny Holt	Amber Santarelli
Brenda O'Brien	

ELECTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The Rev. Craig Hiebert	Canon Dr. Jeanette Muzio R
The Ven. Lon Towstego	David Buckman
Janice Varga	Andrea Davis

APPOINTED

The Rev. David Chillman
The Ven. Alastair McCollum
Don Wilson **R**

STAFF

Gail Gauthier, Finance Officer
Peter Daniel, Asset Manager
Catherine Pate, Communications Officer

GUESTS (with voice and vote)—REGIONAL NOMINEES	
The Rev. Aneeta Saroop, Selkirk	The Rev. Juli Mallett, Haro
Lynn Schumacher, Selkirk	The Rev. Patrick Sibley, Tolmie
Walter Stewart, Haro	The Rev. Anthony Divinagracia, Nimpkish
The Rev. Heather Cutten, Cowichan/Malaspina R	Boyd Shaw, Cowichan/Malaspina
Denise Ropp, Nimpkish	
OTHER GUESTS	Esther Jang, Global Philanthropic Inc

1. Welcome and Bishop's Introductory Remarks

The bishop welcomed us to St. Philip, Cedar. His remarks are on file, but he did emphasize the importance of this and subsequent Diocesan Council meetings leading up to Synod in September, where we will need to be able to articulate clearly the diocesan vision and the case for support of *Transforming Futures*.

The bishop informed the meeting that Brian Evans has resigned as the diocesan stewardship officer. He will continue in a non-stipendiary role, working as part of a stewardship team that will support parish-based education activities across the diocese.

Brendon Neilson (a member of Abbey Church) has been hired, on a part-time contractual basis (April—September) to act as "vision animator" and coordinate the Vision Implementation Team activities leading up to and at Synod.

The bishop presented a photo slide show illustrating his work through Holy Week in the Nimpkish region and at the House of Bishops.

Bishop Logan emphasized that over our 150 years as a diocese, we have received a great legacy from faithful Anglicans. We will be shaped by our First Nations brothers and sisters, moving forward with courage and asking ourselves hard questions; for example: Why do First Nations live at a different economic level than so many others in Canada?

2. Vision Reflection/Bible Study

Walter Stewart offered a short reflection on Matthew 6:19-21. He felt this scripture was particularly appropriate for a meeting that would be largely speaking of finances. We then spent some quiet, individual reflection about where our treasure, and thus our heart, is focussed.

3. Living the Vision #1

a) Information Management and Privacy Policy. Catherine Pate introduced us to a circulated document on information management and privacy. The policy has implications for how we, at every level of the diocese, manage information, with particular implications around electronic communication. Catherine suggested members of council was look up PIPA (Personal Information Protection Act) online to become familiar with it the legislation prior to our next meeting. John Glover, information management and human resource consultant, will be with us in June to go through the policy in detail. We will need a motion to approve the policy.

b) Future Financial Joint Fundraising Initiatives. Esther Jang led us through the draft *Transforming Futures* case for support document. Esther is with Global Philanthropic Inc., a fundraising consultancy group. We talked about building a case for support, wanting to ensure that the document captures where we are going in the future. It needs to be rooted in the diocesan vision. This is incarnation; the giving of ourselves for the benefit of the community. It must address the Christian need to give. Finalizing the case for support and developing a work plan to implement it will be our major work between now and Synod.

Speaking about the Vision Fund ending has unfortunately given rise to the idea that the financial campaign is for the funding of the deficit. This must be corrected in future communications.

Catherine Pate's notes of the full discussion are found in the appendix at the end of these minutes.

c) Regional Gatherings. Catherine Pate prepared a full report on the regional gatherings, including a summary of table discussions, presentations and election results. The report was given to Diocesan Council in Dropbox. Based on the comments made at the regional gatherings Annalise Wall initiated the "50 Days Project"—a 50-day-email campaign running throughout the season of Easter. More information can be found on the diocesan website bc.anglican.ca.

4. Faith in Foundation #1

a) Regrets for Absence

The lay secretary gave the names of those members of Council who had let it be known that they would not be in attendance at the meeting.

b) Minutes of the meeting of March 24, 2018

MOVED BY: Ansley Tucker

SECONDED BY: Clara Plamondon

That the minutes of March 24, 2018 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

c) Business Arising

Bishop Logan reported that Bishop Rob Hardwick from the Diocese of Qu'Appelle will not be receiving donations for his diocese during his cross-country prayer cycle. When asked if he is seeking permission to enter First Nations territory in BC, he replied that he had not thought of it. One or two Tolmie people are needed to link with him when he begins his ride in Victoria. Also a billet for one night is needed.

d) DC Work Plan Update

Ian Alexander drew our attention to the May 31 work plan in our package. Included are reports from vision teams.

e) Information re Synod 2018

No material is ready yet.

Lunch Break—Anthony Divinagracia said grace for the lunch which was provided for us. Lynn Schumacher offered thanks on behalf of the Council to the ladies who had provided lunch and hospitality.

5. Living the Vision #2

a) Financial Plan

Members of Council responded to six questions that had been included in our meeting package.

- i. *Do you agree that the diocese needs to do something to raise additional funds on an ongoing basis? Why or why not?*

Yes, based on our experience with the St. Peter and St. Paul merger. Up to now, we have relied on the painfully-gained funds from parish closures.

Yes, we are the diocese. The local church community is a diocese. Being a community includes what we do with our money. Use 'US' language, not 'the diocese'.

If the raising of additional funds is ongoing, should there be another word instead of "campaign" or "fundraiser"? This plan should not be a one-time-only intervention. Stewardship should be full time.

Why are we not just upping our parish assessments or using another model? Is this about an ongoing need to increase revenue?

There is our personal need to be the reflection of the sacrificial Christ.

Sometimes the body of Christ is built up by something that has been a great sacrifice. We need to build on that work. It is incumbent on us to make it sustainable.

- ii. *What are your reactions to the draft document presented today? What in it excites you that you can enthusiastically support? What in it may need further reflection or adjustment?*

Are we dismissing the fact that we're already doing some fine ministries? We need to stay away from language that suggests we need to abandon what is.

Image – trees with a new ecosystem above them – church needs to use its current vibrancy to grow and prosper.

- iii. *What are some of the things that might motivate people and parishes to get involved in a joint fund-raising initiative across the diocese?*

The short answer is 'the Holy Spirit'. We need to open our eyes to see what the Holy Spirit is doing and find a creative way to animate the story.

Setting up relationships to grow. Share stories. Our synod reps and other leaders need to go out and tell the story.

It is so hard to present the plan to our church. It needs, perhaps, a logo, a nutshell message. Our church needs help. Keep the message simple.

People will be available to help parishes.

The campaign will be rolled out parish by parish, and not all at once. As we build success, momentum will build.

- iv. *What are the sources of, and reasons for, resistance to a joint fund-raising initiative? How can they be overcome?*

There are two major resistances: (1) parishes are struggling financially, and (2) a lack of trust in the diocese.

Faith groups are declining in membership, YET our churches were full on Christmas Day. We need to turn around these perceptions.

Churches struggle to make their budgets, yet they give if there is a specific goal (e.g. a new furnace).

Parishes need a vision of what they will do with the additional funds.

Churches are aging.

- v. *Do you think there is a culture of stewardship in your parish and in this diocese as a whole? Why or why not? What needs to be done about this?*

We build our own spiritual health by giving.

Many fail to see the connection between giving and growth. It is not either/or. This is scripturally-based.

We need to broaden our definition of stewardship. It is not Time OR Talent OR Treasure. Biblical teaching needs to be a priority.

The depth of generosity of our God flows through us.

We are in self-preservation.

When we are asked for help in the mail, there is a pattern: thanksgiving and then sharing what our contributions will do.

Budgets start with expenses and then the income is paired. No coercion.

- vi. *Are you personally prepared to support the campaign – both with your own contribution and by encouraging others in your parish and region?*

We all need to be SEEN to lead and give. Find something in our lives we can personally do without.

There needs to be a personal response. Priests need to talk about it and do it.

I will support it. God has been so good to me and my family. Priests should model stewardship.

b) Diocesan Vision

Ian Alexander gave the meeting a brief background of the formation of the Diocesan Vision in Synod 2014 and 2015 and of its implementation. The three-year interim plan was very successful together with the formation of the Matters groups and Vision Implementation Teams. As reported earlier, we now have a Vision Animator. The working teams will report to Diocesan Council.

6. Faith in Foundation #2

a) Finance Committee Minutes of April 19, 2018

MOVED BY: Anthony Divinagracia

SECONDED BY: Andrea Davis

That the minutes of the April 19, 2018 Finance Committee be received and approved.

MOTION CARRIED

b) Financial Information – motions for Diocesan Council ratification

MOVED BY: Alastair McCollum

SECONDED BY: Craig Hiebert

That Diocesan Council approves the withdrawal of the full balance from St. Paul's Housing Society General fund held in the CTF. The value of the account is approximately \$7000.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY: Janice Varga

SECONDED BY: David Chillman

That Diocesan Council approves the March 2018 financials and reports.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY: David Buckman
SECONDED BY: Connie Isherwood
That Diocesan Council receives the 2017 Financial Statements from Dawson Heights Housing Ltd.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY: Alastair McCollum
SECONDED BY: David Chillman
That Diocesan Council receives the 2017 Financial Statements, 2018 Budget and notes from Bethlehem Investors Group Ltd.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY: Ian Alexander
SECONDED BY: Dawna Wall
That Diocesan Council approves the Housing Task Team looking at Bethlehem Investors Group Ltd. to review its governance and operations.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY: Anthony Divinagracia
SECONDED BY: Craig Hiebert
That Diocesan Council approves the circulation of the diocesan Investment Policy to all parishes, together with a covering letter from Bishop Logan.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY: Clara Plamondon
SECONDED BY: Alastair McCollum
That Diocesan Council grants \$20,000 to five of the applications outlined in the Vision Report. Those applications are:

- St. Philip, Oak Bay (labyrinth) – up to \$2,000
- St. Stephen, Central Saanich (summer camp) – up to \$2,000
- St. Columba, Port Hardy (First Nations engagement by rector) - \$8,000
- Former parishioners of St. John, Ladysmith (Open Table) – up to \$2,000
- Reconciliation and Beyond Team (94 Calls to Action Workshop) – up to \$6,000.

MOTION CARRIED

c) Asset Management

Peter Daniel reported that the parish of St. Philip, Cedar has boarded up its rectory and wants to investigate uses / new initiatives for the rest of the property.

d) Nominating Committee

MOVED BY: David Chillman
SECONDED BY: Walter Stewart

That Cindy Haley be appointed to serve on the Educational Trusts Board.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

7. **Other Business** – There was none.

8. Closing Reflections

Walter Stewart was encouraged by our willingness to look at where our hearts and treasure are.

Bishop Logan said he was inspired at how we are doing the ongoing work in the diocese.

Bishop Logan will be away from May 18 to June 4.

The meeting closed with The Grace.

APPENDIX

Responses to questions regarding the case for support
Notes taken by Catherine Pate

Case for Support Questions

1. Will this carry over in parishes? Have to feel more of a relationship with other parishes – sharing programs, doing things together first.
2. Does this case reach out beyond the Anglican church?
 - a. One good example: Asset management – celebrate it. Housing is very attractive to non-church people.
3. How do we acknowledge the difficult parts of our history and move on with transforming our future?
4. How can we make this even simpler? It seems too complicated for people at the parish level.
5. How can it be made more tangible?
6. Can we have more examples of what could be done/is being done?
7. How can we make the model clearer? Where should it be placed within the document?
8. How do we get out of the “now” thought into a future-focused way of thinking? How do demonstrate that this will create a legacy?
9. Will everybody see this document when its finalized? Or is it for leaders only?
 - a. It is a public document – everyone should see it and interact with it. They should be able to understand the vision and everything that the diocese is doing to sustain the church going forward.
10. What is the difference between a case for the church than for other not-for-profit organizations?
 - a. What you are trying to do is build a healthy community. There really is no distinction. We are trying to build a sustainable future, in the same way as any community-based organization.

How do we balance the unique nature of the church with any common characteristics with other organizations? We need to balance all of this with the Christian imperative to give.
– See Herb O’Driscoll.

How do we capture the spiritual nature of what we are doing? The incarnational nature. We need to reframe the hope that we have within the context we find ourselves (wider society).
11. How much detail is ideal in a case? When is too much?
 - a. It should be high level. Detail is in the work plan.
12. How do we show people at the parish level what’s in it for them?
13. Is there enough of a vision to create a call to action in this document? How do we make it more compelling?
 - a. It needs to celebrate what we’ve done in the past, where we are going and tell the reader why they should invest.
14. How do we overcome the perception that there is no more money to give?
15. How can the document more clearly reflect the fact that this is really about Vision Fund 2.0 – That it is a mechanism for making it possible to continue what has begun?

The three areas of focus: *Faith in Foundation, Formation, Action* need to come out more strongly within the document. The linkage to the vision needs to be clearer. The activity the vision spawned needs to be demonstrated in the document. What is God's vision for us? Make this stronger at the beginning of the document.

16. What is the process by which the dollar "XXs" will become dollar figures – firm numbers?
17. Has the diocesan vision implementation been successful?
 - a. Yes. Work in progress. Needs to be more widely embraced. Parishes also need help developing their own case/visions.