



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

Minutes of the meeting of November 28, 2019 at Church of The Advent, Colwood/Langford

EX OFFICIO

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

ELECTED BY SYNOD

The Venerable Dr. Dawna Wall	The Venerable Clara Plamondon
Don Wilson	Michael Wolff
Joan Hoffman	Penny Holt
Ashley Blair R	Aleesha Barkemeier R

ELECTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The Rev. Juli Mallet R	Walter Stewart
The Rev. Patrick Sibley	Canon Dr. Jeanette Muzio R
The Rev. Aneeta Saroop	Lynn Schumacher R
The Rev. Heather Cutten	Denise Ropp R
	Ed Norman R

APPOINTED

The Rev. David Chillman R
Boyd Shaw

STAFF

The Ven. J. Barry Foster, Executive Officer
Gail Gauthier, Finance Officer
Catherine Pate, Communications Officer

GUESTS (with voice, no vote)

Amber Santarelli R
Ian Alexander
Jim Holland
Lon Towstego

1. Welcome

The bishop opened the meeting with prayer and welcomed the members of diocesan council. Bishop Logan thanked the members of The Church of the Advent for use of their parish hall for today's meeting. Bishop Logan welcomed the Rev. Jim Holland and the Rev. Lon Towstego as guests presenting at this meeting.

Bishop Logan acknowledged that we are on the lands of the Kwakwaka'waka, Nuu-chah-nulth and the Coast Salish peoples. He asked council to remember that we can learn from the First Nations about how we are being shaped by the land of these islands and inlets. Our work as members of diocesan council is to be leaders, working for the betterment of all peoples who call this place their home. The bishop then offered a prayer.

The bishop then spoke about his written remarks (attached to the minutes of this council meeting), which were provided to diocesan council as part of their meeting package. He reminded council that the diocesan executive team met with the archdeacons and regional deans for a planning day. Those in attendance were asked to consider what leadership needs to be in these times of change. We need to be aware that our present model of being church is not sustainable. Transforming Futures will help guide us into the changes needed, but we are unsure as to how this will be shaped.

Bishop Logan has asked the diocese to enter into a season of prayer from the Feast of Epiphany (January 6th, 2020) through to Ash Wednesday (February 26th, 2020). He asked council and all parishes to consider sharing the resources they have on hand with other parishes. He also asked that we study the book [Watershed Discipleship](#). This is "a challenging book which speaks to how we are shaped by our environment." Study guides are being developed by the bishop and the Rev. Matt Humphrey.

The bishop also asked that the diocese set aside Lent as a time for prayer and study and to invest less energy and time into maintaining the fabric of the institution during this season. He asked diocesan council to use the meeting(s) planned for Lent 2020 as a time for prayer and study, leaving the customary work of council for a later meeting(s).

Bishop Logan finished his remarks by announcing that the lay secretary, Canon Judy Trueman, has tendered her resignation, effective January 31, 2020. The bishop has accepted this resignation. He thanked Canon Trueman for her able assistance as lay secretary for the past ten years.

The bishop asked if there were any changes to the agenda:
None were forth-coming.

Vision Reflection on a Season of Discipleship

The Rev. Jim Holland began by sharing what he saw his role to be, as chaplain at Shawnigan Lake School. Jim described the school as a gathering place for some 500 students, plus teachers and staff. The students come from many cultural and creedal backgrounds, and faith traditions. When Jim first was appointed as school chaplain, he remembers being told that he would need to figure out what it was that the chaplain does on his own. He spoke of his journey being a time of struggle and of finding his own gifts. Much of his time is spent in

pastoral care and teaching as well as in the role of being pastor, spiritual guide and as a mentor.

Jim shared a reading from Matthew, chapter 13, the parable of the sower and the seed. He described this parable as being a simple, yet rich passage, ripe with metaphors. Seed comes from God and can not be created out of nothing. The best seed is always retained as seed stock for the next year's planting. God has provided an overabundance of seed to the people of faith. The harvesting we do is the result of work which has already taken place by others.

Every human heart is good ground. Bad ground is the product of the toxins of history with which we infest the world. We are not all in the same place, at the same time, when it comes to being ready to receive the seed of God's gifts. We each accept the seed from the Creator in different ways. The casting of seed, by the farmer, is paralleled in other scripture, in the casting of nets for fish. We must trust the seed will find ground suitable for growth and fulfillment, as we trust the net will find the fish. Every seed has potential for growth through words, actions and the growth of others in interpretation of God's gift.

The third metaphor is fertilization. Fertilizer comes from the waste and the failure of earlier effort. Compost is the blessing of all that has gone before, died, and is now used to feed new life.

Jim Holland finished with a poem. A copy of this poem was provided to each member of diocesan council for their personal use.

The Bishop thanked the Rev. Jim Holland for his words and thoughts.

Doing God's Work Together

The bishop noted that this will be recurring item on future agendas, beginning with the January meeting of diocesan council.

Faith in Action #1

a) Reconciliation and Beyond Team Update

The Rev. Lon Towstego shared with diocesan council a passage of scripture from 2 Corinthians 5:18-20. He reminded council that reconciliation begins within ourselves. Using a quote from The Rev. Herb O'Driscoll, Lon indicated that we need to "preach more grace and offer less judgement of ourselves." Reconciliation begins in our own hearts, then moves out into our parish, our region, our diocese, our national church and beyond.

Diocesan council was asked to move into smaller discussion groups to consider several questions. A summary of the responses from the table groups is attached to these minutes.

Bishop Logan reminded council that reconciliation is a lifestyle and a discipline; a gesture which we then make into policy.

Lon asked diocesan council to consider where the Reconciliation and Beyond team should seek to find its direction, from this point. It was suggested that there exists a

level of crossover between the work of Reconciliation and Beyond with the work being started by the Dismantling Racism team.

MOVED BY: Walter Stewart

SECONDED BY: Dawna Wall

That diocesan council thanks the members of the Reconciliation and Beyond team for their continued work. Council supports the mandate of the Reconciliation and Beyond team going forward and requests that they report to diocesan council in the next few months regarding their direction and the finances required in this ongoing work.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Lunch Break

Council broke for lunch following Lon Towstego's presentation and discussion. Walter Stewart offered the blessing for the food we were to partake.

Following the lunch break, The Rev. Clara Plamondon thanked the parish members of the Church of the Advent for providing lunch for council today.

Faith in Foundation #1

- a) Regrets for Absence - The secretaries noted the regrets for absence from this council meeting. There were 6 voting members plus two youth members of council absent.
- b) Consent agenda approval – Walter Stewart reviewed the background for using consent agenda to streamline the work of diocesan council. He summarized the items included in the consent agenda for today.

Chancellor Bob Gill asked that item #1 of the consent agenda be moved to the main agenda.

1. ~~October 26, 2019 Diocesan Council minutes~~ (MOVED TO THE MAIN AGENDA)
2. From Finance Committee meeting November 22, 2019, ratifications by diocesan council for:
 - Minutes of October 17, 2019.
 - Financial statements and reports for October 2019.
 - Monthly activity report from Asset Management.
 - Approval that the Parish of Salt Spring Island replace its heating system (over \$20,000) with the monies it has earmarked.
 - Withdrawal from St. David by the Sea, Cordova Bay's Rectory Consolidated Trust Fund (CTF) for the heating system and soffits replacement.
 - St. Mary, Nanoose subdivide the property to isolate the cemetery portion, with the diocese covering the cost of the subdivision (estimated cost \$10,000).
 - St. Peter, Comox, have their bank overdraft reduced to \$25,000 effective December 1, 2019.
 - St. David by the Sea, Cordova Bay be permitted to use \$36,521.38 from their Unrestricted Bequest CTF Fund to clear their bank overdraft.

- Approval of a 2020 CTF distribution of 3.50% per unit owned
3. November 12, 2019 Educational Trust Board minutes

MOVED BY: Michael Wolff
SECONDED BY: Clara Plamondon

That the items listed as part of the consent agenda be approved, as amended.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Amendment to the minutes for October 26, 2019 Diocesan Council meeting.

Motion as follows:

MOVED BY: Bob Gill
SECONDED BY: Michael Wolff

That the wording of the motion regarding St. Peter's Quamichan be amended by adding the words "from bank overdraft or church sites and parsonage loan" following "That diocesan council approves funding capital work", and before "to be undertaken by St Peter, Quamichan to replace...."

MOTION WAS CARRIED

Minutes of October 26, 2019 Diocesan Council meeting.

MOVED BY: Bob Gill
SECONDED BY: Heather Cutten

That the minutes of the October 26, 2019 diocesan council meeting be approved as amended.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Living the Vision #1

a) Transforming Futures – Update - Walter Stewart

Co-chair Walter Stewart provided diocesan council with an update on the progress of Transforming Futures. Parishes are experiencing difficulty with being able to discern what is their dream for their parish. Walter noted that there has been less pushback regarding the 40% portion of Transforming Futures which is attributed to the Synod. He indicated that more congregations are understanding that a substantial proportion of these funds is returned to parishes through program and grants.

Faith in Foundation #2

- a) Budget preview 2020
- b) Five Year Plan update and how the work of Transforming Futures linked to the Five Year Plan for the Diocese.

Gail Gauthier, diocesan finance officer, provided diocesan council with an overview of the early budget considerations for 2020. A copy of the presentation is to be found as part of the meeting package, provided to the members of council prior to the meeting.

A period of discussion followed Gail's presentation.

Faith in Foundation #3

- a) Naming Task Team Report
 - 1. Bishop Logan asked council to hold this work in prayer. In the new year, the Naming Task Team will be reconvening under the direction of the bishop to revisit the issue of "region" naming within the diocese.
- b) COGS Report
 - 1. Canon Ian Alexander gave diocesan council a brief overview of his first impressions of attending the Council of General Synod (COGS) meetings. A digital file of his presentation to diocesan council is attached to these minutes.
 - 2. Table groups were asked to consider several questions which will be found in the attached document, as provided by Canon Alexander. Recordors for each group were to report back to Ian by email with a summary of their discussions.
- c) Discussion re: diocesan council meeting frequency
 - 1. The executive officer, Barry Foster, gave a brief summary of reasons for bringing this item before diocesan council. After a brief period of discussion, Barry Foster indicated that the secretaries for diocesan council, the executive assistant to the bishop and the executive officer will prepare a schedule for diocesan council for 2020.

Other Business

- a) Archives 2019 Report

MOVED BY: Ansley Tucker
 SECONDED BY: Walter Stewart

That diocesan council receive the 2019 Archives Report.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Closing Reflection

The bishop made reference to the words of Jim Holland, Lon Towstego and Ian Alexander. He thanked each of them for their contribution to this meeting.

Bishop Logan informed diocesan council that the executive officer Barry Foster will be commissary for the diocese from December 2 – 13, 2019.

The Bishop offered a blessing and thanked all in attendance for their commitment to the life of the diocese.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Next Diocesan Council meeting
Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 10:00 am – St Paul, Nanaimo