



# THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted 27 January 2018

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

5 October 2017

Parish of St. Mark

4 Needle St., Sussex Corner, NB

### Pre-meeting circulation

- Agenda
- Draft Minutes (22 June 2017)
- Attendance Chart
- Team and Standing Committee Reports
- Safe Church Amendments

### Participants

Attending: Irene Adams, Stuart Allan, Kathy Asch, David Barrett, David Bell, Gilbert Carter, Sandra Craft, Patricia Drummond, David Edwards, Geoffrey Hall, Cathy Laskey, Brent Ham, Chris Hayes, Susan Jack, Rosemarie Kingston, Robert LeBlanc, Coralie Losier, Rob Marsh, John Matheson, Norman McLeod, Frank Morehouse, Edward Quann, Neville Sloane, and Wandlyn Snelgrove.

Regrets: Dylan Nicoll, Siobhan Laskey, and Bonnie LeBlanc,

Guests Attending: Allyson Caldwell, Cheryl Jacobs, Colin McDonald, Gisele McKnight, Maren McLean-Persaud, Ken Neilson, Keith Osborne, David Peer, Jason Smith, and Anne Walling.

### Eucharist

The Bishop celebrated the opening Eucharist. In his meditation, the Bishop reflected on the Gospel reading from Matthew chapter 21.

### Call to Order

Following a short break, Bishop David called the meeting to order at 1100 and received regrets. He welcomed Council members and introduced Allyson Caldwell and Jason Smith. Allyson has recently joined the diocese in a half-time position as assistant to the director of Youth and Intergenerational Ministries; Jason is the chair of the YIG committee.

The Bishop introduced the Agenda for the meeting. Cathy Laskey noted that 2 additional motions were added to the agenda (Motions H and I) as item 8b. Pat Drummond asked to add an item to discuss the impact of Bill C51 on religious freedom. It was added to new business as item 8c.

*MOTION 1: Neville Sloane / Wandlyn Snelgrove*

***That the agenda be approved as circulated and amended.***

*MOTION 1: Carried.*

### **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Diocesan Council reviewed the minutes of the last meeting.

*MOTION 2: Norman McLeod / Edward Quann*

***That the minutes of the 22 June 2017 Meeting of Diocesan Council be adopted.***

*MOTION 2: Carried*

### **Business Arising**

The Diocesan Council discussed the implications for Diocesan governance of proposals in “Shaping our Diocese for the Future.” The Council heard that the Bishop of Fredericton suffers from “the tyranny of the urgent.” The role of Bishop includes many important functions that are just not being done because the position is overwhelmed with urgent issues, which may not be as important. Breaking this cycle is important for the Diocese and the role of the Diocesan. The Council recognized that this issue is very important and suggested thoughtful consideration of proposals before any action is taken.

### **Youth and Intergenerational Ministries Team and Camping Ministries Live**

Jason Smith, Youth and Intergenerational Ministries Team chair, briefed the Council on the activities of the YIG committee. Maren McLean Persaud, Director of Camp Medley, then spoke on the role of Camp Medley in promoting “Anglican identity.” Maren reminded Council that creating Anglicans is not part of the Camp Medley mission. Relationships are key to the camp experience. Most campers at Medley are not connected to a Christian Community, but that they come to camp craving community and to be connected. Through their camp experience campers learn that Jesus loves them and they belong.

### **Christian Formation**

Cheryl Jacobs showed a video from the Vital Church Maritimes Conference about what Church should be. The Bishop saw the video at the conference and wanted to share it with Council.

Chris Hayes was invited to comment on the new playground built by the parish of Salisbury and Havelock. It was a gift to the community, finished in September. People are coming long distances to bring children to the playground.

### **New Business**

David Bell reminded council that a motion is required to invite the Delegates from the Westside Anglican Mission to participate Synod.

*MOTION 3: David Bell / Susan Jack*

***Moved that Diocesan Council extend an invitation to the Westside Anglican Mission to send their two identified delegates, Jennifer Ramsay and Margaret Ann Reid, to the November 4, 2017 meeting of Diocesan Synod***

*MOTION 3: Carried*

### **Committee and Team Reports**

The Council received the committee and team reports that were circulated before the meeting.

*MOTION 4: Gilbert Carter / Neville Sloane*

***That the Reports from the Council Teams and Standing Committees be received as submitted.***

*MOTION 4: Carried.*

The Council considered motions from the reports. No other highlights from the report were brought forward for consideration.

#### ***HR Committee:***

11.1 Irene Adams pointed out that the main change highlighted in the Safe Church report was including provision for specific safe church training for Sunday school teachers. After discussion a friendly amendment was added to the Safe Church motion and the HR Committee was tasked to clarify two items:

*MOTION 5: Irene Adams/ Brent Ham*

***Moved that Council approve the recommended amendments to the Diocesan Safe Church Program, including Part 1: Regulation 4-4 Safe Church; Part 2 comprised of Policy B-3: Misconduct, Policy B- 4: Privacy, and Policy B-6: Police Record Check; and Part 3: Risk Management. In addition, the definition of terms in Regulation 4 to be amended to show "Assistant Diocesan Misconduct Complaints Officer" means the Assistant Diocesan Misconduct Complaints Officer appointed under the Diocesan Misconduct Policy; and to add the definition of "Diocesan Synod."***

*MOTION 5: Carried.*

11.2 The HR Committee was asked to discuss with the Chancellor whether the definition of "community" is inclusive enough, to consider whether the wording of Section 46 (page 131 of 187 of the package) with regard to inclusion of "such as snow tires" is too specific, and to report back to Council at the next meeting after Synod.

11.3 The HR Committee recommended council approve changes to the minimum stipend scale.

*MOTION 6: Irene Adams/ Gilbert Carter*

***Moved that Council approve a 2.0% increase, effective January 1, 2018, to the Diocesan clergy compensation as governed by Schedule A, Regulation 7-2: Scale of Minimum Stipends.***

*MOTION 6: Carried.*

11.4 Pat Drummond suggested that the diocese should consider reviewing Archdeacon compensation. The Bishop noted that this will be discussed at the HR Committee.

***Finance:***

11.5 The Finance committee recommended that Council receive the 2016 Financial Reports.

*MOTION 7: Gilbert Carter / Sandra Craft*

***Moved that Diocesan Council receive the 2016 Financial Statements as presented.***

*MOTION 7: Carried.*

11.6 The Finance committee recommended that Council approve changes to Policy A2: Funds from the Sale of Residential Properties.

*MOTION 8: Gilbert Carter / Sandra Craft*

***Moved that Diocesan Council approve the amended Policy A2: Funds from the Sale of Residential Properties as presented.***

*MOTION 8: Carried.*

**Lunch**

At 1200, the Bishop offered a blessing for the meal prepared for Council members.

The Bishop thanked Georgie Keith and crew for the excellent meal and refreshments and to the parish of St. Mark for their ministry of hospitality, including the morning coffee. The Bishop reconvened Council at 1300.

**Other Items**

***Parish of the Tobique***

The Bishop outlined his involvement with the parish as they discerned the way ahead. The conclusion of their discernment was to ask Council to dissolve the parish corporation. The Chancellor noted that the Parish has transferred all property to Synod already with the exception of bank accounts.

*MOTION 9: David Bell / Cathy Laskey*

***Moved that the Corporation of the Anglican Parish of the Tobique be dissolved and that the Bishop, pursuant to s. 7(15) of the Anglican Church Act 2003, issue a Memorial of Dissolution accordingly.***

*MOTION 9: Carried.*

*MOTION 10: David Bell / Cathy Laskey*

***Moved that, on dissolution of the Anglican Parish of the Tobique, all assets of the parish corporation vest in the Diocesan Synod and that, pursuant to s. 8(2) of the Anglican Church Act 2003, such assets, or the proceeds of disposition of them, be held for such Christian mission by or to the people of the Tobique as the Bishop shall direct.***

*MOTION 10: Carried.*

The Bishop led a prayer for the people of the Tobique.

### ***Parish of Shediac***

David Bell provided a brief background for two motions concerning the Parish of Shediac. Diocesan assent to the registration of the Environmental Impact Assessment has been requested by the Government. The Parish of Shediac would like Council to adopt a protocol for approving residential leases on Parish of Shediac land to improve and streamline this process for lease approval.

*MOTION 11: David Bell / Rob Marsh*

***Moved that Diocesan Council assent to the Anglican Parish of Shediac's registration of an Environmental Impact Assessment in relation to the proposed Shediac Campground Project, understanding that Council's approval of said registration does not imply Council's approval of the campground project itself.***

*MOTION 11: Carried.*

*MOTION 12: David Bell / Gilbert Carter*

***Moved that Diocesan Council approve a protocol for those residential leases granted by the Parish of Shediac with a duration of up to 25 years (with no express provision for further renewal), in that the Secretary of Synod may assent to such leases without need for the leases to be reviewed by the Synod Property and Finance Committees.***

*MOTION 17: Approved, with one against (Neville Sloan).*

### ***Bill C51***

Pat Drummond noted that some sections of Bill C51 are controversial and may impact religious freedoms. Discussion ensued. Caution raised related to the charities getting involved in political activities. Decided that members may choose to act personally as citizens.

### ***Acknowledgement of Service***

Ken will be leaving his position as Parish Development Officer and will operate on a per diem basis for the next while. The Bishop thanked Ken Neilson for his insights and ministry among us.

### **Future Meeting**

Diocesan Synod, Saturday, November 4, 2017 (Christ Church Parish Church, Fredericton)

**Adjournment**

*MOTION 18: Neville Sloane*

***Moved that this meeting of Diocesan Council be adjourned.***

The Bishop closed the meeting with prayer at 1510 and Council said “The Grace” together.

Respectfully submitted,

The Right Rev'd David Edwards  
Bishop and Chair

The Ven. Cathy Laskey  
Secretary of Synod

The Rev'd David Peer  
Recording Secretary