



## CONVENING CIRCULAR

Minutes of the 156th Regular Session of Synod

Minutes of the Electoral Synod



**Diocese of Toronto**  
Anglican Church of Canada



Diocese of Toronto  
Anglican Church of Canada

## MINUTES

### 156<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF SYNOD

Friday, November 13, 2015 and Saturday, November 14, 2015

Sheraton Parkway Hotel & Suites, Toronto

*Treasures New and Old*

---

## **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015**

Pursuant to the Notice of meeting, the Bishop of Toronto called the members of Synod to gather for the 156<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of Synod of the Diocese of Toronto.

### **EUCCHARIST**

Synod opened with a service of Holy Communion, commencing at 11:00 a.m. at the Sheraton Parkway Hotel & Suites, Toronto.

The following deceased members of Synod were remembered: The Rev. Bruce Barnett-Cowan, The Rev. Dr. William Bothwell, Mrs. Mary Jane Crouch, The Rev. Alan Chaffee, The Rev. Roland De Corneille, The Rev. Richard Downey, Canon Dr. Robert Falby, Mrs. Najwa Farah, The Rev. Canon Peter Gratton, The Rev. Don “Dan” Heap, The Rev. Hugh Kernohan, The Rev. Gordon King, Mrs. Sandra Kirkegaard, The Rev. Ronald LaMarche, The Rev. William Leach, The Ven. Robert (Bob) Leckey, The Rev. Robert Mansfield, The Rev. Norman Martin, Ms. Shannon McCorquodale, Sister Merle Milligan, Mrs. Mary Parke-Taylor, Mr. Eric Pollard, ODT, Mrs. Barbara Poole, The Rev. Canon William (Bill) Riesberry, The Rev. Kenneth Scott, The Rev. Canon Derwyn Shea, The Rev. Charles Storton, Mr. Vern Taylor, ODT, Sr. Mary Margaret Watson, The Rev. Edward Woolley.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson called the meeting to order.

### **CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING**

#### Report of the Committee on Credentials

Chancellor Canon Clare E. Burns noted that the Committee on Credentials reports that all Clerical and Lay Members here gathered are entitled to take seats at Synod.

### **BISHOP’S CHARGE**

*A copy of the Bishop’s Charge is attached as Appendix A*

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson gave a memorial for Canon Dr. Robert Falby, Chancellor Emeritus. He was a parishioner at St James Cathedral and served with distinction in a number of different areas. No one who is not a bishop does not realize how much they count on the wisdom and advice of the Chancellor. Canon Falby gave hundreds and thousands of hours as a free gift, in return for a parking space. He advised on legal matters and helped shape the life of the Church. At the National level he made an enormous contribution to the life of the Church. He was one of ten Chancellors across the Communion who helped codify the Anglican expression of Canon Law. In his honour the Diocesan Council has created the Robert Falby Memorial Fund for Aboriginal Ministry, noting his contribution to the life of the Church. We are grateful for a life well and truly lived and the witness of a faithful man.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW CANONS OF THE CATHEDRAL**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson named the following people as new Canons of the Cathedral Church of St. James: The Rev. Jenny Andison, The Rev. Beth Benson, The Rev. Simon Li, The Rev. Judy Paulsen, The Rev. Janet Read-Hockin, The Rev. Nicola Skinner, The Rev. Stephen Vail, The Rev. Claire Wade, The Rev. Paul J. Walker, The Rev. Andrew Wesley.

## **INTRODUCTION OF HONORARY SECRETARIES**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson introduced the Honorary Secretaries for this Session of Synod and thanked them for their work in preparing the Eucharist:

Honorary Lay Secretary	Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT
Honorary Clerical Secretary	The Rev. Claire Wade
Assistant Clerical Secretary	Mrs. Sarah McDonald

## **SYNOD SPONSORS**

The Honorary Secretaries made housekeeping announcements. Appreciation was extended to Synod sponsors Scotia Private Investment Council and Scotiatrust, and Northleaf Capital Partners.

## **LATE ARRIVALS**

The Honorary Secretaries read the names of those given permission in advance of Synod to arrive late. The list includes: Mr. Louis Adams, The Rev. Canon Andrew Asbil, The Rev. Aldith Baker, Mr. David Beattie, The Rev. Beth Benson, Ms. Dianne Boodhoo, The Rev. David Bousfield, The Rev. Jeff Brown, Ms. Suzanne Castell, The Rev. Joan Cavanaugh-Clark, Mr. Ben Cheung, Mr. Ralph Colley, Mr. John Collinson, Mrs. Monica Cox, Mrs. Mavis D'Alquen, The Rev. Jacqueline Daley, The Rev. Christopher Dangpilen, Mr. Joseph Deane, The Rev. Philip Der, Ms. Wanda Dickey, Mr. Patrick Dugan ODT, The Most Rev. Terence Finlay, The Rev. Carol Friesen, The Rev. Annette Gillies, Ms. Susan Greco, Ms. Beverley Hilditch, The Rev. Timothy Haughton, Mrs. Laura Johnston, Mr. Douglas Jones, The Rev. David Julien, Mrs. Shirley Knautz, Ms. Suzanne Lawson, Mrs. Joan Lewis, The Rev. Joanna Manning, Mr. Stephen Masson, The Rev. Kim McArthur, Ms. Lynda McKerr, The Rev. Lori Pilatzke, Mr. Alan Rands, Mrs. Lesley Rice, The Rev. Geoff Sangwine, Mr. Paul Scharfenberg, The Rev. Jim Seagram, Ms. Barbara Semsch, The Rev. Katie Silcox, Ms. Glenna Sims-Bonk, The Rev. Dr. Peter Slater, Ms. Ann Tsinglou, Ms. Bettie Tullis, Ms. Collette Vassell, The Rev. Canon Peter Walker Mrs. Nicole Williams.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED by Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that the Agenda for the 156<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of Synod be approved. CARRIED.

## **OMNIBUS MOTION**

### Minutes of the 155th Regular Session of Synod

MOVED by Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that the reading of the Minutes of 155th Regular Session of Synod of the Diocese of Toronto held on November 29 and 30, 2013 in Toronto, be dispensed with, and the Minutes of the said Regular Session as prepared by the Honorary Secretaries be adopted and confirmed as the Minutes of the said Synod. CARRIED.

### Courtesies of the House

MOVED by Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that the following be given Courtesies of the House: All clergy with "Informal Permission", all postulants of the Diocese, any lay chairperson, deanery council member, or area council member not a member of Synod, Ecumenical partners, lay Canons of the Diocese, lay faculty of theological colleges, Members of the Threshold Ministries, Members of the Order of the Holy Cross, Sisters of St. John the Divine, Sisters of the Church, Worker Sisters of the Holy Spirit, and Diocesan Parish Administrators. CARRIED.

### Court on Contested Seats

MOVED by Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that in accordance with Section 7 of the Constitution, the Bishop appoint the following members of Synod to the Court on Contested Seats: Canon Clare Burns, Chancellor, Canon Paul Baston, Mr. Bruce Goss, The Rev. Canon Heather McCance, Mr. Israel Newell, Ms. Anne Oram, and The Rev. Canon Stephen Peake. CARRIED.

### Timekeepers

MOVED by Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that the following be appointed as Timekeepers for this Session of Synod: Mr. Don Beyers, Mr. Colin Bowler, Mr. Sean Davidson, Mr. Vinaya Dumpala, Mr. James Liu, Mr. Ken McClure, Mr. Jeff Nowers, Mr. Jeff Potter, Mr. John Sundara, Ms. Monique Taylor, Ms. Joan Wilson, Mr. Philip Hamilton, Mr. Richard Webb. CARRIED.

### York Rectory Commissioners and Committee on Etobicoke Glebe

MOVED by Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that the report of the First York Rectory Commission be received, and that the following be appointed Commissioners for the distribution of the First York Rectory Fund and the Etobicoke Glebe for 2016 and 2017: Ms. Clare Burns, The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields, and Ms. Joy Packham. CARRIED.

### Advisory Commission on Termination of Clerical Appointment

MOVED by Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that the following be elected by Synod to the Advisory Commission on Termination of Clerical Appointments for 2016 and 2017: Mr. Kennedy Marshall, The Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson, Ms. Robyn Ryan Bell. CARRIED.

### Scrutineers

Synod was informed that in accordance with *The Constitution*, section 18, at its September 24, 2015 meeting, the Diocesan Council appointed the following members of Synod as Scrutineers for this Session of Synod: The Rev. Julie Meakin and Canon Paul Baston.

### Regrets

The Honorary Secretaries reported that regrets were received from the following active and retired clergy who were unable to attend Synod:

The Rev. Sheila Archer, The Rev. Canon Milton Barry, The Rev. Capt. Murray Bateman, The Rev. Patricia Blythe, The Rev. Kenneth Borrett, The Rev. David Bowring, The Rev. Sara Boyles, The Rev. Canon Prudence Chambers, The Rev. Jeff Hall, The Rev. Pamela Harrington, The Rev. Canon Millie Hope, The Rev. Elizabeth Hopkins, The Rev. Renate Koke, The Rev. Victor Li, The Rev. Matthew McMillan, The Rev. Canon Richard Miller, The Rev. Janet Mitchell, The Rev. Rylan Montgomery, The Rev. Canon Dr. Barry Parker, The Rev. Philip Rowswell, Major The Rev. Canon David Saunders, The Rev. Munroe Scott, The Rev. Janet Sidey, The Rev. Derek Stapleton, The Ven. Judith Walton.

### Memorials and Petitions

The Honorary Secretaries reported that no memorials or petitions were received for this session of Synod.

## **INTRODUCTIONS**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson made the following introductions:

### Officers of the Diocese

Suffragan Bishops: The Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty, the Rt. Rev. Linda Nicholls, the Rt. Rev. Philip

Poole, and the Rt. Rev. Patrick Yu.

Chancellor: Canon Clare Burns

Vice Chancellors: Canon Paul Baston, Ms. Robyn Ryan Bell

Registrar: Canon Paul Baston

Archdeacon of York, Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary of Synod: The Ven. Elizabeth Hardy

Honorary Lay Secretary: Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT  
Honorary Clerical Secretary: The Rev. Claire Wade  
Treasurer and Director of Finance: Ms. Kathryn Rogers  
Dean of the Cathedral Church of St. James: The Very Rev. Douglas Stoute  
Dean Designate of the Cathedral Church of St. James: The Rev. Canon Andrew Asbil

The Most. Rev. Colin Johnson expressed appreciation for the work of the Very Rev. Douglas Stoute for his work in the Cathedral and the Diocese.

#### Chaplain

The Rev. David Bryan Hoopes, OHC

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson asked for prayers for The Revs. Murray and Carol Bateman whose house burned down last night; and for the Rev. Dr. George Sumner who is being consecrated as Bishop of Dallas tomorrow.

#### **MISSIONAL MOMENT - *Just Reach Out***

Ms. Sue Savage from the Parish of Penetanguishene spoke about its free community breakfast, funded by a diocesan Reach Grant. The breakfast now averages 27-35 guests a month. The parish was recently approached by a nearby church, and the breakfast now happens on two Thursdays a month instead of one. Ms. Savage encouraged others to approach their priest or their bishop with ideas.

#### **THE CONSTITUTION AND CANON CHANGES**

##### Synod Composition (Part 1 of 2)

Canon Clare Burns, Chancellor summarised the proposed changes to the composition of Synod.

The Honorary Secretaries requested a straw vote to move Synod to a Committee of the Whole House. Synod voted to do so.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson opened the floor for debate.

The Rev. Canon David Harrison, St Mary Magdalene stated his opposition to the motion as a member of Diocesan Council. The attendance figure of 1100 is misleading because it includes retired clerics and all clergy with informal permission, few of whom come. The real attendance number over the last three Synods is 600. If the goal is to make a manageable size of Synod, there is not much difference between 600 and 450; but clergy and important voices will be disenfranchised.

In response to questions from the Rev. Canon Sr. Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD and St George on Yonge, the Most Rev. Colin Johnson clarified that “religious orders” refers to the Order of the Holy Cross and Sisterhood of St. John the Divine in Toronto; and that there are approximately 44-48 vocational deacons; 15-20 curates; 25-30 assoc. priests; 15-20 chaplains. He further clarified that a member of Synod continues as a member of Synod until the next session of Synod unless there are disciplinary measures taken.

Mr. Michael Gundy, St. Anne, Parkdale stated his opposition to the motion, and that it is dangerously flawed to disenfranchise ordained working clerics with a direct voice at Synod. This removes a fundamental right and affects many things including loyalty to the Bishop. In Canadian history the last time an eligible voter was tied to land tenure was Confederacy.

The Rev. Canon Jenny Andison, St. Clement, Eglinton stated her opposition to the motion. She agrees with the intent to strategically rethink the size of Synod, but doesn't think this is the right way. She was an associate priest for 15 years and now serves alongside deacons and associate priests whose voice is invaluable. For multi-

staffed parishes taking a vote away gives a confusing message. Associate priests and curates are statistically younger and more often female so this would disenfranchise that voice.

The Rev. Jennifer Schick, St. Mary Magdalene stated her opposition to the motion, as a younger woman cleric in the role of associate priest. Voting at Synod is to vote by conscience and not by parish. As an associate her voice would not be heard. In a diocese working hard to build family and children ministries, and to value the place of all people, this is not a decision to make lightly.

The Rev. Dawn Leger, All Saints Kingsway stated her opposition to the motion. She has also been an associate in this diocese. By removing the voice of associates and deacons we remove the voice of those called to a specific expertise, as well as younger voices most recently trained in seminaries, especially trained in missional thinking. We would lose this not only in Synod but in the councils that depend on Synod memberships, and at Provincial and National levels.

The Rev. David Giffen, Transfiguration expressed appreciation for the work of the committee who prepared the motions, but stated his opposition to the motion. A smaller and more nimble Synod would give a chance of being a better governing structure, but the proposed changes won't do enough to change this, effectively changing from 600 to 400. If we do this, we should do it right because it is difficult to change. He encouraged Synod members to vote against the motion.

The Rev. Claire Goodrich-Dyer, retired asked if retired clerics would not have a vote but would still be able to attend, and the response was yes.

Mr. Christian Cameron, St. Mary Magdalene stated his opposition to the motion. This is time to involve more members, not fewer. He questioned how technical experts would be chosen. The Chancellor replied that his Grace would put a call out and someone would be chosen. Building a bank of volunteers would be appreciated.

Ms. Gail Turner, Epiphany & St. Mark stated her opposition to the motion. The number of lay delegates should not be based on average Sunday attendance, which no longer accurately reflects the realities of parish ministry.

The Rev. Andrea Budgey, Trinity College & St Stephen-in-the-Fields noted that this motion sends a mixed message regarding fresh expressions which are generally not Sunday services. She pointed out that there are other inconsistencies in the motion: incumbents & lay delegates are chosen on a set of principles that create pan-diocesan classes of other types of clergy. The difference between regular and electoral sessions is important to active clergy but will not change anything for lay members. This is inconsistent with our tradition of inclusivity to this point.

Ms. Karimah Butler, Nativity noted that her church would only have one representative with the proposed changes, and it would be very unlikely that she would be elected. She suggested that the bracket sizes be reduced and only allow those who attend pre-Synod meetings be allowed to attend Synod.

In response to a question from Mr. James Beckwith, St. Peter Erindale, the Chancellor clarified that this would be voted on as two motions: Synod composition and committee composition.

The Rev. Canon Don Aitchison, Trinity College noted that there are very different kinds of chaplains, defined by 'not parish clergy', and that it would be a shame to restrict these different voices.

The Rev. Canon Nicola Skinner, Grace Church, Markham pointed out that between York-Simcoe and Trent-Durham about 30 churches would lose a vote, and those who don't have a vote become disinterested. This would mean entire towns and villages that would not have a say.

The Rev. Matt Adams, St. Aidan, Toronto asked for the rationale for changes. The Chancellor stated a twofold concern: 1) Expense. 2) A reflection of the reality that the majority of retired clergy don't attend. The Archbishop added that the Diocese of Toronto is the only Diocese in the country that allows retired clergy in active ministry to vote; and that the principle is always to balance the number of clergy and lay; so if one is reduced or increased, the other must be reduced or increased.

Mr. Jim Gillies, St. Paul, Keswick asked if a person present without a vote would be allowed to speak. The Archbishop replied that depended on the permission of Synod. Mr. Gillies further noted that attendance planning has been named as a rationale for cutting down on the size of Synod, but this room is full, so planning was based on reality rather than potential.

Mrs. Carolyn Heads, St. John, Waverly noted that multi-point parishes will not be able to have accurate representation for each congregation.

The Rev. Susan Spicer, Fenelon Falls noted that rural parishes are unique and distinct; reducing would take away important voices.

Ms. Suzanne Lawson, ODT, St. Peter, Cobourg spoke in favour of the motion, noting that the theology of stewardship undergirds the restructuring. Synod forums are a remarkable idea for hearing different voices. Trust, governance and stewardship all speak in favour of this motion.

Mr. James Monkman, St. Matthew, First Ave asked if technological solutions were considered as a method to keep people from being disenfranchised. The Chancellor replied that the working group did consider those issues and alternative technological steps, and with respect not to size but convening circular certain changes have been proposed.

Ms. Peggy Hutchison, St. Paul, Singhampton spoke in favour of the motion, noting that committees could open up to bring in other people for expertise when those voices are missing. The Chancellor replied that canonically certain committees have the authority to make certain decisions, and in that context expertise is an issue. Not every committee first makes recommendations to Council and then to Synod; some have the authority to make decisions. The Archbishop clarified that one of the proposed changes to the committees' structure would allow non-members of Synod as committee members.

The Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave, Holy Trinity, Trinity Square noted that part of the purpose of the debate is to persuade people to change sides. He sits on Diocesan Council and thought a reduced number could represent the Diocese well, and was prepared to vote in favour of the motion. Hearing the comments with the consequences, and seeing that downsizing Synod means downsizing flexibility of committees, has changed his mind. He further noted that it may simply be necessary for us to have a large Synod to represent our large Diocese.

The Rev. Pamela Lucas, St. Leonard & St. Michael's Hospital noted that she would be happy to pay more in order to attend Synod and not lose her franchise.

The Honorary Secretaries requested a straw vote to move out of the Committee of the Whole House. Synod voted in agreement.

#### Motions from Synod Members

The Rev. Kyn Barker, Coordinator of Deacons, and Mr. Steve O'Keefe, St. Matthew, Oriole spoke to the motion. They reminded Synod that the role of Deacon is a perpetual one of servanthood, at the margins of the church, bringing the cares of the world to the attention of the wider church. Deacons are to be an example of Christ, to lead others and to be catalysts. Last Synod more than half the Deacons attended (23). The motion would align Deacon representatives with many other dioceses in Canada.

The Rev. Canon David Harrison, St. Mary Magdalene reminded Synod that this motion has not been recommended by Diocesan Council, and under Canon 1 cannot take effect in this session of Synod. The Chancellor added that the motion would have to be passed by a sixty percent majority at two regular sessions of Synod to take effect.

The Rev. Christian Harvey, St. John, Peterborough reminded Synod that deacons are ordained for the purpose of being missional, and this is an important voice in the conversation.

Mr. David Pickering, St. Olave, Swansea questioned if it was out of order of the spirit of the motion to amend to increase rather than decrease. The Archbishop replied that it was not out of order.

MOVED by the Rev. Kyn Barker, Coordinator of Deacons and SECONDED by Mr. Steve O'Keefe, Lay Member of Synod for the parish of St Matthew the Apostle, Oriole that the Constitution and Canon Changes be amended with respect to Clerical Members of a Session of Synod in The Constitution, section 2(a)(3) and 2(b)(3) so that it reads "Up to eight (8) Vocational Deacons, selected by the Community of Deacons;" instead of "Up to four (4) Vocational Deacons, selected by the Community of Deacons." CARRIED.

MOVED by Canon Clare Burns and SECONDED by Ms. Robyn Ryan Bell that Synod approve the changes to the Constitution and Canons as they apply to Synod composition, as approved by Diocesan Council and presented in the Convening Circular. NOT CARRIED.

#### Committee Composition

Canon Clare Burns, Chancellor summarised the proposed changes to Committee composition. The Most Rev. Colin Johnson opened the floor for debate. No debate.

MOVED by Canon Clare Burns and SECONDED by Ms. Robyn Ryan Bell that Synod approve the changes to the Constitution and Canons as they apply to Committee composition, as approved by Diocesan Council and presented in the Convening Circular. CARRIED.

#### **MISSIONAL MOMENT – *We Walk by Faith, not by Sight***

Mr. James Liu of St. James Cathedral and Ms. Morning Wang of St. George on Yonge spoke about the Diocese's Mandarin ministry. Their goal is to attract people into the church building and bring them to Christ, in an Anglican context. Starting in 2014 with no staff and little budget, they now enjoy the support of four parishes and many volunteers of all ages. They have used events such as prayer services, Stations of the Cross, Doors Open Toronto and reading the Book of Proverbs to teach Mandarin-speaking people about the Anglican Church. Ms. Wang said they use everything that can be used to share the Gospel in order to invite more people to walk into our faith.

#### Mandatory Retirement for Office Holders (Part 2 of 2)

Canon Clare Burns, Chancellor summarised the proposed changes to the mandatory retirement policy for office holders. The Most Rev. Colin Johnson opened the floor for debate. No debate.

MOVED by Canon Clare Burns and SECONDED by Ms. Robyn Ryan Bell that Synod approve the changes to the Constitution and Canons as they apply to retirement for office holders, as approved by Diocesan Council and presented in the Convening Circular. CARRIED.

#### Housekeeping/Others

Canon Clare Burns, Chancellor summarised the proposed housekeeping and other changes. The Most Rev. Colin Johnson opened the floor for debate. No debate.



MOVED by Canon Clare Burns and SECONDED by Ms. Robyn Ryan Bell that Synod approve the changes to the Constitution and Canons as they apply to housekeeping and other changes, as approved by Diocesan Council and presented in the Convening Circular. CARRIED.

### **MISSIONAL MOMENT – *I'll be Outside with Jesus***

The Rev. Maggie Helwig of St. Stephen in-the-Fields spoke about ministry to marginalized and low-income people at St. Stephen in-the-Fields, Toronto, with the goal of creating a radically inclusive community. St. Stephen serves breakfast to 200-300 marginalized people every weekend followed by Morning Prayer; hosts a fresh expressions service every Saturday night; and hosts events that prioritize street ministry and social justice as they intersect with the arts. The Rev. Helwig said that St. Stephen strives to be a church open to complexity and challenge.

### **ELECTION OF GENERAL SYNOD MEMBERS**

Pursuant to *The Constitution*, Section 35, Synod is eligible to elect eight clergy and eight lay members to represent the Diocese of Toronto at General Synod in 2016. The Most Rev. Colin Johnson called for further clerical nominations.

MOVED by the Hon. Pamela Thomson and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that the clerical nominations be closed. CARRIED.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson called for further lay nominations.

MOVED by the Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that lay nominations be closed. CARRIED.

Members of Synod cast their votes for the clerical and lay members to General Synod.

### **MEMBERS' TIME**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson vacated the Chair and excused himself from this portion of the meeting. The Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty assumed the Chair.

The Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty reminded members of the rules for Members' Time as outlined in *The Constitution*, Section 38(20). Members were invited to approach the microphones.

Canon Dave Robinson, Diocesan Staff invited volunteers to join the volunteer corps of the Diocese.

The Hon. Pamela Thomson, Redeemer, Bloor St. reminded Synod that part of our missional call is to reconciliation. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission ("TRC") reminded us that we are all treaty people. The Rev. Canon Andrew Wesley has retired from the ministry at the Toronto Urban Native Ministry ("TUNM"). What is the process and timeframe to appoint or raise up a new Diocesan Aboriginal priest? Beyond the vestry motion, what process will be in place to attend to the calls of action which affect this Diocese?

Canon Phyllis Creighton, Christ Church, Deer Park reminded Synod that nuclear weapons continue to be a threat.

The Rev. Penny Lewis, Christ Church, Bolton expressed appreciation for the liturgy.

The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields, Holy Trinity, Thornhill, expressed concern that invoking Jesus' name means that one has no right to speak in the public square.

The Rev. Helena-Rose Houldcroft, Flemingdon Park Ministries, explained that Flemingdon Park is a Canon 29 mission – not a ‘traditional’ parish, but with regular Sunday worship; and with a profound impact on the predominantly marginalised community.

Mr. Israel Newell, ODT, Little Trinity (Trinity East), expressed concern that previous Synod minutes had no record of member’s time.

Mr. Mick Kolkeen, St. John, West Toronto, invited Synod into a dream that we would become a church that actively prays for the wellbeing of LGBTQ youth.

The Rev. Andrea Budgey, Trinity College, informed Synod that there is information at the table outside regarding the motions for tomorrow and vestry season on social justice regarding fossil fuels.

The Rt. Rev. Philip Poole, York-Credit Valley, noted that it is appalling that we cannot get to church on Sundays because of marathons. This needs a conversation with civic representatives.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson assumed the Chair. He expressed appreciation to those who spoke during the Members’ Time, and responded to some of the comments with updates; specifically that there are conversations regarding replacing the Rev. Canon Andrew Wesley; and that there is a process underway regarding the TRC report.

#### **CHAPLAINCY VIDEO**

The Rt. Rev. Linda Nicholls spoke about school chaplaincy, remarking that there is a lament regarding the lack of young people in church; but that in fact hundreds of young people are engaged through our school chaplains. She reminded Synod that these chaplains serve at the forefront of mission in the church.

The Rev. Canon Susan Bell introduced “Turn the Lights On”, a video outlining the role of chaplains in the Diocese.

#### **MARRIAGE COMMISSION REPORT**

The Rt. Rev. Linda Nicholls reported on the Marriage Commission.

*A copy of the presentation is attached as Appendix B.*

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson reported that there is an ongoing hostage situation in Paris, France, and called for prayer.

#### **PROVINCIAL SYNOD REPORT**

Ms. Suzanne Lawson presented the report on Provincial Synod. Ms. Lawson is the Canadian lay member on the Anglican Consultative Council. She explained the structure of ecclesiastical provinces, and informed Synod of the major events of Provincial Synod: the re-election of the Most. Rev. Colin Johnson as Metropolitan. Archbishop Johnson also retakes the seat of Bishop of Moosonee. Ms. Laura Walton, ODT was elected as prolocutor. Mr. Jean Bedard was appointed as provincial Chancellor.

In addition, Provincial Synod heard from Provinces’ executive officers; held workshops; heard theologians and panels on the messiness of engaging with society; heard about a new monastic program at SSJD; heard about a new relationship with the Diocese of Moosonee; heard what is happening at General Synod; saw a video regarding theological education; and learned about connections with local political parties.

Ms. Lawson saw three signs of hope in particular: Synod brainstormed priorities regarding engaging with the public sphere; the Premier attended, spoke, and connected with people, showing that she values the Church as an important partner in dialogue; and dioceses in Ontario are cooperating, meeting, and collaborating together.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Honorary Secretaries made several housekeeping announcements.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The afternoon session adjourned.

## **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2015**

### **SYNOD RECONVENES**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson called the meeting to order.

### **WORSHIP**

The Rev. Claire Wade presided at A Service of the Word.

### **PRIORITIES AND PLANS 2013-2015 “REPORT CARD”**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson opened the floor for debate. There was no debate.

MOVED by Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by the Rev. Claire Wade that Synod receive the document entitled *The Anglican Diocese of Toronto: Priorities and Plans 2013-2015 – Report Card*. CARRIED.

### **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2014**

Mr. Don Gillespie, Chair of the Audit Committee presented the 2014 Audited Financial Statements which were in the Convening Circular. There were no questions.

MOVED by Ms. Jean Glionna and SECONDED by the Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave that Synod receive the Audited Financial Statements for the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto for the year ended December 31, 2014. CARRIED.

Mr. Don Gillespie presented the 2014 Audited Financial Statements for the Cemetery Fund which were in the Convening Circular.

MOVED by Ms. Jean Glionna and SECONDED by the Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave that Synod receive the Audited Financial Statements for the Cemetery Fund for the year ended December 31, 2014. CARRIED.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson expressed appreciation to the members of the Audit Committee and the Investment Committee.

### **AUDITORS**

MOVED by Ms. Jean Glionna and SECONDED by the Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave that the firm of Grant Thornton LLP, Chartered Accountants, be appointed to conduct the audit of the Financial Statements of the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto, the Consolidated Trust Fund and the Cemetery Fund for the year ending December 31, 2015, at a fee to be approved by the Audit Committee. CARRIED.

### **FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR 2015**

Ms. Kathryn Rogers presented a financial update for the operating budget of 2015. The current projection is that there will be a small surplus. Revenue is up slightly and expenditures are for the most part under budget or in line. An unexpected capital improvement was required during the year which will cause the small surplus.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson announced the creation of a joint Evangelical Church in Canada/Anglican Church of Canada congregation, Holy Spirit of Peace in Mississauga, the first of such in our Diocese. The Rev. Susan Climo will lead this congregation.

### **MISSIONAL MOMENT - *Striving to be the Hands, Feet, and Voice of Christ in the Community & the World***

The Rev. Joan Cavanaugh-Clark from the Parish of Minden-Kinmount spoke about the many activities her parish is doing to engage the communities around it. The parish began many programs to engage with marginalized people in the surrounding communities. It started a thrift shop, which has served 9,000 people in 2015. Ms. Cavanaugh-Clark said the thrift shop is a place of hope where people of all faiths work together for the glory of God. Funds raised at the shop are given to projects in the local community and beyond, to share from the abundance that God has provided. Future programs being considered include a free haircutting clinic, a bicycle clinic, budgeting classes, parenting classes, and tutoring.

### **PRIORITIES AND PLANS 2015-2017**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson invited the Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty to speak to the Priorities and Plans 2015 – 2017, which were found in Section D of the Convening Circular.

The Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty expressed appreciation to everyone present and their parishes for the work that they do. He reminded Synod of the focus of the diocese and spoke of the work that went into preparing the budget. There are no new initiatives or costs as the intent is to develop a strategic plan that will guide the next budget process for 2018-2019. There will be no corporate financial synod in 2016.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson opened the floor for debate.

Ms. Joyce Badley, St Paul, Bloor St spoke briefly to the Assessment Rate. She applauded the efforts of the Diocesan staff. Despite being one of the wealthiest dioceses in the country, we see parishes across the Diocese struggling financially. Fixing the Allotment Rate at 20% or 10% would lead to healthier parishes and a healthier Diocese.

Ms. Pamela Thompson, Redeemer, Bloor St. said she was encouraged by ‘corrective measures’ within the motion, and asks that we consider the call to action #59 regarding ongoing education strategies. She expressed concern that there is no budget item for addressing the TRC calls to action.

The Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave, Holy Trinity, Trinity Square spoke regarding technology investment. The understanding is that OFOH money must be requested at the parish level. Is it possible for money for Diocesan infrastructure to come from OFOH? The Archbishop responded that it is possible.

MOVED by the Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty and SECONDED by the Rev. Joan Cavanaugh-Clark that Synod receive the document entitled *Priorities and Plans 2015-2017* and the *Financial Budget 2016-2017* and approve the priorities and the financial plans contained therein. Further moved that Diocesan Council implement and report back to Synod on this plan and take corrective measures from time to time as best serves the needs of this Diocese. CARRIED.

### **ASSESSMENT RATE**

The Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty presented the Parish Assessment Rate as discussed at the pre-synod meetings and included in the Convening Circular.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson opened the floor for debate. No debate.

MOVED by the Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty and SECONDED by the Rev. Joan Cavanaugh-Clark that the Parish Assessment Rate, as defined in Canon 4, section 2, be set at 24.85% for 2016, and 24.70% for 2017. CARRIED.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson expressed appreciation to the Budget Working Group, the Fiscal Framework Working Group, and all who worked on the budget. The Archbishop drew Synod’s attention to Section E of the Convening Circular where there was a note on the assessment rate. A 10% ‘simple tax’ or tithe on the parish income would produce an assessment of \$6.5 million, greater than the current assessment.

## **MOTION TO SYNOD BY MEMBERS OF SYNOD**

A motion was brought forward by two Members of Synod asking that Synod acknowledge and applaud the efforts being made by the Investment Committee to withdraw from the most environmentally damaging of our investments, particularly those in tar sands oil; and to encourage the continuation of these efforts, in co-operation with our ecumenical partners and with national church structures.

The Rev. Maggie Helwig, St. Stephen in-the-Fields spoke to the motion as the mover. There have been various discussions regarding the Diocese moving towards divestment. We are encouraged by this and applaud this movement. This is not only environmentally responsible but is also fiscally responsible.

The Rev. Canon David Harrison, St Mary Magdalene spoke to the motion as the seconder. He was pleased to second the motion and expressed appreciation for the work done by the Investment Committee. Increasingly the Investment Committee sees this as a positive investment. We don't know exactly what the fiscal implications are, but this is the right thing to do.

Mr. Peter Bennett, Redeemer, Bloor St spoke against the motion as a member of the Social Investment Organization, which promotes socially responsible investing. There are a number of ways to do this, including 'shareholder engagement'. This motion does not allow the Investment Committee or the Church as a whole to provide shareholder engagement with an energy company to change their practices or to invest in different technologies. Withdrawal from a company does not necessarily achieve the goals that we are striving for. We should be active shareholders engaging with these companies. This motion also does not address our own behaviours.

Mr. John Collinson, St. John the Baptist (Dixie) spoke against this motion. "Dirty oil" was a term created by Madison Avenue, but what is 'good oil' and what is 'dirty oil' is complicated. We can't simply stop with not investing in oil. We should not be emotive but socially responsible in investing.

Ms. Ainsley Munroe, St. David, Orillia spoke in favour of the motion as an environmental studies graduate. Standing with Indigenous brothers and sisters who tell us that these practices are destroying their lands is important. What are the dates when we will be totally divested from this industry, and where will the money be going next?

Canon Phyllis Creighton, Christ Church, Deer Park spoke in favour of the motion. Across the world there are senior investment people who are calling for renewable sources of energy. We have this decade to make serious progress, and this is a good place to start. It would be good to consider 'banning the bomb' as well, which is another aspect of investment.

The Rev. Maggie Helwig responded to the comments. The phrase "Dirty oil" does not occur in the motion or backgrounder. There are many aspects in which we all need to change our personal and corporate practices. We must be working on this continually, but address one thing at a time as best we can.

MOVED by the Rev. Maggie Helwig and SECONDED by the Rev. Canon David Harrison that Synod acknowledge and applaud the efforts being made by the Investment Committee to withdraw from the most environmentally damaging of our investments, particularly those in tar sands oil; and Synod encourages the continuation of these efforts, in co-operation with our ecumenical partners and with national church structures. CARRIED.

### **MISSIONAL MOMENT – *The Side Door***

Ms. Elizabeth Aine Achima spoke about The Side Door youth drop-in centre, part of the Church of the Resurrection. She described the challenge of finding and engaging with neighbourhood youth, discovering after several months that she had been looking in the wrong places. Gradually the drop-in's Friday games night began to grow, and it now has 10 regular attendees. Many of the youth are curious about church and stay for

conversation after games night. Ms. Achima said that working with unsupported and struggling youth can be heartbreaking, but it is worth the effort.

### **“COMPANIONS” PROGRAMME**

The Rev. Canon Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine made a presentation about the formation of a new monastic community within the Sisterhood. The initiative, called “Spend a Year Living in God’s Rhythm: Companions on the Way,” invites up to 10 women, age 22 to 40, to live with the sisters at St. John’s Convent in Toronto, where they will experience the Benedictine life of prayer, study, recreation and service to others.

The Archbishop called Synod to prayer for the Rev. Canon Dr. George Sumner, the former principal of Wycliffe College, who was due to be consecrated today as the Diocesan Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese Dallas, Texas.

### **MEMBERS’ TIME**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson vacated the Chair and excused himself from this portion of the meeting. The Rt. Rev. Patrick Yu assumed the Chair.

The Rt. Rev. Patrick Yu reminded members of the rules for Members’ Time as outlined in The Constitution, Section 38(20). Members were invited to approach the microphones.

The Rev. Christian Harvey, St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough relayed a concern that the gift of the Eucharist seems to be connected to the ability of the church to pay for it: those with more resources can offer it more often. The Eucharist should never be connected to the ability to pay, but should be always open to everyone. As it becomes more difficult to pay clerics, it may be necessary to look at different ways of offering the Eucharist.

Ms. Norah Bolton, ODT, St. Mary, Magdalene expressed a hope that Synod members would provide feedback to improve Synod for the future, for example in offering breaks.

Mr. Stewart Ball, All Saints, Whitby is a mentor for youth people with Education for Ministry. He commented that he would like to hear from the youth about how to engage with them.

Ms. Louise Simos, St. Cuthbert, Leaside expressed concern over the decreasing numbers of women clergy and bishops in the Diocese of Toronto.

Canon Dave Robinson, Diocesan Staff reminded Synod that although we just passed a \$8 million budget, which comes from stewardship in our parishes, stewardship is not just about money, but about time, talent, *and* treasure. He asked Synod to consider the stewardship of their gifts and time.

Mr. Jim Gillies, St. Paul, Keswick reminded Synod that both men and women can be associates of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine or the Order of the Holy Cross. He also expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of drug cards in the benefit plan.

The Rev. MacIvan Rogers, Flemingdon Park Ministry brought greetings to Synod from Flemingdon Park Ministry and explained that the ministry provides for the spiritual and physical needs of the marginalised in our community. He also called on the Archbishop to establish a world peace program.

The Rev. Canon Beth Benson, St. Mary and St. Martha expressed appreciation for the courageous and faithful position set out in the Priorities and Plans over the next two years. The Priorities and Plans are part of the lifeblood of this Diocese. The people of St. Mary & St. Martha have been an incubator for those plans. No less than ten members of the Diocesan staff have been surrounding us on every side with prayer, care,

compassion, and expertise and competency that have been overwhelming. We are praying for the bishops as well.

The Rev. Susan Climo, Holy Spirit of Peace expressed appreciation for the support of the Archbishop, the bishops, and the diocesan staff as well as the parishes of St. David, Orillia, and St. Mark, Midland, the Rev. Martha Tatarnac, and the Rev. Judith Alltree. She encouraged Synod to seek ways of becoming “Waterloo ministries” where Anglicans and Lutherans worship or play together in their own locations of worship. She reminded Synod that the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was January 18-25, led this year by the Church from Latvia.

Mrs. Mae Cox, St. James Orillia informed Synod that the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine has a three-week summer program called Women at the Crossroads. She also reminded Synod that volunteering for the Diocese is a wonderful way to meet people and do important work.

Mrs. Carolyn Heads, St. John, Waverly informed Synod that there are bursaries available for theological students.

The Rev. Canon Dr. Duke Vipperman, Resurrection commended to Synod the work of the Anglican United Refugee Alliance (“AURA”), who rents space from Resurrection. He suggested that the next Synod include more modern musical pieces, for example Steve Bell, Chris Hail, or Miranda Stone.

Ms. Elaine Nicholls, St. Mark, Midland expressed gratitude for the amalgamation that went well.

The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields, Holy Trinity, Thornhill informed Synod that Holy Trinity just celebrated its 185<sup>th</sup> anniversary and that their church building is the longest in use in the diocese. The first priest of the parish and the current priest were both born May 20. He asked for continued prayers for the parish.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson assumed the Chair.

## **GENERAL SYNOD ELECTION RESULTS**

The Chancellor responded to concerns raised that the clergy did not know how to use the electronic voting system. In respect to the Clergy voting there were only two spoiled ballots; one voted for 9 people and the other voted for 12. Those votes had they been counted would not have affected the results of the election.

The following people were elected to represent the Diocese of Toronto at General Synod:

### Clergy (in alphabetical order):

The Rev. Canon Jenny Andison, St. Clement, Eglinton  
The Rev. Canon Susan Bell, St. Martin in-the-Fields/Canon Missioner  
The Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, St. John, West Toronto  
The Rev. Canon David Harrison, St. Mary Magdalene  
The Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan, St. George on Yonge  
The Rev. Canon Heather McCance, St. Andrew, Scarborough  
The Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson, Christ Church, Deer Park  
The Rev. Riscylla Walsh Shaw, Christ Church, Bolton

### Clerical Substitutes (in order of call to service):

The Rev. David Giffen, Transfiguration  
The Rev. Canon Dr. Barry Parker, St. Paul, Bloor Street  
The Rev. Susan Spicer, the Parish of Fenelon Falls  
The Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave, Holy Trinity, Trinity Square  
The Rev. Jordan Wellington, St. John, Willowdale  
The Rev. Keith Joyce, St. Paul, Brighton

Laity (in alphabetical order):

Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT, Redeemer, Bloor Street  
Mr. Lawrence (Larry) Barker, St. Luke, Burnt River  
Mr. Matt Koovisk, St. Mary, Richmond Hill  
Mr. Israel Newell, ODT, Trinity East  
Mr. Kennedy Marshall, Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale  
Mr. Ryan Ramsden, Grace Church in Scarborough  
Ms. Marion Thompson, St. Peter, Oshawa  
Ms. Laura Walton, Christ Church, Batteau

Lay Substitutes (in order of call to service):

Mr. Peter Bennett, Redeemer, Bloor Street

### **CLOSING REMARKS TO SYNOD**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson provided reflections to Synod. He called Synod's attention again to the situation in Paris. He asked Synod to remember in prayer those who have been victims of senseless violence, and reminded Synod that this sort of senseless violence affects many places in the world on a daily basis. We are called to be in uncomfortable places, standing at the edge of chaos, and to discern the Spirit's leading. But we are called also to build communities of reconciliation, to reach out to unlikely people to make connections for the sake of the Kingdom of God. It is easy to stereotype class or circumstance. Muslims are no happier being identified with ISIS than Christians would be with being identified with Nazis or KKK. There will be stereotypes created in the days ahead that would call for fear, but we are called to maturity in Christ and to act with reason and compassion. He read 2 Corinthians 4:5-10.

Archbishop Johnson thanked Mr. Chris Ambidge, ODT and presented him with a gift for serving as Honorary Lay Secretary from 2009 until the conclusion of this Session of Synod when he will be stepping down.

### **ELECTION OF HONORARY SECRETARIES**

MOVED by Canon Clare Burns and SECONDED by Canon Paul Baston that the following be elected for the ensuing two year term:

The Rev. Claire Wade, Honorary Clerical Secretary  
Ms. Sarah McDonald, Honorary Lay Secretary  
The Rev. Ian LaFleur, Assistant Honorary Clerical Secretary

CARRIED.

### **APPRECIATION**

The Honorary Secretaries thanked the scrutineers, timekeepers, staff and volunteers for their efforts, especially Mrs. Pamela Boisvert. They extended their appreciation as well to Conference Manager Ms. Heidi Wilker, and the Sheraton Parkway-Toronto North for their work in making this Synod a success. They extended special appreciation to the sponsors of this Synod: Scotia Private Investment Council and Scotiitrust, and Northleaf Capital Partners.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by the Senior Honorary Secretary that Synod adjourn. CARRIED.

### **CLOSING PRAYERS**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson offered a closing prayer.



## **Appendix A**

### **Archbishop's Charge to Synod of the Diocese of Toronto**

**November 13, 2015**

**The Most Rev'd Colin Johnson**

Some years ago Martin Smith, former Superior of SSJE, was invited to give a training event for new bishops. They wanted him to talk about the Bishop as Pastor, you know: friend to everyone, carrier of the Shepherd's Staff (or Crozier), protector and unifier, and all that. He turns it all on its head.

"It is an irony of language that one of the meanings of the word pastoral is "pertaining to a tranquil rustic scene." A pastoral painting depicts an idealized landscape of calm and beauty with nymphs and shepherds. Now our pastoral scene is in violent contrast, one in which we are coming to terms with the necessity of chaos and the inevitability of conflict in communities that evolve or perish."

He recalls reading the sequel to Michael Crichton's *Jurassic Park*, a novel called *The Lost World*, where one of the characters, "Ian Malcolm discusses how complex systems such as corporations learn to adapt or face extinction. [Malcolm] says this:

*But even more important is the way complex systems seem to strike a balance between the need for order and the imperative to change. Complex systems seem to locate themselves at a place we call 'the edge of chaos. We imagine the edge of chaos as a place where there is enough innovation to keep a living system vibrant, and enough stability to keep it from collapsing into anarchy. It is a zone of conflict and upheaval where the old and the new are constantly at war. Finding the balancing point must be a delicate matter -if a living system drifts too close, it risks falling over into incoherence and dissolution; but if the system moves too far away from the edge, it becomes frozen, totalitarian. Both conditions lead to extinction. Too much change is as destructive as too little. Only at the edge of chaos can complex systems flourish. "*

Martin Smith comments that this "is remarkably suggestive about the role of pastoral leadership. It is scary to realize that chaos is vitally central in God's creation and that is why leadership has to be pastoral, a ministry of encouragement and guidance. Pastoral leadership will take its stand at the place of discernment in this "zone of conflict and upheaval where the old and the new are constantly at war." The episcopal charism of maintaining unity will not consist in repressing the war between the old and the new, but encouraging and continually re-centering a community in which we know that both the resources of stability and the risks of change come from the Spirit. What kind of spirituality will enable pastoral leaders to live consciously at the edge of chaos?"

Brother Martin's speech was directed at bishops and their role in leadership, but I think his words are equally applicable to us today as we gather as leaders of the Church in this Diocese now assembled in Synod.

*And [Jesus] said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old." (Matthew 13: 52 NRSV)*

Things old and new.

It sounds like a china cabinet we have at home, filled with family heirlooms that both remind us of our roots and give pleasure by their enduring beauty. And, every once in a while, we add to this collection new treasures that we have discovered on our travels.

That's what it sounds like. But it's not the Gospel. It does not match the dynamic energy - the powerfully unsettling turmoil of Martin's image or indeed of the gospel itself.

This saying of Jesus comes at the end of a series of parables about the realm of God, a catalogue of images that unfortunately no longer catches us off guard putting our notions off balance as they did their first audience. God's kingdom is described not in terms of mighty acts of power or accomplishment, not a calling to mind of the seven wonders of the world, but by ordinary things: yeast, seeds, merchants, widows, subversive behaviour, a lost coin, or in a similar vein with a loaf of bread, a cup of wine, the water of a muddy river. The stuff of life and the ordinary folk who are caught up in something they think is so valuable that they give everything to pursue this thing that captivates their attention.

*"And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."*

The scribe is the interpreter, not just a record keeper, the one who pays attention, the one who stands in the present and joins hands both with the ancient tradition and the contemporary circumstances. The discernor who can search the witness of the tradition - who knows the scriptures and the church's commentary on them, who knows the lives of the saints shaped by faithful discipleship, who has been formed and informed by the inherited customs and their meaning. The scribe is the one trained who puts all this together with the teachings of Jesus both as received through the tradition and from the living Lord speaking today to the arguing, praying, listening, conversing community in which the Spirit continues to dwell and work. The trained scribe is the one who knows the ancient stories, The Story, of God's interactions with human kind so well that she or he can trace the common themes, the same patterns of relationship in the new stories today, and can name glimpses of God's presence now.

The scribe is not a curator of a museum but stands on the edge of chaos seeking what was, and is, and is to come. (See Gary Peluso-Verdent, *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary* - Feasting on the Word – Year A, Volume 3: Pentecost and Season After Pentecost 1 (Propers 3-16).)

That's where we are, I think, in this Diocese today: scribes, trained for the kingdom, standing on the edge.

We have not changed our focus in this Diocese. Our mission is to worship, proclaim, embody. We do that by seeking to build communities of hope and compassion through healthy vital parishes and ministries. We are working to be a diocese that is mission-shaped in all of its parts, responsive to the ongoing activity of God in healing and reconciling the world to Himself. We are invited to be partners in the *Missio Dei*, the mission of God.

This is not new. The Anglican Church of which we are the local expression is formed by Scripture, shaped by worship, ordered for communion, and directed to mission. (*The Anglican Way: Signposts on a Common Journey*, The Anglican Communion Office) It was the ministry of the first Anglicans in this province. It was the vision of the first bishop of this diocese. It was the driving force of those who worshipped, proclaimed, embodied their faith in the Triune God through the centuries. It has never been done perfectly. It has erred. It has been badly broken. But it has also been incredibly gifted by God to serve and witness to his redeeming love.

We need to find encouragement here for the ministry we have traditionally done. We have a rich heritage on which to draw. A strong history of intelligent engagement with scripture which has undergirded our life and practice and links us to the history of God's redeeming purposes. A luminous liturgical tradition that many non-Anglicans are just beginning to discover and deeply appreciate, a style of worship that draws us into the holy mystery of God. A pastoral sensitivity that embraces widely diverse communities in God's loving compassion. A model of governance that balances bishops and synods, leadership and accountability, the individual and the collective, direction and autonomy.

We all know that at its worst, the Anglican Church can be truly dreary! Let's also remember that at its best, the Anglican Church can be astonishingly good!

Let me continue the list. Word and sacrament, prayer and outreach, study and service, gathered community and civic engagement, a parish structure that identifies a whole region and not just the weekly worshippers as the field of mission, connections into the local community and connections across the world, talented clergy and dedicated laity - these are "old" treasures of our church that we have in our storehouse. This is a valuable part of our missional repertoire. We have invested in these old treasures and appropriately so. You can see both in the report card on *Plans and Priorities for 2013-2015* and the proposals for 2015-2017, that with Synod's approval, we are expending money and personnel to support this.

Let me reiterate, these are valuable and indispensable gifts – tools for mission that we already know how to use – even if in our familiarity with them, we sometimes write them off or diminish their significance.

But we are also called to constantly renew ourselves and our ministry. God is an ever creative God, Christ is alive, the Spirit is active. God is doing a new thing. That is a clear word from our biblical heritage, our theological tradition and our prayed experience.

The world is changing around us, even as we are changing. People speak in new idioms. Technology has reshaped our patterns of connecting, opening up undreamed opportunities both intriguing and nightmarish. We need to respond to new ways of meeting, new moral dilemmas, new cultures, new alliances. We no longer share a common history or familiar stories.

The Gospel is not different but how it is presented might be. Our innate human need to worship has not changed but the models for how we do that might have to. The needs of the poor and marginalised remain but how, and with whom, we engage in outreach might be different. Discipleship still is at the core of our relationship with God and each other but how we are formed as disciples requires new practices.

So we, in this Diocese, are engaged in projects and experiments that take us beyond our comfort zone in order to reach out to others who would not otherwise come within our purview. You will see that, too, reflected in the budget and ministry priorities. You will hear it in the missional moments throughout Synod.

We have funded seed projects with Reach and Stretch Grants, started new congregations, rethought education programmes, found new partnerships for social justice ministries, authorised new pastoral responses, spent more time researching the needs and aspirations of our local communities. We are trying to listen creatively to the critique of those outside and to respond faithfully to the pain we have caused some. We are trying to figure out more effective ways to make disciples and form leaders. We must take some creative, principled risks for the sake of the Gospel, even if we make mistakes – which we surely do.

This does not mean that we jettison what is important from the past. But *some* of it needs to go; some of it is not important; some of it is stifling the Spirit.

It does not mean that we embrace everything new. Some of it is quite transitory; some of it is quite destructive and soul destroying; *some* of it is stifling the Spirit.

Which is which? It is not readily apparent, although it will be perfectly obvious to certain groups of people. Unfortunately they will be on opposing sides. That is the difficult place on the edge of chaos. It is the creative place of discernment where we meet God's Spirit. It is the place at the foot of the Cross. It is a place of uncertainty and loss, of grief and confusion, of conflict and pain. It is a place of hope and possibility, of faith and new life, of reconciliation and yes, consolation. It is a place of waiting, of waiting for what only God can accomplish, for what God *will* accomplish. It requires courage and encouragement - patient listening and persistent faith to stay long enough in that place to recognise the presence and the direction of the Spirit's leading.

Not everything will work. That should not stop us. Not every experiment will yield the results we want. That should not discourage us. What did we learn from the attempt? Not every seed planted will flourish. In the history of the Church, many initiatives took years, even generations to come to fruition, and often then, not in the form originally planned. "One sows, another reaps."

Remember Brother Martin Smith's point:

"Pastoral leadership will take its stand at the place of discernment in this "zone of conflict and upheaval where the old and the new are constantly at war." The episcopal charism of maintaining unity will not consist in repressing the war between the old and the new, but encouraging and continually re-centering a community in which we know that both the resources of stability and the risks of change come from the Spirit."

*"Encouraging and continually re-centering the community in which we know that both the resources of stability and the risks of change come from the Spirit."*

**"Re-centering:"** Remembering what is at the centre of it all – God's unquenchable love for the whole of Creation.

And then Martin's haunting question that we need to think and pray more about:

"What kind of spirituality will enable pastoral leaders to live consciously at the edge of chaos?"

This is the uncomfortable place we are called by God to be as leaders of the Church in this Diocese at this time. By virtue of your office as Members of Synod, you are the leaders – bishops, clergy and lay. There is no quick fix. But I believe that we as Anglicans in this Diocese of Toronto are extraordinarily well positioned for this challenge - deeply rooted in a lively tradition, attempting to embrace a multi-dimensional diversity that is our social reality, still large enough and well enough resourced to be willing to risk experimenting, trying some new things and being changed by that. We really are being intentional about becoming a diocese missional-focused in all its parts. We really are attempting to work out what it might look like in practice to be Archbishop Rowan Williams' "mixed-economy church."

Graham Tomlin, Bishop of Kensington wrote a short article in the *Church Times*, July 9, 2015. I've changed the term he used, "priestly leaders" and extend it to include all "Christian leaders," for that fits with his intent.

"[Christian] leaders do not dominate: they mediate. By entering into the experience of others, they create and forge community by reconciling what would otherwise be at loggerheads, or separated. They make connections between unlikely people and institutions, and hold together communities that might otherwise break apart in disunity and division.

"[Christian] leaders do not placate, they perfect. Rather than aim to keep everyone happy, they are fiercely dedicated, not to the furtherance of their own careers, but to the nurture, growth and development of those in their care, and the institutions they are called to preserve and develop, even when that means making tough and unpopular decisions. They keep their eye on the goal, the big picture, the ultimate purpose of all things.

"Finally, the purpose of their work is not self-glorification, but offering. They work hard, not out of some secular work ethic, but because they remember that the goal of their work as leaders is not ultimately the success of their organisation, the year-end profit margin, or even the number of people affected, but to serve a much greater and higher goal: the creation of something good, life-giving, and worthwhile — an offering worthy of God the Creator himself. Human work is noble activity, ultimately finding its purpose in worship — the Sabbath offering of all that has been done and achieved; the work of human hands, to the glory not of the creature but of the Creator."

We cannot expect to agree on all things, but can we “enter into the experience of others” and “create ...community by reconciling what would otherwise be at loggerheads?” What is the wisdom another brings that needs to be part of our mutual flourishing? Where does my intransigence serve to block rather than to protect that flourishing? Who are the unlikely people here and at home with whom you can make connections for the sake of the Kingdom? How can you act to hold together communities that might otherwise break apart in division, because you are committed to a larger vision, a higher goal, and find your profound unity together in Jesus Christ? In spite of our differences, can we make decisions wisely and courageously, not simply to achieve our own purposes but to “nurture, grow and develop those in our care” – the people, churches and institutions we are called to serve in Christ’s name? Can we glimpse the big picture, the greater goal: “the creation of something good, life giving, worthy” – and make our endeavors “an offering worthy of God the Creator Himself?”

May that be the goal of our work during this Synod and in our Diocese over the next years.

Prayer:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,  
by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.  
Give us faith to go out with good courage,  
not knowing where we go,  
but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Evening Prayer, p. 317*



Diocese of Toronto  
Anglican Church of Canada

## MINUTES

### ELECTORAL SYNOD FOR THE ELECTION OF THREE (3) BISHOPS SUFFRAGAN

Saturday, September 17, 2016

St. Paul, Bloor Street

---

Pursuant to the Notice of meeting, dated May 11, 2016, the Bishop of Toronto called the members of Synod to a Special Synod for the sole purpose of electing three (3) Bishops Suffragan for the Diocese of Toronto.

#### OPENING OF SYNOD

Synod opened with a service of Holy Communion, commencing at 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul, Bloor Street.

#### BUSINESS SESSION

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson welcomed members of Synod to this special session and called the meeting to order at 10:59 am.

#### HONORARY SECRETARIES

The Honorary Secretaries for this session of Synod were elected at the 156<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of Synod in November 2015:

- |                              |                                       |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ○ The Rev. Canon Claire Wade | Honorary Clerical Secretary           |
| ○ Ms. Sarah McDonald         | Honorary Lay Secretary                |
| ○ The Rev. Ian LaFleur       | Assistant Honorary Clerical Secretary |

#### SCRUTINEERS

The Scrutineers for this special session of Synod were appointed by the Diocesan Council on May 19, 2016.

- The Rev. Ian Martin
- Ms. Laura Walton, ODT

#### NOMINEES

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson introduced the following candidates nominated for the position of Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of Toronto.

- |                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ○ The Rev. Canon Jenny Andison  | ○ The Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin |
| ○ The Rev. Canon Susan Bell     | ○ The Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan      |
| ○ The Rev. Canon Dawn Davis     | ○ The Rev. Warren Leibovitch       |
| ○ The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields | ○ The Rev. Canon Heather McCance   |
| ○ The Rev. Dr. Byron Gilmore    | ○ The Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson   |
| ○ The Rev. Canon David Harrison | ○ The Rev. Riscylla Walsh Shaw     |

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson commended and thanked these candidates for their self-offering of their many gifts.

## THE EPISCOPAL ELECTION

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson read regrets on behalf of the Rt. Rev. Philip Poole, Bishop Suffragan and Area Bishop of York-Credit Valley, and Canon Clare Burns, Chancellor.

Vice-Chancellor Bell reviewed the eligibility for Synod membership and outlined the rules for further nominations according to *The Constitution*.

The Rev. Catherine Sider Hamilton, St. Matthew, First Avenue, registered publicly a protest she had previously made privately to the Nominations Committee and the Secretaries of Synod.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson responded that all the nominees are priests in good standing.

The Rev. Canon Claire Wade, Honorary Clerical Secretary of Synod, read out the list of those who requested and received permission to arrive late:

- The Rev. Greg Carpenter, St. Jude, Wexford
- The Rev. Irina Dubinski, Grace Church on-the-Hill
- The Rev. Augusto Nunez, St. Jude, Wexford

The Honorary Secretaries made some general housekeeping announcements including the procedures for voting.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson declared registration closed. He explained that should another nominee's name be brought forward by ten (10) members of Synod, this name will be announced prior to the commencement of balloting.

The Honorary Secretaries announced the numbers from registration.

It was reported that:	CLERGY	LAIITY
Total eligible members	391	397
Present and registered	297	321
Votes required to be elected	148	160

For clarity, it was reported that 50% plus one vote carries the vote in the order of clergy and in the order of laity. If after 12 ballots no one has been elected, one further and final ballot shall be taken. For each nominee the percentage of clergy voting shall be added to the percentage of laity voting for the same cleric, and the cleric with the highest total of percentages shall be declared elected.

Nominees may withdraw their name at any point during an election. If they wish, their name is eligible to be placed back on the ballot in the next election.

The procedures were reviewed for using both paper ballots and electronic voting using the response pads.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson called Synod to prayer before the first vote.

## THE RESULTS – ELECTION 1

	1 <sup>st</sup> Ballot		2 <sup>nd</sup> Ballot		3 <sup>rd</sup> Ballot		4 <sup>th</sup> Ballot	
	C	L	C	L	C	L	C	L
The Rev. Canon Jenny Andison	44	56	77	73	90	93	103	114
The Rev. Canon Susan Bell	25	20	14	14	12	7	-	-
The Rev. Canon Dawn Davis	24	21	13	11	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields	26	40	42	22	20	46	24	48
The Rev. Dr. Byron Gilmore	13	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon David Harrison	42	36	44	56	50	49	42	46
The Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan	12	9	4	5	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Warren Leibovitch	7	23	15	6	7	14	-	-
The Rev. Canon Heather McCance	8	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin	23	20	13	13	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson	33	35	44	46	48	47	39	40
The Rev. Riscylla Walsh Shaw	37	37	51	46	65	54	84	64
Total Present and Voting	297	321	299	321	300	321	300	321
Needed to Elect	148	160	147	160	147	156	147	157

The Rev. Dr. Byron Gilmore and the Rev. Canon Heather McCance withdrew their names after the first ballot. The Rev. Canon Dawn Davis, the Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan, and the Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin withdrew their names after the second ballot. The Rev. Canon Susan Bell and the Rev. Warren Leibovitch withdrew their names after the third ballot. The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields, the Rev. Canon David Harrison, and the Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson withdrew their names after the fourth ballot.

## THE RESULTS – ELECTION 1 (continued)

	5 <sup>th</sup> Ballot		6 <sup>th</sup> Ballot		7 <sup>th</sup> Ballot	
	C	L	C	L	C	L
The Rev. Canon Jenny Andison	132	169	117	152	104	123
The Rev. Canon Susan Bell	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Dawn Davis	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Dr. Byron Gilmore	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon David Harrison	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Warren Leibovitch	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Heather McCance	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Riscylla Walsh Shaw	155	137	171	152	182	177
Total Present and Voting	300	321	300	321	300	321
Needed to Elect	145	154	145	153	144	151

The Rev. Riscylla Walsh Shaw was elected on the seventh ballot.



## THE RESULTS – ELECTION 2

	1 <sup>st</sup> Ballot		2 <sup>nd</sup> Ballot		3 <sup>rd</sup> Ballot		4 <sup>th</sup> Ballot	
	C	L	C	L	C	L	C	L
The Rev. Canon Jenny Andison	87	84	105	101	136	160	138	145
The Rev. Canon Susan Bell	15	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Dawn Davis	15	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields	20	48	22	44	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Dr. Byron Gilmore	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon David Harrison	62	53	64	61	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Warren Leibovitch	6	15	5	10	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Heather McCance	7	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin	16	11	9	7	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson	57	62	78	73	143	133	140	149
<b>Total Present and Voting</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>321</b>
<b>Needed to Elect</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>148</b>

The Rev. Canon Susan Bell, the Rev. Canon Dawn Davis, the Rev. Dr. Byron Gilmore, the Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan, and the Rev. Canon Heather McCance withdrew their names after the first ballot. The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields, the Rev. Canon David Harrison, the Rev. Warren Leibovitch, and the Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin withdrew their names after the second ballot.

The Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson was elected on the fourth ballot.

The Rev. Canon Dawn Davis, the Rev. Dr. Byron Gilmore, and the Rev. Canon Heather McCance withdrew before the third election began.

## THE RESULTS – ELECTION 3

	1 <sup>st</sup> Ballot		2 <sup>nd</sup> Ballot		3 <sup>rd</sup> Ballot	
	C	L	C	L	C	L
The Rev. Canon Jenny Andison	109	107	128	153	145	152
The Rev. Canon Susan Bell	17	20	21	12	-	-
The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields	21	50	-	-	-	-
The Rev. Canon David Harrison	97	79	124	107	132	137
The Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan	8	5	2	5	-	-
The Rev. Warren Leibovitch	5	15	4	11	-	-
The Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin	21	15	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Present and Voting</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>321</b>
<b>Needed to Elect</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>146</b>

The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields and the Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin withdrew their names after the first ballot. The Rev. Canon Susan Bell, the Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan, and the Rev. Warren Leibovitch withdrew their names after the second ballot.

The Rev. Canon Jenny Andison was elected on the third ballot.

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson asked each candidate if they accepted their election. They all accepted. Pursuant to the Canons of the Provincial Synod, the results will be referred to the Provincial House of Bishops for concurrence.

On a motion from the floor, it was **MOVED by the Rev. Canon David Harrison that all three elections be unanimously approved. CARRIED.**

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson called all of the nominees to the chancel steps and thanked them for their gift to Synod. The consecration is scheduled for January 7, 2017 at St. Paul, Bloor Street.

**MOVED by the Rev. Canon Claire Wade and SECONDED by Ms. Sarah McDonald that the ballots be destroyed. CARRIED.**

The Rev. Canon Dr. Barry Parker made several housekeeping announcements and announced that dinner was available in the Great Hall.

The Rev. Canon Claire Wade and Ms. Sarah McDonald expressed appreciation to the staff and volunteers of St. Paul, Bloor Street for their hospitality. Thanks were also extended to diocesan staff, scrutineers and other volunteers for their work.

**MOVED by the Rev. Canon Claire Wade that Synod be terminated. CARRIED.**

Synod was terminated at 6:42 p.m.