



# THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted 5 November 2016

## MINUTES OF THE 134<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

07 November 2015

The Right Reverend David Edwards, Chair  
Christ Church (Parish) Church, Parish of Fredericton  
Fredericton, N.B.

### THEME:

Walk the Walk

The 134<sup>th</sup> Session of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton was convened in the Nave of Christ Church (Parish) Church, Parish of Fredericton with registration of delegates beginning at 8:00 a.m.

### CALL TO ORDER

The Right Reverend David Edwards, Bishop of Fredericton called delegates, guests and observers to order at 8:55 a.m. and opened the session with prayers. He offered a word of welcome to all gathered.

### REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Bishop called on Ashley Sobey, Chair of the Credentials Committee to report on the number of delegates registered.

Mr Sobey reported the registration as follows:

Clergy: 68 registered out of a possible 116

Lay: 186 registered out of a possible 232

This gave a total registration of 254 delegates registered for this session of diocesan Synod. In addition to delegates, there were 13 guests and 5 observers.

As such, quorum was achieved and the Bishop declared the 134<sup>th</sup> Session of Diocesan Synod officially opened.

### APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING SECRETARY

**Motion 134-01** – The Venerable Cathy Laskey/ Cheryl Young  
**That the Reverend Canon Leo Martin be appointed Recording Secretary for this Session of Synod.**

Motion carried.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE HEAD TABLE

The Bishop proceeded to call on the Vice Chair to introduce those sitting at the head table (from left to right):

The Reverend Canon Leo Martin, Recording Secretary for this Synod

Professor David Bell, Q.C., Chancellor of the Diocese  
The Venerable Cathy Laskey, Executive Archdeacon  
The Right Reverend David Edwards, Bishop of the Diocese  
Jim Knight, Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council  
The Very Reverend Geoffrey Hall, Dean of Christ Church Cathedral

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Vice Chair continued with a number of housekeeping details:

- Gave the particulars of the building such as exits and washrooms.
- Invited people to visit the different displays.
- The importance of feedback on Evaluation Forms.
- The receipt of Notices of Motion will close at 11:00 a.m.
- Ballot boxes for General and Provincial Synod will close at 1:05 p.m.
- Upon departure, to make sure you have all your belongings.
- Any members who live nearby were invited to stay behind after Synod to help with putting things back in place.

### **SYNOD INVITED GUESTS AND SESSIONAL COMMITTEES**

The Bishop called on the Reverend Canon Ross Hebb to acknowledge Invited Guests and the Chairs of the different Sessional Committees.

The following guests were recognized:

Mr Ben Bourque - Financial Assistant, Diocesan Office  
The Reverend Debora Burluson – Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI  
The Reverend Canon Dr Jody Clarke – Atlantic School of Theology Academic Dean  
Canon Charles Ferris, QC - Chancellor, Province of Canada  
The Reverend Lidvald Haugen-Strand - Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada  
The Reverend Jane Johnson – Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada  
Mrs Cheryl Jacobs - Bishop's Secretary and Chair, Diocesan Spiritual Development Team  
Mr Jim Knight - Vice-Chair, Diocesan Council  
Mr Colin McDonald - Director of Youth and Intergenerational Ministries  
Ms Gisele McKnight - Communications Officer  
Mrs Maren McLean Persaud - Director of Camp Medley  
Ms Barbara Richards - Diocesan Misconduct Officer  
Mr Jason Smith - Chair, Diocesan Youth and Intergenerational Team

The Chairs of the Sessional Committees were also recognized:

Agenda Committee	Mr. Jim Knight
Arrangements Committee	Mrs. Mary Robinson and Mr. John Galbraith
Credentials Committee	Mrs. Cheryl Jacobs and Mr. Ashley Sobey
Hospitality Committee	Mrs. Shara Golden
Nominating Committee	The Reverend Deacon Ann Fairweather
Resolutions Committee	Professor David Bell
Technical Support Committee	Mr. David Wilson
Worship and Music Committee	The Very Reverend Geoffrey Hall
Synod Planning Chair	The Venerable Cathy Laskey

### **COURTESIES TO SYNOD GUESTS/OBSERVERS**

**Motion 134-02** - The Reverend Canon Ross Hebb / Michael Perry

**That this Synod extend its courtesies to our guests.**

Motion carried.

### **WEST SIDE ANGLICAN MISSION**

**Motion 134-03** - The Venerable Cathy Laskey / Professor David Bell

**That this Synod seat with non-voting status up to three members from the Westside Anglican Mission (formerly Parish of west Saint John) and extend courtesies. These people are identified as Mrs. Margaret Ann Reid and Mrs. Jennifer Ramsay.**

Motion carried.

The Bishop extended his welcome to Ecumenical visitors and guests.

### **REGRETS**

The following regrets were extended prior to the meeting:

The Reverend Paul Ranson

The Venerable Harold Hazen

The Reverend David Dean

The Reverend Canon Wally Corey

The Reverend Robert (Bob) Barry

The Bishop offered prayers for the Reverend David Dean and his family as he faced surgery in the near future.

### **CLERGY ANNIVERSARIES**

The following were recognized as celebrating important anniversaries or ordained ministry.

For the Year 2014:

The Rev. Canon George Akerley	60 years Priest - June 29
The Rev. E.T. (Ted) Spencer	60 years Deacon - May 23
The Rev. Canon Tom Smith	60 years Deacon - November 30
The Rev. Roy Embley	55 years Deacon - May 20
The Venerable Reginald Stockall	55 years Deacon - May 24
The Ven. Lyman Harding	50 years Priest - May 19
The Rev. Canon James Golding	50 years Priest - December 16
The Rev. Canon David Jackson	50 years Deacon - May 7
The Rev. David Gray	50 years Deacon - May 24

For the year 2015:

The Rev. E.T. (Ted) Spencer	60 years Priest - June 5
The Rev. Canon Tom Smith	60 years Priest - December 18
The Rev. Roy Embley	55 years Priest - May 26
The Venerable Reginald Stockall	55 years Priest - May 26
The Rev. Canon David Jackson	50 years Priest - June 13
The Rev. David Gray	50 years Priest - November 30
The Ven. Arthur Gregg	50 years Deacon - May 30

The Bishop offered a prayer of thanksgiving for all clergy who were celebrating significant anniversaries.

### **NEW CLERGY**

New Clergy in the Diocese were introduced:

The Reverend Deacon Deborah Cochran  
The Reverend Deacon Norm Dupuis  
The Reverend Deacon Ann Fairweather  
The Reverend Dr. Daniel Goodwin  
The Reverend Deacon Barbara Haire  
The Reverend Stephen Harnish  
The Reverend Christopher Ketch  
The Reverend Deacon Sandy MacPherson  
The Reverend Deacon Thomas Nisbett  
The Reverend Deacon Christian Persaud  
The Reverend Thomas Stradwick  
The Reverend Deacon Elizabeth Wells

### **DECEASED MEMBERS OF SYNOD**

The Bishop listed the clergy members of Synod who had deceased since our last Diocesan Synod. They were remembered in a moment of silence.

The Reverend G. A. Stephen McCombe	2015
The Reverend Canon Lloyd Lake	2013
The Reverend David Plumer	2014
The Reverend Donald E. Routledge	2015
The Reverend Canon Don Trivett	2013
The Reverend William Forgrave	2014

### **RULES OF ORDER AND DECORUM**

With reference to page 7 (Section A), the Chancellor reminded all members they were present for the welfare of the whole diocese. Since he compared the Synod as the Parliament of the Church, he referenced a quote which stands on the west side of the Peace Tower in Ottawa which reads, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." He stressed the importance that all voices need to be heard not just the few. He reminded members to identify themselves as they come to the microphone and that they exercise gentleness and self control. Remarks will be limited to two minutes. And when voting by order, the order of the mover will vote first.

### **NOMINATIONS FOR PROVINCIAL AND GENERAL SYNOD**

The Reverend Deacon Ann Fairweather, Chair of the Nominating Committee came forward to explain the election procedures for Provincial and General Synod delegates. She reminded members of Synod we were electing the following number of delegates to each Synod.

General Synod: 3 clergy members, 3 lay members and 1 youth member

Provincial Synod: 2 clergy members, 2 lay members and 1 youth member

She then called for further nominations from the floor. After asking for further nominations three times, members of Synod voted to close the nominations.

The nominees, in alphabetical order, were as follows:

Provincial Synod:

Clergy: The Rev'd Greg Frazer  
The Rev'd Bob LeBlanc  
The Rev'd Deacon Edward Quann

The Rev'd Canon Albert Snelgrove  
The Rev'd David Turner  
Laity: Shara Golden                      Jim McKenna  
Rick Haddad                              Robert Taylor  
Nancy Hodnett                          Anne Walling  
Rod Langis                                Mitzi Whelton  
  
Youth: Rachel Barrett                  Dylan Nicoll

General Synod:

Clergy:

The Rev'd Deacon Debbie Edmondson  
The Rev'd Christopher Ketch  
The Rev'd Mary Anne Langmaid  
The Rev'd Gerry Laskey  
The Rev'd Bob LeBlanc  
The Venerable Robert Marsh  
The Rev'd Canon Leo Martin  
The Rev'd Greg McMullin  
The Rev'd Deacon Ted Quann  
The Rev'd David Turner  
The Rev'd Chris Vanbuskirk  
The Rev'd Canon Walter Williams

Laity: Don Adams                        Siobhan Laskey  
Gil Carter                                Neville Sloane  
Shara Golden                            Nancy Stephens  
Rick Haddad

Youth: Rachel Barrett                  Dylan Nicoll

The Bishop offered his thanks to the Chair of the Nominating Committee for their work.

### **CLERGY REPORTS**

In accordance with Canon seven, section 6(b), the Bishop called on all clergy members to submit their reports in the area provided.

### **MINUTES**

**Motion 134-04** – The Venerable Robert Marsh / The Reverend Deacon Ted Quann

**That the minutes of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton be adopted as circulated (Section C, pages 1-12)**

Motion carried.

**Motion 134-05** - Linda Pitman / Jillian Wilkins

**That the minutes of the 133<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton (Electoral) be adopted as circulated (Section C, pages 14-18).**

Motion carried.

## **STATUS OF RESOLUTIONS – 132<sup>nd</sup> SESSION OF SYNOD**

**Motion 134-06** – The Reverend Canon Walter Williams / James McKenna

**That the report on the Status of Resolutions of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Diocesan of Fredericton (Section C, pages 13) be approved as circulated.**

Motion carried.

## **PROCEDURES REGARDING NOTICES OF MOTION**

The Chancellor noted the motions received to date were listed in Section D, page 3. He also invited anyone who wished to bring forth a motion to please bring it to the Resolutions Committee in order to make sure it was worded properly. He reminded members of Synod that motions should deal with the temporal affairs of the Diocese. The Rev'd Dr Ross Hebb and Ms. Barbara Richards are working in the Resolutions Committee Room. Notices of motion will be received until 11:00a.m. Section D, pages 1 and 2 give further information on this matter.

## **REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

**Motion 134-07** – The Venerable Cathy Laskey / The Venerable Geoffrey Hall  
**That this Synod receive the Report of Diocesan Council (Section F, Pages 1-49).**

Motion carried.

## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

**Motion 134-08** – The Reverend Deacon Ann Fairweather / The Venerable Cathy Laskey

**That this Synod accept the Archdeaconry Greater Chapter elections to Diocesan Council, as presented:**

**St. Andrews** The Rev'd Canon Keith Osborne (Parish of Pennfield)  
Mrs. Susan Jack (Parish of Lancaster)

**Woodstock** The Rev'd Bob LeBlanc (Parish of Wicklow, Wilmot, Peel and Aberdeen)  
Mrs. Kathy Asch (Parish of Woodstock)

**Chatham** The Rev'd Deacon Edward Quann (Parish of Chatham)  
Mrs. Siobhan Laskey (Parish of Derby and Blackville)

**Moncton** The Rev'd Chris Hayes (Parish of Salisbury and Havelock)  
Dr. Neville Sloane (Parish of Hillsborough and Riverside)

**Fredericton** The Rev'd Canon Bonnie LeBlanc (Parish of Stanley)  
Mr. Frank Morehouse (Parish of Bright)

**Kingston and the Kennebecasis**  
The Rev'd Allen Tapley (Parish of Waterford and Parish of St. Marks)  
Mr. Norman McLeod (Parish of Renforth)

**Saint John** The Rev'd Canon David Barrett (Saint John Hospital Chaplaincy)  
Ms. Coralie Losier (Parish of St. Mark)

Motion carried.

## **DIOCESAN FINANCIAL REPORT AND STATEMENTS**

**Motion 134-09 – Irene Adams / Gil Carter**

**That this Synod receive the Diocesan Financial Report and Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014. (Section F, pages 19-21)**

Motion Carried.

## **TENURE OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL MEMBERS**

As a way of introduction, the Chancellor explained Diocesan Council takes care of all temporal affairs of the Diocese in between Synods. However, with the possibility of calling Synod together every year, it follows that Greater Chapters would have to elect a Diocesan Council membership every year. Since it takes some time to get oriented to the business of Council, it would not be in the best interest of the Diocese to change the Council every year. The following motion would guarantee a term of two years.

**Motion 134-10 - David Bell, Q.C. / The Venerable Cathy Laskey**

**That the Constitution of the Diocesan Synod be amended by adding s. 11(9) as follows: 11(9) Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, where a regular meeting of the Synod is called for a time that is within 18 months of the holding of the last regular meeting of the Synod, the members of the Diocesan Council shall continue in office for a further term provided that their status is otherwise in conformity with this Constitution and provided that no such continuation occur twice in succession.**

Motion carried in all three orders, voting separately.

## **EUCHARIST**

Synod suspended its business in order to share in a Eucharist led by the Right Reverend David Edwards and assisted by the Reverend Deacon Barabara Haire, Mr. Chuck Steeves, Mrs. Cleo Cyr and Dean Geoffrey Hall. The music was provided by Ms. Alice Boyd.

## **BISHOP'S CHARGE**

The Bishop delivered his charge to the 134<sup>th</sup> Session of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton following the Eucharist. Copies were made available to all those gathered. An electronic copy is also available on the Diocesan website.

## **BREAK-OUT SESSION**

Synod members broke into groups to discuss a number of questions provided to them. The results of these discussions were then given to the Secretary of Synod.

## **LUNCH**

Following the Break-out session, Synod members gathered for lunch prepared by the members of Christ Church (Parish) Church.

## **SYNOD RECONVENES**

Order was called at 1:00 p.m. with an update from the Credentials Committee. There were now 75 clergy members (out of 116) and 198 lay members (out of 232) registered for a total of 273 members of Synod present. With the 18 guests, this gave a total attendance of 291.

### **OFFERING AT EUCHARIST**

The Bishop was very pleased that the offering at the Eucharist totalled \$6519. These funds will be remitted to the Caring for Colin fundraiser. The Reverend Jasmine Chandra spoke on making November 15<sup>th</sup> Caring for Colin Sunday and asked parishes to plan events.

This fundraiser is to help Colin Ranson, the son of the Reverend Paul Ranson and his wife Kimberly, who suffers with Hypothalamic Hamartoma, due to Pallister-Hall Syndrome. They hope to be able to bring Colin to Texas for brain surgery in the spring.

### **SECOND BREAK-OUT SESSION**

Synod members broke into Archdeaconry groups with a number of questions to discuss. Once again, the full results of these discussions were given to the Secretary of Synod. However, the following presented a brief summary to Synod on behalf of their respective Archdeaconeries.

Kingston and the Kennebecasis - Cleo Cyr  
Chatham - Siobhan Laskey  
Saint John - Deborah Collicott  
Moncton - Chuck Steeves  
Fredericton - Ben Mersereau  
Woodstock - The Rev'd Dana Dean  
St Andrew's - The Rev'd Canon Keith Osborne

### **BISHOP'S RESPONSE TO ARCHDEACONRY REPORTS**

The Bishop expressed his thanks to everyone for their participation in the Break-Out Sessions. He recognizes there is a sense of fear around the Diocese that we are falling apart and we don't know what to do about it. However, in quoting Franklin Delano Roosevelt, he reminded members we have nothing to fear but fear itself. The Bishop indicated *faith* is spelled R-I-S-K. He will support risk. We have to take risks because what we have been doing doesn't hit the mark. It is ok to be safe but we need risk to be part of our journey. After all, God took a risk by being born and took risks for the whole time He was on earth in order to show us the way. He closed his comments with the reminder that whenever angels appear in Scripture, they say "Fear not!"

### **ELECTION OF BISHOPS**

**Motion 134-11** – George O'Donnell / Mark Moir

**That the Diocesan Council give consideration to change the procedure for the election of a Bishop, granting each candidate five to ten minutes to introduce themselves.**

**Amendment 134-01** - The Reverend Michael Caines / The Reverend Chris McMullen

**That the Diocesan Council give consideration to change the procedure for the election of a Bishop, granting Synod delegates opportunities to get to know the candidates.**

The amendment was defeated by a count of 77 yeas and 154 nays.

A number of comments were made recognizing the importance of knowing any candidate for the Episcopacy, but an even playing field must be ensured. At the present time, all candidates are given a number of questions and the answers are distributed to Synod delegates.

**Amendment 134-02** - Jim Morell / The Reverend Douglas Painter  
**That the Diocesan Council give consideration to change the procedure for the election of a Bishop. (*Removing everything afterwards*).**

The amendment was carried.

The motion (134-11), as amended, was carried.

### **PROVINCIAL AND GENERAL SYNODS ELECTION RESULTS**

The Chair of the Nominating Committee announced the results as follows:

Provincial Synod:

Clergy: The Rev'd Canon Albert Snelgrove  
The Rev'd David Turner  
The Rev'd Deacon Edward Quann, alternate  
The Rev'd Bob LeBlanc, alternate

Laity: Shara Golden  
Rick Haddad  
Anne Walling, alternate  
James McKenna, alternate

Youth: Rachel Barrett  
Dylan Nicoll, alternate

General Synod:

Clergy: The Rev'd Chris Vanbuskirk  
The Rev'd Mary Anne Langmaid  
The Ven. Robert Marsh  
The Rev'd Greg McMullin, alternate  
The Rev'd Canon Leo Martin, alternate\*  
The Rev'd David Turner, alternate\*

Laity: Shara Golden  
Don Adams  
Rick Haddad  
Siobhan Laskey, alternate  
Gil Carter, alternate  
Nancy Stephens, alternate

Youth: Rachel Barrett  
Dylan Nicoll, alternate

\* There was a tie for votes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> alternate in clergy delegates for General Synod. According to Diocesan Canons, such a tie will be broken by Diocesan Council at its first meeting.

### **DESTRUCTION OF BALLOTS**

**Motion 134-12** – The Reverend Deacon Ann Fairweather / The Reverend Deacon Edward Quann

**That the ballots for these elections be destroyed.**

Motion carried.

### **COMMENTS FROM ECUMENICAL GUESTS**

The Reverends Lidvald Haugen-Strand (ELC) and Jane Johnson (UCC) took turns expressing their thanks for the invitation and welcome to this Session of Diocesan Synod. Both recognized the importance of Bishop Edwards' Charge adding that the conversations and relationships are extending beyond denominational lines. They echoed the need to show Christ outside worship buildings and into the rest of our lives where we co-habitate.

### **GREETINGS OF SYNOD**

**Motion 134-13** – The Reverend Canon Ross Hebb / The Reverend Chris Vanbuskirk

**That the greetings of the 134<sup>th</sup> Session of Diocesan Synod be extended to:**

- 1. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, through her representative in Canada, His Excellency, the Governor-General, the Right Honourable David Johnston and the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, the customary expression of its loyalty and affection.**
- 2. Our prime Minister, the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau and our Premier, the Honourable Brian Gallant.**
- 3. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev'd Justin Welby.**
- 4. To our Primate, the Most Rev'd Fred Hiltz.**
- 5. To our Metropolitan, the Most Rev'd Percy Coffin.**
- 6. To our former Diocesan Bishops, the Most Rev'd Harold Nutter, the Rt. Rev'd George Lemmon, the Rt. Rev'd William Hockin, the Most Rev'd Claude Miller and to their spouses, Mrs. Edith Nutter, Mrs. Lois Lemmon, Mrs. Isabelle Hockin and Mrs. Sharon Miller.**

Motion carried.

### **THANKS**

The Reverend Canon Ross Hebb extended the following thanks on behalf of this Synod gathering:

- Diocesan Staff.
- All volunteers, including the Rector and members of Christ Church (Parish) Church.
- All delegates who attended the 134<sup>th</sup> Session of Diocesan Synod.
- The Right Reverend David Edwards for his leadership.

### **BISHOPS CLOSING REMARKS**

The Bishop echoed the thanks of Synod, especially to the members of the Diocesan Office who have been on a sharp learning curve. He also was pleased to announce that as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, the Diocesan Shared Ministry Budget had received more than 100% of the amount requested. Finally, he gave his assent to all resolutions of the 134<sup>th</sup> Synod.

### **EVALUATION**

Evaluation forms will be sent electronically or a paper copy completed before leaving.

### **DISMISSAL**

The Bishop closed this session of Diocesan Synod by asking everyone to hold hands and to exchange the words of the Grace to each other.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion 134-14** - Shawn Branch

**That this 134<sup>th</sup> Session of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton be adjourned.**

Motion carried.

Time: 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

The Venerable Cathy Laskey  
Secretary of Synod

The Right Reverend David Edwards  
Bishop of Fredericton

The Reverend Canon Leo Martin  
Recording Secretary