



# THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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**Adopted 4 November 2017**

## **MINUTES OF THE 135<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON**

5 November 2016

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

### **THEME:**

Walk the walk

The 135<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 9:00 a.m. and opened the session with prayers. He offered a word of welcome to all gathered.

### **REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

The Bishop reported he had been advised by the Credentials Committee that, as of 8:55 a.m., the number of delegates registered was as follows:

Clergy: 65 registered out of a possible 75

Lay: 178 registered out of a possible 234

Quorum was declared and the 135<sup>th</sup> Session of Diocesan Synod officially opened.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion 135-01** - The Ven. Cathy Laskey / Neville Sloane

**That the agenda be approved as presented.**

Motion carried.

### **APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING SECRETARY**

**Motion 135-02** - The Ven. Cathy Laskey / The Rev'd Bob LeBlanc

**That the Reverend Canon Leo Martin be appointed Recording Secretary for this Session of Synod.**

Motion carried.

### **REGRETS**

The Reverend Canon David Barrett

The Reverend Kevin Borthwick

The Reverend Greg Frazer

The Reverend John Harvey  
The Right Reverend Bill Hockin  
The Reverend Canon Richard McConnell  
The Reverend Joyce Perry  
The Reverend Paul Ranson

### **INTRODUCTION OF THE HEAD TABLE**

The Bishop called on the Vice Chair to introduce those sitting at the head table:

The Very Reverend Geoffrey Hall, Dean of Christ Church Cathedral  
David Bell, Chancellor of the Diocese  
The Right Reverend David Edwards, Bishop of the Diocese  
The Venerable Cathy Laskey, Executive Assistant of the Bishop  
The Reverend Canon Leo Martin, Recording Secretary for this Synod  
Sandra Craft, Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council  
Kelly VanBuskirk, QC, Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Venerable Cathy Laskey gave a number of housekeeping details:

- Gave the particulars of the building such as exits and washrooms.
- Invited people to visit the different displays.
- First responders were introduced.
- Quiet places for prayer were identified.
- Further information was provided with the Registration Package.

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

Ben Bourque – Financial and Administrative Assistant  
Tim Chase  
The Reverend Bruce Glencross  
Armin Hackelsperger  
Cheryl Jacobs - Bishop's Secretary and Chair, Diocesan Spiritual Team  
Colin McDonald - Director of Youth and Intergenerational Ministries  
Gisele McKnight - Communications Officer  
Maren McLean Persaud - Camp Medley Director  
Rob Montgomery  
Jennifer Ramsay  
Margaret Ann Reid

The Chairs of the Sessional Committees:

Synod Planning Chair	Sandra Craft
Agenda Committee	The Venerable Cathy Laskey
Communications Committee	Gisele McKnight and Dorothy Shephard
Credentials Committee	Cheryl Jacobs
Hospitality Committee	Carol Blacklock and Geneva Anderson
Nominating Committee	The Rev'd Ann Fairweather and Frank Morehouse
Resolutions Committee	David Bell
Technical Support Committee	David Wilson and Peter Jacobs
Worship and Music Committee	The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall and the Rev'd Paul Ranson

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

**Motion 135-03** - The Rev'd Canon Bonnie LeBlanc / The Rev'd Rob Langmaid

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

Motion carried.

**WEST SIDE ANGLICAN MISSION**

**Motion 135-04** - Veronica Locke / The Rev'd Bob LeBlanc

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

Motion carried.

**CLERGY RETIREMENTS 2016**

The Rev'd Capt. Dana Dean - Oct. 1

The Rev'd Gordon Thompson - Nov. 30

The Rev'd Peter Gillies - Dec. 31

The retiring clergy were recognized by applause.

**CLERGY ANNIVERSARIES 2016**

The Ven. Thomas Crowther	60 years Deacon	May 10
The Ven. Arthur Gregg	50 years Priest	May 29
The Rev'd Canon Wally Corey	45 years Deacon	May 30
The Rev'd Dr. David Mercer	45 years Deacon	July 25
The Rev'd R. Keith Howlett	40 years Priest	January 25
The Rev'd Canon David Kierstead	40 years Priest	January 25
The Rev'd Terrance Doncaster	40 years Priest	October 26
The Rev'd Canon Alvin Westgate	40 years Priest	October 26
The Rev'd Canon David Staples	40 years Deacon	June 9
The Rev'd Paul McCracken	40 years Deacon	September 29
The Rev'd Barry Cohen-Thorley	40 years Deacon	November 30
The Ven. John Matheson	35 years Priest	June 24
The Rev'd Dr. Lee Whitney	35 years Priest	December 14
The Rev'd Eric Caldwell	35 years Deacon	February 9
The Rev'd Brenda McKnight	35 years Deacon	May 10
The Rev'd John Cooper	35 years Deacon	August 24
The Rev'd Canon Elaine Hamilton	35 years Deacon	September 20
The Rev'd Kevin Borthwick	30 years Priest	June 26
The Rev'd Canon David Barrett	30 years Priest	June 29
The Rev'd Wally Collett	30 years Priest	June 29
The Rev'd Philip Pain	30 years Priest	December 14
The Rev'd Greg Frazer	30 years Deacon	May 25
The Rev'd Robert Barry	30 years Deacon	June 26
The Rev'd Canon Neville Cheeseman	30 years Deacon	June 29
The Rev'd Dr. John Paul Westin	30 years Deacon	September 19
The Rev'd Gregory McMullin	30 years Deacon	September 29
The Rev'd Francene Bedell	30 years Deacon	December 6
The Rev'd Canon Patricia Craig	25 years Priest	June 16
The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall	25 years Priest	June 16
The Rev'd Canon Bruce McKenna	25 years Priest	June 16
The Rev'd William Morton	25 years Priest	June 16
The Rev'd Gordon Thompson	25 years Priest	June 16
The Rev'd Canon Howard Anningson	25 years Priest	September 29

The Rev'd Dr. Ranall Ingalls	25 years Priest	September 29
The Rev'd Arnold Godsoe	25 years Deacon	May 26
The Rev'd Canon Keith Osborne	25 years Deacon	June 23
The Rev'd Eric Phinney	25 years Deacon	June 23
The Rev'd Jane Arnott	25 years Deacon	October 22
The Rev'd Terence Chandra	10 years Priest	June 29
The Ven. Cathy Laskey	10 years Priest	November 29
The Ven. Cathy Laskey	10 years Deacon	May 31
The Rev'd Constance Whittaker-Soulikias	10 years Deacon	June 11
The Rev'd Joyce Perry	10 years Deacon	June 13

The Bishop offered a prayer of thanksgiving for clergy who were retiring and those celebrating significant anniversaries this year.

### **NEW CLERGY**

The Rev'd David Alston  
The Rev'd Brenda Fowler  
The Rev'd Robert Langmaid  
The Rev'd Kevin McAllister  
The Rev'd Daniel McMullen  
The Rev'd Neil Osiowy  
The Rev'd David Peer  
The Rev'd Dr. John Simons

### **REVIEW OF THE RULES OF ORDER AND DECORUM**

The Chancellor reminded Synod the Responsibilities of all members, as well as the Rules of Order and Procedure could be found on pages 4 to 11 of Section A of the Covening Circular.

He noted speakers would be limited to two minutes.

Anyone wishing to place a motion before Synod needs to go through the Resolutions Committee before 9:45 a.m. The intent is not to censure the motion but rather to make sure everything is in order and that the motion states what it wants to say. The last reminder is that Synod is gathered to deal with the temporal matters of the Diocese.

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

The Bishop called on the Rev'd Ann Fairweather to explain the procedures regarding nominations for the election of Provincial and General Synod delegates. She reminded members of Synod ballots were colour coded and included in the registration package, including a brief comment from each nominee indicating why they allowed their name to be put forward in nomination. It was reiterated that nominations from the floor must be for a delegate or alternate for this Synod and that youth nominees must be under 26 at the next General or Provincial Synod. Lastly, it was noted that when we are notified as to the number of delegates we are allowed to send to General Synod, these would be named according to the number of votes they received at this Diocesan Synod. The ballot box will close at 1:05 p.m.

After calling for further nominations for clergy, lay and youth delegates, the final list of nominees was as follows:

General Synod:

Clergy: The Very Reverend Geoffrey Hall  
The Reverend Gerald Laskey  
The Reverend Robert LeBlanc  
The Reverend Christian Persaud  
The Ven. Robert Marsh  
Lay: Mr. Gilbert Carter  
Mr. Eugene Price  
Mr. Richard Walsh  
Mr. Peter Irish  
Youth: Mr. Nathaniel Fetter

Provincial Synod:

Clergy: The Reverend Canon Bonnie LeBlanc  
The Reverend Robert LeBlanc  
The Reverend Christian Persaud  
The Reverend Ted Quann  
The Reverend Eileen Irish  
Lay: David Lankenau  
Robert Taylor  
Jason Smith  
James McKenna  
Youth: Chase McLean  
Dylan Nicoll  
Colton Scott  
Joe Woytiuk

**MINUTES**

**Motion 135-05** – Donald Thompson / The Rev'd Ann Fairweather  
**That the minutes of the 134<sup>th</sup> Session of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton be adopted as circulated (Section C, pages 1-11)**  
Motion carried.

**STATUS OF RESOLUTIONS – 134<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF SYNOD**

**Motion 135-07** – Nancy Wiggins / Neville Sloane  
**That the report on the Status of Resolutions of the 134<sup>th</sup> Session of the Diocesan of Fredericton (Section C, page 12) be approved as circulated.**  
Motion carried.

**MORNING PRAYER**

The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall led Morning Prayer, assisted by the Rev'd Bob LeBlanc in the musical ministry.

**BISHOP'S CHARGE**

The Bishop offered his charge to those gathered for this Synod. Copies were made available to those present. An electronic copy will be made available on the Diocesan website on Monday.

**BREAK**

The Bishop called for a break and asked members to return within 10 minutes. Synod was called back to order at 10:55 a.m.

**DIOCESAN OFFICER REPORTS AND DIOCESAN COUNCIL REPORT**

**Motion 135-08** – Sandra Craft / The Ven Cathy Laskey

**That this Synod receive the Diocesan Officer Reports and the Diocesan Council Report.**

Motion carried.

**REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Motion 135-09** – Irene Adams / Gil Carter

**That this Synod receive the Diocesan Review Engagement Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015.**

Motion Carried.

**LEGISLATIVE CHANGES - THE CONSTITUTION**

**Motion 135-10** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall

**That Synod approve the Constitution of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton as amended.**

Comments:

The Chancellor gave a brief introduction reminding Synod no changes had been made to the Constitution in 13 years. The proposed changes are intended to renew Synod by making it smaller, younger and newer.

**AMENDMENT 135-01** - The Rev'd Gerry Laskey / The Rev'd Sandy MacPherson

**That Motion 135-10 be amended:**

**(a) In subsection 4(2) as follows:**

**4(2) The voting members of each parish in the Diocese may elect up to two three lay delegates to members of the Synod but, where at least one of the persons elected is between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five years at the time of the election, they may elect up to three four lay delegates.**

**(b) In subsection 4(3) as follows:**

**4(3) The voting members of each parish in the Diocese may elect up to two three substitute lay delegates to the Synod.**

**(c) In subsection 4(4) as follows:**

**The voting members of the Cathedral of Christ Church in the City of Fredericton may be entitled to elect up to two three lay delegates to members of the Synod but, where at least one of the persons elected is between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five years at the time of the election, they may elect up to three four lay delegates, and up to four substitutes in accordance with this section.**

**(d) In subsection 4(7.1) by replacing the word "three" appearing therein with the word "four".**

**(e) In subsection 4(8.1) by replacing the word "two" appearing therein with the word "three".**

Comments:

A feeling the original motion penalizes rural or out of the way parishes because their youth members have left the area for larger centres. (Pro)  
There are fewer people to draw from in the parishes so it is difficult to find delegates. (Against)

A suggestion was made to raise the age of a youth member. *A clarification was offered on this point stating that the age of youth was proposed at 25 in order to meet the definition of youth as stated in the General and Provincial Synod Constitutions.*

There was a question on 4(3) since it reads the same as in the original motion. *A clarification was offered that in the original motion 'up to three' includes the bonus delegate.*

Before the vote, the Bishop reminded Synod that in the case of amendments, a simple majority of those present is needed.

Amendment Defeated

**AMENDMENT 135-02** - The Rev'd Chris VanBuskirk / Kelly  
VanBuskirk (the younger present)

**That Part (iii) of the proposed definition of "voting member" as found in:**

**(a) Motion 2016-01 in section 2 of the Constitution**  
**(b) Motion 2016-02 in section 1 of Canon One; and**  
**Part (c) of the proposed definition of "voting member" as found in:**  
**(c) Motion 2016-07 in section 2(10) of Canon Six**  
**be amended by retaining the existing as follows:**

**"...are regular contributors, financial and otherwise, to the mission of the parish during the previous year."**

Amendment Carried: 122 votes in favour/106 votes against

Further comments on Original motion:

The Chancellor drew attention to other proposed changes which included 'mission districts' and the ability of the Bishop to invite someone else to preside over Synod.

Other comments:

Why can't mission districts simply be called parishes?

A mission is a community of worshippers not supported by a parish

Parishes are legal entities as Corporations

Some parishes that have closed are not geographically appended to existing parishes

There seems to be dual definitions of parishes - legal versus practical

Are we extending voting privileges to a group of people who are not constituted as a corporation? *Answer was yes.*

If it is not a corporation, how does it affect the temporal affairs of Synod?

**AMENDMENT 135-03** - The Rev'd Chris VanBuskirk / Cheryl Reid

**That the age of a youth delegate as referred to in the Constitution be changed from sixteen to twenty-five years to sixteen to thirty-five years.**

Amendment Carried: 138 votes in favour/118 votes against

Motion 135-10 (The Constituion) Carried as amended

Laity: 165 votes in favour / 5 votes against

Clergy: 56 votes in favour / 5 against

### **LUNCH**

The Bishop offered a prayer of thanksgiving for lunch

### **SYNOD RECONVENES**

Order was called at 1:00 p.m. with song and prayer. An update from the Credentials Committee stated that as of 12:45 p.m., there were 74 clergy members(out of 125) and 203 lay members(out of 234) registered.

### **GREETINGS TO DIOCESE OF ONTARIO**

**Motion 135-11** - Siobhan Laskey / The Rev'd Brenda McKnight

**That this Synod send its greetings to the Right Reverend Michael Oulton and the Diocesan Synod of Ontario which is also meeting today.**

Motion Carried.

### **LEGISLATIVE CHANGES - CANON ONE - DEFINITIONS**

**Motion 135-12** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall

**That Synod approves Canon One as amended.**

The Chancellor indicated proposed changes would help define regular, special and electoral synods. As well, the word 'minister' would be extended to include lay members in positions of leadership

Comment:

The definition of mission district will appear in the Anglican Church Act.

Motion carried

Laity: 189 votes in favour / no votes against

Clergy: 62 votes in favour / no votes against

### **LEGISLATIVE CHANGE - CANON TWO - BUSINESS OF SYNOD**

**Motion 135-13** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall

**That Synod approves Canon Two as amended.**

The Chancellor noted these proposed changes would clarify procedure, the chair's directions on voting, the election of delegates of General and Provincial Synods as well as imposing term limits on delegates.

A question was raised regarding a vacancy caused by the departure of a delegate or the fact that the delegate may no longer be a member of Diocesan Synod at

the time of a General or Provincial Synod. *The Vice Chancellor pointed to section 13 of the same Canon as an answer.*

**AMENDMENT 135-04** - The Rev'd Canon Walter Williams / The  
Rev'd Chris Ketch

**That the election of General and Provincial Synods should be elected at the Diocesan Synod immediately preceding the General or Provincial Synod.**

Comments:

It has the assumption we will have another Diocesan Synod before the next Provincial or General Synods

What happens if an emergency session of General or Provincial Synods is called?

The mover and seconder of the amendment agreed to withdraw the amendment at this time in order to allow the Chancellor and Council to study the matter.

Motion carried

Laity: 190 votes in favour / no votes against

Clergy: 56 votes in favour / 1 vote against

#### **LEGISLATIVE CHANGE - CANON THREE - ELECTION OF BISHOPS**

**Motion 135-14** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall

**That Synod approve Canon Three as amended.**

The Chancellor said the proposed changes would provide for a collegial procedure for filling the office of Assistant Bishop. The Chancellor and Dean gave an explanation on the role of Assistant Bishop.

**AMENDMENT 135-05** - The Rev'd Chris VanBuskirk / Kelly  
VanBuskirk (the younger present)

**That motion 2016-04 be amended:**

**(a) In subsection 16(1) as follows:**

**16(1) The Bishop may, with approval of the ~~Diocesan Council~~ by a two-thirds majority of both clergy and lay delegates ~~members~~ voting at Synod appoint a bishop of the Church or aof a church in full communion with the Church to be an Assistant Bishop.**

**(b) In subsection 16(2) be deleting the same and by renumbering the remaining proposed subsections of section 16 as follows:**

**~~16(2) The Diocesan Council shall not adopt the resolution provided for in subsection (1) unless notice of intention to propose the resolution has been given in the notice of meeting at which it is to be considered.~~**

**16(32) An Assistant Bishop holds office at the pleasure of the Bishop and ceases to hold office when the Bishop who appointed the Assistant Bishop ceases to be diocesan Bishop.**

**16(43) An Assistant Bishop shall perform such diocesan duties and exercise such episcopal functions as the Bishop assigns.  
16 (54) Sections 11, 12 and 14 of this Canon apply to an Assistant Bishop mutatis mutandis.**

Amendment Defeated: 44 votes in favour / 194 votes against

Motion carried

Laity: 172 votes in favour / 7 votes against

Clergy: 56 votes in favour / 8 votes against

#### **LEGISLATIVE CHANGE - CANON FOUR - DIOCESAN GOVERNANCE**

**Motion 135-15** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall

**That Synod approve Canon Four as amended.**

The Chancellor noted the proposed changes refines the provisions for Diocesan Council to declare the Bishop incapacitated. Therefore allowing the Council to appoint a temporary administrator other than the Commissary or even to declare the See of Fredericton vacant if the incapacitation is permanent. The changes also give Diocesan Council a procedure to meet without being called by the Bishop.

Comments

As a point of clarification, it was noted Diocesan Council would need a quorum in order to meet and make a decision and that a vote on incapacitation would require 2/3 of those present.

A friendly amendment was accepted in 5(3) adding the word 'the' in front of cure.

The Chancellor added the proposed changes allows Diocesan Council to do business electronically when needed as well as providing conflict of interest safeguards for its membership.

Motion carried

Laity: 186 votes in favour / 1 vote against

Clergy: 57 votes in favour / no votes against

#### **LEGISLATIVE CHANGE - CANON FIVE - DIOCESAN BUSINESS**

**Motion 135-16** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall

**That Synod approve Canon Five as amended**

These proposed changes raises the ceiling of investment in stocks and bonds from 50% to 60%. It also expands the role of the Commissary in the absence of the Bishop.

The Chair of the Finance Committee spoke on the management philosophy of the DCIF. Six years ago, 64% of income came from fixed investments; however, due to changes in the financial world, the Plan Supervisor advises and feels confident it would be prudent to raise the maximum on the stocks and bonds.

A concern was noted on the risk factor of such investments.

Motion carried

Laity: 182 votes in favour / 3 votes against

Clergy: 53 votes in favour / 1 vote against

### **LEGISLATIVE CHANGE - CANON SIX - PARISH GOVERNANCE**

**Motion 135-17** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall  
**That Synod approve Canon Six as amended.**

The Chancellor noted the proposed changes give provisions against conflict of interest in the Corporation; it also prohibits having two signing officers in the same household, and requires the incumbent and wardens to meet as least once every quarter to discuss the progress of the parish.

Canon Six would be subject to previous amendments.

Motion carried

Laity: 189 votes in favour / 1 vote against

Clergy: 51 votes in favour / no votes against

### **LEGISLATIVE CHANGE - CANON SEVEN - THE CLERGY**

**Motion 135-18** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall  
**That Synod approve Canon Seven as amended.**

The Chancellor noted the proposed changes would allow the Bishop to appoint layreaders as incumbents in charge of a parish as well as extending the provisions of the rector to other incumbents.

Motion carried

Laity: 192 votes in favour / no votes against

Clergy: 63 votes in favour / no votes against

### **REPORT OF THE EPISCOPAL ELECTIONS TASK GROUP**

**Motion 135-19** - The Rev'd Fran Bedell / The Ven cathy Laskey  
**That Synod receive the Episcopal Elections Task Group report and recommendations and refer them to the Diocesan Council for consideration.**

Motion Carried.

### **ANGLICAN CHURCH ACT, 2003**

**Motion 135-20** - Sandra Craft / The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall  
**That the Synod petition the NB Legislature to amend the Anglican Church Act 2003.**

The Chancellor indicated these changes would allow for incumbencies to be more inclusive in its wording, including both lay and ordained ministers appointed to parishes. It allows non-Rectors to be members of the Parish Corporation. Other changes would include a definition for 'mission districts', a recognition that smaller parishes might need assistance in continuing formalities, that Diocesan Council may dissolve a parish at its own request, confirms the basis of investments in the DCIF and clarifies the language of section 8.

The Chancellor also disclosed that since this motion has financial implications, the Treasurer has made provisions in the 2017 budget to cover the costs. Costs would include translation and advertisement since this document is an Act of the New Brunswick Legislature.

Motion carried with 1 nay vote.

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

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

#### Provincial Synod:

Clergy:	The Reverend Christian Persaud The Reverend Ted Quann The Reverend Canon Bonnie LeBlanc The Reverend Eileen Irish
Laity:	Mr. David Lankenau Mr. Robert Taylor Mr. Jason Smith Mr. James McKenna
Youth:	Mr. Chase McLean Mr. Dylan Nicoll

#### General Synod:

Clergy:	The Venerable Rob Marsh The Very Reverend Geoffrey Hall The Reverend Christian Persaud The Reverend Gerry Laskey The Reverend Bob LeBlanc
Laity:	Mr. Gilbert Carter Mr. Richard Walsh Mr. Peter Irish Mr. Eugene Price
Youth:	Mr. Nathaniel Fetter, acclaimed

### **DESTRUCTION OF BALLOTS**

**Motion 135-21** – Neville Sloane / Anne Walling

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

Motion carried.

### **QUESTION OF CLARIFICATION**

A question was raised asking whether only one delegate could be youth. The Chancellor indicated there was no ceiling on the number of youth delegates, up to three.

### **GREETINGS OF SYNOD**

**Motion 135-22** – Neville Sloane / Robert Taylor

**That the greetings of the 135<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, the**

**Honourable 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.**

**7. To our Companion Diocese, The Diocese of Ho and their bishop, The Rt. Rev. Bishop Medadues-Badohu Matthias.**

**8. To our Partner Diocese, The Diocese of the Yukon and their bishop, The Rt. Rev. Larry Robertson**

Motion carried.

### **THANKS**

Coralie Losier extended thanks on behalf of all members of this 135<sup>th</sup> Session of Diocesan Synod to the following people:

- Diocesan Synod Staff, Diocesan Council Members, Committee and Team Chairs, Synod Planning and Sessional Committees
- All volunteers, who encompass many, to make this day happen, including the Rector and the members of Christ Church (Parish) Church
- Our Chancellor who worked tirelessly in preparing all the legislative aspects of today's work.
- All officers and members of this 135th Session of Diocesan Synod and for your willingness to carry on the work begun today.
- To our bishop for his leadership. For his focus on Jesus and desire for all to be disciples of the Lord, sharing in God's mission.
- For the many blessings God has given to us as a Diocesan Family.

### **RESPONSE TO THE BISHOP'S CHARGE**

Jamie Yeamans responded to the Bishop's Charge with thanks for the opportunity to do so. He also invited all members to look at the 2015 charge and to look at the 2016 Charge as Part 2. He made three points:

1. Everything is Christ centered and need to go back to Jesus, including the business of this meeting.
2. Prayer is a continuous growth process and we constantly need to learn how to pray.
3. We need to take the time to check in and reflect on how we are doing.

He noted the Bishop named a number of initiatives in the Diocese which calls us to look outwardly rather than inwardly at ourselves.

### **EVALUATION INFORMATION**

The Venerable Cathy Laskey indicated that while we did not get a chance to go into the breakout groups, the questions have been made available to the Archdeaconeries and she invites Greater Chapters to discuss them.

She also reminded all Synod members they will be receiving an evaluation form electronically. Everyone is encouraged to fill it out as soon as possible.

### **BISHOPS CLOSING REMARKS**

The Bishop expressed his gratitude to all those who were present for this 135<sup>th</sup> Session of Diocesan Synod. He especially offered his thanks to the Chancellor for all his work on the legislation of the Diocese.

He looks forward to going around the Diocese to continue meeting as many people as he can.

He approves all the work that was done at this Synod.

Lastly, he announced the retirement of the Venerable Richard Steeves. Synod responded with applause.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**135-23** - Don Thompson

**That this 135<sup>th</sup> Session of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton be adjourned.**

Motion carried.

### **EVENING PRAYER**

The Very Rev'd Geoffrey Hall led Evening Prayer assisted by the Rev'd Bob LeBlanc in musical leadership.

Time: 3:20 p.m.

The Venerable Cathy Laskey  
Secretary of Synod

The Right Reverend David Edwards  
Bishop of Fredericton

The Reverend Canon Leo Martin  
Recording Secretary