

**SYNOD COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, 23 June, 2015  
CHRIST CHURCH, CATARAQUI  
6:00 P.M.**

**Opening Devotions:** Rev Michael Rice led opening devotions with intercessions from the Book of Alternative Services.

**Present:** Bishop Michael Oulton, Wayne Varley, Heather Grimshaw, Christine Downey, Ken Healy, Doug Green, Brad Smith, Mike Rice, Alex Pierson, Peter Bunn, Haroldine Neil-Burchert, Audrey Doliszny, Haynes Hubbard, Brenda Hobbs, John Secker, Sharon Dunlop, Roy Conacher, Eleanor Rogers, Charles Morris.

**Regrets:** Dean Mary Irwin-Gibson, Valerie Kelly,

**Guests:** Peter Case, Michael Read

**Action Required by  
Synod Council**

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**Agenda Review and Adoption**

Brad Smith questioned if the Task Force noted in paragraph 3 of Camp Hyanto (Minutes of 26 May 2015) should have been on the agenda for June 23.

**MOTION:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Agenda be accepted to include Task Force as mentioned.

**B Smith / P Bunn**

**CARRIED**

**Chair's Remarks:**

- Bishop Oulton officially extended congratulations to Dean Mary Irwin-Gibson on her election as Bishop of Diocese of Montreal. Consecration will be held at the Cathedral in Montreal on September 29 at 7:00pm. The Parish Advisory Committee (PAC) is in place and have begun their meetings. A farewell will be held for Dean Mary on Aug 9 at St. George's after the 10:30am service. Dean Mary's last service to preach at St. George's Cathedral will be Aug 16. Bishop Oulton expressed thanks for her six years in the Diocese; she has brought a great deal of care, love, and deep spirit to the Diocese. The people of Montreal will be blessed.
- Bishop Oulton visited Canon Chris Carr today and took the sacraments. Chris is currently in palliative care, is comfortable but failing. Prayers are continued for him and the whole family
- Vacancies: Bishop Oulton advised that Rev Tim Kuhlmann of the Parish of Land O Lakes will be finishing at the end of June; and Rev Barbara Robinson of St. Paul's Brockville will be leaving the parish at the end of July. Interim Priests will be announced in July. Ven Brad Smith deconsecrated the church in Ompah on Sun June 21.

**Approval of Minutes of May 26, 2015**

**MOTION:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes of 26 May 2015 be accepted as presented.

**E Rogers/H Neil-Burchert**

**CARRIED**

Question was raised re Camp Hyanto report in Minutes (Camp Hyanto, paragraph 3) re deficit. Alex Pierson advised the goal was to cut the deficit in half.

Peter Bunn requested that Minutes from June 23, 2015 meeting be circulated from Diocesan Office earlier than just prior to September 2015 meeting.

**Business Arising –**

**Parish of St. Lawrence, Brockville**

**Wayne Varley**

Wayne Varley advised of the application made from the Parish of St. Lawrence, Brockville, to the Anglican Foundation and presented the following resolution:

**Motion:**

**B Smith/C Morris**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Synod Council approve the application to the Anglican Foundation of Canada from the Parish of St. Lawrence, Brockville for a grant of \$15,000 in support of the installation of an accessibility ramp in the church facility.**

**CARRIED**

**Covenant Celebration Team**

**Christine Downey**

No report at this time

**Finance Committee**

**Alex Pierson**

**Unaudited Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Surplus to May 21, 2015**

Most items are in line with this time of year; mainly on track. Receivable slightly up from last year. Incoming cash flow is about \$45,000 less from last year.

Alex spoke to the **2016 Budget Development** brochure covering Objectives, Regional Sessions that were held June 2, 2015 (some concern over lack of greater attendance from churches), Objectives of Regional Meetings and Key Topics in all 3 Sessions.

A key message and common theme seems to be for the Diocese to provide Facilitation, and Connection; a Conversational and Relational role for Diocese and Parishes; a need to focus and align with the Ministry Task Force; and a need to be Engaged and Involved.

The Diocesan Centre, Church Bookroom, Camp Hyanto, Cathedral, Wider Church were detailed individually of likes, dislikes, connections and concerns, alternatives, and sharing and understanding.

A Chosen Topic from each Deanery was **Parish Covenants**; there was clear support but with governance and process to be put in place.

**Children, Youth and Young Families** was another chosen topic; a reminder that this was a key part of the Ministry Task Force report. There is a need to reach out through choirs, sports teams and other means, with an opportunity and need for Social Media – or is there, as expressed as another view point by council.

**Ministry to Seniors and Retired** and **Community Engagement** (community engagement with the City) was noted. Strong support was recorded for **Communications**.

Further topics were **Alternate Income/Revenue Sources, Stewardship & Congregational Development**.

Alex Pierson continued to review the Revenue and Expense Inputs, a Very Preliminary view, showing the requests through income and expenditures on a graph, the result being approx \$300,000 shortfall.

Discussion then led into the budget process and what route we can take to enable the Diocese to include and provide the variable programs; or where reductions need to take place. What is sustainable? Valuable funding suggestions were put forward by Council members, with comparisons and expertise. Lengthy discussion pursued. A number of constraints with the budget doesn't allow expenses toward the benefit of the parishes. Finance Committee requested that members complete the 2016 Budget Guidance circulated at the meeting. This feedback will enable Finance Committee to prioritize the budget and determine the scope, then develop budget proposal for September Synod Council meeting for next review and direction. Further Regional Budget consultation sessions will be in October 2015, for final approval of Budget by Synod Council at October or November meeting 2015.

The following is the result of feedback from Council, of the 2016 Budget Guidance were recorded:

Topic	Ranking (1-9)	Comments
Alternate Income/Rev Sources		Topic deleted
Communications	1	
Community Engagement	5	
Ministry to Children/Youth/ Young Families	6	
Ministry to Seniors & Retired People	7	
Social Justice & Action	8	
Stewardship & Congregational Dev	3	
Supporting Parish Covenants	4	
Training & Development	2	

Alex Pierson asked SC if we would entertain not running the Bookroom in 2016?  
 Would SC entertain removing the Bookroom from the budget in 2016?  
 Would SC be prepared to look at an option where we remove the amount we owe to National Church?  
 Do we remove the funds allowed for the Deacons for 2016?  
 Can we put some money in the budget to cover the expenses for Archdeacons?  
 These questions were given as "food for thought".

Alex closed with thanks to all and how valuable the discussion had been. Bishop Oulton expressed thanks to the Finance Committee for all the work and preparation.

### **Camp Hyanto Task Force**

To provide some options from a strategic point of view – a group is required to come together, separate from the Board, to discuss possible future options. Wayne Varley and Bishop Oulton will approach a group.

**Canons and Governance Committee**  
No report at this time

**Ken Healy**

**Consent Agenda** – nothing to report

**Other Business** – no other business

**Meeting Evaluation** – members were encouraged to fill out the evaluation form.

**Adjournment** – the meeting adjourned at 9:20pm with The Grace said by all.

**Date of Next Meeting:**      **Tuesday 22 September 2015, 6 pm**  
                                         **Christ Church, Cataraqui**  
                                         **Devotions: Christine Downey**

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**Bishop Michael Oulton**

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**Secretary**

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**Date**