

**DIOCESE OF ONTARIO  
 SYNOD COUNCIL  
 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015  
 CHRIST CHURCH, CATARAQUI  
 6:00 P.M.  
 MINUTES**

**Present:** Bishop Michael Oulton, Roy Conacher, Alex Pierson, Charles Morris, Haynes Hubbard, Brenda Hobbs, Peter Bunn, Ken Healey, Haroldine Neil-Burchert, Voila David, Eleanor Rogers, Wayne Varley, Doug Green, Audrey Doliszny, Michael Rice, Al Danford, John Secker, Valerie Kelly, Heather Grimshaw

**Regrets:** Sharon Dunlop

**Guests:** Trinity Parish parishioners and Incumbent, John vanStone

**Opening Devotions:**

**Wayne Varley**

Wayne opened with a Stewardship Prayer

**Agenda Review and Adoption**

**Bishop**

**Chair's Remarks**

**Bishop**

- Clergy Conference – will be held at Providence Spirituality Centre, Nov 3 & 4 - Day One: Harold Percy, Transformative Leadership; Day Two: Church in the Public Square with Rev. Laurette Glasgow & Bishop John Chapman (Ottawa)
- Bishop emeritus George Bruce, priest-in-charge at The Cathedral of St. George, is stepping down effective immediately due to health reasons but hopes to continue to serve on a very limited basis
- Resignation announced by Rev. John vanStone from Trinity Parish effective Nov 23/15; Rev. vanStone will continue to discern his future ministry and continues to be a priest in good standing in the Diocese
- Retirement of Rev. Karen Freake effective Jan 1, 2016 was announced
- Rev. Valerie Michaelson has accepted a position at Queen's University and will resign from St. James (Kingston) effective Dec 31, 2015

**Approval of Minutes September 22, 2015 Meeting**

**MOTION:**

**PBunn/HNeil-Burchert**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of 22 September 2015 be accepted as presented.**

**CARRIED**

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

- None

**New Ministry – Concept Presentation from Trinity Parish Team      John vanStone**

Rev. vanStone highlighted the history of Trinity Parish's amalgamation in 2003. The leadership team shared current ministry programs and funding proposals. They have a vision to partner with the broader community and the Diocese with the goal of establishing a physical place for outreach ministry. The Bishop thanked and congratulated Rev. vanStone on his ministry in the past and present. Congratulations were extended by a member of the Covenant Celebration Team, Chancellor Roy Conacher, as this highlights the intention of the Covenant itself. The Parish Leadership Team feels quite confident in the future of this ministry despite the resignation of Rev. vanStone.

**Reflections and Impressions from Provincial Synod Delegates**

- Former Diocesan Vice-Chancellor, Jean Bedard, was appointed Chancellor of Provincial Synod
- Youth representative Voila David was elected as youth rep to Provincial Synod in 2018
- A rewarding and informative experience; leadership is impressive; enthusiasm and dedication of members of Provincial Synod acknowledged
- A considerable amount of work is achieved between Synods
- Voila expressed great enthusiasm for the entire experience remarking on the refurbished St. Paul's Bloor St. (Toronto) being analogous to the composition of the Synod delegate body
- Executive Officers meeting - Alex Pierson & John Secker attended and noted some main topics such as Cemeteries Acts, Accessibility, etc., were discussed

**Covenant Celebration Team Update**

**Doug Green**

The Team meet last week to debrief the October 6<sup>th</sup> event at Christ Church (Catarauqui); the Team is aiming to have a presentation at the 2016 Synod; would like to have prepared materials for parishes early in 2016; considering establishing deanery teams in order to strengthen the base within the deaneries; the Team met with Mark Hauser to assist with communication; they are working towards establishing a contact list for individual deaneries. Information on the budget presentation and the follow-up video by Mark Hauser can be found on the Diocesan website.

**Finance Committee**

**Wayne Varley**

**- Update: Financial position as of end of September 2015  
(Operations, Hyanto, Bookroom)**

It was noted there is a slight surplus with two cautionary notes: receivables higher than last year; cash received less than same time last year. Information is being distributed for information.

**Outlook for Year End 2015**

**- 2016 Operating Budget**

As presented.

**MOTION:**

**ERogers/WVarley**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Synod Council approve the 2016 Operating Budget  
CARRIED**

The Bishop extended appreciation for the work and consultation, planning and preparation involved in presenting the Operating Budget.

**- 2016 Salary Grid and Travel Rates**

Travel - rate of reimbursement to be maintained. The following are presented by the Finance Committee against the background of the Consumer Price Index as published by Statistics Canada.

**MOTION:** **ERogers/WVVarley**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Clergy Stipend Grid and the Grids for Diocesan Centre Staff for 2016 be set at 1.6% over the 2015 levels.**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** **ERogers/WVVarley**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT travel allowances for 2016 be set at \$0.61 per km, for the first 18,000 kms, and \$0.24 per km, thereafter.**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** **ERogers/WVVarley**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT housing allowances for 2016 be increased by 3.6%. For clergy employed in the Kingston area, the guideline for 2016 will be \$24,072.**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** **ERogers/WVVarley**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sunday Supply Rates for 2016 be set at: \$72.50 for the first service without a sermon, \$145. for the first service with a sermon, \$36.25 for each additional service on the same day and travel allowance applicable for Sunday Supply service be \$0.41 per km.**

**CARRIED**

**- Camp Hyanto Proportional Gift Update**

Break down of the amounts for a proportional gift were indicated in the handout by the Diocesan Financial Officer. Preliminary information will be sent to parish treasurers in due course.

**- Clergy Benefits Recovery Update**

Data being considered as to what the impact will be in individual parishes; how to implement.

**Receivables: Alex Pierson**

**St Alban's, Odessa Update and Motion**

**MOTION:****ERogers/WVVarley**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Synod Council approve the request from the Parish of St. Alban's, Odessa, for suspension of interest owing effective June 1, 2015 and for the funds from the Morven Church Sale used to pay off the debt owed to the Diocese to be considered non-assessable for purposes of CMM calculation.**

**CARRIED**

Discussion ensued about the process of suspension of interest. It was noted, in the overall life of the parish, this is a viability option supporting the life and ministry of this parish.

**North Hastings Update****MOTION:****ERogers/KHealey**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Synod Council approve the request from the Parish of North Hastings for forgiveness of interest charged for the year of 2014. Furthermore, if the Parish remains current with 2015 CMM, the interest charge for 2015 would be forgiven in January 2016.**

**CARRIED****St John's Prescott Update**

The Parish is entering into Canon B11; a report is anticipated for Synod Council in early 2016.

**Social Media Policy and Guidelines****MOTION:****CMorris/HNeil-Burchert**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Synod Council approve the Social Media Policy and Guidelines effective immediately.**

**CARRIED****Canons and Governance Committee****Ken Healy**

- No report

**Consent Agenda****Other Business**

- none

**Meeting Evaluation and Next Meeting Focus**

- members are encouraged to submit evaluations to the DEO

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

**Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday November 24 2015 6 pm  
Christ Church, Cataraqui**

**Devotions: Doug Green**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Bishop**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**