

**DIOCESE OF ONTARIO
SYNOD COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2017
CHRIST CHURCH, CATARAQUI 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Opening Devotions:**Doug Green**

Doug introduced the use of the “talking stick” and bringing with him a talking stick of the Iroquois Confederacy. Doug focussed on Matthew’s gospel reading (28:18-20), making disciples of all nations. He outlined the conversion of the Mohawk people to Christianity through missionaries beginning in the early 1600s by the Dutch, Jesuits and finally by the English through The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. In 1710 five Mohawk chiefs went to see Queen Anne of England requesting military support and asking that missionaries be sent. In response to this request, Queen Anne’s Chapel was built at Fort Hunter in 1712. The last missionary to Fort Hunter was the Rev. John Stuart. Molly Brant was one of the signators to starting St. George’s Cathedral. Mohawk Chief, Joseph Brant, contributed to the translation of the Gospel of Mark into the Mohawk language. Doug closed with a condensed version of the Mohawk greeting/prayer, which gives thanks to Creator God. Doug also reminded members of Synod Council of The Cathedral of St. George’s 225th anniversary. [John Graves Simcoe stood on the steps of St. George’s to take his oaths as first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada (Ontario), 225 years ago]. Doug handed the talking stick over to the Bishop, Chair, for the remainder of the meeting.

Present: Bishop Michael Oulton, Alex Pierson, Wayne Varley, Don Bailey, Anne Patterson, Haroldine Neil-Burchert, Viren Oogarah, Doug Cowley, Al Danford, Robin Jones, Doug Green, Don Davidson, Valerie Kelly, Voila David, Michael Rice, John Secker

Regrets: Michael Read, Nancy Beale, Roy Conacher, Audrey Doliszny, Christine Downey, Sharon Dunlop, Charles Morris, Brenda Hobbs, Heather Grimshaw

Guests: Cheryl Green-Betts, Carol Anne Woodcock

Agenda Review and Adoption**Chair****Chair’s Remarks and Bishop’s Update****Chair**

- Congratulations to Dean Don Davidson who was married on Saturday to Rebecca Dumoulin
- Canon David Smith of the parishes of Marysburgh & Kente has offered his resignation and begins ministry in the Diocese of Toronto, Christ Church St. James October 1

- Lynn Dillabough has been elected Regional Dean of Leeds Grenville; the Bishop extended thanks to Michael Read for his two terms as Regional Dean; prayers continue for Michael's recovery from surgery
- Thanks to parishes involved in Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) initiative, Leeds Grenville photos shared on the global TKC website; The Cathedral was opened for presentations and centering prayer; 2018 TKC being planned
- The Bishop's sabbatical was announced for May, June, July 2018 with holidays in August

Approval of Minutes – 23 May 2017 Regular Meeting

Chair

MOTION

DDavidson/DCowley

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of 23 May 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

A correction was noted in the surname of Viren *Oogarah*. Valerie Kelly's name was missing from those in attendance.

Business Arising from the Minutes

None

Hyanto Ministries – Business Plan/Gate 3b

Hyanto Ministries Board

Cheryl thanked Synod Council for the opportunity to speak. The Board continues to move through the Gates as set by Synod 2016. Cheryl introduced *Hyanto Herald*, former newspaper. The Camp was established in 1946. Current challenges: declining registrations, increased operating deficit. Action: the Task Force to consider elements (marketing, recruiting, staffing, etc.) with recommendations following the review.

Gate 1: Hyanto Ministries Board was established.

Gate 2: Vision – building lasting relationships that foster self-confidence in a safe, caring, Christian environment. Key Ministry Strategies were noted as approved at Synod Council in January 2017.

Gate 3b: Business Plan.

- Goals for 2018: Start with four weeks being offered, using volunteers to help develop programming with staff present; changing themes on a regular basis.
- Marketing is an essential means of implementing this. New logo, social media, etc.
- Retention; building on children and parents who have been to the Camp.
- Program: joyful, dynamic, and inclusive.

- Staffing: volunteers, as once before; no year-round full time paid staff; staff hired for season (May/June to August/Sept) ratios according to OCA recommendations; trained enthusiastic & faithful.
- Facilities: aging and in need of repair and renovation. To reflect an open and inclusive caring & Christian environment reflecting the Anglican ethos.
- Execution: financial plan established; key principle is financial stewardship; keep fixed costs low, shift in staffing costs, marketing to get and retain financial support.
- Financials: addressed by Alex Pierson: Looking to double the revenue; there have been strong donations made to the Camp; looking for an increase in number of campers over the following years.
- Risks: that which is unplanned/unexpected.
- Potentials: partnerships, engagement in community, etc.
- Next Steps: budget approval (Sept); authorization to open in 2018 with marketing, registrations system, property & facilities to be established starting in September. Decision to be made by Synod Council to open in 2018 with revisions.

Discussion: concern over the ability to attract sufficient (150) campers for the 2018 camping season; operating with a planned deficit and quality of short-term hires. These concerns were addressed.

MOTION

MRIce/ADanford

BE IT APPROVED THAT THE Business Plan be approved as presented by the Hyanto Board with the next Gate to operate in 2018 presented in September.

CARRIED

MOTION:

DBailey/DDavidson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a vote of thanks to the Board be made for its on-going work, energy, and commitment.

CARRIED

Finance

- First Quarter Financials

John Secker

Ending with a slight surplus; close to stable and break even. Summaries on pages 7 & 8 of hand-out.

- Parish Receivables

Alex Pierson

Alex offered a power point presentation for May-end 2017 Receivables (\$764,273) noting the top ten receivables, which comprises 2/3 of all Receivables.

- CMM Structure**Alex Pierson**

Discussion point: Finance Committee charged to consider the structure of CMM collection with the expectation to present to Synod 2018. Alex addressed the background paper: *Re-thinking How We Collect CMM* & in-put form. Follow-up comments and discussion ensued. The in-put form was distributed, filled out and collected to serve as a step in the process.

Anti-Harassment Policy**Alex Pierson**

The Diocese is developing a Human Resource policy and manual. A anti-harassment policy is legally required and required to be posted in the work environment. Reference was made to the Diocesan draft policy [hand-out] and the draft template for parishes, where wardens acknowledge, sign, and post the policy. The policy will be sent to church wardens in the coming weeks.

MOTION:**DDavidson/DBailey**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the presented draft of the anti-harassment policy be approved.

CARRIED**Canons & Governance****Alex Pierson/Wayne Varley**

Using the Diocese of Toronto's Canons as a format, the Committee is blending canonical best practices that will translate at the local level within the Diocese of Ontario. The Committee will meet twice in July and again in September with the timeline leading to Synod 2018. In September, a dialogue process with Special Interest Groups (SIG) will begin. Each group/committee will have a member of the Canons & Governance Committee as their contact for consultation. Alex and Wayne outlined the timeline leading to pre-synod meetings and Synod 2018.

Habitat for Humanity/Cowdy Street Mission Update**Alex Pierson**

The Bishop & Alex Pierson recently met with the Chair and Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity. Final zoning approvals are almost through City of Kingston; a September "turning of the shovel" date is anticipated. For success, Habitat for Humanity relies upon donations and volunteers. July 11th has been chosen as the date for the 'unveiling' at the Church of Good Shepherd. A sign recognizing the partnership between the Diocese and Habitat will be erected; City politicians have been invited along with the representatives from the MP and MPP offices; a neighbourhood barbeque, games for children, VBS crafts, etc., is planned. Timeline: Phase 1 – First Build (2 Units); Phase 2 – Second Build (2 Units) and Ministry Center with the Church of the Good Shepherd being removed; Phase 3 – Third Build (2 Units). Dean Don commented how positive a Habitat build can be in drawing community and parish together as well as creating enthusiasm within a parish.

Wardens' & Treasurers' Day – Report/Follow-up**Doug Cowley**

Doug reported that the new technology worked well with one blip, overall positive feedback. The turn-out however was poor. Doug noted the dynamic changes of the role of wardens considering the current times and the change of Canons. To lead, treat people like leaders. The Bishop expressed thanks for the planning, organizing and implementation of the Day.

Covenant Celebration Team Update**Doug Green/Christine Downey**

Richard Hetke is replacing Michael Read; next meeting will be in September; inventories will be taken of ministries associated with covenants during July & August by members in their areas.

Consent Agenda (no items identified)**Other Business**

None

September Meeting – Input on Agenda Items

Devotions Leaders Sept – Doug Cowley
 Oct -- Anne Patterson
 Nov – Al Danford

Meeting Evaluations were distributed for completion and returned.

Adjournment: moved by Haroldine Neil-Burchert and seconded by Viren Oogarah at 8:36 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: TUESDAY, 26 September 2017 6 pm

Location: St Paul's, Westport

Devotions: Doug Cowley

Bishop Oulton

Clerical Secretary

Date