

2016 DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

Regional Reps

- The Reverend Deacon Rod McDowell Brock
- Ms. Pat Davis Brock
- Mrs. Hilda Pincoe Greater Wellington
- The Reverend Owen Ash Greater Wellington
- Mr. Al Sherwin Lincoln
- Ms. Janet Kaye Lincoln
- Ms. Maureen Peddle Mohawk
- Ms. Rosemary Anstey (commencing June) Mohawk
- Mr. Ray Biggar Trafalgar
- The Reverend Sue-Ann Ward (commencing April) Trafalgar
- Ms. Susan Little Undermount
- The Reverend Matthew Griffin Undermount

Archdeacons

- The Venerable John Course Brock
- The Venerable Peter Scott Greater Wellington
- The Venerable Max Woolaver Lincoln
- The Venerable David Pickett Mohawk
- The Venerable Dr. Steve Hopkins (through May) Trafalgar
- The Venerable Suzanne Craven (commencing June) Trafalgar
- The Venerable David Anderson (*commencing August*) Undermount

Vision Reps

- The Reverend Canon Sharyn Hall, Prophetic Social Justice Making
- Ms. Stephanie Furtado, Life Changing Worship
- The Reverend Canon Rob Hurkmans, Continuous Culture of Innovation
- The Reverend Dr. Derek Anderson, Generous Culture of Stewardship (through August 2016)
- Mr. Stanley Bowers, Outstanding Leadership for Ministry
- The Reverend Michael Deed, Journeys in Faith

Financial Advisory Committee

- The Reverend Deacon George Henry

Canterbury Hills

- Mr. Terry Charters

Episcopal Appointees

- Ms. Sue Carson
- The Reverend Canon Dr. Michael Mondloch
- Ms. Carol Summers
- Ms. Jolissa Rogers

Directors

- The Reverend Canon Terry DeForest, Vision Advocate and Director of Human Resources
- The Reverend Bill Mous, Director of Justice, Community and Global Ministries
- Canon Christyn Perkons, Director, Congregational Support and Development

Officers

- The Right Reverend Michael Bird Diocesan Bishop
- The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell Secretary of Synod
- Canon Rob Welch Chancellor
- The Very Reverend Peter Wall Dean of Niagara
- Ms. Joanna Beck Treasurer & Director of Finance

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

This report summarizes the actions of the Synod Council from November 2015 to October 4, 2016, the date of the most recent meeting. Seven meetings were convened with an average attendance of 71%.

Membership

Changes of membership were in accordance with Canon 1.9 for Diocesan Committees, Bishop's Appointees and Vision Groups.

Election and Appointments

- elected Mr. Jim Sweetlove as President of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, and Mr. Andrew Bucknall as Vice-President of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a one-year term.
- elected the following members of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation: Mr. Gord Archbell, Mr. Andrew Bucknall, Mr. Mike Mansfield, Ms. Alice Murray, Mr. James Sweetlove, Mr. David Watson
- appointed KPMG auditors of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara for the fiscal year 2015
- named the following signing officers for the Diocese: The Right Reverend Michael Bird, Diocesan Bishop; The Reverend Canon Terry DeForest, Vision Advocate and Director of Human Resources; The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell, Secretary of Synod; The Very Reverend Peter Wall, Dean; Ms. Joanna Beck, Diocesan Treasurer; Canon Alison D'Atri, Assistant Treasurer and that the signature of one of the following must appear on all cheques; the Treasurer, or the Assistant Treasurer.
- approved the membership of the Audit Committee for 2015 as listed: Mr. Gord Archbell, Mr. Jim Higginson, Mr. Jerry Jenkins, Mr. Mike Mansfield, Ms. Alice Murray, Mr. David Page, and Canon Marni Nancekivell (Ex Officio).
- appointed Mr. Terry Charters to the Cathedral Place Property Management Committee for a term of 2 years, effective December 2, 2015.
- having received a report from the Bishop's Commission which reviewed the circumstances at St. Barnabas, St. Catharines; in which the members of the Commission had determined that the situation required the appointment of an Administrator to carry on the function of a trustee, receiver and manager of the Parish; satisfied that no other reasonable action was available, resolved, with the approval of the Bishop, to appoint such a trustee.
- appointed the Reverend Will Alakas as Diocesan Administrator for the Parish of St. Barnabas, St. Catharines for a 6 month term effective January 13, 2016, pursuant to Canon 4.5.7; this term was extended until October 15, 2016.
- appointed The Reverend Bill Mous as the Parish Administrator for St. Peter's, Hamilton for a term of one year, effective March 9, 2016.
- elected the Venerable Peter Scott as a member of the Human Resources Committee for a term of two years (renewable) and renewed the terms of Ms. Sharon White and the Reverend Canon David Long.
- appointed Mr. William Connor as Assistant Administrator for the Parish of St. Barnabas, St. Catharines effective June 8, 2016 through October 15, 2016.
- elected the Reverend Sue-Ann Ward and Ms. Ann Moniuk as Regional Representative and Alternate to Synod Council, respectively for Trafalgar; and Ms. Rosemary Anstey and the Reverend Kathy Morgan as Regional Representative and Alternate to Synod Council, respectively, for Mohawk.
- recognized and gave thanks for the care and leadership that had been offered to the Diocese and the Parish of St. Barnabas, St. Catharines under the administration of the Reverend Will Alakas, Diocesan Administrator and Mr. William Connor, Assistant Administrator
- appointed the Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick as Diocesan Administrator of St. Barnabas, St. Catharines for a period of 8 months effective October 15, 2016.

Policy Matters

- approved the procedure for electing Synod Council regional representatives as distributed and in accordance with Canon 1.9
- authorized the renewal of the agreement between the Diocese of Niagara and Service Canada to maintain the registration of our Supplemental Unemployment Benefit (SUB) Plan for illness, training and temporary stoppage of work.
- approved an increase of not less than 1.5% to the minimum clergy stipend scale, in addition to the year of experience increases built into that scale, for 2017 (over the 2016 figures).
- directed that an increase of not less than 1.5% be applied to all housing allowances for 2017.
- recommended to parishes a 2.1% increase in 2017 over 2016 figures, [representing a 1.5% cost of living allowance increase and a 0.6% year of experience increment] to:
 - stipends of clergy and licensed lay workers who are receiving stipends in excess of the mandatory minimum; and
 - salaries of all (non-licensed) lay employees.

Parish and Property Matters

- authorized the motion of the Vestry of Grace Church St. Catharines to demolish the burned dwelling at 7 Spruce St., St. Catharines, Ontario.
- granted permission to St. George's, Guelph to proceed with their capital project of \$1,200,000 to be covered by their endowment funds (with the intent this be repaid by their upcoming capital campaign).
- authorized the Corporation of the Parish of St. James and St. Brendan to enter into an agreement with Mr. John Marsh to purchase the property known as 25 Charlotte Street and 26-33 Charlotte Street on the parish's behalf from the seller for the purposes of creating much needed green space, beautifying our downtown, and (possibly) repurposing the vacant buildings for the benefit of the city.
- authorized the Diocesan Treasurer to approach the Canadian Bank of Imperial Commerce to arrange a mortgage of \$300,000 for St. John the Divine, Cayuga, for their property Accessibility Upgrade project
- approved the sale of the property located at 310 Geddes St., Elora
- endorsed the kitchen renovation project for St. Paul's Fort Erie and the proposed budget as presented, with funding coming primarily from the United Way and Salvation Army and remainder from the parish
- endorsed the proposed capital improvements for St. Mark's Church Niagara-on-the-Lake including: pointing; window and frame repairs; roof replacement and insulation; plaster repairs and interior painting; and improved interior lighting - all to be completed in phases as the fundraising campaign allows. The estimated overall cost of the improvements approved at a Special Vestry is \$750,000.
- authorized the Corporation of St. James Dundas to withdraw \$25,000.00 from their Rectory Fund, held with the Diocese, to increase their existing \$25,000.00 Term Deposit at TD Canada Trust to \$50,000.00, to be used as collateral to increase their Line of Credit to \$50,000.00, with all interest earned returning to the Rectory Fund.
- supported the Corporation of St. Luke's Palermo with the application to the Anglican Foundation of Canada for a grant of \$30,000 over 3 years to cover part of the cost of a sign, furnishings, equipment, and program materials necessary to make the new St. Luke's Community Centre a functional, hospitable, and vibrant Anglican gathering space that will support the parish's outreach and evangelistic activities.
- supported the Corporation of St. Alban's Beamsville with the application to the Anglican Foundation of Canada for a grant of \$30,000 over 3 years to expand and continue the agricultural seasonal ministry in the Parish and the greater Lincoln area.

- endorsed the application of St. George's Guelph to the Anglican Foundation of Canada for a grant of \$15,000 towards the replacement of the heating distribution system, allowing the parish to sustain and enrich their facilities as a home for mission, ministry and worship.
- recognized and affirmed the faithful service and witness to God's love expressed by the peoples of St. James Merriton over the past 140 years; acknowledged with gratitude the creative ministries, the support of partners and missional work, the sacrificial giving, and the spirit of fellowship that has marked the community of St. James; lauded the leadership of the Reverend Pam Guyatt and the courage and integrity of the wardens and parishioners as they have walked this difficult path of discernment; and grieved with the parish the loss of the building but celebrates with them the continuation of the fullness of their ministry as they prepare to move to Church of the Transfiguration, St. Catharines, to share their deep commitment to God's mission

Financial Matters

- received and tabled the FAC Report regarding Parish debt
- approved up to \$45,000 from the internally restricted Walking on Water (WOW) fund be made available in 2016 for grants.
- approved the 2015 audited financial statements of the Anglican Church Ministries, Niagara, Foundation.
- recommended the proposed change to the DMM Calculation be brought to Synod ; and expressed its sincere gratitude to the members of the committee for their hard work.

Canons

- commended the proposed change to Canon 1.4 to Synod, having duly considered it.

Other

- grateful for the ministry of our Bishop, commended him for his leadership in the Canadian church, and offered both its thanks and its strong support for the statement which he issued following the statement (Feb. 29) by the Anglican Church of Canada's House of Bishops.
- recognized and gave thanks for the care and leadership that had been offered to the Diocese and the Parish of St. Barnabas, St. Catharines under the administration of the Reverend Will Alakas, Diocesan Administrator and Mr. William Connor, Assistant Administrator.

Respectfully submitted,
 The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell, Secretary of Synod
 Mary Anne Grant O.N., Administrative Assistant