

## 2022 DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

### Regional Representatives

- Mr. Gary Pollard Brock
- The Reverend Deacon Rod McDowell Brock
- The Reverend Jody Balint (alternate) Brock
- Mr. Bryan Elliston Greater Wellington
- Mr. Thomas Littlewood Greater Wellington
- The Reverend Canon Paul Walker (alternate) Greater Wellington
- The Reverend Cheryl Barker Hamilton-Haldimand
- Mr. David Eccles Hamilton-Haldimand
- Mr. Neil Bell (alternate) Hamilton-Haldimand
- Mr. Byron Nicolson Lincoln
- The Reverend Rob Towler Lincoln
- Ms. Jodey Porter (alternate) Lincoln
- Mr. Winston Tinglin Trafalgar
- Ms. Janice Whiteley Trafalgar
- Mr. Jimmy Munuthi (alternate) Trafalgar

### Regional Archdeacons

- The Venerable Dr. John Course Brock (*through May 31, 2022*)
- The Venerable Terry Holub Brock (*effective June 1, 2022*)
- The Venerable Peter Scott Greater Wellington
- The Venerable Dr. David Anderson Hamilton-Haldimand (*through Sept. 30, 2022*)
- The Venerable Terry DeForest Hamilton-Haldimand (*effective Oct. 1, 2022*)
- The Venerable Max Woolaver Lincoln (*through April 30, 2022*)
- The Venerable Sheila Van Zandwyk Lincoln (*effective May 1, 2022*)
- The Venerable Jeff Ward Trafalgar

### Financial Advisory Committee

- The Reverend Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe

### Canterbury Hills

- Ms. Susan Little

### Episcopal Appointees

- Canon Terry Charters
- Ms. Amy Collard
- The Reverend Garfield Wu
- Mr. Adam MacNeil

### Directors

- The Reverend Canon Terry DeForest, Director of Human Resources (*through May 15, 2022*)
- Ms. Gillian Doucet Campbell, Director of Stewardship and Development (*through March 11, 2022*)
- Canon Christyn Perkons, Director of Congregational Support and Development

### Officers

- The Right Reverend Susan Bell, Diocesan Bishop
- Mr. Greg Tweney, Chancellor
- Ms. Kemi Okwelum, Treasurer & Director of Finance
- The Venerable Bill Mous, Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod
- The Very Reverend Dr. Tim Dobbin, Rector of Christ's Church Cathedral & Dean of Niagara

## Report of the Diocesan Synod Council

This report summarizes the actions of Synod Council from November 2021 through October 2022. The requirement for at least six meetings to be held, as set out in Canon 1.9 (9), was met with nine meetings duly convened during this period.

### Election and Appointments

- Appointed Kemi Okwelum, as the diocesan Treasurer and Director of Finance, effective December 15, 2021.
- Elected the following members to the Audit Committee, for a two-year term: Paul Bates and Ann Harvey-Hope.
- Approved the election of the following directors to serve on the board of 2498317 Ontario Inc, the corporation established to oversee diocesan development projects, effective December 15, 2021 until their successors are duly elected: The Right Reverend Susan Bell, Kemi Okwelum, The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, and Canon Terry Charters; and authorized the bishop and secretary of synod to sign the authorizing resolution on behalf of the Synod.
- Acting as the General Membership of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, appointed KPMG as the auditors for the fiscal year 2021.
- Acting as the General Membership of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, elected Tony Denning and Cheryl Barker as directors of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a three-year term.
- Acting as the General Membership of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, elected Tony Denning as president and Jodey Porter as vice-president of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, both for one-year terms.
- Appointed the following as signing officers, effective December 15, 2021: the Right Reverend Susan Bell, diocesan bishop; the Venerable William (Bill) Mous, executive officer and secretary of synod; Kemi Okwelum, treasurer and director of finance; and Canon Alison D'Atri, assistant treasurer.
- Elected the following members to the Investment Advisory Committee, for terms staggered as follows: Andrew Bucknall, Brock Mason and Mark Young.
- Elected Amy Collard, Susan Little, Rod McDowell, Thomas Littlewood, Cheryl Barker and Rob Towler to the Synod Council Coordinating Team.
- Appointed Terry Charters for a two-year term and Fraser Earle for a one-year term, as the diocesan representatives on the Cathedral Place Property Management Committee.
- Elected the following members to its nominations committee for a one-year term: Susan Little, Gary Pollard, and Rob Towler.
- Designated Jane Wyse be added as a signing officer, replacing Canon Alison D'Atri, effective May 19, 2022, for those purposes outlined in Canon 1.9(7); and that the signatures of either Kemi Okwelum or the Venerable William (Bill) Mous must appear on all cheques.
- Appointed the following people to serve on the All Saints, Hamilton Mission Advisory Board: Tom Evanoff, Brenda Brownlee, Dorothy Tilbury, Canon Christyn Perkons, the Reverend Canon Sue-Ann Ward, and the Reverend Canon Mike Deed.
- Appointed Tom Evanoff, Brenda Brownlee and the Reverend Canon Mike Deed as signing officers on behalf of the All Saints Hamilton diocesan mission.
- Approved the appointment of the Most Reverend Colin Johnson to serve as an assistant bishop of the Diocese of Niagara.

## **Policy Matters**

- Approved the revised Diocesan Investment Policy, effective November 23, 2021.
- Approved the updated regulations for holding vestry meetings, entitled "Vestry Meeting Regulations During a Time of Pandemic," effective December 14, 2021.
- Approved the updated terms of reference for the Financial Advisory Committee, effective December 14, 2021.
- Approved the establishment of a new Synod Council committee, the Niagara School for Missional Leadership Steering Committee, and its terms of reference as circulated, effective January 18, 2022.
- Approved updated regulations for holding vestry meetings, entitled "Vestry Meeting Regulations During a Time of Pandemic", effective September 13, 2022.

## **Parish Matters**

- Authorized Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton and St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton to hold their annual vestry meetings not later than Sunday, March 6, 2022.
- Approved the submission of an Anglican Foundation grant application by Holy Trinity, Welland, in the amount of \$15,000, for consideration in the spring granting cycle; and expressed its full support for the Welland Community Breakfast Program at Holy Trinity which aims to provide a nutritious meal every day of the year to those who are food insecure.
- Affirmed the faithful witness to God's love expressed by the parish of All Saints, Hamilton for more than 150 years; celebrating the congregation's deep commitment to God's mission as they prepare to move to into a new centre for ministry and explore new missional opportunities, and approved the designation of All Saints, Hamilton as a diocesan mission, effective June 1, 2022, in accordance with Canon 4.9 and subject to the Bishop's formal assent.
- Affirmed the strong witness to the Gospel expressed by the people of Christ Church, McNab for more than 175 years through care for their neighbours, their commitment to providing meals, worship and pastoral care for migrant farm workers, and their steadfast commitment to the values and principles of their founding families; lauded the sacrificial giving and the spirit of fellowship that marks the ministry of Christ Church, commending these Christian disciples to the parishes they intend to join; and offered gratitude to the parish's lay and ordained leaders as they have faithfully walked this difficult but faithful path of discernment as they prepare to voluntarily disestablish as a parish, effective November 15, 2022.

## **Property Matters**

- Authorized a new 5-year lease agreement for the use of diocesan property by the Canterbury Hills Conference Centre for nominal consideration.
- Authorized the Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod to list the Corktown hall and adjacent parts of the property of the Church of the Ascension for leasing purposes.
- Authorized the Bishop and Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod to enter into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale for the property located at 238 Geneva Street in St. Catharines, Ontario.
- Approved the request of St. John's Rockwood to enter into a 5-year agreement for the use of their building by a local childcare provider

## **Financial Matters**

- Approved up to \$80,000 from the internally restricted Walking on Water (WOW) fund be made available in 2022 for grants, as recommended by the diocesan treasurer.
- Directed the remaining proceeds from the sale of the Grantham Avenue property in St. Catharines be used to establish a Legal Reserve Fund in the amount of \$370,000.

- Directed the \$100,000 received from the vender take-back mortgage associated with the sale of the Speedvale Avenue property in Guelph support ongoing cash flow requirements.
- Confirmed the 2022 diocesan budget's intention that \$200,000 from the sale of the Main Street property in Hagersville be used to support future leadership programs by directing these funds to establish a Differentiated Curacy Reserve Fund; and that the remaining net proceeds from the sale, estimated at \$238,650, be applied to support the extraordinary deficit forecast for the current budget year.
- Authorized an increase in spending to \$100,000 to fund the previously approved Mission Action Plan pre-campaign study from the net proceeds from the 2021 sales of the York properties.
- Directed the remaining net proceeds from the 2021 sales of the York properties as follows: \$75,000 to be invested in the Church Planting Reserve Fund; \$75,000 to be invested in the Differentiated Curacy Fund; and \$89,000 to be re-invested in the Outreach Survive and Thrive Endowment Fund.
- Approved the 2021 audited consolidated financial statements of The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara.
- Acting as the General Membership of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, approved the audited financial statements of The Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara.
- Approved a mandatory 3.4% cost of living adjustment in 2023 (over 2022 figures) in addition to the year of service increase (averaging at 0.6% in later years) factored into the grid, to the Minimum Stipend Scale for 2023;
- Highly recommended a 3.4% cost of living adjustment in addition to a 0.6% year of service increase, for a total increase of 4.0% in 2023 (over 2022 figures) for stipends for clergy and licensed lay workers currently making over the minimum stipend amount;
- Highly recommended to parishes a cost-of-living adjustment for all housing allowances of not less than 3.4% in 2023 (over 2022 figures).
- Highly recommended that salaries of non-licensed lay employees be increased by not less than 4.0% (comprised of a cost-of-living adjustment of 3.4% and a year of service increase of 0.6%) in 2023 [over 2022 figures].
- Commended the 2023 diocesan budget for approval by the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara

Respectfully submitted,

The Venerable Bill Mous, Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod  
 Mary Anne Grant O.N., Administrative Assistant