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REGULAR SESSION OF SYNOD
2019

CONVENING CIRCULAR

Diocesan Council's Report to Synod

Section B





DIOCESAN COUNCIL'S REPORT TO SYNOD

Prepared by:
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Secretary of Synod
September 20, 2019

Scope of Report

This is the report of Diocesan Council to the members of the 159th Regular Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto, for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. During this period, Diocesan Council held a total of 10 meetings, five of which were held by conference call. This report was approved by Diocesan Council on September 26, 2019.

This report includes:

- (I) a list of members of Diocesan Council,
- (II) a summary of policy and major items discussed or approved by Diocesan Council, and
- (III) a summary of diocesan grants, loans and other funding.

(I) List of Members

Diocesan Council

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil (Chair since January 1, 2019), The Most Rev. Colin Johnson (Chair until December 31, 2018), The Rt. Rev. Jenny Andison, Brian Armstrong, ODT, Bob Baird (until November 2018), Lawrence Barker (until November 2018), Mario Bartolozzi (since November 2018), Canon Paul Baston, The Rev. David Bryant, Canon Clare Burns, The Rev. Greg Carpenter, The Rev. Canon Joan Cavanaugh-Clark, The Rev. Andrea Christensen (since November 2018), Enid Corbett, ODT (since May 2019), Peter Davidson, ODT (since November 2018), The Rev. Dr. Stephen Drakeford, The Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty, Anita Gittens, ODT (until May 2019), Jean Glionna, ODT (until November 2018), Michael Gundy (until November 2018), Leslie Hajdu, ODT, The Rev. Karen Hatch, The Rev. Tim Haughton (until November 2018), The Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave (until November 2018), The Rev. Keith Joyce, Carolyn Kearns (until November 2018), Lyds Keesmaat-Walsh (since November 2018), Darleen Knowlton, The Rev. Ian LaFleur, Suzanne Lawson, ODT, The Rev. Leonard Leader (since November 2018), The Rev. Erin Martin, Sarah McDonald, ODT, (until November 2018), Heather McGregor (since November 2018), The Rev. Douglas Michael, Peter Newell (since November 2018), The Rev. Lisa Newland, The Rev. Canon Dr. Barry Parker, The Rev. Jesse Parker, Richard Paul (since November 2018), The Rev. Jason Prislely (until March 2019), Ryan Ramsden, Sandy Richmond, ODT (since November 2018), The Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson, The Rev. Mother Elizabeth Rolfe-Thomas, Susan Schuschu, ODT (until November 2018), The Rt. Rev. Riscylla Shaw, Beverley Sneyd, The Rev. Michael Stuchbery (since November 2018), Dave Toycen, ODT (since November 2018), The Ven. Stephen Vail (until November 2018), Stephen Warner (until November 2018), Marilyn Yeung, ODT.





(II) Policy Items and Other Major Items

- **Policy and Major Items Discussed** (in alphabetical order)
 - Canon 6 Simplified Approval Process Pilot
 - Chapels of Ease
 - Clergy Moving Contribution
 - Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
 - FaithWorks Goal
 - Our Faith-Our Hope: Re-Imagine Church Grants
 - Investment Management Signing Officers
 - Policy Papers
 - Affordable Housing and Homelessness
 - Poverty Reduction
 - Environmental Issues
 - Rectories
 - See House
 - Signing Authority Policy

- **Retirements and Elections of Bishops**

- **Parish Administration, Amalgamations, and other Arrangements**

- **Provincial Legislative Matters**





– **Policy and Major Items Discussed** (in alphabetical order)

○ **Canon 6 Simplified Approval Process Pilot**

A revised Canon 6 approvals process was piloted by the Trusts Committee and Diocesan Council from January 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019. The pilot simplified approval for only the following three items; all other Canon 6 requirements remain unchanged:

- Low-risk License Agreements (i.e. no minors or vulnerable adults on church property. Examples include Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, book clubs, meeting groups, parking space rentals, etc.)
- Residential Lease Agreements, and
- Repairs/renovations costing less than \$75,000 in hard construction cost (regardless of whether a building permit is required)

A completed and signed Checklist and Attestation were required by the incumbent/priest-in-charge and churchwardens to receive quarterly approval from Diocesan Council under Canon 6. Approval no longer needed to be received before occupancy or repair/renovation project start. The standard diocesan License Agreement form, provincial residential Lease Agreement template, and mandatory tenant's insurance requirements were still required to be used and adhered to by the church leadership.

The goal of the new process was to improve processing times and efficiency without compromising risk management. Congregations are still expected to perform their requisite due diligence, including checking insurance requirements before allowing occupancy. The Property Resources department conducted random audits to ensure that risk management practices were being followed. A comprehensive review of the pilot was completed and it was determined that this process should continue.

○ **Chapels of Ease**

The designation of a church as a “chapel of ease” (Chapel) is a pastoral response to the need for continuing pastoral care to a local community when sustaining the congregation as a full point of a multi-point parish or as a stand-alone parish is not viable. There are currently five Chapels in our Diocese. They include:

- The Chapel of St. Mark, Warsaw (designated in 2013)
- The Chapel of Christ Church, Lakefield (designated in 2010)
- The Chapel of St. George, Gore's Landing (designated in 2011)
- The Chapel of St. James, West Brock (designated in 2010)
- The Chapel of St. John, New Tecumseth (designated in 2011)

At the request of the Executive Director, all Chapels submitted reports to Diocesan Council in April 2019.





- **Clergy Moving Contribution**

In October 2018, Diocesan Council approved that the maximum contribution for clergy moves in 2019 as set out in Canon 11, section 6 remain at \$1,500.

- **Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)**

In November 2018, Diocesan Council approved a cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the clergy minimum stipend scale, diocesan staff scale and unit amounts be 2.2% for 2019.

- **FaithWorks Goal**

In December 2018, Diocesan Council approved the FaithWorks Goal for 2019 of \$1,350,000.

- **Our Faith-Our Hope: Re-Imagine Church Grants**

Diocesan Council passed a resolution at its October 2018 meeting providing for the termination of the Our Faith-Our Hope fund after the fall allocations in 2018, with the proviso that all remaining funds are to be distributed in accordance with the OFOH case as approved by Diocesan Council. The investment of the OFOH funds will be adjusted accordingly as determined by the Investment Committee. At the same meeting, the original motion approved by Diocesan Council to terminate the fund in 2021 was rescinded.

- **Investment Management Signing Officers**

The Diocese retains a number of Investment Managers, including: Foyston, Gordon & Payne Inc., Letko Brosseau, Scotia Wealth Management, Manulife Asset Management, Pavilion Advisory Group, and Northleaf Capital Partners. Each firm has its own policies and procedures for updating authorized signing officers on investment accounts.

In September 2018, Diocesan Council approved that any two persons holding the following positions be authorized and empowered to act on behalf of the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto with respect to our various investment management accounts: President of Synod (Bishop of Toronto), Coadjutor Bishop-elect, Executive Director, and Treasurer & Director of Finance.

- **Policy Papers**

Diocesan Council received two Policy Papers at its January 2019 meeting: the first, a *Policy Paper on Affordable Housing and Homelessness*, and secondly, a *Policy Paper on Poverty Reduction*. Both Policy Papers contain background information on the reality of needs within our Diocese and how Anglicans are responding to those needs, and set out our diocesan principles and plans for advocacy. In March 2019, Diocesan Council received a *Policy Paper on Environmental Issues*. All of the Policy Papers are available for download on the Social Justice and Advocacy section of the diocesan website.





- **Rectories**

As previously reported, in response to the number of requests that Executive Board has been receiving to sell rectories, and the poor condition that some of these are in, work has begun at looking at an alternate option for parishes. Currently parishes have four options with respect to dealing with their rectories: (i) clergy occupied, (ii) tenanted, (iii) vacant, (iv) sell the asset. There is a common concern that we need to do something before we reach a point where we regret the number of rectories and other properties that we have sold. The College of Bishops has concurred that we will no longer entertain requests regarding the sale of rectories and right now we are in a holding pattern.

- **See House**

In April 2019, Diocesan Council delegated its authority to Trusts Committee to approve the purchase of an interest in a See House.

- **Signing Authority Policy**

In order to formalize and strengthen processes currently in place at the Diocesan Centre regarding disbursements, a *Signing Authority Policy* was approved by Diocesan Council in September 2018.

Diocesan Council ensures that signing authorities are designated for all situations that result in a commitment being made on behalf of the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto. The overall framework for the authorization of expenditures is the fiscal framework and operating budgets that are approved by Synod. Once the budget has been approved by Diocesan Council, expenditures and commitments may be approved by the Bishop of Toronto or the Executive Director or delegated to the Management level as long as the expenditures remain within the limits of the overall budget.

The Policy also includes processes and procedures for IT purchases, unbudgeted expenditures, capital expenditures, contracts, leases/licenses, real estate, bank signing authorities, and operating line.

- **Retirements and Elections of Bishops**

- The Very Rev. Andrew Asbil, Coadjutor Bishop-elect, was consecrated on September 29, 2018 at St. James Cathedral. He began his duties as Coadjutor Bishop on October 1, 2018.
- The Most Rev. Colin Johnson retired as the Bishop of Toronto on December 31, 2018.
- The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil became the Bishop of Toronto as of January 1, 2019.
- The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil was installed as the 12th Bishop of Toronto on January 13, 2019 at St. James Cathedral.





– **Parish Administration, Amalgamations, and Realignments**

○ **Canon 24 – Diocesan Administration of Parishes**

○ **St. Bartholomew**

The parish was placed under diocesan administration in 2012 pursuant to Canon 24. Council approved the re-appointment of Kevin Forrest as Administrator at its March 2019 meeting.

○ **St. Luke (Dixie South) [St. Luke, Lakeview]**

In January 2019, Diocesan Council approved that St. Luke (Dixie South) be placed under Canon 24 effective immediately. At the same meeting, Varun Balendra was appointed Administrator to carry on the function of receiver and manager for the parish of St. Luke (Dixie South).

○ **St. Peter, Scarborough**

The parish was placed under diocesan administration in 2017 pursuant to Canon 24. Council approved the re-appointment of Robert Saunders, ODT as Administrator at its May 2019 meeting.

○ **Trinity Church, Barrie**

In September 2018, Diocesan Council approved that Trinity Church, Barrie be placed under Canon 24 effective immediately. At the same meeting, Don Smith was appointed Administrator to carry on the function of receiver and manager for the parish of Trinity Church, Barrie.

○ **Canon 25 – Diocesan Missions**

○ **New Hope Anglican Mission**

The New Hope Anglican Mission was designated a Diocesan Mission in 2013, and this arrangement was most recently renewed in March 2017. In January 2019, the Board submitted its annual report to Diocesan Council satisfy the requirement of Canon 25(11).

○ **St. George by the Grange**

St. George by the Grange was designated a Diocesan Mission in September 2017. St. Paul, Bloor Street was requested by the Rt. Rev. Jenny Andison, Area Bishop for York-Credit Valley, to oversee the mission of St. George by the Grange with the intent of a future reboot of a vibrant Anglican faith community anchoring the south edge of Grange Park. The worshipping community has been disbanded since February 2018 due to a lack of sustainability and effectiveness as an Anglican witness in the area. In June 2018, Diocesan Council approved a motion to change the composition of the Board of Management to reflect what is required to move forward with the future reboot.





- **St. Mary and St. Martha**

St. Mary and St. Martha was designated a Diocesan Mission in 2016. This arrangement was reviewed in May 2019 when Diocesan Council agreed that St. Mary and St. Martha continue to be a Diocesan Mission pursuant to Canon 25, and further approved the membership of the Board. Also in May 2019, the Board submitted its annual report to Diocesan Council to satisfy the requirement of Canon 25(11).

- **Parish Amalgamations, Mergers, Closings, and other Arrangements**

- **St. James, Lisle**

In April 2019, Diocesan Council acknowledged that St. James, Lisle in the Parish of St. James Clougher/Lisle be disestablished on May 12, 2019. St. James was once part of the three-point parish of St. Luke, Creemore and Christ Church, Banda. It is believed that St. James, Lisle became a stand-alone parish in 2010. The Deconsecration of the church took place on Sunday, May 12, 2019 the same day of disestablishment and closing worship.

- **St. Luke (Dixie South)**

In April 2019, Diocesan Council acknowledged that St. Luke (Dixie South) be disestablished on May 26, 2019. While the church will not be deconsecrated, there will be a “sabbath rest” from public worship for a season. It is hoped that this will create space and opportunity for the parish’s revitalization in some new way for future generations.

- **St. Barnabas, Peterborough and St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough**

In November 2017, Diocesan Council approved the voluntary amalgamation of St. Barnabas, Peterborough and St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough according to Canon 13(3)1 on a date that is mutually agreeable by the Churchwardens.

After first receiving the Amalgamation Plan (revised May 2018) in June 2018, in December 2018, Diocesan Council approved the Amalgamation Plan for the Parishes of St. Barnabas, Peterborough and St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough.

- **Deanery Realignment**

- **York-Credit Valley**

In September 2018, Diocesan Council was informed that as of September 5, 2018, the Parish of St. Hugh and St Edmund has been transferred from the Deanery of Etobicoke-Humber to the Deanery of North Peel in the episcopal area of York-Credit Valley.





– **Provincial Legislative Matters**

The Ontario Provincial Synod met last October in Ottawa. During that session the Priorities for the Synod’s work were discussed. In the spring of this year the Provincial Council, following up on those discussions, set (1) Creation Care [climate change] and (2) Homelessness as the priorities in the Synod’s work for the following three years. Homelessness, as a priority, is a continuation of work on the same file from the previous three years. As part of that the Minister and the Critics from the three Parties in the Legislature met with the Council members in the spring of 2018 to discuss their positions and programmes.

The October Provincial Synod session also mandated a number initiatives relating to Reconciliation. These have included the ongoing funding of the Moosonee School of Ministry and the establishment of a new provincial programme in which recent ordinands in the Province will have the opportunity to gain greater sensitivity in matters relating to Reconciliation and Indigenous ministries. The Province will also be holding a Formations and Vocations Conference in the summer of 2020 in which the Ontario Bishops and the members of the Ontario Provincial Commission on Theological Education will discuss matters relating to clergy formation and vocation over the next 20 years. This follows a similar conference some 20 years ago that has largely set the pattern for this in our Province until now.





(III) Diocesan Grants, Loans and Other Funding

This section contains a summary of grants, loans and other funding approved or provided by the Diocese during the reporting period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

Ministry Allocation Fund Grants (MAF)	# of grants/loans	Amount
Tithing Gifts	2	\$17,358
Anglican Diocese of Toronto Foundation	1	71,828
Congregational Growth	6	328,318
Real Estate Purposes	1	164,778
New Hope Mission Grants	5	146,124
New and/or Innovative Forms of Ministry	5	129,576
Reach Grants	8	32,500

TOTAL \$ 890,482

Our Faith-Our Hope: Re-Imagine Church (OFOH)	# of grants/loans	Amount
Adaptive Re-Use of Parish Facilities	7	\$887,363
Communicating in a Wireless World	6	140,680
Enabling Parishes to Become Multi-Staffed	12	524,942
Leadership Development	6	307,240
Pioneering Ministry	2	375,468

TOTAL \$2,235,693

The Anglican Diocese of Toronto Foundation (ADTF)	# of grants/loans	Amount
Bishop of Toronto Endowment	1	1,368,750
Howland Estate	1	10,841
FaithWorks Endowment	1	67,000
Clergy and Theological Education Funds	8	15,666
Robert Falby Endowment for Aboriginal Ministries	1	2,620
Archbishop Johnson Leadership Development	2	948
Samuel Chamberlain Fund	1	10,000
Douglas C. Cowling Bursary	1	5,000
Former Anglican Community Development Fund	1	2,100
Most Rev. F. J. Hiltz Scholarship	4	15,000
Unrestricted Fund	3	18,560

TOTAL \$1,516,485





Other Grants	# of grants/loans	Amount
Baker Foundation	3	50,000
Carleton Fund Grants	5	25,300
Area Council Grants	44	118,235
Curacy Grants	21	441,460
FaithWorks Grants	17	703,264
Bishop's Company Fund	15	29,958
Discretionary Medical and Dental Grants	2	3,000
York Rectors Fund Grants	55	503,600
Etobicoke Glebe	12	7,200
TOTAL		\$1,882,017
Other Funds	# of grants/loans	Amount
Short Term Disability Reimbursement	9	43,961
Pregnancy and Parental Leave Fund	4	49,445
Clergy Moving Cost Reimbursement	10	15,793
Clergy Allowances & Post Retirement Funds	9	167,856
Widows and Orphans Benefactors	60	50,920
TOTAL		\$327,976
GRAND TOTAL		\$6,852,653

