



## MINUTES

### 162<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF SYNOD

Friday, November 17, 2023 and Saturday, November 18, 2023

Sheraton Parkway Toronto North, Richmond Hill

---

#### **EUCCHARIST – Friday, November 17, 2023**

Synod opened with a service of Holy Communion.

#### **BISHOP'S CHARGE**

The Right Reverend Andrew J. Asbil

The following deceased members of Synod were remembered during the Eucharist, during the Intercessions: The Rev. Canon Dr. Brian Freeland, The Rev. Gail Marshall, The Rev. Canon Ebert Hobbs, The Rev. Canon Elizabeth Kilbourn, The Rev. Canon Donald Bone, The Rev. Arthur MacRae, The Rev. Canon Dr. Alice Medcof, The Most Rev. Michael Peers, The Rev. Canon Trevor Denny, The Rev. Paul Kett, The Rev. Anna-Clair Swingler, The Rev. Canon John Thompson.

#### **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023**

Pursuant to the Notice of meeting, the Bishop of Toronto called the members of Synod to gather for the 162<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of Synod of the Diocese of Toronto.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil called the meeting to order.

#### **CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING**

##### Notice of Meeting

Notice of Meeting for the 162<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of Synod was issued on the Diocesan website and in the May 2023 issue of *The Anglican*.

##### Convening Circulars

The Convening Circular was posted on the Diocesan website on October 2, 2023 with supplementary information posted on the Diocese website on October 23, 2023.

##### Report of the Committee on Credentials

Chancellor Marg Creal noted that the Committee on Credentials reports that all Clerical and Lay Members here gathered are entitled to take seats at Synod.

The **Honorary Secretaries** for this session of Synod are:

Honorary Lay Secretary: Sheila Robson, ODT

Honorary Clerical Secretary: The Rev. Lisa Newland

Assistant Honorary Lay Secretary: Connie Kendall, ODT

The Honorary Secretaries made housekeeping announcements regarding gratitude to Synod sponsors, late arrivals, one notice of motion from members of Synod received on October 19, 2023, and voting procedures and general etiquette.

## **RULES AND PROTOCOLS FOR MOTIONS AND VOTING**

Review of Synod rules and protocols for responding to motions.

### **Motion #1: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED by Sheila Robson and SECONDED by the Rev. Lisa Newland that Synod approve the Revised Agenda for the 162<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of Synod.

CARRIED (show of hands)

### **Motion #2: CONSENT AGENDA (OMNIBUS MOTION)**

It is MOVED by Sheila Robson and SECONDED by the Rev. Lisa Newland that:

- Synod adopt the Minutes of the 161<sup>st</sup> Regular Session of Synod of the Diocese of Toronto held virtually on Nov. 17 to 19, 2022, as prepared by the Honorary Secretaries,
- Courtesies of the House be extended, including the Rt. Rev. Maurício Andrade and Sandra Andrade our Guest Speakers, and Canon Ian Alexander, the Very Rev. Peter Elliott, and Dr. Anita Gittens, ODT our presenters.
- the report of the York Rectory Commissioners be received and the Commissioners be appointed for the First York Rectory and the Etobicoke Glebe,
- the membership of the Advisory Commission on the Termination of Clerical Appointments be approved, and
- the Timekeepers be appointed.

CARRIED (show of hands)

### Scrutineers

In accordance with The Constitution, section 18, the Diocesan Council appointed the following members of Synod as Scrutineers for this session:

- Susan Colacitti (St. Clement, Eglinton)
- The Rev. Canon Simon Li (St. John, Willowdale)

### Reception Committee

In accordance with The Constitution, section 20, Synod appoints the following individuals to form the Reception Committee:

- The Rev. Canon Maurice Francois
- The Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson
- Canon Mary Conliffe

### Regrets

The Honorary Secretaries reported that regrets were received from the following active and retired clergy who were unable to attend Synod: The Rev. Pam Alderson, The Rev. Judith Alltree, The Rev. Warren Beal, The Rev. Peter Blundell, The Rev. David Danner, The Rev. Dr. Stephen Drakeford, The Rev. Robert Gorham, The Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, The Rev. Maureen Hair, The Rev. Walter Hannam, The Rev. Carol Hardie, The Rev. Karen Hatch, The Rev. Canon Judith Herron-Graham, The Rev. Canon Anthony Jemmott, The Rev. Canon Christopher King, Ms. Delores Lawrence, ODT, The Rev. Canon Dr. Drew MacDonald, The Rev. Paul MacLean, The Rev. S. Kim McArthur, The Rev. Diana McHardy, The Rev. Canon Richard Miller, The Rev. Tay Moss, The Rev. Richard Newland, The Rev. Robin Peasgood, The Rev. Canon John Read, Ms. Heather Robinson, The Rev. Jim Seagram, The Rev. Janet Stephens, The Rev. Canon Claire Wade, The Rt. Rev. Patrick White, The Rev. Joan Wilson.

### Memorials and Petitions

The Honorary Secretaries reported that no memorials or petitions were received for this session of Synod.

### Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion (Motion #11A) was received on October 19, 2023 and is included in your Convening Circular and will be addressed on Saturday morning.

A Notice of Motion (Motion #11B) moved by John van Nostrand and seconded by the Rev. Canon John Hill was received on November 13, 2023.

Chancellor Creal explained Pursuant to Canon 1, section 2(3), the Notice of Motion will be placed on the Agenda only with consent of the majority of Synod present and voting. Therefore, we will not vote to revise the agenda.

### **Motion #13: AMEND THE AGENDA**

It is MOVED by Chancellor Marg Creal and SECONDED by the Rt. Rev. Riscylla Shaw that the Agenda be amended to add Motion #11B to the end of the Agenda on the proviso that the formal business of Synod has to end at 12:30 p.m. If the motion is not reached, it will be referred to Synod Council for inclusion on the Agenda of the 163<sup>rd</sup> Regular Session of Synod.

NOT CARRIED (by hands)

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

The Right Rev. Andrew Asbil made the following introductions:

#### Officers of the Diocese

Suffragan Bishops: The Rt. Rev. Riscylla Shaw, the Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson

Chancellor: Marg Creal

Vice Chancellor & Registrar: Canon Paul Baston

Vice Chancellors: Mark Hemingway, Gail Smith (regrets), and John van Gent.

Executive Director: Canon Rob Saffrey, ODT

Secretary of Synod: Pamela Boisvert

Treasurer & Director of Finance: Patricia D'Souza

Interim Dean of the Cathedral Church of St. James: The Very Rev. Peter Wall

#### **Synod Chaplains:**

- The Rev. David Bryan Hoopes, OHC
- The Rev. Canon Jo Davies

A Chapel is available in the Oak Ridge's Room on the lower level. Contact the chaplains by email at [synodchaplain@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:synodchaplain@toronto.anglican.ca) or by phone at 226-908-5259.

#### **Guest Speaker:**

The Rev. Canon Maurice Francois introduced Bishop Mauricio Andrade and Bishop Asbil welcomed Bishop Andrade & Mrs. Sandra Andrade and thanked Fr. Francois.

### **Motion #3 – SINCE SYNOD 2022**

Synod Council's Report to Synod can be found in section B of your Convening Circular. The report covers Synod Council's activities from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

It is MOVED by Sheila Robson and SECONDED by the Rev. Lisa Newland that Synod receive Synod Council's Report to the 162<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of Synod.

CARRIED (show of hands)

#### Introduction of Synod Council, General Synod & Provincial Synod Elections:

List of nominees may be found in the Convening Circular, section A.

**Synod Council** is responsible for exercising the executive powers of the Synod between sessions (excluding legislative matters), is a 25-member governance body meeting monthly to carry on the work of Synod. Elected members serve from the conclusion of the meeting of Synod in which they were elected until the end of the next Regular Session of Synod, usually a 3-year term.

Clerical Nominees

1. The Rev. Samantha Caravan (All Saints, Peterborough)
2. The Rev. Canon Dr. Stephen Fields (St. James Cathedral)
3. The Rev. Lucia Lloyd (St. John, Bowmanville)
4. The Rev. Graham McCaffrey (St. Dunstan of Canterbury)
5. The Rev. Mark Regis (St. Mary & St. Martha, Toronto)
6. The Rev. Philip Stonhouse (St. Matthew, Islington)
7. The Rev. Deborah Wilson (Chaplain of BSS)

Lay Nominees

1. Lawrence Barker (St. Luke, Burnt River)
2. Heather McGregor, ODT (St. Mary Magdalene)
3. Sandy Richmond (St. George Anglican Church, Allendale)
4. David Toyce, ODT (Trinity Church, Streetsville)
5. Canon Laura Walton, ODT (Holy Trinity, Clearview)
6. Eirene Wee (St. Paul, Bloor Street)

**General Synod** convenes every three years, and the term of office for a member spans three years. The term begins at the General Synod in 2025 and continues until the subsequent General Synod. It's worth noting that the Diocese of Huron will host the next General Synod in London, Ontario. Nominees for General Synod are required to remain members of the Diocese of Toronto's Synod throughout their term. They should be ready and able to attend all General Synod meetings and be open to serving on sub-committees or working groups if requested or elected.

Clerical Nominees

1. The Rev. Dr. Alvaro Adderley (Parish of Fenelon Falls)
2. The Rev. Canon Philip Der (St. Christopher)
3. The Rev. Yohan Dumpala (St. John the Baptist, Norway)
4. The Rev. Canon Dr. Stephen Fields (St. James Cathedral)
5. The Rev. Andrew Kaye (St. Margaret in-the-Pines)
6. The Rev. Lucia Lloyd (St. John, Bowmanville)
7. The Rev. Lorna May (St. Luke, Creemore)
8. The Rev. Canon Nicola Skinner (Grace Church, Markham)
9. The Rev. Brian Suggs (All Saints, Kingsway)
10. The Rev. Canon Claudette Taylor (Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale)

Lay Nominees

1. Ann Arnold (St. Peter, Oshawa)
2. Lawrence Barker (St. Luke, Burnt River)
3. Chancellor Marg Creal, KC, BA (Hon), LLB (Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street)
4. Onis Hawley (Grace Church, Markham)
5. Finn Keesmaat-Walsh (Redeemer, Bloor Street)
6. Yvonne Murray, ODT (Holy Wisdom)
7. Ryan Ramsden, ODT (Grace Church, Scarborough)
8. Sandy Richmond (St. George Anglican Church, Allendale)
9. Noah Skinner (Grace Church, Markham)
10. David Toyce, ODT (Trinity Church, Streetsville)
11. Mary Walsh, ODT (St. John the Baptist, Oak Ridges)
12. Canon Laura Walton, ODT (Holy Trinity, Clearview)

**Provincial Synod** is scheduled to take place in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, hosted by the Diocese of Algoma during the week of September 24, 2024 (exact dates to be confirmed). Provincial Synod gathers every three years, and the term of office for elected members starts at Provincial Synod 2024, spanning three years. Provincial Synod addresses matters of interest in the provincial sphere, covering theological education, social issues, government relations, chaplaincies, and vocational diaconate ministries.

Clerical Nominees

1. The Rev. Dana Dickson (Trinity Church, Bradford)
2. The Rev. Kenneth Korsah (St. Joseph's Anglican Church)
3. The Rev. Lucia Lloyd (St. John, Bowmanville)
4. The Rev. Dr. David Reed (Christ Memorial Church, Oshawa)
5. The Rev. Brian Suggs (All Saints, Kingsway)
6. The Rev. Graham McCaffrey (St. Dunstan of Canterbury)

Lay Nominees

1. Lawrence Barker (St. Luke, Burnt River)
2. Finn Keesmaat-Walsh (Redeemer, Bloor Street)
3. Ryan Ramsden, ODT (Grace Church, Scarborough)
4. Susan Schuschu, ODT (St. John, East Orangeville)
5. Canon Laura Walton, ODT (Holy Trinity, Clearview)

**Missional & Outreach Moment from Bishop's Committee on Creation Care**

Bishop Asbil called the OHC brothers (Br. Reginald-Martin Crenshaw, OHC, ODT and the Rev. David Bryan Hoopes, OHC) and noted the Priory is closing in May 2024, and thanked them for their ministry over the past 50 years. Synod thanked them with a show of standing ovation.

**Mid-Day Prayers & Lunch Break**

**Bishop's Company Cabaret Video**

Cast the Net

Bishop Asbil welcomed everyone back and called the Cast the Net Team; Canon Ian Alexander, the Very. Rev. Peter Elliott and Dr Anita Gittens, The Rev. Dr. Alison Falby, David Toycen, ODT, The Rev. Dr. Alvarado Adderley, Cormac Culkeen, The Rev. Andrew Federle, Tina George, Eirene Wee, and the Rev. Deborah Wilson.

Began engaging with Diocese in Fall 2022, gathered a lot of information in the past year and final report due in final quarter of 2024. Listening process has been the most important work of the process. 20 calls identified and displayed on card handouts distributed to tables.

Bruce Stodart, St David, Donalds: expressed appreciation for worthy effort in turning thoughts into concrete action. From a small parish, urged to come up with something that is concretely tied into our ministry would be very helpful and appreciated.

The Rev. Dr. Alison Kemper, St Matthias, Bellwoods: expressed that they were blown away by what others at table were saying as it never would have been said in 1980's when ordained. Liked language about justice and anti-racism. Talk about kids who don't go to church, if we don't pick up the values our children and grandchildren have as values, and they know they don't have to leave their values at the door they may go through the door.

The Rev. Canon Derek Stapleton, Grace Church in Scarborough: reflected on opening hearts to ministry and partnership in ministry. Exemplified in Jesus who saw Peter as someone who would follow in his footsteps, and Jesus was not disappointed in Peter. Comparable to life in parishes.

The Rev. Samantha Caravan, All Saints, Peterborough: excited about Cast the Net! 20 calls to action feel like a parish profile as in who they want to be, not what they are. What she hears is the voice of decolonization, the voice of equity, the voice of a lateral and valuable way to meet people where every life is valued. Admitted she attacked Bishop Andrew with a hug this morning, because for the first time she could see herself in the gospel that was read this morning. Expressed another step that needs to happen is restructuring our canons and procedures so we're not living in juxtaposition. She believes that the doctrine of discovery is enshrined in our policy and expressed gratitude for all this work.

Sandy Richmond, ODT, St. George, Allandale: reflected on one key word; change. Talked about coming challenges to get people back; difficult for priests, and differences between Sunday Christian and Saturday Christian. Saturday comes out to workshops whereas Sunday comes to sit down, pray and leave. Diversity is in coffee hour – a new woman was welcomed by three people who reached out to her. Said to Synod; If you are here as a lay member you are here to help your parish and priest, and if they come and ask you, please help them.

Sarah Mair, Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator for South Archdeaconry: reflected on many issues that young people can relate to with a common thread of they don't feel like they are being heard. In parishes, in their communities, and at Synod, we need to get out of the four walls of "church" because this is what cast the net challenges us to do. Encouraged Synod to be prepared to cross faith beliefs and cultures. Iterated that Youth want to see their values engaged/expressed/discussed. Introduced Noah Skinner, Youth delegate.

Noah Skinner, Grace Church, Markham: expressed that retaining a youth population is a good problem to have right now. We have a lot of youth being dressed up in their Sunday best and they turn 18 and move out and stop showing up. A problem with retaining youth, is a general belief that some of the principles of Christianity are at odds with their values. Effort to increase youth engagement will look like striking balance in attraction and retention. Youth are attracted to community events; example drop in music nights. Show the youth that you can be a Christian and still fit modern progressive values as represented in the Anglican Church.

The Rev. Canon Dr. Isaac Kawuki-Mukasa, St James the Apostle, Brampton: expressed that he is drawn to re-imagine ministry, almost straight out of the Mosley report (90's). How do we get it right this time? What do we need to do?

Wendy Ladaurantaye, St. Paul, Minden, Kinmount and Maple Lake: spoke to points 11, 14 on re-imagining ministry. At 1987 General Synod, lay leadership was decreased. In her church, their priest calls on the strengths of people. Encouraged Synod to pay attention to who gets left out of opportunities. Exciting to see change happen!

Jackie Delfosse, Christ Church, Stouffville: spoke to point 7 - are we open to including belonging as part of this call? Do we really feel like we belong? Some of us feel we are focused on the Lord but do not belong entirely.

The Rev. Pam Trondson, Holy Trinity, Trinity Square: pointed out a gap in the document – interfaith dialogue.

Bishop Andrew invited people to email the Cast the Net working group and communicate what they think and feel, iterating that we want to include everything as we move forward.

The Rev. Dr. Alison Kemper asked what is recommended with regards to voting on Cast the Net findings.

**Motion #12 –**

It is MOVED by the Rev. Dr. Alison Falby and SECONDED by Dave Toyce, ODT, that this Synod endorse the Vision and Calls for the Diocese developed through the Cast the Net diocesan wide consultation process; and delegate to Synod Council, working with the Cast the Net team, the completion of a final report and detailed recommendations, for distribution throughout the Diocese in the first quarter of 2024.

Bishop Asbil called Chancellor Creal to update on the Pilot Governance Project. Chancellor Creal: Our journey spans seven years, and I'll walk you through the timeline:

- 2017: The Governance and Decision-Making Working Group was established under the strategic plan "Growing in Christ 2016-2021."
- 2019: The Working Group's report and recommendations were considered by Synod. A motion for a pilot project was approved in principle, but changes to The Constitution were defeated. The matter was referred to the next Regular Session of Synod.
- 2021: Synod approved motions allowing changes to the diocese's governance structure. The two-year pilot project included:
  - Amalgamation of Diocesan Council and Executive Board into Synod Council.
  - Synod Council consisting of 25-27 members.
  - Formation of five committees: Audit, Finance, Property, Human Resources, and Risk and Governance.
  - Amalgamation of existing committees.
  - Delegation of decision-making authority to committees with parameters set by Synod and Synod Council.
- January 1, 2022: Synod Council was established, and all five committees were operational.
- February 2022: Synod Council approved a policy defining decision-making authority for Synod Council and its committees.
- June 2022: Governance structure evaluation was initiated by Joy Packham, ODT, and Robert Hart, ODT, with positive responses and support for the Synod Council structure.
- November 2022: Synod received the Governance Review report.
- May 2023: A further Governance Review was submitted, recommending Synod Council's permanence, pending clear communication to the Diocese about its structure and the Committees' structure and mandate.

The detailed report, including an Executive Summary, is available in Section F of your Convening Circular.

CARRIED

**Motion #4 – GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

The Synod Council forward the following motion with the recommendation that it be adopted: It will be MOVED by Sheila Robson and SECONDED by the Rev. Lisa Newland that Synod receive the Governance Review report dated May 12, 2023.

CARRIED (show of hands)

Bishop Asbil called Brandon Gallagher to explain the clickers and test voting ensued.

**Motion #5A-E CONSTITUTION AND CANON CHANGES**

Bishop Asbil called on Chancellor Marg Creal to explain.

Information on proposed changes to The Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Toronto are included in your Convening Circular, Section E.

The Constitution and Canons Committee diligently considers amendments or revisions to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese as they arise and reports on how best such revisions or amendments may be incorporated into the Constitution and Canons.

A summary of the proposed changes are as follows:

Changes to The Constitution s. 15(4) and Canon 13 s. 4(6)(a) are being made to add the Executive Director as a secondary signing officer when the Treasurer and Director of Finance is unavailable. There is also a housekeeping change in Canon 13 to replace “Area” with “Suffragan”.

As a result of making the new governance changes permanent, s. 35 of The Constitution, and Canons 2, 5, 31, 36, 37, 39 all have proposed revisions. Additionally, it is proposed that Canon 3 be deleted in its entirety.

And finally, as our Diocese grows into its new structure, comprised of five archdeaconries instead of the traditional four episcopal areas, there are a couple of instances where we need to suspend Canons to allow for flexibility.

#### **Motion #5A THE CONSTITUTION**

*The Synod Council forwards the following motion with the recommendation that it be adopted:*

It is MOVED by Chancellor Marg Creal and SECONDED by Vice Chancellor Paul Baston that Synod approve the changes to The Constitution, as recommended for approval by Synod Council and presented in the Convening Circular.

CARRIED (95.8%)

#### **Motion #5B CANON 13 – PARISHES**

*The Synod Council forwards the following motion with the recommendation that it be adopted:*

It is MOVED by Chancellor Marg Creal and SECONDED by Vice Chancellor Paul Baston that Synod approve the changes to Canon 13 as recommended for approval by Synod Council and presented in the Convening Circular.

CARRIED (98.4%)

#### **Motion #5C GOVERNANCE-RELATED**

*The Synod Council forwards the following motion with the recommendation that it be adopted:*

It is MOVED by Chancellor Marg Creal and SECONDED by Vice Chancellor Paul Baston that Synod approve the changes to The Constitution, s.35, Canons 2, 5, 31, 36, 37, 39, and delete Canon 3 in its entirety, as they relate to implementing the new governance structure, as recommended for approval by Synod Council and presented in the Convening Circular.

CARRIED (96.4%)

#### **Motion #5D FORMER AREAS AND AREA COUNCIL-RELATED**

*The Synod Council forwards the following motion with the recommendation that it be adopted:*

It is MOVED by Chancellor Marg Creal and SECONDED by Vice Chancellor Paul Baston that Synod approve the changes to The Constitution, s.3(17) and suspend Canons 43 and 44 until the next Regular Session of Synod, as they relate to areas and area council, as recommended for approval by Synod Council and presented in the Convening Circular.

Bishop Andrew commented on ages of youth, looking for 16-30 years old, 40 representatives total. The wording was a mistake and not going to eliminate youth. This was presented to the bishop and chancellor and asked to be clarified.



CARRIED (96.5%)

#### **Motion #5E CANON 14 - VESTRIES**

*The Synod Council forward the following motion with the recommendation that it be adopted:*

It is MOVED by Chancellor Marg Creal and SECONDED by Vice Chancellor Paul Baston that Synod approve the changes to Canon 14 as recommended for approval by Synod Council and presented in the Convening Circular.

The Rev. Canon Janet Read Hockin, St Cuthbert, Leaside: Informed Synod there could be ramifications of passing this motion with regards to applying for diocesan grants which require audits.

Bishop Asbil responded that he could not imagine why we would not consider that and Canon Saffrey confirmed we would make the necessary considerations and changes.

CARRIED (98.4%)

#### **Missional and Outreach Moment presented from Scarborough Steeplechase**

##### **MEMBERS' TIME**

Bishop Riscylla Shaw assumed the Chair with Vice-Chancellor Mark Hemingway acting as Assessor.

The Rev. Canon Stephanie Douglas, St Paul on-the-Hill, Pickering: thanked BYC as a mom of a camper and a priest trying to rebuild ministry in her church for youth, thanks for Diocesan Youth retreat *ReCharge* in the Fall, and expressed how encouraging it was to see so many there. Thanked Canon Rob Saffrey, for being an incredible resource to this Diocese and who has helped her parish with governance and their food bank especially.

Mario Bartolozzi, ODT, St Matthias, Bellwoods: expressed that every church ages with technology, and we are dependent on the computers and equipment we must hold and maintain our data. Invited Synod to the Finance breakout session where they will discuss computer security among other topics.

Finn Keesmaat-Walsh, Redeemer, Bloor St: pronounced that many of you may remember me from many times past. I stand here as a trans Anglican. I want to talk about trans accessibility in parishes. Has encouraged Synod before to get washrooms that are accessible. Does not like brothers and sisters and sons and daughters' language in liturgy. The liturgy is saying I don't belong in church.

The Rev. Helena-Rose Houldcroft, St George, Grafton: prefaced desire to comment on Cast the Net with regards to what rural parishes have to offer. Being at St George's is a gift. Get troubled when we put money too far ahead, because we have to dream, and you don't need money to dream. Parishes might learn from smaller parishes. The only money they raise is from donations. Whatever cause, the whole amount raised goes to that cause. Let's not make dreams too small and not depend on capital campaign to make dreams happen.

The Rev. Matthew McMillan, St. Peter, Cobourg: on behalf of the primate, we would like to share that the Lambeth Communion awards are happening at my parish. Yesterday St Peter's got keys back from general contractor, thanks be to God.

The Rev. Shelley McVea, St Saviour, Toronto: thanked Bishop Andrew for note that was sent when clergy including herself were in Israel when war broke out, and thanked everyone for their prayers. Noted from parish treasurer: we are tiny and our insurance has gone up from \$6000 to over \$11,000 in the last five years. Requested the Diocese to look into the steep rise.

Denise Byard, Ian Physick: thanked the Diocese and Bishop's Youth Ministry Committee for support to attend Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth gathering (CLAY). Reflected that it was amazing to bond, eat steak, attend sessions.

Avery MacGregor, St. Mary and St. Martha: on behalf of synod youth delegates, spoke to issues they have found such as no youth rep on Synod Council. Asked how are they supposed to be involved when there is no youth on Council? Youth should have a voice.

The Rev. Alison Hari-Singh, St. Andrew by-the-Lake: shared about moving ministry into day retreat direction, and invites everyone to consider bringing your community for a quiet day. Please speak to Alison or Billy Gekas.

The Rev. Canon Susan Climo, Holy Spirit of Peace: reminded Synod that since 2001, Lutherans and Anglicans have been friends. Invited Synod to reach out to Lutheran colleagues and work together. The Rev. Martin Giebel of St. Mark Midland stood and cheered!

Allison Murray, St James Roseneath: reminded Synod that in 2019 the parish burnt down, and thanked the Diocese and staff for support during that time. Invited everyone to grand opening on Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Rev. Canon Joan Cavanaugh-Clark, Parish of Minden-Kinmount: expressed hope for a time to come for deacons to do deacons masses. Disheartening in rural parishes when you have Christmas and decide which doesn't get communion because Joan is the only priest and cannot be in three places at once. Will the time come for deacons to do more?

Erica Duffy, St David Anglican-Lutheran Church, Orillia: spoke of not having a leader so they have floaters coming in. Parish is hearing of difference and focus on difference is interesting and positive. Spoke of daughter who loves communion and as parents wondering about whether they are allowed. Focus on diversity.

The Rev. Louise Dightam, Prince of Peace, Wasaga Beach: amplified Lutheran plug; some small parishes struggling with little program and if we partner with others we can do more.

Joan Stover, St George, Grafton: petitioned the Diocese to recognize the worth of our deacons and include them in paying for them to attend synod and look after their expenses. Barbara Russel for example is deacon at her church, and asked for change at next synod in 2025.

#### **Announcements delivered by the Honorary Secretaries about Synod workshops.**

Bishop Shaw invited members to attend the workshop of their choosing and welcomed members to reconvene at the cash bar in the foyer at 5pm, to be followed by a banquet dinner at 6:15pm.

#### **Banquet Dinner**

Bishop Asbil welcomed members to the banquet dinner! The Rev. David Brian Hoopes, OHC offered grace for dinner.

Bishop Robertson introduced guest speakers the Rt. Rev. Maurício Jose Araujo De Andrade, Bishop of the Diocese of Brasilia, and his wife, Sandra Andrade.

Bishop Asbil announced 12 new Canons: The Rev. Canon Julie Burn, The Rev. Canon Andrea Christensen, The Rev. Canon Dr. Alison Falby, The Rev. Canon Andrew Federle, Canon Dr. Anita Gittens, ODT, The Rev. Canon David Bryan Hoopes, OHC, Canon Janet Marshall, The Rev. Canon Robert Mitchell, The Rev. Canon Lisa Newland, The Rev. Canon Jesse Parker, The Rev. Canon Mark Regis, and The Rev. Canon Kevin Wong.

Evening prayer led by Bishop's Youth Ministry Committee.

**ADJOURNMENT-** Synod adjourned until Saturday November 18, 2022.

## **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023**

Morning Prayer pre-recorded from SSJD commenced at 9:30am.

### **SYNOD RECONVENES**

Bishop Asbil called the meeting to order.

#### **Financial Overview**

Bishop Asbil introduced the financial overview pre-recorded presentation from Treasurer and Director of Finance, Patricia D'Souza, which turned into a live presentation thanks to AV Canada's technical difficulties/disabling the video.

#### **Motion #6 – Financial Statements**

*The Synod Council forwards the following motion with the recommendation that it be adopted:*

It is **MOVED** by Sheila Robson and **SECONDED** by the Rev. Canon Lisa Newland that Synod receive the Audited Financial Statements for the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto and the Cemetery Fund for the year ended Dec. 31, 2022.

CARRIED (show of hands)

#### **Motion #7 - Auditors**

*The Synod Council forwards the following motion with the recommendation that it be adopted:*

It is **MOVED** by Sheila Robson and **SECONDED** by the Rev. Canon Lisa Newland that the firm of Grant Thornton LLP, Chartered Accountants, be appointed to conduct the audit of the Financial Statements of the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto and, on behalf of unitholders, as Auditors for the Cemetery Fund for the year ended Dec. 31, 2023, at a fee to be approved by the Audit Committee

CARRIED (show of hands)

#### **Priorities and Plans 2024-2025**

Bishop Asbil introduced Canon Saffrey and Patricia D'Souza to present the Priorities & Plans and budget by way of a pre-recorded presentation. This may be found in the Convening Circular, Section D.

#### **Motion #8**

*The Synod Council forwards the motion with the recommendation that it be adopted:*

It is **MOVED** by Sheila Robson and **SECONDED** by the Rev. Canon Lisa Newland that Synod receive the document entitled Priorities and Plans 2024 & 2025 and approve the priorities and the financial budget contained therein and that Synod Council report back to Synod on this plan. It will be further moved that Synod approve that the Assessment Rate, as defined in Canon 4, remain at 24.7% for 2024 and 2025.

The Rev. Dr. Alison Kemper, St Matthias Bellwoods: pointed out decline through to 2024 based on the 5 year analysis presentation and trends projections. Do we have a reasonable chance increasing parish assessments in 2025? Will we be richer Anglicans, or will there be more Anglicans? What are our assumptions?

Patricia D'Souza responded: allotment remains at rate; assumptions are parishes will increase rental incomes by 2025. We expect increases due to rental increases (parishes have been increasing/trends show) projecting into future after covid of increases.

John van Nostrand, Messiah: congratulated Synod on including affordable housing. Expressed disappointment at assumption that Kindred Works has irrelevant experience to work with every parish. Stated we have never had an explanation of what Kindred Works approach is. Wondered about comparison to the United Church where its all to do with making more money for the church. Stated we deserve to be told more about kindred

“spirits”. Reminded that last Synod they were approved at the last minute and this is not the right way to do business.

The Rev. Jacqueline Daley, St Margaret, New Toronto: asked is there any plan for support to parishes to help us with rentals? Since there is an assumption that revenue will increase, what is there to help us do that?

Canon Rob answered: not directly part of operating budget but falls under what the director of property does. Noted it will take time to put into place, and, we are looking at figuring out more support.

CARRIED

### **Missional & Outreach Moment from The Common Table**

#### **ELECTION FOR SYNOD COUNCIL, GENERAL SYNOD AND PROVINCIAL SYNOD**

Bishop Asbil called for the election of members to Synod Council, General Synod and Provincial Synod.

Chris Ambidge, ODT, Redeemer, Bloor St: stated we are confused and asked is everyone voting for all, or clergy for clergy, lay for lay?

Bishop Asbil answered: clergy vote for clergy, and lay vote for lay. Asked for motion to close nominations.

MOVED by Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by Finn Keesmaat-Walsh, CARRIED.

The Rev. Nathan Humphrey, St. Thomas, Huron Street: asked how do we know clergy have clergy clickers and lay have lay? Is it honour system?

Bishop Asbil answered: the clickers are all registered to each house by clergy and lay.

The Rev. Philip Stonhouse, St. Matthew, Islington: pointed out people did not see the vote so we have to do this again for lay only.

MOVED by Sandy Richmond, SECONDED by The Rev. Canon Claudette Taylor to move to close the nominations.

General Synod: additional nomination for The Rev. Philip Stonhouse, St Matthew, Islington a lay member of Christ the King.

Provincial Synod: The Rev. Canon Claudette Taylor nominated Karen Beckles, Epiphany and St Mark, Parkdale. The Rev. Dr. Alison Kemper nominated herself to stand as a deacon, and asked if any other deacons wanted to go to Provincial Synod.

MOVED by Chris Ambidge, ODT and SECONDED by Mark Hemingway to close nominations. CARRIED

### **Missional and Outreach Moment from All Saints, Peterborough**

#### **MEMBERS' TIME**

Bishop Kevin Robertson assumed the Chair with Vice-Chancellor John van Gent acting as Assessor.

Billy Gekas, St. Andrew by-the-Lake: On behalf of TUNM Board, give thanks to Diocese for support and prayers, and fiscal support. Called for support in partnership and fiscal needs, to keep front line settler Indigenous ministry going. Contacts: Canon Andrea Budgey, Sandra Campbell, Leigh Kern and Evan Smith.

Talked about role at John W Graham library at Trinity College, in order to give access for professional development and research, if you need clergy cards for ministry.

The Rev. Michael van Dusen, St Aidan, Toronto: Encouraged Synod to consider the 20 Calls to Diocese, number 8 especially in response to climate crisis, and pointed to green sheets on tables about net zero churches. Recommended Synod have a look and take it in, and fill out the forms please so the committee may gather information.

Ann Moir, St. Nicholas, Birch Cliff: Announced the winning hymn of the Christmas Carol/Hymn challenge (also found in The Anglican) as Be Thou My Vision. Encouraged Synod to visit the parish website to sign up.

The Rev. Canon Maggie Helwig, St Stephen in-the-Fields: updated and thanked Synod regarding the two-year encampment at St Stephen's of highly vulnerable people, who are treated as un-houseable by systems and agencies. Have developed close relationships and turns out church yard is not church property but a transportation right of way. Have spent past year in negotiations with the city to protect the encampment. Made the difficult choice to take legal action last month to try to protect them. Applied for injunction to prevent city from clearing while pursuing a constitutional challenge to rights, safety and housing. Large project working with law firm with expertise and commitment to unhoused people. Thanked the Diocese for allowing donations.

Kevin Ball, St Peter (Erindale): expressed concern about hiring clergy in Anglican church. No secret that there is a shortage of priests. Vocation to priesthood is declining. Global concern across various denominations. Let's consider people from across the world who are enthusiastic and qualified, and willing to serve in Toronto. Wants our clergy to explore opportunities abroad. With advancement in technology it is easier to bridge geographical barriers. Remote ministry is possible. Invest in vocations to priesthood working with schools, colleges and universities.

The Rev. Canon Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD: shared that along with OHC, the SSJD has been serving in the Diocese for a long time. Thanked for support of donations of \$650,000. Expressed thanks for bishop and suffragans and synod council who approved tithe from sale of a property for the renovations SSJD. Encouraged Synod to check out their booth for more info. Still have lots of money to raise; 6 million dollars! 2024 is 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SSJD and OHC.

The Rev. Daniel Brereton, St. John the Baptist (Dixie): shared about struggling a few years ago during the pandemic and experienced burn out. Reached out to Regional Dean, The Rev. Canon Susan Climo and then spoke to Bishop Kevin Robertson. Expressed fear of being labelled a weak priest in anticipation of sharing experience. However, that is not what happened and the church was there for him and was able to take a break. Expressed thanks to clergy who covered for him and thanked his wardens. Thanked Bishop's Company and encouraged others to donate. Encouraged clergy to admit when they are tired and ask for help.

The Rev. Angie Hocking, All Saints, Sherbourne St: expressed inspiration from Bishop Andrew's charge to Synod about letting go. Talked about interpretation from property workshop which was that we don't want to sell properties. Outlined discrepancy between land and ethos, where the Diocese is sitting on 1.5 billion dollars of land. Two homeless men have died in the last week, one close to the Cathedral. What people need immediately is safety to exist in rights to home. Asked "Are we only thinking of existence in walls of our building?" The Charge said to let go, but are we letting go of our properties and wealth? We are called to be alive in the world.

Mary Walsh, ODT, St John the Baptist, Oak Ridges: talked about being a lay representative at Synod which allows three turns. If we have six-year role it makes it difficult if you want to go to General Synod twice, and reflected that a second time works best in order to take it all in. Cautioned six years may not be long enough.

The Rev. Jeff Nowers, Christ the King: introduced as Interfaith Ministry co-chair. Spoke of ethnic cleansing in Gaza, called attention to Oct 18<sup>th</sup> open letter, cosigned by Archbishop Linda Nicholls and Bishop Susan Johnson (ELCIC) to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Urged Synod to speak up now to advocate for medical care, potable water emphasizing that Canada must use all resources to highlight this urgency.

Logan Liut, St Thomas, Huron Street: Drew attention to marriage policy; no liturgy offered that is not common. Would appreciate considerations made that liturgy for marriage could be made in traditional language. Need liturgical quality.

The Rev. Pam Trondson, Holy Trinity, Trinity Square: thanks expressed for Social Justice motion. Thanked Property Committee for workshop, and the ideas presented. Wondered about Kindred Works focus on churches making decisions about market rate, affordable housing, understand at church level but should there be other pathways and how will they take place? Will they include affordable housing options? Where is the money going in terms of affordable housing? Invited Synod to Tuesday homeless memorial.

The Rev. Dr. Irwin Sikha, St Bede: thanked the Lord for his goodness! Began at St Bede during pandemic and lamented not being able to get around to see the whole congregation until this year, which is also the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebratory year. St Bede had to grapple with being closed down, and a few families pitched in to volunteer and invest and growth has begun again. St Bede now has multi-generational ministry from infants to 90+ years old, and hold onto traditional worship and enthusiastically introducing contemporary music.

The Rev. Jacqueline Daley, St Margaret, New Toronto: represented Black Anglicans of Canada; we are a grass roots organization to increase representation in lay and ordained roles in the full life of Anglican Church of Canada. We need allies to accomplish our goals.

Nicole Martin, Holy Wisdom: spoke about membership in this ministry is to have organizations and businesses involved. Our members are called to be inclusive, and respect the dignity of all living out our faith and covenants. Invited to WhatsApp Rev. Jacqueline Daley to get membership information.

The Rev. Dr. Alison Kemper, St. Matthias, Bellwoods announced she is a member of Black Anglicans.

Bishop Asbil reassumed the chair along with Chancellor Creal. They explained that the General Synod vote had too many spoiled ballots, meaning some voted for too many people. Explained that the vote needed to be redone quickly, to uphold the hard stop of 1pm. Explained Motion 11 also needed to be done as well as housekeeping announcements.

### **Notices of Motion from Members of Synod**

Chancellor Creal explained A Notice of Motion dated October 19, 2023 was received from John van Nostrand and the Rev. Canon John Hill. Pursuant to Canon 1, the Notice of Motion was placed on the Agenda of the October 19, 2023 meeting of Synod Council.

### **Motion #11A – AFFORDABLE HOUSING - withdrawn**

*The Synod Council forwards the following Notice of Motion to Synod with the recommendation that it not be adopted:*

MOVED by John van Nostrand and SECONDED by the Rev. Canon John Hill that:

The Synod adopts a definitive strategy for utilizing its lands and buildings to support the development of Affordable Housing; and,

1. That the strategy address matters of housing equity, including supportive housing, homelessness, sheltering, transitional/interim housing, other forms of housing inequity; and, in particular, the needs of newcomer and/or refugees who are either Anglicans, or those with similar beliefs; and,
2. That the strategy addresses the assurance of housing affordability by considering various models including sustainable affordable housing, rent-geared-to-income (RGI), rent supplement, affordable ownership, etc; and,

3. That the strategy prioritizes the development of vacant and underutilized assets for affordable housing development

**Synod Council provided the following comment:**

Although the Synod Council energetically supports the notion of a strategic plan for Diocesan property that includes various aspects of affordable housing, even to the extent of employing expertise to assist this, this motion is repetitive of prior adopted synod motions, and includes in its details, items that would require restarting the strategic planning process. We want to get shovels in the ground as soon as possible, and hence ask the members to vote against this new motion.

MOVER John van Nostrand spoke to Motion 11A: expressed the brilliant charge yesterday talked about series of changes over the past four years, yet one thing hasn't changed which is housing. To say a strategy was proposed in 2019, we have never heard of it. A plan was to be adopted then and it was not. Speaking to it now so people know the wrong done. Backlog of process in housing remains largely unattended to. This motion was put in to bolster the motion. They have made revisions in consultations that others have common interests in. Strategy utilises affordable and underused housing options. Has a handwritten version of the motion that is offered to be revised and included as revised when it is signed.

Bishop Asbil reminded we are addressing Motion 11A, and the Mover was talking about 11B, which we already voted not to bring and amend. Asked the Mover if they are saying you want to make revisions to Motion 11A? If so, we need a change and amendment to original motion? Bishop Asbil asked that we continue with this motion as is, or, we refer it to Synod Council now and would bring back to Synod in 2025.

The Rev. Canon Dr. David Barker, St. George, Haliburton: moved that we refer Motion 11A to Synod Council and bring back to Synod in 2025. NOT CARRIED.

SECONDER of Motion 11A invited to speak: the Rev. Canon John Hill declines.

Peter Patterson, ODT, Christ Church St. James & Co-chair of Diocesan Property Committee: spoke to points that have been suggested to delete in the Motion are what the Property Committee would be uncomfortable seeing in the motion. The priorities (for the committee) have been the homeless and not to say that we do not like Anglicans. Shared example of a bankrupt developer that would ensure all parishes be lost. Does not have Kindred Works complete answer yet, and reminded Synod that they are one tool in our toolbox. We need to continue to seek and develop more tools, and believes Kindred Works will be a useful and exemplary tool going forward.

The Rev. Samantha Caravan, All Saints, Peterborough: expressed concern that we are in an untenable situation because of lack of time. Is there another option available to us (to give time to this Motion) that does not take two years?

Chancellor Creal responded there is not another option at this time and Synod Council is the body to hold this Motion in safekeeping.

The Rev. Canon Dr. Stephen Fields, St James Cathedral: declared this is an important issue and suggested a special Synod be convened to discuss this Motion.

The Rev. Pam Trondson, Holy Trinity, Trinity Square: suggested a task force regarding housing.

Bishop Asbil responded that the concern for the special Synod suggestion is cost (it is costly to plan and execute a Synod). Bishop Asbil reminded Synod that there were eight (8) minutes remaining in our allotted agenda for Synod and determined we would go to a vote.

John van Nostrand, Messiah: determined to withdraw the motion.

Bishop Asbil iterated that housing is important for us to consider, and summarized that what is being spoken and heard in this conversation is that our Property Committee and Synod Council are raising the questions of how we deal with this matter in a conducive way. Bishop Asbil assured Synod that Synod Council is pledged to work to move this important matter forward and in ways that will not push us to our collective and agreed limitations. Bishop Asbil asked if Synod agreed, and Synod responded in agreement.

John van Nostrand, Messiah: beseeched Synod to read the City of Toronto housing plan in the next couple years for further enlightenment and preparation.

### **CLOSING REMARKS TO SYNOD**

Bishop Mauricio offered closing reflections. Thanked Synod for having him and looking forward to deepening partnership between Brasilia and Toronto.

Bishop Andrew thanked Cast the Net team while noting gift from Pam Prideaux; a small sculpture of a canoe full of disciples and fish.

Bishop Asbil charged: We stand on the beach together. We have been through the turbulent pandemic seas. God is calling us into a new way together. Being in this place together has been a tonic for the soul. To hear the buzz of Anglicans coming together after so long is a gift. To know we have a lot of work to do in our communities and the pledge we have to grow together to become the net itself will be built on trust and working together as community. I pray as we go, we stay in constant contact and become practical in all the ways we work and we learn how to let go. It might be awkward and messy. The messy moments are the ones that matter if you allow them to shape us. Allow them to know us and know the Spirit of God is within this and with us. The little line to learn by ear that becomes the vision and dismissal; followers of Jesus, inspired by the holy spirit, serve the world God loves. Use this on Sunday mornings, memorise it; remind how God is calling to us in the new world.

Bishop Asbil thanked the staff, Pam Boisvert especially and the whole team who worked to pull everything together. Sheila Robson thanked and noted her term is concluded.

### **Motion #9 – ELECTION OF HONORARY SECRETARIES**

It is MOVED by Chancellor Marg Creal and SECONDED by Vice Chancellor John van Gent that the following be elected for the ensuing two year term.

- The Rev. Lisa Newland, Honorary Clerical Secretary
- Constance Kendall, ODT, Honorary Lay Secretary
- The Rev. Jason Prisley, Assistant Honorary Clerical Secretary

CARRIED

Bishop Asbil thanked the Rev. Canon Lisa Newland and Constance Kendall, and members of the agenda committee for their service to Synod. Bishop Andrew thanked sponsors, hotels, scrutineers, Jenn and Ajith. Honorary Secretaries expressed thanks to staff, volunteers, and sponsors.

### **ELECTION RESULTS**

#### **Synod Council**

Clerical:

The Rev. Canon Dr. Stephen Fields (St. James Cathedral)

The Rev. Lucia Lloyd (St. John, Bowmanville)

The Rev. Graham McCaffrey (St. Dunstan of Canterbury)

The Rev. Mark Regis (St. Mary & St. Martha, Toronto)



The Rev. Philip Stonhouse (St. Matthew, Islington)

Lay:

Lawrence Barker (St. Luke, Burnt River)  
Heather McGregor, ODT (St. Mary Magdalene)  
David Toycen, ODT (Trinity Church, Streetsville)  
Canon Laura Walton, ODT (Holy Trinity, Clearview)  
Eirene Wee (St. Paul, Bloor Street)  
Adam Nymann (St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough)

### **Provincial Synod**

Clerical:

The Rev. Canon Kit Greaves (Christ Memorial Church, Oshawa)  
The Rev. Dr. Alison Kemper (St. Matthias, Bellwoods)  
The Rev. Graham McCaffrey (St. Dunstan of Canterbury)  
The Rev. Brian Suggs (All Saints, Kingsway)

Lay:

Lawrence Barker (St. Luke, Burnt River)  
Ryan Ramsden, ODT (Grace Church, Scarborough)  
Susan Schuschu, ODT (St. John, East Orangeville)  
Noah Skinner (Grace Church, Markham)  
Canon Laura Walton, ODT (Holy Trinity, Clearview)

### **General Synod**

Clerical:

The Rev. Canon Philip Der (St. Christopher)  
The Rev. Yohan Dumpala (St. John the Baptist, Norway)  
The Rev. Canon Dr. Stephen Fields (St. James Cathedral)  
The Rev. Lucia Lloyd (St. John, Bowmanville)  
The Rev. Canon Nicola Skinner (Grace Church, Markham)  
The Rev. Brian Suggs (All Saints, Kingsway)  
The Rev. Canon Claudette Taylor (Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale)

Lay:

Chancellor Marg Creal, KC, BA (Hon), LLB (Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street)  
Finn Keesmaat-Walsh (Redeemer, Bloor Street)  
Logan Liut (St. Thomas, Huron Street)  
Yvonne Murray, ODT (Holy Wisdom)  
Noah Skinner (Grace Church, Markham)  
David Toycen, ODT (Trinity Church, Streetsville)  
Mary Walsh, ODT (St. John the Baptist, Oak Ridges)  
Canon Laura Walton, ODT (Holy Trinity, Clearview)

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil offered a closing prayer.

### **Motion #10: ADJOURNMENT**

It is MOVED by Sheila Robson, ODT that the 162<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of Synod be terminated.

CARRIED (show of hands)