

REPORT from SECRETARY of SYNOD

As Secretary of Synod, I provide the following information as it has been collected from the councils, committees and staff responsible for it.

The minutes of the 65th Synod (September 29-30, 2017) were duly recorded and properly filed in the Official Minutes book of the Diocese. They are included in Appendix 1 of this circular. The Bishop's Report for this Synod reports on the progress and actions associated with the items in her charge from the last Synod, as well as other items she wishes to bring to our attention.

I have recorded the minutes of the nine Diocesan Executive Council in-person meetings since the 65th Synod. The matters related to the business transacted at these meetings have been acted upon. Following the report of the Secretary of Synod is a list of the Council's acts and resolutions undertaken or adopted since the last regular meeting of Synod.

The Diocesan Executive Council usually meets on the third Thursday evening at 7:00 pm, every second month, excluding the summer.

Should any parish corporation, clergy or diocesan committee have business they wish to have considered by the Executive Council, please feel free to contact the Bishop, Executive Officer or your Regional Representatives. We would appreciate it if items to be included on the Council agenda are submitted at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

ANNUAL PARISH STATISTICS

Each year parishes are required to complete Annual Parish Statistics and Financial Statistics forms. These figures are compiled into the Diocesan Statistical Return, which is then forwarded to the National Church. These statistics are important in that they give an indication of the growth of the church in our small corner of the Church. The reports for 2017 and 2018 are included in Appendix 5, along with a five-year summary in Appendix 6.

DIOCESAN FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Diocese's Financial Statements for 2017 and 2018 as reviewed by Grant Thornton, Chartered Accountants, have been adopted by Executive Council. These are found in Appendix 4 in the Convening Circular.

Thank you, clergy, wardens, treasurers, vestries and every congregation of the Diocese for your faithful remittance of Assessment/Appportionment payments which permit us to continue our shared ministries in the Diocese..

DIOCESAN COMMITTEES

Many members of the diocese give of their time and talents in their attendance at committee meetings and in carrying out their responsibilities and functions. Throughout the year various task forces also contribute to the development of diocesan ministries and policies. Many of these committees and groups have provided printed reports to this Synod, and are in this circular.

The Administration and Finance Committee regularly meets to oversee the administrative matters of this diocese. Following the list of Executive Council acts is a list of the essential resolutions adopted by the Administration and Finance Committee since the last regular meeting of Synod.

Without the sacrificial participation of members of these committees, the operation and ministry of the diocese would never be accomplished. Many sincere thanks and may God bless each of you for your involvement in the life of this diocese.

DIOCESAN STAFF

In January, 2018 Charis St. Pierre, Personal Assistant to the Bishop resigned. Jennifer Wirun then became the Bishop's Personal Assistant.

Following is a list of the staff of the Diocese:

Diocesan Synod Staff:

BishopRight Reverend Jane Alexander
Personal Assistant to the Bishop..... Jennifer Wirun
Executive Archdeacon Ven. Alan Perry
Treasurer Rev. John Gee
Director of Communications..... Margaret Glidden
Administrative Assistant..... Shelly King
Hospital Chaplain..... Rev. Regula Brandle
Educational Chaplain.....Rev. Heather Liddell

Reach Staff:

Priest-in-Mission.....Rev. Eric Kregel
Rector, St. Mark-Jieng.....Rev. Akon Akon
Rector, Holy Trinity, Tofield; St. Mary, Vegreville; St. Matthew, Viking....Rev. Laureta Blondin
Rector, St. George, Devon.....Rev. Christian Gordon
Interim Priest-in-Charge, Emmanuel, GibbonsRev. Anthony Arza-Kwaw
Priest-in-Mission for Indigenous Ministry.....Rev. Lori Calkins

Indigenous Ministry:

Archdeacon for Indigenous MinistryVen. Travis Enright
Aboriginal and Rural Communities Liaison.....Fiona Brownlee
Priest in Mission Rev. Lori Calkins
Urban Reconciliation Facilitator..... Rev. Nick Trussell

The staff of the Outreach and Indigenous ministries are funded thanks to generous funding from the Reach Mission Campaign.

Rural Ministry Initiative:

Canon Pastor for Rural Ministry.....Rev. Canon Chelsy Bouwman
Rector, St. Mary and St. George, Jasper.....Rev. Andreas Sigrist
Rector, St. Mary Abbots, Barrhead; St. Peter, Lac La Nonne.....Rev. Barry Rose
Associate Priest, St. Augustine, Parkland.....Rev. Aaron Parsall-Myler

The staff of the Rural Ministry Initiative are funded through proceeds of the sale of inactive closed rural churches.

Diocesan Development Fund:

Curate, St. Luke, Edmonton.....Maryann Amor
Outreach Youth Coordinator.....Clark Hardy
Ecumenical Officer..... Rev. Canon Dr. Scott Sharman

Residential Schools Settlement Fund:

Urban Reconciliation Facilitator.....Rev. Nick Trussell

COMMUNICATION

Various forms of communication are in place for letting Anglicans and others know what is happening around the diocese.

Synod Scene: A regular feature of the email system is the weekly *SYNOD SCENE*, which highlights events and notes of diocesan interest. If you would like to receive the *Synod Scene* by email, just let the diocesan Communications Director know. The *Synod Scene* is also available on the diocesan website, www.edmonton.anglican.ca.

The Messenger: This newspaper is published 10 times a year and distributed by the *Anglican Journal*. It includes news and events from the dioceses of Edmonton and Athabasca. It is available free of charge to all members of the Edmonton diocese. You can subscribe online to *The Messenger* at: <http://www.anglicanjournal.com/subscribe/>

Diocesan Website: The website has numerous bits of valuable information, such as news and events in the diocese, specific information and forms regularly used by clergy as well as a section of information and forms for parishes. The What-We-Do section includes the many and varied activities and programs initiated or supported by the diocese. Overall, the website is a key place to look to find current information on what is happening throughout the diocese: www.edmonton.anglican.ca

Executive Council Regional Representatives: The elected members of Executive Council are elected from each region of the diocese. Part of their responsibilities is to communicate with the parishes in their region. The Synod Office sends summaries of Executive Council meetings to People’s Wardens of each parish to share with their vestry and parish. The Regional Reps from Executive Council communicate with the People’s Wardens to see if they have questions, clarify items and receive anything the parishes wish to communicate to Executive Council.

Synod Office Email Addresses:

General Office and Communications Director churched@edmonton.anglican.ca
General Office..... reception@edmonton.anglican.ca
Bishop Alexander..... bishop@edmonton.anglican.ca
Treasurer treasurer@edmonton.anglican.ca
Executive Archdeacon atperry@edmonton.anglican.ca
Personal Assistant to the Bishop..... assistant@edmonton.anglican.ca
Secretary of Synod..... barbarab@edmonton.anglican.ca
Synod Office Address 10035 – 103 Street, Edmonton, AB, T5J 0X5
Synod Office Telephone Number 780-439-7344
Synod Office Toll-free Number 1-877-494-8890
Diocese of Edmonton website www.edmonton.anglican.ca

Diocese of Edmonton Twitter..... @DioEdm

Diocese of Edmonton Facebook Page facebook.com/anglican.edmonton

The Messenger anglicanmessenger@gmail.com

We hope you will stay in touch with us!

*Respectfully submitted,
Canon Barbara Burrows
Secretary of Synod*

ACTS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Since the 65th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton

This report, compiled from minutes of Executive Council meetings taken by Canon Barbara Burrows, includes only substantive acts and motions adopted or carried by Executive Council. Procedural motions have not been included in the report, thus accounting for the non-consecutive numbering of the motions. The minutes of Executive Council are kept on file in the Synod Office. Anyone wishing to review the full report of the minutes may do so by arrangement with the Executive Archdeacon, Alan Perry. Summaries of the minutes are sent to the People's Wardens of each parish.

Members of Executive Council at September 30th, 2019 are the following:

*The Rt. Rev. Jane Alexander, Chair
The Ven. Alan Perry, Executive Archdeacon
The Ven. Lee Bezanson
The Ven. Travis Enright
The Ven. Richard King
The Ven. Chris Pappas
The Hon. Judge Ken Holmstrom, Chancellor
Ms. Lois MacLean, Vice Chancellor
The Rev. John Gee, Diocesan Treasurer
Canon Barbara Burrows, Synod Secretary
Rev. Billy Isenor, Appointee
Mr. Toby Ramsden, Appointee
Rev. Nick Trussell, Appointee
The Rev. Mark Vigrass (Battle River)
Mr. Roland Teape (Battle River)
Ms. Cathy Armstrong (Cold Lake)
The Rev. Cheryl Boulet (Edmonton West)
The Rev. Coleen Lynch (Edmonton West)
Mr. Trevor Leach (Edmonton West)
The Rev. Alex Meek (Whitemud)
Mr. John de Haan (Whitemud)
Mr. Brian Popp (Whitemud)
The Rev. Canon Chelsy Bouwman (Yellowhead)
Ms. Lynn Reckhow (Yellowhead)
Ms. Rita Stagman (Yellowhead)*

Each region of the Diocese is represented by two lay members and one clergy member, who are elected at the previous Synod. These elected members are encouraged to pass on news from Executive Council to parishes within their region. Parishes are encouraged to send their news to Executive Council via their regional representatives.

Resolution #EC10-17

Be it Resolved that the proposed general fund budget for 2018 be adopted.
Carried.

Resolution #EC03-18

Be is Resolved that Executive Council concur with the disestablishment of the parish of St. Paul's Evansburg, pursuant to Canon 5.13.
Carried.

Resolution #EC04-18

Be it Resolved that the Executive Council accept the reviewed Financial Statements for 2017 as presented.
Carried.

Resolution #EC06-18

Be it Resolved that, as requested by the vestry of St. Augustine's Edmonton, the balance of St. Augustine's restricted fund in the Consolidated Trust Fund be applied to partial repayment of St. Augustine's loan balance with the Diocesan Development Fund.
Carried.

Resolution #EC07-18

Be it Resolved that the balance of the one outstanding loan from the Clergy Relocation Fund be forgiven, and that the Clergy Relocation Fund be wound up and the remaining balance transferred to the Rural Ministry Initiative Fund.
Carried.

Resolution #EC09-18

Be it Resolved that when the property of Holy Trinity Bon Accord is sold, that 25% of the proceeds go to the CTF, the income of which would be for the use of Emmanuel Gibbons, and 75% go to RMI.

Resolution #EC10-18

Be it Resolved that this motion be tabled.
Carried.

Resolution #EC11-18

Be it Resolved that the 2019 budget be adopted as presented.
Carried.

Resolution #EC12-18

Be it Resolved that Executive Council adopt the proposed Environmental Policy.
Carried.

The Diocese of Edmonton Environmental Policy is included in the Circular in the Section on Groups and Committees.

Resolution #EC01-19

Be it Resolved that the Diocese move forward with the redevelopment of the Holy Trinity Riverbend site, in partnership with Right at Home Housing Society (RHHS), to develop a housing community that is designed to assist with the “End Homelessness” goals supported by the Diocese. The Bishop, in consultation with the Chancellor/Vice-Chancellor, and the Registrar as may be necessary, and with the assistance and advice of the Diocesan Solicitor or his designate, may negotiate such agreements as may be reasonably necessary to give effect to this project, including:

1. a sale of the land at less than market value on the basis that as part of the redevelopment, RHSS will provide the funds to enable a new church building to be constructed and the current structure demolished, in agreement with the Diocese and by way of 50 years (or more) of leases being granted back to the Diocese for the use of the church at no or significantly reduced net rent to reflect the sale transaction; OR
2. a sale of the land at less than market value with the Diocese obtaining a subdivision of a portion of the lands sold to be retained in the name of the Diocese, on the basis that as part of the redevelopment, RHSS will provide the funds to enable a new church building to be constructed and the current structure demolished, in agreement with the Diocese, as may be most beneficial to the proper development of this overall project, and with the understanding that the Diocese will be a participant in the planning of the housing and community development on the site.

The Bishop shall update Executive Council and the Synod from time to time as to the progress of the project. Any final agreements are to be consented to by the Administration and Finance Committee and subject to approval by Executive Council.
Carried.

Resolution #EC03-19

Be it Resolved that the Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2018 be approved.
Carried.

Resolution #EC04-19

Be it Resolved that the Rosemary Holdsworth life insurance payment be transferred into the Rural Ministry Initiative.
Carried.

Resolution #EC05-19

Be it Resolved that Motion EC#09-18 be taken from the table.
Carried.

Resolution #EC-09-18

Be it Resolved that when the property of Holy Trinity Bon Accord is sold, that 25% of the proceeds go to the CTF, the income of which would be for the use of Emmanuel Gibbons, and 75% go to RMI.

Carried.

Resolution #EC07-19

Be it Resolved that Executive Council gives Bishop Jane our blessings and full support in her decision to take a leave of absence.

Carried.

Resolution #EC08-19

Be it Resolved that Executive Council authorize the sale of the building and land of St. Mary, Sangudo.

Carried.

Resolution #EC09-19

Be it Resolved that Executive Council concur with the disestablishment of the parish of St. Mary, Sangudo, pursuant to Canon 5.13, notice having been previously given to Executive Council pursuant to Canon 5.11.

Carried.

Resolution #EC10-19

Be it Resolved that Executive Council authorize the parish of Holy Trinity Riverbend and the diocese to proceed with the discussion of the sale of a 4-acre parcel of land to Right at Home Housing Society; approving, in principle, option 1 of the 2 options presented to the Administration and Finance Committee.

Carried.

Resolution #EC11-19

Be it Resolved that Executive Council authorize the sale of the rectory at St. Mary's Edmonton to Recovery Acres for \$274,000.

Carried.

Resolution #EC12-19

Be it Resolved that the following people be appointed by the Bishop to attend the 66th Synod: Carol Blair, Arlette Zinck, Evan Thomas, Mary-Lou Cleveland, Maryann Amor, Mark Pepler, Mark Armstrong, Brian Jolly; with others to be added as they are appointed by the Bishop.

Carried.

Resolution #EC13-19

Be it Resolved that the following young people be appointed by the Bishop to attend the 66th Synod: Leah Marshall, Ben Goetze, Emily Stephen-Garneau, Aaron Baxter-Betz; with others to be added as they are appointed by the Bishop.

Carried.

Resolution #EC14-19

Be it Resolved that Executive Council approve the draft agenda for the 66th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton to be held October 4-5, 2019, as presented.

Carried.

In addition to the above resolutions of Executive Council, Executive Council has engaged in broad discussions and has heard regular reports on the Diocese's finances, issues or concerns about properties around the Diocese, reports from various ministries and initiatives, and has been informed about happenings around the Diocese. At each meeting, Bishop Jane gives a summary of her time since the last meeting, noting any particular highlights or lowlights, and events of which to take note. She reviews her Mission Action Plan regularly to note whether things are on track with her plans or if they need revision.

Our meetings have been structured around the Five Marks of Mission, with various agenda items falling into one of the marks:

- *To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom*
- *To teach, baptize, and nurture new believers*
- *To respond to human need by loving service*
- *To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation*
- *To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth*

Other items of interest and import in the past two years in which the Council engaged were the following:

- ❖ *Property sales, renovations and disestablishment of defunct parishes, and other items of interest from Administration and Finance, and Property and Planning.*
- ❖ *Updates on diocesan initiatives such as ID, Congregational Development, Rural Ministries Initiative, Indigenous Ministries Initiatives, Messy Church initiatives, University Chaplaincy, and the Subgroup for a Diocesan Sustainability Plan / Environmental Policy.*
- ❖ *News from around the Diocese, ordinations, those in discernment, appointments, resignations, etc.*
- ❖ *News from international consultations of which Bishop Jane is a member, such as the Consultation of Bishops in Dialogue, the Eco Bishops Conference, Anglican Consultative Council, Jesus Shaped Life, Compass Rose Society, etc.*
- ❖ *Updates on our partnership with the Diocese of Buyé, visits by Bishop Jane and Bishop Sixbert, our partner parishes, the pediatric ward at the hospital, refurbishing a drinking water spring, provision of medical cards for seniors through parish fundraising .*
- ❖ *Reports on conferences and synods such as the Human Trafficking Conference, Provincial Synod, General Synod, etc.*

Through these updates, we take part in discussions about mission and discipleship, and we become aware that we are part of a church much larger than ourselves.

Acts of Administration and Finance Committee Since the 65th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton

This report, compiled from minutes of Administration and Finance Committee meetings, includes only substantive acts and motions adopted or carried by Administration and Finance Committee. Procedural motions have not been included in this report, thus accounting for the non-consecutive numbering of the motions. The minutes of Administration and Finance Committee are kept on file in the Synod Office. Anyone wishing to review the full report of the minutes may do so by arrangement with the Executive Archdeacon Alan Perry. Please note that the previous month(s) financial statements are received for information at each meeting of Administration and Finance Committee.

Members of Administration and Finance Committee at October 1, 2019 are:

The Rt. Rev. Jane Alexander

The Rev. John Gee, Treasurer

The Ven. Alan Perry, Executive Archdeacon

Ms. Carol Blair

Mr. John de Haan

The Rev. Christian Gordon

Mr. Ian Harris

The Rev. Robyn King

Mr. David Kinloch

Ms. Lois MacLean, Vice -chancellor

Mr. Toby Ramsden, Chair

The Rev. Robin Walker

Mrs. Margaret Glidden (Recorder)

Resolution AF 08-17

Be it resolved that, for 2018, the travel reimbursement rate will stay at the 2017 rate of 50 cents per kilometer for the first 5,000 kms, and 40 cents per km for travel beyond the first 5,000 kms; the clergy supply rate be kept at \$150 per one Sunday service and \$210 per two or more Sunday services.

Resolution AF 09-17

Be it resolved that the A&F committee recommends to Executive Council for approval the Diocese of Edmonton 2018 Proposed Financial Plan.

Resolution AF 12-17

Be it resolved that the A&F committee adopts the proposed Parental Leave Compensation Policy immediately and revisits the policy should there be concerns raised during consultation with clergy and employees of the diocese.

Resolution AF 03-18

Be it resolved that the A&F committee approves, in principle, bridge loans from the Diocesan Development Fund for the purpose of installing solar energy systems in churches, providing the requesting parish has successfully qualified for city and provincial grants.

Resolution AF 04-18

Be it resolved that the A&F committee approves the addition of the Bishop's Assistant Pro Tempore, Jennifer Wirun, as a Signing Officer for the Diocese of Edmonton, except for cheques greater than \$50,000.

Resolution AF 05-18

Be it resolved that the A&F committee recommends Grant Thornton's review of the financial statements of The Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for the year ended December 31, 2017 to Executive Council for approval.

Resolution AF 08-18

Be it resolved that Christ Church, Edmonton be authorized to proceed with its roofing project as per the parish's proposal.

Resolution AF 10-18

Be it resolved that the A&F committee accepts the revised 2017 apportionment plan submitted by St. Michael and All Angels, Edmonton.

Resolution AF 11-18

Be it resolved that the 2019 travel reimbursement rate be increased from 50 cents to 52 cents for the first 5,000 kilometres, and remain at 40 cents per kilometer for travel beyond the first 5,000 kilometres.

Resolution AF 12-18

Be it resolved that the A&F committee dissolves the Clergy Relocation Fund and moves proceeds to the Rural Ministry Initiative (RMI) fund.

Resolution AF 14-18

Be it resolved that, subject to clarification of the information to be provided to Executive Council with respect to Special Fund receipts and disbursement, the A&F committee recommends the Proposed Financial Plan 2019 to Executive Council for approval.

Resolution AF 16-18

Be it resolved that the A&F committee recommends to Executive Council that the diocese grants apportionment relief to St. Mary's, Edmonton for pastoral reasons.

Resolution AF 17-18

Be it resolved that the CTF balance of approximately \$37,735 in prepaid expenses attributed to the St. Mary's property be charged to the St. Mary's, Edmonton DDF loan, increasing the balance of the loan, and that a new schedule be drawn up on the condition that payments be resumed.

Resolution AF 03-19

Be it resolved that A&F grants a request for funding support (\$20K) from All Saints', Drayton Valley and that diocesan treasurer John Gee reports back to the committee as to how the diocesan support might be funded.

Resolution AF 04-19

Be it resolved that the A&F committee recommends to Executive Council for approval the amended Draft Financial Statements of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton to December 31, 2018.

Resolution AF 06-19

Be it resolved that the A&F committee recommends to Executive Council that the Rosemary Holsworth life insurance settlement be applied to the Rural Ministry Initiative (RMI) fund.

Resolution AF 09-19

Be it resolved that A&F recommends Executive Council authorizes the parish of Holy Trinity Riverbend and the diocese to proceed with the discussion of the sale of a 4-acre parcel of land to Right at Home Housing Society; approving, in principle, option 1. *Option 1: HTR could cover the difference in cost (\$490,000) over 40 years. HTR would have access to the space at all times and could choose to rent it out to other congregations or groups wishing to make use of the space. At the end of 40 years, the church would have full ownership of the space and only be responsible for operating costs.*

Resolution AF 10-19

Be it resolved that the A&F committee recommends Executive Council authorizes the sale of the rectory at St. Mary's, Edmonton to Recovery Acres for \$274,000.

Bishop's Appointments for Diocesan Synod – September 2019
(Constitution C2.1)

Maryann Amor
Mark Armstrong
Carol Blair
Fiona Brownlee
Mary-Lou Cleveland

Brian Jolly
Mark Pepler
Evan Thomas
Arlette Zinck

Bishop's Youth Appointments for Diocesan Synod – September 2019
(Constitution C2.m)

Aaron Baxter-Betz
Christian Chavez
Ben Goetze

Leah Marshall
Jayden Peck
Emily Stephen-Garneau