

Minutes – Diocesan Council
Saturday, November 30, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. at St John’s College

Present = P; Regrets = R; Absent = A

Ex-Officio = (*); Appointed = (a)

P	Abra, Dr. Allison (* Warden, St. John’s College)	P	Gomez, The Rev. James
P	Aitken, Mary	P	Kawka, Bill (* Diocesan Treasurer)
P	Akinwale, The Rev. Wilson	P	Laldin, The Ven. Karen (* Archdeacon)
P	Bellay, Vic (* Chancellor)	P	Lampman, The Rev. Paul
P	Bender, Karen	P	Manzongo, The Rev. Naboth
P	Blaikie, The Ven. Simon (* Administrator)	P	Mawejje, The Ven. Godfrey (* Archdeacon)
P	Bonnett, Elizabeth	P	Mawejje, June Rachel
P	Bowman, The Rev. Matthew (Meeting Secretary)	P	McIntosh, The Rev. Wayne
P	Brown, Eva	P	Richens, The Rev. Liz
P	Buxton, Deb	P	Russell, Canon Gary
P	Caouette, Jena	P	Schoeck, The Ven. Lauren (* Archdeacon)
P	Dolloff, The Rev. John	P	Whitmore, Chris
P	Dorrian, Colin		<i>Staff and non-voting (N.V.) members</i>
R	Doyle, The Hon. Justice Robert (* Vice Chan.)	P	Valencerina, Joy (Finance Director; N.V.)
P	Dugan, The Ven. James	P	Wedlake, Bob (*Secretary of Synod; N.V.)
P	Giroux, The Rev. John	P	Nixon, Melissa (taking minutes)

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, Regrets, Opening Prayer

S. Blaikie called the meeting to order at 9:59 a.m. after the completion of the Rupert’s Land Capital Fund Annual General Meeting. S. Blaikie read the Land Acknowledgment and Regrets. M. Bowman said a prayer. Please see attached for the minutes of the Rupert’s Land Capital Fund, that took place from 9:30- 9:57am

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: *Be it resolved that the Agenda for the 30 November 2024 meeting of Diocesan Council be approved, with the amendment of moving “discussion on the Episcopal Election” go right before the “Election of Search Committee members”.*

E. Brown / M. Aitken **Carried**

3. Receipt of November E-Vote

Motion: *Be it resolved that the E-Vote, and its result, sent in November 2024, in regards to members of Diocesan Council, be received.*

M. Aitken/ K. Laldin **Carried**

4. Receipt of July E-Vote

Motion: *Be it resolved that the E-Vote, and its result, sent in July 2024, in regards to synod delegates and funding request, be received.*

M. Bowman / M. Aitken **Carried**

5. Approval of September 21 Council Minutes

Motion: *Be it resolved that the Minutes of the 21 September 2024 meeting of Diocesan Council be approved.*

K. Laldin / M. Aitken **Carried**

6. Approval of November 2 Council Minutes

Motion: *Be it resolved that the Minutes of the 2 November 2024 meeting of Diocesan Council be approved, with corrections (Correction: E. Bonnett sent her regrets and was not present. Correction: in item 4, change ‘approve’ to ‘approval’)*

L. Schoeck/ K. Laldin **Carried**

7. Discussion on the Episcopal Election

- S. Blaikie has received word from the Metropolitan that he has accepted our request to proceed as soon as practical, and agreed to May 31, 2025 as the date of the Episcopal Election.
- The search committee will start their work as soon as practical, which means, that we will elect 6 members from the diocese to serve on the search committee, the metropolitan has already given three names from the province. Those nine people will meet with the administrator before the end of 2024, where they will review the expectations for the search committee, as laid out in the Constitutions and canons, and elect a chair and a secretary.
- The search committee will have to come up with how they will discern the will of the diocese while being mindful of the deadlines that they will have to meet, specifically around creating and distributing the profile.
- S. Blaikie explained that this will be a very widely shared process with lots of updates coming from the Search Committee via the diocesan website, RLNews and '4 your parish'. Please tell all who ask, to check the website for the most up to date information.
- B. Wedlake reminded us all that the synod delegates we choose at our Annual General Meetings coming up will be the synod delegates to vote on the new bishop.

8. Election of Search Committee members

- Laity names put forward:
June Rachel Mawejje, Mary Aitken, Fred Wright, Elizabeth Bonnett, Deb Buxton, Chris Whitmore, Gary Russell
- Laity elected: Deb Buxton, June Rachel Mawejje, Chris Whitmore and the first alternate is Elizabeth Bonnett
- Clergy names put forward:
Matthew Bowman, Bonnie Dowling, James Dugan, Brian Ford, Shepherd Gwende, Di Panting, Larry Robertson, Theo Robinson,
- Clergy elected: James Dugan, Matthew Bowman, Di Panting and the first alternate is Shepherd Gwende

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council seek permission from the metropolitan, the Archbishop Gregg Kerr-Wilson, to add an indigenous elder to the search committee of our diocese.

G. Mawejje/ P. Lampman **Carried**

- Stretch break from 11:10 – 11:20 am

9. Motions from Finance Committee through Executive Committee

Motion: Be it resolved that the legal costs for the repatriation of the west side of the Dynevor property, in the amount of \$14,976.64 become a expense of the diocese and coded to 16-1840 professional fees.

B. Kawka on behalf of finance committee **Carried**

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council, based on the recommendation of the Executive, Finance and Investment Committee should recommend to Diocesan Council that the income distribution for 2024 be increased from 5% to 7%.

B. Kawka on behalf of finance committee **Carried**

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council based on the recommendation of the Executive, Finance and Investment Committees, that the income distribution for 2025 be 4%.

B. Kawka on behalf of finance committee **Carried**

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council receive the audited financial statement for 2023.

B. Kawka on behalf of finance committee **Carried**

10. Request from St. Andrews, St. Andrews

S. Blaikie explained that the amount of money that St. Andrews, St. Andrew's is asking for is an amount that they raised, invested with the diocese and is not the result of sale of property.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the request from St. Andrew's, St. Andrew's to cash out all the remaining funds in the St. Thomas trust account so the funds can be applied to their roof replacement.

M. Aitken/ J. Giroux **Carried**

11. Funding request from St. Mark, Winnipeg

- While St. Mark's sold their church building to the Daycare that resided in half the building. The sale agreement they signed made the church responsible for the major maintenance in their half of the building. The solicitor has reviewed the sale agreement and it is true. Therefore, the congregation is currently on the hook for repairing the heating system, they are asking for \$22,400. They have \$477,000 in their account from the sale of their property.

Motion: Be it resolved that Diocesan Council approve St. Mark's request of \$22,400 from the principal of the sale of their property to repair and remediate their heating system.

G. Mawejje / M. Aitken **Carried**

12. Youth Grant Process

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council adopt the following process and criteria in regard to Diocesan Youth Grants:

- a. The Executive Committee will consider applications for Diocesan Youth Grants that support ministry and outreach to children, youth, and young adults through the diocese of Rupert's Land.
- b. Grants will be offered for projects that contribute to the physical, intellectual, emotional, and/or spiritual well-being of children, youth, and young adults in a post-pandemic world.
- c. The aim is to support individual projects not ongoing ministries.
- d. The maximum grant for 2025 is \$3,000.00 per application.
- e. There will be 2 application cycles each year.
 - a. Grant proposals must be received by January 2nd to be considered at the January Executive Committee meeting and by May 1st for the May Executive Committee meeting.

G. Mawejje / M. Bowman **Carried**

13. Disposition of Principal from Sale of Property of St. James, Beasejour

- It is recommended in our canons that 10% (up to a maximum of \$10,000) of the sale of property go to archives fund. There was also the policy implemented by Bishop Geoff Woodcroft about sale of property and all arrears owing to the diocese for Common Mission and Ministry be applied against the operating budget for the diocese

Motion: Be it resolved that Diocesan Council defer this motion to the January 2025 meeting where we will have more information on any arrears outstanding.

G. Mawejje / M. Aitken **Carried**

14. Funding request from Kenora – St. Alban

Motion: Be it resolved that the multiple requests for funding, totaling \$34,708.62 from the Archdeaconry of Kenora – St. Alban be approved.

J. Dugan / J. Giroux **Carried**

15. Receipt and initial discussion of CM+M Report (deferred to next meeting)

- S. Blaikie mentioned that we would not have enough time to get through this document today but that it will come back on the January agenda and he asked us all the review it before next meeting with thoughts towards what can we do now and what should we wait for a new bishop for.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council receive the "report to Diocesan Council: Synod 2024 Table Discussions – 'Green Sheet' Common Themes," share it with all synod delegates and post it on the website

V. Bellay/ W. Akinwale **Carried**
(1 opposed)

16. Appointment of Finance Committee (deferred to next meeting)

17. Receipt and initial discussion of Motions referred from Synod 2024 (deferred to next meeting)

18. Adjournment

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

M. Bowman **Carried**

S. Blaikie declared the meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.