

Minutes – Diocesan Council
Saturday, November 29, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. John’s

Present = P; Regrets = R; Absent = A

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

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

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, Regrets, Opening Prayer

S. Blaikie called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. with a prayer and land acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Be it resolved that the Agenda for the 29 November 2025 meeting of Diocesan Council be approved

M. Aitken / W. Akinwale

Carried

3. Approval of Diocesan council Minutes September 16, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that the Minutes of the 16 September 2025 meeting of Diocesan Council be approved

M. Aitken / E. Brown

Carried

4. Receipt of September 20th Executive Committee minutes

Motion: Be it resolved that the Minutes of the 20 September 2025 meeting of Executive Committee be received

M. Aitken / E. Brown

Carried

5. Election of new Executive Committee member

W. Akinwale won by acclamation as he was the only one who volunteered to let his name stand.

6. Finance Report

Report presented by J. Valencerina

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council receive the Finance Report, as presented.

M. Aitken / J. Dugan

Carried

Motion: Be it resolved that Diocesan Council, based on the recommendation of the Investment and the Finance Committee set the distribution rate for 2025 to be increased from 4% to 7% .

T. Cotton on behalf of the Finance Committee

Carried

Motion: Be it resolved that Diocesan Council, based on the recommendation of the Investment and Finance Committee set the distribution rate for 2026 to be 5%.

T. Cotton on behalf of the Finance Committee

Carried

7. In Camera session

Motion: *Be it resolved that this meeting of the Diocesan Council move in Camera.*

P. Lampman / M. Aitken

Carried

-After Diocesan Council moved back in camera, there was a 10 minute break.

8. Report of 2025 General Synod

D. Buxton presented.

“In short the report seeks to communicate a sense of prophetic imagination, urgency, a refusal to ignore difficult conversations, and an invitation to embrace provocative risk-taking ideas. It is not limited by the ‘way things have always been done’ but rather embraces our current context and the hope-filled mission to walk on the road with Jesus alongside us as the Gospel is proclaimed.”

- The report will be published on the Diocesan webpage and any further updates will be communicated to Diocesan Council.

9. Act of 2024 Synod Review

- S. Blaikie reviewed each resolution and the council decided which items it was going to work on in a rough order. The Acts of the 119th Session of Synod document will be updated and shared with diocesan council moving forward.

- Resolution C-6 will have a report presented in the January 2026 meeting by the working group that has been meeting on this resolution.

Motion: *Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council table discussion on Resolution C-8 until March 2026 meeting..*

T. Cotton / C. Whitmore

Carried

- Resolution C-8 will be discussed in March 2026 meeting

- Resolution C-3, C-4 and C-11 will be worked on as time permits in future Diocesan Council meetings.

10. Discussion on 2026 Synod

-The Synod Agenda Committee has met and decided that the 121st Session of synod would be held October 15, 16 and 17, 2026, the weekend after Thanksgiving

- We will be returning to the Masonic Memorial Lodge as it is the most cost effective option, while also being central with enough parking

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Motion: *Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council schedule extra meetings to move forward on the 2024 Resolutions as well as planning resolutions for Synod 2026. The extra meetings will be February 28, April 25 and June 27, 2026.*

C. Whitmore / E. Brown

Carried

11. Executive Archdeacon Update

- Emmanuel, Ignace is currently closed and in the process of being sold.

- St. Peter, St. Mary Magdalene, and the Church of the Good Shepherd are discerning their steps forward.

- The New Executive Archdeacon, the Ven. Dr. Iain Luke, will start December 16th, 2025

- On December 11th, 2025 S. Blaikie will be holding a Eucharist service, on December 11th, 2025 at 2pm at St. Paul's Fort Garry to celebrate his retirement

12. Adjournment

Motion: *That the meeting be adjourned.*

E. Brown

Carried

S. Blaikie declared the meeting adjourned at 12:29 a.m.