

**Minutes – Diocesan Council**  
**Saturday, February 28, 2026 – 10:00 a.m. at St. John’s College (92 Dysart Dr.)**

Present = P; Regrets = R; Absent = A

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

P	Abra, Dr. Allison (* Warden, St. John’s College)	P	Lampman, The Rev. Paul
P	Aitken, Mary	P	Luke, The Ven. Dr. Iain (*Exec. Arch)
R	Akinwale, The Rev. Wilson	P	Manzongo, The Rev. Naboth
P	Bellay, Vic (* Chancellor)	P	Mawejje, The Ven. Godfrey (* Archdeacon)
P	Bonnett, Elizabeth	P	Mawejje, June Rachel
P	Bowman, The Rev. Matthew	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	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.)
R	Dugan, The Ven. James	R	Wedlake, Bob (*Secretary of Synod; N.V.)
P	Gomez, The Rev. James	P	Nixon, Melissa (Meeting Secretary; N.V.)
P	Laldin, The Ven. Karen (* Archdeacon)		

**1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, Regrets, Opening Prayer**

I. Luke called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. with a prayer and T. Cotton read the land acknowledgement.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

*Motion: Be it resolved that the Agenda for the 28 February 2026 meeting of Diocesan Council be approved*

P. Lampman /L. Schoeck

**Carried**

**3. Approval of Diocesan council Minutes January 31, 2026**

*Motion: Be it resolved that the Minutes of the 31 January 2026 meeting of Diocesan Council be approved with the following amendments; the notes and motion of November and December Executive Committee be reversed. The November 2025 minutes should have the notes and the defeated motions, not December 2025. Elizabeth Bonnett was also incorrectly marked as “R” for regrets when she should have been marked “P” as she was present.*

L. Richens /K. Laldin

**Carried**

**4. Receipt of November 18<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee minutes**

*Motion: Be it resolved that the Minutes of the 18 November 2025 meeting of Executive Committee be received*

E. Brown / G. Mawejje

**Carried**

**5. Receipt of January 20<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee minutes**

*Motion: Be it resolved that the Minutes of the 20 January 2026 meeting of Executive Committee be received*

C. Whitmore / K. Laldin

**Carried**

**6. Draft 2026 Budget**

- Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer (UIMD) and the Diocesan Discipleship Developer (DDD) will be moving to half time positions.
- The CM+M pledges are still being submitted or updated. In March we will receive the draft budget with the above mentioned updates.

**7. New Church Development Fund**

There is concern that the New Church Development Fund is not being used how it was originally intended and the intention and the terms need to be thoroughly discussed and considered. This would amount to ‘Renaming / restructuring / Redefining’ the New Church Development Fund to align with the current goals and capacities of the Diocese of Rupert’s land. The Bishop and Executive Archdeacon intend to develop a proposal, but are seeking input from Executive Committee, Diocesan Council and elsewhere. As we consider the allocation of proceeds from sale of property, we will need a new policy approach to guide that work.

Archdeacon Luke described this approach as “rebalancing the portfolio” of resources, where the Diocese is currently over-invested in property and needs to be able to reallocate that investment to ministry, and to people, for the sake of sustaining our work and witness. Bishop Naboth further explained the investment approach as enabling a grant-making structure, which would allow for parishes, programs and other bodies in the diocese to request funds for activity which invests in the future of the church. This would also support strategic thinking about investment and what kind of return it creates, not just financially, but in strengthening communities of “disciples making disciples” and enabling the church to be more deeply engaged in the world around us. In addition to future proceeds from property, it was noted that Finance is looking at all our funds and how each can be used within its own terms. If any members had thoughts or suggestions on specific people who may have helpful insights to reach out to Archdeacon Luke, so he can gather the thoughts of the diocese and bring them to the discussion that would take place around this new approach to the fund.

## **8. Shared Ground Round Table**

Archdeacon Luke presented his report on the Shared Ground Round Table, sharing that himself and 8 other members from the diocese, representing four parishes, along with others from the local faith community attended. One of the big takeaways is that we can be much more strategic and successful if we work together. If we had a committee of people who could look at these opportunities and make recommendations. Archdeacon Luke has discovered that the diocese at one point had a property committee but it seems to have stopped meeting around a decade ago. This is something that we need to begin again. If you know someone that would be a good fit for a working group to set up the terms of reference for this committee, so we can tell people what we expect of them in this role, please reach out to Archdeacon Luke.

## **9. General Synod “Pathways”**

- Standing agenda item. Nothing to report at the moment, but it is being worked on.

## **10. Acts of 2024 Synod Review**

- Many members of Diocesan Council have not received the C-6 documents. M. Nixon was asked to resend the original report from the working group, along with the Framework Archdeacon Luke created to highlight areas from the Working Group’s Report that need discussion, action or decision from diocesan council. The report from the working group should also be published on the diocesan website.
- We need to find ways to include the theological reflection from the C-6 report into future Diocesan Council meetings or events, including Synod 2026.

## **11. Executive Archdeacon Update**

- I. Luke reviewed his written report with the Diocesan Council.
- The sale of Emmanuel, Ignace is complete and we will be looking at the disbursement of funds in the next few meetings.
- The sale of St. Mary Magdalene is conditional but should be wrapped up around the end of March.

## **12. Members Updates**

- March 28 we will be having our next diocesan council meeting then the Blessing of Oils, as well as the collation of Archdeacon Luke. St. John’s Cathedral is also having a mothering Sunday celebration after the service and they ask that if you can, please bring Simnel cake to share with attendee’s.
- K. Laldin reports that E. Laldin is settled in Ontario and starts his new job tomorrow, but she has decided to stay here.
- St. Clement’s Church is excited to host the Bishop tomorrow for a confirmation, please if you are able, join us.
- Bishop Manzongo asks that we all pray for the Anglican Church in Jerusalem and in the Middle East in general. A moment of prayer was held.
- E. Bonnet shared a story of her getting to know a client of her parish’s food bank, and how they were from different religions, Christianity and Muslim, they found commonalities in their faith and the hope and purpose it brings them.
- L. Richens shared that St. Andrew, Woodhaven has been going through dramatic parishioner shift. In 2025 we had 14 members of the congregation die, in 2026 so far, 4 more have died. While there is a lot of grief, we have also had 5 new families join. Please keep St. Andrew’s, Woodhaven in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.
- C. Whitmore shared that All Saints will be hosting a Caribbean “Rice off” on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, stay tuned for details.

## **13. Adjournment**

*Motion: Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned.*

E. Brown

**Carried**

I. Luke declared the meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.