

Team Rupert's Land

Courage **Connection** **Change**



CONVENING CIRCULAR

of The Diocese of Rupert's
Land's 121st Session of Synod

Thursday, October 15th at 7:00 pm
St. John's Cathedral (135 Anderson Ave)

Friday, October 16th and Saturday, October 17th
Masonic Memorial Centre (420 Corydon Ave)



Convening Circular
121st Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land

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The Diocese of Rupert's Land

935 Nesbitt Bay, Winnipeg, MB R3T 1W6

Telephone: (204) 992-4200 Toll Free: 1-866-693-4418

Email: general@rupertsland.ca Website: www.rupertsland.ca

Dear Synod Delegate:

The 121st Session of Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land is fast approaching. This package contains essential information to support your full participation as a delegate.

Please mark the following dates in your calendar:

- Opening Service of Synod — **Thursday, October 15, at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's Cathedral**, 135 Anderson Avenue, Winnipeg. Registration begins at **5:30 p.m.** at the front of the church. A reception will follow the service.
- Subsequent sittings — **Friday, October 16, and Saturday, October 17, at the Masonic Memorial Centre**, 420 Corydon Avenue.

Convening Circular Package:

This package contains:

1. An updated list of Synod delegates including parish and discipleship table assignments. Please note your assignments.
2. The proposed agenda for the Synod sittings, prepared by the Synod Agenda Committee and is subject to change.
3. Reports from committees and organizations accountable to Synod, outlining their work and activities, including the Acts and Resolutions of Diocesan Council and Executive Council.
4. A list of nominees for election at Synod and biographies received to date.
5. Notices of Motions received before the Convening Circular was printed.

*The **Bishop's Charge** will be delivered at the Opening Service. The Charge and any resulting resolutions will be emailed to all delegates Thursday evening after the service. Printed copies will also be available for pickup Thursday evening and Friday morning.*

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **Registration** will be available Thursday evening and Friday and Saturday mornings. **Please go first to the central registration desk.** You will then be directed to the CLERGY or LAITY registration table to collect your voting card and name tag.
- Elder Amanda McKenzie will offer **smudging** before the Opening Worship and before the Friday and Saturday morning sittings.

- A continental breakfast **WILL NOT** be served Friday or Saturday morning. This measure reduces costs for the parishes that cover their delegates' attendance. There will be coffee, tea and water available all the time
- **WI-FI** will **NOT** be available. Please download all materials to your device before arriving.
- Please complete the online pre-registration form emailed to you and indicate whether you will attend lunch on for both Friday and/or Saturday. We need an accurate count for the caterers.
- Synod will reimburse members' reasonable **travel expenses**, including mileage, hotel, and meals, in accordance with diocesan policy. If you need a room at Canad Inns, please contact the Diocesan Office immediately. Submit all receipts to the Diocesan Office for reimbursement.

As you prepare for Synod, please PRAY for Bishop Naboth, all leaders, and all Synod members, that we may listen attentively and discern God's will for Rupert's Land.

On behalf of everyone working to make the 121st Session of Synod meaningful and productive, I wish you well as you prepare. We look forward to meeting and working with you in October.

Yours in the ministry we share,



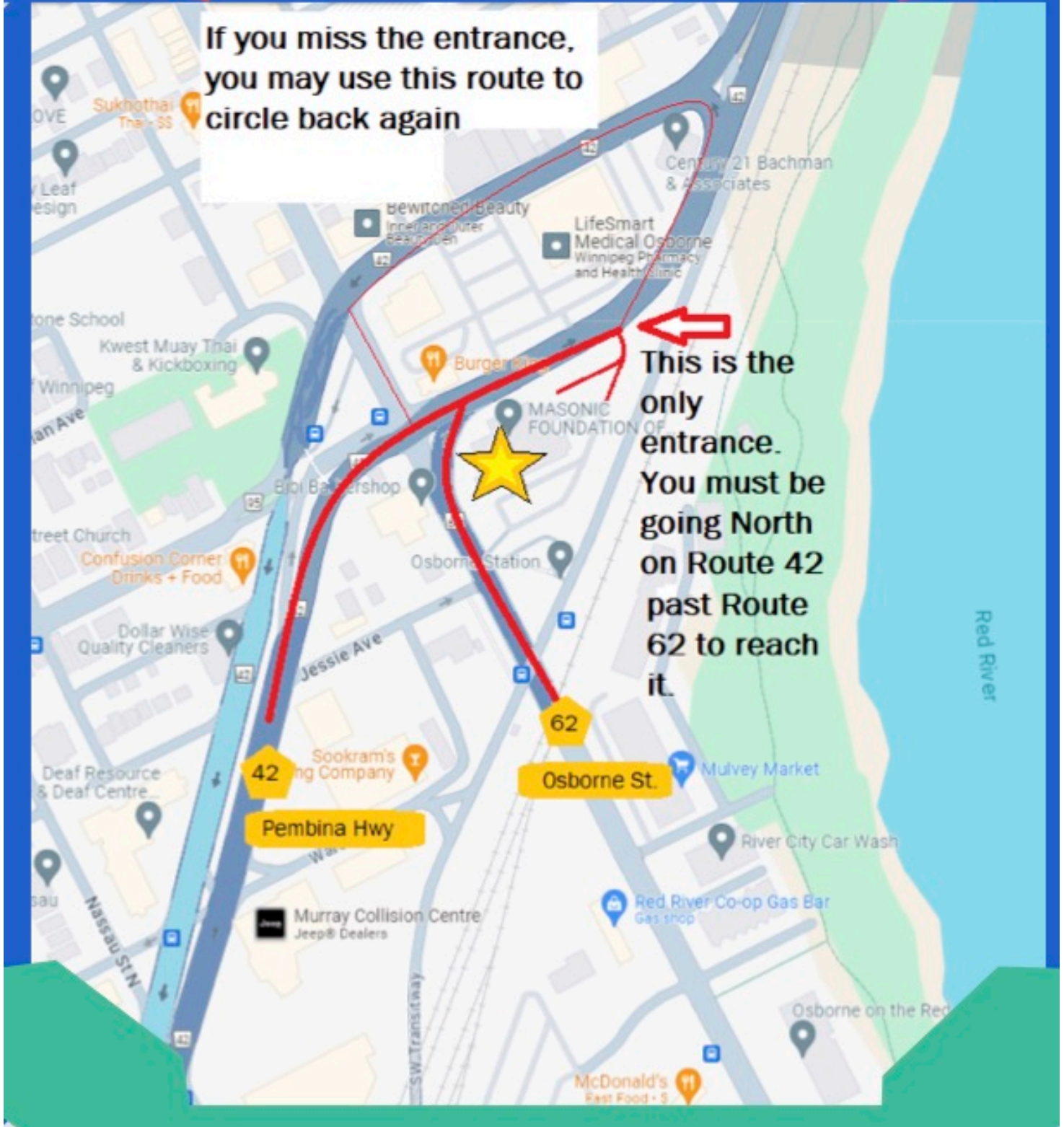
Bob Wedlake
Secretary of Synod
Member of "Team Rupert's Land"

Directions

To the Masonic Memorial Lodge
420 Corydon Ave @ Confusion Corner

If you miss the entrance,
you may use this route to
circle back again

This is the
only
entrance.
You must be
going North
on Route 42
past Route
62 to reach
it.



Team Rupert's Land: Courage, Connection and Change

“Speaking truth in love, growing together into Christ our head.” (Ephesians 4:15)



121st Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land
October 15, 16 & 17, 2026

Agenda for Synod 2026 (subject to change)

1st Sitting - Thursday Evening, October 15, 2024 (St. John's Cathedral – 135 Anderson Avenue)

5:30p.m. to 6:45p.m.	Registration
6:00p.m. to 7:00p.m.	Smudging
7:00 p.m.	Opening Eucharist including Bishop's Charge
9:00 p.m.	Reception – John West Hall

2nd Sitting - Friday morning, October 16, 2026 (Masonic Memorial Centre – 420 Corydon Avenue)

8:00 a.m.	Registration re-opens
8:00a.m. to 8:45a.m.	Smudging
8:59 a.m.	Delegates are seated at <i>Discipleship</i> Table Groups
9:00 a.m.	Time of worship
9:20 a.m.	Scripture Reading Reflection
9:40 a.m.	Bishop's Welcome Privileges of the Floor Report of the Credentials Committee / Quorum Bishop's Declaration of Synod Appointment of Honorary Secretaries Report of Synod Agenda Committee Welcome to new clergy and new lay delegates Diocesan Council Appointees Youth Appointees Synod Appointees

Appointment of Scrutineers

9:55 a.m.	Report of the Resolutions Committee: • Notice of Motions from Bishop's Charge ("A" Motions) • Notice of Motions received after the printing of the Convening Circular ("C" Motions)
10:00 a.m.	Motion to receive the reports in Convening Circular Motion to adopt Acts & Resolutions of Diocesan/Executive Council
10:05 a.m.	Parish Updates
10:30 a.m.	Stretch Break
10:44 a.m.	Delegates are seated at <i>Discipleship</i> Table Groups
10:45 a.m.	Presentation – Indigenous Teaching
11:00 a.m.	Intro to Theme: Courage, Connection and Change
11:05 a.m.	Discussion groups - Courage
11:35 a.m.	Presentation – Land Working Group
11:50 a.m.	Announcements, Grace & dismissal for lunch
12:00 noon	Lunch

3rd Sitting - Friday Afternoon, October 16, 2026 (Masonic Memorial Centre – 420 Corydon Avenue)

12:59 p.m.	Delegates are seated at <i>Parish</i> Table Groups
1:00 p.m.	Time of Worship
1:15 p.m.	Report of Synod Agenda Committee Report of the Resolutions Committee: Notice of additional motions received after the printing of the Convening Circular ("C" Motions) Deadline for Motions 5:00 p.m. Oct 16 Announcements
1:25 p.m.	Motions from the Bishop's Charge ("A" Motions)
2:00 p.m.	Presentation – Holy Trinity

2:15 p.m.	Presentation – St. John’s College
2:30 p.m.	Stretch Break
2:44 p.m.	Delegates are seated at <i>Discipleship</i> Table Groups
2:45 p.m.	Presentation – Intro to Balloting Procedure and People
3:00 p.m.	Discussion Group – Connection
3:29 p.m.	Delegates MOVE to their <i>Parish</i> Table Groups
3:30 p.m.	Presentation – Grace-St John’s
3:40 p.m.	Motions from Convening Circular (“B” Motions) Motions received after the printing of the Convening Circular (“C” Motions)
4:45 p.m.	Report of the Resolutions Committee: • Notice of additional motions received prior to the deadline of 5:00 p.m. October 16
4:50 p.m.	Announcements
4:55 p.m.	Closing Prayer
5:00 p.m.	Dismissal

**4th Sitting - Saturday morning, October 17, 2026
(Masonic Memorial Centre – 420 Corydon Avenue)**

8:00a.m. to 8:45a.m.	Smudging
8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.	Balloting (BALLOTING CLOSE AT 9:30 a.m.)
8:59 a.m.	Delegates are seated at <i>Discipleship</i> Table Groups
9:00 a.m.	Time of worship
9:20 a.m.	Scripture Reading Reflection
9:40 a.m.	Report of Synod Agenda Committee Announcements
9:45 a.m.	Discussion Groups – Change

10:15 a.m.	Finance Committee Report
10:45 a.m.	Stretch Break
10:59 a.m.	Delegates are seated at <i>Parish</i> Table Groups
11:00 a.m.	Presentation – Refugee Committee
11:15 a.m.	Motions received after the printing of the Convening Circular (“C” Motions)
11:55 a.m.	Announcements, Grace & dismissal for lunch
12:00 noon	Lunch

**5th Sitting - Saturday Afternoon, October 17, 2026
(Masonic Memorial Centre – 420 Corydon Avenue @ Confusion Corner)**

12:59 p.m.	Delegates are seated at <i>Parish</i> Table Groups
1:00 p.m.	Time of Worship
1:15 p.m.	Report of Synod Agenda Committee Announcements
1:20 p.m.	Presentation – St. Thomas, Weston
1:30 p.m.	Motions received after the printing of the Convening Circular (“C” Motions)
2:30 p.m.	Stretch Break
2:44 p.m.	Delegates are seated at <i>Parish</i> Table Groups
2:45 p.m.	Presentation – Alongside Hope
3:00 p.m.	Parish Table Discussions - What did we hear? - What are we going to bring back to the parish?
3:20 p.m.	Bishop Jason’s Greetings
3:30 p.m.	Report of the Scrutineers
3:40 p.m.	Closing procedural motions

Bishop's Appointments
Vote of thanks

3:50 p.m. Youth Reflections

4:00 p.m. Elder's Reflections

4:20 p.m. Bishop's Concurrence

4:30 p.m. Announcements

4:45 p.m. Closing worship

5:00 p.m. Adjournment

The Anglican Church of Canada
Diocese of Rupert's Land
Clergy and Lay Delegates to the 121st Session of Synod
October 15, 16 & 17, 2026

Parish	Clergy	Laity
(1) All Saints, Winnipeg	Robert Schoeck (1) Carl Harrison (2) Paul Johnson (3)	~~Joel Baliddawa~~ Lorraine Thistlethwaite (1) Chris Whitmore (2) S - Barbara Beaupre (3) S - Dorothy Jakubowski
(2) All Saints, Whytewold	Sandra Tankard (4)	Kathy Penner (4) Arlene Didychuk (5) S - Cathy Pearson S - Jacquilyne Martin
(1) Christ Church, Selkirk		Phoebe Thomas (6) Debbie McCuaig (7)
(3) Christ Church, Stony Mountain	Colin MacIver (5)	Richard Kunzelman (8) Judy Wilson-Bellis (9)
(3) Church of the Ascension, Stonewall	James Gomez (6) James Bardsley (7)	Kim Phillips (10) John Robinson (11) S - Douglas Livingston S - Bev Robinson
(4) Church of the Good Shepherd	Di Panting (8)	Garth Panting (12) Christine Busera Masiga (13) S - Jen Pinkerton S - Brad Pinkerton
Cleopas / Red Lake Shared Ministry	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates	
(6) Emmanuel Mission, Winnipeg	Monybuny Chuol (9)	Certificate of Election form not returned
(5) Epiphany Indigenous, Winnipeg	Vincent Solomon (10) Tanis Kolisnyk (11)	Eva Brown (14) Pierre Plourde (15) S - Krista Waring
(4) Grace/ St. John, Carman	Trudy Thorarinson (12)	~~Lori Ann Kaminski~~ Val Wiebe (16) S - Trevor Carnelley (17) S - John Carley
(5) Holy Trinity, Headingley		Gerrit Westerhof (18)

(Number in brackets) prior to a parish name, represents your Parish Table Number.
(Number in brackets) after a delegate name, represents your Discipleship Table Number.

Parish	Clergy	Laity
(6) Holy Trinity, Winnipeg	Donna Joy (13)	Zilla Jones (19) Marlene Smith (20)
(20) Peguis Churches	Allison Deneweth (14)	Certificate of Election form not returned
(20) Pinawa Christian Fellowship, Pinawa	Elizabeth Brasier (15)	George Montoomery (16)
(7) saint benedict table, Winnipeg	Wilson Akinwale (16)	Danielle Morton (21) Jim Cornelius (22) S - Zoe Matties
(8) St. Aidan, Winnipeg	Kim Salo (17) Jamie Howison (18)	Janet Monks (23) Gerry Neal (24) Judy Janzen-Wuerfel (1) S - Greg Monks S - Debbie Hall S - Athaliah Shakeel
(9) St. Alban Cathedral, Kenora	Lee Domenick (19) James Dugan (20)	Fred Wright (2) Colleen Doerksen (3) Norma Horrocks (4) S- Barb Larsen S - Marla Karle
St. Andrew Sudanese Mission, Winnipeg	Certificate of Election form not returned	
(6) St. Andrew, St. Andrews	Jim Kirkpatrick (21)	Colleen Allan (5)
(10) St. Andrew, Woodhaven	Liz Richens (22) Val Christopherson (23)	Denise Fortier (6) Roselyn Fortier (7) Alison Lynch (8) S - Norma Pittman
St. Anne, Poplar Point	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates	
(11) St. Bartholomew, Winnipeg	Helen Hunter (24)	Cheryl Kytaychuk (9) Linda Robbins (10) S - Irvine Hildebrand S - Gina Staples
(8) St. Bartholomew, Winnipeg Beach	Robin Mather (1)	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates

(Number in brackets) prior to a parish name, represents your Parish Table Number.
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Parish	Clergy	Laity
(12) St. Clements, Mapleton	Godfrey Mawejje (2)	~~Lorraine West~~ Tom Larkin (11) June Rachel Mawejje (12) S - Chris Angus (13) S - Shirley Woycheshen S - Leslie Mawejje
(8) St. Cyprian, Teulon		Elaine Good (14) Cory Biloki (15) S - Nancy Dumas
(13) St. Francis, Winnipeg	Wayne McIntosh (3) Jude Iloghalu (4)	~~Jena Couette~~ Ted Henderson (16) S - Frank Martin (17) S - Terry Martin
(14) St. George, Crescentwood	Sherpard Gwende (5) Peter Flynn (6)	Helen Luke (18) Brenda Cotton (19) Mary Beth Barker (20) S - Geri Morgan
St. George, Davis Point	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates	
(7) St. George, Transcona	Wilson Akinwale (16) Beverley Markwart (7)	Deb Buxton (21) Sharon Cortvriednt (22) S - Penny Single
(12) St. George, Wakefield		Jason Nutbean (23) Brenda McRae (24) S - Doug Seel S - Betty Scott
St. George, Westbourne	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates	
(9) St. Helen, Fairford	Cathie Clow (8)	Dollard Gould (1) Selwyn Sanderson (2) S - Ruby Baer
(21) St. James, Winnipeg	Dwight Rutherford (9)	Elizabeth Bonnett (3) Patricia Chegus (4) S - Angela Brandson
(15) St. John's Cathedral, Winnipeg	Paul Lampman (10) Gabriel Kwenga (11) Henry Falconer (12) Judy Whitmore (13)	Obren Amiesimaka (5) Bridget Fomenky (6) Rene Jamieson (7) Bev Grobb (8) S - Brook Jones S - Chris Wiebe

(Number in brackets) prior to a parish name, represents your Parish Table Number.
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Parish	Clergy	Laity
(10) St. John the Baptist, Fort Frances	Larry Robertson (14)	~~Pattie Anderson~~ Sheila Robertson (9) S - Sarah Gervais (10)
St. John the Baptist, Manitou	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates	
(20) St. John, Pilot Mound	Martin Allen (20)	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates
(11) St. Luke, Dryden	Elda Lynn MacDonald (15)	~~Ruth Londry~~ Mary Aitken (11) S - Gale Rettie (12) S - Pat Wilson
(17) St. Luke, Winnipeg	Matthew Bowman (16) Susan Roe-Finlay (17)	Chloe Galenzoski (13) Nathan Galenzoski (14) Patricia Holbrow (15) S - Edward Rennie
St. Luke, Oakville	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates	
(16) St. Margaret, Winnipeg	Bonnie Dowling (18) Elaine Pinto (19) Eric Parsons (20) Paul Dyck (21)	David Newsom (16) Pam Friesen (17) Nathan Rempel (18) Tracy Curle (19) S - Chris Banman S - Colton Koval S - Jana Neufeld S - Shelly Mall
St. Mark, Winnipeg	Davies Adebiyi (22)	Certificate of Election form not returned
(21) St. Mary, Charleswood	Dwight Rutherford (9) Brian Rountree (23)	Ruth Booth (20) Keith Groome (21) S - Linda Delaney
(17) St. Mary la Prairie, Portage la Prairie	John Dolloff (24)	Cheryl Martin (22) Robert Martin (23) S - Sharon Rennie S - Jane Human
(2) St. Mary Magdalene, Winnipeg		~~Carey Issan~~ Brian Crow (24) S - Tapiwa Maswera (1) S - Cheryl Lenton
(13) St. Mary, Sioux Lookout	Muriel Anderson (1) Bill Morris (2)	Linda Bancroft (2) Genny Kakekaspan (3)

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(Number in brackets) after a delegate name, represents your Discipleship Table Number.

Parish	Clergy	Laity
St. Mary/ St. Alban, Kaleida	Certificate of Election form not returned	
(18) St. Matthew, Winnipeg	Gwen McAllister (3) Colleen Matthews (4)	Marilyn Boyd (4) Maureen Hanlon (4)
St. Michael, Grosse Isle	Certificate of Election form not returned	
(18) St. Michael & All Angels, Winnipeg	Lauren Schoeck (5)	Cinna Baran (6) Kirsten Pinto-Gfroerer (7) Will McMillan - S Tanis Thiessen - S
(1) St. Michael, Victoria Beach	Joan Merton (6)	Jeanne Kaye (8) S - Suzanne Anderson
St. Paul, Clearwater	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates	
(19) St. Paul, Fort Garry	Karen Laldin (7) Mary Lysecki (8)	Shelley Oleschuk (9) Denise MacRae (10) Kristelle Blackwood (11) S - Karen Watson S - Cynthia Worsley S - Tinuke Babalola
(3) St. Paul, Middlechurch	James Gomez (6)	Shirley Ratzlaff (12) S - Norman Koe
(20) St. Peter, Winnipeg	Victoria Luke (9) Mary Holmen (10)	Bruce Gunderson (13) Laurie Bellay (14)
(5) St. Peter, Dynevor	Vince Solomon (10)	Tom Serger (15) Kris Solomon (16)
St. Phillip, Hodgson	Certificate of Election form not returned	
(5) St. Phillip, Scanterbury	Vince Solomon (10)	Sheila Juer (17)
(22) St. Saviour, Winnipeg	Ben Rogers (11)	Ian Hope (18) Diane Knight (19) Joyce Breckman (20) S - Barbara Haddow
(22) St. Stephen & St. Bede, Winnipeg	Chris Salstrom (12)	Phyllis Graham (21) Tim NachTigall (22) S - Kay Stewart
St. Thomas, Morden	Certificate of Election form elected no delegates	

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 (Number in brackets) after a delegate name, represents your Discipleship Table Number.

Parish

(23) St. Thomas, Weston

Clergy

Cassandra Golondrina (13)

Laity

Joann Husak (23)
Brittany Perkins (24)
S - Laurel Robinson
S - Courtney Robinson

Officers of Synod
(HT) [Constitution 2.01 (a)(i)]

(HT) Special Ministries: Clergy
(5) [Constitution 2.01(a)(v)]
(6)

Naboth Manzongo (14)

Iain Luke (15)
Patricia Ferris (16)
Helen Holbrook (17)

Special Ministries: Lay
[Constitution 2.01(b)(ii)]

Ex-Officio Members
(HT) [Constitution 2.01 (c)(i)]
(14) [Constitution 2.01 (c)(ii)]
(16) [Constitution 2.01 (c)(iii)]
(HT) [Constitution 2.01 (c)(iv)]
(23) [Constitution 2.01 (c)(v)]

Brian Ford (18)

Bob Wedlake (1)
Ted Cotton (2)

Vic Bellay (3)
Allison Abra (4)

(19) Youth Appointees
(19) [Constitution 2.01 (d)(i)]
(19)
(4)
(8)
(8)

Chuka Nwokeoma (5)
Ivy Wanjiru Kariuki (6)
Hedwig Wanjira Ndegwa (7)
Megan Pinkerton (8)
Oreoluwa Ayodeji (9)
Alexander Shefchyk (10)

(7) Council Appointees
(5) [Constitution 2.01 (d)(ii)]
(20)

Kudzaishe Manenji (19)

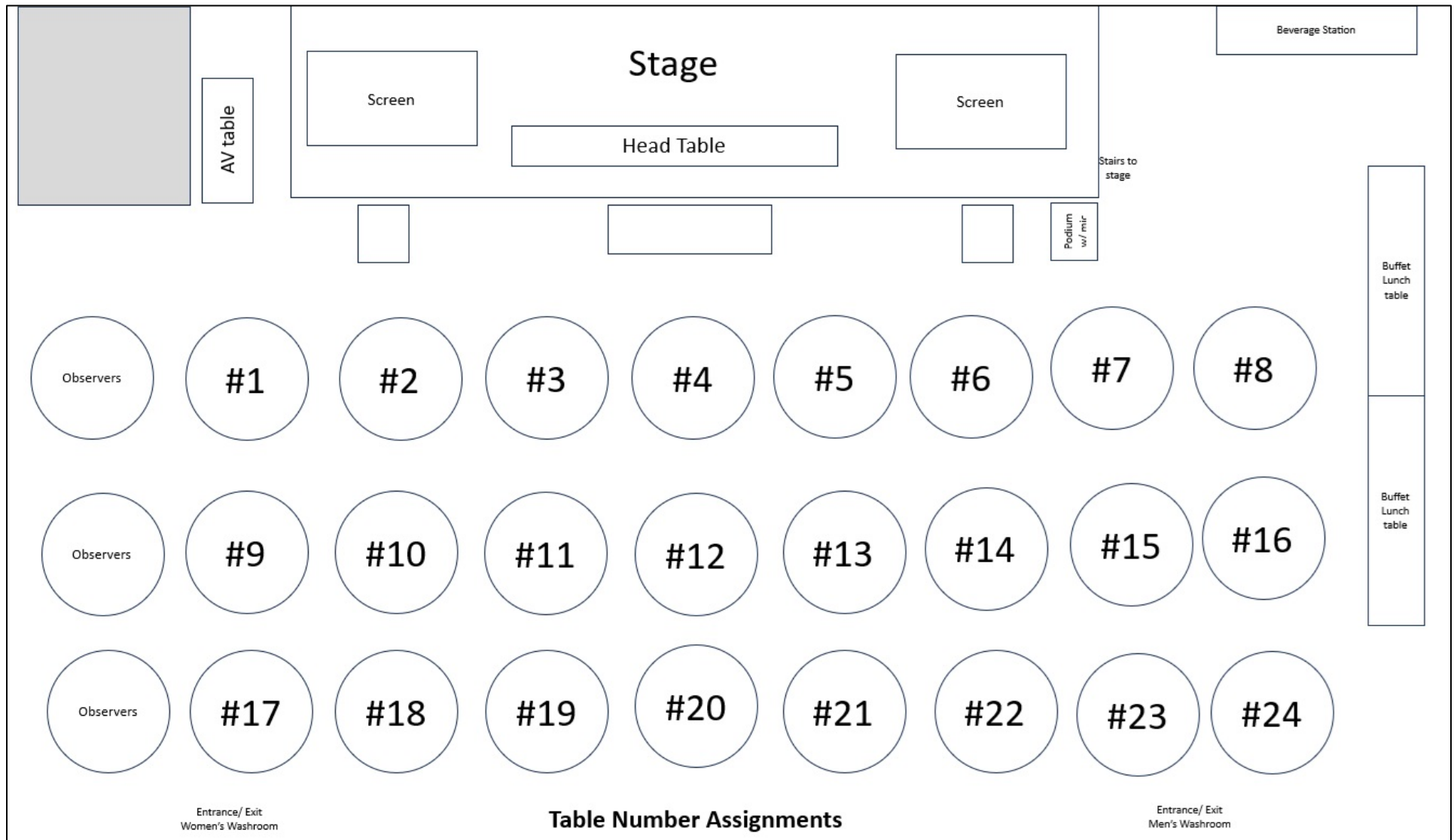
Gary Russell (11)
Colin Dorrian (12)

(HT) Synod Appointees
(HT) [Constitution 2.01 (d)(iii)]

Amanda McKenzie (13)
Bill Shead (14)

(Number in brackets) prior to a parish name, represents your Parish Table Number.
(Number in brackets) after a delegate name, represents your Discipleship Table Number.

Synod 2026 room layout



See the delegate listing for your Parish and Discipleship Table assignments.

(Number in brackets) prior to a parish name, represents your Parish Table Number.

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ACTS & RESOLUTIONS OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(September 2024 – September 2026)

The Executive Committee met 17 times from October 2024 to September 2026 and is not expected to meet again. The Diocesan Council met 15 times from September 2024 to September 2026 and is not expected to meet prior to Synod. At these meetings, regular financial reporting and monthly financial statements were presented to both the Executive Committee and Diocesan Council. Other various bodies and persons presented reports, both written and verbal for information. Minutes of the Diocesan Council are posted on the Diocesan website, and copies can be obtained upon request.

The following report includes substantive acts of the Diocesan Council and the Executive Committee.

Diocesan Council – September 21, 2024

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council accepts Finance Committee recommendation that the rates for meals and lodging be based on the National Treasury Board rates. Lodging rates for 2024 - May and Jun \$178, Jul and Aug \$176, Sep, Oct, and Nov \$178, and Dec \$176. Meals - Breakfast \$24.90, Lunch \$25.20, Dinner \$61.85.

As the rates change year over year, the latest will be published on the website.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approves the recommendation from Finance Committee that the current rate for meals and lodging be, based on the National Treasury Board's rate for Manitoba, the total of \$178 + \$24.90 + \$25.20 + \$61.85 = \$289.95 rounded to a maximum of \$290 per day provided that the distance between points A and B is 100 km minimum. Receipts must be provided to be reimbursed.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council nominates Mr. Mat Nicholson into the vacant Council synod delegate seat

Executive Committee – October 24, 2024

Motion: Be it resolved that we the Executive Committee of the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Rupert's Land appoint The Ven. Simon Blaikie, Executive Archdeacon to serve as the Administrator of the diocese until the See is filled or the current Bishop is again able to perform the duties of the Bishop, with power to discharge all the administrative functions of the Bishop of the Diocese of Rupert's Land.

Diocesan Council – November 2, 2024

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the recommendation from the Compensation Committee entitled "Clergy Housing and Minimum Stipend Scale for 2025," as circulated.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Rupert's Land petition the Provincial Executive Council, with the concurrence of the Metropolitan, to waive

Provincial Canon 9.04 and allow the Diocese of Rupert's Land to elect or appoint a Search Committee in accordance with Provincial Canon 9.08 for the purpose of electing a new bishop between 15 May and 15 June 2025.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council request the area Archdeacons canvas their respective archdeaconry and come to Diocesan Council on November 30 with two lay and two clerical nominees to possibly search on the search committee.

Executive Committee – November 19, 2024

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

Motion: That the Executive Committee based on the recommendation of Finance and Investment Committees, that the income distribution for 2025 be 4%.

Motion: That the legal costs for the repatriation of Westside Dynevor property in the amount of \$14,976.64 be absorbed by the Diocese and coded under 6-1840 Professional Fees of the Operating Statements.

Diocesan Council – November 30, 2024

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.

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%.

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%.

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.

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.

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.

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

Executive Committee – December 17, 2024

Motion: That the Executive Committee approve the request for support for St Thomas Weston in their Type B grant request to Anglican Foundation of Canada.

Executive Committee – January 21, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that the executive committee approve the \$3000 youth grant request from St. Margaret's Anglican Church for the Camino de Santiago Pilgrimage.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee recommend the Draft Diocesan 2025 budget, as presented with the two increases to account 6-1275 and 6-1130 to Diocesan Council.

Motion: the Executive Committee recommends that the distribution rate for 2026 be 5% based on the recommendation from the Financial and Investment Committees.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee approves the request from St. Alban – Kenora Archdeaconry to withdraw funds from their investment account to cover their ministry in 2026.

Diocesan Council – January 25, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that Ted Cotton be appointed to the Finance Committee

Motion: Be it resolved that the proceeds from the sale of St. James, Beausejour in the amount of \$177,225.50 be allocated as follows: 10% (not to exceed \$10,000) to the diocesan archives fund; 10% to the creation of a diocesan cemetery fund; 10% be made available to the disestablished parish to apply for funds to leave a legacy in their community and the remaining 70% to the New Church Development Fund

Motion: Be it resolved that the proceeds from the sale of St. James, Rainy River, in the amount of \$80,678.07 be allocated as follows: 10% (not to exceed \$10,000) to the diocesan archives fund, 10% to the creation of a diocesan cemetery fund, 10% be made available to the disestablished parish to apply for funds to leave a legacy in their community and the remaining 70% to the New Church Development Fund

Executive Committee – March 18, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee recommend to Anglican Foundation the application from St. Alban's Cathedral for \$15,000.00 for building repairs and maintenance.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee recommend to Anglican Foundation the application from All Saints, Winnipeg for \$15,000.00 for the creek-top recording session's ministry.

Diocesan Council – March 29, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that:

- i. \$44898.51 be transferred from the IMD (2-1347) account to the Epiphany Immediate Needs (90K) account.
- ii. \$10570.00 be transferred from the Healing & Reconciliation Fund to Epiphany (2-1388)
- iii. \$7615.43 be transferred from Operating Funds to Epiphany (2-1388); and
- iv. \$24,247.81 transferred from Operating Funds to the IMD (2-1347) account.

Motion: Be it resolved that the following motion of the February 19, 2019 Executive Committee be repealed: "That an additional funding of up to \$10,000 per year from the New Church Development & Ministry Fund be allocated for Urban Indigenous Ministry program."

Motion: Be it resolved that the following motion of the November 26th, 2022 Diocesan Council be repealed: "Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the amount of \$50,000 to be drawn from the Healing & Reconciliation Fund and given to Epiphany Indigenous Anglican Church for January 1, 2023 to be used for the counselling and healing program."

Motion: Be it resolved that the request from St. Francis Anglican to draw \$30,000 out of their principal invested with the diocese be approved

Executive Committee – May 6, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee approve the application to the Shared Ministry Fund Request from St. Andrew's, Woodhaven.

Diocesan Council – May 24, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocese of Rupert's Land establish a covenantal relationship with the Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council appoints Mr. Ted Cotton as the new treasurer.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approves the request for funding from the Indigenous Persons Reconciliation Fund for the \$200 to participate in the Grandfather Rock Ceremony in May of 2025.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approves the request for funding from the Indigenous Persons Reconciliation Fund for the \$2500 to participate in 'We Are All Treaty People' in September of 2025.

Executive Committee – June 17, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee approve the \$3000 Youth Grant request from St. Aidan.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee approve the \$3000 Youth Grant request from All Saints.

Executive Committee – November 18, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that Executive Committee commends to Diocesan Council that the distribution rate for 2025 be increased from 4% to 7% based on the recommendation from the Financial and Investment Committees.

Diocesan Council – November 29, 2025

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% .

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%.

Executive Committee – December 16, 2025

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocese of Rupert's Land increase the Anglican Foundation membership amount to \$1000 for 2026

Executive Committee – January 20, 2026

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee recommend to Diocesan Council that the budget for the Diocese of Rupert's Land include \$4860 for the Dismantling Anti Black Racism Committee.

Diocesan Council – January 31, 2026

Motion: Be it resolved that the budget request of the Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Committee for \$4,860, which was recommended by Executive Committee, be approved

Executive Committee – March 17, 2026

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee request Diocesan Council approve the 2026 funding request for \$3000 from the Indigenous People's Restoration Fund for the 'We Are All Treaty People' event.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee request Diocesan Council approve the 2026 funding request for \$300 from the Indigenous People's Restoration Fund for the 'Grandfather Rock' event.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee allocates the proceeds from the sale of Emmanuel in Ignace, ON into the following Diocese of Rupert's Land accounts; 10% to Archives; 10% to cemeteries; and 80% to the New Church Development Fund

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee accept the recommendation from Investment and Finance Committee and approve a one-time additional 5% distribution be made from the investment fund of the Diocese of Rupert's Land making the total distribution of earnings at 10% in 2026.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee accept the recommendation from Investment and Finance Committees to increase the administration fees for the investment funds from 0.25% to 0.5% beginning 2027 to inject an estimated \$30K revenue yearly for the Diocese.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee accept the recommendation from Investment and Finance Committees that the base minimum earnings distribution be increased from 4% to 4.5% beginning 2027

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee accept the recommendation from Investment and Finance Committees to approve version 4 of the 2026 budget with a surplus of \$9,428 and positively refer it to Diocesan Council.

Diocesan Council – March 28, 2026

Motion: Be it resolved that Diocesan Council recommends that the Anglican Foundation grant request from Holy Trinity proceed with Diocesan Council's approval

Motion: Be it resolved that the application from St. John's Cathedral for \$2000 from the Shared Ministry Investment Fund be approved as submitted.

Motion: Be it resolved that the request for \$3000 from the Indigenous People's Restoration Fund for the We are all Treaty People Event be approved

Motion: Be it resolved that the request for \$300 from the Indigenous People's Restoration Fund for the Grandfather Rock Event be approved.

Motion: Be it resolved that Diocesan Council directs that the proceeds of the sale of Emmanuel, Ignace, ON be distributed as 10% towards the Archives fund, 10% to the Cemeteries fund and 80% to New Church Development Fund

Motion: Be it resolved that as per the Investment, Finance, and Executive Committee's recommendation, that Diocesan Council approves an additional, one time 5% distribution in 2026 from the investment fund of the Diocese of Rupert's Land making the total distribution of earnings in 2026 at 10%.

Motion: Be it resolved that as per the Investment, Finance, and Executive Committee's recommendation, the Diocesan Council approves the increase of administration fees for the investment funds from 0.25% to 0.5% beginning 2027.

Motion: Be it resolved that as per the Investment, Finance, and Executive Committee's recommendation that the Diocesan Council approves the increase of the base minimum earnings distribution from 4% to 4.5% beginning 2027.

Motion: Be it resolved that based on the recommendation of Finance committee, Diocesan Council approve the 2026 Diocesan budget (version 4) with a surplus of \$9,428, as presented.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council establish a Communications Working Group to develop opportunities for parishes to communicate among themselves and to strengthen communication between diocesan ministries and parishes

Executive Committee – April 21, 2026

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee request direction from the Finance Committee on the \$100,000.00 that is ear marked for Diocesan Council – Special projects that is in the operating account and if recommends moving a percentage of it into the shared ministry investment fund. Council

Motion: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee requests the Board of Canons and Rules of Order to review and make a recommendation concerning the notice period for resolutions at synod or any alternative procedure they may recommend.

Diocesan Council – May 30, 2026

Motion: Be it resolved that the criteria for funding for Shared Ministry Fund – Parish Project be increased from \$2K to \$5K for each parish application per year.

Friendly Amendment: That the criteria for funding for Shared Ministry Fund – Parish Project be increased from \$2K to a maximum of \$5K for each parish application per year.

Motion: Be it resolved that Diocesan Council recommends that the request from St. Thomas, Weston proceed to AFC with Diocesan Council’s approval

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the Youth Ministry funding request of \$3000 from All Saints, Winnipeg for their weeklong Summer Youth Music Camp.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the Youth Ministry funding request of \$3000 from Emmanuel Mission for their Summer Learning Program.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the Shared Ministry Investment funding request of \$5000 from St. George, Wakefield for support of their entrance door replacement

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the Shared Ministry Investment funding request of \$5000 from St. Bartholomew, Winnipeg for support of their lighting upgrade

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the Shared Ministry Investment funding request of \$5000 from St. Thomas, Weston for support of their “Restoring the Lantern” campaign.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council approve the request from All Saints for additional funding of up to \$3600 taken from the Youth Ministry Trust

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council We acknowledge and welcome the invitation from the Rupert’s Land Elders and Epiphany Anglican Church to participate in their initiative to hold a pre-synod meeting, and work on setting a date

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocesan Council establish a Communications Working Group and appoint Lee Domenick, James Dugan, Bob Wedlake and Deb Buxton, to it.

Diocesan Council – June 27, 2026

Motion: Be it resolved that Diocesan Council appoint Gary Russell, Colin Dorrian, Norman Collier and Kudzaishe Manenji to Diocesan Synod

Motion: Be it resolved that further to the motion passed by Diocesan Council on November 30, 2024, regarding the youth grant process that item D should say that the maximum grant is \$3,000 per application and that the process should be posted on our website

Acts of Executive and Council in September 2026 not available at time of printing

Report to Synod from Diocesan Council

At the end of Synod 2024, a number of resolutions which had not been debated at Synod were referred to Diocesan Council for consideration. There were also resolutions passed by Synod which called for follow-up. This report is a summary of Council's work on these motions.

1. A-1, A-2, A-4

These motions arising from the Bishop's Charge invited parishes to take action in several areas, including creation care, cultivating joy in our faith, and celebrating the diversity of cultural expression in our churches. Parishes were invited in January 2026 to share how they responded. At least 13 parishes submitted responses, which were gathered and reviewed by Council. A summary sheet is attached to this report (Appendix A).

2. C-6

This motion, proposing a percentage of funds from land sales to be applied to reconciliation work, had extensive discussion at several Council meetings. Council directed a Working Group to explore and identify the issues raised, and the report of the group (elsewhere in Circular) was received by Council. It includes an exercise in theological reflection which is commended to parishes for their use. Council warmly received a report from Epiphany Mission on their use of the theological reflection resource. The Working Group report identifies multiple areas where more work is needed, which will continue to guide diocesan priorities and initiatives, some of which will be raised at this Synod.

3. C-8

In relation to the war in Gaza, Council requested the Investment Subcommittee to determine if the Diocese held any investments profiting from the war. The report from the Diocese's investment managers (see attached) indicated the answer was no.

4. C-4

The motion to examine the diocesan communications strategy, financial realities, and capacity to deal with transition, underwrote much of Council's work since 2024:

- It deeply informed the creation of the episcopal search profile and related discernment;
- Led to a Council received a report on Common Mission & Ministry payments, leading in turn to increased contact with parishes on this topic;
- Led to the creation of a Communications Working Group which has guided much of the preparation for this synod.

Council also received and discussed the "Green sheets" from Synod 2024 in order to keep the hopes and concerns, which they expressed, in the forefront of Council's deliberations.

Respectfully submitted,
Iain Luke, Chair, Diocesan Council

Appendix A:

Parish responses to Synod resolutions – common threads

Creation care

Greening the church – reducing paper use, eliminating Styrofoam, energy efficiency, composting,

Participatory focus – youth events, Earth Day, Grow Hope

Land focus – treaty awareness, care for gardens and cemeteries, discovery of local green spaces, cleanup, tree planting

Advocacy – presence at municipal events, sponsoring public events

Creation-centred spirituality – Season of Creation, Messy Church, prayers for Creation

Cultural diversity

Celebrating being a multi-cultural church – language, food, music, dress, visual art, all present in liturgy reflecting the diversity of membership

Discovery/education – lectures, book studies, conference, peer learning, Black History Month, partnership with non-Anglo churches

Communicating welcome – signage, messaging, action, attitudes

Diversity in age and physical ability – access, outreach, age-specific programs

Being a global church in Canada – respecting and reflecting Indigenous ways of worship, prayer for reconciliation, drawing on Anglican resources from many places and styles, uplifting diverse membership

Getting out of the building – prayer, worship and theology presented in the context of the surrounding culture

New ways of worship – lay-led services, Gospel Based Discipleship, Pray Without Ceasing, contemporary music, use of online resources, digital worship

Joy in our faith

Community context – use of building, getting to know neighbourhood, identifying and meeting needs, special events relevant to the community, local advocacy

Generosity – funding initiatives, volunteering together, putting on programs, working together as a team, celebrating everyone's gifts

Creativity – sharing music, writing, visual art, symbols of faith, new uses of communications technology, taking joy in the beauty of liturgy and architecture

Discovery – study and discussion groups keep faith fresh and well-informed; partnership with other agencies and churches promotes on-going learning

Meeting people where they are – grief support, addressing isolation, feeding and clothing, healing prayer

Desire for leadership that empowers and encourages the sharing of joy in our faith

Practice of corporate reflection – baptismal covenant, discernment of call

Being part of something bigger than ourselves – partnerships, support for local/national/global programs

Appendix B:

Investment Committee response to Resolution C-8

From: Ted Ransby

Sent: Saturday, January 17, 2026 7:26 PM

To: Joy Valencerina

I am replying to the Diocesan Council's motion regarding whether our investment funds are or were profiting from the war in Gaza.

You will have received the Royal Banks assessment of the issue. I was most impressed with the thoroughness of their report. It reflects well on the quality disciplines and professionalism of our manager.

In my opinion, our holdings have not been profiting from the conflict. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

PS I am also pleased to confirm that our rate of return before fees in 2025 was 13.3%

Yours in Christ, Ted Ransby, CFA chairman investment committee

From: Rae, Dylan

Sent: January 05, 2026 4:23 PM

To: 'ransby@mts.net' <

Subject: Gaza question

Hi Ted,

As discussed, please find our response to the Gaza question below.

Gaza Question:

At a high level, RBC has very strict restrictions that prohibit investment in any company whose business activities contravene the following conventions:

- Anti-Personnel Landmines Convention
- Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention
- Convention on Cluster Munitions
- The Chemical Weapons Convention

As such, no RBC GAM investment team knowingly invests in companies associated with anti-personnel land mines, cluster munitions, biological weapons, or chemical weapons, across several business areas including productions, sales/trade, testing, research and development, system integration, maintenance, and maintenance/service management. In addition, we adhere to all government-mandated sanctions and restrictions on investment in countries as directed by various federal authorities.

With specific regard to Israel and Gaza, currently, there are no firm-level or government-mandated restrictions on investments directly linked to Israel (Israeli sovereign debt or corporate issuers). While not restricted from owning any Israeli companies, **the fund currently has no direct exposure to any Israeli companies.**

On a look-through basis, it is not always clear which companies are profiting from specific conflicts and our vendors do not have specific indicators, but we have pulled a list of all the defense-related companies in the portfolio:

Defense company	% of portfolio
BAE Systems PLC	0.237%
Boeing Co.	0.368%
CAE Inc.	0.035%
General Dynamics Corp.	0.029%
Northrop Grumman Corp.	0.021%
Rheinmetall AG	0.043%
Rolls-Royce Holdings PLC	0.021%
RTX Corp.	0.028%
Safran SA.	0.492%
Total	1.27%

As you will note, the “defense” side of many of these business is not the primary driver of their revenues or valuations. In fact, our investment teams have generally under-owned defense companies due to both ESG considerations and the highly cyclical nature of their businesses. This explains the low overall weight to the sector.

I hope this helps, please let me know if there are further questions.

Thanks,
Dylan

Dylan Rae, CFA | Institutional Portfolio Manager | PH&N Institutional | **RBC Global Asset Management Inc.**

Sent: December 1, 2025 9:28 AM

Subject: Investments

Good morning,

Diocesan Council requests, pursuant to motion C-8 of the 2024 Diocesan Synod, that “we investigate all investments held by the Diocese of Rupert’s Land to determine if they are profiting from the war on Gaza and the Palestinian people”.

Can you please review are investments and provide comment in time for the January 31st Diocesan Council meeting.

Thank you,
In Christ’s Service,
Simon+

Briefing Note on Resolution C-6

Diocesan Synod 2024

Background

1. The 119th Sitting of the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land (held October 17-19, 2024) referred the following motion (Resolution C-6) to the Diocesan Council for its consideration:

RESOLVED THAT this Synod ask the Board of Canons to consider the establishment of a new Indigenous Ministry Fund where we will acknowledge the Land by remitting 50% of the revenue generated through all sales of diocesan and parish properties (i.e. Land), to this Fund before any other claims on the revenue are considered.

2. The motion as currently worded presents challenges, as drafting policy is outside the scope of the Diocesan Board of Canons and Rules of Order. Rather, per [Canon 17](#), its role is to draft amendments to the Diocesan Constitution and Canons based on directions from the Diocesan Council and/or Diocesan Synod. Nonetheless, during initial discussions the Diocesan Council has indicated a willingness to engage with the spirit or essence of the motion.
3. During subsequent meetings of the Diocesan Council, it became evident that the complexities involved were beyond the scope of large gatherings. Consequently, the Diocesan Council resolved that a smaller working group would be necessary to provide a framework to assist Council in its deliberations around the motion. In May 2025, then-Executive Archdeacon Simon Blaikie convened a Working Group (WG) to fulfill this mandate.
4. Our Working Group was comprised of The Rev. Canon Simon Blaikie, The Rev. Matthew Bowman, The Ven. Dr. W. Lee Domenick, and Ms. Kirsten Pinto Gfroerer. Despite our best efforts, we were unsuccessful in our attempts to include an Indigenous representative. However, we affirm the essential nature of Indigenous involvement at all stages of the process, and of consulting with Indigenous Leadership (see 2.2 and 2.3) and with Indigenous decision-making and governance processes in accordance with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
5. We note that our mandate was to create a framework to foster constructive dialogue within the Diocesan Council as it deliberates about the spirit of the initial motion, and not to render a decision on the motion itself.
6. We have held five meetings, which culminated in this briefing document. Discussions at each meeting were complex and multi-faceted, with key themes outlined in the balance of this briefing note.

Framework Considerations: Financial Proceeds from the Sale of Real Property

1. Introduction

We encourage use of the virtues as an important guide for decision making and action. As Christians, the theological virtues of faith, hope and love, take precedence. These virtues are bolstered by the cardinal virtues of justice, prudence, temperance and fortitude. We have prioritized the following considerations according to this priority of virtues, with the logic of this prioritization described in the paragraph below.

As Anglican Christians, our faith is held in common, and we do not make decisions in isolation but as members of the larger Church at all its various levels (diocesan, national church, ecumenical partnerships, etc.). Faith-based decision making is thus formed by its ecclesiastical context. Theological considerations grounded in faith, hope, and love assist in pointing our actions towards the Good and protect us from error. Likewise, justice demands that we consider legal questions which are related to our obligations as a Church. Finally, we encourage prudent consideration of the diocese's present financial situation, including current commitments and obligations, as well as limitations, in the decision-making process. All discussions invite Christians to be temperate, and future decision-making and taking action will require fortitude.

2. Ecclesiastical Context

In 1993, the Anglican Church of Canada issued an Apology to Indigenous Peoples for its involvement in the Residential School system, and in 2010 repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery as “fundamentally opposed to the gospel of Jesus Christ and our understanding of the inherent rights that individuals and peoples have received from God.”¹ We note that these acknowledgments have received mixed responses from Indigenous stakeholders, who have emphasized the need for tangible actions that support Indigenous rights, self-determination, and cultural preservation; and that ongoing dialogues regarding land rights and accountability continue to shape the colonial Church's relationship with Indigenous Peoples.

3. Theological and Ethical Considerations

We acknowledge the ethical responsibility of Christians to uphold the dignity of all individuals, and recommend that the Diocesan Council engage in discussions centred on the following inquiries:

- a. What does it mean to “respect the dignity of every human being”² regarding land historically lived upon by Indigenous peoples?
- b. How can this act reflect our baptismal promise “to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbour as ourselves”?
- c. In what ways does Anglican theology call for repentance, reconciliation, and reparation in light of colonization?
- d. How do treaty agreements influence the Church’s ongoing responsibilities?
- e. What does justice entail in deciding between the return of land versus the proceeds from its sale?
- f. How are Indigenous voices, particularly from Treaty Nations, included in this discernment process?
- g. What is the spiritual significance of the land for Indigenous communities and the Church?
- h. How might this action contribute to healing relationships between the Church and Indigenous Peoples?
- i. In what ways is this action sustained by prayer, scripture, and theological reflection?

¹ General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, Resolution A086 R1, Halifax, 2010.

² General Synod of The Anglican Church of Canada, “The Baptismal Covenant,” in *The Book of Alternative Services*, (ABC Publishing: Toronto, 1984), p. 159.

- j. What commitments ought the Church undertake to ensure this is a meaningful initiative rather than a symbolic gesture?

We likewise commend the attached Study Guide prepared by the The Ven. Dr. Lee Domenick.

4. Legal Considerations

In the course of our work, we determined that we were not qualified to make legal recommendations to Diocesan Council regarding whether the Diocese has any potential legal obligation to financially compensate Indigenous Peoples upon the sale of diocesan or parish land. However, we note that the legal considerations surrounding this motion are intricate and complex, and, given ongoing litigation involving various levels of both Canadian and Indigenous governments, should be approached with caution.

5. Financial Considerations

The Diocese of Rupert's Land presently supports several Indigenous Ministry initiatives, including the ministry of an Indigenous Ministry Developer and Epiphany Indigenous Anglican Church. Over the past decade, in excess of \$700, 000.00 has been dedicated to these efforts, funded by the New Church Development Fund which itself is financed by the proceeds from sale of real property and other financial assets of disestablished parishes. We note this not to suggest that existing efforts around healing and reconciliation ought to prevent Diocesan Council from considering whether Indigenous Peoples are explicitly owed a share of the proceeds from the sale of land, but to highlight that current expenditures in support of Indigenous ministry already draw on the proposed funding source.

Framework Complexities: Allocation of Proceeds from the Sale of Real Property

1. Real Property vs. Structures on Real Property

We encourage Diocesan Council to consider whether there is a differentiation between structures on the land and the land itself, and if so how this differentiation should factor into decision making regarding any potential allocation of proceeds.

2. Indigenous Voice and Decision-Making Authority

We argue it is essential for Diocesan Council to be cognizant that there is no singular Indigenous voice or organization representing all Indigenous Peoples in Canada or within the Diocese of Rupert's Land, and that the National Indigenous Archbishop and the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples (ACIP) speak with authority regarding Indigenous issues within the Anglican Church of Canada. As such, we encourage consultation with the National Indigenous Archbishop and ACIP in consideration of the motion C-6 and the matters laid out in this briefing note.

3. Indigenous Identities

We acknowledge that, as with any multi-national grouping, Indigenous legal, social, spiritual, and ethical realities are varied and complex. The Government of Canada categorizes the Indigenous Peoples of Canada into First Nations, Inuit, and Métis groupings, and these groupings are not always congruent with the ways Indigenous peoples understand their own international relationships. For example, the Government of Canada recognizes Métis nationhood in ways that do not always align with the ways the Red River Métis understand their national reality.

Likewise, we recognize that Indigenous Peoples do not hold uniform social, spiritual, or religious understandings about land or treaty-making, and that the above diversity and complexity is reflected in the life and ministry of the Diocese, and encourage Diocesan Council to remain cognizant of these realities in its deliberations. Further, we acknowledge our own limitations in fully understanding the complexity of these diverse viewpoints.

4. Importance of Specificity

We recognize the danger of a general and/or "broad-brush" approach in considering issues around motion C-6 and encourage Diocesan Council to be diligent in attending to the uniqueness and specificity of individual situations.

5. Management of Funds at the Diocesan Level

As previously noted, we view recommendation as to whether the Diocesan Council ought to allocate funds to Indigenous People from the sale of real property as beyond the scope of our mandate. However, should Diocesan Council discern that action is warranted, that proceeds from the sale of real property should be directed to Indigenous Peoples, and that allocated funds ought to remain within control of the Anglican Church, we recommend that any such funds be managed collectively at the diocesan rather than parish level.

Conclusion

In summary, we emphasize the importance of thoughtful deliberation about the original motion regarding creation of an Indigenous Ministry Fund from the sale of real property, and we encourage Diocesan Council to carefully weigh the theological, ethical, legal, and prudential considerations outlined in this briefing note as part of its deliberations. Our intention throughout has been to equip Diocesan Council with a robust decision-making framework in an effort to ensure its actions are not only symbolic but rather contribute meaningfully to the healing of relationships, and the affirmation of Indigenous rights and identities.

Respectfully submitted on 31 January 2026 by:

The Reverend Canon Simon Blaikie¹

The Reverend Matthew Bowman

The Venerable Dr. W. Lee Domenick

Ms. Kirsten Pinto-Gfroerer

¹We note that Canon Blaikie was Diocesan Executive Archdeacon during the majority of our work.

Theological Reflection Guide For Land Justice and Treaty Responsibility

The Ven. Dr. W. Lee Domenick

Opening Prayer for Discernment

Creator God, we come to you as learners and listeners, seeking wisdom beyond our own. We remember the land, the treaties, and the truths too long denied. Guide us by your Spirit as we seek to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with You and with the First Peoples of this land. In the name of Jesus, the Reconciler of all creation. Amen.

1. Dignity and the Baptismal Covenant

Baptismal Covenant

"Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?"

Scripture

"So God created humankind in God's image..." (Genesis 1:27)

Reflection

1. How has the Church, historically and presently, failed to uphold the dignity of Indigenous Peoples?
2. What does honouring dignity look like in practice through land return or reparations?

Prayer Prompt

Ask God to open your eyes to the image of God in those historically dispossessed.

2. Loving our Neighbour

Baptismal Covenant

"Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?"

Scripture

The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

Reflection

1. What does love require in this situation—especially when it is costly?
2. Who has been left "in the ditch" due to the Church's role in colonization?

Prayer Prompt

Pray for the courage to love not only in word but in action.

3. Repentance and Repair

Scripture

"Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed."
(James 5:16)

Anglican Theology

Repentance includes confession, amendment of life, and reparation. This is a call to more than apology—it is about turning back to God and neighbour.

Reflection

1. What steps of repair can follow repentance in your context?
2. How will we ensure our repentance is tangible?

Prayer Prompt

Pray a prayer of confession for specific injustices tied to land.

4. Covenant and Treaties

Scripture

"So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day..." (Joshua 24:25)

Theological Note

Treaties, were understood by Indigenous signatories as sacred covenants. Covenant in Scripture implies ongoing, mutual, and spiritual obligation.

Reflection

1. How is the Church living up to its obligations under the treaties?
2. Do we treat treaties as spiritual covenants or as political relics?

Prayer Prompt

Pray in thanksgiving for the sacred teachings of covenant in Indigenous tradition.

5. Justice and Land

Scripture

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice..." (Micah 6:8)

Theological Questions

1. Is it just to profit from land acquired through unjust means?
2. How do we define justice through God's lens—not our comfort?

Reflection

1. Are we prepared to give up power, wealth, or privilege in the name of justice?

Prayer Prompt

Ask God for wisdom to act justly, even when it requires sacrifice.

6. Justice and Land

Scripture

"The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you.'" (1 Corinthians 12:21)

Reflection

1. Are we truly listening—or just inviting token participation?
2. How can Indigenous peoples lead this process, not just be consulted?

Prayer Prompt

Pray for Indigenous leaders and elders, and ask for humility in following their guidance.

7. Land as Sacred

Scripture

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it." (Psalm 24:1)

Theological Insight

In both Indigenous and Anglican traditions, land is not merely property—it is sacred, relational, and spiritual.

Reflection

1. How might we return land in ways that honour its sacredness?
2. How can land be used to restore relationship with Creator and community?

Prayer Prompt

Offer prayers of gratitude for the land you are on. Listen to what it teaches.

8. Healing and Reconciliation

Scripture

"God... gave us the ministry of reconciliation." (2 Corinthians 5:18)

Theological Insight

Reconciliation is not forgetting the past, but healing through truth, justice, and right relationship.

Reflection

1. What healing do we hope for? Whose healing is prioritized?
2. Is this action a step in a broader relationship of reconciliation?

Prayer Prompt

Pray for reconciliation that leads to restored relationships, not institutional absolution.

9. Prayerful Discernment Over Transaction

Scripture

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds." (Romans 12:2)

Reflection

1. Are we being led by Spirit or by fear, liability, or optics?
2. How are Scripture, prayer, and Indigenous spirituality guiding our decisions?

Prayer Prompt

Ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance in your discernment process.

10. Long-Term Commitment

Scripture

"Let us not grow weary in doing what is right..." (Galatians 6:9)

Reflection

1. How can we ensure this is not a one-time gesture but the start (or continuation) of sustained commitment to decolonization and justice?

Prayer Prompt

Pray for perseverance, humility, and ongoing accountability.

A Litany for Land Justice and Reconciliation

Leader: Creator, you made all land holy and entrusted it to your peoples.

All: Teach us to walk humbly and respectfully on this land.

Leader: For our complicity in the taking of land and the silencing of Indigenous voices,

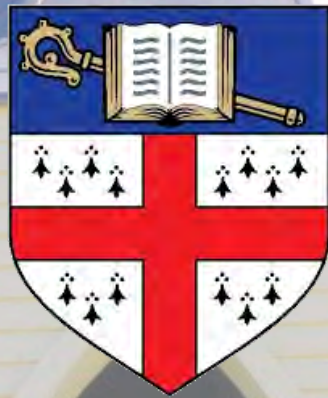
All: We confess, we repent, we seek to repair.

Leader: For every opportunity to restore what was broken and return what was taken,

All: Give us courage, wisdom, and grace.

Leader: In all things, make us instruments of your justice, peace, and reconciliation.

All: Amen.



DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND

2025 Diocesan Profile

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Photo by Brook Jones

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St John's College - Wilmot Lecture

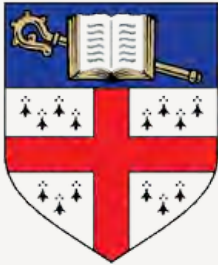
NAVIGATION TIPS

- 1. Click section titles to navigate to that page.
- 2. Click the footer on each page to return to the Table of Contents
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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Diocese of Rupert's Land acknowledges that we meet and work in Treaty 1, 2 and 3 Land, the traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Dakota, Sioux and Oji-Cree people and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here.

INTRODUCTION



In October 2024, The Rt. Rev. Geoffrey Woodcroft, having served as Bishop of Rupert's Land since 2018 announced his intention to retire before the end of March 2025, and called for the election of a new Diocesan Bishop.

The Diocese of Rupert's Land, a Diocese of the Anglican Church of Canada, is actively engaged in a process of prayer and discernment leading to an election on May 31, 2025.

This profile has been prepared by the Search Committee and is intended to provide information to prospective candidates and others connected with the discernment process. It offers information about what candidates and their associates need to know in making decisions and initiating the nomination process.

As part of the compilation of this Profile, the Search Committee conducted an open survey of members of the Diocese, along with consultations with clergy, committees, and individuals to capture and share aspects of ministry within the wider Diocese that will be pertinent for any potential nominees consideration and discernment.

Response to this call for input was diverse and substantive, with communities and groups from throughout the Diocese offering their wisdom, discernment, and prayers for our new Bishop.

A summary of survey responses is available on the [Diocesan Website](#).

A PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT

Send forth your Holy Spirit, O Lord, and raise up for us a servant of your own choosing: a Bishop to lead and guide us; a shepherd of wisdom and strength, compassion and grace, holiness and learning, with vision and the commitment to build up your Church and unite your faithful people around the love of him who offered himself for us and for all the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HISTORICAL SNAPSHOTS

1817



The Rev. John West (C.M.S.) arrives from Britain, and holds the first Church of England service in the Red River Settlement, beginning the Anglican presence in Western Canada.

True to C.M.S. policy, West encourages Indigenous people to raise up their own missionaries and teachers.

On July 18, **Chief Peguis and four other chiefs** sign the **Peguis-Selkirk Treaty** with **Thomas Douglas (Lord Selkirk)**, defining how the land at Red River will be shared, and solidifying friendship between settlers and the Indigenous Peoples of the area.

1820



The Rt. Rev. David Anderson is appointed the first bishop of the Diocese of Rupert's Land

1849



The Rt. Rev. Robert Machray founds St John's College. The College has roots in the Anglican school founded by John West in 1820.

1866



1869

1870



John A. Machray (nephew of Robert) is arrested for misappropriating endowments of the dioceses of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, St John's College, and the University of Manitoba.

Losses total over \$750,000.

Diocesan Synod meets for the first time and adopts the Diocesan Constitution

The Hudson Bay Company sells Rupert's Land to Canada

1932



The Rt. Rev. Barry Valentine becomes the first Bishop of Rupert's Land elected by Diocesan Synod.

1969



The Revs. Genevieve Murdoch, Joan Whiting, and Ruth Pogson (pictured) are ordained priest by Bishop Valentine on October 28 at St John's Cathedral.

They are the first female priests in the Diocese.

From 1932 to 1969 the Metropolitan of Rupert's Land has ex officio been the Bishop of the Diocese, owing to the financial insecurity brought about by the Machray scandal.

1978



The Rt. Rev. Don Phillips consents to a motion from Diocesan Synod asking him to permit church blessings of same-sex civil marriages.

2012

2019

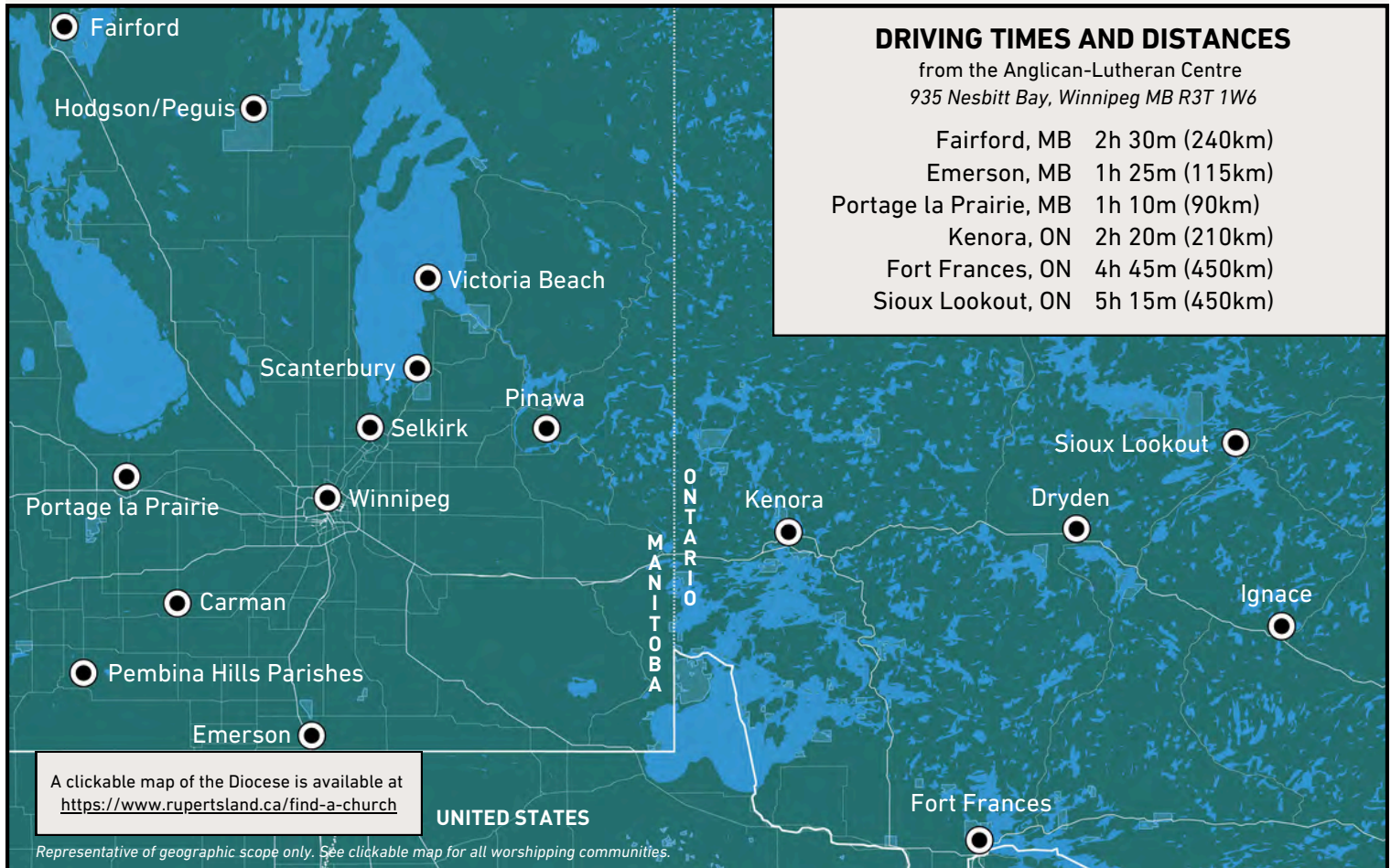


In July 2019, **The Rt. Rev. Geoffrey Woodcroft** extends this to permit the solemnization of same-sex marriages in parishes that request the permission to do so.

WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE ARE

We are home to 66 worshipping communities, bounded on the south by the border with the United States and extending north into the Interlake Region. Our western boundary reaches into the Pembina Hills, which includes Portage la Prairie; with the eastern boundary stretching to Sioux Lookout and Ignace in Northwestern Ontario.

In 2014, the geographical scope of the diocese expanded significantly with the incorporation of worshipping communities from the southern portion of the former Diocese of Keewatin. (Much of the northern portion of Keewatin was folded into the newly formed Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh). There are currently 7 former Keewatin worshipping communities in the Diocese, all in Northwestern Ontario.



LITURGICAL AND THEOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Our worshipping communities embrace diverse liturgical styles and theological perspectives, from evangelical to Anglo-Catholic. The 1984 Book of Alternative Services is most prevalent, while some use the 1962 Book of Common Prayer or other resources. Many communities live-stream worship via YouTube, Facebook or Zoom.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN WORSHIP

We are striving to embrace the diversity of cultures present in our worshipping communities, as evidenced by the motion ([Resolution A-2](#)) passed at Synod 2024, which asked each parish to consider the diverse forms of worship that make up the global Anglican Communion in order to discern new ways our own worship and ministry can reflect the diversity of our communities. Some examples are worshipping communities that have taken steps to include hymns and prayers that are representative of the diversity present in the community, along with social and educational events which encourage learning and cultural awareness.



LAY READERS AND LAY LEADERS

Many worshipping communities have licensed Lay Readers, who with other lay leaders actively share in ministry and leadership both liturgically and in community outreach, administration, and governance.

Lay leadership is involved at all levels of decision-making and governance from chairing community-level groups and committees to Corporations; and from lay delegates to Diocesan synod to membership on the Diocesan Council and Diocesan Executive.

We are keenly aware that the ongoing vitality of our collective life and ministry must be rooted in equipping lay leaders to courageously live out their faith, and use their God-given gifts to serve the world God loves.

PRIESTLY MINISTRY

Most of our worshipping communities are led by full- or part-time stipendiary clergy, with several parishes led by non-stipendiary clergy who are retired, who are locally trained, or who work in collaborative ministry teams. Sustaining ordained stipendiary leadership has become increasingly difficult especially in worshipping communities outside Winnipeg.



DIACONAL MINISTRY

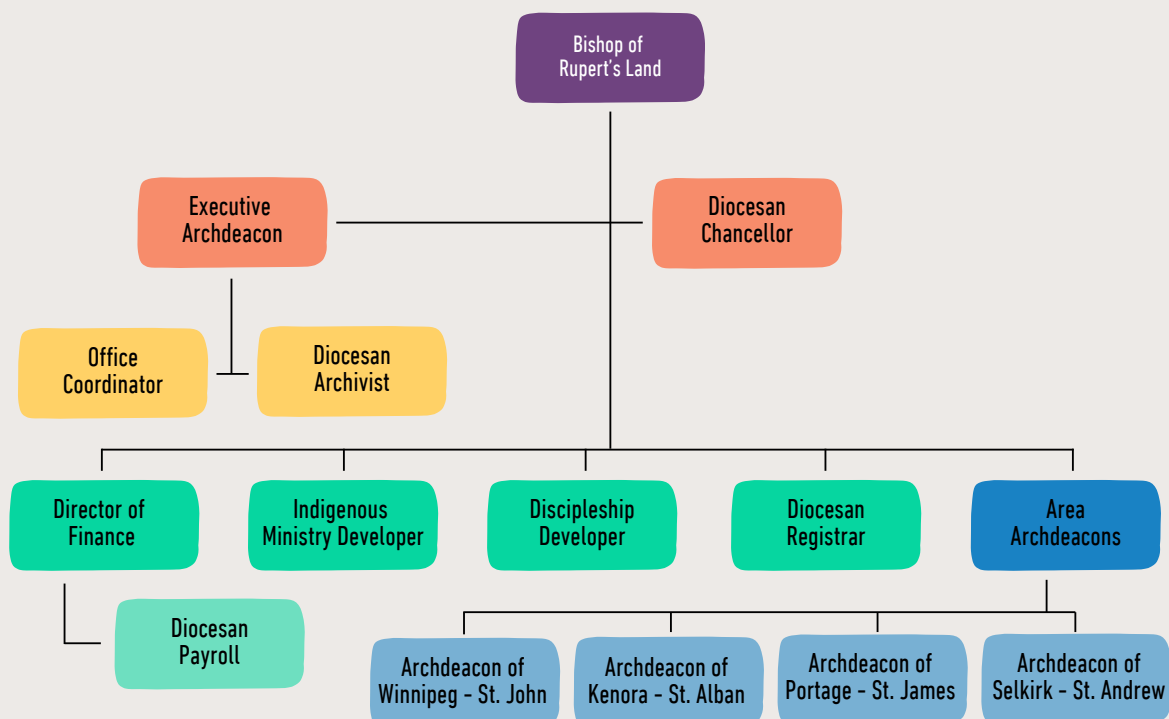
There are around 20 vocational deacons in active ministry in the worshipping communities of the Diocese. As a collective, they are presently reflecting on how the national Anglican Deacons Canada [Visioning and Strategy Report](#) could fit into our Diocese, and are hopeful our new Bishop will become familiar with this process, and in consultation with the deacons review Diocesan guidelines in light of its recommendations.

Aging of current vocational deacons is a major concern, with few younger folks coming alongside after discerning a vocation to diaconal ministry.



ORGANIZATION, PARTNERSHIPS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

Diocesan Organizational Chart



EVANGELICAL LUTHERANS Manitoba Northwestern Ontario Synod



As Full Communion partners under the national Waterloo Declaration we share a close and inter-connected relationship with the Manitoba Northwestern Ontario Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Initiatives include:

- Shared office space at Anglican-Lutheran Centre (935 Nesbitt Bay)
- Clergy of one denomination can and do minister in communities of the other
- Combined educational opportunities including the annual clergy conference

COMMUNICATIONS



Rupert's Land News is the official publication of the Diocese, and exists to foster conversation at the intersections of faith and life. A weekly e-mail newsletter provides current news and events in a concise format, while the monthly digital magazine offers a platform for exploration of difficult and challenging topics, creative expression, learning about and from people within and without our worshipping communities, and complex theological engagement.

New sections include a monthly Community Catechesis article focusing on theological reflection and critical engagement with faith, while the Parish Profile features an interview with a worshipping community of the Diocese.

Oversight is provided by the RLN Advisory Board.

Diocese of Rupert's Land | 2025 Bishop Search p. 7

FINANCES

The Operating Budget for 2025 is \$1,142,788 with total revenue budgeted at \$963,290, leaving a projected deficit of \$179,498.

Operations are funded through the Common Mission and Ministry Fund (CM&M), which are parish contributions to our common Diocesan life, and a variety of designated and undesignated investment funds.

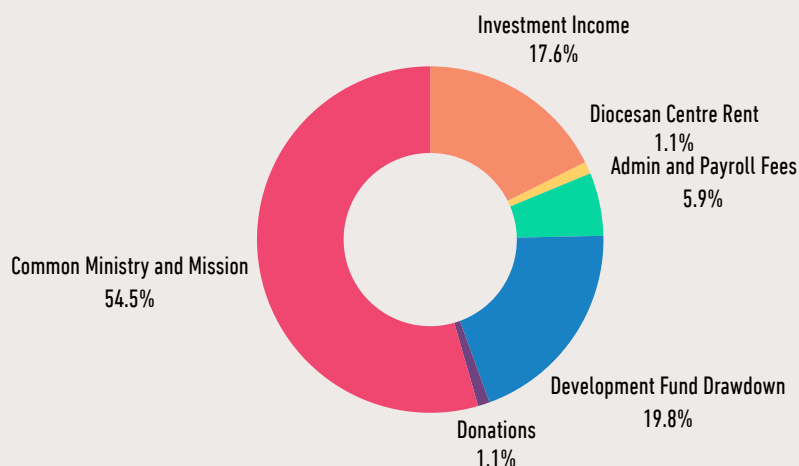
CM&M is calculated using a formula expecting 12.5% of worshipping community operating income (minus flow-through and capital projects), with 66 worshipping communities currently contributing to the fund.

- 29% meet or exceed their 12.5%.
- 49% are at/over 10%

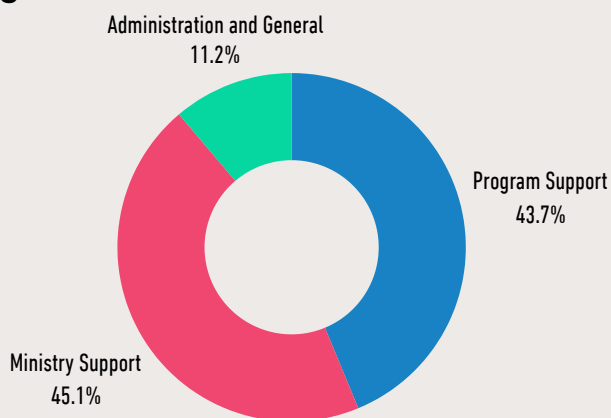
The Diocese has operated with deficit budgets for the past 9 years. Several ministry positions are currently funded through capital draw-down from the New Church Development Fund.

Audited financial statements are available at:
<https://www.rupertisland.ca/resources/finance>

REVENUE

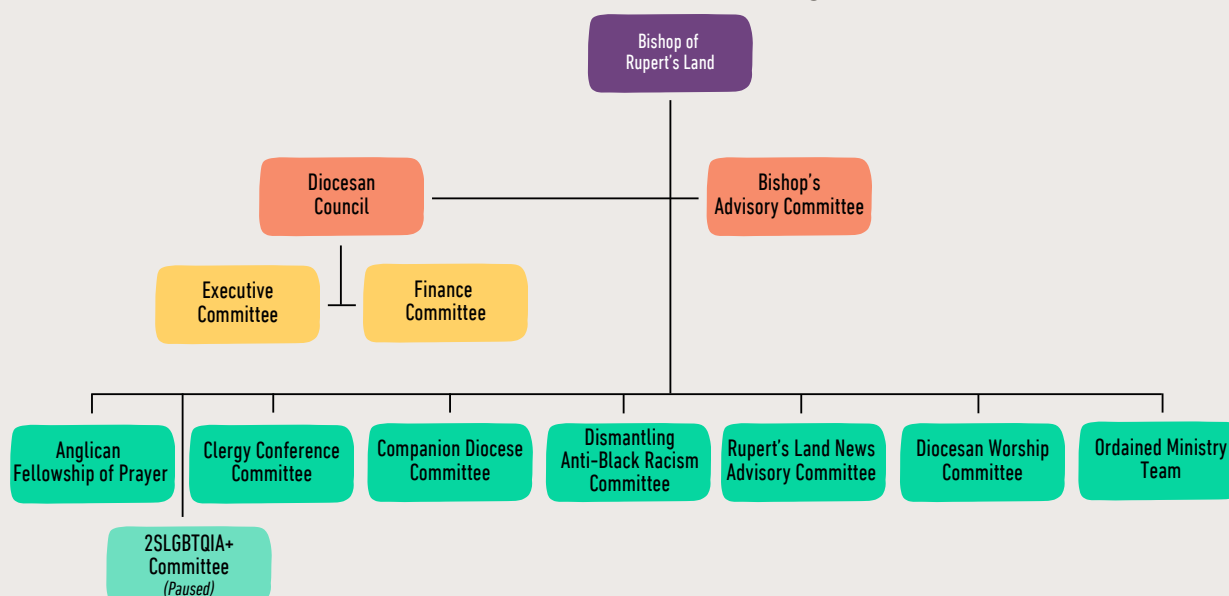


EXPENSES



GOVERNANCE

Diocesan Governance and Committees Organizational Chart



GOVERNANCE BODIES

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Meets to discuss, consider, and conduct the business affairs of the Diocese

- **Meets once every two years**
- **Elects members to:**
 - Diocesan Council
 - Board on Canons and Rules of Order
 - Diocesan Court
 - General Synod
 - Provincial Synod

FAITH HORIZONS

- **Held during non-Synod years**
 - Educational workshops
 - Opportunities for networking and spiritual development
 - Open to both lay and ordained Synod delegates

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- **Standing Committee**
 - Reviews monthly financial outlook
 - Reports to Diocesan Executive and Diocesan Council
 - Monitors the Diocesan budget
 - Makes financial policy recommendations to Diocesan Council
- **Investment Sub-Committee**
 - Liaises with outside investment fund managers
 - Sets direction for Diocesan investments



LEGALITIES

There are presently no legal actions pending against the Diocese.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Manages Diocesan business affairs between sittings of the Diocesan Synod

- **Meets five time per year**
- **Membership**
 - 10 Elected Clerical members
 - At least three in Winnipeg
 - At least three outside Winnipeg
 - 12 Elected Lay members
 - At least four in Winnipeg
 - At least four outside Winnipeg
 - 9 Ex Officio members
 - Diocesan Bishop
 - Diocesan Chancellor
 - Dean of Rupert's Land
 - Warden of St John's College
 - 4 Area Archdeacons
 - Chair of the Finance Committee
 - Up to 6 other appointees

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Manages the day-to-day business affairs of the Diocese. Executive Committee has the powers of the Diocesan Council in between its meetings, but generally prefers to make recommendations to Council to enable it to make significant decisions.

Diocesan policy and direction is established by the Diocesan Council.

- **Meets monthly**
- **Membership**
 - 3 Elected Clerical members
 - 3 Elected Lay members
 - 8 Ex Officio members
 - Diocesan Bishop
 - Diocesan Chancellor
 - Dean of Rupert's Land
 - Diocesan Treasurer

TREATY HISTORIES

PEGUIS-SELKIRK TREATY (1817)

The lands on which we live, work, and worship have been home to the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island since time immemorial. Long standing and at times complicated treaty relationships have existed between Indigenous Peoples and immigrant settlers at Red River (now Winnipeg) since the 1817 Peguis-Selkirk Treaty, signed between the legendary Chief Peguis and four other chiefs, and Thomas Douglas, Lord Selkirk, who sought the treaty to 'solidify' his claim to land granted to him by the Hudson Bay Company (HBC). The treaty defined how land would be shared, which solidified

Indigenous/settler friendships, and facilitated Selkirk setting aside land for Anglican and Roman churches, thus helping to ensure the success of the Red River Settlement and laying the groundwork for the future development of Winnipeg and Manitoba.

COLONIAL EXPANSION AND TREATIES 1 TO 3 (1871-1873)

In 1870 the Government of Canada 'purchased' HBC's claims to Rupert's Land. Under the 1763 Royal Proclamation, Canada was obligated to enter into Treaties with the First Nations Peoples occupying the land. From 1871 to 1873 Canada signed Treaties 1, 2, and 3 with the First Nations living on territory covered by the present-day Diocese of Rupert's Land. First Nations understood the Numbered Treaties to be agreements between autonomous peoples, while agreeing to share some interests in their lands in exchange for payments and promises; the Canadian Government saw them as legal instruments that extinguished Aboriginal land rights. The Numbered Treaties enabled the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which facilitated colonial expansion onto land stretching west from present-day Northern Ontario to the Rocky Mountains. Our Diocese was complicit in the genocide of Indigenous children in the Indian Residential School system and operated the Dynevor 'Indian' Hospital from 1896 to 1939. Our current relationships as settler and Indigenous Anglicans continues to be governed by our respective obligations under these treaties, and the awareness that we are all treaty people.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION - EDUCATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

As a Diocese we take seriously our obligations and responses to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action, the National Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Calls for Justice, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Work continues to create courses, seminars, and workshops to educate lay leaders and clergy, as well as members of our worshipping communities, to ensure appropriate levels of familiarity with subjects such as the history of colonization, the relationship between the Anglican Church of Canada and Indigenous Peoples, acknowledging Indigenous land through Land Acknowledgements, Indigenous spiritualities, and the unique shape of Indigenous Christianity.

CHIEF PEGUIS & ST. PETER'S

Chief Peguis and his people occupied land from the mouth of the Red River to present-day Selkirk, forming the Anglican Parish of St. Peter's around 1850. In 1854, they built the Old Stone Church of St. Peter's Dynevor north of Selkirk. After signing Treaty One in 1871, they became the St. Peter's Band of Indians. Following the 1907 surrender of St. Peter's, they were relocated 200 km north to the Fisher River, becoming Peguis First Nation. Today, Peguis members return to the Old Stone Church every Father's Day for a service and gathering.



INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SELF-DETERMINATION

Indigenous leaders in the Diocese have a long history of involvement with national Indigenous gatherings, and have been an integral part of conversations on self-determination, healing, and reconciliation. Significant national moments in the ongoing journey to Indigenous self-governance and self-determination have taken place in the Diocese including Sacred Circles held in Kenora (1993) and Pinawa (2005 & 2012); the foundational document A Covenant and Our Journey of Spiritual Renewal, which was drawn up in Winnipeg in 1994; and The Road to Warm Springs National Consultation on Indigenous Anglican Self-Determination (2017) held in Pinawa, which led to Our Covenant and Way of Life (2022). Leaders have also served at the national level on the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous House of Bishops Leadership Circle, and as coordinators of the National Urban Indigenous Anglican Ministry Network.

Diocese of Rupert's Land | 2025 Bishop Search p. 10

Reports from the 120th Sitting of Synod (2025)

Convening Circular (2026) | p. 46

DIOCESAN DISCIPLESHIP DEVELOPER

Dr. Ryan Turnbull



This role was created in October 2023. Since then Dr. Ryan Turnbull has been busy overseeing diocesan education and professional development, in addition to creating a framework for discipleship training and formation at all levels.

Re-imagining St John's College as a theology hub is showing promise as the right-size solution for the ongoing educational, training, and formation needs of the Diocese.

What's Ryan up to?

- **Supporting Ordinand Journeys**
 - Collaboration with the Ordained Ministry Team
- **St John's College, University of Manitoba**
 - WECAN Licentiate in Theology
 - Courses offered through partnership with CMU
 - Workshops and Conferences
- **Lay Formation**
 - Life-long learning opportunities
 - Hosting Deanery workshops
 - Regional learning opportunities
- **Youth and Young Adults**
 - Summer retreat and other networking events
- **Clergy Conference Committee**
- **Summit Series**
 - Conversations about the meaning of discipleship (online/in person)
- **Continuous Education for Clergy**

URBAN INDIGENOUS MINISTRY DEVELOPER

The Rev. Vincent Solomon



The Rev. Vincent Solomon plays the lead role in bolstering Indigenous Anglican ministry in Winnipeg. His ministry has three major components:

- Epiphany Indigenous Church
- Deepening healing & reconciliation
- Healing through providing safe spaces for Indigenous people who have endured trauma.

What's Vince up to?

- **Parish Incumbent**
 - Epiphany Indigenous
 - St. Peter, Dynevor
 - St. Philip, Scanterbury
- **Workshops**
 - Offered on a variety of topics and contexts
 - Land Acknowledgement workshops
- **Conferences**
 - Presenter on topics such as Survivors' Legacy, Dismantling Racism the Indian Act, Treaty Commissions, Sacred Circle, and Colonialism and the Anglican Church
- **Ecumenism**
 - Ecumenical work on provincial and national church committees
- **Indigenous Self-Determination**
 - Membership on national leadership bodies of the self-governing, self-determining Indigenous Church within the Anglican Church of Canada

MINISTRIES AND COMMITTEES



ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER (AFP)

AFP exists to encourage and enable the ministry of prayer in the Anglican Church of Canada, and is inclusive of all forms of expression of Christian church life: lay or clerical, catholic or evangelical, monastic or secular, formal or informal. AFP seeks to be a teaching resource to assist individuals and congregations to grow in the life of prayer.

ALONGSIDE HOPE/ANGLICAN GROW HOPE

Alongside Hope (PWRDF) is the national church's international development and emergency work organization.

Anglican Grow Hope is a Diocesan initiative to support the work of Alongside Hope through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

SAFE SPACE

Safe Space establishes and manages policies for safe church spaces, including the Respectful Workplace, Sexual Misconduct, and Child, Youth and Adult Protection and Safety policies.

DIOCESAN WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Members plan and prepare worship for Diocesan liturgies such as Diocesan Synod and ordinations, and offers worshipping planning guidance and assistance to all who ask.

DISMANTLING ANTI-BLACK RACISM

As a Diocese, we acknowledge the damaging presence of anti-black racism within our communities. The Anti-Black Racism Committee is actively working to dismantle anti-black racism in all its forms.

It is an episcopal expectation that leaders in the Diocese will continue to participate in Anti-Racism Training.

ORDAINED MINISTRY TEAM

Provides discernment and recommendation to the Bishop at all stages of the discernment process regarding the suitability and readiness of inquirers, postulants, and ordinands for ordination to the transitional or vocational diaconate, and ordained priestly ministry.

COMPANION DIOCESE COMMITTEE

Until March 2024, the Diocese of Rupert's Land had enjoyed a long and fruitful Companion Diocese relationship with the Diocese of Central Buganda in Uganda. At that time the Archbishop of Uganda and the Bishop of Central Buganda wrote, severing ties in response to our Diocese's opposition to the Ugandan Church's support for the criminalization of homosexuality in that country. The Companion Diocese Committee hopes to foster new companion relationships within the Anglican Communion.



THELMA WYNNE PROJECT

The Thelma Wynne Project assembles layettes through the collection of essential items for new moms and newborns living both in Winnipeg and the surrounding area. Local support agencies identify candidate families and facilitate the delivery of assembled layettes.

TRANSITION MINISTRY

Transition coaches are volunteers appointed by the Bishop and working on their behalf with parishes navigating transition. Coaches work with the community transition team and canonical committee to create parish profiles and develop interview questions. Likewise, coaches work with interim/term priests and transition teams to hold events that both serve community members' movement through grief and gather data for the profile which is used during the discernment and hiring process.

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship is carried out through Constituent Groups, which are usually worshipping communities of the Diocese. The Diocese appoints a Refugee Coordinator who represents it with Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada, and who liaises with other organizations engaged in refugee sponsorship and resettlement. Within the Diocese, the Refugee Coordinator offers information, encouragement, and support to Constituent Groups considering or actively undertaking refugee sponsorship.

CLERGY CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Plans the annual Diocesan clergy conference in collaboration with the Manitoba Northwestern Ontario Lutheran Synod. This study event is the primary source of ongoing support and professional development for the clergy of the Diocese.

DIOCESAN ARCHIVES

Provides storage and protection of, and access to canonically mandated records of Diocesan bodies. Recent experience in Truth and Reconciliation work highlights the importance of protecting records. The Archives also completes Sacramental register searches upon request, and provides outreach and support for archival material, research, and records held by worshipping communities. The Diocesan Archives is committed to processes of truth telling, reconciliation, and ongoing relationship building and repair between Indigenous and settler peoples.

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

St John's College (founded in 1866) is a founding college of the University of Manitoba. In 1970, its non-theological programs merged with the University, with students and faculty able to choose to affiliate with the College. The College remains independent in residence, food services, theology, and chaplaincy; fostering a close-knit community within the university, and offering student supports including through chaplaincy and awarding \$200,000 in annual scholarships and bursaries.

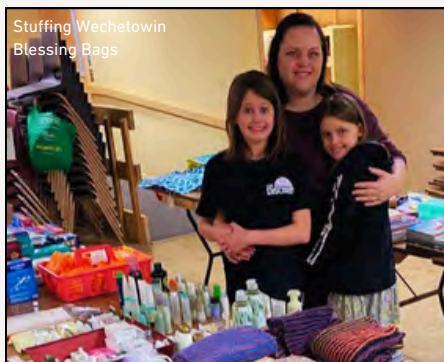
The College provides degree-level theological training (with 40 students this past year), and offers public lectures and workshops, along with providing space for Diocesan events.

The years since COVID-19 have brought a strong rebound and the College is currently experiencing a significant rejuvenation. The College's secular Fellows provide a valuable resource to the community, including the Church. Fellows have been leaders in research on Indigenous Studies and Reconciliation, public health, and refugees, and have offered their expertise to the Diocese. Public lectures engage members of the Diocese and enhance its public profile in the wider community.

The Bishop of the Diocese is *ex officio* the Chancellor of the College and has ceremonial, advisory, and governance responsibilities, chairing the Honorary Degrees Committee and playing an important role in alumni relationships and development.

INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES

Indigenous Anglicans have been members of worshipping communities in the Diocese since its foundation, with several of our present worshipping communities having many Indigenous members, and actively supporting both Indigenous mission and ministry, and Diocesan Truth and Reconciliation commitments. Over time Indigenous leadership including both Lay Readers and clergy has developed both in rural communities such as Peguis, Hodgson, Jackhead, Fisherton, Dynevor, and Scanterbury, and in the City of Winnipeg, with the Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer currently having pastoral responsibility for St. Philip, Scanterbury; St. Peter, Dynevor; and Epiphany Indigenous.



Stuffing Wechetowin Blessing Bags

RUPERT'S LAND WECHETOWIN

Wechetowin (a Cree word meaning "People Helping People") was formed by the Rupert's Land Aboriginal Circle of Elders in 2006 and is supported by Indigenous and non-Indigenous people intending to address Healing, Wellness, and Reconciliation. Initiatives include making, filling, and contributing blessing/care bags for little ones and women in shelters, community pantry, visiting, pastoral care, liaising with community agencies, prayer ministry, and Sacramental ministry.



St. Peter's, Peguis

EPIPHANY INDIGENOUS ANGLICAN CHURCH

In 2022 Epiphany moved into its own building in Winnipeg's North End. Some of its ministries include:

Pantry Ministry

Addresses an immense need within the immediate neighbourhood, serving mostly families, the working poor, and at times homeless people. The Pantry is open once a month and is supported by many worshipping communities in the Diocese.

Nantatwhehowin Healing and Counselling Ministry

Offers counselling and support via counsellors, pastoral care workers, and elders to assist in healing from trauma caused by Residential Schools and the ongoing harms of colonialism.

Music for Life

Shares the joy of music to keep Indigenous children safe.



Annual Father's Day Picnic, St. Peter, Dynevor Old Stone Church

CLERGY EDUCATION

Per Diocesan policy, all clergy and postulants for ordination are required to participate in a course of Indigenous Awareness Training, with particular focus on the legacy of Residential Schools, along with Anti-Racism Training.



World Council of Churches General Secretary visit to Epiphany Indigenous



Kapabamayak Achaak Healing Forest

Photo by Brook Jones



DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND OVERVIEW OF THE BISHOP'S ROLE

Our Bishop serves as the chief pastor, spiritual, administrative, and organizational leader of the Diocese, providing oversight, guidance, encouragement, and support to our people including clergy, leaders, parishes, Diocesan staff, ministries, and missions. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, and rooted in Anglican tradition and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our Bishop models Christ-like leadership, nurtures faith, hope, joy love, peace, spiritual growth, and living our Baptismal Promises. Our Bishop leads and serves collaboratively with clergy and laity to inspire and advance the sustainable mission and ministry of the Church within the Diocese and beyond.

KEY LEADERSHIP ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. Spiritual

Primary spiritual leader and pastor to clergy and laity in the Diocese.

2. Liturgical

Provides Sacramental oversight aligned to Anglican liturgical traditions, beliefs, values, and practices.

3. Governance and Administration

Oversees Diocesan governance, administration, organizational and financial stewardship, in alignment with the Constitution, Canons, policies, practices, and goals of the Diocese within the context of the Province of Northern Lights and the Anglican Church of Canada.

4. Clergy and Laity Care and Support

Champions pastoral care, wellness, learning, and development for the people of the Diocese.

5. Ministry and Mission

Oversees the Diocese in discerning and implementing its ministry and mission priorities encompassing Truth and Reconciliation, diversity, inclusion, and belonging imperatives.

6. Communication and Relationship Building

Nurtures positive relationships through open and effective communication and collaboration with clergy, parishes, and laity, Diocesan team members and leaders, the broader Church, related communities, partners, and interested parties.

OUR NEW BISHOP - HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS

The Diocese of Rupert's Land is experiencing many of the same challenges that are impacting the Church across Canada. Our communities are experiencing aging and declining membership; and we are keenly aware of concerns around long-term financial health and sustainability. In the consultations held in preparing this profile, many people expressed **fear for our collective future, and awareness both of resistance to, and fear of change.**

Amidst these challenges and concerns, we also heard **expressions of deep faith and hope.** Many people expressed willingness to work and pray, that in collaboration with a new bishop, our Diocese can continue to be a vibrant expression of Church engaged in outreach and evangelism. **Our hope is rooted in our relationships with Jesus Christ, with each other, with our Bishop, and with our communities.**



Above all, we heard people express that **we are at a critical crossroads as a Diocese,** and that business as usual will not carry the day. To enable us to move forward from this crossroads with a renewed sense of vitality and purpose, we offer the following hopes and expectations of our new Bishop.

STRATEGIC VISIONARY LEADER

We are not looking for a Bishop to “walk on water,” but for a compassionate and visionary leader, who will **walk together with us,** and inspired by the Holy Spirit, **collaborate with us** as together we chart a new future. Firm in their faith, our Bishop will **lead us in identifying key strategic areas and priorities to which God is calling us,** and on which we must collectively devote our time and energy, talent, and treasure. They will **inspire and encourage us to embrace new opportunities with courage and hope.**

BRIDGE BUILDER

It is imperative that **embracing new opportunities** be accompanied by an **honouring of our history.** Our new Bishop will serve as a **bridge, building trusting relationship** between, and among, all members of the Diocese.

EXCELLENT COMMUNICATOR

We are looking for a Bishop who is an **active listener,** who will **collaboratively engage** in respectful and challenging conversations.

Almighty God the giver of all good gifts, in your divine providence you have appointed various orders in your Church. Give your grace, we humbly pray, to the one who will be called to the office and ministry of the Bishop of Rupert's Land; and so fill them with the truth of your doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before you, to the glory of your great name and for the benefit of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WE NEED A BISHOP WHO:

- will **intentionally dedicate time and energy** to getting to know clergy and lay leaders, and their worshipping communities, and in **building relationships** and trust by **being present and visible**.
- is **grounded in faith** and will, in turn, **inspire and deepen our collective sense of faith, ministry, and mission**.
- will encourage clergy, lay leaders, and worshipping communities to **collaborate, worship, minister, and play together** both regionally and as a Diocese, and to **resist siloed thinking**.
- will lead and assist clergy, lay leaders, and worshipping communities to be courageous in making difficult decisions, leading to **new and faithful ways of engaging in ministry and mission**.
- is willing to **engage in open dialogue about doing Diocesan ministry differently**, including **potential collaboration with the wider Church** (General Synod, Province of the Northern Lights, other Dioceses) around trans-boundary ministry.
- is **committed to Truth and Reconciliation** between settler and Indigenous Peoples, and who will work to create **a sincere, transparent, and welcoming environment for all Indigenous Peoples** throughout the Diocese.
- **understands both their limitations, and their gifts and strengths**, and who will **confidently delegate** and **rely on the gifts of others** to complement their own gifts and learning edges.
- **attends to their own physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellness**, and who will **encourage, support, and pastor the wellness of the people they lead**.

We will support, strengthen, collaborate, and share in the competencies, learning, and action that we ask of our new Bishop.

NEXT STEPS

Nominations may be made by current (2025) clerical and lay members of Diocesan Synod, by members of the Provincial House of Bishops for the Ecclesiastical Province of the Northern Lights, and by members of the Search Committee.

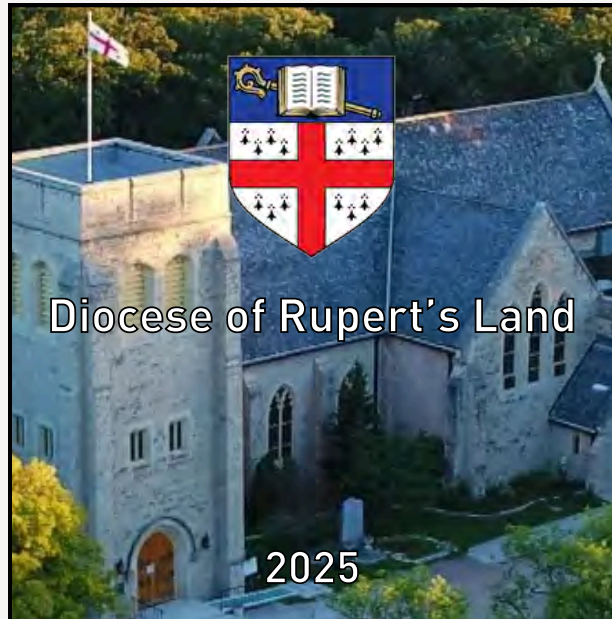
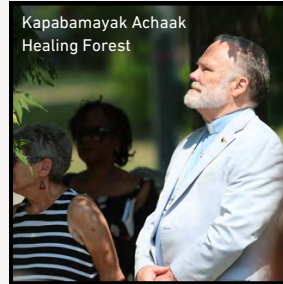
Constitutional requirements for eligibility are noted on the Nomination Form, available on the [Diocesan Website](#).

Nominations will be received until midnight (CDT) on April 25, 2025.

The Search Committee will confirm if nominees meet the canonically required criteria. Upon confirmation, candidates will be requested to submit further information, which must be received no later than April 30, 2025. Candidates will also be asked to participate in a video interview.

Candidates' information will be circulated to members of Synod and published on the Diocesan website in mid-May 2025.

The Electoral Synod takes place on May 31, 2025.



Executive Archdeacon's Report to the 121st Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land

This is my first report to Synod, after my appointment as Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese effective December 16, 2025. This timing gave me a brief period of overlap with my predecessor, the Rev. Canon Simon Blaikie, prior to his retirement on December 31. I want to thank Simon for the wisdom and knowledge he shared, not only during that time but subsequently as new questions have arisen.

The primary focus of this report is to provide a record of changes to parishes in the Diocese over the time since the 119th session of Synod met in 2024. Each parish, as a former bishop once said, “is the diocese in its own neighbourhood.” So, where parishes cease to operate, merge, enter into ecumenical partnerships, or configure themselves in new ways, this has an impact on our collective identity and ministry as the Diocese of Rupert's Land.

Most recently, the parish of St Mary Magdalene, in St Vital, ceased operations this summer, holding its final service on June 28. The church building was sold effective July 31. A winding-up committee is in place led by Archdeacon Schoeck, recommendations regarding the disbursement of funds will be received by Diocesan Council this fall, and disestablishment will follow in due course as requested by the parish. It has been heartening to hear of other churches, in the Diocese and beyond, receiving gifts from St Mary Magdalene which will continue to be used in worship; and also, to know that St Paul's, Fort Garry, has welcomed many former parishioners of St Mary Magdalene.

The church building of Emmanuel, Ignace was sold on February 25. This was a shared Anglican-United property; the necessary consents were obtained from United Church representatives, and the proceeds were divided equally. Diocesan Council made directions as to the disposition of funds received by the Diocese, recognizing that a legacy gift had already been provided for by the parish, to continue their “Blessings in a Backpack” program. The parish was disestablished effective October 25, 2025.

Two other parish closures were in process when Synod met in 2024 and continued thereafter. The parishes of St James Beausejour and St James Rainy River ceased operations before the 2024 Synod. In January 2025, Diocesan Council received reports on the proceeds of sale of these properties and allocated those funds according to policy. Certificates of disestablishment of these parishes, and dissolution of their corporations, remain to be finalized.

When funds are received on disestablishment of a parish, any arrears to the Common Mission and Ministry are first paid out, and then from the remainder:

- 10%, up to a maximum of \$10,000, is allocated to Archives
- 10% goes towards a diocesan cemetery fund
- Where the parish community has identified a legacy project, up to 10% may be assigned to this work
- The balance is deposited in the New Church Development Fund.

This policy will continue to be reviewed, especially in relation to Resolution C-6 passed at the 2024 Synod proposing that money also be allocated specifically to Indigenous ministry,

Another on-going concern relating to property is the maintenance of cemeteries, in places where parish churches have ceased operations. Title to these properties, along with responsibility for their upkeep, passes to the Diocese, but in some cases the Diocese is unaware of the existence of local cemeteries or the provisions made for their care. In one case, at St Mark's Clandeboye Bay, it was necessary to clarify ownership as the parish had not (as far as we know) been formally disestablished, after services ceased some time in the 1980s; nor had the original grant of land from the Crown ever been registered.

Documents were filed this summer to certify the dissolution of the parish corporation, and to register title in the name of the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land.

That said, I am deeply grateful for the work of many individuals who continue to care for cemeteries, both by providing regular maintenance, and in some cases facilitating continuing use for the interments of persons with a connection to the local community. If this describes you, please accept my thanks, and feel free to let me know more about the cemetery you are caring for, and the community it serves. As we continue to develop the diocesan cemetery fund, we will be better able to support the work of identifying those cemeteries which need more attention than local volunteers can provide.

Finally, I am happy to report that the Diocese received, on behalf of Epiphany Mission, a gift of property from the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod of the ELCIC, as directed by the former St John's Lutheran parish. The transaction became final on July 15, 2026. This is the same property which Epiphany has already been renting and using. Because of CRA limitations on the transfer of property by charities, ownership could not be transferred directly to Epiphany, but this may yet happen if and when they become a registered charity in their own right. The transfer includes a provision for a proportional payment to be made to MNO Synod if the property is sold within 15 years, but exemptions are built in to permit the eventual transfer to Epiphany and/or some other purposes related to Indigenous ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Iain Luke, Executive Archdeacon

Diocese of Rupert's Land Alongside Hope Update for Synod 2026

After a two-year process, PWRDF changed its name to Alongside Hope. The new name reflects the focus on partnership and collaboration with local organizations, member organizations, funding agencies, the Anglican Church of Canada and donors. The name change was approved in October 2024 and became official on March 1st, 2025.

Alongside Hope has been active in the diocese through our Grow Hope Campaign. This project began in 2018 and has been extremely successful. It is a collaborative effort amongst parishes in the Diocese, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and a local farmer. Alongside Hope supports our farmer, Fred Wiebe's input costs which are \$300 per acre. Fred and his family then do all the work. They grow, harvest and sell the crop and donate the proceeds to Alongside Hope through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Due to CFB's special arrangement with Global Affairs Canada funds raised may be matched at up to 4:1.

Our goal for this year was to raise \$12,000 for 40 acres of crop. At the time of writing, the total raised is unknown as parishes are still sending money raised to the Diocesan Office. Last year, we raised \$18,000 allowing us to receive the proceeds of 60 acres of Fred's crop which led to \$39,000 from Fred when the crop was sold. Global Affairs matched our donation 3:1 which resulted in over \$100,000 for our project in Marsabit, Kenya.

This year's focus is on helping the people of Kasai Central province in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

We held a kick off event for Grow Hope on April 25th at St. Peter's Anglican Church. Organizing committee members were Colin Dorrian, Rev. Cathy Campbell, Margaret Clarke, Lynn Doyle, Lynne Spiring-Whitten, Dawn Torbiak, Lorraine Powell, Dianne Lambert, and myself. We were lucky to have Will Postma and Kim Umbach from the National Office of Alongside Hope to join us for the day. Will and Kim were also able to meet the Wiebe family and connected us with Mary Abiero, a representative of one of our partners, Church World Service Africa based in Kenya, who updated us on projects we have contributed to in the past.

We thank all who have been part of our Grow Hope Campaign this year.

Kim and Will also spent Sunday morning speaking to two congregations, St. Bartholomew's and St. Luke's, about the work of Alongside Hope. We were very grateful to them both for their time and expertise.

In the next few months, our focus will be on:

Maintenance of our Parish Representatives Contact List

Promotion of opportunities for parishes to participate in Alongside Hope Events particularly the World of Gifts during Advent.

Mapping the Ground that we Stand on - an in person activity led by trained mapping facilitators - Rev. Donna Joy and Elizabeth Bonnett
Keeping parishes updated about ongoing Alongside Hope emergency appeals.
Recognition of parish contributions.
Heather Baxter-Naughten - Diocesan co-coordinator of Alongside Hope

2026 Archivist Report to Synod

The Past Two Years

The work of the Diocesan Archives has been rather fragmented over the past two years. Although the volunteer Diocesan Archives Committee has continued to meet and make certain decisions, there were several resignations and retirements that affected the work of the Archives.

In October 2024, the former Diocesan Archivist, Mary Horodyski, resigned which left Nancy Brennan as the sole person responsible for Sacramental Register searches. Ahead of her retirement in June 2025, Nancy trained several members of the Archives Committee to properly conduct Sacramental Register searches. In September 2025, Marcel DeGagne was appointed as Archives Assistant to conduct Sacramental Register searches, answer the telephone, and respond to emails while the Diocese advertised for a new Archivist.

Gifty Asamoah, a recent graduate, applied for the Archivist position in the summer of 2025, but only worked two weeks before she took up the full-time position she had applied for in Whitehorse. During that time, she made great inroads into the archival backlog and left matters ready for the Diocesan Archives Committee to accession several boxes of material.

In an effort to prepare for a new Archivist, the committee took inventory and made comprehensive lists of where the fonds are stored as we continue to use three storage locations: the Anglican Centre building on Nesbitt Bay, the Mennonite Archives on Grant Avenue, and St. John's College on the University of Manitoba campus.

Repeated advertisements eventually led to the hiring of Jared Warkentin as the Diocesan Archivist in January 2026.

The Quest for Space

The Diocesan Archives is still very much in need of a permanent and centralized storage space for the future. The approximately 200 metres of diocesan archival holdings are currently stored in three separate locations, which isn't ideal.

At the Anglican Centre, which is the main location for diocesan archival holdings, vault space is extremely limited. For short-term relief, the basement office has been converted into further archival vault storage to accommodate any further new acquisitions of parish records. There is also not enough appropriate space for volunteers and researchers. This also means that there is limited space for conducting archival processing work. Both archival arrangement and access are therefore limited by the lack of proper space currently available.

A proposed solution to these space issues is currently being considered and discussed between several interested parties including: the Diocesan Archives, the Ecclesiastical Province of Northern Lights Archives, St. John's Anglican Cathedral, St. John's College, and the University of Manitoba.

A potential plan to come from these discussions might include the amalgamation of all diocesan archival holdings into one single location at the St. John's College Library. This would also incorporate the archival holdings of the Ecclesiastical Province of Northern Lights, which are currently being stored at the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, into this new location for all Anglican archives of the region.

While still only in the very earliest stages of consideration, such a plan would be an excellent solution not only for the Diocesan Archives' current storage space issues, but it would also allow all the historical records of the Diocese and Province to be more readily accessible to researchers in a single location.

Sacramental Register Searches

There has been a very steady stream of Sacramental Register search requests since the start of 2026. At least 50% of the total requests have been related to Indigenous records, many of which were related to requests for First Nations Status or Metis Status, as well as information about Indigenous family histories.

Total number of requests in 2026 (as of August 26)	115
Successful requests	65
Unsuccessful requests	33
Redirected requests (mostly related to Keewatin records)	17

Research Requests & Researcher Visits

Several research requests have come through. There has also been a comparatively sizable number of researcher visits to the Archives. Researchers are most often looking for information about their family histories, as well as the histories of parishes. The Diocesan Archivist assists these researchers by suggesting archival records and then providing appropriate access.

Total number of researchers in 2026 (as of August 26)	11
Parish-related research	5
Family-related research	4
Other research	2

Below are just a few examples of topics that have been explored by visiting researchers:

- A journalist was seeking historical information about Manitoba's oldest church buildings, including the old Anglican church building that was moved from High Bluff to Kelvin).
- An architectural consultant working with the new owners of the old St. Alban's parish in Winnipeg was seeking available blueprints and other building-related records.
- A master's student was seeking information for her thesis research about the history of St. Peter Dynevor parish in the late nineteenth-century.
- One researcher was hoping to find reports and other materials written by her father, who was clergy in the Diocese, within past historic Synod Journals.

Archival Support for Parishes

There have been several recent opportunities for the Diocesan Archivist to support the archival needs of parishes:

- **St. Mary Magdalene, Winnipeg:** With the deconsecrating of St. Mary Magdalene parish in June 2026, the various sacramental, historical, financial, and legal records created by the parish needed to be transferred to the Diocesan Archives. The Diocesan Archivist provided consultative support to the parish regarding the identification of archival material. After some pre-processing work, the archival material was transferred.
- **All Saints, Winnipeg:** In June 2026, All Saints parish hosted a special event which celebrated and commemorated the various weddings that had been performed and recorded by the parish throughout the parish's history. Included in this was an indexing project that sought to record the names and dates of every wedding performed at the parish. The Diocesan Archivist assisted the event organizers in identifying the appropriate marriage registers and aided in appropriate access to them for the project.
- **St. George's Crescentwood, Winnipeg:** The Diocesan Archivist provided some professional archival advice to the office staff at St. George's Crescentwood parish regarding how they might best organize and preserve their parish office records, some of which would someday be transferred to the Diocesan Archives.
- **St. Luke's, Winnipeg:** The Diocesan Archivist assisted in locating the appropriate Vestry minutes that contained engineering studies related to the church tower.
- **Emmanuel Church, Ignace:** With the deconsecrating of Emmanuel Church in Ignace, the various sacramental, historical, financial, and legal records created by the parish are to be transferred to the Diocesan Archives. The Diocesan Archivist

provided some consultative support to the parish regarding the identification of archival material. The transfer of the archival material is currently underway.

New Material Received from Parishes

Two parishes that have recently been closed have transferred their archival records to the Diocesan Archives. Such acquisitions usually contain larger amounts of archival material. There is also the occasional donation of smaller groupings of parish records.

- **St. Mary Magdalene, Winnipeg:** Fourteen boxes of parish sacramental, historical, financial, and legal records.
- **Emmanuel Church, Ignace** (*still to be received*): Various sacramental, historical, financial, and legal records.
- **All Saints, Winnipeg:** Four “Register of Services” ledgers.

Upcoming Plans

- Continue working in consultation with the Diocesan Archives Committee volunteers.
- Properly arrange and index the new basement vault space, along with updating the indexes for the current vault spaces.
- Continue resolving the processing the backlog of donated archival material.
- Continue to update parish descriptions in our archival database and add to it collections that have not been previously described.
- Initiate contact with a greater number of parishes and related individuals to provide any necessary archival support.
- Initiate wider public outreach efforts that might draw further attention to the work and value of the Diocesan Archives.
- Collaborate with the Archivist for the Ecclesiastical Province of Northern Lights.

Jared Warkentin – Diocesan Archivist

26 August 2026

Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Committee

REPORT TO THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND- OCTOBER 2026

1. Introduction

The Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Committee supports the Diocese in confronting anti-Black racism and fostering a Church in which all people are welcomed, represented and able to participate fully in its life and leadership. Since the transition in chairmanship in January 2025, our work has focused on worship, education, theological formation, relationship-building and engagement with the wider Anglican Church of Canada. This report summarizes our 2025–2026 activities and priorities.

2. Leadership and Direction

The Committee sought to renew its direction by prioritizing Black History Month, educational initiatives, relationships with Black Anglicans and broader diocesan participation. We remember with gratitude the late Cynthia Manswell for her commitment to racial justice and inclusion. Our longer-term aim is to move beyond isolated commemorations and integrate anti-racism into the Diocese's worship, discipleship, leadership and institutional life.

3. Black History Month 2025

The diocesan Black History Month celebration was held on February 23, 2025, at St. Paul's Fort Garry. Clergy, laypeople and community members gathered in worship, music, prayer and fellowship to celebrate Black history, culture, spirituality and contributions to Church and society. The occasion affirmed the gifts and presence of Black Anglicans and encouraged reflection on the Church's responsibility to confront racism. We thank everyone who planned and supported the service. Black history and anti-racism must, however, remain year-round commitments.

4. Educational Engagement: The World So Wide

The Committee supported a conversation with Winnipeg author Zilla Jones about her book *The World So Wide*, hosted at St. George's Crescentwood. Through literature and dialogue, participants explored race, identity, belonging and lived experience. Such encounters encourage attentive listening and connect theological and institutional conversations with human stories. We hope to develop similar opportunities for learning and reflection.

5. Participation in National Church Initiatives

Our Committee has remained engaged with the wider Anglican Church of Canada, recognizing that sustained anti-racism work requires collaboration across dioceses.

Emancipation Sunday. General Synod 2025 adopted Resolution C002, designating the last Sunday of July as Emancipation Sunday throughout the Anglican Church of Canada. The first nationally designated observance took place on July 26, 2026. This annual occasion invites the Church to commemorate emancipation, acknowledge the legacy of slavery and anti-Black racism, celebrate Black Anglicans and renew its commitment to justice and liberation. We encourage every parish in Rupert's Land to incorporate it into worship and formation.

National Black Anglicans of Canada Bible Study. We have participated in the virtual Bible study facilitated by the National Black Anglicans of Canada, chaired by the Rev. Wilson Akinwale. Held on the second Monday of each month, it offers a safe space for prayer and reflection on Scripture through the lenses of justice, decolonization, well-being and liberation. It is open to everyone in our Diocese and beyond. We encourage wider participation by clergy and laypeople.

6. Institutional Continuity and Sustainability

The Diocese's episcopal transition in 2025 affected the Committee's momentum. This highlighted the need for regular meetings, clear annual objectives, stronger communication and broader parish involvement so the ministry can continue across leadership changes. The Committee has also developed annual budget proposals for celebrations, educational programmes and theological formation. Predictable resources and administrative support will enable more effective planning and delivery.

7. Proposed Black Theology Series

In collaboration with Ryan Turnbull, the Diocesan Discipleship Developer, the Committee has begun exploring a four-week introductory Black Theology series. It would introduce voices such as James H. Cone, Willie James Jennings and Delores S. Williams, engaging liberation, racial justice, identity and belonging. The proposal aims to equip clergy and laypeople to understand racial justice as part of Christian discipleship. Its success depends on greater participation across the Diocese: this ministry is a shared responsibility, not the task of Black Anglicans alone.

8. Challenges and Opportunities

Our continuing challenges are sustaining momentum beyond annual observances, increasing parish engagement, and ensuring that Black Anglicans can share their experiences and contribute to diocesan conversations and leadership. Awareness and education matter, but they must lead to practical changes in relationships, practices and institutional life. The opportunity before us is to connect this ministry more firmly to the Diocese's wider commitments to discipleship, reconciliation and justice.

9. Priorities for the Coming Year

- Broaden participation by clergy, lay leaders and congregations in Committee activities.
- Develop the proposed Black Theology series and other accessible formation resources.
- Support Black History Month and annual Emancipation Sunday observances.
- Maintain collaboration with the National Black Anglicans of Canada and other national initiatives.
- Create opportunities for Black Anglicans to share their experiences and contribute to diocesan life.
- Establish a consistent meeting schedule, clear objectives and sustainable resources.

10. Gratitude

We thank the clergy, laypeople and parishes that have supported this ministry, including St. Saviour's, St. Paul's Fort Garry and St. George's Crescentwood. We acknowledge Ryan Turnbull's willingness to collaborate on theological formation, the National Black Anglicans of Canada for opportunities for prayer and learning, and diocesan leadership for its support.

11. Conclusion

Dismantling anti-Black racism is an essential expression of our Christian calling to justice, reconciliation and human dignity. Lasting change cannot come from isolated events or a small committee: it requires the active participation of the entire Diocese. We hope the coming year brings renewed engagement from clergy, parish leaders and congregations, embedding this ministry more deeply in our common life.

"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it." — 1 Corinthians 12:26

May God guide us as we seek a Church in which every person is valued, every voice heard and the dignity of all God's children affirmed.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Shepard Gwende

Chair, Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Committee

Reports from the Clergy Conference Planning Committee

For the 2025 conference, Ryan Turnbull reports:

Organizing clergy-specific continuing ed events remained a challenge in this past biennium, particularly with the absence of Bishop Geoff's convening presence for much of 2025. ... I enjoyed working with the clergy conference team to help plan the 2025 conference featuring Dr Kirstin Jeffrey Johnson focusing on the stories that form us. I was also able to secure several thousand dollars in external sponsors that year which allowed us to keep the costs from rising for clergy and made it possible for us to have a book table from CommonWord for folks to buy new books and resources to equip their ministry

For the 2026 conference, Iain Luke reports:

The annual Clergy Conference took place in Gimli June 10-12, and I want to express our thanks to Melissa Nixon for her key role in organizing and providing logistical support. A total of 17 clergy from our Diocese attended, along with colleagues from the Diocese of Brandon and the MNO Synod. The keynote speaker was Katya Brittain on the topic "From Burden to Calling: Faithful leadership, church buildings and discernment." Katya offered a number of conceptual and practical tools for clergy to lead and support faith communities in understanding the role, value, and challenges associated with church buildings in the present-day context. A particular focus was the way in which buildings can assist in the work of relating to the non-church community amongst whom we minister.

Diocesan Compensation Committee Report for October 2026 Synod

The role of the Diocesan Compensation Committee is to review the current economic setting and recommend changes to the financial compensation package for clergy. This includes the minimum clergy housing allowance, the minimum clergy stipend scale, the minimum fees for services, the motorized vehicle allowance, and the alternative transportation allowance.

The current members of the committee are Joy Valencerina, June James, Bishop Don Phillips, and Ted Cotton (Chair).

In the Fall of 2025, Diocesan Council approved the recommendation from Compensation Committee to increase the minimum clergy housing allowance by 4.5% and the minimum clergy stipend by 1.9% to reflect the respective cost of living increases. The base rate for the motorized vehicle allowance was increased by 1 cent per Km and a \$30 per month alternative transportation allowance was introduced.

The Compensation Committee is currently preparing an update for 2027 for submission to Executive Committee and Diocesan Council.

Just prior to the end of each quarter, the Compensation Committee checks current regular gasoline prices and updates the fuel adjustment portion of the motorized vehicle allowance.

Thanks to the members for their contribution to the work of the Compensation Committee.

Respectfully submitted

Ted Cotton

September 26, 2026

Diocesan Discipleship Developer Report - Synod 2026

Submitted by Ryan Turnbull

Hello Disciples of Rupert's Land. These past two years have been very full - thank you for inviting me into your ministry! I've broken down the report into several highlight areas. It's impossible to capture all of the conversations, cups of coffee, zoom meetings, and times of gathering that make up this work of discipleship, but hopefully this report will give you a bit of a sense of what I've been up to.

Funded Initiatives:

In 2024 I applied for a grant from the Anglican Foundation and received \$5,000 to purchase a bunch of AV equipment that we've been able to use as a pop-up classroom for events in parishes. We call it our "mobile Discipleship hub" and it has made running lectures, classes, and workshops in parishes so much easier.

Also in 2024, I applied for a Calvin Vital Worship, Vital Preaching grant and received \$25,000 USD to run the Anglican Poetics Project. This has been reported on extensively in the Rupert's Land News, but in summary, it was a year-long exploration of all the ways that poetry intersects with Anglican belief and worship. From poetry writing workshops, to public speaking and poetry slam events and on to classes, lectures, and a conference with world renowned poet Malcolm Guite, we had a jam-packed year of fantastic programming thanks to the good people at Calvin and the Lilly Foundation. Thanks too, to all the amazingly talented people in this diocese who offered their skills, gifts, and talents to make this year of programming a success.

At the end of 2025 it was announced that St John's College, in partnership with Atlantic School of Theology, St Paul's University, the Canadian Council of Churches, and the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism had been awarded a \$2.5 million grant to develop resources and training around Ecumenical Shared Ministries (ESM). This project will run for the next five years and will hopefully catalyze ESMs across the country.

Young Adult Ministry

In my last report I referenced a YA retreat that we were able to run at A Rocha's Boreal Ecology Centre, supported by an internal fund at the Diocese. Building on the interest we found there, last year I partnered with Manitoba Pioneer Camp to help launch the MacKinnon Lecture Retreat (initially funded by money from the Calvin Grant) for young adults. The goal of this retreat is to connect young people with campus ministry leaders in Winnipeg and build relationships in the context of a retreat that brings people together to read a classic text in philosophy and ask some of the perennial big questions that we all face. In 2025 we read Boethius' The Consolation of Philosophy led by Dr Matt Vanderkwaak and in 2026 we are reading Augustine's Confessions led by Dr Nate Wall-Bowering. This retreat has already been effective at helping connect young people to the campus ministry at St John's College where we had a robust Wednesday chapel community this past year despite not having a chaplain on staff.

Ordinand Mentorship

We currently have around 10 people in various stages of discernment for ordination and it has been an immense joy and privilege to get to mentor, meet with, and help train some of these fine folks. Most recently we ordained two deacons, Cassandra Golondrina and Paul Dyck, both of whom deeply impressed the Ordained Ministries Team (OMT) with their immense gifts and unique perspectives on the role of the diaconate.

The St John's Theology Hub

The academic year 2024-2025 saw a return of regularly scheduled theological classes and in our first year we were pleased to welcome around 40 unique students through our doors. In 2025-26 academic year, we saw over 60! A real highlight of this past year was a class funded by our Calvin grant looking at John Donne's use of scripture in his poetry and preaching. This class was held at St Margaret's Anglican Church and we had an average of 12-15 students showing up every week to learn together. This year we were pleased to welcome some visiting students from other dioceses across the Province of Northern Lights and we even had some visiting students from the Centre for Christian Studies and Providence Theological Seminary take some of our courses. We're really looking forward to what academic year 2026-2027 holds in store!

Indigenous Theology and Reconciliation

The last couple of years have seen some great events and initiatives around our Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action commitments to learn from the spirituality and teachings of Indigenous peoples, and to continue to educate around colonialism and the Residential Schools. Vince Solomon and I collaborated on a number of events including:

- 1) Land Acknowledgement Workshops
- 2) Reconciliation conference featuring David Robertson
- 3) Book Talk from Carmen Lansdowne (former moderator of the United Church of Canada)

At the college, we have also kept Indigenous theology a priority, offering annual classes through our partnership with CMU that have had excellent uptake. A particularly exciting offering was a first of its kind class focused on Metis Spirituality, and specifically the teachings of Metis Matriarchs. Tanis Kolisnyk has been the instructor on these classes and our students have been incredibly blessed by her teachings.

Clergy Continuing Education

Organizing clergy-specific continuing ed events remained a challenge in this past biennium, particularly with the absence of Bishop Geoff's convening presence for much of 2025. However, we were able to offer a Deacon's Study Day at the College and a Gospel "refresher" on the Gospel of Luke that featured Dr Sheila Klassen-Wiebe from CMU, both in the fall of 2024. I also enjoyed working with the clergy conference team to help plan the 2025 conference featuring Dr Kirstin Jeffrey Johnson focusing on the stories that form us. I was also able to secure several thousand dollars in external

sponsors that year which allowed us to keep the costs from rising for clergy and made it possible for us to have a book table from CommonWord for folks to buy new books and resources to equip their ministry.

Congregational Workshops and Retreats

In the past couple of years I've been especially blessed to get to visit so many churches across this diocese to preach, lead workshops, or facilitate retreats. Some highlights that stand out include:

- Lectionary workshop at St Mary's Sioux Lookout
- Reading Scripture workshops at Christ Church Selkirk and St Bart's Windsor Park
- Eco-hermeneutics workshop at St Peter's
- Adult Study day at All Saints
- Consulting with All Saints on centennial celebrations
- All Saints-saint benedict's table Lent series talk
- Anglican Poetics Lecture series at St John's Cathedral, St Matthew's Cathedral (Brandon), All Saints, St Margaret's, and Holy Trinity
- Discernment Retreat with saint benedict's table

If you or your church would like to have me come in for a bespoke workshop on a given topic, please let me know. I'm always happy to work with parishes to create something that fits your needs.

Faith Horizons

2025 saw Faith Horizons return to St John's College where we had a delightful time of workshops, worship, and fellowship together. Collin Cornell was our keynote speaker and did a remarkable job of breaking down the content of his Wilmot lecture to a more accessible level. These sessions were supplemented by some fantastic workshops by parishioners and clergy from across the diocese - we truly have some amazing teachers and leaders in our midst!

Book Clubs

Through the St John's Theology Hub we've offered a number of book clubs and author-based events over the past couple of years, covering everything from serious academic theology, to more pastoral volumes, to a novel by one of our very own parishioners here in Rupert's Land. If you have a book that you would like to study with a group, or think would be of broad appeal to the Diocese, please let me know - I'm always happy to facilitate reading groups.

Wilmot Lecture

St John's College has a unique offering in the landscape of modern theology - the annual Wilmot Lecture. This lecture was set up in honour of a previous warden of the college to provide a forum for an annual lecture on topics related to the Doctrine of God.

Surprisingly, "the Doctrine of God" is not all that popular a topic in contemporary theology so it's been a real treat to be able to offer this lecture to the broader church and explore this central loci of Christian thought in new and innovative ways. Since the

last Synod we have had talks from Dr Lisa Powell exploring the idea of the “disabled God”, a talk from Dr Collin Cornell who invited us to reimagine the mission of God as being aimed at communion and blessing rather than salvation and repair, and this spring we heard from Dr Justin Stratis on apophatic (negative) theology and our need to speak and proclaim the glory of God. The Wilmot is slowly becoming one of the premiere events of the local theology scene and we have some great speakers lined up for the years to come.

National Church Work

The past couple of years I was also able to participate on the Anglican-Mennonite Ecumenical dialogue (now concluded). This was a wonderfully productive group and I’m really excited to see where our recommendations go.

In 2024-25 I chaired a task force on Discipleship and Evangelism for Faith, Worship, and Ministry, unfortunately our work was derailed by the restructuring of the national church that is ongoing, but some valuable connections were made across the country.

In 2025-26 I served on a FWM task group funded by another Calvin grant focused on creating resources around baptismal formation. This work is ongoing but we hope to have materials to the publisher by the end of 2026. A highlight of this work was gathering with a national team in Cochrane, Alberta for a few days to work on this stuff in person together. Thanks again to Calvin and the good people at Lilly for making this possible!

Scholarship

In my spare time (ha), I’ve kept my hand in the world of theological scholarship, publishing a few book reviews with *Studies in Christian Ethics and Literature and Theology* as well as some papers with the journal *Critical Theology* in the area of decolonial theology. I’ve guest lectured at several Anglican colleges the last few years including a keynote lecture at Canterbury College in 2026 as part of their series on the Doctrine of Discovery. I remain engaged with the Canadian Theological Society and hosted them alongside several other theology and religion societies for a major conference in June of 2026 at St John’s College entitled “Common Places, Contested Spaces: Theology and Religion in Canada and Beyond”. This year I’ve accepted a very part-time appointment at Westcott House in Cambridge where I assist in the supervision of doctoral students. This work has been immensely rewarding and I was fortunate to be able to use part of my study leave this past spring to visit the UK, presenting at the Society for the Study of Theology and spending some time in Cambridge with colleagues and research associates. I’m currently in the process of revising my doctoral dissertation into a book that will hopefully be published in the coming year.

Future

Unfortunately, due to structural deficits in diocesan finances, the decision was made to reduce my position to 0.6 Full Time Equivalent from June 1st of 2026 onwards. I will

continue to serve as the Diocesan Discipleship Developer for the foreseeable future but with a more restricted availability. Going forward my four key priorities are:

- 1) Mentoring folks in the ordination discernment process
- 2) Working with congregations to equip and train lay disciples for Team Rupert's Land
- 3) Work with the Bishop and Diocesan leadership to promote discipleship initiatives and strategy across the diocese.
- 4) Continue coordinating and administering the St John's Theology Hub.

While my hours will be more constricted, we still have many great ideas in the works and as always I'm extremely open to invitations from parishes to work on specific initiatives with particular communities. I look forward to what we're going to build together in this next biennium!

The Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land
Statement of Operations
Projected to
December 31, 2026

										10%	7%	7%	
	AUG YTD 2026									Projection 2026	2025	2024	
	Operating	Property	New Church	General	Hobson	Bird	Shared Ministry	Healing and	St				
	Fund	Capital Fund	& Dio Min Dev Fund	Trust Fund	Trust Fund	Trust Fund	Investment Fund	Reconciliation Fund	Stephen's Fund	Total	Total	Total	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue													
Pansh pledges	389,790									389,790	587,350	584,738	543,631
Trust income	12,861			23,495						36,356	79,415	41,768	70,785
Donations, bequests and other (note 11)	370,275									370,275	482,349	603,441	522,299
Income (loss) from investments		39,001	61,951	278,639	30,522	18,260	52,164		74,333	564,871	722,929	985,323	1,115,671
Sale of Property (net)			59,749							59,749	59,749	194,659	1,069,750
Designated Receipts				76,916						76,916	101,424	125,428	45,494
Miscellaneous	19,872									19,872	31,877	29,133	26,012
										-			
										-			
	792,798	39,001	121,700	379,050	30,522	18,260	52,164		74,333	1,507,828	2,065,093	2,564,490	3,393,641
Expenditures													
Panshes	3,317									3,317	5,831	5,806	8,575
Episcopal supervision	108,053									108,053	160,440	78,074	162,332
Wider Church	115,619									115,619	173,429	186,824	171,153
Pansh and Diocesan program	151,991		163,682					4,760		320,433	444,903	762,283	658,398
Youth program										-		7,300	14,575
Administration and general	77,933	3,107	2,828	23,992	3,733	1,610	4,612		5,067	122,883	180,249	167,600	148,858
Diocesan staff	274,363									274,363	411,541	367,482	382,303
Pastoral and Sundry	6,952									6,952	9,592	10,673	12,501
Retired clergy and widows	28,256									28,256	42,383	42,767	44,949
Interest										-		878	1,887
Distributions to beneficiaries (note 12)				250,278	28,273	2,000	47,578		61,912	390,041	523,770	457,700	340,395
Amortization		7,497								7,497	11,246	11,246	6,822
Designated Disbursements				55,432						55,432	68,746	127,697	62,310
										-			
	766,485	10,604	166,510	329,702	32,007	3,610	52,191	4,760	66,979	1,432,848	2,032,129	2,226,331	2,015,058

The Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land
Statement of Operations
For the year ended
December 31, 2025

										7%	7%
										2025	2024
	Operating	Property	New Church	General	Hobson	Bird	Shared	Healing and	St		
	Fund	Capital	& Dio Min	Trust	Trust	Trust	Investment	Reconciliation	Stephen's	Total	Total
	\$	Fund	Dev Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	\$	\$
Revenue											
Parish pledges	584,738									584,738	543,631
Trust income	12,900			28,868						41,768	70,785
Donations, bequests and other (note 11)	558,662								44,779	603,441	522,299
Income (loss) from investments		63,816	137,188	479,177	54,349	32,839	94,037		123,917	985,323	1,115,671
Sale of Property (net)			55,913	138,746						194,669	1,069,750
Designated Receipts				125,428						125,428	45,494
Miscellaneous	29,133									29,133	26,012
	1,185,433	63,816	193,101	772,219	54,349	32,839	94,037	-	168,696	2,564,490	3,393,641
Expenditures											
Parishes	5,806									5,806	8,575
Episcopal supervision	78,074									78,074	162,332
Wider Church	186,824									186,824	171,153
Parish and Diocesan program	278,599		463,139					20,545		762,283	658,398
Youth program	7,300									7,300	14,575
Administration and general	97,869	5,280	5,357	40,256	2,618	2,739	8,686		4,796	167,600	148,858
Diocesan staff	367,482									367,482	382,303
Pastoral and Sundry	10,673									10,673	12,501
Retired clergy and widows	42,767									42,767	44,949
Interest	878									878	1,887
Distributions to beneficiaries (note 12)				304,295	29,687	3,000	47,686		73,032	457,700	340,395
Amortization		11,246								11,246	6,822
Designated Disbursements				127,697						127,697	62,310
	1,076,272	16,526	468,496	472,248	32,306	5,739	56,372	20,545	77,828	2,226,331	2,015,058
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	109,160	47,290	(275,395)	299,971	22,044	27,100	37,665	(20,545)	90,869	338,159	1,378,583

The Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land
Statement of Operations
For the year ended
December 31, 2024

7%
2024

	Operating	Property	New Church	General	Hobson	Bird	Shared Ministry	Healing and	St	
	Fund	Capital Fund	& Dio Min Dev Fund	Trust Fund	Trust Fund	Trust Fund	Investment Fund	Reconciliation Fund	Stephen's Fund	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue										
Parish pledges	543,631									543,631
Trust income	17,183			53,602						70,785
Donations, bequests and other (note 11)	517,197	684					684	1,234	2,500	522,299
Income (loss) from investments		72,717	195,864	487,955	64,079	38,820	112,123		144,113	1,115,671
Sale of Property (net)			131,780	937,969						1,069,750
Designated Receipts				45,494						45,494
Miscellaneous	26,012									26,012
	1,104,023	73,401	327,644	1,525,021	64,079	38,820	112,807	1,234	146,613	3,393,641
Expenditures										
Parishes	8,575									8,575
Episcopal supervision	162,332									162,332
Wider Church	171,153									171,153
Parish and Diocesan program	254,217		404,181							658,398
Youth program	14,575									14,575
Administration and general	91,183	4,762	1,529	30,975	2,538	2,552	10,772		4,547	148,858
Diocesan staff	382,303									382,303
Pastoral and Sundry	12,501									12,501
Retired clergy and widows	44,949									44,949
Interest	1,887									1,887
Distributions to beneficiaries (note 12)				261,245	27,810	3,000	45,387		2,953	340,395
Amortization		6,822								6,822
Designated Disbursements				62,310						62,310
	1,143,675	11,584	405,710	354,530	30,348	5,552	56,159		7,500	2,015,058
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	(39,652)	61,817	(78,066)	1,170,491	33,731	33,268	56,648	1,234	139,113	1,378,583

Operating Fund

Revenue	
Parish pledges	Common Ministry and Mission
Trust income	Bishop's Corporation
Donations, bequests and other	Shared Ministry Fund, General Trust-Youth Grant, Montague Anderson Fund, Warnum Trust, New Church Development Fund, Rupert's Land Capital Fund, New England Grant, Rupert's Land News, donations, rent
Income (loss) from investments to Jun 2024	
Sale of Property (net)	
Designated Receipts	
Miscellaneous	Revenue from administering investments, interest income
Expenditures	
Parishes	Support for Hodgson Peguis, Fairford, St John's Cathedral
Episcopal supervision	Bishop's salary, benefits, housing, travel, hospitality
Wider Church	Apportionment for General Synod, Provincial Synod, lay away for Lambeth
Parish and Diocesan program	requests from Shared Ministry Fund, Rupert's Land News, Thelma Wynne, Priestly Ministry, Ordinations, Confirmations, unfunded positions
Youth program	requests from Shared Ministry Fund and General Trust Fund for Youth
Administration and general	Audit, bank charges, legal and HR fees, computer, printing, mailing, subscription, telephone, office supplies, building, repairs and maintenance, insurance, property taxes, payroll
Diocesan staff	Staff salary, benefits, Archdeacon's housing
Pastoral and Sundry	Diaconal Ministry Team, Archdeaconry travel, conferences, hospitality, archives, committees-Diocesan Council, Executive, Finance, Refugee, Diocesan Council Projects,
Retired clergy and widows	
Interest	
Distributions to beneficiaries	
Amortization	
Designated Disbursements	

THE DIOCESE OF RUPERT’S LAND
Investment Committee Annual Review

September 2026

Mandate

Our committee oversees the investment management function of the diocesan Trust Funds. The Committee also provides a similar service for a number of long-term investment funds owned by several of our member parishes.

In addition to our internal discussions, we meet regularly with our professional investment manager, Phillips, Hager & North, a subsidiary of the Royal Bank of Canada.

The Investment Committee is fully committed to our fiduciary responsibilities, including the ESG function (environmental / social / governance), which is closely monitored and managed by PH&N.

Committee Membership

The Investment Committee of the Diocese consists of the following members:

Member	Role
The Rt. Rev. Naboth Manzongo	<i>Bishop</i>
Mr. Edward (Ted) Ransby	<i>Chair</i>
Mr. Gordon Pawling	<i>Vice-Chair</i>
Mr. Paul Cloutier	
Mr. Edward (Ted) Cotton	
Dr. William (Bill) Pope	
Ms. Sharon Routley	
Mr. Malcolm Tinsley	
Ms. Joy Valencerina	<i>Secretary and Director of Finance</i>

Funds Under Oversight

As of June 30, 2026, the total value of the funds which we oversee was \$12.9 *million*, which consisted of \$10.8 *million* of diocese funds and \$2.1 *million* owned by member parishes.

Returns and Payouts

In spite of investor concerns regarding issues such as weak economic growth, a pick-up of inflation, the war in the Persian Gulf, and the Trump tariffs, Canadian stock markets have

been quite strong in the past two years. Moreover, PH&N have performed well, with important exposure in the powerful Technology, Financials and Resource groups.

Our total returns were 17 percent in 2024, 13 percent in 2025, and near 7 percent in late August 2026. We recommended maximum payouts of 7 percent in both 2024 and 2025. We also agreed with the Finance Committee's request for an unusual payout of 10 percent for this year (2026), given the ongoing pressures on the diocesan budget and the surplus which we had built up.

We did note, however, that we would like to begin to rebuild the surplus given the relatively high valuations in the markets and our more cautionary stance.

Outlook

While we continue to favour the markets longer-term, we believe stocks (technology aside) may have moved into a more volatile phase amid the current political and economic turmoil. From a shorter-term standpoint, such a phase may result in lower returns and reduced dividends from what we have benefited from in the recent past.

We are well aware of the budget challenges of the Diocese. At the same time, when possible, we would like to strengthen our surplus position in the interests of responsible investment management. A greater surplus would both strengthen the balance sheet and increase future income, as well as add financial flexibility.

Despite our near-term cautionary tone, I conclude on a positive historical note. The third year of a presidential term in the United States (i.e., 2027) has been characterized almost without exception as an excellent year for stock prices.

As noted in the past, we monitor the markets closely, as well as their implications for our performance and the potential payouts.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank our committee members for their wise counsel, and a special thanks to Mr. Gord Pawling, Vice-Chair, who is our main liaison with the Finance Committee. I would also like to thank Ms. Joy Valencerina, Director of Finance of the Diocese, who handles much of the administration of the funds and who acts as Secretary of the Committee.

Respectfully submitted by

Edward (Ted) Ransby, CFA

Chair, Investment Committee

September 2026

The Diocese of Rupert's Land - Synod 2026

Ordained Ministry Team Report July 2026

The Ordained Ministry Team (OMT) of the Diocese of Rupert's Land serves as an advisory body. The establishment, ongoing work and members of the OMT function at the call of the Bishop of Rupert's Land. Lay/ordained individuals representing Diocesan disciples from diverse backgrounds serve on the team. The OMT is the combined former Diaconal Ministry Team and Priestly Ministry Team and has been functioning as the OMT since May 2024. The appointment of members of the OMT remains the Bishop's prerogative. Along with Bishop Naboth., Executive Archdeacon Iain Luke, and Dr. Ryan Turnbull, Diocesan Discipleship Developer there are currently seven individuals serving on OMT.

The role/mandate of the OMT is focused on providing insight, advice, discernment and recommendation to the Bishop regarding those coming forward for ordained ministry. This is regarding the suitability and readiness of applicants, aspirants, postulants, and ordinands for ordination to the transitional or vocational diaconate, and ordained priestly ministry. We collaborate with and value the information and insight from Dr. Ryan Turnbull.

Our work utilizes a consistent and identified process, protocols, and tools, and accounts for the required competencies for each Holy Order. We review submitted information and essays, conduct reference checks, Panel Interviews and provide observations, recommendations, discussion and reports. We are also alert to and identify opportunities to enhance processes. This work done by the dedicated and committed OMT is carried out thoroughly, carefully, humbly, respectfully and faithfully.

Ordinations since the 2024 Synod Report dated May 31, 2024

Priests 2

The Reverend Alison Deneweth

The Reverend Di Panting

Vocational Deacons 2

The Reverend Deacon Cassandra Golondrina

The Reverend Deacon Paul Dyck

Current Activity – Summary Information as of July 2026

Priestly Summary:

Priestly Ordinands 0

Transitional Diaconal Ordinands 0

Postulants 0

Aspirants 5

Applicants 0

Note: There are two Aspirants scheduled to attend ACPO being held in Edmonton in November 2026

Vocational Diaconate Summary:

Vocational Diaconal Ordinands	0
Postulants	0
Aspirants	0
Applicants	0

As you can see there are currently no individuals in the Vocational Diaconate stream. God willing, we will experience increased interest in this Holy Order.

I am grateful for all current members who join me on the OMT. Thanks for your tremendous dedication to our work: Colin Dorrian, John Giroux, Paul Lampman, Wayne McIntosh, Liz Richens, and Murray Still. We also acknowledge with respect and gratitude those who have ended their time or retired from OMT since the last Synod – Cathie Clow, Johanna Handford, Mikaela Oldenkamp, Gwen McAllister along with Susan Roe-Finlay and Simon Blaikie. Your amazing commitment to our work and care of candidates at all stages of the discernment process is critical and very much appreciated. Thanks to Ryan for your insights and collaboration. Thanks to Bishop Naboth and Iain for your commitment to the work of OMT, and to Simon Blaikie previously, for your guidance.

We give thanks to all parishes and their leaders and congregations who provide encouragement, support, places, spaces and opportunities for those responding to a call to ordained ministry to experience ministry. Mission and leadership. This nurtures the growth and development of the spiritual gifts, knowledge and skills of those in the discernment process.

We request your prayers and support for all serving on OMT, for Bishop Naboth, Iain, Ryan and for all moving through the process of discernment. We also pray for those considering their potential call to ordained ministry. May the Holy Spirit guide us to understand God's call to each of us, individually and together, as we seek to serve as we are called.

Respectfully submitted with gratitude,
The Reverend Di Panting, Chair, OMT
July 10, 2026

**Mission and Ministry – Private Sponsorship of
Refugees Report for the 121st Session of Synod**

“COURAGE, CONNECTION, CHANGE”

**Marks of Mission # 3 – To Respond to Human Need by Loving
Service**

The Diocese of Rupert’s Land continues its ministry of refugee sponsorship which started in 1979 when the Canadian Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Programme began. At that time, many refugees were fleeing persecution in small, fragile boats across the South China Sea and the Canadian Government pledged to sponsor one refugee for each refugee the Canadian public would financially and otherwise support privately. Canadians responded, including churches within the Diocese, where ordinary people across the country became involved. This resulted in the arrival of Vietnamese refugees on Canadian shores – referred to as the “Boat People”. What began as a grass roots response to people in need, has become a model for the world.

In more recent years, most sponsorships in the Diocese are undertaken in partnership with individuals who were refugees, landed in Canada as Permanent Residents, have settled in Winnipeg and the surrounding communities, are self-supporting, and contributing members of our society. These family-link sponsorships require little, if any financial support from churches, as co-sponsors provide the sponsorship money needed to support newcomers for one year.

The benefit to refugee-newcomers is that they arrive to a welcoming community with established support systems in place, made up of family, friends, and church community. This leads to a successful re-settlement in a new country.

At the end of 2024, parishes welcomed 24 refugee-newcomers jointly with co-sponsors in the community, from five different countries: Syria, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Kenya

2024	Applications Submitted	Arrivals
Holy Trinity/Diocese		3 Arrivals for 8 People
St. George’s - Crescentwood	2 Applications for 2 single People	1 Arrival - Single
Crossed Hands	2 Applications for 2 single People	3 Arrivals for 7 People
Church of the Good Shepherd		1 Arrival for 2 People
st benedicts table/St. Marg.		1 Arrival for 2 People
St. Margaret’s	1 Application for 5 People	
St. Mark’s	3 Applications for 3 single People	1 Arrival for 1 Person
St. Mary’s la Prairie	1 Application for 1 Person	
Emmanuel Mission	1 Application for 1 Person	
Hospitality House		1 Arrival for Family of 3
TOTAL	10 Applications for 14 People	11 Arrivals for 24 People

By the end of 2025, with a 20% reduction in the number of available spaces imposed by the Federal Government, the Diocese submitted applications for six people.

2025	Applications Submitted	Status
Holy Trinity/Diocese of Rupert's Land		1 Arrival – Family of 6 Completed 1-year support for 3 families Awaiting processing overseas for 1 Single
St. George's- Crescentwood		Awaiting processing of applications overseas for 2 Single People
Crossed Hands – St Paul's and St Matthew's	1 application - Single	4 Arrivals for 8 People 2 Withdrawals-deported from country of asylum, lost contact with refugees. Awaiting processing for 4 Singles
St. Mary la Prairie		1 Withdrawal-returned to country of origin- Syria
st benedicts table/St. Margaret's		Completed 1-year support for family of 2
St. Margaret's	2 applications for 4 People	Awaiting processing overseas for 9 Applications = 27 People
Good Shepherd		Completed 1-year support for family of 3
St. Mark's		Awaiting processing of applications overseas for 3 Single People
St. Francis	1 Application – Single	1 Arrival –Single person being settled
St. Mary Magdalene		Completed 1-year support for family of 3
Emmanuel Mission		Awaiting processing overseas for single
St. George's - Brandon		Awaiting processing overseas family- 5
TOTAL	4 Applications submitted for 6 People	6 Arrivals for 15 People One-year Settlement completed for six families.

COUNTRIES of ORIGIN: Sudan, Kenya, Syria, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Pakistan, Iraq

January to September, 2026: Applications submitted for five people, and five have arrived from Somalia and Syria.

Indigenous-Newcomer Allyship

In 2024, following a national consultation meeting online, hosted by PWRDF/Alongside Hope and chaired by the Primate, the Diocesan Refugee Committee decided to host Refugee Sunday in the Diocese. As we thought about our role in bringing refugees to this country, we reflected on the 94 Calls to Action that came out of the Truth and Reconciliation Report, 2015, and focused on the 93rd Call to Action; ... to inform and educate newcomers on the history of Indigenous Peoples ...

The first Refugee Sunday was held June 23, 2024 at Epiphany Indigenous Anglican Church. We worked with Rev Vincent Solomon and church leadership to plan the service. We met as strangers, engaged in planning, learnt a different way, worshipped together, ate together, and left as friends. Refugee Sunday has become an annual service of the Diocese, as we introduce and work to build the relationship of newcomers with the Indigenous Community. We continue to look at opportunities to build on this responsibility of being an ally for Indigenous-Newcomer relationship.

PWRDF/Alongside Hope – Refugee Network

Alongside Hope has been a support and advocate for the 15 Anglican Dioceses in Canada that have legal agreements with the Federal Government to sponsor refugees from overseas.

Chaired by Suzanne Rumsey, we meet to share, problem solve, and raise issues of common concerns in the context of our shared faith. We are a support for each other.

The Rev. Scott McLeod speaks about the value of the existing church structure in supporting this ministry – the fact that churches operate within a diocese having the infrastructure to provide support for the work, that churches are registered with CRA as charitable organizations, and that there is a volunteer base within church membership dedicated to serving.

“There are theological and scriptural legs for every aspect of this work that can be tied back to Jesus’ teachings. This work of supporting resettlement and working with newcomers pushes us always to think bigger than ourselves; seeing the face of Christ in everyone we meet, regardless of where they are coming from. It confronts our biases and prejudices and racism. Relying on our Scripture, relying on our God, relying on the strength of our tradition means we have everything we need to overcome the challenges including working with government structures, with financial challenges, burnout, time and energy spent, tears shed, sleep lost”. Scott McCleod.

Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese of Niagara, Bill Mous, presented at the Council of General Synod 2026;

“One of the powerful things about refugee sponsorship in our church is the breadth of where people come from, and the relationships that follow. Through Anglican sponsorships, we have welcomed refugees from 17 different countries, each with their own language, culture, and stories of resilience. In just the past year, over 1,100 refugees have been welcomed into Canada through Anglican networks – made possible by parish-based groups and family-linked private sponsorships. Those numbers are significant, but more importantly, they represent real people and real communities. They speak to the quiet, faithful work of local churches – neighbours coming together to offer not just financial support, but friendship, belonging, and a new beginning.”

This is the work we do. It is not easy work. It is a ministry. A call to look beyond ourselves and respond to the needs of the stranger.

The theme of Synod 2026 is “**Courage, Connection, Change**”. As people of faith, do we have the **courage** to step out of our comfort zone, **connect** with the stranger, and help to make a **change** in a person’s life, to help bring hope of a new beginning? Do we step out in faith, live out the Gospel message, and put faith in action?

Matthew 25 - ... for I was hungry and you fed me. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. Naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me. I was in prison and you came to me...

Diocesan Refugee Committee

Members: The Rev. John Dolloff, Kathy Flemmington, Rick Morgan, Leanne Chase, Teshome Semedar, and (Marlene Smith). This team acts to support and advise the Refugee Coordinator, be a link to the Executive Body of the Diocese, help to promote refugee sponsorship, and oversee the Diocesan Refugee Fund.

In Service,



Marlene Smith – Refugee Coordinator, Diocese of Rupert’s Land

refugee@rupertsland.ca

Rupert's Land News Synod Report

As we gather for Synod, we meet, have fellowship, discuss, and vote on things which are important to us as members of this community. Part of that process involves asking questions. Sometimes these questions are not always easy, yet they may be more necessary than we initially think in order to move forward together.

Over the last two years, the Rupert's Land News monthly magazine has been aimed primarily at education, inviting all those who read it to explore their own faith more deeply, to connect with their church more meaningfully, and to be members of the Body of Christ in the world. It serves as a consistent and gentle reminder to dig deeper into one's faith, to live more actively in one's community, and to continually learn and grow as the disciples of Christ we are called to be.

The monthly magazine also continues to make space for people to share their voices. It has welcomed, and continues to welcome, submissions from people in many different communities, those on the margins, and a wide variety of people who have shared their lived experiences, educated readers on Scripture and theology, and encouraged reflection through prose and poetry.

Rupert's Land News is, ultimately, about connection, even when there is physical distance between us. Since 2025, the magazine has been moving in a direction where recurring authors are given the opportunity to be heard across multiple issues, so that the thoughts of one person are not encapsulated in a single article. Instead, three related, yet distinct topics are given to authors, allowing readers to develop a better understanding of their perspectives. For the reader, this means getting to know the person as more than simply someone who writes for the magazine. It is a reminder that they are a member of the Diocese, a neighbour, and even a friend.

This emphasis on connection can also be seen in the new "Dispatches from the Hermitage" section of the magazine, where we read reflections from someone who has chosen to live a more secluded life, yet who still remains an active participant in the Diocese in her own ways.

The last two years have also seen the introduction of special editions of the magazine in December, which push hard for reader submissions. In 2024, people submitted their "Bethlehem Moments," times when the presence of God was clear in their lives. In 2025, in collaboration with the Anglican Poetics Project, people submitted original poetry. This year, there will be an issue dedicated to photography—and there may even be a contest involved!

Alongside the monthly magazine, the weekly newsletter continues to be a consistent way for subscribers to stay informed about what is going on in the Diocese. It provides information on events, opportunities, and more, and in doing so, offers a welcoming invitation for parishes to become more involved and collaborative with one another.

For the last decade or so, the magazine has not published physical copies and has instead been published online only. While online publication will still be the primary source of getting news out, one of our goals in the near future is to have some printed copies of the magazine made for parishes at their request. While nothing has been set in stone just yet, we are exploring low-cost, yet effective means of getting the magazine out to those who prefer paper versions.

Communication is a two-way street—in order for Rupert’s Land News to be for the Diocese, it needs the collaboration of people throughout the Diocese. I want to extend my sincere thanks to all of those who have dedicated their time and energy towards writing for the magazine. I also want to thank all those who submitted events, announcements, and opportunities to the newsletter, and anyone who gave feedback to Rupert’s Land News since I have started. Of course, I am equally grateful to all those who take the time to read the magazine and the newsletter, and I hope they have found, and continue to find, great benefit in doing so.

I am grateful for the ways in which serving as the editor of Rupert’s Land News has taught me about the Diocese and has connected me with many wonderful people. It is my hope that, together, we can continue to make Rupert’s Land News a place where our Diocese can learn, reflect, share, and remain connected to one another.

Respectfully submitted by Cinna Baran

Rupert's Land Wechetowin Report to Synod October 2026

Rupert's Land Wechetowin (People Helping People Ministry) continues to embody its core calling: nurturing relationships of care, dignity, and reconciliation across the Diocese of Rupert's Land. Rooted in the Cree concept of helping one another, we remain grounded in practical compassion and community partnership.

A central activity for the last few years has been the ongoing preparation and distribution of Blessing Care Bags for women's shelters and children in transition. Parishes from across the diocese collect essential items such as toiletries, socks, mittens, journals, children's books, and comfort objects. These items are gathered prayerfully and respectfully, recognizing that each blessing bag can impact a human story—often one marked by instability. A little bit of caring helps folks know some people care and God loves them. Hospital visits and prayers continue.

Volunteers assembled the blessing bags, creating space for conversation, prayer, and a smudging ceremony, which honours Indigenous traditions of purification and intention. Christian prayers also root the offering in Christ's call to love each other as Christ loves us.

Distribution partnerships included several Winnipeg-area women's shelters and resource centres, as well as Children's Centres and community programs. Staff consistently express gratitude not only for the material supplies but for the relational spirit behind them and our prayers.

Wechetowin also participated in a variety of presentations, offered within Anglican congregations and Ecumenical gatherings to raise awareness of this ministry of caring. These times together encourage people to reflect on right relationship, truth-telling, and humility through both Indigenous teachings and the Gospel witness. This work aligns closely with the Diocese's ongoing commitment to reconciliation and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The last few years have had some challenges due to fire evacuations and flooding, which displaced many people from rural towns and Indigenous communities. We did our best, collecting and delivering supplies to Indigenous Evacuation Centres and being present with the many volunteers and Red Cross workers who were growing weary as the situation dragged on for many months. Economic downturns have also impacted families, and needs have increased. With God's help and Christ's example among us, Rupert's Land Wechetowin continues in helping one another walk in dignity, accountability, and love. Thanks go to all the folks who work behind the scenes and contribute items towards this ministry of caring and sharing beyond our church walls. We are truly in this work together.

Our Wechetowin bank account continues to welcome donations, and we have been drawing on funds gifted to us from the Anglican Healing Fund. Thank you, Rev. Vincent Solomon (UIMD), and to the Diocesan Office for your assistance in this ministry.

Respectfully submitted

Rev Tanis McLeod Kolisnyk Rupert's Land Wechetowin Coordinator





ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

ESTABLISHED 1866

Office of the Warden

St John's College – Report to Synod 2026

St John's College was established by the Bishop of Rupert's Land in 1866 to offer training in Anglican theology and the liberal arts. In 1877, it became a founding college of the University of Manitoba, along with St. Boniface College and Manitoba College. Then in 1970, all the College's academic programs merged with the University, and now all our current faculty fellows and students (with the exception of theology) are hired by or admitted to UM and then choose to affiliate with St John's. However, all other College operations, including a student residence, food services (catering and the Daily Bread Café which has the best food on campus), theology, chaplaincy, and development, remain independent of UM, and approximately 80% of our operating budget is self-generated.

While the College community has always and continues to include members of diverse backgrounds and faith traditions, St John's College remains the official educational institution of the Diocese. The Bishop is our Chancellor, and the College is governed through a bicameral system composed of a Council and Assembly. Council includes representation from the Diocese, Assembly, and community. Assembly is comprised of all the College fellows, as well as the College Officers, representation from Council, and other relevant stakeholders such as the University of Manitoba Press (which is housed at SJC).

Current College Overview

St John's is now the largest of the affiliate colleges at UM with close to 1,000 student members. They have access to more than \$200,000 in scholarships and bursaries; academic support; study carrels, lockers and social spaces; food discounts; leadership opportunities; and activities planned by the St John's College Student's Association. The Residence houses 100 students. The College is also campus home to the River City Science Academy, a bridge program for Indigenous students from four northern communities as they transition into university.

About fifty academics are affiliated with SJC between Senior, Visiting, Retired, and Adjunct Fellows, representing the broad range of disciplines across the University of Manitoba. They are engaged in important research on human rights, Indigenous history and culture, refugees and migration, food sovereignty, sustainability and the environment, art and architecture, sport and health care, to name only a few topics. The College also employs approximately twenty-five administrative, housekeeping, and food services staff.

St John's is currently engaged in a process of drafting a strategic plan and Reconciliation framework that will guide our mission for the coming years. Our primary commitments are to

A Founding and Member College of the University of Manitoba

Telephone: (204)474-8529 • Fax: (204)474-7610 • email: allison.abra@umanitoba.ca

providing enhanced student experiences and supports, promoting academic excellence and spiritual care, and advancing Reconciliation.

Chaplaincy

The College chaplain is Rev. Helen Holbrook, who leads worship services and provides overall spiritual care to our community. The Chaplain works closely with the student council and sees a lot of students individually to offer support and counselling. She organizes the start of term “De-Confusion Corner” to greet and orient students new to campus, and then a range of events from crafting to pancake breakfasts to encourage student well-being throughout the academic year. The Chaplain is also part of UM’s broader Spiritual Care team and collaborates on programming with Lutheran campus ministry in particular.

Theology

Since Synod last met, St John’s has continued to make significant strides towards revitalizing our theology program. Under the direction of Dr. Ryan Turnbull, the Diocesan Discipleship Developer, we have established the College as a “Theology Hub” for the Diocese, offering 4-5 theology courses per year via partnerships with Canadian Mennonite University, St. Margaret’s Anglican Church, and other theological institutions. Recent classes have focused on Indigenous Christian spirituality, political theology, environmentalism and theology, the history of Christianity and Anglicanism, Christian ethics, and worship practices. The goal of these courses is to provide opportunities for education and training to all those on the path to ordination, engaged in lay ministry, or simply seeking personal enrichment, and we are enrolling approximately 50 students per year (which is five times as many students as we had two years ago).

The College has also expanded our less formal theological programming, by reviving the annual Wilmot Lecture, and hosting workshops, book clubs, and other events on a range of topics pertaining to Reconciliation, discipleship, professional development for clergy, etc. Six successful grant applications (totalling more than \$80,000) have supported courses and programming focused on Anglican Poetics and liturgical practices. Most exciting is that St John’s is part of consortium of institutions, led by the Atlantic School of Theology, which was awarded 2.5 million USD to study Ecumenical Shared Ministry across Canada. There is a matching program associated with the grant for which we are currently fundraising, and which will enable us to establish a new theology endowment and secure the future of theological education in the Diocese for years to come. We would greatly appreciate the support of Synod delegates in spreading the word about these efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Abra, PhD
Warden & Vice-Chancellor
St John’s College

Urban Indigenous Ministry
Developer Report to Rupert's Land Diocesan Synod 2026

Once again, I must say that I write this report with great gratitude to our Lord for all that He has accomplished through Rupert's Land Urban Indigenous Ministry (UIM). It is my hope and prayer that God will continue to bless and to grow this work amongst us.

On February 20, 2022, Epiphany Indigenous Epiphany moved to 370 McKenzie Street. The people of St. John Evangelical Lutheran have been very gracious to have us rent their building. The congregation of St. John's Lutheran (ELCIC) has since disestablished, and they want Epiphany to be a permanent tenant of the building. Bishop Jason Zinko has been very helpful in this process, and the hope is that the building will be transferred to the Diocese of Rupert's Land so that it can be the permanent home of Epiphany Indigenous and the future base of the diocesan UIM (urban Indigenous Ministry). Hopefully this will be in place before our 2026 Diocesan Synod.

Epiphany continues to be in the process of recovering from Covid 19. While our worship participants had gone down by half, the number of worshipers has been slowly increasing with new congregants from the community around the Church Building. We have truly become a Neighbourhood Church.

The Pantry Ministry at Epiphany serves to address an immense need within the church's neighbourhood.

The people we serve are families and the working poor who reside within our neighbourhood. The pantry is open to the community once a month. Many thanks go out to the people of St. Francis, All Saints, St. George Crescentwood, St. Paul Fort Garry, St. Benedict's Table, the people of Epiphany Indigenous and, individuals who have a heart for this ministry. Without their support our Pantry Ministry will not exist. We are so grateful for their generosity.

Epiphany Healing and Counselling Ministry is also going strong.

In 2024, the Epiphany Healing and Counselling Ministry counsellor began to work with people in the forest near her home when they came in groups from their community organization. She does most of the work on the phone, which for some is the only way in which they feel comfortable to do counselling. The youngest person who talks to her regularly is in his early twenties, the oldest is in her 70's. In 2024 she has worked with 2 males 7 females and one person who identifies as they.

In 2025, the Healing Ministry has served 10 individual who have been a true gift to serve these individuals, they are brave, wise and tenacious. Several of these individuals would not access other counselling services because they need flexibility and work better by phone. The Counsellor works primarily with people on a long-term basis because many have complex trauma where trust builds slowly.

She has also done some extensive training in working with trauma. It has profoundly influential with her counselling which, has had a sense movement and transformation. The Urban Indigenous Ministry had provided for two Healing Conferences at Epiphany. Both were very well attended by members of the Diocese and of Epiphany's neighbours. The UIMD has also partnered with the Canadian Bible Society to hold training workshops on healing facilitation. Eight people have taken the training and there is a plan to hold healing circles at Epiphany in the Fall.

Music for Life continues to be a ministry that Epiphany and UIM are a part of. We were pleased that we were able to have another event at St. Thomas Weston.

As the Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer (UIMD), I have prepared and offered half day workshop in a number of contexts and topics. One of the workshops that needs to be highlighted is "Acknowledging the Land" that I Vincent, co-taught with Ryan Turnbull at St. John's College. We will be offering other such workshops in the coming months.

I am pleased to report that most parishes in the Diocese of Rupert's Land are beginning to start all gatherings with an acknowledgement of the land. This is a recognition of the TRC's call to Action #49 that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission has called us to work towards.

One of the fundamental Principles for working in urban indigenous ministry is that the ministry has to be ecumenical in nature. I have found that the possibilities and rewards of collaboration are truly astounding. As the Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer, I have begun conversation with other non-Anglican ministers to work together in the Indigenous Community for the mutual benefit of all in Christ's name. some of these ecumenical talks, workshops and committees are; Cyclical Winnipeg Ecumenical Network, Music for Life, Winnipeg Urban Ecumenical Ministry Hub (North American Institute for Indigenous Theological Studies) Ecumenical Hymn Sing at Epiphany and, Northend Ecumenical Leaders group.

Talks, Workshops, Seminars, Webinars and, Conferences that I have organized or helped to Organize:

Renew Conference (Led Workshop)
Christianity and the Mass Media (Led Workshop)
Grand father Rock
Protecting Our Cree language (St. John's College)
Evangelical and Catholic Dialogue (Provided Teaching)
Renewal West at Epiphany (Anglican Renewal Ministry)
Sacred Assembly 30th Commemoration/Celebration in Winnipeg
Hosted and Spoke at World Council of Church gathering in Winnipeg
Hosted Diocese of Mishimequish Northern Manitoba Mission Gathering at Epiphany
Hosted and Spoken at Canadian Council of Churches Winnipeg Gathering at Epiphany
Blanket Exercise at HSC Women's Pavilion

Living into Treaty lecture with Ray Aldred
Mapping the Ground We Walk on at St. John's College
Author (Broken Indigene Wing) Carmen Landsdown lecture at St. John's College
52 Ways to Reconcile Workshops (With David Robertson, Krista Waring, and Pierre Plourde) at St. John's College
Land Acknowledgement Workshop at St. John's College
Spoke at Care Impact Conference
Journeying With Indigenous People; Mennonite Central Committee

National work that I am or have been a part of:

Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples (ACIP) Delegate to 2025 Sacred Circle
Anglican Church of Canada Transformational Task Force
Delegate General Synod
Along Side Hope 8 Sessions Web Seminars on the 7 Sacred Teachings
Appointed member of ACIP
Delegate to Sacred Circle
Member of the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples Governance Working Group
Primates Commission on the Seven Transformational Task Force

Provincial work that I am or have been a part of:

Member, Northern Lights Ministry Committee,

Diocesan work that I am or have been a part of:

I continue to attend the Kildonan Matheson Deanery and Clericus meetings
Diocesan Refugee Service Planning Group
Annual Diocesan Refugee Service at Epiphany
Eninemowin Healing Conference at Epiphany
Hosting Archbishop Chris at Epiphany and St. Peter Dynevor
Food Pantry Ministry
Growing In Wisdom Workshop and Teaching St. Helen Fairford
Archbishop of York in the Diocese
Peguis Day Celebration at St. Peter Dynevor,
Seven Sacred Teaching Workshop at St. Andrew Woodhaven
Drumming and praying at St. John's College Convocation
Provided Church Services for Northern Manitoba Fire Evacuees
Clergy Retreats

Local work that the UIMD is a part of:

Indigenous Consultant for We Are All Treaty People Celebration,
Board Member; Circles for Reconciliation
Board Member; CMU Indigenous Advisory
Board member; Booth College Indigenous Advisory Board
Booth College "Street University" Committee Member,

Healing of the Wounded Heart Training with The Canadian Bible Society
We Are All Treaty People Planning Group
We Are All Treaty People Celebration Event at The Forks
Attended Rev. Henry Budd Celebration Service at St. Andrew's on the Red
Share The Gifts, Honour the Treaties Committee Member
Kiaros

Seminars, meetings and conferences attended:

Treaty Commission
Christmas Service at Thomas Chief Memorial Hall/ Broken Head Ojibway Nation
Dismantling Settler Colonialism
Ecumenical Shared Ministry network
Dismantling residential School Denialism
Elders gathering at Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre
Nicene Creed Webinar
Treaty Lecture with Allan Sutherland
Canadian Medical association Apology to Indigenous Peoples
Working Together, First Nations Ministers Gathering at First Nations Church
Vision Quest
Queering the Church with Charlie Bell Webinar
History of Metis People Workshop

As the UIMD, I have the pleasure and responsibility of being the Priest of St. Philip Scanterbury at the Broken Head reserve and at St. Peter Dyevor. Like at Epiphany Indigenous, I provide sacramental and pastoral support to the congregation. As Priest in charge, I provide hospital visitations, sermons, pastoral care, funerals, chair AGMs and vestry meetings and everything else that is involved with congregational ministry.

As of the beginning of March 2026, owing to financial limitations, the Diocesan Urban Indigenous Ministry program, has been adjusted to a half time schedule. As a result, the UIMD priest missionary position at Epiphany has also changed to an Honourary Incumbent role.

Even with a half time position, I continue to look forward to building bridges and relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples. This work of reconciliation is not without its pain and anguish, but the support that I have received from the people of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous keep me forging on when the task seems overwhelming.

Though the future may hold many challenges, I am grateful for the blessings that have occurred these past two years, as well as the ones that lie ahead.

Yours in Christ.

Rev. Vincent Solomon
Diocese of Rupert's land
Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer
Priest Missioner Epiphany Indigenous Anglican Church
Priest in charge St. Philip Scanterbury
Incumbent at St. Peter Dynevor

Nominations Committee Report

Diocesan Council

CLERGY - Outside Winnipeg (Vote for 3 minimum – 7 maximum)

The Rev. James Gomez

The Rev. John Dolloff

CLERGY – Inside Winnipeg (Vote for 3 minimum – 7 maximum)

The Rev. Wilson Akinwale

The Rev. Victoria Luke

The Rev. Wayne McIntosh

The Rev. Liz Richens

The Rev. Robert Schoeck

LAITY - Outside Winnipeg (Vote for 4 minimum – 8 maximum)

Mary Aitken

Rachel June Mawejji

Debbie McCuaig

Pheobe Thomas

LAITY – Inside Winnipeg (Vote for 4 minimum – 8 maximum)

Deb Buxton

Gary Russell

Board on Canons and Rules of Order

CLERGY (Vote for no more than 2)

LAITY (Vote for no more than 2)

Mary Aitken

Diocesan Court

CLERGY (Note – only clergy vote for clergy – vote for 3 maximum)

The Ven. Karen Laldin

LAITY (Note – only laity vote for laity – vote for 3 maximum)

Mary Aitken

General Synod Delegates

CLERGY – Vote for no more than 2

The Rev. Wilson Akinwale

The Ven. Karen Laldin

The Ven. Ian Luke

The Rev. Wayne McIntosh

The Rev. Liz Richens
The Ven. Lauren Schoeck
The Rev. Robert Schoeck

LAITY – Vote for no more than 2

Mary Aitken
Lauria Bellay
Deb Buxton
Gary Russell

YOUTH – Vote for no more than 1

Chuka Nwokeoma
Alexander Shefchyk

Provincial Synod Delegates

CLERGY – Vote for no more than 3

The Rev. Wilson Akinwale
The Ven. Karen Laldin
The Rev. Liz. Richens
The Rev. Robert Schoeck

LAITY – Vote for no more than 2

Eva Broan
Debbie McChuaig
Gary Russell
Pheobe Thomas

YOUTH – Vote for no more than 1

Chuka Nwokeoma



Name: The Rev. Wilson Akinwale
Parish: St. Bartholomew & St. George, Transcona
Nominated for: Diocesan Council – CLERGY
Provincial Synod – CLERGY
General Synod - CLERGY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this / these position(s)?

As a young priest in the Diocese, I see this as an opportunity to serve considering my vast experience in church diversity trends/dynamics, learning, growing as well as contributing to the church's mission with grace to lead with courage and change we need.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

- Diocesan Executive Committee - Diocesan Council - General Synod Delegate(2024-Date)
- National President/Board Chair (Black Anglicans of Canada) 2024-Date
- Park Manor Monthly Ministry Outreach - Concordia Place & River East PCH Quarterly Ministry Outreach (2023-Date)
- Committee Member – DORL Black Anglicans
- Anglican Representative on ELCIC Anti-Racism Taskforce (2024-Date)

List areas of involvement in your community:

- Member Transcona Multifaith Leadership Council (2025-Date)
- Member Southdale Multifaith Leadership Council (2025-Date)
- Provincial Board Member, African Communities of Manitoba (2024-Date)
- National Board Member, African Caribbean Black ACB) Advisory Group (2026-
- Lay Member, Manitoba Review Board (2025-Date)
- Advisor/Ex-Officio, Nigerian Association of Manitoba/Egbe Omo Yoruba Elders Advisory Council(2023-Date)

What's a cause of idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

- Opportunity to serve/champion with needed change we all want to see as an inclusive and a diversify Church; the wind of change is blowing all around us. But the image of a Church "full of insulation" as Anglicans is our situation today. To quote Archbishop Shane Parker in his acceptance speech after elected Primate at the last year's General Synod. He said, in view of the change we need, "while insulation can be helpful, it can insulate us from God. We can be insulated from each other. And we can even be insulated from our truest selves also. Our church at this time needs to remove a lot of insulations. We need change in the way we do our ministries, especially to get more youth involvement and to now engage a wider-church collaborative miniseries.
- To effect the change we need for our Diocese means to work with theme of this year's Synod: "Courage, Connection, and Change," with active listening and to be honest and transparent in our approach with God's help.

This section may be used to add any other information you wish member of Synod to know about you - personal or other interests. (Please be brief.)

As a young and vibrant priest in this Diocese with various roles across board, I have something to offer in service with God's help.



Name: Laurie Bellay
Parish: St. Peter, Winnipeg
Nominated for: General Synod - LAITY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this position?

Faith is important to me, and I feel that faith and church are more than just attending your own parish. Connecting with others outside our immediate communities is one way we grow as Christians. I attended the previous General Synod and found the experience to be both educational and exciting. It was good to meet Anglicans from other areas of the country, and learn a bit more about them, both their successes and the issues they are facing. It's also good to have a closer look at concerns and projects that are happening within the church and the world at other levels. For example, I learned about and saw an Alongside Hope Solar Suitcase that was going to be used in Mozambique to provide reliable electricity for health workers in hospitals and clinics.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

I've been a member of St. Peter's Anglican for over 25 years. Throughout that time, I've been and remain active as an Officiant to assist the priest, administer the chalice and proclaim the gospel, prepare and share prayers of the people, offer healing prayers, and participate as a member of our choir.

Additionally, I serve as the current Rector's Warden, member of vestry, and Synod delegate, and assist with fundraising and social activities that are important to the life of our parish family.

One committee that I participate on and have found to be very educational is our Worship Planning Team. This has allowed me to learn more about our Anglican liturgy and help affect changes to our service so that the word of God can speak more clearly and loudly to parishioners.

Another lifechanging group that I also belong to is our discipleship group where we share leadership to pray, learn, and support each other in our discipleship journey.

At the diocesan level, I am part of a team that assists parishes who are in transition between priests in their discernment of their strengths and areas for growth, and preparation of their parish profile. In addition, I have participated on a Diocesan Advisory Committee, attended Synod as both a parish delegate and a diocesan appointee, attended Faith Horizons, participated on a clergy vacation discussion panel, and was a diocesan representative to the Synod in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan.

List areas of involvement in your community:

Faith is about connecting with and supporting others. In this regard, I do what I can to support other organizations such as Pimicikamak Wellness Centre, St. Thomas Anglican Church, and the Thelma Wynn Project.

What's a cause of idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

Having attended a previous Synod, I realize the amount of information that there is at higher levels within the church organization. Much of this information does not reach individuals at the parish

level. I feel that this needs to change. I would work towards ensuring this happens so that we can all see our faith beyond the walls of our parish and share the work of the church we all love.



Name:

Eva Brown

Parish:

Epiphany Indigenous Anglican Church

Nominated for:

Provincial Synod - LAITY



Name: Deb Buxton
Parish: St. George, Transcona
Nominated for: Diocesan Council – LAITY
General Synod - LAITY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this / these position(s)?

I have just completed my first term of Diocesan Council. I found the involvement to be informative and interesting. As someone who has always been an advocate for people, I found this to be even more important as we navigate the changing landscape of what God is calling us to do and be in his church. I would like to continue actively participating on Diocesan Council championing the importance of keeping the lines of communication open between the Synod office, Diocesan council and all members across the Diocese of Rupert's Land.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

I have been on Diocesan Council for the past 2 years and came into this by appointment from +Bishop Geoff. I have been involved with the Transition Ministry of our diocese and continue to work with parishes as they create their parish profiles. With my home church of St. Georges Transcona, I am currently the Rectors Warden and Synod Delegate. I also oversee the music ministry, the website, all communications within our parish, and many other tasks and activities.

List areas of involvement in your community:

Currently, most of my spare time is spent supporting our parish, outreach and community. I am involved with The Transcona Food Security Network and the Transcona Legion.

What's a cause of idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

My first career was a pediatric RN for many decades. My second career was in Project Management with a specialty in Change Management. I see many opportunities within our diocese to improve communications with parishes and members. Although we are all members of Diocese of Rupert's Land, we seem to be stuck in our silos within our own parish communities. My passion is to advocate for others (part of my nursing background) and help inform our parishes and members of the value on working together as a diocese, to learn from each other, to understand how we are all connected by more than geography. We do not need to reinvent the wheel for each activity or project and can learn from each other. In a time when church numbers are dwindling, we need to be reminded of how we are called, how the Holy Spirit works within us to do more than we can ask or imagine.



Name: The Ven Dr. Iain Luke
Special Ministry: Executive Archdeacon
Nominated for: General Synod - CLERGY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this position?

I have extensive experience with the work of the church beyond the diocese, which includes representing Rupert's Land on General Synod and COGS in the 2000s. I am excited by the reorientation of national structures taking place through the Transformational Pathways, and I want to offer my commitment to local ministry development to support and enhance that work.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

Ordained since 1992, serving three parishes and two colleges before my appointment as Executive Archdeacon last December. Previous service includes time as the Director of the Institute for Anglican Ministry in the St John's College Faculty of Theology, 1999-2007

List areas of involvement in your community:

Volunteer participation in food ministries, community centre organization and advocacy, and lots of music-making in many different choirs.

What's a cause or idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

For me, the key to reinventing General Synod is to put local parishes, congregations and ministries at the heart of the church's organization. So much already happens in the communities or our diocese to change people's lives, which I've witnessed as I've visited many churches. One way to effect change is to focus on telling that story to one another and to the wider church, so that General Synod staff and leaders understand who they are "convening, connecting and communicating" for.

This section may be used to add any other information you wish member of Synod to know about you - personal or other interests. (Please be brief.)

I am enjoying being back in the diocese after time elsewhere, seeing how much has changed and how much hasn't, and especially appreciating the opportunity to kayak on the lakes and rivers.



Name: Rev. Victoria Luke
Parish: St. Peter, Winnipeg
Nominated for: Diocesan Council – CLERGY
Boards on Canons &
Rules of Order - CLERGY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this / these position(s)?

I have a desire to be immersed in the life of the Diocese that I am returning to. I believe that I have skills and talents that would be beneficial to the Diocese.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

I am returning to the Diocese after being away for many years. When I was serving in The Diocese I was involved with the planning of Synod, Faith Horizons and Clergy conferences. I also served on Diocesan Council and Executive. In my current parish I am the Honorary Assistant and hold a variety of positions dealing with finances, Sunday School and Pastoral Care.

List areas of involvement in your community:

I am just returning to the diocese. In the wider church I am the secretary for the Ecclesiastical Province of the Northern Lights. In Saskatoon I am a tutor with Sylvan Learning.

What's a cause of idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

One of the visions of the Diocese is that we are a team who is working together to proclaim the gospel to the people that we minister to. I would like to help develop and strengthen the lines of communications between the synod office and parishes and between parishes. One way that this could be achieved is through a weekly or monthly bulletin that was sent out to the Diocese and posted on the web site. Another thing that I believe is meaningful is for the diocese to recognize special events in the life of the members of the diocese through personal messages. This is something that I would be excited to be part of.



Name: Debbie McCuaig
Parish: Christ Church, Selkirk
Nominated for: Diocesan Council – LAITY
Provincial Synod - LAITY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this / these position(s)?

have administrative and financial skills, with a deep passion for our Church, and I would love the opportunity to help the diocese (us) navigate current challenges and opportunities.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

As a Certified ESL Teacher I have been actively involved in various volunteer & Government led programs assisting New Canadians adjust to life here in our communities. As a Woman Business Owner I have served as a mentor for people wishing to start their own business. I volunteer as a driver for a Ride Assist program providing rides for a variety of needs. I Volunteer yearly in environment cleanup.

List areas of involvement in your community:

I am currently a Lay Reader and Synod Delegate for Christ Church Selkirk. My childhood Church was St Thomas Weston. For the last 25 years I have lived in a rural community (close to Selkirk) and have been part of St Andrews on the Red, St Clements Church in addition to Christ Church Selkirk (I believe we are all part of the “Parish of Selkirk”). I served on the Diocesan Council over 10 years ago. In addition to serving on Vestry in all of them, I have held positions as Rector’s Warden, Bookkeeper, Delegate to Synod, Worship Committee and Altar guild.

What’s a cause of idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

I would like to volunteer my professional training as an ESL teacher to introduce the "Cooperative ESL Ministry" program to our Diocese, particularly within our rural parishes. New Canadians in these areas frequently face isolation, racism, and employment barriers due to language differences. This program has a proven history of success in Canada and offers vast, free resource libraries to help newcomers adapt. Bridging these gaps is directly tied to our Christian calling to build inclusive communities. I am eager to help our Diocese take this positive step toward a more active and supportive intercultural ministry.

This section may be used to add any other information you wish member of Synod to know about you - personal or other interests.

Guided by my education and life experiences in both science and theology, I hold a deep appreciation for the way God reveals Himself to us through both the natural and spiritual worlds. In His grace, God allowed me to establish and grow a therapeutic skincare manufacturing company, a venture that has provided me with the freedom to explore my personal interests. A thorough three-week pilgrimage to the Holy Land remains one of the most significant and transformative spiritual anchors of my life. Refreshing my spirit also means spending time

outdoors and with loved ones; my husband and I love kayaking, hiking, and embracing simple, meaningful family time.



Name: The Rev. Wayne McIntosh
Parish: St. Francis, Winnipeg
Nominated for: **Diocesan Council – CLERGY**
Provincial Synod – CLERGY
General Synod - CLERGY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this position?

Thank you for the nomination and privilege of serving the church at the Diocesan level and beyond. It has always been a personal “practice of mine” to divide my time between parish/diocese/community/personal as this, in my opinion, provides a “well-rounded” approach to ministry.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

In addition to serving as a priest at St. Francis Church, I am also a member of Diocesan Council. In addition, I serve on the diaconal ministry committee, which allows me to participate in the formation of individuals towards ministry. Related to that, I have recently been appointed as one of the assessors of our provincial ACPO. I am also honoured to represent our church on the board of the North End Renewal Corporation (a local organization dealing with housing issues in the Winnipeg’s North End). I am grateful for the diversity of our diocesan family and those who serve with me in so many different ways as this is what best reflects the life and spirit of our church.

This section may be used to add any other information you wish member of Synod to know about you - personal or other interests.

As a follower of Jesus, I am very much aware how the term “Christian” has come to be seen with suspicion in recent years. More and more faithful disciples are hesitant to apply the designation to themselves often because of the damage caused by those who claim allegiance to the church and yet spew hatred and division. We need to strive for healing and reconciliation. My greatest passion is to rescue Christ from those who would hijack him so that his message of love and acceptance might be realized.



Name: Dr. Gary Russell
Parish: Epiphany Indigenous Anglican Church
Nominated for: Diocesan Council – LAITY
General Synod - LAITY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this / these position(s)?

The church is facing challenging times when the lessons of our growth and development need to come together with new and ingenious approaches. I feel well placed to help us navigate that adventure.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

Terms on vestries at All Saints, St. Margaret's, Epiphany, 1990-2026.

Peoples Warden at Epiphany, 2018-2026.

Three terms on Diocesan Council 1999-2026, and executive terms 2016-25.

List areas of involvement in your community:

Early decades included Canadian Labour Congress, Canadian Union of Public Employees. Recent decades included various parish activities from Lenten Discussion groups to refugee ministry.

What's a cause or idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

As an Anglican and a Franciscan, I believe the Church and the Order have complementary roles which are especially crucial in these times. I seek to strengthen our interaction in a time when we need each other to confront new challenges with resilience. I also produce a discussion workbook called Radical Grace and the Economy.

This section may be used to add any other information you wish member of Synod to know about you - personal or other interests.

In this senior time of life, one has the opportunity to turn one's full attention to issues that really matter. For decades that has been my Church and now my Order. It's an opportunity to apply my education, experience and inspiration to our common future in Christ.



Name: The Ven. Lauren Schoeck
Parish: St. Michael & All Angels
Nominated for: Diocesan Council – CLERGY
Provincial Synod – CLERGY
General Synod - CLERGY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this / these position(s)?

I am standing for election to General Synod because I would like to continue contributing to the work of the Anglican Church of Canada as a whole.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

- Anglican Church of Canada involvement:
 - Council of the General Synod (CoGS) Member (2025-present)
 - CoGS Member on the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada National Church Council (2025-present)
 - Territorial Archdeacon of Winnipeg – St. John (2024-present)
 - Incumbent - St. Michael & All Angels, Winnipeg (2023 - present)
 - Children's Ministry Volunteer - All Saints, Winnipeg (2022-2023)
- Episcopal Church involvement:
 - Canon for Transition Ministry - Episcopal Diocese of Idaho (2019 - 2022)
 - Co-Rector – Church of the Ascension, Twin Falls, ID (2018 – 2022)
 - Associate for Congregational Care – Saint James, Lancaster, PA (2014 - 2018)
 - Associate for Children, Youth, & Families – All Saints, Phoenix, AZ (2012 - 2014)

List areas of involvement in your community:

- 67th Winnipeg Scout Troop (Volunteer)
- Parent Advisory Committee of Ecole Laura Secord School (Volunteer)
- Galentine's Day for women in Winnipeg's North End (Volunteer)

What's a cause or idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

I am committed to continuing the work of the strategic pathways for change that the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada approved at General Synod 2025.



Name: The Rev. Rob Schoeck
Parish: All Saints, Winnipeg
Nominated for: Diocesan Council – CLERGY
Provincial Synod – CLERGY
General Synod - CLERGY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this / these position(s)?

I am standing for election to General Synod because I would like to continue contributing to the work of the Anglican Church of Canada as a whole.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

- Anglican Church of Canada involvement:
 - Chair of Synod Nominations Committee – (2026)
 - Diocesan Worship Committee – (2023 - 2024)
 - Incumbent – All Saints Church, Winnipeg (2022 - present)
- Episcopal Church involvement:
 - Standing Committee - Episcopal Diocese of Idaho (2019 - 2022)
 - Co-Rector – Church of the Ascension, Twin Falls, ID (2018 – 2022)
 - Commission on Ministry – Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania (2016 – 2018)
 - Associate for Mission and Formation – Saint James, Lancaster, PA (2014 - 2018)
 - Waterfront Director and Program Director – Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center (2003, 2004, and 2005)
 - Standing Commission on the Mission and Evangelism of the Episcopal Church (2000-2002)
 - Suffragan Bishop Search Committee - Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts (2000)
 - Diocesan Council – Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts (1998 - 2000)

List areas of involvement in your community:

- 67th Winnipeg Scout Troop (Volunteer)
- Spiritual Director – Shalem Institute (2016-2017)

What's a cause or idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

I am committed to being an active presence in any role to which I am elected, while bringing my experience as deeper listener and collaborative spirit to help further the goals of the diocese and the broader church.



Name: Phoebe Thomas
Parish: Christ Church, Selkirk
Nominated for: **Diocesan Council – LAITY**
Provincial Synod - LAITY

Why are you allowing yourself to be nominated for this / these position(s)?

I want to continue my desire for community involvement, peace building and reconciliation beyond my local church and hometown to the wider diocesan community. The objectives of this Synod resonate with my wishes for my future generations and Spiritual Growth.

List Areas (and years) of involvement at your Parish / Mission and at the Diocesan level:

I have been involved in my local church for over 30 years - Vestry, Altar Guild, Sunday School, Fundraising Committees etc. My family has been involved in Rural Anglican Churches for several Generations - starting with St Jukes Grand Marais in the 1800's.

List areas of involvement in your community:

As an active member and Metis Elder with the Manitoba Metis Federation and the Selkirk Friendship Center - I have been actively involved and lead several programs improving the lives of all our community members for many years and continue to do so.

What's a cause of idea you plan on championing during your tenure? How would you effect change for our diocese?

Improving and developing collaborative opportunities between the Anglican Church and Indigenous Communities. Developing and Leading opportunities for Reconciliation and bridge building with Indigenous groups – both withing our Church and general community.

This section may be used to add any other information you wish member of Synod to know about you - personal or other interests.

I established the Friends of Old St Jude's in Grand Marais - obtained MB Heritage Site Status and continue to lead the Non-Profit Corp. team. I was successful in fundraising for major building renovations and continued outreach to previous members and surrounding community.

Resolution B-1: Notices of Motion

Moved by: Board on Canons and Rules of Order

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [Canon](#) 18(f)(5) be amended to read:

Except with the consent of the Chair and the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of Synod present and voting, a notice of motion shall not be considered by Synod unless received by the Secretary of Synod at such time prior to the commencement of that session as the Diocesan Council shall determine.

Background:

At the April meeting of the Executive Committee meeting of Diocesan Council, the Board of Canons and Rules of Order was asked to respond to a concern raised at a Diocesan Synod Planning Meeting about the rule providing a deadline of 5pm on the first day of Synod for submissions of resolutions not found in the convening circular. Concern was raised, based on the experience of the last Synod, where a large number of motions, including some that required a lot of background, came in at the last minute. There were logistical issues for synod staff, as well as dissatisfaction around the process of last minute submissions. The task for the Board is to provide recommendations to Diocesan Council for potential canonical amendments to deal with this situation.

The Board of Canons and Rules of Order met to discuss the issue. It was our view that all motions except for procedural motions should be in the convening circular and that it is not appropriate for motions to come up at the last minute. It was felt that having motions sent out in the convening circular one month in advance was an appropriate way to deal with these motions. That being said, there was recognition that there could be a mechanism for the Synod to deal with matters of importance that arise after the publication of the convening circular.

The Board provided Diocesan Council with a draft canonical amendment to achieve this goal and received feedback from Council indicating that some flexibility was needed to permit members of Synod to submit resolutions nearer to the time of Synod, but before the beginning of a session. The wording above reflects this feedback. If this motion is adopted, Council will determine the deadline for notices of motion to be received, at each future session of Synod. Someone wishing to introduce a resolution without meeting this deadline would need to move for the rule to be suspended: this is a non-debatable motion and requires a two-thirds vote to go forward.

Resolution B-2: Land Study

Mover: The Ven. Iain Luke

Seconder: The Rev. Vincent Solomon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

This Synod direct the Diocesan Council to

- 1) develop a proposal to create a “History of the Land” for land held by parish churches, and other diocesan property
- 2) and, if Council considers it feasible, to begin to implement the proposal.

Background information:

Earlier this year the diocesan Elders & Allies group called for a History of the Land project in these words:

“Our Diocese challenged all of us to practice a Land Acknowledgment protocol every time we gather. Knowing the “History of the Land” we occupy (how church land was originally acquired) will help us better understand who the original stewards of the land are and continue to be. This will allow each congregation to create a meaningful Land Acknowledgement and see the stewardship of land in a new way. An example of how such land histories can be developed exists in the Diocese of Islands and Inlets.”

<https://bc.anglican.ca/programs/our-land-stories>

In order to move ahead with this initiative, Diocesan Council will need to explore what resources are available, both financially and in terms of skilled project leadership. We will also need to discuss criteria for doing the work, such as recognition of the need to include both oral and documentary sources, involvement of contemporary Indigenous communities, and encouraging parishes to participate in the study. The resources created in the Diocese of Islands & Inlets are a positive example, which we will need to adapt to our distinctive circumstances.

This proposal builds on the work of the Land Working Group, which studied motion C-6 from the previous synod. It may provide information which helps in allocating proceeds of land that is sold, but more importantly, it will assist parish communities and the Diocese in understanding our on-going relationship with the Land and its stewards, as Treaty people.

RULES OF ORDER FOR SESSIONS OF SYNOD

1. Decorum of Members

- (a) The Chair shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide all matters of procedure subject to an appeal to Synod to be decided without debate.
- (b) When the Chair calls a sitting of Synod to order members shall immediately cease talking and be seated.
- (c) When the Chair, during the sitting, rises for any purpose, members shall immediately cease talking and be seated.

2. Rules of Debate

- (a) A member may speak not more than once on the original motion, nor more than once on an amendment, except the mover of the original motion who shall have the right to close the debate on the original motion.
- (b) A member may speak for not more than five (5) minutes on the same motion or amendment, except the mover of an original motion who may speak for not more than ten (10) minutes in opening the debate.
- (c) A member may rise to explain if permitted by the Chair.
- (d) Members who wish to speak shall raise their hand or rise until recognized by the Chair who shall determine the order in which members address the Synod.
- (e) Members who have been recognized by the Chair shall, before addressing the Synod, rise and identify themselves by name and by parish or other affiliation.
- (f) Members may speak without first being recognized by the Chair in the following cases:
 - questions of order or privilege;
 - parliamentary enquiries;
 - objection to consideration of a motion;
 - request for recount of votes.
- (g) All debate shall be directed to or through the Chair.
- (h) Debate on any resolution and amendments thereto shall not exceed thirty minutes in total, exclusive of opening remarks by the mover, unless Synod, by majority vote, extends the time for debate. If the time for debate is not extended, only a motion to refer the pending matter is in order. If no motion to refer has been made and passed, the mover of the motion shall have the right to close the debate and Synod shall then proceed, without further debate, to vote on the resolution and any amendments thereto.

3. **Motions and Amendments**

- (a) All motions must be made and seconded by members of Synod except that motions from committees of Synod do not require seconding.
- (b) The mover and the seconder of a motion must both be present at the time the motion is moved.
- (c) The text of all amendments to motions and the names of the mover and seconder shall, wherever practicable, be given in writing to the Secretary of Synod before being introduced. Where advance notice is not practicable, the text and the names of the mover and seconder shall be given in writing to the Secretary of Synod as soon as possible after the amendment has been introduced.
- (d) A motion or an amendment, once having been moved, may be withdrawn only if the withdrawal is approved by a majority vote of Synod.
- (e) A motion may be amended by adding, deleting, or substituting specific words, phrases, or paragraphs even to the extent of substituting an entirely different motion provided it relates to the subject matter of the original motion.
- (f) Motions to amend an amendment are allowed, but may not themselves be amended.
- (g) An amendment to a main motion must be disposed of before further discussion or voting is permitted on the main motion to which it relates. This also applies to amendments of amendments.
- (h) After amendments have been disposed of, the main motion may be further amended any number of times, so long as each successive amendment is different from those already considered.
- (I) Any amendment which would merely have the effect of negating the motion - i.e., if the same effect could be achieved by defeating the motion - is out of order.
- (j) An amendment cannot introduce an independent question; but an amendment can be hostile to, or even defeat, the spirit of the original motion and still be in order.
- (k) A motion may be altered by dividing it into two or more specific parts, but such division is not in order unless each part, as divided, can stand by itself, irrespective of the other part or parts.
- (l) When any one of the following motions is immediately pending, those listed above it are in order, and those below are out of order:
 - to adjourn or recess

- questions of privilege
- point of order or parliamentary enquiry
- to suspend a rule
- to withdraw a motion
- to call for count of votes or motion to ballot
- to object to consideration
- to table
- to close, limit or extend debate
- to postpone to a certain time
- to refer
- to amend
- to postpone indefinitely
- main motion (reconsider and rescind)

(m) The following motions may not be amended:

- to adjourn
- to amend an amendment
- to close nominations
- to close debate
- to call for count of votes or motion to ballot
- to object to consideration
- to reconsider
- to suspend a rule
- to withdraw a motion
- to postpone indefinitely
- to table or take from the table

(n) The following motions are not debatable:

- to adjourn
- to consider by paragraph
- to close, limit or extend debate
- to call for count of votes or motion to ballot
- to fix the time for the next sitting
- to object to consideration
- to suspend a rule
- to withdraw a motion

- to table or take from the table

- (o) The following motions require a two-thirds majority:
 - to object to consideration
 - to close, limit or extend debate
 - to suspend a rule
 - to rescind when proper notice has not been given
 - to close nominations
 - to reconsider at the same session
 - to appeal a decision of the Chair
- (p) Rules may only be suspended temporarily for a specifically declared purpose at a specific sitting or session of Synod.
- (q) A motion to table shall only be used if it is intended by the mover to take the motion, if tabled, from the table at a later time in the same session. A motion to table may not be qualified in any way.
- (r) Any member who has not spoken on a pending question may make a motion to close debate. If adopted, such a motion has the effect of causing an immediate vote on the question to which it applies. Unless otherwise specified, it applies to the original motion and to all pending amendments. If the motion to close debate does not pass it cannot again be made with respect to the motion and amendments to which it applied without leave of the Chair. Before putting the question to a motion to close debate, the Chair shall ask if any of the persons who are then in line to speak to the pending motion has an amendment or motion to propose. Any person in line to speak, who has an amendment to propose, shall be entitled to state to Synod the text of such amendment or motion. No debate is permitted; however, questions and answers for clarification purposes may be permitted by the Chair.
- (s) A member, if not interrupting a speaker, may request that the pending motion be read.

4. **Voting and Reconsideration**

- (a) When the Chair has called for a vote on any motion or amendment, members shall immediately cease talking and be seated and, during the taking of the vote, members shall not leave the hall.
- (b) In the event of an equality of votes, the motion shall be lost.
- (c) The ordinary method of voting shall be for the Chair to first ask those in the affirmative to hold up their voting cards or to rise and then to ask those in the negative to hold up their voting cards or to rise.

- (d) Synod may direct that a vote be taken by ballot.
- (e) If it is clear from the number of affirmative votes that a motion has the requisite majority to pass, the Chair, subject to a demand for a vote count, may declare the motion to have passed without calling a vote by those in the negative.
- (f) The Chair may dispense with taking a vote provided no member objects.
- (g) The vote on the pending question is not official until the Chair has announced the results of the vote.
- (h) A motion, once dealt with at a session may not be reconsidered at the same session without the consent of the Chair and with the consent of a two-thirds majority vote of the members.

5. **Committee Reports**

- (a) Committees of Synod shall report in writing to sessions of Synod.
- (b) Reports to Synod shall be presented and discussed, but not read.
- (c) The following motions are in order with respect to a report presented to sittings of Synod:
 - to receive
 - to table
 - to take as read
 - to consider as a whole or clause by clause
 - to refer back for reconsideration or amendment
 - to refer to another committee
 - to file, enter in the Minutes, print or publish
 - to adopt
 - to reject
- (d) A motion to adopt a report shall be deemed to refer only to the recommendations contained in the report unless otherwise specifically indicated.
- (e) When a report recommends that an action be taken, in order to give the proposition practical effect, a distinct corresponding substantive motion must be appended or a notice thereof must be given in the report.

6. **Minutes of Proceedings of Synod**

- (a) Except in the case of members who claim a conflict of interest, names of members abstaining shall not be entered in the minutes of the proceedings of Synod.

- (b) In respect of a motion, only the names of the mover and seconder shall be entered in the minutes of the proceedings of Synod.
- (c) Any member may require that the minutes of the proceedings of Synod show the number of affirmative and negative votes on any question.

7. **Address from the Bishop**

The Bishop may address the Synod at any time.

8. **Supplementary Rules of Order**

Roberts "Rules of Order" shall be used in respect of procedures not expressly provided for in these Rules of Order.