

63rd SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF EDMONTON
October 12th and 13th, 2012
DRAFT Minutes of Proceedings
As they will be presented to the 64th Synod for approval.

Friday, October 12, 2012

The 63rd Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton opened with Eucharist, which included the Bishop's Charge. The meeting followed the service.

Chair – Right Reverend Jane Alexander, Bishop

1. Opening Prayer

The Chair opened the proceedings of the 63rd Synod with prayer.

2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:59p.m.

3. Guests

The Chair welcomed and introduced a number of guests who would be with us over the two days. The Chair stated that some of them will be speaking, or leading the singing, or interacting in various ways. They were:

- a. Ven. Michael Thompson, General Secretary of the Anglican Church of Canada
- b. Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer – Assistant to the Bishop, Alberta and the Territories, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
- c. Julien Hammond – bringing greetings on behalf of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese
- d. Jim Allen – “5 minutes of passion” on one of the Marks of Mission
- e. Arlette Zinck – “5 minutes of passion” on another of the Marks of Mission
- f. John Leung and Michelle Poon – Fair Trade presentation
- g. Delyle Polet – leading us in music for morning worship tomorrow
- h. Alana Levandowski – leading us in music throughout the day tomorrow
- i. Sister Mary Clare – Welcome Home program
- j. Richelle Malarsky – working the computer for Powerpoint presentations
- k. John Belamisca – local arrangements chair

4. Report of the Credentials Committee

The Reverend Scott Sharman reported that there were 111 members of the clergy eligible to attend this Synod, and 76 had registered, thus there is more than 1/3 of the members of the Order of Clergy present and a quorum in the Order of Clergy.

Mrs. Sarah Kemp reported that there were 189 members of the laity eligible to attend this Synod, and 153 had registered, thus there is more than 1/3 of the members of the Order of Laity present and a quorum in the Order of Laity.

5. Report of the Agenda Committee

Barbara Burrows, Chair of the Synod Agenda Committee, reported that the agenda was



included in the Convening Circular, and could be found on pages 6 and 7. Unlike in previous years, it was noted that the elections would be that evening instead of during the day following. Barbara noted that this would also give the scrutineers the opportunity to take part in the Synod proceedings Barbara noted a slight change in order of the agenda for the evening, with the Nominating Committee report following at that time, rather than later in the evening as indicated on the published agenda.

MOTION: Barbara Burrows moved that the agenda for the 63rd Synod be adopted as published. Seconded by Venerable Lee Bezanson.

MOTION CARRIED.

6. Report of the Nominating Committee

The Venerable Lee Bezanson reported that the updated Nominating Committee report had been sent out on Monday, October 1st. This list of nominations was dated September 28th, the deadline for nominations. The first report was included in the Convening Circular, which was sent out on the 27th of September, but some later nominations came in on the 28th. Ven. Lee Bezanson thanked all those members who let their names stand on committees and for Synods and he also thanked the members of the nominating committee for their diligent work leading up to the proceedings.

An error was brought to the delegates' attention – the elections for the Clerical Recorder and the Lay Recorder (at the bottom of the page) should have been noted to have been for the NEXT Synod – the 64th Synod, and not for this, the 63rd Synod.

It was announced that elections for the following positions would be held that evening:

- Executive Council – Edmonton West (Clergy)
- Executive Council – Battle River, Cold Lake (Laity)
- General Synod – Clergy and Laity and Youth Delegate
- Provincial Synod – Clergy and Laity

And, unless there are further nominations, there would not be elections for the following positions:

- Executive Council – Battle River, Cold Lake, Whitemud, Yellowhead (Clergy)
- Executive Council – Edmonton West, Whitemud, Yellowhead (Laity)
- Provincial Synod – Youth Delegate
- Diocesan Court – Clergy and Laity
- Clerical Recorder and Lay Recorder

The nominees would be acclaimed.

It was also noted that the slate is not full, with a vacancy remaining for Executive Council – Edmonton West (Laity).

MOTION: The Venerable Lee Bezanson moved that the final report of the Nominating Committee be accepted, noting there remained a vacancy in Lay member for Executive Council from Edmonton West. Seconded by Barbara Burrows.

MOTION CARRIED.



Amy Croy nominated Graeme Byer for General Synod (Youth Delegate) and Graham Ward for Provincial Synod (Youth Delegate). According to the Constitution, late nominations can be accepted with the consent of Synod.

MOTION: Amy Croy moved that the late nominations be accepted. Seconded by Lynne Otteson.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Minutes of the 62nd Synod

The Chair informed the Synod that the minutes of the 62nd Synod had been distributed to members (Appendix I of the Convening Circular) and their acceptance must be moved and seconded by persons who were in attendance at that Synod.

MOTION: Rev. Canon Travis Enright moved that the Minutes of the 62nd Synod be approved as published in the Convening Circular. Seconded by Rev. Canon Maureen Crerar.

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Presentation – Planning Feasibility Study (Mission Funding)

A meeting with M&M Funding group took place earlier this year. The consultants had observed a number of outcomes in their face to face interviews with members of the diocese concerning support towards Rural Ministry Initiative, Indigenous Ministry and Leaders in Mission components. It was reported that the feedback from the interviews was generally positive with many people willing and ready to become involved in the campaign. Based on the feedback received and their professional judgment the consultants had made a number of recommendations for the diocese to consider. One of these recommendations was that the diocese strike a working group to “begin the preparation and readiness tasks of the campaign,” as a starting point.

MOTION: The Very Reverend Neil Gordon moved that the Diocese proceed with a Mission Funding Campaign as recommended in the Planning Feasibility Study Final Report prepared by M&M International, and that the Synod request the Bishop to appoint a Financial Stewardship Initiative Working Group (FSIWG) as described in that report. Seconded by Bob Fessenden. The motion was debated.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. Receiving of Reports

The Chair announced that the reports included in the Circular were presented for reception by the delegates with questions to be entertained during Saturday’s session. It was noted that there was one name missing in the list of Bishop’s Youth Appointees on page 69 of the Circular – Jean Porter, from St. Mary’s Edmonton, Cold Lake Region. The reports were presented for reception by the members.



MOTION: Reverend Elizabeth Metcalfe moved that the reports be received as published. Seconded by Cathy Armstrong.

MOTION CARRIED.

10. Appointment of Accounts Examiner

Jeremy Webster, Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee, reported that the Audited Financial Statements (Review Engagement Report) for 2011, as approved by Executive Council, were included in the Convening Circular, Appendix 4. He referred to sections C120 and C122 of the Constitution with regard to the appointment of a chartered accountant.

MOTION: Jeremy Webster moved that the firm of Grant Thornton, Chartered Accountants, of Edmonton, Alberta, be elected to serve as Diocesan Accountants. Seconded by Stephen Heritage.

MOTION CARRIED.

11. Report of the Resolutions Committee

Brian Burrows, Chair of the Resolutions Committee and Chancellor of the Diocese, reported that the Resolutions Committee had received 11 resolutions for consideration at this 63rd Synod. This included 2 resolutions from the Report of the Legislative Committee. He noted that the Report of the Legislative Committee was included in the Convening Circular, and would be presented during the Saturday business session. Resolutions G-7 and G-8 were published without the name of the person seconding them. He noted that the motions were seconded by Rev. Maddie Urion.

12. Appointment of Elections Officer and Scrutineers

The Chair appointed Diann Bowes as Elections Officer, and Dwight Bliss, Ingrid Dandanell, Peter Frigon, Karen Robinson, Lloyd Ropchan, and David Winfield to be scrutineers for voting.

The Chair invited Diann to lead the Synod through the balloting process.

13. Balloting Procedure Explained

Diann Bowes explained in detail the process for voting, adding the names of Graeme Byer for Youth Delegate for General Synod and Graham Ward for Youth Delegate for Provincial Synod. Every member registered was entitled to vote. Any type of vote mark would be counted as a vote. Balloting would close half an hour after the end of tonight's meeting. A "non-vote" will not be considered a spoiled ballot if there are empty spaces on the ballot.

14. Announcements

Barbara Burrows acknowledged Impark for extending free parking for that evening in the lot next door.

The Bishop's Charge will be sent to all registered members by email and will be posted on



the web.

Delegates were reminded that Synod would reconvene the following day at St. Matthias with coffee and muffins at 8:00; Morning Worship would be in the hall beginning at 8:30; and the call to order at 9:00. Barbara explained the seating plan, so that everyone was prepared, noting that Synod delegates' name tags were marked with a number. Delegates were requested, on Saturday morning, to sit at the table whose number corresponds with the number on their name tag. Barbara also reminded delegates to wear their name tags throughout the proceedings.

Barbara extended a heartfelt thanks to those who offered billets for that evening to out-of-town delegates. Those who offered billets and those who requested to be billeted were instructed to meet in the hall immediately after the adjournment to be matched up.

It was suggested that delegates bring their laptops or iPad to Saturday's proceedings, however they were warned that electrical plug-ins are at a premium. Delegates were also encouraged to download an electronic version of the Circular to their devices, rather than relying on it through the internet at St. Matthias.

15. Closing Prayers and Recess for the Day

The Chair closed the session in prayer, and the Synod recessed at 9.59 p.m.



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Saturday, October 13th, 2012 at St. Matthias

Morning Prayer was led by Dean Neil Gordon, with music led by Delyle Polet.

16. Call to Order and Opening Prayer

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:15 am.

17. Report of the Credentials Committee

The Reverend Scott Sharman and Mrs. Sarah Kemp announced the number of members of the Synod registered that day: 78 of the 111 members of the Order of Clergy were present, thus a quorum was present; and 163 of 189 members of the Order of Laity were present, also sufficient for a quorum. The total number of members present was 241 out of a total possible of 300.

18. Greetings from Buyé

A video recorded greeting was shared with the Synod from Bishop Sixbert Macumi from our partner diocese, the Diocese of Buyé.

19. Mark of Mission #2 – to teach, baptize and nurture new believers.

Alana Levendowski led the Synod in a song, and the Bishop shared scripture, followed by a prayer.

20. Presentation – Youth Day

Lauren Vanderhout announced the upcoming Bishop's Youth Day to take place on Saturday, October 20, 2012, from 10am to 8pm at St. Matthew's, St. Albert. She requested that the members of Synod encourage youth to come and represent different parts of the diocese and to allow them to feel part of a body bigger than their local parish. Bishop's Youth Day is for youth in the Diocese in Grades 7 – 12.

21. Report of the Elections Committee

Diann Bowes, Elections Officer, presented the results of the balloting from Friday night. Number of ballots cast was 222.

In the report below, * indicates persons elected by acclamation.



General Synod (four clergy, four laity, one youth)

Clergy: Rick Chapman
Travis Enright
Neil Gordon
Chelsy Stevens
1st Alt: Nick Trussell
2nd Alt: Chris Pappas

Laity: Dennis Gushuliak
Ruth Heine
Stephen Martin
Ruth Wasylyshyn
1st Alt. Tied: Dorothy Marshall
Sue Trenchard

Youth: Devon Goldie
Alt: Terin Kinasewich

Provincial Synod (four clergy, three laity, one youth)

Clergy: Cameron Burns
Tim Chesterton
Jonathan Crane
Stephen London
1st Alt: Colleen Sanderson
2nd Alt: Ron Horst

Laity: Sally Harrison
Ken Holmstrom
Ruth Wasylyshyn
1st Alt: Sue Trenchard

Youth: Terin Kinasewich
Alt: Graham Ward

Diocesan Executive Council: (one clergy and two laity from each region)

Region

Battle River

Clergy

Chelsy Stevens *

Laity

Ruth Heine
Dan McCosh
Mary-Lou Cleveland
Curtis Whale
Leonard Gould *

Cold Lake

Rick Chapman *

Edmonton West

Donna Willer

Whitemud

Nick Trussell *

Lorne Halabisky *
Barb Stokoe *
Judy Kesanko *
Fran Peacock *

Yellowhead

Quinn Strikwerda *

Synod Recorders: (one clergy, one laity)

Clergy: Susan Oliver-Martin * **Laity:** Judy Kesanko *

Diocesan Court: (2 clergy, 2 laity – one member of the Law Society of Alberta)

Clergy: Lee Bezanson * **Laity:** Mary-Lou Cleveland *
Susan Oliver-Martin * Ken Holmstrom * (Law Society Member)

MOTION: Diann Bowes moved that the election results for the 63rd Synod be accepted and the ballots destroyed. Seconded by Peter Frigon.

MOTION CARRIED.



22. Brief Report

a. Canadian Bible Society – Rev. Chuck Mortimer

The Canadian Bible Society had to close their Book Store in Edmonton as it was costing \$60,000 per year of donor dollars to keep it open. They are now operating a Resource Centre on 53 Avenue where they are able to supply bibles for outreach ministries – at no cost to the user. They are very happy to supply scripture for outreach ministries and, to stay in touch, the new Director of Ministry, Marvin Busenius, will assist all with their requests and inquiries.

23. Presentation - Demographics

Neil Calhoun from the Administration and Finance Committee gave a presentation on how the Diocese of Edmonton is positioned given the city of Edmonton's significant growth. He informed the Synod that in the last ten years the city had grown annually by 12,000 people. Neil noted that there will be an explosive rise in numbers of single families in the Northeast, West and Southeast sides of the city over the next six years. In looking at the locations of Anglican churches in this diocese the majority of the parishes are situated in the inner city, around the downtown core. The people within the communities that have experienced growth over the last 20-30 years have had fewer parishes from a locationally-convenient geographic perspective and the people in communities forecasted to "explode" in huge proportions will have to travel even further to find an Anglican parish. These details led to the question – is this a reality which is acceptable or does the Edmonton Diocese need to consider planting some new Anglican parishes to attend to these growing populations?

24. Brief reports

a. Natural Church Development

John Bloxham gave an update on Natural Church Development. NCD is a tool that has been developed over the past decade, based on research, independent of denomination, culture and ethnicity, and begins with a survey. This survey is based on the finding that there are many different types of personalities involved in our churches, and finding the balance between and recognizing the difference in preferences between the 3 main types (Spiritual or Faith based, Fellowship, and Service) is paramount in building a healthy congregation.

To date in our diocese there are 15 parishes in Pilot Projects which are 3 years in length. Two parishes continue to use NCD on an on-going basis. The Diocese has 10 coaches to date and we are looking for more if interest is there.

b. Stewardship Committee

David Barnum, chair of the Diocesan Stewardship Committee, reminded the members of Synod of the ministry and importance of Stewardship in our congregations. Resources can be found on the Diocesan Website. These resources will inspire and provide basic help for all stewardship efforts.

There will also be workshops available to discuss the book *Ask, Thank, Tell* in Lent, March 2013. The Stewardship Committee is here to assist you in your stewardship campaign planning and answer any questions you have. Contact stewardship@anglican.edmonton.ca.



25. Legislative Committee:

a. Resolution L-2 Stewardship – To amend the Constitution – Stewardship and Financial Development Committee

MOTION: David Barnum moved that the Constitution of the Diocese of Edmonton be amended as follows:

1. As to s. C89 by deleting the words “and Financial Development” so that the section reads as follows:
C89 There shall be a Standing Committee of the Executive Council which shall be called the Stewardship Committee.
2. As to s. C93 by repealing subsections (b) and (d) and amending and re-lettering the remaining subsections so that the section reads as follows:
C93 The Committee shall:
 - (a) through stewardship education, encourage awareness and understanding of the theology of stewardship, and of its biblical foundations,
 - (b) provide assistance to Parishes in the area of stewardship by offering encouragement, resource materials, and personal help,
 - (c) advise the Bishop, Executive Council and other bodies within the Diocese on matters of stewardship policy or program and future planning,
 - (d) co-ordinate Diocesan Stewardship Programs and the activities of the Committee with the activities of the Stewardship Office of the National Church and of similar bodies in other Dioceses.
3. The heading before s. C89 shall be amended to read, “Stewardship Committee”.

Seconded by Rev. Joanne Webster.

Voting by Orders, the results were:

MOTION CARRIED in the Order of the Laity by greater than 2/3 majority.

MOTION CARRIED in the Order of the Clergy by greater than 2/3 majority.

b. Resolution L-1, Canon 4 – Lay Ministry

MOTION: Rev. Cameron Burns moved that Canon 4: Lay Leadership in Worship be repealed and the revised Canon 4: Lay Ministry be adopted in substitution for it.

Seconded by Dorothy Mitchell.

MOTION CARRIED. (see Appendix 1 for wording of the new Canon)

26. Mark of Mission #5 – to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Alana Levendowski led the Synod in a song; the Bishop shared a scripture passage and a prayer.

27. Presentation – Fair Trade

Michelle Poon and John Leung from the University of Alberta, Make Poverty History Student Group gave a detailed presentation on Fair Trade, the benefits of supporting Fair



Trade companies and farmers world-wide and how to identify which products are fair trade and which are not.

Resolution G-1 on Fair Trade

MOTION: Ven. Chris Pappas moved that the Diocese of Edmonton become a “Fair Trade Diocese” by:

1. Whenever possible, purchasing and using goods bearing a Fair Trade or equivalent identification, at events organized or sponsored by the Diocese. Without limiting the generality the Diocese will follow these Fair Trade practices in the purchase of coffee, tea, chocolate, and fruit.
2. Promoting awareness among the people of the Diocese of the conditions and needs of impoverished farming and artisan communities around the world, and a genuine commitment to helping them.
3. Fostering awareness among the people of the Diocese of these Fair Trade practices as a means of living out the Marks of Mission.
4. Encouraging the parishes of the Diocese to purchase and use Fair Trade or equivalent goods whenever possible.

Seconded by Very Rev. Neil Gordon.

The motion was debated.

MOTION CARRIED.

5 Minutes of Passion on the 5th Mark of Mission

Jim Allen shared his experience of being a working Christian and how he has lived out this mark of mission in his career. This had been made manifest in the program and case study of the “Return of the Peregrine” which focused on the impact of DDT on Peregrine Falcons. DDT affects the production of young and result in a decline in re-creation of young. Through this case study and program, there was a shift in attitude, understanding, thinking and compassion toward this species within Canada.

28. Announcements

Barbara Burrows announced that after the coffee break, we will hear of another mark of mission from Arlette Zinck. She has brought some booklets with her which are available for each of the Synod Members. More can be collected by speaking to Barb and Arlette.

29. Mark of Mission #4 – to seek to transform unjust structures of society.

Alana Levendowski led the Synod in the singing of “When the Saints go Marching In”, followed by a reading from scripture and prayer from the Bishop.

5 Minutes of Passion on the 4th Mark of Mission

Dr. Arlette Zinck presented a testimonial of how the fourth mark of mission was made manifest in her participation with the Kings’ University College in the Omar Khadr Case.

30. Presentation – Micah Challenge and Stand Up Sunday

The youth delegates gave a presentation in the form of a skit on the Micah Challenge and



Stand Up Sunday.

Resolution G-4 on Stand Up

MOTION: Graham Ward moved that the Synod encourage the parishes of the Diocese to participate in the Micah Challenge's Stand Up Sunday on October 14th, 2012, to take a stand against global poverty. Seconded by Emily Wold.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

Rev. Kevin Kraglund moved that the motion be amended to read "that the Diocese of Edmonton take part in the Micah Challenge's Stand Up Sunday, *starting* on October 14, 2012, *and in successive years* to take a stand against global poverty." Seconded by Rev. Michael Williamson.

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

MOTION AS AMENDED:

That the Synod encourage the parishes of the Diocese to participate in the Micah Challenge's Stand Up Sunday on October 14th, 2012, and in successive years to take a stand against global poverty.

The motion was debated.

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED.

31. Human Sexuality Report and Table Groups

The Chair introduced the topic of the human sexuality discussions that took place throughout a number of months in each of the deaneries. The comments from these meetings were recorded and compiled, and a summary report was written, to be reviewed at this Synod. The Chair invited the tables to discuss the Human Sexuality Report that was distributed prior to the proceedings of the Synod.

32. Announcements and Break for Lunch

Barbara Burrows made announcements about lunch procedures.

Rev. Dr. Myron Penner announced a new lecture series taking place in the Diocese on "The Church after Christianity." Presenters will include Rev. Scott Sharman, and Dr. Stephen Martin, with responses from Bishop Jane, Rev. Dr. Joanne Neal and Mrs. Krista Dowdeswell.

Rev. Tim Chesterton announced an upcoming event on Friday, November 16, 2012 at St. Matthias, in support of a new building project at St. Margaret's in Edmonton.

33. Mark of Mission #1 – to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.

Alana Levendowski led the Synod in a song, followed by reading of scripture and prayer from the Bishop.

5 Minutes of Passion on the 1st Mark of Mission

Devon Goldie shared with the members of Synod the ways in which she lives out the first



mark of mission through her passion on Social Justice and Youth Ministry in the diocese and as part of the wider church.

34. Brief reports

a. Cursillo

Rev. Nick Trussell and Dennis Gushuliak briefly presented the ministry of Cursillo in the Diocese of Edmonton and invited members of Synod to participate. Applications and sponsorship forms were made available for those interested in attending or sponsoring others to attend.

b. Education For Ministry

Rev. Steve Hallford presented to the Synod information on Education For Ministry (EFM), a four year process of study and education in the diocese for Laity. Information can be collected from Rev. Stephen Hallford who is the current Chaplain to the EFM Program.

35. Presentation – Lay Evangelist Program

Rev. Tim Chesterton presented on the topic of Licensed Evangelists. Presently existing in dioceses in the Church of England, the ministry of Licensed Evangelists is a ministry of volunteer lay ministers who reach out beyond the borders of church life to communicate the gospel, and help other church members to do the same.

Rev. Chesterton shared observations that he made after spending time in the Church of England in the summer and being in contact and conversation with many licensed evangelists. He also described what a training program for Licensed Evangelists would look like, which could include a two year pattern of Christian Study covering such topics as the bible, church history, creeds, pastoral care, worship, ethics, mission, evangelism and leadership.

Resolution G-2 on Licensed Lay Evangelists

MOTION: The Rev. Tim Chesterton moved that this Synod request the Bishop to proceed as soon as possible with the development of a program to recruit, train and deploy licensed lay evangelists to work in our communities on a volunteer basis to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. Seconded by Rev. Don Aellen.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION:

Rev. Kevin Kraglund moved that the motion be amended to read: That this Synod request the Bishop to *explore the possibilities of developing a program as soon as possible* to recruit, train and deploy licensed lay evangelists to work in our communities on a volunteer basis to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. Seconded by Ursula Stewart.

AMENDMENT DEFEATED.

The motion was debated.

ORIGINAL MOTION CARRIED.



36. Greetings from Ecumenical Partners

- a. Julien Hammond, Associate Director of the Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton brought greetings to the Synod on behalf of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese and their bishop.
- b. Rev. Larry Kochendorfer, Assistant to the Bishop, of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada brought greetings to the Synod from the ELCIC and their bishop.

37. Human Sexuality Report and Resolutions

- a. **PROCEDURAL MOTION:** Rev. Nick Trussell moved that when resolutions G3 and G8 come to a vote:
 1. That the votes be conducted by confidential written ballot.
 2. That for those votes Rule 7.15 of Canon 7 Rules of Order of the Synod be suspended.

Seconded by Stephen Martin.

PROCEDURAL MOTION CARRIED.

- b. **PROCEDURAL MOTION:** Stephen Martin moved that during the debate of the following five motions there be no observers of this discussion. (Resolutions G-3, G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8)
Seconded by Kenn Tuckey.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

Jemima Christian moved that the Synod permit our guests to observe the debate, but to exclude all persons who are not guests from the discussion. Seconded by Rev. Kevin Kraglund.

AMENDMENT DEFEATED.

ORIGINAL PROCEDURAL MOTION DEFEATED.

- c. **PROCEDURAL MOTION:** Rev. Don Aellen moved that:
 1. Resolution G3 be dealt with immediately after Resolution G8,
 2. Resolution G8 be dealt with next on the Agenda.

Seconded by Rev. Maddie Urion.

PROCEDURAL MOTION CARRIED.

- d. **Resolution G-8 on Theological Response – Need to Preserve Unity and Recognize Diversity**

MOTION: Rev. Don Aellen moved that Synod recommend to the Bishop, that she, in concert with the diocesan clergy:

1. Develop a comprehensive and rigorous theological response to the extracts from the House of Bishops' Statement of April 20, 2007, as included in the Bishop's report. Such theological response would address the way in which the recommendations of the House of Bishops are understood to comport with the



- fullness of scripture, tradition, and reason, as exercised within the Diocese of Edmonton, with respect to the whole Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.
2. Use the theological response so developed to inform:
 - a. A recommendation as to the shape of any rite regarding the blessing of a same-sex relationship, and
 - b. A proposal for a mechanism for the preservation of unity within the Diocese should such a blessing be authorized in this Diocese.
 3. Report the results of the discernment to the next Synod, at which time Synod would vote on any recommendation.

Seconded by Rev. Maddie Urion.

The motion was debated.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

Very Rev. Neil Gordon, moved to amend G-8 as to section 3 to read: “Report the results of *this* discernment to *Executive Council prior to the next General Synod.*”

Seconded by Ven. Chris Pappas.

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

PROCEDURAL MOTION: Karen Robinson moved that the question be called.

Seconded by David Winfield.

PROCEDURAL MOTION CARRIED.

AMENDED MOTION:

That Synod recommend to the Bishop, that she, in concert with the diocesan clergy:

1. Develop a comprehensive and rigorous theological response to the extracts from the House of Bishops’ Statement of April 20, 2007, as included in the Bishop’s report. Such theological response would address the way in which the recommendations of the House of Bishops are understood to comport with the fullness of scripture, tradition, and reason, as exercised within the Diocese of Edmonton, with respect to the whole Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.
2. Use the theological response so developed to inform:
 - a. A recommendation as to the shape of any rite regarding the blessing of a same-sex relationship, and
 - b. A proposal for a mechanism for the preservation of unity within the Diocese should such a blessing be authorized in this Diocese.
3. Report the results of this discernment to Executive Council prior to the next General Synod.

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED.

e. Resolution G-3 on Blessing Same-Gender Committed Unions

Very Rev. Neil Gordon moved that Synod request the Bishop to grant permission to any clergy who may wish to offer prayers of blessing for covenanted same-gender



relationships.

Seconded by Ven. Chris Pappas

VOTE BY ORDERS:

Rev. Michael Williamson advised that 5 members of the Order of Clergy and 5 members of the Order of Laity, all of whom he identified by name, demanded that the vote of Resolution G-3 be by order. The Chair noted that the request complied with Constitution s.C45 and ruled that this vote on Resolution G-3 would be by orders of Clergy and Laity voting, by confidential secret ballot, and separately.

AMENDMENT:

Rev. Quinn Strikwerda moved that the word “covenanted” be replaced by the words “civilly-married”.

Seconded by Rev. Canon Gwen Bright.

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

MOTION for REFERRAL

Rev. Matthew Oliver moved that resolution G-3 be referred to a special committee to study if the resolution is within the authority of this Diocesan Synod to decide. The special committee members would have expertise in canon law, theology and ecclesiology, reflect the make-up of the Diocese, and hold hearings to receive submissions on the question prior to making a reasoned, written report to the Bishop. Seconded by Rev. Don Aellen.

MOTION for REFERRAL DEFEATED.

The motion was debated.

PROCEDURAL MOTION: Ven. Michael Rolph moved that the question be called. Seconded by Adam Conway.

PROCEDURAL MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION AS AMENDED:

That Synod request the Bishop to grant permission to any clergy who may wish to offer prayers of blessing for civilly married same-gender relationships.

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED – Order of Clergy (50 for; 22 against)

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED – Order of Laity (114 for; 35 against)

MOTION: Diann Bowes moved that the ballots be destroyed. Seconded by Ven. Alan Perry.

MOTION CARRIED.



f. Resolution G-5 on Policy and Resources for Conversations on Human Sexuality

Rev. Chris Roth moved that the Diocese of Edmonton take action, coordinated by the Bishop and Executive Council, and in consultation with parents and youth, to:

1. Develop an ongoing policy to address the Church's responsibility to facilitate conversations between parents and their children, the church and parents, and the church and youth on the topic of human sexuality, and
2. Produce resources for clergy, parents and youth that will encourage and facilitate such conversations.

Seconded by Rev. Jon Crane.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

Shirley Fordice moved that the word "produce" in section 2 be changed to "provide".

Seconded by Lorne Halabisky.

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

MOTION AS AMENDED:

That the Diocese of Edmonton take action, coordinated by the Bishop and Executive Council, and in consultation with parents and youth, to:

1. Develop an ongoing policy to address the Church's responsibility to facilitate conversations between parents and their children, the church and parents, and the church and youth on the topic of human sexuality, and
2. Provide resources for clergy, parents and youth that will encourage and facilitate such conversations.

The motion was debated.

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED.

g. Resolution G-6 on Pastoral Response to the Aloneness and Isolation of Single People

MOTION: Mary-Lou Cleveland moved that this Synod requests the Executive Council to set up a task force to investigate how we as a church can equip clergy and lay people to respond pastorally to the needs of single people and to develop discipleship models that engage their particular circumstances of aloneness and isolation.

Seconded by Rev. Canon Travis Enright.

AMENDMENT:

Rev. Kevin Kraglund moved that the words "widowed, and divorced..." be added to the motion. Seconded by Rev. Elizabeth Metcalfe.

AMENDMENT DEFEATED.

AMENDMENT:

Rev. Tim Chesterton moved that "Executive Council" be deleted and that "Bishop" be inserted as a replacement. Seconded by Very Rev. Neil Gordon.

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

AMENDMENT:

Mary-Lou Cleveland moved that the words "aloneness and isolation" be removed from



the motion. Seconded by Rev. Canon Travis Enright.

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

The motion was debated.

MOTION AS AMENDED:

That this Synod requests the Bishop to set up a task force to investigate how we as a church can equip clergy and lay people to respond pastorally to the needs of single people and to develop discipleship models that engage their particular circumstances.

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED.

h. Resolution G-7 on Pastoral Response to Report on Human Sexuality Discussion Issues

MOTION: The Rev. Don Aellen moved that Synod recommend to the Bishop, that she, in concert with the diocesan clergy, develop a shared and unified pastoral response to each of the following issues arising out of the Report of Human Sexuality Discussions:

1. Christian parenting,
2. Sexuality in youth and children,
3. Marriage preparation and ongoing support,
4. Responding to those who are single,
5. Spousal abuse and family violence.

The pastoral response would include the development and sharing of pastoral and spiritual resources, and would provide for clergy to be formed in the use of such resources in the course of their ministries. Seconded by Rev. Maddie Urion.

The motion was debated.

MOTION CARRIED.

38. Mark of Mission #3 – to respond to human need by loving service.

Alana Levendowski led the members of Synod in a song, followed by a reading and prayer from the Bishop.

5 Minutes of Passion on the 3rd Mark of Mission:

Sheila Moorey described her participation in the community dinners at the Anglican Parish of Christ Church and how that helps her to respond to human need by loving service.

39. Brief reports

a. Inner City Pastoral Ministry

Rev. Rick Chapman updated the members of Synod on the pastoral ministry, programs and presence of the Inner City Pastoral Ministry in the Diocese of Edmonton.

b. Welcome Home Program

Sister Mary Clare provided information about the program Welcome Home which is in partnership with the Inner City Pastoral Ministry. This program provides an



opportunity for community between newly housed individuals to create strong relationships in the new community in which they find themselves. Volunteers are always needed for this ministry.

c. Diocesan Advisory and Response Team

Lois McLean reminded the members of Synod of the function of the Diocesan Advisory Response Team (DART).

40. Report on our Partnership with the Diocese of Buyé

Bishop Jane, Ven. Alan Perry, Rev. Canon Travis Enright and Rev. Quinn Strikwerda shared with the members of Synod about our partnership with our sister diocese, the Diocese of Buyé, and their recent visits to Burundi. Their presentation included how the Diocese of Buyé has been living out the Marks of Mission through projects in their diocese that were joyfully apparent to them. More stories and pictures may be read and seen on the blog at edmontonbuye.blogspot.ca.

41. Greetings from General Secretary, Anglican Church of Canada

The Ven. Michael Thompson, General Secretary of the Anglican Church of Canada, offered greetings to the Diocese of Edmonton from the National Church.

42. Report on Diocesan Centennial

Kathryn Ivany reported that the kick off for the Diocesan Centennial is scheduled to take place on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2013. The Centennial is a time to celebrate and rejoice, but also to reflect, regroup and look forward. The Centennial Committee will also, in the interim, be gathering stories of our spiritual journeys as individuals, congregations and a diocese. Some will be shared on the website, in publications or exhibits. Delegates were asked to share stories of time in the diocese by contacting Karen Simon at karenesimons@shaw.ca. Documents or photos to be displayed should be coordinated through Kathryn Ivany.

43. Announcements

Barbara Burrows reminded delegates to drop off their name tags in the boxes at the exit so they can be reused.

44. Acts of Synod and Bishop's Assent

The Chair declared her assent to the Acts of the 63rd Synod.

45. Prorogation

The Bishop prorogued Synod at 6.30pm



63rd SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF EDMONTON
October 12th and 13th, 2012
DRAFT Minutes of Proceedings
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Appendix 1

Resolution L-1 - Canon on Lay Ministry

Moved by: Rev. Cameron Burns

Seconded by: Dorothy Mitchell

Be it resolved:

That *Canon 4: Lay Leadership in Worship* be repealed and the following *Canon 4: Lay Ministry* be adopted in substitution for it.

CANON 4

LAY MINISTRY

Lay Leadership in Parish Worship and Ministry

4.1 Subject to the direction and supervision of the Bishop and subject to this Canon, the Incumbent of a Parish may authorize lay leadership and involvement in:

- a) any aspect of Divine Worship not required by the Rubrics of the Prayer Book or other authorized liturgy or by Canon or equivalent authority to be undertaken exclusively by a member of the Clergy.
- b) any Parish ministry not required by Canon or equivalent authority to undertaken by a member of the Clergy.

4.2 The Incumbent of a Parish shall ensure:

- a) that persons authorized pursuant to section 4.1 are properly qualified for, and instructed in the function for which they are authorized.
- b) that all lay leadership of Parish ministry complies with all applicable Diocesan policies and standards.



Licensed Lay Ministry

4.3 The Bishop may in accordance with this Canon license lay persons to minister in the capacity of:

- a) Lay Administrants
- b) Lay Readers
- c) Lay Pastoral Visitors

4.4 A lay person holding the license of the Bishop issued pursuant to this Canon may carry on the ministry authorized by the license only:

- a) in the Parish of which the licensee is a member, and
- b) subject to the direction of the Incumbent of that Parish and such policies and guidelines as may from time to time be approved by the Bishop for the particular lay ministry authorized by the license.

Lay Administrants

4.5 The Bishop may license Lay Administrants upon nomination of the proposed licensee by the Incumbent and Vestry of the Parish of which the nominee is a member.

4.6 A license issued by the Bishop to a Lay Administrant shall authorize the licensee to administer the consecrated bread and wine to communicants during a celebration of Holy Communion, subject to the direction of the celebrant.

4.7 The licence of a Lay Administrant:

- a) shall be for a specified period,
- b) may, with the approval of the Incumbent and Vestry of the Parish, be renewed by the Bishop, for a further specified period, and
- c) may be revoked by the Bishop after consultation with the Incumbent of the Parish.

Lay Readers

4.8 The Bishop may licence Lay Readers upon nomination of the proposed licensee by the Incumbent and Vestry of the Parish of which the nominee is a member.

4.9 A license issued by the Bishop to a Lay Reader shall authorize the licensee to lead congregational worship in the Parish in accordance with guidelines for the ministry of Lay Readers in the Diocese of Edmonton approved by the Bishop.

4.10 The licence of a Lay Reader:



- a) shall be for a specified period,
- b) may, with the approval of the Incumbent and Vestry of the Parish, be renewed by the Bishop, for a further specified period, and
- c) may be revoked by the Bishop after consultation with the Incumbent of the Parish and the Chaplain of Lay Readers.

Chaplain of Lay Readers

4.11 The Bishop shall appoint a member of the Clergy of the Diocese as Chaplain of Lay Readers.

4.12 The term of office of the Chaplain of Lay Readers shall be at the pleasure of the Bishop.

4.13 The Chaplain of Lay Readers shall:

- a) give leadership and guidance to the Lay Readers of the Diocese,
- b) coordinate the training and continuing education of the Lay Readers of the Diocese,
- c) advise the Bishop, as requested, as to the suitability of a person seeking to be licensed or proposed to be nominated to be a Lay Reader.
- d) after consultation with the Bishop, and with the approval of the Bishop, revise and update the *Manual of Lay Readers* for the Diocese of Edmonton,
- e) maintain and administer, in cooperation with the Diocesan staff, all records concerning the Lay Readers of the Diocese including licensing records, training records, and program materials,
- f) communicate information concerning the Lay Reader program of the Diocese to the people of the Diocese,
- (g) advise the Bishop, the Executive Council and Synod of the Diocese as to the state of the Lay Reader program of the Diocese and activities of the Lay Readers of the Diocese.

Manual of Lay Readers

4.14 There shall be a *Manual of Lay Readers* for the Diocese of Edmonton, the contents of which shall be determined and approved by the Bishop in consultation with the Chaplain of Lay Readers and shall include, at a minimum, guidelines for the ministry of Lay Readers in the Diocese of Edmonton approved by the Bishop.



Lay Pastoral Visitors

4.15 The Bishop may licence Lay Pastoral Visitors upon nomination of the proposed licensee by the Incumbent and Vestry of the Parish of which the nominee is a member.

4.16 A license issued by the Bishop to a Lay Pastoral Visitor shall authorize the licensee to visit persons in the Parish in need of pastoral ministry in accordance with guidelines for the ministry of Lay Pastoral Visitors in the Diocese of Edmonton approved by the Bishop.

4.17 The licence of a Lay Pastoral Visitor

- a) shall be for a specified period,
- b) may, with the approval of the Incumbent and Vestry of the Parish, be renewed by the Bishop, for a further specified period, and
- c) may be revoked by the Bishop after consultation with the Incumbent of the Parish and the Chaplain of Lay Pastoral Visitors.

Chaplain of Lay Pastoral Visitors

4.18 The Bishop shall appoint a member of the Clergy of the Diocese as Chaplain of Lay Pastoral Visitors.

4.19 The term of office of the Chaplain of Lay Pastoral Visitors shall be at the pleasure of the Bishop.

4.20 The Chaplain of Lay Pastoral Visitors shall:

- a) give leadership and guidance to the Lay Pastoral Visitors of the Diocese,
- b) coordinate the training and continuing education of the Lay Pastoral Visitors of the Diocese,
- c) advise the Bishop, as requested, as to the suitability of a person seeking to be licensed or proposed to be nominated to be a Lay Pastoral Visitor.
- d) after consultation with the Bishop, and with the approval of the Bishop, revise and update the *Manual of Lay Pastoral Visitors* for the Diocese of Edmonton,
- e) maintain and administer, in cooperation with the Diocesan staff, all records concerning the Lay Pastoral Visitors of the Diocese including licensing records, training records, and program materials,
- f) communicate information concerning the Lay Pastoral Visitors program of the



Diocese to the people of the Diocese,

- (g) advise the Bishop, the Executive Council and Synod of the Diocese as to the state of the Lay Pastoral Visitors program of the Diocese and activities of the Lay Pastoral Visitors of the Diocese.

Manual of Lay Pastoral Visitors

4.21 There shall be a *Manual of Lay Pastoral Visitors* for the Diocese of Edmonton, the contents of which shall be determined and approved by the Bishop in consultation with the Chaplain of Lay Pastoral Visitors and shall include, at a minimum, guidelines for the ministry of Lay Pastoral Visitors in the Diocese of Edmonton approved by the Bishop.

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63rd SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF EDMONTON
October 12th and 13th, 2012
DRAFT Minutes of Proceedings
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Appendix 2 – ACTS OF SYNOD

1. **Adoption of the Agenda:** That the agenda for the 63rd Synod be adopted as published.
2. **Nominating Committee Report:** That the final report of the Nominating Committee be accepted, noting there remained a vacancy in Lay member for Executive Council from Edmonton West.
3. **Late Nominations:** That the late nominations be accepted.
4. **Minutes of the 62nd Synod:** That the Minutes of the 62nd Synod be approved as published in the Convening Circular.
5. **Resolution G-9: Planning Feasibility Study – Mission Funding:** That the Diocese proceed with a Mission Funding Campaign as recommended in the Planning Feasibility Study Final Report prepared by M&M International, and that the Synod request the Bishop to appoint a Financial Stewardship Initiative Working Group (FSIWG) as described in that report.
6. **Receiving of Reports:** That the reports [included in the Convening Circular] be received as published.
7. **Chartered Accountants:** That the firm of Grant Thornton, Chartered Accountants, of Edmonton, Alberta, be elected to serve as Diocesan Accountants.
8. **Election Ballots:** That the election results for the 63rd Synod be accepted and the ballots destroyed.
9. **Resolution L-2: Amend Constitution – Stewardship and Financial Development Committee:** That the Constitution of the Diocese of Edmonton be amended as follows:
 1. As to s. C89 by deleting the words “and Financial Development” so that the section reads as follows:

C89 There shall be a Standing Committee of the Executive Council which shall be called the Stewardship Committee.



2. As to s. C93 by repealing subsections (b) and (d) and amending and re-lettering the remaining subsections so that the section reads as follows:

C93 The Committee shall:

- (a) through stewardship education, encourage awareness and understanding of the theology of stewardship, and of its biblical foundations,
- (b) provide assistance to Parishes in the area of stewardship by offering encouragement, resource materials, and personal help,
- (c) advise the Bishop, Executive Council and other bodies within the Diocese on matters of stewardship policy or program and future planning,
- (d) co-ordinate Diocesan Stewardship Programs and the activities of the Committee with the activities of the Stewardship Office of the National Church and of similar bodies in other Dioceses.

3. The heading before s. C89 shall be amended to read, “Stewardship Committee”.

10. **Resolution L-1: Repeal and Replace Canon 4 – Lay Ministry:** That Canon 4: Lay Leadership in Worship be repealed and the revised Canon 4: Lay Ministry be adopted in substitution for it. (see Appendix 1 for the wording of the new Canon)

11. **Resolution G-1: Fair Trade:** That the Diocese of Edmonton become a “Fair Trade Diocese” by:

1. Whenever possible, purchasing and using goods bearing a Fair Trade or equivalent identification, at events organized or sponsored by the Diocese. Without limiting the generality the Diocese will follow these Fair Trade practices in the purchase of coffee, tea, chocolate, and fruit.
2. Promoting awareness among the people of the Diocese of the conditions and needs of impoverished farming and artisan communities around the world, and a genuine commitment to helping them.
3. Fostering awareness among the people of the Diocese of these Fair Trade practices as a means of living out the Marks of Mission.
4. Encouraging the parishes of the Diocese to purchase and use Fair Trade or equivalent goods whenever possible.

12. **Resolution G-4: Stand Up:** That the Synod encourage the parishes of the Diocese to participate in the Micah Challenge’s Stand Up Sunday on October 14th, 2012, and in successive years to take a stand against global poverty.

13. **Resolution G-2: Licensed Lay Evangelists:** That this Synod request the Bishop to proceed as soon as possible with the development of a program to recruit, train and deploy licensed lay evangelists to work in our communities on a volunteer basis to spread the good news of



Jesus Christ.

14. **Procedural motion:** That when resolutions G3 and G8 come to a vote:
 1. That the votes be conducted by confidential written ballot.
 2. That for those votes Rule 7.15 of Canon 7 Rules of Order of the Synod be suspended.

15. **Procedural motion:** That:
 1. Resolution G3 be dealt with immediately after Resolution G8,
 2. Resolution G8 be dealt with next on the Agenda.

16. **Resolution G-8: Theological Response – Need to Preserve Unity and Recognize Diversity:** That Synod recommend to the Bishop, that she, in concert with the diocesan clergy:
 1. Develop a comprehensive and rigorous theological response to the extracts from the House of Bishops’ Statement of April 20, 2007, as included in the Bishop’s report. Such theological response would address the way in which the recommendations of the House of Bishops are understood to comport with the fullness of scripture, tradition, and reason, as exercised within the Diocese of Edmonton, with respect to the whole Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.
 1. Use the theological response so developed to inform:
 - a. A recommendation as to the shape of any rite regarding the blessing of a same-sex relationship, and
 - b. A proposal for a mechanism for the preservation of unity within the Diocese should such a blessing be authorized in this Diocese.
 2. Report the results of this discernment to Executive Council prior to the next General Synod.

17. **Resolution G-3: Blessing Same-Gender Committed Unions:** That Synod request the Bishop to grant permission to any clergy who may wish to offer prayers of blessing for civilly married same-gender relationships.

18. That the ballots be destroyed.

19. **Resolution G-5: Policy and Resources for Conversations on Human Sexuality:** That the Diocese of Edmonton take action, coordinated by the Bishop and Executive Council, and in consultation with parents and youth, to:
 1. Develop an ongoing policy to address the Church’s responsibility to facilitate conversations between parents and their children, the church and parents, and the



- church and youth on the topic of human sexuality, and
2. Provide resources for clergy, parents and youth that will encourage and facilitate such conversations.

20. Resolution G-6: Pastoral Response to the Aloneness and Isolation of Single People: That this Synod requests the Bishop to set up a task force to investigate how we as a church can equip clergy and lay people to respond pastorally to the needs of single people and to develop discipleship models that engage their particular circumstances.

21. Resolution G-7: Pastoral Response to Report on Human Sexuality Discussion Issues: That Synod recommend to the Bishop, that she, in concert with the diocesan clergy, develop a shared and unified pastoral response to each of the following issues arising out of the Report of Human Sexuality Discussions:

1. Christian parenting,
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The pastoral response would include the development and sharing of pastoral and spiritual resources, and would provide for clergy to be formed in the use of such resources in the course of their ministries.

