



**THE ANGLICAN SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of June 8, 2023 –In-person meeting at Church of the Advent Colwood

EX OFFICIO

Bishop	The Right Reverend Anna Greenwood-Lee
Chancellor	Isabel Weeks
Dean	Vacant
Registrar	Michael Wolff
Lay Secretary	Susan Rand
Clerical Secretary	The Rev. Paul Schumacher
Treasurer	Joel Hefty

ELECTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The Rev. Trish Vollman-Stock	Laura Dey
The Rev. Juli Mallett	
	Marilyn Taylor
The Rev. Marion Edmondson	Ian Alexander
The Rev. Heather Robinson	Elizabeth Murphy R

APPOINTED

Timothy Ray
Rev. Canon Craig Hiebert

STAFF

Brendon Neilson - Executive Director
The Venerable Eric Partridge - Executive Officer R
Gillian Astbury-Heinke, Finance Officer R

GUESTS (with voice, no vote)

Out-going members of diocesan council
Lynn Cawthra
Lynn Schumacher
Walter Stewart
Marilyn Taylor

Faith in Foundation: Asset Management • Financial Resources • Effective Communication • Current Ministries • Shared and Remote Ministries

RENEWED HEARTS RENEWED SPIRITS RENEWED PEOPLE

Gail Rodger R
Elaine Ellison R

Welcome

Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee opened the meeting at 10:00 AM and welcomed the members of Diocesan Council. The Bishop thanked the members of council for joining in this in-person meeting at the Church of the Advent, Colwood.

Bishop Anna offered an opening prayer.

The Bishop then presented a team building exercise for council, the theme of which was “the future is bright.” The Bishop asked each member of council to introduce themselves and ‘to indicate a job you had while attending high school’.

Council was then divided into groups of two and asked to discuss:
“A time I knew I needed to adapt in my life.”

After council came back together, Bishop Anna spoke briefly about the role of diocesan council in the life of the diocese and referenced the work of Heifetz. A period of discussion followed. Bishop Anna asked council to reconsider the “six things presentation” from the early days of the last council’s mandate. The Bishop reminded council that we are not finished working on any of these things. (Appendix 1, 1.1)

As part of the orientation for new council members, Brendon Neilson provided council with a brief overview of the diocesan council manual. Again, a brief period of discussion followed. (Appendix 2, 2.1)

#1 Agenda for this diocesan council meeting: (Appendix 3)

Accepted as presented with the addition of a Refugee Program update, and deletion of a Financial update.

#2 a) Regrets for Absence - The clerical secretary noted the regrets for absence from this meeting. There was one voting member absent. The clerical secretary declared that there was a quorum present with 14 voting members in attendance from a total of fifteen having a vote on council.

#3 Consent agenda approval (Appendix 4)

1. The minutes of the Diocesan Council meeting held on April 13, 2023, be approved as circulated (appendices available in April 2023 Dropbox).

MOVED BY: Ian Alexander

SECONDED BY: Juli Mallett

That the April diocesan council minutes be amended by removing reference to the Christ Church Cathedral School in item #7, and correction of typographical errors found throughout the document.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

MOVED BY: Craig Hiebert

SECONDED BY: Heather Robinson

That the consent agenda be approved.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Note: Management Committee was directed by the Bishop to establish a new policy outlining the amount of detail contained for any item reported in diocesan council minutes; and to present this policy to diocesan council at the September 2023 meeting.

#4 Debrief of Synod – May 13, 2023

Council shared thoughts regarding:

- 1) What worked well?
- 2) What technical glitches need to be addressed before our next synod gathering?
- 3) Electoral synods need to be in-person where feasible.
- 4) Synods should be business orientated, and other events, such as, “We Together” should aim to grow the fellowship of the diocese.
- 5) Is it feasible to hold a combined in-person and virtual synod with multiple venues being accommodated at the same time?
- 6) If Synod is held electronically, modifying the motions in real-time is very important

Break

#5 Amendment to Regulation 3.07 – Standing Committees (Appendix 5)

MOVED BY: Isabel Weeks

SECONDED BY: Joel Hefty

That diocesan council approve the creation of a diocesan policy manual and begin to populate this manual with the necessary policies for the business of the diocese as is appropriate.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

MOVED BY: Isabel Weeks

SECONDED BY: Juli Mallett

That regulation 3.07 be amended by deleting subsections b., c., e., f., g., and h. in their entirety and moving those subsections to the newly created diocesan policy manual.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

MOVED BY: Isabel Weeks

SECONDED BY: Helen Love

That subsection a. of regulation 3.07 be amended by deleting subsection a. in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

a. The canons committee

- 1) Membership shall consist of the chancellor and up to five (5) members of Diocese of Islands and Inlets (the Diocese of British Columbia) appointed by the chancellor, who need not be members of the Synod.*
- 2) The committee shall have the power to nominate additional members whose election must be confirmed at the next meeting of diocesan council.*

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

MOVED BY: Bishop Anna

That the following be elected to membership:

The Management committee: in addition to ex-officio members, the following members

Timothy Ray

Elizabeth Murphy

The Canons committee: in addition to the Chancellor; the following members, and to hold regular meetings beginning in June of 2023, and to provide diocesan council with regular reports and updates, and to seek guidance and approval from diocesan council as work progresses.

Eric Partridge

Brian Rendell

Bob Gill

Timothy Ray

The Finance committee: in addition to ex-officio members, the following members

Steve Konig

Ian Alexander

John Steele

Marion Edmundson

(Appendix 6)

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

#7 Introduction of Joel Hefty, new diocesan treasurer - Bishop Anna introduced the treasurer.

#8 Search for a new Dean:

a) Cathedral's Profile (Appendix 7)

b) What are we, as a diocese, looking for in a Dean?

Bishop Anna presented a draft document received from Christ Church Cathedral regarding their profile for use during the search for our next Dean. Discussion followed. Diocesan council developed an extensive list of things the council would be looking for in the new Dean. Council was asked to checkmark the lists with their three most important qualities needed in the Dean. (Appendix 7.1)

More to follow.

Lunch 12:30PM

Council reconvened at 1:15PM

#10 Building for the Future School Business Plan and other items for consideration

- a) Brendon Neilson provided council with an update of the number of properties, according to the BC Assessment Office, which have a connection, some only loosely, with the diocese. Brendon spoke about “having and holding well” the gifts we have been given and the gift we have to give. He indicated that we need to “learn to hold without having” and to “dream” Brendon referenced the work of Sallie McFague and the philosophy of ‘enoughness’.

- b) Christ Church Cathedral Building for the Future update (Appendix 8)

Brendon Neilson provided council with an update on the progress of phase 2b and the start of phase 3a over the next months. Diocesan council may be asked to sign off on the rezoning application by the end of 2023.

#11 Property Updates:

- 1) **St. Dunstan, Gorden Head Saanich** (Appendix 8.1)
- 2) **St. Peter, Lakehill (Two Saints)**
- 3) **St. John the Baptist, Duncan** (Appendix 9)
- 4) **Bethlehem Investors Group**

Brendon Neilson provided a brief update on the status of the projects at St. Peter’s, Lake Hill and St. Dunstan’s, Saanich. Concept drawings are being prepared for St. Dunstan’s. St. Peter’s, Lakehill is moving toward application for permits with the possibility of construction beginning in 24 months.

A memorandum of agreement has been presented and signed by the executive director on behalf of the diocese.

Bethlehem Investors Group – Brendon reported that Bethlehem Society will not be able to fulfill its financial obligations to the diocese by the end of June 2023. The agreement has been updated. Brendon also reported that Susan Rand has been appointed a member of the board of the Bethlehem Centre.

#12 Archdeacon for Ministerial Discernment

Bishop Anna informed council that Alastair Singh-McCollum has been named as the Archdeacon for Ministerial Discernment for the diocese. An announcement regarding the appointment of a new regional archdeacon for Greater Victoria will be made soon.

#13 Refugee Program update

Brendon Neilson reported that our current SAH has been extended by government authorities until the end of October 2023. This gives more time for current applications to be completed. No new applications are being accepted.

#14 Thank you to out-going council members

Bishop Anna thanked the out-going members of council and gave each a parting gift.

Lynn Cawthra
Lynn Schumacher
Walter Stewart
Marilyn Taylor
Gail Rodger R
Elaine Ellison (lay secretary) R

Words of wisdom from out-going members of DC to the new council

Push with patience
Don't be afraid to speak up.
Listen to the unspoken.
Every crisis is a possibility for renewal.

Other Business

1) Next meeting date for Diocesan Council

Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 10:00 AM, in-person meeting at St. Mary, Nanoose Bay

Closing Reflection

The Bishop thanked everyone in attendance for their commitment to the life of the Diocese.

The Bishop closed with prayer.

Bishop Anna moved the conclusion of the meeting at 2:40PM.

Next Scheduled Diocesan Council meeting
Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 10:00 am, in-person meeting at St. Mary, Nanoose Bay.