



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

Minutes of the meeting of April 4, 2024 – ZOOM meeting

**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 <b>R</b>	Laura Dey
The Rev. Juli Mallett	Helen Love
The Rev. Marion Edmondson	Canon Ian Alexander
The Rev. Heather Robinson	Elizabeth Murphy

**APPOINTED**

Timothy Ray  
The Venerable Craig Hiebert

**STAFF**

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

**GUESTS (with voice, no vote)**

**Brian Rendell - Canons**

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

RENEWED HEARTS RENEWED SPIRITS RENEWED PEOPLE

## 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 virtual meeting on ZOOM platform.

Bishop Anna offered an opening prayer.

The Bishop then presented a team building exercise for council, the theme of which was “What new things is God doing in our midst?” The Bishop referred to the work of Pierre Teilhard DE Chardin and ‘orthogenesis’. Bishop Anna reminded the members of council that God has gone on ahead of us into every area of our existence. Our job is not to protect but rather to follow. We need to be open to new approaches, different ways of experiencing culture. We need do what we can to be part of the change because God is evolutionary, and we must be prepared to look to the future, and not have our eyes on the rearview mirror of life.

The Bishop ended this discussion by indicating that we cannot be focused on the past.

. (Appendix 1)

### #1 **Agenda for this diocesan council meeting:**

Bishop Anna indicated that the agenda remains as presented. (Appendix 2)

**#2 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 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5)

1. The minutes of the Diocesan Council meeting. January 18, 2024 (Appendix 3.1), be approved as circulated (appendices attached to the January minutes).
2. Education Trust Board meeting minutes. February 13, 2024 (Appendix 3.2)
3. Operations Committee meeting minutes. February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Appendix 3.3)
4. Finance Committee March 13, 2024. Meeting Minutes (Appendix 3.4)
5. Operations Committee March 13, 2024. Meeting Minutes (Appendix 3.5)

MOVED BY: Isabel Weeks

SECONDED BY: Laura Dey

*That the consent agenda be approved.*

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

### #4 **Finance Update (Appendix 4) Preliminary Year End**

The Finance officer provided diocesan council with an overview of the preliminary year end information. No action was required.

**#5 Archdeacon Position Proposal: (Appendix 5)**

The Bishop presented council with information regarding the current situation with our archdeacons. The capacity of our archdeacons is stretched. A proposal was presented to create a new archdeacon position which will work with parishes in transition and other parishes which are lay led.

Members of council entered into a time of discussion. Many opinions were offered. Consideration of the financial impact and the perceived implications of naming the position as an “archdeacon” were ‘sticking points’ for many members of council. Bishop Anna asked council to break for 10 minutes and then reconvene to consider next steps.

**Break 11:00****Re-convene 11:10**

MOVED BY: Juli Mallett

SECONDED BY: Heather Robinson

*That diocesan council authorizes a two year trial clerical position to help support parishes in transition and lay-led parishes with funding for the 2024 budget year coming from the Diocesan Mission Fund or the Vision Fund. The effectiveness of this position will be evaluated as we go forward and at the end of the two year term.*

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

**#6 Canons Committee Update**

The Chancellor provided a brief overview of eleven updated draft Canons. Further formatting of each Canon will be completed over the next months.

A period of discussion followed.

The Chancellor indicated that council will be presented with final drafts of the revised Canons at the June 2024 diocesan council meeting with the intention of presenting the revised Canons to the November 2024 Regular Synod for approval.

- Preface – Rule of Law (Appendix 6.1)
- Draft Canons 1 – 11 (Appendix 6.2)
- Archdeacons (Appendix 6.3)
- Clergy (Appendix 6.4)
- Synod (Appendix 6.5)
- Diocesan Council (Appendix 6.6)
- Parish (Appendix 6.7)
- Finance (Appendix 6.8)
- Court (Appendix 6.9)
- Regulations (Appendix 6.10)
- Order of the Diocese (Appendix 6.11)

- Memo from the Chancellor (Appendix 6.12)
- Memo – Substantive Changes (Appendix 6.13)

## #7 Property

- St John the Divine, Victoria  
A letter of Interest is almost ready. We are waiting to hear back from lawyers.
- St Matthias, Victoria  
We have reached an agreement with the parish to wait until 2025 before considering re-engaging with any interested developers.
- St Peter Lakehill (Two Saints Ministry)  
Funding from BC Housing was not obtained through our application for assistance. Brendon Neilson indicated that we are back to square one. Funding may be possible through the BC Builds program.
- Wiser Projects Contract

MOVED BY: Craig Hiebert

SECONDED BY: Isabel Weeks

*That, on the recommendation of the Asset Management Team, Diocesan Council enter into a contract (\$4,200/month = \$50,000/year) with Wiser Consulting Group, to be paid for through the Property Development Fund, and that these funds be reimbursed to the Property development Fund if and when grant funding is received.*

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

- Building for the Future, Christ Church Cathedral  
A submission to the City of Victoria for Rezoning of the Cathedral precinct has been made. The City has already returned technical comments for the application.

- Fanny Bay

MOVED BY: Isabel Weeks

SECONDED BY: Tim Ray

*That Diocesan Council accept the offer of \$485,000 received from the Comox Valley Regional District for the sale of the Fanny Bay property at 418 Ships Point Road, owned by the Diocese of British Columbia.*

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

**#8 Next Diocesan Council meeting –June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - DC Meeting** – In-person meeting at the Church of the Advent, Colwood

**Other Business - None**

**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 12:07PM.

**Next Scheduled Diocesan Council meeting**  
**Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 10:00 am, In-person meeting at The Church of The Advent, Colwood**