

The Ecclesiastical Province of Canada
Forty-third Provincial Synod
September 18-21, 2003, Quebec, Quebec

Minutes

Thursday, 18 September

Synod convened at 19:30 for the opening eucharist, hosted by the Diocese of Quebec, and the delivery of the Presidential Address by the Metropolitan.

The Host Diocese then invited Synod members to a reception.

Friday, 19 September

After worship and Bible Study, Synod convened at 9:30 with the Prolocutor in the chair.

Regrets were received from:

Bishop Russell Hatton, Trevor Lightfoot, Shauna Simpson, James Sweeny, Sarah Townsend, Katie Woodside

Moved by Leonard Whitten, seconded by Boyce Rice that Margaret Jenniex (Central Newfoundland) be appointed Lay Secretary *pro tempore*
Carried

Moved by Graham Jackson, seconded by Anne Chapman that the following message be sent to the Governor General of Canada:

Your Excellency,

The Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada respectfully requests that the following message be sent to Her Majesty the Queen:

Your Majesty,

The members of the Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, the Anglican Church in the civil provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Quebec, assembled on the nineteenth day of September, 2003, in Quebec City, send to Your Majesty sincere and affectionate greetings.

In the name of our Saviour, we extend to you every good wish, and we pray that God will

bless you and keep you, grant you wisdom, health and strength in order that all the people of the Commonwealth may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace.

This Synod adds its greetings to the Duke of Edinburgh and to all the members of the Royal Family.

From all of us both near and far
For what you do
For who you are
With hopes sincere that you'll increase
Your store of health, of life and peace
This Provincial Synod here extends
The heartfelt love of all your friends.

Carried

Moved by John Sharpe, seconded by Keith Joyce that courtesies of the house be extended to the Most Revd Michael Peers, the Ven Jim Boyles, Capt Rob Marsh, Shara Golden, the Hon Ron Stevenson, Leanne Larmondin, the Revd Canon Eric Beresford, the Very Revd Peter Wall, Jody Orr
Carried

Housekeeping announcements were made.

Sessional Committees were circulated:

Agenda: Andrew Hutchison, Peter Irish, Josiah Noel

Courtesies: Shirley Gosse, Jamie Morrell, Yves-Eugene Joseph, Olive Beattie

Nominations: Mary Legge, Frank King, Robert Taylor, James W Bennett, Wayne Hamlin, Kerry Dickson, Roberta Woodman

Resolutions: Michael Li, Keith Joyce, Douglas Painter, John Arnold (chair)

Scrutineers: Wendy Ross, Robyn Cumin, Dianne Parker, Katherine Bourbonniere

Moved by Katharine Childs, seconded by James McKenna that sessional committees be appointed as circulated.

Carried

Moved by Wayne Hamlin, seconded by Daphne Parsons that the minutes of Synod 2000 be approved as circulated.

Carried

Moved by Josiah Noel, seconded by John Sharpe that the Acts of Council be approved.

Carried

Moved by Douglas Painter, seconded by Bruce Stavert that the reports be accepted as distributed.

Carried

Moved by Katharine Childs, seconded by Arran Thorpe that the deadline for notices of motion be Saturday at 15:45.

Carried

Synod adjourned for a break at 10:00

Synod reconvened at 10:25.

The Ven Jim Boyles reported on General Synod matters.

Archdeacon Boyles reported on the Residential Schools and Settlement Fund. The Agreement was signed on 11 March, 2003, all dioceses having approved it within 80 days. Archdeacon Boyles thanked the dioceses for their ongoing support and financial contributions. Over \$6.7 million has been received to date. \$1.4 million has been paid out in claims to over 50 people. The purpose of the agreement and of the fund is being fulfilled. The government continues to work on an Alternative Dispute Resolution process. Adjudicators are being hired, and ADR cases will begin being heard in January. The process is controversial, with aboriginal groups having expressed concern about serious flaws in the process. The Anglican Council of Indigenous People issued a press release opposing the settlement agreement on March 11. They will be meeting with the Primate and Metropolitans soon to try to find a way forward.

General Synod will be meeting at Brock University in the Diocese of Niagara in May-June, 2004. A new Primate will be elected at General Synod (May 31). The theme of General Synod is *See, I am making all things new*. The new Primate will be installed on June 4, with Bishop Frank Griswold, Presiding Bishop of ECUSA, preaching. Stephen Lewis will be speaking about AIDS in Africa. Work will be done on a strategic plan, the marriage canon, the primacy, social justice issues, and same-sex unions.

On the strategic plan, Archdeacon Boyles, outlined the history of the current Strategic Plan, which was implemented in 1995 for a period of nine years. In 2001, General Synod directed the Council of General Synod to engage in a process of intentional listening as it develops a new strategic plan. Phase 1 was a series of focus groups, run by Environics. Phase 2 involved a telephone survey across the country. Phase 3 involved consultation with the dioceses. We have been hearing about a disconnect between national and diocesan priorities. There is a need for better communication. The major focus of most people is the life of the local congregation. Issues include declining population, aging congregations, stewardship, youth, outreach. There is a call for national support for leadership training and other matters of parish life. There is a feeling of despair and anxiety about the future of the local parish. There is an expectation of leadership from the national church on a variety of issues. There is a need for support for spiritual growth and development. There is a low level of general support for the 1995 priorities.

The dilemma that we face is that Anglicans want more from the national church, but the resources are static. Either we need to reallocate the resources we have, or find ways of raising new funds. The Financial Management and Development committee is suggesting that we continue to ask dioceses to contribute 26% of their income to the national level, that we work at planned giving and major gifts, and that we do much more on stewardship education, and continue the work on the Anglian Appeal and Anglican Journal Appeal.

Strengthening our Church; Serving God's World is the working title for the new strategic plan.

A task force on the Primacy have proposed that there be a term of office for the Primate. Their consultation has attracted voluminous comment. There does not yet appear to be a consensus.

Archbishop Peers has announced his retirement in February. In April the House of Bishops will nominate from three to five candidates for Primate. General Synod (lay and clergy) will vote on these candidates. The Synod may ask the bishops for other candidates if it is unable to elect. The new Primate will be installed at the end of Synod.

The General Synod offices will move in the first week of January to 80 Hayden Street in Toronto. There is an option for the Anglican Book Centre to return to 600 Jarvis when the new building is complete.

Archdeacon Boyles thanked Synod for the continued support of the General Synod in what has been a difficult few years.

Archbishop Peers reflected on his time as Primate, on where we have been and where we are going. He outlined some of the history of Anglicanism, of synods and the development of synodical government, and shared some significant moments from his life and ministry. He invited the members then to reflect on where we are going.

Archbishop Hutchison presented Archbishop Peers with a stained-glass panel depicting the Provincial Coat of Arms, and Synod wished Archbishop Peers a blessed retirement.

Synod adjourned for lunch and the afternoon and evening programme, hosted by the Diocese of Quebec.

Saturday, 20 September

After worship and Bible Study, Synod convened at 9:30 with the Deputy Prolocutor in the chair.

Bishop Bruce Stavert introduced Mr Charles Winnifrith of the New England Company to Synod.

Moved by Bruce Stavert, seconded by Katharine Childs that courtesies of the house be extended to

Charles Winnifrith.
Carried

The Deputy Prolocutor introduced Ms Sally Preiner of Environics, who outlined the national Intentional Listening process, undertaken beginning in 2001, and then engaged Synod in a discussion on the state and future of the church.

Qualitative research began with the questions: what are the issues in the church and outside the church of most importance? What are the signs of hope and vision in and outside the church?

Key issues included declining population in the church, the financial state of the church, youth involvement, Residential School litigation (particularly the financial impact as opposed to the impact on aboriginal people), local outreach and social justice, homosexuality and blessings of same-sex unions, inclusion, feeling of disconnection between parochial and national/diocesan interests, fragmentation of the church and Anglican identity, the importance of belonging to a community of faith.

The questions for the discussion were: what are the concerns most talked about within the church? Outside the church? What, if any is the relationship between the two?

Following Mid-Day Prayers Synod adjourned for lunch.

Synod reconvened at 14:00.

Mr Charles Winnifrith addressed the Synod, outlining the work of the New England Company.

Mary Legge presented a revised slate of nominees for officers. Balloting began for Prolocutor.

Motion 1

Moved by John Arnold

Seconded by Alan T Perry

That Canon 2, the Election, Office and Work of the Metropolitan Bishop be amended, adding to Paragraph 1(1) the following text:

If it is known that the office of Metropolitan is to become vacant at a future date, the diocesan bishop senior by consecration may summon the Provincial Council to meet as an electoral college not more than six months before the date of vacancy to elect the Metropolitan's successor.

Carried in all orders

Motion 2

Moved by Alan T Perry

Seconded by James W Bennett

That Canon 3, the Election, Appointment, Consecration and Resignation of Bishops, be amended as follows:

Paragraph 11. (a) to read “*at least* three clerical.... and *at least* three lay....”

Paragraph 19. (1) insert the word “the” between “following” and “celebration”

Paragraph 19. (8)(d) insert a comma between “election” and “request”.

Insert a new Paragraph 9 (11):

“When the Council is deliberating on any matter with respect to the calling of an electoral synod, the formation of the Search Committee, or the reports of the Search Committee, the Diocesan Bishop shall relinquish the chair if the bishop is in the chair at the time of the meeting.”

Carried in all orders

The Metropolitan announced that the Revd Alan T Perry had been elected Prolocutor.

Balloting began for Deputy Prolocutor.

Motion 3

Moved by John Arnold

Seconded by Alan T Perry

That Canon 5 be amended by deleting section 2(7) as originally adopted at the 1994 synod, which reads:

The Provincial Council shall, at its first regular meeting in the year following each triennial meeting of the Provincial Synod, determine the names of two members of the clergy and two members of the laity from each diocese who shall be eligible for appointment to the Court.

and substituting the following:

The Provincial Council shall, *subsequent to each triennial meeting of the Provincial Synod*, determine the names of two members of the clergy and two members of the laity from each diocese who shall be eligible for appointment to the Court.

Carried in all orders

Motion 5

Moved by William MacMullin

Seconded by Murry Arnott

Be it resolved that we the forty-third Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, assembled in Quebec City Sept 18-21, 2003, recognizing the potential for the discussion on blessing

of same-sex unions to be divisive and the desire of interested parties to avoid any appearance of prejudging the issue, respectfully request the appropriate body to reconsider the choice of Frank Griswold, Presiding Bishop of ECUSA as closing speaker for the General Synod of 2004 and replace him with someone who will not be seen as intending to influence the debate.

A vote by orders was requested. (Perry, Stavert, Joseph)

Moved by Donald Harvey, seconded by Berdina Ford, that the motion be amended, striking the last phrase "and replace...."

Amendment defeated

Defeated in the order of Clergy (7 for, 18 against)

Defeated in the order of Laity (11 for, 18 against)

Tied in the order of Bishops (3 for, 3 against)

*The Prolocutor abstained due to his position as chair of the General Synod Planning Committee
Motion defeated*

The Metropolitan announced that Margaret Jenniex had been elected Deputy Prolocutor.

The Metropolitan announced that Berdina Ford had been acclaimed Clerical Secretary, and that Eric Dryden had been acclaimed Treasurer.

The Metropolitan announced that Adam Bradley, Amanda Dawe and Amanda Stephenson had been acclaimed Youth members of Provincial Council.

Balloting began for Lay Secretary.

Synod adjourned for a break.

Synod reconvened at 15:45

The Metropolitan announced that John Moores had been elected Lay Secretary.

Moved by Robyn Cuming, seconded by William Strong that the ballots be destroyed.

Shara Golden presented a draft policy on Sexual Conduct.

Moved by Peter Irish, seconded by Josiah Noel that the document be referred to Provincial Council for further consideration.

Carried

The Hon Ron Stevenson commented on the state of consultation with respect to the General Synod

Licensing Canon (17) and presented amendments to the Marriage Canon (21) that had been given first reading in 2001 and will be coming for second reading in 2004.

The Metropolitan introduced Leanne Larmondin, editor of the *Anglican Journal*, to Synod and asked for her reflections.

Ms Larmondin commented that her role in meetings is normally to be sitting quietly in a corner observing. Here she has found herself sitting at the front and with her name on the agenda. She noted that she has seen very lively debate, and was impressed that it has been respectful and charitable in all circumstances. She commented that we throw a pretty good party as well as a pretty good Synod.

Motion 4

Moved by Donald Harvey

Seconded by Frank King

Be it resolved that the Synod of the Province of Canada send the following memorial to General Synod:

The Synod of the Province of Canada supports an amendment, to be introduced at General Synod, to the proposed Canon on Marriage to permit individual dioceses to maintain their Ecclesiastical Marriage Commissions.

Carried

Motion 6

Moved by Donald Harvey

Seconded by Roger Spack

That in order to avoid any undue perception which may be caused by the choice of the preacher for the closing service of General Synod, that this house request the Planning Committee to take special care to attempt to balance the equation by the careful selection of a preacher for the opening service.

Defeated (24 for, 33 against)

Motion 8

Moved by Joan Gibb

Seconded by Anne Chapman

That it be carefully ascertained for future sessions of Provincial Synod which delegates can receive e-mail notices, and have printers, and that material be sent by mail to those who do not.

Carried

Synod adjourned for dinner.

Synod reconvened at 19:30.

Motion 7

Moved by Heather Hamlin Gravells

Seconded by Fred Hiltz

Be it resolved that this 43rd session of Provincial Synod endorse the upcoming conference *Food for the Journey: Refreshment for the Soul* as a source of renewal and retreat for those who attend, and to encourage each diocese of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada to consider sponsoring this event financially to help keep the participants' costs as low as possible.

Carried

Members' concerns were discussed.

A call for simpler language was prompted by the use of the term "homologation" on the agenda.

A question was raised concerning the formation of the focus groups. Jim Boyles explained the origin of the project, which arose in the Faith, Worship, Ministry committee due to a request from the National House of Bishops and the Council of General Synod.

The cost of group health insurance and new possibilities to work together was raised.

The Metropolitan called for questions about the reports.

It was suggested that it would be useful to include names rather than just titles (e.g. "the bishop") in the diocesan reports.

Elizabeth Hutchinson noted that Auberge Madeleine, a ministry to downtown women in the Diocese of Montreal was omitted from the diocesan report.

Moved by Eric Dryden, seconded by Katharine Childs that the Financial Statement be accepted as presented.

Carried

Moved by Donald Young, seconded by James McKenna, that the working funds be changed to \$30,933 and that the assessments be increased accordingly. (\$65,000 for 2004)

Defeated

Moved by Eric Dryden, seconded by William Hockin that the budget for 2003-2006 and assessment of \$57,000 for 2004 be adopted as presented.

Carried

The youth members made a presentation.

Jamie Morrell noted that all the groups from the Intentional Listening exercise reported that youth

ministry is a priority. They appreciated the opportunity to caucus and share what is happening in the various dioceses. There are good things, and there are challenges. A recent commentator pointed out that young people are interested in spirituality, but tend not to see their church as a place to pursue it. One-time events, such as camps and special retreats are good, but are limited.

Amanda Stephenson raised the question of what the Provincial Synod can do for youth. Who are the youth? What does “youth” mean? We need a time of intentional listening to hear from youth and older members about their expectations of youth ministry.

Arran Thorpe noted that NSPEI plans a sort of listening process in October called “I am Christian” for 110 youth.

Jamie Morrell concluded by inviting further comment from members.

Moved by Yves-Eugene Joseph, seconded by Jamie Morrell, that a vote of thanks be expressed to:

- all members of Synod for their willingness to be here and meet;
- all non-members who were here to help or facilitate in any capacity;
- the Bishop of Quebec, the Rt Revd Bruce Stavert, the local arrangements committee and its chairperson, Peter Simons, for their efforts to make every moment we spent in Quebec City enjoyable;
- the drivers, paid and unpaid, for their services;
- the executive, for the time the members put into the preparation of this gathering from big issues to the smallest details;
- the Revd Alan Perry for his sense of detail which is often helpful;
- Mr Peter Irish and the Revd Josiah Noel, outgoing Prolocutor and Deputy Prolocutor, respectively, for their precious years of service;
- Mr James Sweeny for his years of service as Lay Secretary;
- Margaret Jenniex for her willingness to serve as Lay Secretary *pro tempore*;
- Mr Eric Dryden for his good work as our treasurer;
- our Chancellor, Mr John Arnold for his advice to the president of this Synod;
- the teams of the dioceses of Fredericton, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Western Newfoundland, Central Newfoundland and Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, for leading us in worship;
- Mrs Elizabeth Hutchinson and the Revd Anthony Harvey, of Montreal, for conducting our Bible Studies;
- the Dean of Quebec, the Very Revd Walter Raymond, for making the Cathedral available to us for our concluding eucharist;
- the Ven Jim Boyles, General Secretary of the General Synod, for his updated reports on the residential schools and other General Synod matters;
- the Revd Canon Eric Beresford, Mrs Jody Orr and the Very Revd Peter Wall for their help in the focus groups;
- Ms Sally Preiner for her brilliant work and presentation;

- Mrs Shara Golden for her presentation on sexual misconduct;
- Mr Charles Winnifrith for sharing with us about the work of the New England Company;
- Capt Rob Marsh of the Church Army for his continuous presence among us;
- the hotel staff (administration, kitchen, cleaning, etc) for their diligence in responding to our requests;
- all members of the committees of the house;
- the Hon Ronald Stevenson, Chancellor of General Synod, for his presence and for taking us through changes in canons on licensing and marriage;
- Mrs Leanne Larmondin of the Anglican Journal for her presence;
- the Rt Revd William Hockin of Fredericton and the Rt Revd Leonard Whitten of Western Newfoundland for their many and fruitful years of service;
- the Most Revd Michael Peers, Archbishop and Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, for the wisdom he brings us every time he meets with us and for his simplicity in the office of Primate;
- the Most Revd Andrew Hutchison, Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, for his address and his leadership during this synod.