

# **The Provincial Council of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada**

**September 23-26, 2004, Gander  
Minutes**

## **Present:**

The Most Rev'd Bruce Stavert, (Qc), Metropolitan; The Rev'd Alan Perry(Mtl), Prolocutor; Charles Ferris(F'ton),Chancellor; Margaret Jenniex(CNF), Deputy Prolocutor; Eric Dryden(Mtl),

Treasurer; The Rev'd Berdina Ford(CNF),Clerical Secretary, John Moores(WNF), Lay Secretary;

The Right Rev'd Donald Harvey(ENL);The Right Rev'd Cyrus Pitman(ENL), Coadjutor; The Right Rev'd Percy Coffin(WNF);The Right Rev'd Fred Hiltz;(NSPEI); The Right Rev'd Donald Young(CNF); The Right Rev'd Claude Miller(F'ton); Amanda Stephenson(Mtl); The Rev'd Michael Li(CNF); Douglas Beattie(WNF); Winston Walters(CNF); Rod Baker(ENL); The Rev'd William Strong(ENL); The Venerable Edward King(WNF); The Rev'd Katharine Bourbonniere(NSPEI); Wayne Hamlin(NSPEI); The Rev'd Douglas Painter(Qc); The Venerable John Sharpe(F'ton); Joan Gibb(Qc); James McKenna(F'ton)

## **Regrets:**

Adam Bradley(CNF); Amanda Dawe(ENL); Katherine Childs(Mtl); The Rev'd Canon Yves Joseph(Mtl); The Right Rev'd Sue Moxley(NSPEI); Dr. Richard Virr (Mtl), Archivist; The Venerable Barry Clarke(Mtl)Bishop Elect.

## **Guests:**

The Rev'd Canon John Erb (Anglican Foundation); The Venerable Jim Boyles( Secretary of General Synod); The Rev'd Peter Yeung(Prolocutor- Province of Rupert's Land); Rob Marsh(CHurch Army)

## **Thursday, September 23**

Members of Council along with guests gathered at St. Martin's Cathedral for the Opening Eucharist. The Opening Address by the Acting Metropolitan was delivered during the service of worship. (See attachment) The Acting Metropolitan brought attention to Council being called together as an Electoral College to elect a Metropolitan. This was occasioned because of the election in June of this year of The Most Rev'd Andrew Hutchison(former Metropolitan) as Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. The Right Rev'd Donald Young welcomed all to the Diocese of Central Newfoundland.

The Provincial Council meeting was convened at St. Martin's Cathedral by the Acting Metropolitan, The Right Rev'd Bruce Stavert. Bishop Stavert welcomed all to the meeting and a special welcome to new members of Council; Charles Ferris(Chancellor); The Right Rev'd Cyrus Pitman(ENL);Coadjutor; The Rev'd Douglas Painter(Qc). The Metropolitan advised that The Rev'd Douglas Painter replaces the Rev'd Alain Milot, on leave. Bishop Stavert also welcomed spouses and other visitors.

The next order of business was the Election.

The Prolocutor, The Rev'd Alan Perry chaired the election and referred to Canon 2; Paragraph 1; Subsection 1 which outlines the responsibility of Council as an electoral college and the process of election of a Metropolitan.

He then, on the advice of the Chancellor, gave Council members direction.

All diocesan bishops are eligible for election.

Voting is to be done by ballot in the three houses: Lay; Clergy; Bishops.

Simple majority in each house is required.

Scrutineers: John Moores(Lay Secretary); The Rev'd Berdina Ford(Clerical Secretary); Eric Dryden(Treasurer); Supervisor: Charles Ferris(Chancellor).

After two ballots, Bishop Bruce Stavert was elected Metropolitan. (Applause)

**Motion 1:**

Moved by: The Rev'd Berdina Ford(CNF)

Seconded by: The Rev'd Douglas Painter(Qc)

That the ballots be destroyed. **Carried.**

Bishop Stavert expressed thanks to Council members for the trust they have placed in him and then gave the Metropolitan blessing.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

**Friday, September 24**

Council gathered at 8:50 am with Morning Prayer and Bible Study.

With the newly elected Metropolitan in the Chair, the Deputy Prolocutor, Margaret Jenniex was asked for Housekeeping announcements.

**Motion 2:**

Moved by: Joan Gibb(Qc)

Seconded by: James McKenna(F'ton)

That the minutes of the last Council meeting, September 20, 2003(Quebec City) be adopted as circulated. **Carried.**

Correspondence:

1. November 26, 2003 - A note of thanks from Buckingham Palace for our expression of Good Wishes for Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth.

2. June 21, 2004 - Letter from Bishop Bruce Stavert summoning Council as an Electoral College.
3. September 2004 - Message from the Primate, The Most Rev'd Andrew Hutchison extending apologies for his absence and relaying best wishes for our meeting. Archdeacon Jim Boyles, on behalf of the Primate, extended congratulations to the newly elected Metropolitan.

**Motion 3:**

Moved by: The Venerable John Sharpe(F'ton)

Seconded by: Wayne Hamlin(NSPEI)

That the Reports be received as circulated. **Carried.**

Notices of Motion:

The Metropolitan announced the closing of Notices of Motion for Saturday at noon.

The Metropolitan invited opening remarks from Archdeacon Jim Boyles regarding General Synod Framework.

1982 - A Mission Statement was developed.

1992 - Long Range Planning became a focus for the National Executive Council.

1992-1995 - A Strategic Plan was accepted at the 1995 Synod.

2004 - The General Synod Framework was adopted by Synod:

Documents prepared for use are: "*Serving God's World, Strengthening the Church*" and "*Letting Down the Nets*".

Council members then viewed a video on the General Synod Framework.

The Metropolitan offered an apology for an omission in his Opening Address, namely the election and episcopal ordination of Sue Moxley of the Diocese of NSPEI. She was elected Suffragan Bishop in November 2003 and was ordained on March 25, 2004.

The Metropolitan then extended the privileges of the house to The Rev. Canon John Erb who gave a presentation on The Anglican Foundation. He spoke of the background and the work of the Foundation and stressed that support may be available through application in areas such as theological study, music, building repairs and restoration. He mentioned "Friends of the Foundation" and encouraged continuing support and gave thanks for the financial assistance of the parishes and dioceses.

In preparation for the afternoon session, Archdeacon Jim Boyles spoke briefly on the two documents "*Serving God's World- Strengthening the Church*" and "*Letting Down the Nets*" which would later be distributed.

The Metropolitan asked for any comments or questions on the reports.

Discussion ensued re: the ACPO report and the likely necessity to hold two conferences in 2005 due to the number of candidates. Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador will complete its three year term in 2005. The Diocese of Central Newfoundland will be responsible for the years 2006 - 2008.

The Metropolitan spoke on the Provincial Prayer Care Report. The Diocese of Montreal has extended the invitation for another diocese to undertake the responsibilities related to the Provincial Prayer Care Cycle. The Diocese of Western Newfoundland will assume responsibility effective January 1, 2005. Thanks was extended by the Metropolitan.

The Chancellor spoke briefly on the Draft "*Sexual Harassment and Assault Policy & Procedure*". In preparation for Saturday's session, he asked Council to consider the financial implications and to review the 'errata' as circulated.

Bishop Donald Harvey expressed thanks for the opportunity of serving 12 years with Provincial Synod. He also offered regrets for not being able to be present at the Installation Service of the new Metropolitan on Sunday morning.

The Council adjourned after Mid-Day Prayer for an excursion to the Twillingate area.

### **Saturday, September 25**

Council reconvened at 9:00 am with a rollicking song "Ode to the Metropolitan".

After Morning Prayer and Bible Study, with the Prolocutor in the Chair, Archdeacon Jim Boyles was invited to speak.

The Secretary of General Synod introduced us to "*The General Synod Framework*" and highlighted 'A Vision of our Future' in the document, "*Serving God's World, Strengthening the Church.*" He also spoke on the purposes of General Synod as outlined in the document. Group discussion ensued. We were asked to focus on three questions and report back to the body.

Following is a summary of the feedback from the groups:

1. **What are the most important tasks for General Synod?**

- keep us together/ preserve and encourage unity.
- help us celebrate our diversity in the Anglican identity
- listen
- facilitate a collective voice on matters of concern
- work with provinces/liaison
- act as a parent
- education

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- encourage and facilitate the sharing of stories across the country
- assist dioceses in areas such as programming, stewardship and education

- name resources
- provide a platform, a working background
- enlarge peoples' view of the Church
- mission and outreach
- be fiscally responsible
- make themselves visible at the local level
- simplicity and openness

2.. **How would you improve relationships between General Synod, Provinces and dioceses?**

- educate
- tell the good stories
- Provinces may be the visionary group - the ways and means of carrying out the Framework
- make themselves more visible at the local level
- listen and talk
- encourage leadership
- reporting and sharing of resources
- create easier accessibility for movement of ideas and resources
- liaison
- the Metropolitans be members of COGS
- good technology to free people for better relationships
- new programs(ie. congregation development/stewardship and resources)

1. **What is needed in the area of Stewardship?**

- expertise
- provision of resources (people)
- education program
- teaching/ spiritual leadership
- understanding who we are
- people with a mission in mind
- patience - one at a time (one family/one person/one day)
- souls hungering to be fed
- boldness

Archdeacon Boyles then circulated to members a copy of the General Synod Resolutions and highlighted the following:

- a. Amendment to the Marriage Canon - Place of Marriage. *Second Reading*
- b. Amendment to Marriage Canon - Admission to Holy Communion. *Second Reading*
- c. Licensing of Clergy. *First Reading*
- d. The Blessing of Same Sex Unions and the Deferral of Section 2.

- e. Support for the Sudan
- f. Eligibility of Clergy

The Archdeacon then reviewed some recent events in the life of the Church.  
The new Primate, The Most Rev'd Andrew Hutchison is at the helm.  
Offices and staff have been relocated to Hayden Street.  
Secretaries of the Provinces of the Anglican Communion met in Johannesburg. Three provinces boycotted the meetings.

A Memorial Service was held at St. James Cathedral for the well known Archbishop Ted Scott, former Primate who was accidentally killed in a car accident in Ontario.

The process of hearings in connection with the Residential Schools claims continues.

The Council of General Synod has been given the task of studying the governance of the Church.

The "The Other Nine Network" has been established to tackle the task of reaching out in the face of the decline of the Church.

He left us with this question:

*"How do we organize ourselves to be effective in our mission for the world?"*

Thanks was expressed to Archdeacon Boyles for his informative session and his expertise in matters of General Synod.

The Metropolitan announced the closing of Notices of Motion.

The Metropolitan welcomed the Chancellor, Charles Ferris and invited his presentation of an overview of the Sexual Harassment & Assault Document.

The Preamble; Terms of Policy; Principles and Procedure were addressed and careful attention was given to Procedure and the Mediation process.

Discussion followed emphasizing the importance of this policy being adopted for all within the jurisdiction of the Province(ie. Synod/Council/ACPO)

**Motion 4:**

Moved by: Wayne Hamlin(NSPEI)

Seconded by: Rod Baker(ENL)

That the closure of notices of motion earlier set for Saturday at noon be lifted.

**Carried unanimously.**

**Motion 5:**

Moved by: The Venerable John Sharpe(F'ton)

Seconded by: The Venerable Edward King(WNF)

That this Council request the Council of General Synod to make provision for Provincial Metropolitans to attend COGS meetings, if they are not already members of COGS. **Carried.**

**Motion 6:**

Moved by: The Venerable Edward King(WNF)

Seconded by: The Rev'd Michael Li(CNF)

That this Council adopt the Sexual Harassment & Assault Policy and Procedure as corrected by the Errata distributed to Council, and subject to minor editorial revisions including pagination and paragraph numbering. **Carried.**

**Finances & Budget**

The Treasurer presented the Financial Report including the Diocesan Assessment allocation and the 2005 Budget.

**Motion 7:**

Moved by: The Right Rev'd Fred Hiltz(NSPEI)

Seconded by: The Venerable Edward King(WNF)

That the 2004 meeting of Provincial Council request the Executive to consider as a top priority a review of the frequency and format of the meetings of Council. This review should be carried out in the light of the purpose of the Synod of the Province of Canada as declared in the constitution. members of Council should be consulted and a report with recommendations should be presented to the next meeting of the Council scheduled for September 2005 in the Diocese of Western Newfoundland. **Carried.**

**Motion 8:**

Moved by: The Right Rev'd Fred Hiltz(NSPEI)

Seconded by: The Right Rev'd Claude Miller(F'ton)

That in the Spring of 2005, two ACPO conferences be held in the Province of Canada - one in the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador and one in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI. Each of these conferences will have a mixture of candidates from Nova Scotia and PEI and the other dioceses. The assessors will be from all dioceses at each conference. As was begun in 2004 a registration fee of \$100.00 will be asked for from each candidate (to be covered by the candidate's diocese). **Carried.**

With the adoption of the Sexual Harassment & Assault Policy and with the decision to have two ACPO conferences, some changes were needed in the figures of the proposed Budget.

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The treasurer suggested the amount of \$10, 000 be added to cover related costs to the adoption of the Sexual Harassment & Assault Policy and that \$6000 be added to the amount normally allocated for ACPO expenses.

**Motion 9:**

Moved by: Eric Dryden(Mtl)

Seconded by: The Rev'd Berdina Ford(CNF)

That the Budget and Diocesan assessments for 2005 be adopted as amended. **Carried.**

**Motion 10:**

Moved by: Charles Ferris(F'ton)

Seconded by: The Rev'd Alan Perry(Mtl)

That this Council request the Executive to study the advisability of a privacy policy for the Synod of the Province of Canada and to report back to the next meeting of the Council with recommendations. **Carried.**

**Motion 11:**

Moved by: Charles Ferris(F'ton)

Seconded by: The Rev'd Alan Perry(Mtl)

That this Council request the Executive to explore the advisability of the adoption of uniform certificates of election and ordination of bishops to be used by the dioceses with the province and to report back to the next meeting of this Council. **Carried.**

The Metropolitan invited greetings from our guests.

The Rev'd Peter Yeung, Prolocutor of the Province of Rupert's Land brought greetings from his Province and spoke of both the differences and similarities we share. He circulated their Provincial Resource Manual for our perusal and extended greetings and best wishes from the Metropolitan of the Province of Rupert's Land.

Rob Marsh brought greetings from the Church Army and also spoke on Partners in Mission. He presented a brief slide presentation of the devastating effects of a recent hurricane on island of Grenada, the home of his Partners in Mission prayer partner, Christian Godfrey.

Council recessed at 5:20 pm for the banquet and reconvened for business at 7:50 pm.

Archdeacon Jim Boyles expressed thanks for the invitation and offered a personal reflection on the importance of gender balance in the Church. From his perspective he sees this as a concern on all levels from General Synod, National Committees, Provincial Synod and Council. He suggested that the Church needs to be intentional in this area and take affirmative action.

The Metropolitan referred us to the recent update from Michael Pitts, "The Other Nine Network" More information is expected to be distributed to the dioceses.

**Motion 12:**

Moved by: The Rev'd Alan Perry(Mtl)

Seconded by: James McKenna(F'ton)



That the Council accept a motion from the floor. **Carried.**

**Motion 13:**

Moved by: Charles Ferris(F'ton)

Seconded by: The Rev'd Berdina Ford(CNF)

That any two of the present Metropolitan, the Prolocutor and Treasurer become signing officers of the Provincial Bank Account as required by Paragraph 3(18) of the Constitution of the Province of Canada. **Carried.**

The Courtesies Committee(The Right Rev'd Cyrus Pitman; The Rev'd Katharine Bourbonniere and Amanda Stephenson) offered a Vote of Thanks to:

- ..... the members of the Executive with special recognition given to the newly elected Metropolitan, Prolocutor and Deputy Prolocutor.
- ..... our guests and presenters, The Rev'd Canon John Erb; The Venerable Jim Boyles; The Rev'd Peter Yeung and Rob Marsh
- ..... Bishop Donald Young and the Diocese of Central Newfoundland.
- ..... the Local Arrangements Committee
- ..... Wilbert, our tour boat host and the ACW of Twillingate
- ..... Mr. Ross Goldsworthy for his lively anecdotes
- ..... the people of St Martin's Cathedral for hosting worship services on Thursday and Sunday and the ACW. for providing lunch on Sunday.

The Metropolitan spoke to a comment regarding the early availability of reports. He stated that all reports can only be sent early and ahead of Council meetings if they are received early as requested by the Secretary.

The Metropolitan expressed thanks to all for their participation in this Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm on a motion by Wayne Hamlin. **Carried.**