2007 A.C.P.O. REPORT ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCE OF CANADA Grand Falls - Windsor Diocese of Central Newfoundland May 10th - 13th Submitted by: The Rev. Randy Lockyer (Secretary) To: The Provincial Synod & The National Church

Again, this year, it is a pleasure for me, as the ACPO Secretary, for the Province of Canada, to submit my report to you on the 2007 ACPO Conference. This was my second year as the Secretary, and, like last year, I enjoyed the experience tremendously. I was very fortunate in being able to welcome back a great many of the Assessors that were present the year before, and benefitted greatly from their professionalism, experience and the spirit of prayer in which they entered into the weekend. I'm sure that the candidates also benefitted from the work done by the Assessors.

Unfortunately, this year St. Catherine's Renewal Centre was not available to us, therefore, it was necessary to place all Candidates and Assessors at the local hotel, which served us well but did place an additional expense on the overall cost of the conference. The conference itself was held at Holy Trinity Church Complex, which is quite large and provided us with all the meeting space we needed. The ACWA catered the meals, with the exception of breakfast, candidates and assessors ate breakfast at the hotel. There was a slight inconvenience in sleeping in one location and holding the conference in another in terms of building community over the weekend. This will not be necessary in 2008, as St. Catherine's Renewal Centre has already been booked for the ACPO Conference. This location is perfect, as it has the meeting space we need, sleeping accommodations, dining hall, chapel, office, etc.

Assessors

As mentioned above, the assessors came from each of the seven dioceses in the Province of Canada, and we can be proud of the work they did on behalf of the whole church, they were an excellent group that worked well together and showed great sensitivity and care to the candidates they were given the task of interviewing. With so many of them returning from the previous year they had already bonded as a group, and those new this year quickly felt part of it as well. I am extremely pleased with the work they did.

Assessor Preparation

The preparation, again this year, was done by the Rev. Dr. Dana Mellis, professor at Queen's College, St. John's. Like last year, all the assessors rated her work as excellent, both in substance and delivery. The preparation was done by Dana on Thursday evening and Friday morning. I am most thankful that we were able to get someone with Dana's qualifications and understanding of the process, having been with us the year before and having served as an ACPO assessor prior to that.

Candidates

Again this year, we were blessed to have the dioceses of our Ecclesiastical Province put forth 14 candidates to be assessed. There were candidates from each of the seven dioceses. This year there was not a need for a second conference in Halifax, all candidates were part of the Grand Falls - Windsor conference. The following is a breakdown of the candidates from each diocese:

Diocese	<u>Candidates</u>	Recommended	Not Recommended
Eastern NL	1	1	0
Central NL	1	1	0
Western NL	3	3	0
N.S. & PEI	6	6	0
Fredericton	1	1	0
Montreal	1	1	0
Quebec	1	1	0

The number of female and male candidates were equal at 7. We were quite impressed with the end result, after a thorough interview process by all assessors, teams of assessors, and entire group of assessors, all 14 candidates were recommended for postulancy at this time. I believe this speaks greatly of the diocesan postulancy committees we have in the Province of Canada, and the tremendous work they do.

Feedback

After reading all the forms submitted by both candidates and assessors, they were very pleased with the way the weekend went. Food was great, meeting space was adequate for our needs, transportation to and from the airport was well organized, candidates felt that their assessors contributed to their spiritual journey in testing their call to ordained ministry, my work as Secretary was much appreciated by everyone. It was felt that it would have been better to be in the same venue for everything, which I knew, but it was not possible this time.

Bishop

Like last year, it was good to have our diocesan bishop, David Torraville, present for part of the conference. His welcome to the candidates and assessors was much appreciated, as well as his reflection on ministry and vocations. He did a super job of representing all the bishops of our Province of Canada.

<u>Chaplain</u>

The Rev. Daphne Parsons, our chaplain from the previous year, was ready to join us again, however, the day before the conference her father became gravely ill, and she was not able to make it. This left me wondering what to do, I spoke with Bishop Torraville and we both agreed that the Rev. Yvonne Thistle (assessor in 2006) would be an excellent choice. I called her and despite a full weekend schedule, which included a wedding in her parish, she graciously agreed to join us. Her contribution was great, and her ministry to the candidates was fabulous, very pastoral and sensitive to their needs. She was given very many complimentary words by the candidates.

Transportation

Last year most of the assessors and candidates flying into the province availed of the airport in Gander and then were transported by car to Grand Falls - Windsor. This year, because of reliability, it was recommended by me that candidates and assessors fly into Deer Lake instead. This proved to be very good, however, it did add some to the cost of driving them from Deer Lake to Grand Falls - Windsor, as it is a two hour drive instead of one hour. But we managed very well and everyone enjoyed the scenic drive from Deer Lake.

Technology

Again this year, we were able to make use of the technology of the College of The North Atlantic, as they provided our secretary on Saturday with Power - Point equipment. I am most appreciative to Betty Mercer who took on the task of doing all the typing , etc for us again. She did a super job!

Holy Trinity

Because all our conference was held at the parish church and complex this year, I am very thankful to the people of my parish that helped in so many ways to make it a success. The ACWA agreed to cater all the meals (excluding breakfast) and refreshment breaks. Nothing else happened in the parish facility that weekend, so we were afforded a very quiet and peaceful venue to hold ACPO. It happened to be the Mother's Day weekend, and therefore the candidates, assessors and chaplain, were able to share with us in our morning worship as the children did a "Mother's Day Service", this was special to many of those who had left their own children home to be with us.

Financial Report

As I mentioned at the beginning of the report, this year we had to avail of the local Hotel to accommodate the bishop, chaplain, assessor facilitator, assessors and candidates, which impacted our overall costs. However, it was deemed important for everyone to be together in community as a group. The Newfoundland bishops were willing to pick up any additional cost if we were to

go over budget as a gift to us, I thank them for that generous offer. However, with a keen awareness of our budget, I was able to handle all expenses with the money in our ACPO account. The following is a breakdown of our expenses for the 2007 ACPO Conference:

Income

Balance from the 2006 ACPO Conferences (including Halifax conference) (* also includes approximately \$800.00 from 2005 Halifax ACPO as referred to in last year's report)	\$ 2509.80
Received from Dioceses for candidate Registration	1400.00
Received from the National Church for ACPO 2007	8,000.00
Received from The Ecclesiastical Province of Canada	8,000.00
Total Amount of money on hand and received	\$ 19,909.80
Expenditures	
Amount returned to the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada	\$ 4,000.00
Honoraria & travel to assessor trainer	150.00
Hotel Accommodations (3 nights)	5,776.79
ACWA for all meals & nutrition breaks Thursday - Sunday	1,500.00
Assessor travel by air and/or car & meals en route	3,895.39
Snacks & food for evening social hours for candidates/ assessors	364.95
Honoraria paid to the Secretary (Decrease of \$200.00 to bring it in line with other Secretarys)	1,300.00
Paid to have chaplain take candidates for an evening of bowling and food on Saturday evening while assessors doing reports	139.84
Paid to provide transportation to and from Deer Lake airport for the candidates & assessors Thursday & Sunday	453.20

Photo Copying (Copy of materials to be mailed to assessors, etc)	93.45
Office supplies (envelopes, paper, clips computor cartridge, etc)	107.63
Telephone (call assessors, diocesan offices, candidates, etc)	65.00
Postage (mailing packets to assessors, letters, materials to diocesan offices	188.49
& National Office, etc) Secretary to type on Saturday	75.00
Breakfast on Friday, Saturday & Sunday for assessors/candidates/ chaplain assessor trainer at hotel or other restaurant	276.97
Total Expenses (including amount returned to Provincial Treasurer)	\$ 18, 386.71

As the Provincial Synod meets I wish you every blessing.

The Rev. Randy Lockyer Secretary

