

**Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, APPROVED Minutes of 49th Provincial Synod
Friday, June 18th and Saturday, June 19th, 2021, on ZOOM**

10:30 am Atlantic Daylight Time

Delegates and Officers present during Synod

Bishops: Mary Irwin-Gibson, Bruce Myers, Sandra Fyfe, John Organ, John Watton, Samuel Rose, Archbishop David Edwards

Clergy: Trevor Lightfoot, Joanne Mercer, Madonna Boone, Eli Evans, Mark Kingsbury, Charlene Taylor, Bertrand Olivier, Tania Lesack, Andrew O'Donnell, Jeffrey Metcalfe, Joshua Paetkau, Effie Organ, Robert Langmaid, Kevin McAllister

Lay: Dale Keats, Kyle Riggs, Robert Taylor, Jan Connors, Jack Walsworth, Richard Virrs, Charles Ferris, Noah Hermes, Ruth Sheeran, Laura McNulty, Susan Winn, Peter Irish, Stephen Hamlin, Irma Moores, Dion Lewis, Marg Jenniex, Veronica Rose, David Bell, James Travers

Youth: Eden Mancor, Haley Bruhm

Regrets for the Synod Meeting, Vice-chancellor, David Eramian

Non-voting Observers, Guests and the Technical Support team were also present.

11:00 am, Prolocutor Trevor Lightfoot welcomed the delegates and visitors to the Synod. Archbishop David Edwards welcomed participants and opened with a prayer. Morning Prayer, led by the dioceses of Fredericton and NS/PEI

Chancellor, Charles Ferris announced a quorum and the Archbishop declared the Synod to be open.

Archbishop David introduced the officers of Synod, and gave his Presidential Address.

The archbishop stressed that the numbers of religiously unaffiliated is rising.

Our theme is Rejoicing in Hope.

Perhaps we are persevering in Hope. We proceed in Hope,

Question: Does the congregation or parish to which I belong exist for self-preservation, or to impact the local community for good?

We are yeast. Are we ready, as the church, to play our role?

Prolocutor Trevor Lightfoot reviewed the rules and guidelines for ZOOM meetings.

We were joined by Primate Linda Nicholls
Trevor introduced the tech team, Cheryl Jacobs, Shawn Branch and Tanya Moxley.

Chancellor Charles Ferris described the nominating procedure and spoke to the Nominations Report.

Members will have until Saturday at noon to make nominations.

A member from each diocese is required to ensure that nominations are in order.

Moved by Marg Jenniex, seconded by Charles Ferris.

A list of nominees had been prepared by the executive and was presented, open for additional nominations. (see Motion 14 below)

Sessional Committees:

The following was presented and voted using YES buttons.

Courtesies: Eli Evans, Robert Taylor, Eden Mancor

Nominating: Charles Ferris, Marg Jenniex

Resolutions: Joanne Mercer, David Bell, James Travers, Jeffrey Metcalfe

Assessors: David Bell, James Travers

Scrutineers: Trevor Lightfoot, Charles Ferris, Marg Jenniex

Carried

MOTION #12

Moved by: Mark Kingsbury (NS & PEI)

Seconded by: Sue Winn (M)

Re Item # 21,

That the Minutes of Provincial Synod 2018 be approved.

Correction. General Synod in 2019 was not held in Victoria, but in Vancouver, BC.

Carried as amended.

MOTION #13

Moved by Mark Kingsbury (NS & PEI)

Seconded by Sue Winn (M)

Re Item #22.

That the Minutes of Provincial Council 2019 be approved.

Comment from Bishop Bruce Myers that the minutes contained little feedback from time spent with Cathy Lee Cunningham,

Bishops Bruce, Mary and John Organ request feedback from Cathy Lee, and an opportunity to express feelings about Council.

The Chancellor answered that this work is on the table, to be picked up by the next Council.

Motion to receive Financial Reports

Archbishop David noted that each motion has a mover and seconder but the reports need to be formally received, for discussion later.

Carried

Archbishop Mark MacDonald arrived to address the Synod.

Archbishop Mark spoke about Repentance, a pleasure of God that must be tasted. Polls report that churches are primarily at fault in the events in Residential Schools, and were responsible for the burials of children that were not recorded.

At this time, indigenous people are receiving threats for remaining part of the church. Jesus was with these children, but not with those who committed unchristian acts. We need to repent and receive the leading and guidance that only God can provide.

The Archbishop spoke in love and in hope.

Bishop Mary Gibson said that many young people are angry with us for allowing things like residential schools to happen. They do not know the stories and the history of apologies made by Michael Peers and Fred Hiltz.

MOTION #11

Moved by: The Right Rev'd Bruce Myers (Q)

Seconded by: The Right Rev'd John Organ (WNL)

That this Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada adopts and affirms the Statement issued by the Most Revd. Linda Nicholls, the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada with respect to burial sites at former indigenous schools operated by the Christian faith in Canada, on June 2, 2021. [EVERY CHILD MATTERS](#)

Carried

Trevor Lightfoot thanked Archbishop Mark for his address.

[To accommodate Archbishop MacDonald and the General Synod presenters, the discussion groups on the Presidential Address would be postponed until Saturday.]

Break, 1:10 – 2:10 pm for lunch.

2:10 pm. Primate Linda Nicholls

We are people of Hope.

Through the Church in Covid we have developed a new vocabulary.

Pivot has been a key word.

Even without a building, we can be the people of God.

There has been growth in some congregations.

We have rediscovered MP, EP and Compline. We have met with people from distant places. We need to discuss the future of the Holy Communion.

A strategic planning group has provided us with opportunities to think differently.

Racism during the pandemic: we are working on dismantling racism.

We have experienced meetings of Faith leaders with Political leaders. We hope this will continue.

Looking towards Lambeth 2022. Theme: **God's Church for God's World: walking, listening and witnessing together. July 27 – August 8, 2022.**

There are preparation videos on Youtube. We must continue to tell the story of what we have done and what we are doing.

Every parish should have a plan for education.

Alan Perry, General Secretary

Outlined his responsibilities

Working with staff as they work from home is different.

Some projects include:

- a network of people working to eliminate human trafficking
- Gospel Jamboree services
- A strategic planning working group
- Observing a developing indigenous church
- Ending the triennium with a surplus for several reasons: generosity of people, no travel expenses, and support from the Canadian government.
- Work towards General Synod 2022, July 12 – 18. Theme: **Let There Be Greening**

Judy Rois, The Anglican Foundation. With Scott Burbacher and Michelle Hauser

Video: 2020, A year like no other, a year in review

And the legacy of Bishop Kenneth Maguire, who left almost 3 million dollars to the national foundation of the Anglican Church of Canada.

This year's projects include Indigenous ministries, Henry Budd College and the Vancouver School of Theology,

- Climate Care, Wilderness Church, gardens and hives
- Theological Support at Wycliffe College
- Infrastructure projects, eg. St. Paul's in the Yukon and church in Saint John, NB
- Furniture Project in vulnerable communities, eg. St. John's Nfld.
- Braille Resources for leaders with visual impairments

Say Yes to Kids Campaign is now underway.

It is PWRDF's most ambitious campaign ever, with a goal of raising \$100,000. At \$900,000 now. For Homework clubs, after-school activities, any projects to support young people. Parishes and dioceses may apply, not part of only three projects in a year.

PWRDF, Will Postma

Film of Dorothy Marshall teaching children: Love God, Love Others

PWRDF began in 1958 following the collapse of a coal mine in Springhill, Nova Scotia.

Now serving in 30 countries, for quality health care and clean water projects.

In 2019, launched a five year Strategic Plan, Partners in Health, Rwanda.

A current project, Pay It Forward, a PWRDF Equity Fund. When we are vaccinated we contribute to provide vaccines in other countries. Canadians have donated \$30,000 to date. Another \$25,000 has been donated by the ACT alliance to India.

In Mozambique, “A Light for Every Birth” for clean affordable solar power, so that women do not have to give birth in the dark. Giving birth is safer now.

MOTION #6

Moved by: Trevor Lightfoot (NS & PEI)

Seconded by: Margaret Jenniex (CN)

That the Province of Canada donate \$1,000 to the Anglican Foundation of Canada “Say yes to Kids” Campaign and \$1,000 to the Primates World Relief and Development Fund

Discussion: Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson questioned this gift from funds resulting from Diocesan assessments. In addition Bishop Mary asked why the Synod included these presentations which people may have seen at their diocesan Synods. These questions were raised in the presence of our guests. Jeffrey Metcalfe also asked about redundancy in our Synod structures. The Chancellor conveyed that the motion was in order.

Carried in all 3 houses.

Four final motions were presented to Synod:

MOTION #1

THE ELECTION, INSTALLATION, OFFICE AND WORK OF THE METROPOLITAN BISHOP

Moved by: Canon Charles Ferris (F)

Seconded by: Peter Irish (F)

That Canon 2 be amended by

1. a) changing the name of the Canon by adding the word “Installation,” after the word “Election,”; and

b) adding the following new section 7:

7. The Provincial Council may, with the approval of the Provincial House of Bishops, adopt by regulation forms relating to the election, installation, office and work of the Metropolitan Bishop.

Carried in all 3 houses

MOTION #2

GENDER INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE IN EPC CONSTITUTION

Moved: Charles Ferris (F)

Seconded: Peter Irish (F)

Resolved That:

Sections 5(16) and 6(7) of the Constitution of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada be amended by replacing the word “Chairman” with the word “Chair”.

Carried in all 3 houses

MOTION #3

DIOCESAN REPRESENTATION ON PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

Moved: Charles Ferris (F)

Seconded: Peter Irish (F)

That the *Note* to section 6(3) of the *Constitution*, which establishes a formula for Diocesan representation, be updated as follows:

Appendix A Schedule of Elections

Chart showing election for the next 4 synods.

2024, 2030

Clerical Members Dioceses of:

Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador

Western Newfoundland

Fredericton

Quebec

Lay Members Dioceses of:

Central Newfoundland

Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island

Montreal

2027, 2033

Clerical Members Dioceses of:

Central Newfoundland

Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island

Montreal

Lay Members Dioceses of:

Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador

Western Newfoundland

Fredericton

Quebec

In the interest of ensuring that the members between the ages of 16–25 years have representations, that age group shall caucus and elect two members.

Carried in all 3 houses

MOTION #4

CANON 2 – THE ELECTION, OFFICE AND WORK OF THE METROPOLITAN BISHOP

NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING WITHDRAWAL FROM METROPOLITICAL ELECTION

Moved: Charles Ferris (F)

Seconded: Margaret Jenniex (CN)

Canon 2 is amended by adding a new s. 1(5) as follows:

1(5) A diocesan bishop may withdraw from the Metropolitan election by written or electronic notice to the Prolocutor who shall inform the electors of the withdrawal.

Carried in all 3 houses

The Friday meeting closed with Evening Prayer led by the Dioceses of Quebec and Montreal.

Day 2

Provincial Synod

June 19, 2021

Session V- Opened with prayer led by Western Newfoundland

- Congratulations to Bruce Myers for his doctorate

- Announcements- motions and nominations close at noon

Primate- Surprised by the Spirit- cross country conversation on how we engage as a church within the pandemic- (On the national website)

- conversations will close in September, compiled for Thanksgiving

General synod strategic plan- Judith Moses

- overview leading into break out groups

- reimagining the church during the next triennium- transition period

- start process from General synod 2019, and then the pandemic hit

 - impossible yet essential to plan for the future

- continued with 11 listening groups- 120 people

- five priorities identified- self-determination for indigenous church

 - dismantling racism and colonialism

 - advocating on social and environmental issues

 - communication within the church

 - prepare for the future change

- ongoing conversations preparing for General Synod 2022

- continue to aspire for a Healthy Church

Small group discussions and working groups – notes will be compiled and shared with the national church

Session VI

MOTION #14

ELECTIONS

Moved by: Margaret Jenniex (CN)

Seconded: Charles Ferris (F)

That the following EPC Synod members be nominated to the positions as Officers and Provincial Council members as indicated below:

Executive

Prolocutor: Rev. Trevor Lightfoot (NS & PEI)

Deputy Prolocutor: Dion Lewis (M)

Clerical Secretary: Rev. Charlene Taylor (ENL)

Lay Secretary: Jan Connors (NS & PEI)

Treasurer: Peter Irish (F)

Provincial Council

Clerical Members

Dioceses of:

Central Newfoundland: Rev. Joanne Mercer (CN)

Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island: VACANT

Montreal: Rev. Andy O'Donnell (M)

Lay Members

Dioceses of:

Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador): Kyle Riggs (ENL)

Western Newfoundland: Irma Moores (WN)

Fredericton: Robert Taylor (F)

Quebec: Dale Keats (Q)

Youth Members: Eden Mancor

All acclaimed

Moved by Marg Jenniex

Seconded by Charles Ferris

Motion to accept

Carried

ACPO report- (Leo Martin)- received as a document for synod members

-had to do an online interview process- first in Canada

-it worked but not ideal

-thanks to John Watton and Leo Martin for their support

Treasurer's Report- Peter Irish

MOTION #7

Moved by: Peter Irish (F)

Seconded by: Marg Jenniex (CN)

That the audited financial statements for 2018, 2019 and 2020 be approved as presented.

Carried

MOTION #5

Moved by: Peter Irish (F)

Seconded by: Charles Ferris (F)

That Buckley Professional Corporation, Chartered Professional Accountants from Sussex, NB, be appointed as the auditors of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada for the next triennium. (2022-2024)

Carried

MOTION #8

Moved by Peter Irish (F)

Seconded by: Trevor Lightfoot (NS & PEI)

That the Triennium Budget Results for 2019 – 2021 be received.

Comments/Discussion:

-Covid reduced our expenses by a lot (c 60,000 to spare)

-Balance sheet as of June 6, 2021 shared

- Deacon Coolidge just died a couple of weeks ago, and we wanted to acknowledge his gifts setting up the fund for the diaconate

Carried

MOTION #9

Moved by Peter Irish (F)

Seconded by: Charles Ferris (F)

That the budget for 2022 to 2024 be approved as presented.

Budget for 2022-2024 shared- discussion followed:

Moved by Mary Irwin Gibson

Seconded by John Organ

Motion 9 B- that ACPO be done online, reduce the budget to \$1,000/year, then be referred to the House of Bishops for further discussion

Defeated (18 no, 8 for)

Moved by Mary Irwin Gibson seconded by Bruce Myers

Motion 9 proposed amendment- eliminate lines 10, 11, 12, 13 and drop line 21 from \$3,000/year to \$1,000/year

Carried

Motion 9 as amended.

Carried

MOTION #10

Moved by Peter Irish (F)

Seconded by: Mark Kingsbury (NS & PEI)

That the \$40,447 slated for return to the dioceses as directed by the 2018 Synod, not be returned but used to fund the 2022 – 2024 triennium budget.

Defeated

Closing formalities

- Unfinished business- Provincial council consultant’s report
- needs to be explored- was tabled by the executive
- change in metropolitan followed by the pandemic isolation made it difficult to do any adequate visioning process
- hopefully the next time council meets again we will be in a better position to access where we are, nationally, as dioceses, and parishes, so as to have a more informed sense of how to proceed
- evaluation forms on the website

Report of Courtesies Committee

Moved by Stephen Hamlin

Seconded by Kevin McAllister

- Thanks to all, support staff, Guests, executive and archbishop

Carried

-the Archbishop thanked everyone for all the support from synod

Motion to adjourn- Mark Kingsbury

Closing worship led by Eastern Newfoundland

Initial meeting of the new council follows.....

Friday’s minutes by Lay Secretary Susan Winn; Saturday’s minutes by Clerical Secretary Mark Kingsbury; compiled, with the addition of attendance and full wording of motions by incoming Lay Secretary Jan Connors at the request of the Chancellor.

Appendix A

Strategic Planning Working Group (SPWG) NOTES FROM CANADA SYNOD June 19, 2021

Janet Marshall notes

WHAT INSPIRES HOPE? WHAT'S MISSING?

- Lots to do with mission but evangelism, intentional sharing of faith (spreading the good news and nurture of disciples) is missing.
- #1 is the ideal we all strive for. In pandemic and now coming out of it, a rich variety of purposeful congregations, we're going through a process of looking at themselves. Lots of soul searching as congregations and diocese. Lots of hard work looking at ourselves internally. No longer where we were pre-covid – we are changed forever. Pandemic has opened up our weaknesses. More partnerships, finances, cong dev issue, spiritual issue, evangelism issue.
- For us to be a stronger national church we all need to be doing hard work locally.
- Never experienced this before.
- Things are definitely going to be different. Technology has opened up options to reach people we couldn't reach before – people who couldn't come to church who now can come. Should remain as an option. Potential here. Zoom is very intimate and helps keep the community who knew each other get closer. Not so good for the tentative newcomer.
- Similar questions in my location as minority church and language and diverse congregation.
- Wary of using jargon that is meaningless to the world around us. We're desperate to change the world but need to learn how to talk to people about this without jargon, so we are communicating. The challenge of "evangelism." We need to get out of our churches. Not just stay in our comfortable places speaking our own 'language' (jargon)
- Pandemic has made us think very deeply and seen many images of God during the pandemic.
- Demographics – without a focus on demographics I'm pessimistic about the future of the church. Atlantic Canada – the bulk of our growth will be from people who don't come from a Christian background. The focus on our guilt re Indigenous history is a turn off for new Canadians. Where the maintenance let alone the growth is coming there is a danger to the church if we don't focus on demographics.
- Demographics – we have universities and are attracting young adults, need to let go of our power and share it, recognize new generations' leadership – this is a question of self-sacrifice because we need to let go, give up.

ADDING VALUE TO THE CHURCH WHERE YOU ARE

- Need to be part of something bigger than our immediate self. We're all grappling with the same things and in it together. See beyond their immediate while focusing on the immediate.
- A strong presence from the Primate's office on national issues; the big questions of society we need a voice and witness.
- Working through the bigger Anglican issues in our context (Indigenous issues) need to be able to show how we know we have failed and how we are going forward. Need to work on systemic aspects of our racism and how we can be part of the conversation, rejoicing in our diversity, be part of healing.
- Raising up the history, raising up awareness and putting this front and centre. Able to access resources, people to help from National level of the church. Especially when things blow up.
- What sorts of things can help us – e.g. children's ministry. What can we do that will make our churches more relevant and attractive to children?

Ruth Sheeran notes

#2: Intentionally post-colonial and passionately inclusive

- Many in our congregations may not have a clear understanding of what post-colonial and inclusiveness mean; education required before any change can take place.
- Sometimes people who have a more conservative outlook or who prefer more traditional worship are not included.
- Our church was formed in a colonial structure.
- To have change must have buy-in.
- Not everyone wants to be inclusive.
- Confirmation bias must be overcome.
- It is difficult getting our regular members to attend church and participate so how do we reach new people?
- Bringing others to an encounter with Jesus is the most important part and must be done first.

National Church

- Develop educational resources to facilitate learning.
- Acknowledge that differences exist across the country.
- The Primate is very accessible, which is very helpful and greatly appreciated.
- An acknowledgement of the past is helpful when explaining and teaching what has taken place; must admit that our colonial past was wrong.
- Tension between acknowledging our mistakes and difficult of having conversations.

- Need to increase our capacity to have difficult conversations.
- Increase our capacity for good disagreements; we can disagree and still be friends.

Jan Connors notes

#1 Invites and deepens life in Christ

#2 Is intentionally post-colonial and passionately inclusive

In the context of our meeting, where does the EPC fit in; flushed out from discussion to determine what the national church should do to be responsive

Looking outside of the paradigms that created our existing structures

What is transformational here is that we are stepping outside our comfort zone.

Not only what can we do that's different, but what will be different. Does this assist us?

This is herculean; massive. When thinking about conveying them to clergy and parishes, it seems monumental. For example, dismantling colonialism is so big. Owing history, which we are currently dealing with in the church, is not where many of our people are; too heavy to deal with for so many people and we could lose them. It is massive.

Want to explore rootedness; analogy of dandelions, which is not the sign of a healthy ecosystem. There are other types of eco systems are widespread. These aspirations are more superficial. These roots are so overwhelming but there are people in our church who are reaching for something more substantial. The book "Braiding Sweet Grass" was recommended. Bible uses plant analogies. As a colonial rooted church, how do we become more naturalized?

Communities are diverse; need to convey hope/strength from diverse connections (seed analogy in the Bible - rootedness, diversity in the ecosystem is good); need to customize approaches for each parish, reduce the fear from overly large aspirations

Surprised by a lot of language, like post-colonial, is too aspirational. Can we even achieve this? Are we setting ourselves up for failure?

We are American colonialized; the vaccine roll-out as an example. We are colonial but we are also within a colonial structure

How can we be faith speaking to a conflicted society when we are not a singular voice?

Can we be a force of good in society by showing what +Mark means by "relational" and "relationship" as we struggle with colonial history?

AB Mark said yesterday, we need to build relationships. If the national church can provide resources to improve communications, that would be helpful.

This is long-term, decades out. We need to get past church as imperial. Monumental but worth putting our effort into.

They are wonderful aspirations. It would be wonderful to have affordable resources behind that; even printing in lovely coloured resources is problematic for rural parishes.

The National church should look at Jim Pratt's work on a parish to parish model on relationships – this could be adapted for national church use as a resource

Need to get beyond the lowering of the flag, land acknowledgement, etc. Must first let the Indigenous community speak and then re-engage together, building on Indigenous roots

The national church can provide resources to help with this

#3 Embracing mutual independence with the indigenous church

We had the presentation yesterday from AB Mark MacDonald but further to that, how do we do that.

How do we do that in a non-indigenous church?

Charles Ferris: Sharing model (lost connection)

John Organ: grandmother who was indigenous; researching traditions

Spoke of the *How Shall We Forgive* series the Diocese of Fredericton put on where AB Edwards and AB Mark MacDonald compared the way the way we traditional think of aspects of our faith and the indigenous ways of thinking; wonders if opening such presentations could be made available to the wider non-church community so people know that we are struggling within the church as well.

JM: **Example of the Jubilee Commission** looking at the history and come up with a common history to go back and look at to come up with a new narrative for the church and non-church. **Urgency for the Indigenous community as Elder voices are fading away**

We need a whole lot of help from the national church, tools, resources to engage in difficult conversations

Mary Irwin-Gibson notes

#2 Intentionally post-colonial and passionately inclusive

- Very important to us

#3 Embraces mutual interdependence with the Indigenous church (Sacred Circle)

- Not exactly relevant to the church where they are
- Is there somewhere in the national church where we can learn?
- The historic apologies and other resources need to be kept up and pushed out by General Synod
- Children in schools need to be taught this and not just in church
- Dropping the notion that one group is the missionary

Overall comments:

- Right direction, move forward
- Will take a long time
- We need to progress
- Hopefully unity will win out
- We have to do it even if we fail at some of it
- Help one another through it

Bruce Myers notes

In what ways do these things inspire hope?

- This is the language of the congregations I'm serving. I think this is the work we're about and the work I see happening around me, and it makes sense to me.
- I have hope in that each of these aspirational areas seem to take seriously the real existential challenges we are facing as a human family (environmental crisis, systemic racism, etc.). However, I am skeptical that this process will move beyond words and/or get submerged in process.
- Can the church national actually put words into action? Words are not going to satisfy the problems we have. We need as a church to forget all the robes and magnificence of our church and get down to the root causes of racism and deal with them one by one. We need to go back to nothing to build up something.
- My fear is that we're such a politically polarized nation is that the power will still be unbalanced but just shift from clericalism to something different. My hope is that we'll be following the gospel and I don't think we have been. Racism is an example. We have churches that love their building and worship it as their golden calf. My hope is that as a church we'll just not proclaim the gospel but live it, and that's expressed in those five aspirations.
- I want to be part of the church we describe in these aspirations.

#4: Stewards of God's creation and attending to the wellbeing of humankind

In what ways could these activities of the national church add value to the church where you are?

- I don't see much on the environmental side. It seems to be missing in terms of content.
- Concern for creation needs to be an aspect of our decision-making and spending. How often we travel, how much we print, etc. We need to be intentional about that call.
- Stress the convening/connecting role of the General Synod. Look the Anglican Communion for inspiration: little ACO infrastructure and staff, but the Anglican Communion's Networks draw people together effectively gathering people on the ground around similar areas of work, to share best practices, etc. This does not require much staff, infrastructure, travel, etc. In some ways the national church seems stuck on the old highly programmatic phase of the 1960s and 70s. A return to the General Synod's original model as a light-on-structures and nimble body speaks to our reality again.
- Take seriously the principle of subsidiarity: what can the General Synod do only or best? What can be best left to the dioceses?
- We need to do more sharing of stories. General Synod can be the hub for that sharing.
- The church is missing the point. We're not at a point anymore that we're big. We have to live with the times.

Dion Lewis notes

#5: lives in relationship with each other in local, diocesan, national and global communities

The Bishops must be the leaders to come on board with these priorities.

The Bishop also need support from the clergy and people... a measure of accountability needs to be built into the process.

Set a local group that can check in with the national church priorities.

External resources would be required to help guide work towards this task.

We can be conduits.

What is the hope? But this is not aspirational... What is the exact type of relationship is there...? Is this a good? Are we assuming that there are already good relationships.

For this document we need to see some examples of how this work is done? is that our task? We need to rebuild the relationship.

Principle of Subsidiarity:

Subsidiarity is an organizing principle that matters ought to be handled by the smallest,

lowest or least centralized competent authority. Political decisions should be taken at a local level if possible, rather than by a central authority. [wikipedia]

The principle of subsidiarity, according to which "a community of a higher order should not interfere in the internal life of a community of a lower order, depriving the latter of its functions, but rather should support it in case of need and help to co- ordinate its activity with the activities of the rest of society, always with a view to the common good."7 [Catechism of the Catholic Church]

Susan Winn notes

[Not sure which topic]

Churches are breaking through boundaries, joining online for worship.
Youth from different denominations to form integrated youth groups.

Churches are recognizing there is ONE God, for Muslims, Sikh,
Christians...reaching out to one another.

Learning to respect indigenous fishers. We must engage in difficult
conversations. So much hope in indigenous communities.

Strength in partnerships. We have worked with groups who share values but who
come from different places.

Ways the Anglican family can work together. Even globally.
Holding on to distant members even as we go back to buildings.

The critical importance of the communications department.
Brian Bukowski 's messages.

Plenary Notes (Monique Stone)

So much material – more than we can manage. We really all need to take time to reflect
on this. It is huge but so good.

The hope is that some people will send notes after they have a chance to read and
consider.

It is amazing and wonderful and aspirational – but it is Herculean – many people are not
even aware of some of these issues.

Worthy and deserving of efforts. Worthy to try – even if we fail.

Share with each other so that we can own it – at all levels of church.

Need to ensure that it doesn't end up on a shelf – as a church we need to own it, argue,
discuss, own – and then do it.

It is like the discipleship journey – we are called to take it all, even if it is difficult.

It would good to be prepared for the difficult conversations – racism, post-colonial,
etc..... we need to be prepared so we can anticipate difficult conversations. As faith
leaders we need resources to equip and lead the conversations.

Question from Jan Connors: The process – how are things collated? She has been clarified by David Edwards on two separate processes. The notes from these sessions will all be sent back to Synod.