

1/ Early in the proceedings the executive met to focus on the upcoming events about to unfold. At this moment the clouds parted, the heavens opened, and choirs of angels descended to dance and sing about our beloved prolocutor who, arrayed in magnificent splendour, took his place among us. All hail his gloriousness, as we all bowed and paid obeisance.

-in attendance for this transforming and life affirming experience were: Trevor (Prolocutor of my heart) Lightfoot, Marg Jenniux, Susan Winn, Peter Irish, Charles Ferris, and Mark (your humble scribe) Kingsbury – his grace, the Most Rev'd Ron Cutler, will arrive later this evening

-the prolocutor will chair the meeting in his grace's absence

-bishops have been asked to lead us through out in worship

-what is our way forward? Is the overarching topic of our agenda

And now for the official opening of the council, let loose the pigeons.....

1/ We began by acknowledging that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq Wəlastəkwiyyik (Maliseet), and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

Members present: executive as printed above, Geoffrey Peddle, David Edwards, Mary Irwin-Gibson, Bruce Myers, John Organ, Valerie Bennett, Kenute Francis, Ted Quann- Joanne Minnett is on her way

2/ Opening devotions = David Edwards

3/ Housekeeping items- Peter Irish- agenda, travel claims, etc....

4/ Review of our last provincial synod- Trevor

-Cathy Lee Cunningham will be our facilitator

-Primate and Michael Thompson will share the national church's vision

-tomorrow is the primate's birthday, we will have a cake

-Colin Robertson will be here Saturday for Ecclesiastical Insurance

-Brochure for General synod developed by Susan Winn- we sponsored one of the breaks

-Provincial prayer cycle suspended lately due to illness of Brian Candow (he is also retiring soon, so we will need to find a replacement)

-suggestion to find a better facility for the next synod while being mindful of the costs- we could all meet at the archbishop's house and camp out in his backyard

5/ Then Cathy Lee arrived as our facilitator, and there was much rejoicing

-conflict resolution and mediation- Dalhousie, AST, Harvard, and Alban Institute

-what is our purpose, what are we doing, issues we have been discussing for decades

-clarity of purpose and vision for our structure- whither now

Biblical reflection- raising of Lazarus- what is our reality- what binds us- what is our unresolved grief

Reality- Grief- Hope by Walter Brueggeman

First small group discussion- focus on topic 1/ reality

SUPPER

6/ Upon our return our gathering was made holier by the arrival of his and her grace, the metropolitan and primate, and then oddly enough, we focused our attention on grief

Our Process:

- a) Share story- reality and grief
- b) Brainstorm possibilities- grounded in reality as we move toward hope
- c) Evaluate possibilities- what can we realistically and faithfully accomplish by amplifying the good power of what we have
- d) Create covenant agreement- moving forward as a province together

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7/ Morning Prayer.....and Joanne Minnett arrived

8/ Primatial address- Linda Nicholls

-in the midst of a huge cultural shift

-individualism clashes with the Christian message of giving for our others

-our primary message of community continues to be quite radical

-we are part of a broader community- breadth of belonging

- institutions are deeply mistrusted- negative stories are told before happy good time stories
- our structures continue to serve a function, and purpose- life giving and holy
- Provinces are rare in the global communion- geography demanded regional groupings
- church's vision has changed and adapted to the shifting realities of the world
- same gender relationships have dominated the church for decades
- underlying pain exists amongst the hope that there might be some closure- moving forward
- there are more and different issues that we will shift our focus towards
- General synod- a/ review of mission- what needs support, what needs to end
 - b/ strategic plan- six year plan regularly revisited
 - c/ governance model review
- each province finds its own ways to express their gifts- finding new ways, technologies
- where is the church in relation to climate change

And Matt Townsend of the Anglican Journal was welcomed

Paul Sherwood from the Diocesan Times took our photos as we all sang Happy Birthday to our beloved Primate

9/ Michael Thompson- General synod

- church continues its ministry in the challenge of limitations- the time of doing more with less is over
- many issues put pressure on how we do our ministries together
- changed the National indigenous ministry governance structure
- call to discipleship and ministry
- conversations between Christian and Muslim
- changes to the prayer in the BCP- reconciliation with the Jews
- discussions around the Anglican Journal – subscription rate dropped to 1/3
- Safer Church charter adopted
- Same gender marriage- Canon change defeated by the House of Bishops
- global relations- building partnerships with other parts of North and South America

Small group discussions- feedback for the governance structure review

LUNCH TIME

10/ Facilitation time with Cathy Lee- HOPE- how are our structures supporting us

-The War of Art- by Stephen Pressfield

-small group discussions around the structures and our constitution

SUPPER

11/ Wither now? What is God calling us to be?

-What I believe we can do together as an Ecclesiastical Province that is relevant in our mission field, realistically do-able and faithful to the Gospel?

Information to be collated by Cathy Lee who will give a report to the Executive which will be shared with the council for feedback. Cathy Lee will be hired as our consultant to do this and recommend next steps forward. Moved by Marg Jennieux and seconded by Peter Irish. Carried

October 26, 2019

12/ The prolocutor failed to make arrangements for morning prayer, so the group naturally looked to the most spirit filled archbishop in the room

13/ Safer Church presentation- Ecclesiastical Insurance- online resource developed for training

-45 minute module

14/ Finance report- Peter Irish (documents circulated) we are in great shape

Acceptance of reports- moved by Marg Jennieux 2nd by Charles Ferris. Carried

Vote of thanks to Peter for all his work, vote of thanks to Cathy Lee for her facilitation; and a vote of thanks to Mark for just being an all round heck of a guy

15/ Eucharist- Lunch- departures- I moved the meeting be adjourned

16/ Executive meeting to follow.....

Executive

October 26, 2019

1/ Date for the next meeting- wait til the new year

-Cathy Lee still has to compile our notes and give her report

-tentative date for teleconference- Thursday, January 30, 2 pm

2/ Peter is going to look into what technologies are available for a linked meeting

-trial run with council as we prepare for a synod

-and remember- electronic meetings are way different from face to face

-a lot of energy still exists around meeting and building relationships

And once again.....I move the meeting be adjourned

Happy trails