

**The Ecclesiastical Province of Canada
Provincial Council**

**Cavendish, Prince Edward Island
September 23 to 26, 2010**

Minutes

Present:

The Rt. Rev. Claude Miller (Fred), Metropolitan; Margaret Jenniex (CNL), Prolocutor; The Ven. Bruce Myers (Qc), Deputy Prolocutor; The Rev. James Pratt (Mtl), Clerical Secretary; James Sweeny (Qc), Lay Secretary; Eric Dryden (Mtl) Treasurer; Charles Ferris (Fred), Chancellor; **Central Newfoundland:** The Rt. Rev. David Torranceville; **Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador:** The Rev. Julie Hiscock, Mr. Moses Tucker*, **Fredericton:** The Ven. Vicars Edward Hodge, Captain Rob Marsh, Ms. Emily Jacobs (Y); **Montreal:** The Rev. Ralph Leavitt (Alternate for the Ven. Janet Griffith-Johnson), Me David Eramian; **Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island:** The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley, The Rt. Rev. Ron Cutler, The Ven. John Clarke, Ms. Penny Lockhart; **Quebec:** The Rt. Rev. Dennis Drainville, The Rev. Jason Pollick, Mrs. Phyllis Gauthier, Mr. Félix Gaudreau* (Y); **Western Newfoundland:** The Rt. Rev. Percy Coffin, The Very Rev. Michael Rice, Irma Moores.

Guests: The Ven. Sandra Tiller, Diocesan Archdeacon (ENL); Canon Elizabeth Barnes, Executive Assistant (ENL); The Rt. Rev. Don Young, Newfoundland Joint Committee; The Rev. Perry Cooper, (CNL); The Ven. Edward King, Archdeacon (WNL); The Rev. Canon Gordon Redden, (NSPEI); The Ven. Geoffrey Hall, Executive Archdeacon (Fred); The Rev. Edmund Laldin, Resource Persons for Interfaith Concerns; Ellie Johnson; Mike Thornhill, Ecclesiastical Insurance Group; Jarvis deConde, insurance advisor (Fred. & NSPEI).

*arrived on Friday

Thursday, September 23

Council convened with Choral Evensong at St. Peter's Cathedral, Charlottetown. The Metropolitan delivered the presidential address at Evensong.

Friday, September 24

The day began with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist led by the Diocese of Fredericton, with the Metropolitan celebrating.

The Metropolitan welcomed Ellie Johnson, retired from the national office, for Bible study. Ellie introduced the theme of the Council meeting, "Marked by Mission".

James Pratt read list of regrets. Bishop Barry Clarke is absent as a result of the birth of his grandson yesterday and the need to spend time with family. Council commended the announcement. Others sending regrets were Bishop Cy Pitman (ENL), Archdeacon Janet Griffith-Johnson (Mtl) (replaced by alternate the Rev. Ralph Leavitt), the Rev. John Watton (CNL), Wayne Hallet (CNL), Nicole Buffett (Youth, CNL). The Metropolitan noted that this would be the last meeting for Capt. Rob Marsh as a lay delegate, as he is to be ordained to the transitional diaconate next month.

The secretaries reported that 23 members of council were registered, and that a quorum was present.

John Clarke, chair of the local arrangements committee, welcomed members and made announcements.

Motion 1

Moved by: The Ven. Bruce Myers (Qc)

Seconded by: Capt. Rob Marsh (Fred)

That the Courtesies Committee be the Rev. Jason Pollick, Irma Moores and Emily Jacobs.

Carried.

Motion 2

Moved by: The Ven Vicars Hodge (Fred)

Seconded by: James Sweeny (Qc)

That the minutes of the 2009 meeting of Provincial Synod be adopted as presented.

Carried.

Motion 3

Moved by: David Eramian (Mtl)

Seconded by: Penny Lockhart (NSPEI)

That the privileges of the House be extended to guests, namely, Ellie Johnson, the Rev. Edmund Laldin, the Rt. Rev. Donald Young, the Ven. Edward King, the Rev. Perry Cooper, the Ven. Sandra Tilley, Elizabeth Barnes, the Ven. Geoffrey Hall, the Ven. Gordon Redden, Jarvis deConde and Mike Thornhill.

Carried.

Correspondence: The clerical secretary read a memorial from the diocesan synod of Western Newfoundland which had not been submitted prior to council (see Appendix 1).

Notices of Motion. The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley presented two notices of motion. The Rt. Rev. Dennis Drainville presented one notice of motion.

The Metropolitan invited the Executive Officers of the diocese, who had been meeting among themselves and with the House of Bishops prior to the meeting of Council, to report on their meeting. Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall of Fredericton addressed Council. On behalf of the executive officers he thanked Council for the invitation to meet and to attend Council as guests. They discussed job descriptions and roles, because they have widely different roles in their dioceses; spent time with the bishops. They identified a need for more special-interest gatherings across the dioceses, and asked the Council to find ways to facilitate that. Other areas discussed were Safe Church protocols (with Charles Ferris), property insurance (with Jarvis deConde, insurance advisor to the Dioceses of Fredericton and NSPEI), and database management, with a demonstration of Fredericton's system. The executive officers intend to remain in touch and have future meetings.

Charles Ferris introduced the topic of Safe Churches, and the expansion of the definition of misconduct beyond sexual misconduct to include bullying, emotion abuse, and financial abuse. He asked Council to consider developing a provincial Safe Churches policy, so that all dioceses can take a common approach to the issues. He then introduced Mike Thornhill of Ecclesiastical Insurance. Mr. Thornhill spoke about the need for and suggested components of a comprehensive abuse and misconduct protocol to protect children, youth and vulnerable adults, and to protect innocent volunteers and employees from false accusations. Charles Ferris then introduced Jarvis deConde, who made some remarks emphasizing the time lag between an incident and its reporting, and the need for record-keeping and retention. Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall then spoke about the need for training and keeping the momentum going with regular training for new volunteers. The floor was then opened to questions and discussion.

Bishops Sue Moxley and Ron Cutler presented the report of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

The Diocese of Montreal led Mid-day prayer.

After lunch, Council went to the Prince Edward Island Preserve Co. and The Dunes, then to St. John's Church, Milton for a barbecue and entertainment by the Just for Fun Band.

Friday, September 25

During breakfast, the Metropolitan met with the youth delegates.

The Diocese of Quebec led Morning Prayer. The session opened with the Prolocutor in the chair.

Ellie Johnson asked members and guests in diocesan groups to discuss “What God is doing in the places you come from.”

Bishop Percy Coffin presented the report of the Diocese of Western Newfoundland.

Archbishop Claude Miller presented the report of the Diocese of Fredericton.

In discussion on the reports, Bishop Dennis Drainville talked about the growing cooperation between the dioceses of Quebec and Montreal.

Motion 4

Moved by: The Ven. Vicars Hodge (Fred)

Seconded by: Capt. Rob Marsh (Fred)

That the reports be received as presented.

The Prolocutor introduced the Rev. Edmund Laldin, Interfaith Resource Person. He introduced the Rev. Jasmine Chandra, chaplain at Rothesay-Netherwood School, St. John, New Brunswick, a member of his working group. He started by reviewing his mandate and sharing his personal story. He then talked about current issues in interfaith relations, and different ways at approaching interfaith dialogue (exclusivism, inclusivism, pluralism and parallelism). Jasmine Chandra then spoke about interfaith issues in the context of school chaplaincy. Edmund Laldin then shared stories of interfaith chaplaincy in the Canadian Forces and presented a paper by the Rev. Maj. Derrick Marshall. He then led small group discussion. After the small group discussion, Edmund closed with a summary of his plans for the next year, including a trip to Jerusalem, about potentials for advocacy, and planning for bringing in representatives of other faiths for dialogue with council or synod.

The Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador led mid-day prayer.

After lunch, Council resumed, with the Prolocutor in the chair.

Ellie Johnson led a discussion in small groups by orders on the questions: what is your role in mission? What do you see as the role of your order? What do you think the role of the other orders is? What frustrates you?

At the conclusion of the discussion, Ellie asked the groups to discuss what is the mission of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, with reference to the proposed motions. Ideas expressed included sharing information, educational events, doing things together that we don't have the resources to do as individual dioceses, offering programs which meet needs within the province, supporting the voice and ministry of the Metropolitan, helping each other respond to urgent needs (such as clean-up from Hurricane Igor).

Motion 5

Moved by: The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley
Seconded by: The Rt. Rev. Ron Cutler

That Provincial Council not meet in 2011; that a Provincial "event" that will further God's mission be funded to a maximum of \$40,000 from the Province of Canada 2010-2011 budget; and that Provincial Synod 2012 consider a resolution to make this a regular pattern, i.e., one Synod, one Provincial Council, one Provincial event.

Moved by: The Ven. Vicars Hodge (Fred)
Seconded by: Félix Côté-Gaudreau (Qc)

That Council move into Committee of the Whole to consider all three related motions in discussion.

Carried.

Council moved into Committee of the Whole.

Moved by: The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley (NSPEI)
Seconded by: The Rt. Rev. Dennis Drainville (Qc)

To move out of Committee of the Whole.

Carried.

Motion 5 was withdrawn, to be replaced by a substitute motion.

Motion 6

Moved by: The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley (NSPEI)
Seconded by: The Rt. Rev. Dennis Drainville (Qc)

That this Provincial Council ask the Governance Working Group to examine possible changes to

the constitution and canons of the Ecclesiastical Province regarding the membership and structure of Provincial Synod and Provincial Council, including reducing the number of members of Provincial Council and Provincial Synod, and the frequency of gatherings.

Carried.

Motion 7

Moved by: The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley (NSPEI)

Seconded by: The Rt. Rev. Ron Cutler (NSPEI)

That Provincial Council not meet in 2011; that a Provincial “event” that will further God’s mission be funded to a maximum of \$40,000 from the Province of Canada 2010-2011 budget.

Carried.

The Treasurer, Eric Dryden then presented the financial statement for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2010.

Motion 8

Moved by: Eric Dryden (Mtl)

Seconded by: James Sweeny (Qc)

To accept the financial statements as presented.

Carried.

The Treasurer then presented the proposed budget for the years 2010-2012. (Note: this was amended from the budget in the convening circular)

Motion 9

Moved by: Eric Dryden (Mtl)

Seconded by: Moses Tucker (ENL)

To accept the budget as presented.

Carried.

The Treasurer then presented the proposed assessments.

Motion 10

Moved by: Eric Dryden (Mtl)
Seconded by: The Ven. Vicars Hodge (Fred)

To adopt the diocesan assessments as presented.

Carried.

The Prolocutor made a final call for notices of motion, then made an announcement concerning the ``Silent Night`` project.

Council then entered into a brainstorming and discussion session concerning a provincial event for 2011. The Metropolitan invited the youth delegates to share their reflections from their breakfast together, and their ideas for a provincial youth gathering or youth synod. Considerable discussion followed on a youth gathering. Other ideas put forward included

- a mission and evangelism workshop
- a train-the-trainer event on Safe Church protocols
- a program for rural and struggling parishes
- a gathering of young clergy for mutual support and encouragement

The Prolocutor asked members to consider the ideas during the break, and to be prepared after supper to give the Executive direction.

Council reconvened after supper with the Metropolitan in the chair.

Ellie Johnson gave some closing remarks, with a summary of *The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why*, by Phyllis Tickle, and with words of encouragement for the Province's mission in the years ahead. The Prolocutor thanked Ellie for her leadership and inspiration, and presented her with a token of appreciation.

The Metropolitan spoke concerning the effects of Hurricane Igor on the people of Eastern Newfoundland and Central Newfoundland. The Rev. Julie Hiscock read a draft of a letter to be sent by him to the people of the two dioceses, expressing concern and solidarity. (See appendix 2) Council indicated its assent to the letter.

Motion 11

Moved by: Eric Dryden (Mtl)
Seconded by: The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley (NSPEI)

That Council give \$500 to the bishops' discretionary fund of the bishops of Eastern

Newfoundland and Labrador and Central Newfoundland, to aid in the dioceses efforts to help those affected by the hurricane.

Carried.

Bishop David Torraville expressed his gratitude to Council, and related a story of how the rector of the parish of Catalina arranged for delivery of food to his community, which had been cut off by washed out roads. Canon Elizabeth Barnes expressed gratitude on behalf of the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Metropolitan invited reflections from guests. Canon Elizabeth Barnes expressed thanks for the opportunity to attend and participate, and that she was glad to see the discussion of governance as it relates to mission, and to see the Council taking concrete action. Archdeacon Edward King and the Rev. Perry Cooper echoed her remarks. The Metropolitan shared comments from Bishop Don Young, who said he found the discussions valuable and wished there were more time.

The Metropolitan asked that the Council provide direction to the Executive on an event for 2011. Bishop Moxley suggested that we focus on a youth event, and use the gifts and skills that exist in our province. Bishop Cutler noted that Common Ground (the national event) is scheduled for May or June, that the dates are set for NSPEI's youth gathering, and that those need to be taken into account in planning.

Motion 12

Moved by: The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley (NSPEI)

Seconded by: The Ven. Vicars Hodge (Fred)

That the provincial event be a youth and young clergy event.

Carried.

Motion 13

Moved by: Penny Lockhart (NSPEI)

Seconded by: The Ven. Bruce Myers (Qc)

That the Provincial Executive appoint a planning team including representation from each diocese.

Carried.

Motion 14

Moved by: The Rev. Jason Pollick (Qc)

Seconded by: Emily Turner (Fred)

That Council extend its thanks to:

our speaker Ellie Johnson

the executive officers

Mike Thornhill, Charles Ferris and Jarvis deConde

the management and staff of the Silverwood Motel

James Pratt for his musical accompaniment to our worship

Cynthia Short and CAA for travel arrangements

The Ven. John Clarke for his leadership and work as chair of local arrangements, together with Joan Dalziel, the Rev. Evelyn Knorr, the Rev. Cathy Pharo, Don Himmelman and Harold Bristor

the Silverwood Motel, manager Mel Gass, Joanne, Helen and Joan, for the accommodations and continental breakfast

Chez Yvonne for breakfasts on Friday and Saturday

Harold Bristor for organizing and providing ground transportation and other support

Wendy & Don Himmelman for ground transportation and other support, including preparing and setting up the evening receptions

Trius Bus Company for transportation to and from St. Peter's Cathedral and for Friday's outing

The ACW's and other church groups who provided and served meals – St. Thomas Springbrooke (Thursday lunch), St. Peter's Cathedral (Thursday supper), St. Mark's Rustico (Friday snack), St. Mary's Summerside fellowship group (Friday lunch), St. John's Milton and the Just for Fun Band (Friday barbecue and entertainment), St. Stephen's Irishtown ACW (Saturday snack and lunch) and St. Mark's Kensington (Saturday supper)

those from the various churches who will host council members tomorrow, providing meals and transportation

St. Peter's Cathedral, the Rev. Canon Peter Harris, their choir and organist, for the opening Evensong

The Rev. Robert Tuck, for his tour of All Souls Chapel

the Just for Fun Band of St. John's Milton

the Prince Edward Island Preserve Company

the Dunes Gallery

the Diocesan Church Society for the Thursday evening reception

the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island for the Friday evening reception

and all others who contributed to and/or provided support for this session of the Council of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.

Carried.

The Metropolitan expressed his thanks to Margaret Jenniex, and to all members of Council.

Motion 15

Moved by: Eric Dryden (Mtl)

To adjourn.

The Metropolitan declared Council adjourned.

The Diocese of Western Newfoundland led Compline, which included the singing of “Silent Night” and videotaping.

On Sunday, September 26, members of Council were the guests of various parishes on Prince Edward Island.

Appendix 1

Memorial from the Diocesan Synod of Western Newfoundland

RESOLVED: that this Synod forward to Provincial Council and Provincial Synod a memorial to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of our Church by re-evaluating the provincial structure and considering any changes that would accomplish this, including transferring part of the provincial power and authority and/or part of provincial legislative authority, to General Synod.

Appendix 2

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I bring you greetings in the name of the One whom we serve together.

It is with my deepest care and concern that I write to you as you struggle with the aftermath of Hurricane Igor. I am attending Provincial Council meetings in P.E.I. this week and have been seeing pictures of and hearing from your representatives about the devastation that has afflicted you. I cannot imagine the turmoil you are experiencing.

Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. It is my hope that the faith we share will bring you some comfort as you face the challenges that lie ahead. These words are not simply lip service. God is indeed with you. It is in the days, weeks and months to come that you will be reminded of this as you rebuild your homes, communities and bring order back into your lives. God will be present through the help, support and encouragement of family, friends and strangers alike. It is also in the days, weeks and months to come that the rest of your Church family has the opportunity to minister to you as we uphold you in our prayers.

In addition to our prayers, the Provincial Council has made a contribution to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund in both the diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador and Central Newfoundland to aid in the Church's work in this crisis.

*The Lord bless and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favour and grant you peace.*

Yours in Service,

+Claude

The Most Reverend Claude Miller
Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada