



**THE ANGLICAN SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of November 24, 2022 - ZOOM Meeting

**EX OFFICIO**

Bishop	The Right Reverend Anna Greenwood-Lee
Chancellor	Bob Gill
Vice Chancellor	Isabel Weeks
Dean	<Vacant>
Registrar	Michael Wolff
Lay Secretary	Canon Elaine Ellison
Clerical Secretary	The Rev. Paul Schumacher
Treasurer	Barbara Underhill <b>R</b>

**ELECTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

The Rev. Lynn Cawthra	Walter Stewart <b>R</b>
The Rev. Juli Mallett	Lynn Schumacher
<vacant>	Marilyn Taylor
The Rev. Gail Rodger	Ed Norman
The Rev. Canon Craig Hiebert	Elizabeth Murphy

**APPOINTED**

Timothy Ray

**STAFF**

The Ven. J. Barry Foster, Executive Officer  
 Gillian Astbury-Heinke, Finance Officer  
 Brendon Neilson, Vision Animator and Executive Director  
 The Ven. Eric Partridge, Executive Archdeacon

**GUESTS (with voice, no vote)**

## **Welcome**

Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee opened the meeting at 10:06 AM and welcomed the members of Diocesan Council. The Bishop thanked the members of council for joining in this virtual meeting on the Zoom platform.

Bishop Anna offered an opening prayer. The slides from the bishop's teaching moment will be found in the attached document. (Appendix 1).

### 1. **Agenda for this diocesan council meeting** (Appendix 2):

Accepted as presented.

### 2. **Regrets for Absence**

The clerical secretary noted the regrets for absence from this council meeting. There were two voting members absent. The clerical secretary declared that there was a quorum present with fourteen voting members from a total of sixteen having a vote on council, in attendance.

### 3. **Consent agenda approval** (Appendix 3):

The bishop noted that discussion on whether to add the treasurer as a member of the Management Team would be deferred to the February meeting.

**MOVED BY:** Isabel Weeks

**SECONDED BY:** Ed Norman

**MOTION:** *That the consent agenda be approved as presented.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

### 4. **Diocesan Scan**

#### a. Theological Brief on Development (Appendix 4.1)

Brendon Neilson spoke about the document contained in appendix 4.1. He asked council to pay attention to the final page of the document which contained an evaluation framework for use by synod moving forward.

#### b. Framework - Diocese Assets - Current Projects - November 22, 2022 (Appendix 4.2)

Brendon Neilson indicated to the members of council that the diocese is currently involved in seven (7) different projects around future development of property associated with seven parishes. Three of these projects are being examined for feasibility of land use by partners from beyond our diocese. The other four projects are diocese driven. Following council's return from breakout room discussions about the lands we think we own verses lands we hold, a brief period of discussion occurred.

### 5. **Update on Building for the Future - School Business Plan**

Bishop Anna shared with council that the diocese has received a "business plan" from Christ Church Cathedral School. The plan submitted lacks certain pieces of information which impact the diocese's risk analysis and clarity around where the school will find the funding needed to move forward with such a large-scale project. The school has been asked to provide the missing information for its business plan by January 2023, and whether outside partners will be needed to bring this plan to completion.

In response to a question from council, the Bishop went on to comment that feasibility study work is on-going and the money being spent currently on this study will benefit the precinct no matter what the outcome of the development of the precinct is.

The bishop indicated to council that no design work for the school has been undertaken to this point.

**6. Property Development Terms of Reference: Ongoing issues**

Council was informed that revised Terms of Reference for the Asset Management Team will be brought to diocesan council for its consideration at the February diocesan council meeting.

**7. Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation - Motion re: funding**

(Appendix 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4)

Brendon Neilson gave some background regarding the feasibility work being undertaken at St. Dunstan and St. Peter's Lakehill. Grant funding has been received from CMHC and council is required to approve the receipt of these grant funds.

**MOVED BY:** Craig Hiebert

**SECONDED BY:** Juli Mallett

**MOTION:** *That diocesan council accept the CMHC funding for projects at St. Dunstan's and St. Peter's Lakehill parishes.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

**8. Lease to CCPA at St. Mary's Oak Bay (Appendix 6)**

**MOVED BY:** Isabel Weeks

**SECONDED BY:** Ed Norman

**MOTION:** *That the lease, for a 10-year term, of the hall and ancillary spaces of the Parish of St. Mary the Virgin, Oak Bay, to the Canadian Heritage Arts Society, be approved, and that the Bishop and Clerical Secretary be authorized to sign the lease document.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

**9. Archival Project beginning in January 2023**

Brendon Neilson indicated to council that in the new year we will be beginning a new archival project to look at how we, as a diocese, came to hold the lands and properties we now claim as assets. Diocesan council will be receiving updates as this work unfolds.

11:00AM Diocesan council took a fifteen-minute break.

11:15AM Council reconvened.

**10. Diocesan Budget for 2023 (Appendix 7)**

Bishop Anna offered some introductory comments and responded to several questions regarding the proposed budget for 2023.

**MOVED BY:** Bob Gill

**SECONDED BY:** Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee

**MOTION:** *That diocesan council approve the diocesan budget for 2023 as presented.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

#### 11. Refugee Program update

Brendon Neilson shared with council that communications are being prepared for announcement to the public next week. Items forming part of the minutes from council's September meeting impact the announcements to be made next week. Thus, the September diocesan council minutes were not included as part of today's meeting package. These minutes will be approved through an e-vote following the release of the diocesan communications planned for next week. Bishop Anna spoke about the discussions we have had with other dioceses in our BC provincial house. Discussions are on-going toward having one provincial refugee coordinator for refugee program.

A pastoral letter will be issued from the Bishop's office to all clergy and parishes next week.

#### 12. Canons Revisions (Appendix 8.1, 8.2)

**MOVED BY:** Bob Gill

**SECONDED BY:** Isabel Weeks

**MOTION:** *That the minutes of the Canons Committee meeting held November 14, 2022, be received.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

**MOVED BY:** Bob Gill

**SECONDED BY:** Isabel Weeks

**MOTION:** *THAT Diocesan Council recommend to Synod that paragraph a. of Canon 2.1 be amended to read:*

- a. *Each session shall normally begin with a public celebration of the Holy Communion.*

*AND upon adoption of the above amendment to Canon 2.1 by the next session of Synod, that the following regulation come into force as paragraph a of Regulation 2.1.01 (Order of Business), and that the remaining paragraphs a - d of Regulation 2.1.01 be re-lettered accordingly:*

- b. *Where the public celebration of the Holy Communion is deemed impractical, a session may begin with an alternative public service of worship in a form authorized by the bishop.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

**MOVED BY:** Bob Gill

**SECONDED BY:** Juli Mallett

**MOTION:** *That Diocesan Council recommends to Synod:*

*That the second "bullet point" in paragraph a.c.(3) of Canon 1.5 be amended by striking the word "nominate" and replacing it with "elect", and by correcting the reference to Canon 3.a.2, so that the revised bullet point shall read as follows:*

- *shall prior to a Diocesan Synod elect one clerical and one lay person from among its members who are members of Synod to serve on the diocesan council as set out in canon 3.a.2.*

*And that paragraph a.2 of Canon 3 be rescinded and replaced with the following:*

2. *Elected: One clerical and one lay, being members of the Synod, elected from each Region, who shall be confirmed by motion at a regular Synod to serve on the Council until the next regular Synod.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

**MOVED BY:** Isabel Weeks

**SECONDED BY:** Ed Norman

**MOTION:** *That Diocesan Council directs the Canons Committee to review the Canons, Regulations and Appendices with a view to proposing amendments that will:*

- *Better reflect our actual practices;*
- *Make the Canons and Regulations internally consistent in wording and numbering; and*
- *Use plain language.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

### 13. **Appointment of Finance Officer**

**MOVED BY:** Bob Gill

**SECONDED BY:** Lynn Schumacher

**MOTION:** *That diocesan council approve the Bishop's appointment of Gillian Astbury-Heinke to the position of finance officer for the Diocese of Islands and Inlets.*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

### 14. **Updates:**

- a. *Respectful Workplace Policy (Appendix 9, 9.1)*

**MOVED BY:** Isabel Weeks

**SECONDED BY:** Marilyn Taylor

**MOTION:** *That diocesan council approves the Respectful Conduct Policy as presented to council, today. (Appendix 9)*

**THE MOTION WAS CARRIED**

(Other items for consideration without documents provided)

- b. *Debrief of We Together, Vocation Day*

Members of council voiced their appreciation for the “rich and wonderful” experience at We Together. Council was informed that the presentations from this gathering are available on the diocesan web site.

Vocation Dy was smaller than last year. The bishop proposed we hold Vocation Day somewhere up island, next year.

c. Electronic Collection Plate update

Bishop Anna shared that the present system has proven to be inefficient and costly to maintain. The replacement system is being replaced with a contracted agreement with the United Church of Canada which manages a better system which will be less costly for our diocese.

d. Update on clergy transitions

The bishop noted that there are several appointments coming in the next days. Bishop Anna also noted that there has been more interest in postings, then during COVID over the past two years.

e. Synod office transitions

Anna van der Hooft will begin her maternity leave in December. For 2023, Faith Zhungu will be taking on the role currently held by Anna van der Hooft.

Michealle Skwara is leaving synod office for another non-profit sector job. She will be providing some contract work for the diocese in the coming months.

f. Retirement of Bob Gill as Chancellor, Barbara Underhill as Treasurer, and Barry Foster as Executive Officer.

Bishop Anna indicated that Bob Gill will be continuing as a member of the Canons Committee and will soon be named as Chancellor Emeritus of the Diocese of Islands and Inlets. Chancellor Bob is to be thanked by all synod for his dedication and work on behalf of the diocese. The bishop thanked Barbara Underhill for her work as treasurer for the diocese over the past year and wished Barbara well in her retirement. The Bishop offered her personal thanks along with the thanks of all the people of this diocese for the work of Barry Foster as executive Archdeacon for the diocese over the past three plus years. Barry will remain a consultant to the bishop’s office.

**15. Other Business**

a. Next meeting date for Diocesan Council

**Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 AM**, ZOOM meeting.

**16. Closing Reflection**

The Bishop thanked everyone in attendance for their commitment to the life of the Diocese. The Bishop closed with prayer. Bishop Anna moved the conclusion of the meeting at 12:10PM.

**Next Scheduled Diocesan Council meeting**  
**Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:00 am, ZOOM meeting.**