

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC)

The task of the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) is to advise and report to Synod Council and the Bishop on the management and administration of funds and assets held by or under control of the Synod. In addition, the FAC provides advice and recommendations to Synod council and the Bishop on all financial matters that are to come before them for resolution. There are three active subcommittees of the Financial Advisory Committee who bring expertise in specific areas including investment, insurance and risk management, and budget. Their reports are included with this report of the Financial Advisory Committee. FAC works closely with the Treasurer and finance staff.

We welcomed our Treasurer, Jody Beck, in September of last year and wish to acknowledge her dedicated service this past year on the diocesan finances. With the help of the very capable finance staff, Kim Waltmann, Ruth Anne Martin and Debbie Young, the diocesan finances have been well-managed. The diocese still faces challenges to overcome historical cash deficits, but under the capable hands of the finance staff the diocese is moving forward to provide the financial basis needed to bring our diocesan vision to life.

In January, Finance Budget subcommittee members met with FAC members. A decision was made at the time to have joint meetings during the year but to task a smaller group with the preparation of the budget as their primary focus. The small group size facilitated communication between the budget subcommittee and budget stakeholders including the Bishop, management staff, and parochial leaders. The group attended FAC meetings as required to receive financial updates and progress on the budget was shared and input sought from FAC as the group felt necessary. It is the consensus of FAC and the budget subcommittee that this budget process was efficient and an effective use of members' time and talents.

The primary focus for FAC members this past year has been to review monthly financial reports with the Treasurer and to ensure that the information required for sound financial decision-making is in place. Parish receivables for payroll, DM&M and insurance are reviewed on a monthly basis. FAC discussed policies around parish lines of credit and rectory fund loans providing feedback to the Treasurer on these matters. A variety of parish requests to borrow funds or requests related to building matters were reviewed and recommendations sent to Synod Council, the ultimate decision-making body in these matters. FAC has discussed areas of future concern such as government rulings that may take place whereby income from telecommunication towers, solar panels and rentals may affect a parish's charitable status.

The knowledge and commitment of the members of the FAC and its subcommittees is exceptional and I am grateful for the dedication that each member has given to the work that we have done. I would also like to extend a special thank you to Ruth Anne Martin who ably records the minutes of our meetings every month. Please read the accompanying reports of the subcommittees of FAC submitted by their chairs.

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC) (continued)

A sincere thank you to the members of FAC for 2011:

Dr. Stan Hatcher

Mr. Jim Higginson

Mr. Ian Pratt

Mr. David Ricketts

Mr. Fred Roach

Mr. Tim Huxley

Mr. Mitch Banks

The Rev'd Jeff Ward

Ms. Jody Beck, Diocesan

Treasurer

The Venerable Michael
Patterson, ex-officio

Ms. Ruth Anne Martin,
Recorder

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Judy Conning, Chair