

**MINUTES OF THE 2nd SESSION OF THE
134th SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA
HELD SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2009 IN HAMILTON**

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CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL, HAMILTON

Registration began at 8:00 a.m. Bishop Bird called Synod to order at 9:00 a.m. Seated at the head table were Bishop Michael Bird and Chancellor Robert Welch. The Bishop welcomed everyone to Synod.

NEW MEMBERS OF SYNOD

The Bishop welcomed:

- The Reverend Cheryl Barker, St. Paul's, Caledonia

WELCOME TO THE DEACONS REPRESENTING THE COLLEGE OF DEACONS

- Richard Beaudoin, St. Clair Cleveland, Roderick McDowell

WELCOME GUESTS:

The Bishop welcomed:

- Chris Grabiec and John Janisse, Diocesan Webmasters

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Chancellor Robert Welch reported that, as of 9:00 a.m., March 28, 2009, 161 out of 245 eligible lay delegates had registered, representing 66% of all eligible delegates in the order of laity, and 88 out of 103 eligible clergy delegates had registered, representing 85% of all eligible delegates in the order of clergy.

**MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
THAT the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted.
CARRIED.**

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

No Privileges of the House were extended.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 134TH FIRST SESSION OF SYNOD
(NOVEMBER 2008)**

**MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers
THAT the minutes of the 2008 session of the 134th Session of
Synod, as found on pages 3 through 10 of this Convening
Circular, be now approved. CARRIED.**

NOTICES OF MOTION

Canon Robert Welch advised members that motions could be found on pages 2 of the Convening Circular.

REPORT OF THE AGENDA AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller, Chair of the Synod Planning Committee, gave his report and outlined procedures. He referred to the revised agenda, as handed out at registration, printed on yellow paper. Resolutions/notices of motions can be found on page 2 of the Convening Circular.

A mover and a seconder to a resolution or motion will be allowed a total of six minutes to speak. Speakers to a motion will be allowed two minutes each. A "warning" bell will be sounded when 20 seconds are remaining in the speaker's allotted time; and a bell will be sounded to indicate the end of the allotted time. New motions not included with the Convening Circular package or handed out at registration are to be delivered to the Secretary of Synod as soon as possible and prior to 10:00 am. It will be determined when best to deal with new motions. Motions from the floor, which can be dealt with at the Synod session, will be presented on the screens.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
THAT the revised agenda obtained at registration be adopted.
CARRIED.**

RECEPTION OF ALL REPORTS

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
THAT all reports found in the Convening Circular and
obtained at registration be received. CARRIED.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements.

WORSHIP

Synod morning worship began.

THE VISION AND PLAN INTO THE FUTURE

The Bishop delivered his Charge to delegates. The feedback received from the regional meetings was to slow down with the implementation of the Vision. The Bishop asked for parish commitment, inviting every parish in Niagara to get involved. He also asked delegates to let him know what resources they would need to move the Vision forward in their parishes.

Delegates watched a video; It's a Brand New Day. The Venerable Michael Patterson spoke about the Vision. The 5 areas of the Vision are: Flourishing Culture of Innovation; Prophetic Social Justice Making; Effective Resource Management; Life Changing Worship Experience; Outstanding Leadership for Ministry. It requires spiritual discipline; valuing diversity; honesty and integrity; passion and hard work.

BREAK

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements.

THE VISION AND PLAN INTO THE FUTURE

After the morning break there was an open microphone question and answer period.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements.

Bishop Bird introduced Mr. Javier Arias who will be working with the Spanish congregation.

2009 PROPOSED BUDGET

The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning and Mr. David Eccles, Co-chairs of the Finance Budget Sub-Committee of the Financial Advisory Committee, and Mr. Robert McKinnell, Diocesan Treasurer, delivered the budget presentation on the Proposed 2009 Budget.

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/Mr. Robert McKinnell
THAT the 2009 Diocesan Operating Budget, as found on pages
17 through 22 of this Convening Circular, be approved.**

CARRIED.

PAYROLL PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENT

**MOTION: The Venerable Michael Patterson/Mr. Robert McKinnell
THAT this Synod defers the Payroll Pre-Authorized Payment
Plan motion to the 135th Session of Synod in November.**

CARRIED.

PRESENTATION FROM CHANCELLOR ROBERT WELCH

Chancellor Robert Welch addressed delegates and gave a report on the ongoing litigation with the Network affiliated parishes.

BISHOP'S ASSENT

Bishop Bird gave his assent to all actions of the Synod.

Delegates were led in closing worship.

Bishop Michael Bird closed the session with the blessing and the 2nd Session of the 134th Synod of the Diocese of Niagara was prorogued at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod

Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of Synod

Mrs. Carol Summers, Honorary Lay Secretary

The Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick, Honorary Clerical Secretary