

Diocese of Kootenay 64th Session of Synod

13 - 16 May 2021

Minutes

THURSDAY 13 May, Ascension Day 6:30 pm PDT (7:30 pm MDT)

Opening Worship, broadcast from The Cathedral of St. Michael and All Angels for the whole Diocese. Archbishop Lynne gave charge to Synod.

FRIDAY, 14 May 2021 A Day of Sacred Creation

6 pm: Deadline for sending photos of creations/creators to the Dropbox specified on poster. Slide show presentation prepared by Karen and Mike Archibald.

SATURDAY, 15 May 2021

11:30 PDT (12:30 MDT): Zoom opens for Delegates Noon PDT (1 pm MDT): Midday Worship

Attending:

HOUSE OF BISHOPS: The Most Reverend Archbishop Lynne McNaughton, The Rt. Rev. James Cowan, The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls (Primate)

HOUSE OF CLERGY: Ven. Trevor Freeman, Alan Akehurst, Suzanne Basek, Andrea Brennan, Jeff Donnelly, Neil Elliot, Martha Fish, Trevor Fisher, Marcus Germaine, Robin Graves, Catherine Hall, Helen Hall, Heather Hamlin-Gravels, Chris Harwood-Jones, Heather Karabelas, Douglas Lewis, Elizabeth Lewis, Paul Martinson, Laurie Megley-Best, Jennifer Mobbs, Marcella Mugford, Nicholas Pang, Anne Privett, Patrick Reid, Leon Rogers, Christine Ross, Garry Schmidt, Michael Shapcott, Pat Simons, Richard Simpson, Brian Smith, Austin Spry, David Tiessen, Guna Viddadi, Pam Wilson, Brent Woodard

HOUSE OF LAITY: Andrew Stephens-Rennie, Anne McMichael, Ardee McKim, Arleigh McKenna, Bill Silversides, Bob Lemon, Brenda Panio, Brian Sunderland, Carrie Izumi, Catherine Speechley-Pell, Cathy Haig, Deborah Mason, Dennis Thompson, Dianne Keno, Elizabeth Brandrick, Frances Louise Richard, Gale Quesnelle, Gwen Baril, Gwen Chapman, Howard Peto, Ian Ferrie, Ivan Branson, Jael Wong-Fehringer, Jeannie MacDonald, Jennifer Sirges, Jim Wild, Joan Bubbs, Joanne Forsyth, John Mobbs, Judith Karding, Justina Duke, Ken Dimond, Kim Glen, Lane Art, Leif Pederson, Leora Splett, Linda Ward, Lyn Longair, Marnie Pettit, Michael Kalmuk, Michael Murison, Pam Harris, Paul Glen, Penelope Johnson, Peter Stafford, Randal Fairey, Richard Fish, Rick Pallen, Sharon McIntosh, Sharon Spiers, Stafford Brandrick, Susan Webster, Wendy LaCroix, Wendy Stewart, William Chidlow, Ina Branson, John Graham. Justin Dalton, Geord Holland, Monty

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Tuck,

House privileges Catherine Ripley, Andrew Fraser, Deb Saffin. Sunday Bill Pringle.

1. Call to Order/ Welcome / Announcements

The 64th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Kootenay was called to order at 12noon by Archbishop Lynne McNaughton.

Archbishop Lynne acknowledges the hospitality of the first nations upon whose land we reside. Delegates were welcomed, particularly Archbishop Linda Nicholls our Primate

2. S01-21 Resolved to approve the agenda as presented

Moved: Nick Pang

Seconded: James Cowan

CARRIED

3. Orientation and Protocols

Housekeeping guidelines were given out and a request for patience and respectfulness was given considering this new form of gathering.

A full and comprehensive refresher on the utilisation of Zoom was given.

The protocol for speaking is to use the chat box, stating that participants wish to speak or have a point of order.

The voting process was laid out and participants were invited to check their emails to access.

4. Credentials Report / Declaration of Quorum

Mr Geord Holland, Chancellor proclaimed that we have a quorum.

5. Appointment of Scrutineers

Lay Scrutineers

Wendy LaCroix

Anne McMichael

Howard Peto

Clergy Scrutineers

Rev. Andrea Brennan

Rev. Heather Karabelas

Rev. Patrick Reid

6. S02-21 Resolved To Extend House Privileges to...

The Most Reverend Linda Nicholls, Primate; Teresa Kennedy (Financial Officer); John Lavender (Editor, The Highway); David Tiessen (new Dean, Cathedral); Jackie Graham (Postulant); John Graham and John Benmore (Seminarists); Karen Archibald (St. Paul's, Golden Worshipping Community); Bill Pringle (Resolution Committee); Andrew Fraser,

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Catherine Ripley, Deb Saffin (Synod Planning Committee)

Moved: Richard Fish

Seconded: Pat Simons

House privileges describes people who are invited to attend but do not have a vote.

CARRIED

7.Nomination Committee: Opening Comments

Deb Saffin thanked those who put their name forward for nomination and those who nominated them as well as the nomination committee members for their work. She explained that Archdeacon Trevor Freeman would advise them on the virtual voting process. Some positions by acclamation and some by vote.

8. Resolutions Committee: Opening Comments

Rev Canon Chris Harwood Jones reported that three resolutions were received by the deadline, and all have been distributed. Some concerns had been raised prior to Synod regarding new motions in a virtual synod. The resolutions committee exists during synod to support and advise on new motions and amendments to current motions through synod and delegates must use the resolutions committee as part of this process.

9. S03-21 Resolved to waive the reading of the Minutes of the 2018 Diocesan Synod.

Moved: Helen Hall

Seconded: Gwen Baril

CARRIED

10. S04-21 Resolved to confirm the Minutes of the 2018 Diocesan Synod and the 2019 Electoral Minutes as circulated.

QUESTION: Rev Patrick Reid asked a question arising from the minutes. The Nurturing of Faithful Communities Motion that Diocesan Council appoints a standing committee for this work was named in the 2018 minutes. Was the standing committee constituted, how often did they meet and was there a report?

RESPONSE: Archbishop Lynne reported that given the more rapid change in the Diocese of Kootenay, Diocesan Council chose not to continue with that congregational futures model as previously envisaged. This was due to both rapid changes and multiple retirements and therefore the original model no longer met the needs of the Diocese.

Moved: Ian Ferrie

Seconded: Cathy Haig

CARRIED

11. S05-21 Resolved that Rev Leon Rogers be acclaimed as Clerical Secretary and Deb Saffin, Lay Secretary

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Moved: Christine Ross

Seconded: Gwen Chapman

CARRIED

12. S06-21 Resolved to receive the Reports as circulated.

Moved: Pam Wilson

Seconded: Brenda Panio

CARRIED

13. Results of Voting for Procedural Motions

Archbishop Lynne announced that all procedural motions passed. The Chancellor asked that the scrutineers heard, understood, and affirmed the results. The results were affirmed through a showing of hands.

10 MINUTE BREAK

1:30 pm PDT (2:30 pm MDT) Behold! I Am Doing a New Thing! (Part 1)

1. The Global and National Realities: The Most Rev Linda Nicholls, Primate

The Primate talked about how the pandemic thrust us into change without being able to hide from or deny the real need for change anymore. She spoke on how we were able to rediscover the Daily Office and save on resources. Financially the General Synod has survived well because there were no longer travel costs to be borne, and Dioceses continue to be strategically generous in their giving. The establishment of a self-governing national indigenous church and opposition to racism have remained a part of the focus of the national church. Over the past three years the House of Bishops has changed 50%, with a significant drop in age- those new faces will be transforming the church for the future.

We are asked to open our eyes to what is important. Greater consistency in work has developed since meetings can now be monthly rather than two or three times a year. Whilst financial devastation was expected, deep generosity was discovered. Online worship also led to the unchurched being reached. Once loosed God has helped us to seek new ways of being church. This includes suspending judgement on new models of ministry.

The book of the prophet Isaiah talks about waters in the desert. We are encouraged to realise that God is doing a new thing through us.

The Primate then presented a new initiative called 'Surprised by the Spirit' which can be accessed at spirit.anglican.ca This initiative encourages conversation around scripture and an openness to be surprised by the spirit when reading scripture. Each delegate was encouraged to have their congregation take part in the initiative.

Additionally, a video from Jerusalem titled 'In the Midst of This,' was shared to remind us of the ongoing need for prayer and action relating to the deeply disturbing ongoing conflict there.

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A question arose over the wider ministry of the church to 'love thy neighbour'. The primate raised several key areas of focus including vaccine support for Africa and proper funding of care homes.

Another question arose regarding adaptive change in the church. This will be a focus for General Synod, and more conversation will be taking place around this area. The primate also mentioned that she hoped we have been released from our addiction to our buildings.

Further information was asked for regarding online Eucharist. This question is expected to take place in the House of Bishops. Further conversation and discussion are required both among ourselves, our ecumenical partners and those we are in dialogue with. An additional comment was made relating to the surprising sincerity of online Eucharist with other ecumenical partners. The Primate spoke of the Intention of the Heart and suggested we could learn from the Australian church as they deal with very rural/remote people and conduct online services all the time.

2. The Statistical Realities (COVID and the Church): The Rev Canon Dr. Neil Elliot

Over the last year, 90% of our churches have run some kind of online service. Of those 82% have had regular members from another parish.

In addition to the shared video, there are two additional concerns. One concern is for the technically illiterate and the other a concern over the amount of burnout in clergy there may be as they try to do both online and in person worship.

One comment was made regarding people who do not have a good internet connection. One solution is for people to turn off their video which helps with this. This is of particular concern in northern and rural communities. Although it has been noted that the pandemic has encouraged many more people to go online, and more people are getting access. However, these issues are part of the wider challenge to adapting to our times. Producing paper copies for people who struggle technically is a useful practise in some places.

Fundamentally the online experience of worship is different to in person or on paper, and we continue to learn how to best provide services as online worship will continue.

The link to the national survey can be found by googling 'coronavirus', 'church' and 'you'. Members are encouraged to engage in this. www.yorks.jac.uk

3. Our Realities (Financial Presentation): Mr. Monty Tuck

Monty Tuck reported there have been several major changes over the last year. The replacement of financial manager is one of these, and we are very blessed to have the expertise of Teresa Kennedy. Theresa is a contract manager which is working very well. We were unsure what

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COVID would do; how long would churches be closed, what parish giving would look like, there would be no rental income from parish buildings. However, the government stepped up in a big way for charities, giving from the parishes remained strong (especially larger, urban parishes), and the government funding helped a lot. Ended the year with a \$54K surplus. The last couple of years ended with an operating surplus, but these are the result of non-structural things, such as the vacancy of a Bishop for 2019 and the Federal Wage subsidy in 2020 which was a huge contributor to our finances in the last year. Therefore, due to fortuitous circumstances we ended with an operating surplus. Staffing at Diocese has been reconfigured, but we are projecting budget deficits over the next couple of years. With the upcoming closure of TiM a Diocesan fundraising initiative will be needed in the foreseeable future.

Q: Patrick Reid. Why are the schedules not included any longer? He commented that the financial increase appears to be through special purpose funds and designated funds. Because the schedules relating to these (i.e., origin of monies) were not shared in the audited accounts of 2019/2020, it is difficult to get a sense of where the finances are coming from.

R1: Monty. The reason for this seems to be the difference between how we have tracked accounts in the past and how they are currently displayed by professional accountants. We can include them next year if that is the choice of the group; they are already prepared so there would be no issue to have them included.

R2: EA Trevor. Difference is between what we did in the past under Bonnie and what are GAP reporting processes from an accounting firm. But we can ask for them to be included. At Diocesan Council we look at statements as provided by Theresa which is easier for non-financial people.

COMMENT: Cathy Haig voiced concern relating to ending of the TiM campaign. Parishes were told that after the TiM campaign there would not be a diocesan wide fund-raising campaign for a while.

R1: Monty stated that he hoped there would be conversations at regional levels and that probably any campaign held now would not be of the same magnitude as the TiM. The challenge is that the Diocese cannot continue to operate in the same way given the current finances. A small adjustment to the finances will help the Diocese maintain its operational level.

COMMENT: John Mobbs spoke in appreciation of the reports and their ease of use.

Q: Paul Glen. Would you be looking to change how we do Kootenay Fair Share or how parishes access monies? We are property rich and dollar poor. There is money for parishes to access from TiM funding.

R1: Monty stated that he was simply looking at a tweak to the financials and not KFS.

R2: EA Trevor stated that no one at Diocesan Council level or officer level of Synod or me, if involved, is under any illusions about the magnitude of the questions being asked. Diocesan

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Council will be looking at the significance of the work involved to revise KFS or use it as is. That is a question they will be asked. Council will parse what is the most important issues around change as we go forward.

Q: Patrick Reid. How is this not a good financial position? Statement of Financial Position – at bottom shows our net assets are over \$6million.

R1: Monty. Net assets of the Diocese total over \$6 million dollars. These covers 5 different funds, most of which cannot be touched (EG special purpose funds or parish funds which are held by the Diocese). Fund to focus on is general fund which shows \$490,000 of equity and this is the fund which is likely to deplete quickly if we have continued deficits. Accounting for buildings does not come into this, which does not at this point given a fair reflection of all our resources. We do need to come up with a consistent formula to account for buildings throughout the diocese.

Q: Patrick Reid. What is done with the money from the sale of parish properties? Can the Diocese touch this money or what is it used for?

R1: Monty. If the money is associated with an operating parish it stays with that parish. Other parishes the money has been used for other purposes and even special purpose funds or lent to other parishes.

R2: EA Trevor. All buildings are owned by the Diocese of Kootenay and are released at the discretion of the Diocesan Council. We need to be careful and thoughtful as to how we utilise these our operating budget as we do have expected revenue shortfalls. We have a gifted group of people, a ton of human resources, and a gifted leadership and some property and have enough money to do a ton of creative and faithful things, but we need to discern how we spend our resources, human, financial and otherwise in a way that is faithful and prudent to further God's kingdom. We need to run a balanced budget, so we must be open to some structural changes and some fundraising initiatives. Diocesan Council will prayerfully consider Capital and Liquid asset expenditure to ensure its best use for ministry.

Q: Penelope Johnson. Do we not need to approve 2018 and 2019 at this Synod?

R1: EA Trevor. Noted that we are only receiving 2020 audited statements because 2018 and 2019 were approved by Diocesan Council who approved between synods.

10 MINUTE BREAK

4. Our Realities (Diocesan): The Most Rev Lynne McNaughton

We have gifted and competent lay and clergy leadership and a strong sense of worship and working together. We also have a strong history of well-resourced lay leadership. The questions so far over how we best use our resources for the future are very welcome. We will be looking

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into this closely at tomorrow's session. Amid adaptive change how do we make decisions and set our priorities for the long-term use in the Diocese both property and ministry resources.

Current reality – Abundance and Radical Change.

Regarding recent changes, we welcome David Tiessen as Dean of St Michael's Cathedral, Rev Guna Viddadi to St. Stephens Summerland and St. Barbara's OK Falls, Mr Andrew Stephens-Rennie to Valhalla Parish, Rev Andrea Brennan who has now moved to an Ecumenical Shared Ministry, Rev Brent Woodard to Windermere Valley Shared Ministry, Rev Lori Megley-Best to St. Peter's Naramata, Fr Marcus Germaine has moved to an interim position at St Mary's East Kelowna, Rev Alan Akehurst to St. George's Westbank, Rev Heather Hamlin-Gravells moved to St Mary's Sorrento, Nick Pang to St Saviour's Penticton, Rev Michael Shapcott to Sorrento Centre

Retirements- Revds. Rick Paulin, Yme Woensdregt, Very Rev. Nissa Basbaum, Sandy Stickney, Roger Cooper, Elizabeth Heuther

Ordination- Reverends Helen Hall for Armstrong Enderby and Paul Martinson for St. Francis Lake Country

Locally Trained Priests and Licensed Lay Ministry will be a more involved model for ministry in the future. Calling and equipping strong leadership will be essential moving forward and we need to be more active around this discernment process. We are offering additional training to the LLMs and will be seeking to do more training. In addition to this, training in online church leadership will be of deep importance. Working with WECAN (Western Education Collaboration Anglican Network). This group of 10 Diocese looking at how we form leadership and use our individual resources for the larger group. KSM is collaborating with other Dioceses to be sustaining. Any restructuring needs to look at how to keep our excitement going in this diocese. We need to strengthen the teams we are seeing – teams of trained lay leadership and licensed ministers working together to be a new church in a new time.

More frequent meetings (such as our resolution tomorrow on synods) allows us to move forward more quickly and be more adaptive as a Diocese, due to our online capabilities.

Energy, Creativity and Courage that the Primate spoke of is a resource we have, and we will be using going forward.

5. Your Realities: Breakout Discussion

Groups were invited to introduce themselves and share their current reality or what stood out for them amid the pandemic.

15 MINUTE BREAK

3:50 pm PDT (4:50 pm MDT) Voting for Nominees, Memorials, Closing Worship

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1. Voting for Nominees for Diocesan Court

Clergy

- Rev Andrea Brennan
- Rev Neil Elliot
- Rev. Guna Viddadi

Lay

- Gwen Baril
- Pam Harris
- Brenda Panio

2. Voting for Nominees for Diocesan Council

- Rev Neil Elliot
- Rev Austin Spry
- Cathy Haig
- Pamela Harris
- Judith Elaine Karding
- Michael Murison

3. Voting for Nominees for Provincial Synod

- Archdeacon Christine Ross
- Rev. Austin Spry
- Randall Fairey
- Cathy Haig
- Catherine Speechley-Pell

4. Voting for Nominees for General Synod

Lay

- Randall Fairey
- Arleigh McKenna
- Andrew Stephens-Rennie

Youth

- Charlotte Hardy

Clergy

- Rev Suzanne Besak
- Rev Jeff Donnelly
- Executive Archdeacon Trevor Freeman
- Rev Canon Anne Privett
- Rev Michael Shapcott
- Rev Richard Simpson

5. Voting for Diocesan Council

- Rev Neil Elliott
- Rev. Austin Spry
- Cathy Haig
- Pamela Harris
- Michael Kalmuk
- Judith Elaine Karding
- Michael Murison
- Catherine Ripley

6. Memorials Closing Worship

Archbishop Lynne recognized all those associated with Synod and Diocese Office who have had passed away since the last Synod and held a moment of silence.

Rev. Eva Barrett, Venerable Noel Gotter, Mrs. Pat Lyster, Irene Wannat, Rev. Stephen Hallford, Audrey Stevens, Venerable Donald Wooten, Mrs. Andrea Fisher, Venerable Charlie Wilkins.

**SUNDAY 16 May 2001 10 am PDT (11 pm MDT) Diocesan Wide
Worship Easter 7**

11:30 am PDT (12:30 MDT): ZOOM opens for delegates

Noon PDT (1 pm MDT): Midday Worship Welcome Back, Election Results, Finances, Resolutions

1. Welcome back/ Housekeeping

The Archbishop welcomed all back to the session and wished Bill Silversides a happy birthday. A reminder was made for participants to just speak to resolutions once.

2. Election Results

The chancellor declared that the votes were valid. Scrutineers also verified the election. Archbishop Lynne spoke to General Synod and mentioned that it is entirely possible that the Diocese will be asked to field three lay and three clergy delegates rather than the two currently elected in each category. If this happens then the next in line will be invited to attend.

Scrutineers affirmed the vote.

Diocesan Court

Clergy

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- Rev Andrea Brennan
 - Rev Neil Elliot
 - Rev Guna Viddadi
- Lay

- Gwen Baril
- Pam Harris
- Brenda Panio

Diocesan Council

- Rev Neil Elliot
- Rev Austin Spry
- Cathy Haig
- Pamela Harris
- Catherine Ripley

Provincial Synod

- Archdeacon Christine Ross
- Rev. Austin Spry
- Randall Fairey
- Cathy Haig
- Catherine Speechley-Pell

General Synod

Lay

- Randall Fairey
- Andrew Stephens-Rennie
- Arleigh McKenna (Alternate)

Youth

- Charlotte Hardy

Clergy

- Executive Archdeacon Trevor Freeman
- Rev Canon Anne Privett
- Rev Michael Shapcott (Alternate)

3. Finance Presentation Follow-up

a) Q &A on the Financial Realities presented on Saturday

There were no follow up comments

b) S07-21 Resolved to receive the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2020.

Moved: Monty Tuck

Seconded: Pam Harris

CARRIED

c) S08-21 Resolved to appoint Grant Thornton International Ltd. as our auditors.

Moved: Randall Fairey

Seconded: Garry Schmidt

CARRIED

Q: Rev Chris-Harwood Jones inquired about Grant Thornton's fees in relation to other accounting firms.

R1: Monty Tuck spoke to the firm being very reasonable given the credibility of the firm.

4. Resolutions: Debate and Voting

a) S09-21 Resolved to accept the change to the Constitution, Canons and Rules of Order as presented.

Moved: Peter Stafford

Seconded: Geord Holland

CARRIED

Peter Stafford asked that it be recorded that the feedback from different regions was invaluable to this process. Thanks, were also extended to the Canons Revision Committee and to the specific work of Alan Perry, now general secretary of the national church.

Q: Jenny Spergis. Are the changes to the Canons in response to the Societies Act changes a year ago?

R1: EA Trevor Freeman. We do not fall under the Societies Act. We were established by an act of legislation in 1903 long before there was a Societies Act therefore, we are grandfathered in. This change is to help us do a better job of governance.

R2: Geord Holland stated he concurred with EA Trevor.

COMMENT: Joan Bubbs. Allan Perry worked trying to begin consistency for our canons with other dioceses in BC and Nationally. Statement of appreciation to go forward from this Synod.

b) S10-21 Resolved to Development of a Proposal for an Annual Synod

Moved: Nick Pang

Seconded: Andrew Stephens-Rennie

CARRIED

COMMENT: Nick Pang and Andrew Stephens-Rennie both spoke in favour of this resolution pointing out the rapidly changing nature of church and the hope for more lay involvement in the life of the church.

COMMENT: Richard Fish raised concerns over volunteer burn out and the impact of organizing a meeting on staff.

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COMMENT: Bill Silversides spoke against the motion pointing out that Diocesan Council which does the work of synod outside of synod makes the resolution irrelevant. In addition, added work and expense was highlighted.

Q: Bob Lemon. Would we have to wait 3 years before we could implement this? Bob Lemon spoke in favour of the motion and to the advantage of nimbleness in decision making going forward.

R1: Archbishop Lynne responded stating that yes, extraordinary synods can be called at the bishop's discretion but stated she would prefer to run it through council.

COMMENT: John Mobbs spoke against the motion and highlighted that synod may not be the best place for some discussions but rather diocesan-wide conferences.

COMMENT: Rick Pallen spoke in favour of the motion giving his perspective relating to the ever-changing nature of church life and spoke to the need for the Diocese to find some way of rapidly receiving feedback on important decisions from different regions.

COMMENT: Executive Archdeacon Trevor gave a summary of the merits and issues with such a change to Diocesan life. The merits being that the meetings would be shorter and therefore additional costs (Est \$1000) would be manageable. Regarding staff time, yes this would involve more work for an already very busy and depleted staff, so ways of making this simpler and more manageable would be investigated.

COMMENT: Patrick Reid spoke in favour of the resolution stating that with more frequency the resource load would be less.

COMMENT: Bishop James Cowan commented that the motion is simply to invite Council to investigate the appropriateness of more regular synod meetings. He also raised the question over the cost difference between virtual and in person synods. Some dioceses also follow the practice of holding a synod every other year and conferences in the years between these synods. EA Trevor reported that this synod (being the first and therefore requiring more investments initially) costs less than \$2500 whereas in person Synods cost about \$5000 although this cost is spread throughout the Diocese.

COMMENT: Penelope Johnson spoke in favour and encouraged Diocesan Council to welcome contributions in the investigation of more regular synods from Diocesan members outside of council.

CLOSING COMMENTS: Rev Nick Pang in closing comments spoke to this being something he hoped Diocesan Council would explore and that this model would give more time for deeper conversations when we do meet in person. He stated that synod is not the same as Diocesan Council and that Diocesan Council is not as fair a representation of the Diocese as Synod is. This gives us a way to seek the diversity of the Diocese and to include the laity.

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Andrew Stephens-Rennie commented that we need to be able to respond to the Spirit and use Holy Listening as we gather together and coming together more often will grow in our ability to find common cause together.

c) **S11-21 Resolved to form a Diocesan Structures Working Group**

Moved: EA Trevor Freeman

Seconded: Monty Tuck

CARRIED

The Diocese has a lot of assets particularly property (not only church buildings) where we are not intentional about their use. The working group would be working on a tighter timeline than the usual three years between synods given the great need to strategically evaluate our resources.

COMMENT: Randall Fairey spoke in favour of this resolution as an imperative. This is not just a local but a national need.

COMMENT: Neil Elliot in speaking to the motion highlighted that things are indeed changing, and they are changing in an ad hoc way. His area as regional dean of West Kootenay and acting dean of East Kootenay is the size of Scotland and Wales put together. He commended this motion to the floor given the great need to look closely at our resources in these changing times.

COMMENT: Nick Pang recognised the need for change in the church and encouraged some theological reflection alongside the strategic work proposed here (i.e., what is a community?)

Q: John Mobbs declared that he had the sense that there was more behind this motion than is fully being declared and he asked a question to the background behind this.

R1: EA Trevor Freeman spoke that his voice is one voice among many in the Diocese. To his mind this motion could offer the ability to offer some support which is non-geographic and therefore accessible to more.

R2: Monty Tuck reminded synod that every organisation needs to review its structures at times, and this is good practice.

Q: Joan Bubbs. Is this task way too overwhelming given the November deadline?

R1: EA Trevor Freeman pointed out that this would be a preliminary report.

Q: Patrick Reid asked specifically about diocesan properties and raised the question about the synod office which is valued at \$2.3 million and during Covid has not been used regularly in the last year. He also referred to worshipping communities and mentioned that we need to focus upon how we meet those communities where buildings have closed but congregations continue to worship.

COMMENT: Bishop James Cowan made the point that churches are historically inept at admitting our struggles. He encouraged us to grasp the metal in parishes where life is difficult. A

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property manager who helps parishes use the resources in a better way (i.e., schools or soup kitchens) would be a huge asset.

5 MINUTE BREAK

1:10 pm PDT (2:10 pm MDT) Behold! I Am Doing a New Thing! (Part 2)

1. Your Realities -- Summary from Breakout Groups

No reports given as no notes were taken.

2. Green Abbey presentation The Rev Leon Rogers and The Rev Austin Spry

Leon and Austin shared a video – then Q&A Intentional Eco Community that people can come to, and who will reach out too.

Leon commented that the East Kootenay is like the Canary in the Coal Mine, and we are recognizing that parishes cannot continue as they are. We are working with lots of thought and prayer.

Q: Andrew Stephens Rennie spoke in favour. How an individual could support the project and how could the diocese. Extremely exciting.

R1: Leon responded that the project needs support – we are developing a business plan and are asking for monetary assistance from diocese. We currently host monthly worship and are exploring other possibilities – we are working on a website. If you want to donate, send it to the diocese. We need a strong basis of prayer. Building business model could use some help from anyone who has some expertise.

COMMENT: Michael Shapcott spoke in favour – amazing inspiring idea. Rich tradition from Nicolas Ferrar – Little Gidding – you are bringing it to life – thanks for doing that. Sorrento Centre excited to connect and assist. Vision is incredible – making sure financial structure is in place and Sorrento will help.

COMMENT: David Tiessen spoke in favour – want to join you – thanks for invitation and inspiration. Integrates so well with themes of synod – deliberate theological way all can be drawn together. Edmonton has treaty relationship that can be built on.

R1: Leon. We are working on an indigenous relationship – slowly, drawing on experience. Not specific on reconciliation yet because of the ethos in this community. We look at different systems – we could include some indigenous structure into our system.

COMMENT: Patrick Reid spoke against. Buying property both a house and agriculture property is very expensive. We have talked a lot about moving away from property and

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buildings. He spoke of WYAM making Osoyoos their centre – built a centre and had agriculture land and after 5 years of losing money they sold the property.

R1: Leon responded we believe its achievable – 2 real estate salesmen have been assisting with look. ALR and Bill 52 – our ethos – simple life, work, finding beauty where society does not.

COMMENT: Andrea Brennan commented, I have been here for 5 years. There were 3 FT ministers in Elk Valley and now no FT priests. We work together as an ecumenical community. Is that what you are doing? I am willing to help, and you will be on our prayer list.

COMMENT: Austin Spry. We are looking for reallocation of assets. We know it is risky, but we want to live as a new way of church.

COMMENT: John Mobbs commented he really appreciated what Austin said. – Mission is different – appreciate work you have put into it – but it is a money pit. Monasteries do not work – camps are failing, and Sorrento is great, but we struggle to keep it going. Glad you are doing a business plan.

COMMENT: Nick Pang commented he is interested in vision – was responsible for 10 parishes in Montreal and that model does not work. – intrigued by this ministry. I work with the Refugee committee people do not stay in rural areas so wondering how we can work together. Curious about other partnerships.

COMMENT: Brian Smith commented re base communities in Brittany – people came from all over to hosted events – community of people from all over. Consider your parameters, and limitations How can you connect with parishes – Anglican Ethos is not to do this kind of thing. Parishes are not into retreats – how are you going to attract them?

COMMENT: Diane Keno spoke in favour, group home for children under the age of 5 in BC – ran successfully – had a dream and a bishop that said go for it – and what I will do and what I need from you and put it in writing. Austin and Leon have a great vision and its \$\$ and Jesus is not about \$\$ he is about passion. They are offering something new, something different and we cannot lose.

COMMENT: Brenda Panio commented that the ashram just down the road is self-sustaining – similar to what they want to do. Highly successful.

COMMENT: EA Trevor commented that it is a major conversation – never been done before. Need for this kind of conversation. EA Trevor's job is to make sure we stay within our means and make sure we make this happen. We are exploring and checking and building a business plan. They need to come with \$\$ and plans. There is risk and challenge, but we are doing our due diligence. If we want it to succeed, we have an obligation to make this work.

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Q: Anne Privett. Will diocesan council make the decision on this project, and can they?

R1: Archbishop Lynne. We will communicate with Administration and Finance and then Diocesan Council and then with everyone when there is something to talk about.

3. Where do we go from here? The Most Rev Lynne McNaughton

Green Abbey, restructuring group that will bring a proposal back to Council – this is an ongoing concern, and we will do some theological thinking on this about property, personnel, and hubs of ministry. How do we move in to provide sacramental community worship in the Diocese and in the diverse areas of the OK, the EK and Solista? We have talked about ministry and forms of worship. We have also talked about having an annual synod, gatherings and how we will have workshops – add in youth, using the wealth we have in the diocese in our ministry.

Take your excitement and news back to your parishes and find a way to report – you are the representative of your parish

Surprised by the Spirit – encourage your parish to look at it and take part. Please make use of this resources

Sign up for Kootenay Contact –it is our news and every person in every parish should be on it.

4. Your View of the Future: Breakout Group Discussion # 2

Say who you are and then discuss your view of the future and what you dream about. Choose a recorder – email us the conversation (admin@kootenay.info) and choose a scribe to report back to us when we gather again.

5. Report back from Groups

Group 1- Find our community and reach out and worry about the other things later. Talked about Home Churches.

Group 2- Full time ministry is in decline and stipendiary ministry is harder to achieve. A definite need for stronger lay leadership and youth involvement. Very excited about the Green Abbey project. Maintain sacred space.

Group 3- The need to have a framework where creative ideas are welcome, and where the laity hold the church accountable. More frequent Synods would be helpful.

Group 4- Cursillo Movement, house churches and study groups. Zoom as opposed to livestreaming as ways of meeting people.

Group 5- Discussed rural parishes and that they do not have technology and/or know how for online services. In moving forward, we need to look at why we exist and who cares if we stop moving forward.

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Group 6- looked at buildings in small parishes and how they need to be part of the community they are in. Zoom services are good, we need to share with other parishes and other regions.

Group 7- Taking advantage of technology to use the resources we have in the Diocese. In the future we probably won't be talking about 'parishes. Many are not aware of the Diocese – their focus has been parish only.

Group 8- The nature of Eucharist will be changing going forward. People reluctant to receive common cup and how we are used to no eucharist as well as virtual eucharist.

Group 9- Leaning towards the Diocese for training to develop a hybrid model. Pooling resources so as not to overburden clergy in every church. The importance of 'home' and the physicality of that.

Group 10- A conversation full of hope- that we can focus more outwardly on mission and evangelism. Recapture our mystical roots and hope we can pool our resources across the diocese.

Group 11- losing commitment to our buildings which we previously held. Some smaller parishes have a sense of isolation. Focusing on shared commonalities instead of differences in our faith experiences in our communities – Ecumenical.

Group 12- Reaching an Anglican understanding of our own gifts as Anglicans, i.e., sacramental life and identity even if that happens outside of buildings in our communities. Remember to gather in a weekly or monthly way to have communion together.

Group 13- – opportunity to gather not just in own geography for worship, education, a cause. We need to look at partnerships with other community organizations instead of on our own, what does it look like – food bank? – and do good work together.

Group 14- Reaching beyond church walls to do more acts of social justice and community engagement. Some youths have lost a lot of connection with church that they had before Covid.

Group 15- importance of maintaining community. How important Synod is. Awesome ideas like Green Abbey and the hope of new ideas.

Group 16- Not enough butts on the pews but lots of butts in questions over the future. Need a mode of re-education, to attract younger people. Who is going?

Archbishop Lynne encouraged groups to find a way to report back to parishes. Also, to use the surprised by the spirit resource on the national website.

6. Summary and Conclusion

2:30 pm PDT (3:30 pm MDT) Results of Voting, Motions of Thanks, Adjournment

1. Results of Voting on Financials and Auditors Motions and Resolutions

All motions and resolutions passed. Scrutineers affirmed. Results have been published. Chancellor certified the results of the votes.

2. S12-21 Resolved to offer Heartfelt Thanks to all who have contributed to this Synod.

Moved: Marcella Mugford

Seconded: Bill Silversides

CARRIED

Motion is to offer a heartfelt to all who have contributed to this Synod. Thank you to ...

- Andrew Fraser, EA Trevor Freeman, and the tech crew for the setup of the Cathedral for the business sessions, and for the support team who supported the Head Tables during the sessions (Ian Dixon, Andrew Fraser) to Gord Hynes and Samantha Lesowski from Network Zoo for tech support)
- Andrew Fraser for his expertise and willing assistance in many roles: as Cathedral Director of Music, Tech for Opening worship, and creator of the slide show of delegates
- The Spiritual Development Committee and all those across the Diocese who held us in prayer during the time leading up to and including the days of Synod. Also, for leading the Day of Sacred Creation, and to Mike and Karen Archibald for putting together the resulting slide show of all our new creations. And to all who participated!
- Our presenters during Synod: Primate Linda Nicholls, Neil Elliot, Monty Tuck, and Leon Rogers and Austin Spry
- Our presenters ahead of Synod (YouTube): Archbishop Lynne McNaughton, Monty Tuck, Neil Elliot, Leon Rogers and Austin Spry, Joanne Simpson (Spiritual Development Committee), The Deacons of the Diocese, Catherine Hall (EFM), Pam Harris (LLMs), Ian Dixon (Camp Owassi), Sorrento Centre, Ruth Simpson (PWRDF), Nick Pang (Refugee Sponsorship Program)
- Cathy Haig for her hours in the Synod Office leading up to Synod
- The Nomination Committee (Deb Saffin [Chair], Richard Fish, Pam Harris, Rev. Richard Simpson, The Rev Canon Anne Privett)
- The Resolutions Committee (The Rev. Canon Chris Harwood-Jones [Chair], Randall Fairey, Geord Holland, Bill Pringle, Catherine Ripley)
- The Synod Planning Committee (Archbishop Lynne McNaughton, The Venerable Trevor Freeman, The Venerable Christine Ross, Richard Fish, Deb Saffin, Catherine Ripley, Andrew Fraser)

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- The Worship Committee including Archbishop Lynne, Marcella Mugford, Andrew Fraser and Christine Ross, the Regional Deans for organizing Sunday morning worship for the Diocese, and all the musicians, readers and intercessors involved in worship during Synod.
- Those who served on Diocesan Council and sub-committees from 2018-2021
- All the delegates for being adventurous meeting in a new way
- Geord Holland and Justin Dalton Chancellor and Vice Chancellor
- To The Venerable Trevor Freeman, (for being present even with the arrival of Malachi!)
- To Leon Rogers and Deb Saffin our clerical and lay secretary who faithfully took the minutes of our meeting
- Thanks finally to our Most Rev. Lynne McNaughton for her loving leadership – always with a twinkle in her eye – through this 64th session of Synod of the Diocese of Kootenay, held digitally, May 13 to 16, 2021.

3. Bishop's Concurrence

The Archbishop concurred with the motion and offered her thanks as well. See you all next year.

4. S13-21 Motion of Adjournment

Moved: Andrea Brennan

Seconded: Susan Webster
CARRIED

3:00 pm PDT (4:00 pm MDT)

Closing Worship