

Synod of the Diocese of Saskatoon

70th
Session
of Synod

**MINUTES OF THE 69TH (ELECTORAL) SYNOD
OF THE DIOCESE OF SASKATOON
Cathedral Church of St. John the Evangelist,
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
NOVEMBER 14, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman of this Electoral Synod, the Most Reverend David Ashdown, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, called Synod to order at 9:47 a.m.

Members of Synod were welcomed and Synod opened with prayer 9:49 a.m.

Archbishop Ashdown spoke about the process of electing a bishop and possible discussion that would be appropriate. He emphasized being the body of Christ and allowing the Holy Spirit to lead in the election.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

On the recommendation of the Administrator, Archbishop Ashdown appointed the Reverend John Seib as Clerical Secretary, Mrs. Wilma Miller as Lay Secretary and Canon Lorea Eufemia as Secretary of the Meeting. Archbishop Ashdown accepted those recommendations as appointments.

The Credentials Committee membership included: the Venerable Dan Hughes, the Reverend Dianne Mesh, Mrs. Mary McKay, Ms. Elaine Morrison, Mrs. Mary-Jean Dewald and Mrs. Karen Bawden as appointed by the administrator.

APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

On the nomination of the Administrator, Archbishop Ashdown appointed the following as scrutineers:

For Clerical voting:

The Reverend Don Byrt

The Reverend Debbie Ramage

Dr. Walter Klaassen

For Laity voting:

Mr. Bob Halliday

Ms. Bev Orr

The Reverend Canon Jim Halmarson

THE LISTS OF THE MEMBERS OF SYNOD

The Clerical Secretary, the Reverend John Seib, called the roll of clergy and the Lay Secretary, Mrs. Wilma Miller, called the roll of laity.

The Chair of the Credentials Committee, the Venerable Dan Hughes, moved the following resolution:

MOTION #1

Moved By: The Venerable Dan Hughes

Seconded By: Ms. Karen Bawden

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the rolls of clergy and lay rolls as presented be accepted by Synod.

CARRIED.

The Chair of the Credentials Committee, the Venerable Dan Hughes reported to the Chair of Synod that the following members registered:

23 Clergy of a possible 24 were in attendance

59 Laity of a possible 64 were in attendance

The Chancellor announced that there was a quorum and Synod is in session at 10:06 a.m. being that at least 96% of the members of the House of Clergy and at least 92% of the House of Laity registered.

ARCHBISHOP'S DECLARATION

Notice of this Session of the Synod having been given as required by the Canons of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, and a quorum of the Synod being present, declared the 69th session to be called and ready to proceed in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land as agreed by this Diocese.

The agenda for the Synod was limited to two items: the election of a diocesan Youth Delegate to General Synod and the election of the 12th Bishop of Diocese of Saskatoon.

Procedural advisor to the Chair is the Chancellor, Canon Dr. Beth Bilson.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #2

Moved By: The Very Reverend Glen Burgomaster

Seconded: Mr. Jason Coutu

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED.

DIOCESAN SYNOD BUSINESS:

The 68th Synod of the Diocese of Saskatoon, meeting on April 4 to 6, 2008 in Saskatoon, elected delegates from our Diocese to attend the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. The General Synod will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia from June 3 to 11, 2010.

Mr. Taylor Grafton was elected as our Youth Delegate with Mr. Alex Dolman as Alternate. Mr. Grafton has since moved from the Diocese and Mr. Dolman has given notice that he is unable to attend the General Synod.

Our Chancellor, Canon Beth Bilson, has ruled that other youth delegates who were present at the 2008 diocesan synod are eligible to become youth delegates to the 2010 General Synod, but the person must be elected by Diocesan Synod.

Bishop Andrews canvassed all of the youth delegates and determined that only one is eligible and able to attend.

MOTION #3

Moved By: Mr. Jason Coutu

Seconded By: The Reverend Peter Norman

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Emily Otterbein be elected as the Youth Delegate to General Synod 2010 from the Diocese of Saskatoon.

CARRIED.

Archbishop Ashdown called on Canon Lorea Eufemia for matters of housekeeping.

Archbishop Ashdown introduced the Chair of the Diocesan Search Committee, the Reverend Ann Marie Nicklin.

PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Reverend Ann Marie Nicklin presented the following report to Synod:

The Diocesan Search Committee consisted of three lay members and three clerical members. Mrs. Elaine Hrycenko, Mr. Monty Zadorozny, Mr. Chris Wood, the Reverend Karen Sandell, the Reverend Canon Michael Stonhouse, and the Reverend Ann Marie Nicklin were elected at the Emergent meeting of Diocesan Council on July 4, 2009. Three provincial members, the Right Reverend Greg Kerr-Wilson, the Venerable Michael Rolph, and Ms. Noreen Hareuther were appointed to the committee. Mr. Peter Coolen accepted the role as secretary for the committee.

The original chair of the Diocesan Search Committee was the Reverend Karen Sandell. Due to family issues Reverend Sandell had to step down as chair and the Reverend Canon Michael Stonhouse accepted the appointment as chair. The Reverend Debbie Ramage filled the vacancy on the committee. On October 14, 2009, Canon Stonhouse was nominated as a candidate, and the Reverend Nicklin accepted responsibility as committee chair.

The Diocesan Search Committee prepared a list of hopes and expectations of the new bishop in July and August and worked on the Diocesan Profile. The Profile was sent out at the beginning of September. October 14 became the deadline to receive nominations for bishop. The committee met on October 21 to discuss the nominations. Nine candidate names were presented to the Diocesan Administrator on October 22. On October 26, the list of candidates and their curriculum vitae's were distributed to the members of the Electoral Synod. The names were published on the Diocese of Saskatoon website October 30.

No further nominations were received as of November 11, 2009, the 72 hr deadline.

The Nominations are:

The Reverend Canon William Cliff
The Venerable David Irving
The Very Reverend Iain Luke
The Reverend David Opheim
The Reverend Canon Michael Oulton
The Reverend Peter Norman
The Reverend Canon Michael Stonhouse
The Reverend Robert Towler
The Venerable Peter Yeung

The Rev. Michael Oulton had withdrawn his nomination on the morning of November 14, 2009.

Archbishop Ashdown asked for a vote of thanks for the Diocesan Search Committee. The Synod expressed its appreciation with applause.

MOTION #4

Moved By: The Reverend Ann Marie Nicklin

Seconded By: Mr. Chris Wood

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the report of the Diocesan Search Committee be received as presented.

CARRIED.

MOTION #5

Moved By: The Reverend Ann Marie Nicklin

Seconded By: Mr. Peter Coolen

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BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following persons be nominated for election as the 12TH Bishop of Saskatoon:

The Reverend Canon William Cliff
The Venerable David Irving
The Very Reverend Iain Luke
The Reverend David Opheim
The Reverend Peter Norman
The Reverend Canon Michael Stonhouse
The Reverend Robert Towler
The Venerable Peter Yeung

CARRIED.

Archbishop Ashdown gave an opportunity for members to ask questions. The only question asked was:

“Are ballots to be folded?” Ballots are to be unfolded.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Eucharist was held. Archbishop Ashdown presided.

POINT OF ORDER

The Rev. Don Byrt had to leave due to an pastoral emergency.

On the advice of the administrator Archbishop Ashdown appointed Canon Neil Haines as a clerical scrutineer in the place of the Rev. Don Byrt.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Chair of the Credentials Committee, the Venerable Dan Hughes, reported that 22 clergy of the possible 24 clergy were present and that 59 of the possible 64 laity were present. A quorum was present.

MOTION #6

Moved By: The Venerable Dan Hughes

Seconded By: Canon Lorea Eufemia

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the revised clerical and lay rolls be accepted by the Synod as reported.

CARRIED.

Archbishop Ashdown declared that registration was closed.

Archbishop Ashdown reviewed the voting procedure to be followed by the members of Synod.

BALLOT 1

At 11:49 am Archbishop Ashdown announced the first ballot would be called.

The Clerical and Lay Secretaries began the call of the roll.

At 12:03 pm voting ceased on the first ballot as declared by Archbishop Ashdown.

Synod recessed for lunch and the scrutineers retired to count the first ballot.

The Synod reconvened at 1:02 pm with a prayer. The Scrutineers reported the results of the first ballot in writing to the Chair. Archbishop Ashdown announced the results:

Clergy Ballot

Total number of ballots cast 22.

Total number of spoiled ballots 0.

Number of votes required for an election 12/22.

Laity Ballot

Total number of ballots cast 59.

Total number of spoiled ballots 0.

Number of votes required for an election 30/59.

Name	Clergy Votes	Laity Votes
Cliff, William	0	5
Irving, David	14	25
Luke, Iain	0	9
Norman, Peter	3	6
Opheim, David	0	3
Stonhouse, Michael	2	4
Towler, Robert	0	0
Yeung, Peter	3	7

Archbishop Ashdown declared that there had not been an election as no one candidate had received a majority in both houses.

BALLOT 2

At 1:08 pm Archbishop Ashdown called the second ballot would be called.

Three candidates withdrew their names for election: the Reverend Robert Towler, the Venerable Peter Yeung, and the Reverend Canon Michael Stonhouse.

The Clerical and Lay Secretaries called the roll.

At 1:17 pm voting ceased on the second ballot as declared by Archbishop Ashdown.

Clergy Ballot

Total number of ballots cast 22.

Total number of spoiled ballots 0.

Number of votes required for an election 12/22.

Laity Ballot

Total number of ballots cast 59.

Total number of spoiled ballots 0.

Number of votes required for an election 30/59.

Name	Clergy Votes	Laity Votes
Cliff, William	0	1
Irving, David	19	41
Luke, Iain	0	7
Norman, Peter	3	7
Opheim, David	0	3

On the second ballot, the Venerable David Irving received a majority (more than 50%) of the votes of the clergy and the majority of the votes of the lay members.

Archbishop Ashdown declared Archdeacon David Irving had been elected to the office of Bishop of the Diocese of Saskatoon.

Archbishop Ashdown obtained the concurrence of the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land to the election and arranged for the consecration of the Bishop-elect.

The date of consecration and installation was scheduled for March 1, 2010.

VOTE OF SUPPORT TO THE BISHOP-ELECT

MOTION #7

Moved By: The Very Reverend Terry Wiebe

Seconded By: Mr. Robert Halliday

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Synod extends its support and welcome to Bishop-elect David Irving.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY and with applause.

MOTION #8

Moved By: The Reverend Ann Marie Nicklin

Seconded By: The Reverend Canon James Halmarson

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BE IT RESOLVED THAT thanks be extended to all the candidates and their families and to the members of the Diocesan Synod.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY and with applause.

VOTE OF GRATITUDE TO THE METROPOLITAN

MOTION #9

Moved By: The Very Reverend Terry Wiebe

Seconded By: Canon Lorea Eufemia

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a vote of thanks be expressed to the Metropolitan, Archbishop Ashdown, for his work and care for the diocese in the past few months.

CARRIED with applause.

BALLOTS BE DESTROYED

MOTION #10

Moved By: The Venerable Dan Hughes

Seconded By: The Very Reverend Glen Burgomaster

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the ballots of the 69th extra-ordinary session of synod for the purpose electing the 12th bishop of the Diocese of Saskatoon be destroyed.

CARRIED.

The Metropolitan of the Province of Rupert's Land declared his concurrence with the proceedings of the 69th session of Synod.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #11

Moved By:

Seconded By:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this 69th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Saskatoon be Adjourned.

CARRIED.

Archbishop Ashdown led the members in prayer and closed the meeting of Synod at 1:55 pm.