

## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**

Prepared by Fred Krieger, Executive Secretary of Synod

At its meeting of 26 April 2007, Diocesan Council

- received letters from Coverdale (thanks for the annual donation) and from Geoff Jackson (Letting Down the Nets Project will lose its name but continue its work)
- heard a report from the Executive Secretary of Synod that the Bishop's annual performance evaluation has been completed
- heard a presentation by Ted MacDonald, Mauritz Erhard and the Rev'd David Fletcher previously presented at a Living Stones meeting on the three year experiment to develop leadership by all the baptized in the Parish of Newport Walton
- heard a report from Kees Zwanenburg and Judy Carpenter on plans to follow-up on the Benchmarking Study prepared by Janet Marshall. A small group will gather civic demographic information by regions, check benchmarks of healthy parishes against identified healthy parishes in the Diocese and use information to develop a long-range plan for the Diocese that will invite self-evaluation by parishes
- acknowledged convergence of information and planning in the Benchmarking, 5/3 Plan and Companions on a Journey initiatives. These will supply ingredients for a renewed vision
- heard and received a report from Michael Janz, Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator. He reported on his activities and the need for 'disciplers' of young people. His theme for last year was 'listening'; this year, 'planning'
- on recommendation from the screening committee, agreed to send to the Anglican Foundation a grant application submitted by St. Francis by the Lakes for enlarged parking
- heard and received reports from the Administration and Finance Committee, presented by the Rev'd Trevor Lightfoot. Council will consider 2005 audited statements at the June meeting
- approved salary scale revisions and increases proposed by Human Resources Subcommittee for Diocesan Bookroom Staff, Diocesan Staff and Diocesan Clergy
- agreed to add to the clergy stipend scale this note following the last year of posted scale increases (year 16): "Parish Council should consider annual increases for clergy based on cost of living, and increases commensurate with responsibilities and experience."
- agreed to add to Rectory Regulations (Guideline 2.2.2), section C, Provision of Utilities, provision of clothes washer and dryer
- referred back to the Administration and Finance Committee a recommendation from the Diocesan Book Room Advisory Subcommittee to close the Cape Breton Branch of the Diocesan Book Room effective 30 June 2007
- heard a report from the Controller that budget preparation for 2008 is well underway, the 2006 audit will soon be completed, a student is assisting in the review of material from 2000-2001 to try to rationalize reconciliations, and parochial returns are being reviewed
- heard a report on the Capital Campaign by Selma Doucet. Total pledges to date: \$2,826,882. Second newsletter is now out. A database has been created. The Leap for Faith Endowment Fund that Council approved previously will be overseen by the Planned Giving Committee

- heard and received a report from the Diocesan Executive Director, Canon Gordon Redden. Following recommendations, a position in health care chaplaincy is being advertised. Negotiations have begun on clergy stipend scales for 2009
- Council concurred with the Bishop in two parish amalgamations in PEI: Parish of New London and Parish of Springfield, and Parish of Saint Eleanor's and Parish of Summerside
- received a full report on income and expenditures of the Leap for Faith Campaign
- approved a plan, presented by Canon Gordon Redden and Dr. Leslie Jaeger, for the distribution of Capital Campaign income revised in light of income to date and probability of a reduction of our settlement fund commitment from 1.2 million to \$732,000
- heard and received a report by Bishop Hiltz. He circulated his goals for 2007. The Executive Secretary of Synod has served the statutory limit of two three- year terms. Canon Gordon Redden is appointed acting Executive Secretary June 1. Canon Fred Krieger will continue on no later than 31 December 2007 to assist Canon Redden. The Executive Secretary's job will be advertised
- heard and received a report from Bishop Moxley. Her performance review will soon be conducted by Bishop Hiltz. The House of Bishops met recently. They are devising ways to practice and encourage civility and generosity in disagreement. They are forming an agreed statement to be issued soon.
- heard reports on Phase Two Property Development. Reg Beaver and Bishop Hiltz reported. All agree that something must be done; no clear agreement yet on next steps. Bishops have met about housing. There is some value in having housing on site. Hospitality should be considered. If current housing not required it should be torn down. No compelling rationale for keeping facades
- request for full time archivist funding from Archives Committee deferred to June meeting
- Task Group on Communications will report to Council in June
- Task Group on Organization will report to Council in October