

**THE CONVENING CIRCULAR**  
**OF THE**  
**149<sup>th</sup> SYNOD**  
**OF THE**  
**DIOCESE OF NIAGARA**



**to be held on**  
**Saturday, November 4, 2023**  
*online via Zoom videoconference*

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# AGENDA FOR THE 149th SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

## “STEWARDING GOD’S GIFTS FOR MISSION”

*1 Peter 4:8-12*

<b>Saturday, November 4, 2023</b>		ONLINE via Zoom videoconference
8:15	Registration & Credentialling Begins	
9:00	Call to Order & Territorial Acknowledgement	
9:05	Organizing Synod <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Welcome to New Members of Synod &amp; Guests</li> <li>○ Privileges of the House</li> <li>○ Credentials Committee Report</li> <li>○ Notices of Motion</li> <li>○ Appointments to Diocesan Court</li> </ul>	Motion 1
9:15	Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Election of Honorary Clerical and Lay Secretaries of Synod</li> <li>○ Approval of Minutes of the 148<sup>th</sup> Synod of Niagara</li> <li>○ Approval of the Agenda</li> <li>○ Reception of All Convening Circular Reports</li> <li>○ Election of Trinity College Corporation</li> <li>○ Affirmation of the Actions of Synod Council</li> </ul>	Motion 2
9:20	Gathering Prayers with Bishop’s Charge to Synod	
10:15	<b>Break</b>	
10:30	Missional Moment #1 – Property Renewal as a Missional Enterprise	
10:35	Capital Campaign Feasibility Study Update	
10:40	Mission Action Plan Reflection & Engagement Exercise	
11:00	Audit Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Auditor’s Report &amp; Audited Financial Statements</li> <li>○ Appointment of Auditors for 2023</li> </ul>	Motion 3
11:10	Missional Moment #2 – General Synod – Let There Be Greening	
11:15	2024 Diocesan Budget Presentation	Motion 4
11:45	<b>Break</b>	
12:00	Missional Moment #3 – Introducing our Diocesan Missioners	
12:05	Anglican Communion Forest Initiative Presentation	
12:15	Canon Changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Amendment to Canon 1.1(1)</li> </ul>	Motion 5
12:25	Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Results of the Election of Delegates to Provincial Synod</li> <li>● Election of Regional Representatives to Synod Council</li> </ul>	Motion 6
12:30	Concluding Synod <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Bishop’s Assent of the Actions of Synod</li> <li>○ Closing Prayers, Blessing &amp; Adjournment</li> </ul>	

## **RESOLUTIONS OF THE 149TH SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA**

Notice has been received from members that they will move,  
or cause to be moved, the following resolutions:

**1. Credentials Committee Report**

*MOTION: Canon Greg Tweney / The Venerable Bill Mous*

THAT the report of the credentials committee be accepted.

**2. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

*MOTION: Ms. Amy Collard / The Reverend Garfield Wu*

THAT the items listed on the consent agenda be approved as circulated.

**A. Election of Synod Secretaries**

that Carey dePass be elected as the honorary lay secretary of synod and the Reverend Pam Guyatt be elected as the honorary clerical secretary of synod for the 149<sup>th</sup> Synod of the diocese.

**B. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Synod**

that the minutes of the 148<sup>th</sup> Synod of the diocese, as found in the convening circular, be approved.

**C. Adoption of the Agenda**

that the agenda as presented by the Synod Agenda Committee be adopted.

**D. Reception of All Reports**

that all reports found in the convening circular, including the audited financial statements and auditor's report, be received.

**E. Trinity College Corporation**

that the representatives from the Diocese of Niagara to the Corporation of Trinity College be: the Reverend Garfield Wu (clergy), Ms. Mary Churchill (lay) and Mr. Tom Atterton (lay); for a term of two years.

**F. Synod Council Report**

that the Synod Council report, having been fully considered, be now finally approved, and that all the decisions, agreements and documents entered into and signed on Synod's behalf since its last report, be hereby ratified and confirmed.

**3. Appointment of Auditors**

*MOTION: The Reverend Eleanor Clitheroe / Mr. Tony Denning*

THAT KPMG be appointed as auditors for the fiscal year 2023.

**4. 2024 Budget**

*MOTION: Ms. Kemi Okwelum / The Venerable Peter Scott*

THAT this Synod approve the 2024 diocesan budget.

**5. Amendment to Canon 1.1 (1) - Composition of Synod**

*MOTION: Canon Greg Tweney / The Venerable Bill Mous*

THAT the following section be added to Canon 1.1 (1):

(12) The rostered clergy, duly appointed, and the lay representatives, duly elected, of any joint Anglican-Lutheran congregations recognized by the Bishop of Niagara. For the purposes of this section the number of lay representatives to be elected shall be determined in accordance with Canon 4.1 (17(b)).

**6. Synod Council Election**

*MOTION: The Venerable Bill Mous / Mr. Jimmy Munuthi*

THAT this Synod elect the regional members of Synod Council and alternate regional members, as reported by the Secretary of Synod.

# ORGANIZATIONAL MATERIALS

## Special Considerations for an Online Session of Synod

### Credentialing and Registration

- The first and last name of each member must be displayed during the online session.
- The Zoom waiting room will be open as of 8:15am on Saturday and members of synod are asked to join the videoconference no later than 8:45am.
- A Synod support team will assist members to change their name, if necessary.

### Consent Agenda

- A consent agenda allows for non-controversial resolutions to be considered collectively, by consent of the members, thus freeing up valuable time for consideration of matters which might require more rigorous discernment by synod.
- The six items listed on the consent agenda will be considered in one resolution.
- Any one member can write to the Secretary of Synod, no later than Thursday, November 2 at 5pm, to request the removal of an item listed on the consent agenda. If this happens, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately by members of synod.
- When the resolution to adopt the consent agenda is brought to the floor of synod, any member may speak to it or ask questions for clarification about any of the consent agenda items, through the chair, as is the case for any resolution.
- When the resolution is carried, all consent agenda items are deemed to have been approved.

### Voting

- The chair, at their sole discretion, may call for a vote by voice and invite all participants to unmute and indicate their vote when the asked if they are 'in favour' or 'opposed'.
- The chair will call the question on all Synod resolutions after which the Secretary of synod will activate a poll for members to vote. After an appropriate amount of time, voting will end, and the results will be shared. The chair will declare whether the resolution has been carried or not.
- Alternatively, voting will be via the polling feature embedded in Zoom.
- To vote in a poll, each member will need to be logged into Zoom on their own device (if devices are shared, only one vote can be cast).

### Speaking to a Motion

- Members of synod wishing to speak to a resolution shall indicate their desire to do so using Zoom's chat feature, by typing "I wish to speak to the resolution".
- The bishop will call upon members wishing to speak to matters before synod, after which they will be invited to unmute themselves and if not already doing so, turn their video on, then state their name and parish, before speaking to the resolution.

# SYNOD MINUTES

## Minutes of the 148<sup>th</sup> SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Friday November 4, 2022 via Zoom videoconference  
Saturday, November 5, 2022 in person at the Burlington Convention Centre  
*“God’s Church for God’s Mission”*

**Friday November 4, 2022**

**via Zoom videoconference**

### **Call to order, Territorial Acknowledgement, and Opening Prayer**

The Right Reverend Susan Bell called the Synod to order at 7:00 pm.

The bishop acknowledged that our diocese is situated within the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Haudenosaunee, Anishnaabe, Attawandaron, and Mississaugas of the Credit and also acknowledged with respect and honour the heritage and gifts of the Métis people.

Bishop Bell offered a prayer for the Synod.

### **Organizing Synod**

Bishop Bell welcomed all guests and recognized new members of Synod.

She gave a special welcome to guest Archbishop Anne Germond, metropolitan of Ontario and archbishop of the dioceses of Algoma and Moosonee, recognizing her amazing efforts to attend the Synod, after a last-minute cancellation of her flight which meant that the archbishop drove all day from Sault Saint Marie to arrive for this evening’s session on time.

Bishop Bell also welcomed Archbishop Colin Johnson to his first Synod of the Diocese of Niagara in his new role as Niagara’s assistant bishop.

The bishop informed Synod that voting for this online session would be by voice vote.

Bishop Bell extended privileges of the house to Sue Carson of Climate Justice Niagara, Renée Anderson, lay director of Niagara Huron Cursillo, and Sharon Millar of Canterbury Hills Camp.

### Greetings from the Metropolitan

Archbishop Anne Germond commented that in her role as head of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, she is struck by what a vast and varied province she oversees. She compared Niagara’s rich, arable land, wealth and large population to Kashechewan’s harsher landscape, lack of clean running water and scarcity of fresh food that must be flown to James Bay at great cost. She thanked Niagara for its long-time role in extending its mission and ministry beyond its boundaries, citing Bishop Bell’s work as an ambassador for Niagara and the huge impact of the Niagara School for Missional Leadership where many from the Dioceses of Algoma and Moosonee are registered and participating learn.

Archbishop Germond thanked Archdeacon Bill Mous, whose coordinating communications work, especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic have helped the province. She also acknowledged the giftedness of Chancellor Greg Tweney and the work of the Safe Church Response team. And she thanked Canon David Linn who served as the provincial secretary of the Advisory Committee on Postulants for Ordination (ACPO) for two decades. Archbishop Anne said that the Diocese of Niagara is a gift to the Church!

The metropolitan reflected on the concept of gift. We begin as gifts; we receive gifts of love, food, and training. Everything we have is a gift. Gifts aren't sedentary to be stacked and stored but come from Jesus, companions on a journey to build up the body of Christ. She said we have a gifted bishop, synod office team and clergy. The resources at our disposal are a gift. Our core values are to help the vulnerable but we mustn't be afraid to take on even more challenges. We are not alone as God is with us, meets us, shares joy with us, and takes on the burden with us. God is Love.

Bishop Bell responded that we are blessed by Archbishop Anne's words and company.

### Credentials Committee Report

Chancellor Greg Tweney advised Synod that as of 6:55 pm, 71 out of 80 members of the order of the clergy, representing 83%, and 110 out of 156 of the order of the laity, representing 71%, were present and that 65 out of 81 parishes, or 82% were represented. Quorum was achieved.

#### **Motion 1: Credentials Committee Report**

Canon Greg Tweney / The Venerable Bill Mous

*THAT the report of the credentials committee be accepted.*

**CARRIED**

### Notices of Motion

The Chancellor spoke about the rules of order and advised members that since the convening circular was published, no additional motions had been received. Canon Greg Tweney indicated that any motions for consideration at this Synod would need to be presented in writing to Archdeacon Bill Mous no later than 10:50am on Saturday, November 5.

### Appointments to Diocesan Court

The bishop informed members of synod that she was appointing the following people to the diocesan court: The Reverend Canon Stuart Pike, The Venerable Peter Scott, The Venerable Sheila Van Zandwyk, Mr. Neil Bell, Ms. Ann Cunningham, and Ms. Mary Donkin.

### **Consent Agenda**

The following items were listed on the consent agenda for the Synod:

#### **Election of Synod Secretaries**

*that Ms. Sue Thibodeau be elected as the honorary lay secretary of synod and the Reverend Pam Guyatt be elected as the honorary clerical secretary of synod for the 148<sup>th</sup> Synod of the diocese.*

#### **Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Synod**

*that the minutes of the 147<sup>th</sup> Synod of the diocese, as found in the convening circular, be approved.*

#### **Adoption of the Agenda**

*that the agenda as presented by the synod agenda committee be adopted.*

#### **Reception of All Reports**

*that all reports found in the convening circular, including the audited financial statements and auditor's report, be received.*

#### **Trinity College Corporation**

*that the representatives from the Diocese of Niagara to the Corporation of Trinity College be: The Reverend Fran Wallace and The Reverend Canon Sue-Ann Ward (clergy) and Mr. David Montgomery (lay); for a term of two years.*



## **Synod Council Report**

*that the Synod Council report, having been fully considered, be now finally approved, and that all the decisions, agreements and documents entered into and signed on Synod's behalf since its last report, be hereby ratified and confirmed.*

### **Motion # 2: Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Mr. Thomas Littlewood/ Ms. Janice Whiteley

*THAT the items listed on the consent agenda be approved as circulated.*

**CARRIED**

### **Introduction to the Synod's Theme with Bible study on 1 Peter 4:12-5, 11**

The Bible Study was based on the same passage as was used at Lambeth Conference this year. The verses were read by Canon Balman Kalantari, Emily Hill, and Leonel Abaroa-Bolona.

1 Peter includes the final instructions of Peter to his friends. Bishop Bell reminded members that the focus is "Together we endure sticking close to Jesus." She noted that Christian life can be hard, requiring suffering, patience and hardship, both in Peter's time and in this culture in the light of the pandemic and in parts of the world where Christians are marginalized and punished. We suffer but we can thrive.

An interview from the Lambeth Conference between Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury and Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit of Kenya was highlighted. Archbishop Ole Sapit, before becoming a Christian, was born into a Maasai family and raised to be a shepherd. He had to fight a lion with his peers to become a warrior. He recalled that they fought the lion in confusion hearing yells, roars and bells. This passage has real meaning to him. Just as Peter compared the devil to a lion, the world can be a hostile and dangerous.

Archbishop Ole Sapit stated that shepherding is an important concept- be it shepherding cows at the village level or people at the national level. As bishop, he noted that he is a shepherd with a broader vision involving issues of safety, environment, food security, terrorism, economy, and recklessness of the political class. The Archbishop Welby asked how do shepherds find shepherds? Who shepherds the archbishop? Jesus is the chief shepherd.

Members of synod were divided into smaller breakout groups to discuss three questions:

- Who/what are the roaring lions in your context?
- In our local context, how are we resisting these lions?
- In our local context, how do we keep steadfast in our faith?

On return to the plenary, participants shared responses to these questions. Common "lions" facing parishes included resistance to change, the absence of families and children, the fallout of the pandemic, milestones of millennials not being met in this generation, churches having to close and individuals continuing ministries despite personal loss.

Examples of resisting the lions included reminding ourselves of abundance, having attitudes of gratitude and generosity, discovering who is in our neighbourhoods, listening to those who need our help, working in community, engaging in the Mission Action Plan, adopting an attitude of optimism, and upholding each other. We keep steadfast knowing morale is up at the synod office, online programs now draw in new participants, and some parishes are seeing more families coming to church.

Archbishop Germond shared that being raised in South Africa she learned that while encountering lions on game reserves, one must be attentive to the lion, clear headed and

confident. She listed a litany of “lions” or challenges that the church faces including secularism, polarization, individualization, and socio-economic ills. The Church at times ignores the ills in the world, lacks training of leadership, suffers from the pressure of time and resources on families and fear for the sustainability of parishes. The lions can overwhelm us and we can turn in on ourselves. There is holiness in loving but we must act. When together in community, we must listen and act- even small acts of love, justice, reconciliation and kindness are important. We must return to common worship and prayer. Prayer leads to a new relationship with God. We need to build up our common life.

Bishop Bell concluded the Bible Study with the advice that we should commit our lions to God who will give us the resilience and strength to overcome them.

### **Night Prayers**

Canon Mike Deed, Nancy McBride, Sheila Plant and Nina Page led Synod in compline.

Friday’s session of Synod concluded at 8:45pm.

## **Saturday, November 5, 2022    IN PERSON at the Burlington Convention Centre**

Bishop Susan Bell called the second day of the Synod to order at 9:00 am.

Rhonda Ploughman, rector of Church of the Epiphany, Oakville, offered a territorial acknowledgement, reminding members that Synod is taking place on the hereditary lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Haudenosaunee peoples.

### **Gathering Eucharist with Bishop’s Charge to Synod**

The Gathering Eucharist included music from the new hymn book: *Sing a New Creation*. The readings were: 1 Peter 5.1-11 and John 21: 15-19.

Bishop Susan Bell shared that she stood before Synod in a quandary: that if she is too negative, she may be seen as not trusting in God; by being too positive, she risks not seeing the present moment. As such, the bishop prayed for God to speak through her charge, in the midst of this liminal space.

The bishop acknowledged the fear and anxiety in the room; noting that anxiety is one of the roaring lions referenced in 1 Peter. While we may want the bishop to just “fix it”- to bring in more money, to get people back to church, to replace the ones we lost with energetic, committed new faces, she cannot. For it is God that is in charge, and the bishop exhorted the Synod to cast all its anxiety on God because God loves us, as Peter’s letter reminds its readers. We must embrace where we are now, not avoid it, but come together to resist the “lions that prowl.” The bishop asked members of synod to compare themselves to Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit of Kenya who faced his lion in confusion and fear. Anxiety, scarcity, and negativity seek to divide us. It’s not possible to “manage” this, and the state of permacrisis the world finds itself in at the present time.

What is open to us as people of faith, said Bishop Bell, is just that: to move forward in faith, expecting that God will act in our world. We must lean with the wind of the Holy Spirit that brings change, life and growth, for we are a people of expectation, ignited by the irresistible love of Jesus.

With more of the pandemic to go, we are feeling poor, smaller in numbers, tired and discouraged. At the same time the bishop noted that online worship mostly remains strong and

will be a permanent fixture, an area of growth to embrace. Bishop Bell also shared that diocesan income will be down 23% in 2023. Accordingly, we are drawing on our rainy-day funds and the bishop gave thanks to God for these, to give us time to recover from this downturn.

Despite feeling the pressure of lower revenue, the bishop encouraged members of Synod to distinguish between feeling and reality. Parishes have been assessed \$400 000 less towards Diocesan Mission and Ministry assessments (DMM) for 2023, as the formula is compassionate and progressive. Some parishes are already reshoring a positive change in revenue, rebounding from their low water mark. There is built in help for parishes for the period of recovery, and cause for some cautious optimism. Because our ministry is vital, recovery is probable. If we expect failure, we will get it. We should pray and work in expectation that God's provision will prevail. This is faith, hope and godly work in action.

Bishop Bell stated that even before the COVID-19 pandemic, we were in stormy waters. The Mission Action Plan (MAP) was the diocese's map out of the darkness and confusion. During the pandemic many of the MAP ministries have flourished, particularly in the last year. The bishop cited three examples: the Niagara School for Missional Leadership which has some incredible offerings, including a training program for deacons; the right-skilling of the diocesan staff for the diocese's current mission-shaped needs and focus on leadership through the differentiated curacy fund; and our ongoing response to the climate crisis by partnering with the Net Zero initiative.

The bishop stated that the climate crisis is the most critical issue of our time. The disasters of Hurricane Fiona and forest fires like Lytton BC are not one-off but are becoming normative. It is a scandal and an affront to the Creator that these events become accepted as normal. Fellow humans are suffering from the ravages of climate change. The Lambeth Conference emphasized that the climate crisis is a first order issue and there is power in corporate action. There are 85 million Anglicans worldwide in 165 countries, the third largest Christian denomination in the world. Bishop Bell invited members of synod to act together and advocate for our concerns to make a truly significant contribution for the generations to come. The 20,000 of Anglicans of the diocese can move the needle if we act corporately.

In this liminal space of discontinuous change, and time of great anxiety for the future of the Church, Bishop Bell asserted that the whole diocese has been working carefully and intentionally, following our MAP through the present and on into the future. She noted that the goal of developing a MAP was to give voice and missional shape to our ministry both corporately at the diocesan level and at the parish level, with a view to undertake a capital campaign to resource the vision.

In drawing her charge to a close, the bishop acknowledged that the lions are still here, but we know how to resist them - together in the power of the Holy Spirit and ignited by the love of Jesus. Bishop Bell observed that she has seen this through our parishes time and again, as people who are called to life and compelled to love. We must go forward sticking together, sticking to the MAP, and expecting God to provide what we need, when we have need of it.

Bishop Susan Bell commented that the retirements and moves of so many experienced people has been bittersweet; much history and experience has left the building and at the same time new energy and fresh perspectives have entered. The bishop offered gratitude for the diligent service of the diocesan staff: Carrie, Connor, Emily, Jane, Sarah, Kemi, Kim, Debbie, Abiola, Trish, Lorna, Mackenzie, Derek, Bill, Christyn, and Deirdre. She shared that this staff is here to serve parishes and has been humbled to hear over and over from parishes how much their patience, expertise, and dedication is appreciated.

Bishop Susan gave specific thanks to Kemi Okwelum who stepped into her new role as diocesan treasurer and director of finance with confidence and love for the Church; to Jane Wyse who seamlessly stepped in her new role as executive assistant supporting the bishop in so many ways; to Canon Christyn Perkons who is approaching retirement and has shown deep faith and love for the diocese and every parish and ministry; to Dean Tim Dobbin, for his leadership and partnership in prayer; and to Archdeacon Bill Mous for applying his broad skills in service to the diocese, the province and the national church but most importantly to God.

The bishop concluded her charge by giving thanks to God for members of synod, for their service and commitment, and especially to the clergy whose gifts, heart, dedication, and sacrifices she sees.

## **BREAK**

### **Missional Moment: Susie Kim, Neighbourhood Missioner**

Susie Kim shared with Synod that her ministry in central Hamilton is undertaken with no agenda but is one of presence; she engages in conversations with anyone in the community she serves. Her “office” is in establishments like The Bray where she chit chats over beer with managers, bartenders, and regulars, getting to know people’s lives there over time. Susie compared her work as a missioner to the Good Samaritan who was able to drop off a stranger at the inn and leave. The innkeeper knew him, trusted him and knew he would pay. Where you are a regular, you develop a relationship with your neighbourhood and meet Jesus there. Susie noted that All Saints Mission will have an impact of healing and trust.

### **Canon Changes**

Canon Greg Tweney was unable to attend the Saturday in-person session of Synod. Bishop Susan noted that he was connected via Zoom and is available to lend advice if needed. However, he is unable to move any of the resolutions related to the canon changes; in his place, Synod Council member Byron Nicholson agreed to move or second motions put forward by the Chancellor.

The bishop invited Archdeacon Bill Mous to walk members of synod through the various canon changes.

#### **Motion #3      Amendment to Canon 1.9 (2) - Synod Council**

Mr. Byron Nicholson / The Venerable Bill Mous

*THAT Canon 1.9 (2) be amended to read as follows:*

*An alternate representative, clergy or lay, may be elected from each of the regions who shall serve as a member of the Synod Council in the event of an elected member’s inability to attend a meeting of the Council. If an elected member resigns, such alternate representative shall serve out the balance of the member’s term. Alternate members shall have full voting privileges when attending on behalf of an elected member or serving out the balance of a term.*

**CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY  
CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY**

#### **Motion #4:      Amendment to Canon 1.9 (3) - Synod Council**

The Venerable Bill Mous / Mr. Byron Nicholson

*THAT Canon 1.9 (3) be amended to read as follows:*

- (a) *There shall be standing committees of the Synod Council, as follows:*
- i. *The Coordinating Team of Synod Council, consisting of the Secretary of Synod, and at least three members to be elected annually by the Synod Council. The Coordinating Team shall meet between sessions of the Synod Council at the call of the Secretary of Synod, who shall chair the meetings.*
  - ii. *The Financial Advisory Committee, consisting of the Treasurer and at least six members to be elected by the Synod Council for a two-year term, renewable twice.*
  - iii. *The Investment Advisory Committee, consisting of the Treasurer and at least six members to be elected by the Synod Council for a two-year term, renewable twice.*
  - iv. *The Audit Committee, consisting of the Treasurer, and at least six members, to be elected by the Synod Council for a two-year term, renewable twice.*
  - v. *The Human Resources for Ministry Committee, consisting of the Bishop or Bishop's designate, and at least four members elected by the Synod Council for a two-year term, renewable twice.*
- (b) *Other standing committees may be mandated by Synod Council, as necessary.*
- (c) *The terms of reference for each standing committee will be defined in a mandate letter approved by the Synod Council.*
- (d) *Unless otherwise specified, the chair of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Bishop.*
- (e) *Members of the committees shall normally be members of a parish vestry within Niagara.*
- (f) *The Bishop and Executive Officer shall be ex officio members of all standing committees.*

**CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY  
CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY**

**Motion #5: Amendment to Canon 1.9 (7) - Synod Council**

Mr. Byron Nicholson / The Venerable Bill Mous

*THAT Canon 1.9 (7) be amended to read as follows:*

*The Synod Council shall, at its first meeting following the conclusion of the Diocesan Synod, appoint signing officers for the Diocese, such signing officers to include the Bishop of the Diocese, the Executive Officer, the Secretary of Synod, the Treasurer, and any other individuals as shall be designated at that time by the Synod Council, provided that two signatures shall be affixed to all cheques and bills of exchange, one of which must be that of the Treasurer, the Executive Officer, or one other person appointed by Synod Council, and provided further that such signing officers as appointed pursuant to this section shall be authorized, in the name of the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, to*

- (a) draw, accept, sign, approve, and make all or any bills of exchange, promissory notes, electronic or wire transfers, cheques and orders for the payment of money;
- (b) pay and receive all moneys and to give acquittance for the same;
- (c) assign and transfer to the financial institution acting as custodian all or any stocks, mutual funds, bonds and other securities and from time to time to borrow money from such financial institution either by overdrawing the account or otherwise; and
- (d) generally for and on behalf of the said Synod to transact with the said bank any business.

**CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY  
CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY**

**Motion #6      Amendment to Canon 2.2 – Secretary and Treasurer**

The Venerable Bill Mous / Mr. Byron Nicholson

*THAT section 5 of Canon 2.2 be deleted along with all references to the controller position found in the diocesan canons.*

**CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY  
CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY**

**Motion #7      Amendment to Canon 3.1 (1) - Appointment of Incumbents**

Mr. Byron Nicholson / The Venerable Bill Mous

*THAT section 1 of Canon 3.1 be amended to read as follows:*

1. *There shall be in every parish (not being an assisted parish) a Committee (hereinafter called "The Parochial Committee"), which shall consist of the lay representatives to the Synod and the Churchwardens of the parish. Such Committee shall have full power in conference with the Bishop, to represent the Parish in the selection of an incumbent. An archdeacon or other representative shall be appointed by the Bishop to oversee the interview process.*

*For the sake of greater clarity:*

- (i) *The chair shall be elected from amongst the members of the Committee.*
- (ii) *Alternate lay representatives to the Synod and Deputy Churchwardens of the parish may attend meetings of the Parochial Committee but are not entitled to vote.*
- (iii) *In the event of a change of leadership during the Parochial Committee's work, past wardens or lay representatives may, at the Bishop's sole discretion, continue to serve on the Committee but are not entitled to vote.*
- (iv) *In extraordinary circumstances, at the outset of the Committee's work, additional members of the parish may be appointed by the Bishop.*

Some discussion about the motion arose from the floor of Synod and the potential impact the canon change may have, particularly as wardens transition. When there were no further comments, the Bishop called the question.

**CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY  
CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY**

**Motion #8      Amendment to Canon 4.1 (4) - Vestries and Churchwardens**

The Venerable Bill Mous / Mr. Byron Nicholson

*THAT section 4 of Canon 4.1 be amended to read as follows:*

*4 a) An Annual Vestry Meeting shall be held by the 1st of March each year, or on such day as may be fixed by the Synod. In extraordinary circumstances, this deadline may be extended with the approval of the Synod Council.*

*b) Notice of the annual meeting shall be given during Divine Service on the two Sundays immediately preceding the said meeting.*

*c) The annual meeting shall be for the purpose of receiving the audited accounts of the Vestry, and subsequently of electing and appointing Churchwardens and Lay Representatives and for the transaction of other business connected with the temporalities of the Church.*

**CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY  
CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY**

**Motion #9      Amendment to Canon 4.3 (1) – Differences between Clergy & Parishioners**

Mr. Byron Nicholson / The Venerable Bill Mous

*THAT section 1 of Canon 4.3 be amended by deleting the phrase, “through the inability of the Incumbent through age, infirmity or any other cause, or.”*

**CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY  
CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY**

**Audit Matters**

The bishop welcomed Treasurer Kemi Okwelum and noted that this was her first Synod with the diocese.

Auditor’s Report and Audited Financial Statements

Kemi Okwelum noted the auditor’s report indicates a qualified opinion, as is customary for charitable organizations. There were no areas of concern highlighted in the report. The auditors noted a decline in revenue compared to last year which was primarily from the extraordinary property sales of \$4.1M in 2020 compared to \$392K in 2021. The diocese closed with a net surplus of \$1.25M mainly due to investment gains and increased DMM revenues. Expenses remained at the same level as 2020. The overall net surplus of 2021 was less than 2020 because of the extraordinary \$4M received from the sale of properties. The treasurer reviewed highlights from the Statement of Financial Position. She noted that net assets increased by \$1.2M or 11% and decline of total liabilities by -17% or \$81K, and gave an overview of changes to our investment funds (including creation of a Legal Reserve Fund of \$370K, Church Planters Fund \$100K and Property Renewal Reserve Fund of \$100K).

## **Motion #10 Appointment of Auditors**

The Reverend Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe / The Reverend Canon Leslie Gerlofs

*THAT KPMG be appointed as auditors for the fiscal year 2022.* **CARRIED**

The bishop offered her gratitude for the work of the diocesan finance team.

## **Anti-Racism Working Group Presentation**

Chair Naomi Kabugi introduced members of her team and shared that they are making final touches on an Anti-Racism Training Curriculum. The manual, to be used by the diocese, is expected to be launched in 2023. Synod participated in a series of body exercises taken from “My Grandmother’s Hands: a Book on Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies.” It noted that these are tools to calm our bodies, settle our fears and make us ready to deal with our “lions”.

Canon Christyn Perkons then reviewed the structure of the Anti-Racism curriculum which is comprised of six sessions of 2 hours each, two topics per session:

Session 1	Anti Racism/Anti Oppression and Language
Session 2	Keep Calm + Check your Privileges and Microaggression
Session 3	Origin of Race and Body Trauma and Healing
Session 4	Anti-Black Racism and Anti-Indigenous Racism
Session 5	Anti-Asian Racism and Anti Immigrant + Newcomer Racism
Session 6	Facing Realities, Radical Hospitality and Racism in Church Culture

Deirdre Pike introduced a video on microaggression, “Where are you from?” and then reflected on how to interrupt and re-direct a person who is being a micro-aggressor.

There remains some work to be done: completing the drafts, seeking feedback, developing graphics, recruiting trainers and facilitators among the clergy and lay readers. She invited everyone to contribute. A report will be presented to the 2023 Synod. Diocesan structures will be reviewed to support the document. The bishop commented that anti-Racism work is important Gospel work.

Ahead of lunch, Archdeacon Bill Mous shared some brief announcements. Bishop Susan Bell was presented, on behalf of the diocese, a bouquet of flowers in recognition of her 20 years of ordained ministry. Archbishop Anne Germond also presented her with a pair of beaded moccasins to be made by a lay reader in Thunder Bay Deanery as a thank you from the diocese of Algoma and Moosonee for her leadership and teaching through the Niagara School of Missional Leadership. She shared that Bishop Bell is a model of what it is to be a bishop including the programs she promotes and her forward thinking while centering everything in Jesus Christ. Members of Synod joined with Archbishop Germond in praying a blessing upon the bishop.

Archbishop Colin Johnson led Synod in a grace; ‘Johnny Appleseed’ was sung together.

## **LUNCH**

### **Missional Moment #2: Niagara-Huron Cursillo**

Renée Anderson, Cursillo lay director, and Brian Galligan, Cursillo spiritual director, shared in a presentation about how Cursillo helps participants to discern their vision and to equip them for mission. The program, a three-day residential course, aims to develop missional leaders in the Church who actively use their gifts to grow the Church. After the weekend the candidate is



expected to discuss their learnings with their priest and seek guidance. Participants can be called to holy orders or lay leadership with calls to outreach and faith in action within the home parish or beyond. The goal of Cursillo is to proclaim the Gospel and seek to make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend to Christ

### **Climate Justice Niagara Presentation**

Past Chair Sue Carson spoke about the work of the Climate Justice Niagara Committee, which includes a new initiative to recognize parishes which have created gardens (rain, pollinator, or vegetable) to help the environment. Already 8 parishes have received a certificate. The committee is also working on a Climate Justice prayer for the diocese, which is almost ready to share.

Sue Carson reported on the 2019 single-use plastics motion. While efforts have been hampered by the pandemic, one-third of parishes passed this in 2020 and others will be doing so at their vestries this year. It was noted that the federal government will be passing a new law phasing out 6 common single-use plastics which will help make the transition easier for some items.

The Energy Audit program passed at Synod in 2021 aims to reduce energy use by 10% in 5 years. Fourteen parishes have been early adopters and completed their walk-through energy audits. Important data has been collected since such a wide variety of buildings is involved. Starting in January 2023, Humber College students will use infrared cameras to detect cold areas in facilities signed up for the audit. Every parish is encouraged to access the information on the diocesan website and plan to complete their Energy Audit to help reduce energy use and save utility costs. Steps in the process: collect utility data from the last few years, complete the energy walk through (2 hours), create a 5-year plan, educate the parish, educate the renters and users. Sue Carson emphasized that Climate Justice Niagara is just an email away, and the committee is keen to support parishes achieve a 10% reduction in their carbon footprint; this is one small step by each parish but one giant leap if we work together.

Bishop Bell reminded members that climate action is the moral issue of our time; collective prayer and action, in addition to our own personal commitments, is crucial to our response.

### **Bishops' Lambeth Dialogue with Questions from Members**

Bishop Susan Bell and Archbishop Anne Germond sat down in conversation to reflect about the Lambeth Conference held during the summer in England. They noted that some 650 bishops attended the pre-conference in Canterbury Cathedral and there were over 1500 participants at the 12-day conference, representing 85 million Anglicans in 165 countries, who gathered to worship, engage in Bible study, listen and get to know each other better.

Both bishops agreed that the diversity was breathtaking and through participation in Bible study and small group sessions, many bonds of affection were formed. The most painful moment was at the first communion service, after singing and sharing the peace together, several bishops chose not to receive communion as a form of protest against the differing views of same sex marriage. They noted that voting was suspended to avoid dissent on motions involving human sexuality. Bishop Bell pointed out, however, that during a transition time "grey things" happen, both good and bad, and that the number of bishops affirming same sex marriage grew over time in Lambeth.

Due to geopolitics, the stakes are high in the policies of human sexuality in many parts of the world. In the many small group sessions, Bishop Bell developed a respectful relationship with the Bishop of South Sudan who had been a child soldier and serves in a very different landscape than here in Niagara. They agreed to do an interview on BBC presenting their differing views.

Bishop Bell gave examples of the special ministries of certain bishops from several countries that she met whose challenges are so different than ours here in Niagara, some facing dangers of execution for being Anglican. She gave examples of countries like Madagascar, Pakistan, North and South Sudan where Christians are oppressed and often don't receive aid in times of disaster.

In conclusion remarks, the bishops affirmed that meeting at Lambeth is crucial for building unity in the Church, by seeing the face of Christ in the person across the table even if you don't agree. Building a relationship is key to convincing others through their hearts, if not through their minds.

### **Mission Action Plan Update**

An update on the work of the diocesan Mission Action Plan (MAP) was presented by Canon Christyn Perkons, director of congregational support and development, and Dr. Emily Hill, the newly appointed parish development missionary.

Canon Perkons noted that the role of a Mission Action Plan is to give opportunities to ignite and strengthen faith. She highlighted many examples of how the diocesan MAP is being lived out across the diocese, including through Garfield Wu's work at St Luke's Palermo, and St Cuthbert's Oakville, five divinity students have come forth to pursue their callings; through Canon Mike Deed's work in developing All Saints Mission, creating a new space on the main floor of a condo building for people not used to churches, pioneers in rebooting a church community; through changing diocesan culture: through new synod staff models and having Archbishop Colin Johnson as a mission coach, and by increasing the digital presence of parishes and creating the "new normal" through tech grants. In the coming year, the diocese's progress with the MAP objectives will be reviewed and future steps will be developed.

Dr. Hill discussed the MAP Parish Initiative that includes the MAP Guide for Parishes discernment process, under the three foci of Faith Formation, Parish Culture, and Links with the Neighbourhood. There are 246 parish initiatives already planned for 2023-24 from the 24 parishes who have completed their submissions, and more are in the process, averaging 6-12 initiatives per parish. Some initiatives include: a senior health and wellness project, community fridges and cooking lessons, coffee groups for the newly retired, parish retreats and theology book clubs. Dr. Hill compared these small steps to the mustard seed that will sprout into a big tree. She witnesses great vibrancy in the diocese.

Dr. Hill invited parishes to contact her for help or advice and to share stories. \$50,000 has been put aside to be shared toward a parish's DMM payment if their MAP documents are submitted to the diocesan office by June 2, 2023.

As the presentation concluded, the bishop shared her gratitude to Canon Christyn Perkons for the legacy gift of the MAP which she spearheaded. Bishop Bell observed that over her 20 years of ministry as a member of the diocesan staff team, her impact on parishes has been profound and deep. As she prepares for retirement in 2023, the bishop thanked Canon Perkons for her friendship, her witness, and for the incredible ways she has served the Church. Members of Synod offered a standing ovation in recognition of Canon Christyn Perkons' extraordinary ministry with the diocese.

### **2023 Diocesan Budget Presentation**

Archdeacon Peter Scott, chair of the Missional Budget Planning Committee, presented the 2023 diocesan budget along with Kemi Okwelum, the diocesan treasurer.

Archdeacon Scott connected the scriptural focus of this year's Synod to the work of the Committee in preparing a budget. He noted that one of the messages of 1 Peter is that we are protected by our God even if we are suffering trials. The 2022 priorities are continuing into 2023, reflecting our new realities and societal changes. Archdeacon Scott acknowledged the struggles of this time but also pointed to the opportunity of new online ministries and connections. The 2023 budget makes provision for the following priorities: improved mental health supports for clergy and staff, resourcing parish Mission Action Plans, differentiated curacies, enhancing funding for clergy coaching, bolstering resources for Climate Justice Niagara, and supporting the Niagara School for Missional Leadership. The budget also invests in the work of the Anti-Racism Working Group to develop and roll-out an Anti-Racism curriculum. Archdeacon Scott also cited the youth programs, such as The Table, that successfully used a hybrid model to keep participants engaged and help the diocese live into our Mission Action Plan. Already nearly 200 new missional initiatives are being contemplated by parishes who have completed their Mission Action Plan. The proposed budget for 2023 will set aside \$50,000 as an incentive to parishes who complete their parish MAPs to help foster their missional initiatives.

Kemi Okwelum gave an overview of the key numbers in the 2023 budget. She noted that diocesan revenue will be down 23% year over year - \$2.93M in 2023 versus \$3.8M in 2022. This shift is in part because no properties are forecast to be sold in 2023 and Diocesan Mission & Ministry contributions will decrease by 13% compared to last year. The strain on the budget is similar to what is being felt in many parishes. Significant effort has been made to reduce costs while maintaining our capacity for ministry. The budget for most expense lines is maintained or reduced compared to 2022. Through intentional, mission-oriented realignment, staffing costs are reduced by \$100,000 year over year. At the same time, a 4% increase in staffing costs has been implemented, as directed by Synod Council, recognizing the extraordinary increases in the cost of living we are experiencing.

Overall, the budget forecasts a deficit of \$41,500 for 2023 after draws from investments are factored in. The treasurer noted that the diocese is blessed by a rich heritage of funds to sustain our ministry at levels over and above what operating revenues would permit. Various diocesan investments will fund nearly \$650,000 worth of ministry in 2023. This budget makes a \$3.6M dollar investment in ministry at every level, equipping us for the mission to which God has called us.

The bishop thanked the budget committee for their work and opened the floor of Synod for questions and comments. Canon Martha Tatarnic and Neil Culp, both of St. George's, St. Catharines, spoke to the budget, expressing concerns about the magnitude and sustainability of investment draws required to support diocesan ministry.

**Motion #11 2023 Budget**

Ms. Kemi Okwelum /The Venerable Peter Scott

*THAT this Synod approve the 2023 diocesan budget.*

**CARRIED**

**Missional Moment #3: Canterbury Hills Camp**

Camp Director Sharon Millar shared that 2022 was a big relaunch of full camping activities at Canterbury Hills including overnight camping built on developing relationships, off-site experiences, and leadership training. Synod heard about the transformation that happens when children encountering God's creation, have an opportunity to build community, and build relationships with one another. The Synod enjoyed the many slides highlighting staff, campers, and their activities.

## **Other Business**

### Election of Representatives to Synod Council

The bishop invited the secretary of synod to display the slate of nominees selected or acclaimed by their respective regions for election by Synod as representatives to Synod Council.

The slate of nominees included: Pat Davis, Alternate: Gary Pollard (Brock); Anne Gould, Alternate: Paul Walker (Greater Wellington); Bev Groombridge, Alternate: Susan Little (Hamilton-Haldimand); Byron Nicholson, Alternate: Jodey Porter (Lincoln); and Alternate: Karine Snowden (Trafalgar).

**Motion #12** The Venerable Bill Mous / Ms. Mary Donkin

*THAT this Synod elect the regional members of Synod Council for the 2023/2024 term and alternate members for the 2023 term.*

**CARRIED**

The bishop expressed gratitude for all who let their names stand and congratulated those elected.

## **Concluding Synod**

### The Bishop's Assent of the Actions of Synod

Bishop Susan Bell gave her assent to all acts and resolutions during Synod.

Archdeacon Bill Mous reminded members that the bishop's Charge, along with her interview on BBC with the Bishop of South Sudan, will be shared with an evaluation of this year's Synod which will be sent to all members shortly after the Synod adjourns.

### Closing Prayers and Blessing

The Synod concluded with closing prayers and blessing, led by Canon Leslie Gerlofs.

The bishop thanked all those who made the Synod possible, including Canon Mike Deed, Archdeacon Bill Mous, Mary Anne Grant, Jan Charters, Sarah Bird, Connor Jay, Jane Wyse, Adam McNeil and Chancellor Greg Tweney.

Bishop Susan Bell also noted that the Synod has been blessed by the presence and wisdom Archbishop Anne Germond who has been our most honoured guest over the past two days. The bishop concluded by thanking members of synod for their Gospel partnership.

### Adjournment

The 148<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Niagara adjourned on or about 3:15pm.

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

### **Information on Proposed Canon Change**

#### **Addition to Canon 1.1 – Composition of Synod**

In 2001, the Anglican Church of Canada entered into a full communion relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, creating the possibility of joint Anglican-Lutheran congregations. The diocese currently has one established ministry, All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church in Guelph, and another is in the process of being established, Burlington Anglican Lutheran Church. The governance of these entities is unique, overseen by a non-profit corporation and constitution, with unique licensing considerations. This canon is proposed in order to regularize the process for membership in our Synod for joint Anglican-Lutheran congregations in Niagara.

#### **PROPOSED ADDITION**

THAT the following section be added to Canon 1.1 (1):

(12) The rostered clergy, duly appointed, and the lay representatives, duly elected, of any joint Anglican-Lutheran congregations recognized by the Bishop of Niagara. For the purposes of this section the number of lay representatives to be elected shall be determined in accordance with Canon 4.1 (17(b)).

# SYNOD COUNCIL

## 2023 Diocesan Synod Council

### Regional Representatives

- Canon Patricia Davis Brock
- The Reverend Deacon Rod McDowell Brock
- Mr. Gary Pollard (alternate) Brock
- Mr. Thomas Littlewood Greater Wellington
- Ms. Anne Gould Greater Wellington
- The Reverend Canon Paul Walker (alternate) Greater Wellington
- Mr. Neil Bell Hamilton-Haldimand
- Ms. Bev Groombridge Hamilton-Haldimand
- Ms. Susan Little (alternate) Hamilton-Haldimand
- Mr. Byron Nicolson Lincoln
- The Reverend Rob Towler Lincoln
- Ms. Jodey Porter (alternate) Lincoln
- Mr. Winston Tinglin Trafalgar
- Ms. Janice Whiteley Trafalgar
- The Reverend Karine Snowdon (alternate) Trafalgar

### Regional Archdeacons

- The Venerable Terry Holub Brock
- The Venerable Peter Scott Greater Wellington
- The Venerable Terry DeForest Hamilton-Haldimand
- The Venerable Sheila Van Zandwyk Lincoln
- The Venerable Jeff Ward Trafalgar

### Financial Advisory Committee

- The Reverend Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe

### Canterbury Hills

- Ms. Sharon White

### Episcopal Appointees

- Canon Terry Charters
- Ms. Amy Collard
- The Reverend Garfield Wu
- Ms. Nesta Cooper

### Directors

- Canon Christyn Perkons, Director of Congregational Support and Development (*through Jan. 2023*)

### Officers

- The Right Reverend Susan Bell, Diocesan Bishop
- Mr. Greg Tweney, Chancellor
- Ms. Kemi Okwelum, Treasurer & Director of Finance
- The Venerable Bill Mous, Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod
- The Very Reverend Dr. Tim Dobbin, Rector of Christ's Church Cathedral & Dean of Niagara

## Report of the Diocesan Synod Council

This report summarizes the actions of Synod Council from November 2022 through October 2023. The requirement for at least six meetings to be held, as set out in Canon 1.9 (9), was met with eight meetings duly convened during this period.

### Election and Appointments

- Approved the election of the following directors to serve on the board of 2498317 Ontario Inc, the corporation established to oversee diocesan development projects, for the year 2023 or until their successors are duly elected: The Right Reverend Susan Bell, Kemi Okwelum, The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, and Canon Terry Charters.
- Appointed the following as signing officers, the Right Reverend Susan Bell, diocesan bishop; the Venerable William (Bill) Mous, executive officer and secretary of synod; Kemi Okwelum, treasurer and director of finance; and Jane Wyse, executive assistant to the bishop.
- Elected Rod McDowell, Rob Towler, Amy Collard, and Janice Whiteley to the Synod Council Coordinating Team.
- Elected Rob Towler, Eleanor Clitheroe, Marshall Horner, Jeff Ostic, Howard Davis, Pamela Guyatt and Mark Young to the Financial Advisory Committee, for a two-year term.
- Elected Peter Barr, Eleanor Clitheroe, Brock Mason, and Mark Young to the Investment Advisory Committee, for a two-year term.
- Elected Nicolas Choules-Burbidge, David Eccles, Deanna Lusby, Greg Cook, Tony Denning, and Leslie Gerlofs to the Audit Committee, for a two-year term.
- Elected Neil Culp, Sheila Van Zandwyk, and Tim Tiernay to the Human Resources for Ministry Committee, for a two-year term.
- Appointed Victor Kischak for a two-year term as a diocesan representative on the Cathedral Place Property Management Committee.
- Elected Rob Towler, Amy Collard, and Janice Whiteley to the Synod Council Nominations Committee, for a one-year term.
- Elected Winston Tinglin, Peter Scott, Eleanor Clitheroe, and Anne Gould to the Missional Budget Planning Committee, for a two-year term.
- Acting as the General Membership of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara,
  - Elected Jodey Porter and Elizabeth Wensley as directors of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a three-year term.
  - Elected Tony Denning to the office of president and Jodey Porter to the office of vice president of the foundation, to serve until the next annual general meeting.
  - Appointed KPMG as the auditors for the fiscal year 2022 and, later, for 2023.

### Policy Matters

- Acting as the General Membership of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, confirmed, ratified, and approved the updated by-laws for the foundation.
- Approved the updated terms of reference for the Human Resources for Ministry Committee, effective January 17, 2023.
- Approved the revised Sabbatical Leave Policy, effective February 28, 2023.
- Approved the revised Anglican Foundation Endorsement Process.
- Approved the revised regulations pertaining to Canon 4.6, effective June 20, 2023.

- Approved the procedures and regulations proposed by the Nominations Committee for the election of provincial synod delegates in 2023, and subsequently amended those regulations to allow for the bishop, in consultation with the Synod Council Nominations Committee, to appoint members of Synod to serve as substitute delegates, as needed.
- Approved a five-year refugee sponsorship agreement with Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada.
- Revised the membership requirements for the Walking on Water (WOW) Grants Committee to include a representative from each region of the diocese, as appointed by the bishop, as well as the parish development missionary and the community missionary.

### **Parish Matters**

- Approved the request of St. Matthew on-the-Plains, Burlington for a loan from their rectory fund, in the amount of \$50,000.
- Approved the request of St. Paul's, Westdale for a loan from their rectory fund, in the amount of \$50,000
- Authorized Church of the Ascension, Hamilton and St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls to hold their annual vestry meeting not later than March 5, 2023.
- Authorized St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton to hold its annual vestry meeting not later than March 27, 2023.
- Approved the submission of an application for an Anglican Foundation grant, in the amount of \$13,455.47, by St. James Anglican Church, Dundas for the installation of heat pumps.
- Approved the merger agreement between St. Elizabeth's Anglican Church, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, and the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.
- Approved the submission of an application for an Anglican Foundation grant, in the amount of \$15,000, by St. Luke's Anglican Church in Smithville for accessibility improvements.
- Affirmed the strong witness to the Gospel expressed by the people of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Shelburne for more than 150 years, lauding the sacrificial giving and the spirit of fellowship that marks the ministry of St. Paul's, commending these Christian disciples to the parishes they intend to join, and expressing gratitude to the parish's lay and ordained leaders as they have faithfully walked a difficult but faithful path of discernment as they prepare to voluntarily disestablish as a parish, effective January 21, 2024.

### **Property Matters**

- Assumed responsibility for the property costs of St. Elizabeth's, Burlington, as of May 1, 2023, the informal date of their merger with Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Burlington.
- Authorized the officers of Synod Council, or their designates, to apply for a demolition permit for the hall located at 454 John Street, Hamilton.
- Approved the parish of All Saints Church, Dain City to make a demolition permit application for a garage located on its property.
- Approved the sale of a parcel of land (totaling 0.00593 acres) located within an existing hydro easement on the property of St. Luke's, Palermo to the Regional Municipality of Halton, to create a transit stop, and directed the proceeds from the sale to be applied towards the parish's outstanding diocesan mission and ministry contributions from prior years.



## Financial Matters

- Approved up to \$54,000 from the Walking on Water (WOW) fund to be made available in 2023 for grants, as recommended by the diocesan treasurer.
- Approved the 2022 audited financial statements of The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara.
- Authorized a payment from the Legal Reserve Fund to resolve a matter related to the care and maintenance of the York Cemetery.
- Acting as the General Membership of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, received and accepted the 2022 audited financial statements of foundation.
- Directed an unrestricted gift of \$100,000 to St. Matthew's House, in support of the 412 Barton Street initiative as a tangible expression of the diocese's ongoing commitment to the work of healing and reconciliation with the Indigenous peoples of Canada, from funds related to the Residential Schools Settlement Agreement.
- Directed \$400,000 in principal payments towards the vender take-back mortgage associated with the sale of the Speedvale Avenue property in Guelph to be allocated as follows:
  - \$150,000 invested in the Differentiated Curacy Fund;
  - \$125,000 invested in the Church Planting Reserve Fund;
  - \$75,000 invested in the Legal Reserve Fund;
  - \$30,000 donated to the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine's Capital Campaign; and
  - \$20,000 invested in the Property Renewal Reserve Fund.
- Directed the remaining \$1,200,000 from the Speedvale Avenue vender take-back mortgage to be used for cash flow purposes to fund the expected 2024 budget deficit and costs associated with the proposed capital campaign, and directed the treasurer to provide a report before the end of 2024 about the use of these funds, including, if appropriate, recommendations related to the reallocation of any unused funds.
- Approved a mandatory 3.0% cost of living adjustment in 2024, in addition to the year of service increase factored into the grid, to the Minimum Stipend Scale for 2024.
- Recommended a 3.0% cost of living adjustment in addition to a 0.6% year of service increase, for a total increase of 3.6% in 2024, for stipends for clergy and licensed lay workers currently making over the minimum stipend amount.
- Recommended to parishes a cost-of-living adjustment for all housing allowances of not less than 3.0% in 2024.
- Recommended that salaries of non-licensed lay employees be increased by not less than 3.6% (comprising a cost-of-living adjustment of 3.0% and a year of service increase of 0.6%) in 2024.
- Commended the 2024 diocesan budget for approval by the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara.

Respectfully submitted,

The Venerable Bill Mous, Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod  
Ms. Hannah Keller, Administrative Assistant

# REPORTS OF SYNOD COUNCIL COMMITTEES

## THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The primary work of the committee is to provide advice and recommendations to the bishop and Synod Council on the financial management, stewardship, and administration of funds or assets of the Diocese of Niagara. The committee monitors the implementation of the diocesan budget and the financial policies, procedures, and guidelines, the financial capacity of parishes initiating large projects, and in collaboration with the Investment Advisory Committee investment performance of the funds held by the diocese.

**Risk Management:** The Committee added to its monthly agenda a risk management review. This role goes beyond monitoring to include the assessment of the risk of immediate and longer-term trends in declining revenues, fixed expenses, mismatched cash flow, liability not covered by insurance, and potential unexpected events. This addition was precipitated by the financial issues that accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic, but that had been developing over a longer period. Parish finances as reflected in the diocesan budget, DMM revenue, and diocesan expenditures are closely monitored considering these issues and trends.

The key areas of financial risk identified over the past year(s) at the parish level include a decline in church attendance, resulting in pressure on parish finances, and a decline in parish giving overall to meet future needs. The key areas of financial risk at the diocesan level includes the diocesan use of capital to cover operating deficits, reduced revenues because of lower than forecast DMM, and adequate funding to reinvest in parishes for the future.

**Mission Action Plan:** The diocese and parishes have implemented Mission Action Plans. The objective of the committee is to understand the bishop's mission for the diocese, and to monitor the implementation of the financial plan to support that mission. As a result of monitoring the ability of the diocese to support the mission, the committee made two recommendations in 2023. The committee has recommended that consideration be given to preparing a 3-year mission and financial plan, so that the longer-term financial support of the Bishop's vision can be forecast; and that capital be used to reinvest in the mission, rather than to cover deficits, as soon as is reasonably possible.

**Capital Expenditures and Major Projects:** The Committee provides advice to the bishop on expenditures on building projects over a prescribed level. Three quotes for the project are generally required from which the proposed supplier or contractor for the work is selected and recommended by the parish.

The committee provides a financial representative from among the committee membership to work with the parish to ensure that before a project proceeds the parish and the project are financially viable, including that DMM is up to date, the parish does not have any existing debt or there is a plan to cover the debt, and a funding plan is in place for the proposed project. The project financial representative advises the bishop on the financial viability of project and financial status of the parish, and once the project is approved by the bishop, reports the progress of the project monthly to the committee. The committee, with the diocesan treasurer, may assist the parish and the bishop with recommendations to address the financial requirements of the project.

The committee has observed that the cost of projects has increased significantly during and post-COVID, due to a shortage of materials, suppliers and contractors, and the cost of materials. In previous years, the limit over which episcopal approval for a project was required was \$15,000. In 2023, the committee recommended that the limit be increased to \$25,000. This recommendation was recently approved at Synod Council.

The Committee has also observed that it is often difficult to obtain three quotes for work required by the parish, due to the shortage of contractors and suppliers, and may advise on such quotes, in the specific circumstances.

During 2023, the committee has assigned representatives and provided advice and monthly reports on a significant number of projects. The physical infrastructure of parishes in the diocese requires renewal, and new investment to implement parish MAPs is necessary. New sources of capital are required to meet these needs.

**Investments:** The Committee reviews the diocesan investments monthly and provides a representative on the Investment Advisory Committee. Markets have been volatile over 2023, and the committee monitors the value of the portfolio closely. This volatility has not been identified as a major risk factor for the diocese to date and the committee will continue to monitor the portfolio results and markets as necessary.

**Insurance:** The committee oversees the insurance and liability risk of the Diocese. Insurance risk and costs have increased significantly over the last several years. Unexpected events can have significant impact on diocesan finances and the committee has monitored the need for a contingency fund for future events.

The committee has worked diligently and very hard throughout 2023 and I thank all the members of the Committee for their commitment to this financial work and their passion for the future financial sustainability and success of the bishop's vision going forward.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe  
Chair

## THE MISSIONAL BUDGET PLANNING COMMITTEE

“Stewarding God’s Gifts for Mission” is the theme of our 2023 Synod of the Diocese of Niagara. This is the lens through which Bishop Susan has asked us to look through as we contemplate and pray about the matters coming before Synod. The biblical foundation for Synod will come from 1 Peter 4:8-12. In those verses we are called to constant love for one another, to be hospitable and to serve one another with the gifts each of us have received and to give God the glory. Later in the passage we read that there will be a time of testing. The pandemic did test us, but our Mission Action Plan continues to focus on the many opportunities where God is calling us to act and compelling us to love.

The mandate of the Missional Budget Planning Committee is to create an annual mission-shaped diocesan budget, directing resources to renew the work and ministry of the diocese, to respond to episcopal priorities and to align with the strategic vision and objectives outlined in diocesan Mission Action Plan (MAP).

This year we have refreshed how the budget is presented, creating schedules that better reflect our current missional stance and the realignment of the diocesan staff teams. The five budget schedules are:

- **Beyond Niagara, Episcopal & Governance Expenses**
- **Administrative Expenses**
- **Ministry Expenses**
- **Education & Formation**
- **Diocesan Properties**

The 2024 budget proposes to invest, prudently, faithfully and expectantly, more than 3.7 million dollars for the building up and resourcing of God’s Church in Niagara. Nearly 2.5 million dollars will be contributed by parishes, down nearly \$200,000 over the prior year. 2024 will be a difficult year as a result of this lower diocesan revenue. This is owed to the 3-year DMM calculation, which naturally lags behind the parish experience. As such, in 2024 the impact of the pandemic on revenues will be felt most fully for the diocese. There is, however, hope on the horizon as parish revenues are rebounding from their lows, and diocesan revenues are expected to see a rebound starting in 2025. As Bishop Susan always reminds us, we are people of expectation, and God will provide.

At the same time, with inflation and cost of living pressures, some areas of the budget will also see significant increases. Most notably, we have included a cost-of-living increase of 3% for salaries and stipends recommended by the Human Resources for Ministry Committee, and a benefit-cost increase from 30% to 32%, owing to increases in mandatory employer contributions. This all results in an operating deficit of \$973K, however, after investment draws, this amount is reduced to a little under 300K. It is proposed that this deficit be covered by applying funds from a mortgage due in 2024, resulting in an overall operating surplus.

Lastly, one new component to the budget is to make provision for a parish-focused Capital Campaign, should we decide to proceed following this fall’s feasibility study. The costs for the campaign are expected to be incurred over a 15-month period. The repayment of the mortgage mentioned above will also ensure we have the cash flow required for this expenditure until such time as revenues begin flowing. This is the time to act. It is the time for fresh thinking and to follow the Spirit’s leading and to live out the hope of Christ in our lives.

Respectfully submitted,

The Venerable Peter Scott  
Chair

## THE INSURANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The insurance Broker continues to be The Gallagher Insurance Group and the insurance carrier remains Ecclesiastical Insurance Office PLC.

### **Claims History**

The Loss Ratio (total claims divided by total premium) for the period was 2% which is an excellent year once again for losses. The Loss Ratio for the last five years was 15%. Total -premiums for the year net of broker fees was \$1,231,736.

### **Policy Changes**

Total premiums have increased 4% for the 2023/2024 period which in the current continuing hard market for property insurance, is a good result and is reflective of the excellent claims record and long relationship with both the broker and the insurer. This is despite the double-digit inflationary increase in construction and repair costs.

Deductibles and coverage limits are essentially the same except the property deductible moved to \$5,000.

The subcommittee continues to work to ensure coverage meets our diocese and parish needs and is cost effective.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Taylor  
Chair

## THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee was convened in March for the purpose of reviewing the December 31, 2022 Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara and Canterbury Hills.

The Audit Committee has undertaken the following activities:

- The Committee met with the representatives of KPMG LLP, the Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod, and the Treasurer and Director of Finance of the Diocese of Niagara on Friday June 9, 2023, at 1:30pm via Zoom.
- The 2022 Financial Statements and Audit Findings were presented by Paul Ciapanna the Lead Audit Engagement Partner with KPMG.
- Overall, there was nothing significant identified and there were no areas of concern from the Auditors point of view.
- There were two audit reclassifications that there were considered immaterial.
- The committee discussed some language and terminology points during the review which resulted in minor changes to the F/S.
- Considerable discussion centered around the Reserve for Bad Debts and a request was made for more information on this item.
- Additional discussion centered around the ongoing Qualified Opinions that relate to cash control in the diocese itself and in the parishes in general although the parish results are not within the scope of the audit.
- The auditors were asked to give the committee an estimate of the auditing cost that would be associated with a more in-depth review of cash control because of the continuing decrease in the frequency of cash and cheque donations.
- KPMB LLP was recommended as the Auditor for the 2023 Year End. However, although not accompanied by a specific motion, there was consensus amongst the committee that Requests for Proposals be sent out to other Audit firms for the 2024 financial year.

Upon reflection, there was a consensus at the meeting that the audit committee should try to meet in advance of next years annual audit to review the previous year's audit. This will allow time to ask questions about the current year audit and will give new committee members a better understanding of how the diocese operates from a financial perspective. In addition, it would be helpful if the committee members could send in questions, related to the current year draft financials, in advance of the actual annual audit meeting. This would give the diocesan staff the opportunity to respond in advance to save time during the meeting with the auditors.

I would like to thank all the members of the Audit Committee for their contributions.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Cook CPA, CMA  
Chair

## THE INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Investment Advisory Committee (IAC) has overall responsibility for advice related to the stewardship of the diocese's finances and assets. The primary role of the committee is to monitor the investment performance of the funds held by the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation (ACMF) and Niagara Investment Fund, and the performance of the investment manager or managers. [Russell Investments](#), appointed in 2002, continues to provide investment management and reporting to the Committee.

The overall investment objectives of the Fund are to:

- preserve capital, as adjusted for Canadian C.P.I. (Consumer Price Index)
- maintain sufficient liquidity for anticipated disbursements; and
- generate a rate of return sufficient to cover the anticipated disbursements, collectively expected to represent 4.5% of the Fund.

The diocesan investment administrator issues monthly statements to all parishes which have invested with the diocese. These reports keep them up to date on the overall value of the parish's particular fund(s), including the growth or loss and any transactions (withdrawals or deposits) processed during the month. Further details can be found on the diocesan website: [Synod of the Diocese of Niagara - Investment Policy Statement](#)

The Fund is invested in a well-diversified portfolio of fixed income and equity investments with a current allocation of:

Canadian Equity	12%
ESG Global Equity	45%
Global Infrastructure	9%
Global Real Estate	9%
Canadian Fixed Income	17%
Global Unconstrained Bond	4%
Global Credit	<u>4%</u>
	100%

To August 31, 2023, the current value of the Fund was \$49.9M (million). Considering contributions and withdrawals for the past 12 months, net withdrawals have totaled \$2.6M or 5.2% of the total Fund value. Investment performance has seen a rolling 1-year ROR (rate of return) of 10.16% and a rolling 5-year ROR of 5.43%.

The committee reviews the Fund's investments from several angles. In line with our Mission Action Plan and our diocesan objective to prioritize social justice action with an emphasis on environmental justice, the Fund holds a significant allocation of 45% in ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) Global Equity. Further to this, we initiated conversation with our advisors from Russell Investments about some of the issues around "fossil-free investing." Our advisors directed us to several perspectives from which this issue needs to be considered. The IAC will continue its work in adherence to the policy and investment objectives as established by Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Rob Duncan  
Chair

## THE HUMAN RESOURCES FOR MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The Human Resources for Ministry (HRfM) Committee of the Diocese of Niagara is an advisory body which works consultatively and collaboratively with the bishop, diocesan staff, and Synod Council. When requested, the HRfM Committee provides advice and resources, undertakes research into various human resources issues, and proposes recommendations that aim to further the diocesan vision and mission (MAP).

This past year, the HRfM Committee has experienced significant member turnover due to the COVID-19 pandemic and transitions in diocesan office staff as Carrie McFarland departed, and Shannon MacKenzie was appointed as the new human resources and volunteer coordinator. As such the committee commenced meeting late spring with a primary objective of identifying major deliverables.

The most pressing need was to research and prepare the 2024 compensation recommendations for Synod Council (stipend and housing allowance increases). As with any organization, the diocese is faced with the challenge of balancing the ability to pay with attracting & retaining talent (clergy & lay). A sub-group of the committee gathered both lagging and projected data to establish its recommendations. As always, in relation to other neighbouring dioceses, the timing of Niagara's Synod requires it to "lead" with respect to compensation planning. These recommendations were presented to Synod Council on September 19th, and with an amendment made to one of the four recommendations, they were approved.

Over the coming year, the HRfM Committee will endeavor to understand priorities with respect to human resources practices and policies, with a goal to ensure all recommendations are in alignment with diocesan strategic direction and the Mission Action Plan.

This may include:

- The creation of new and review of existing human resources policies for consideration at the parish level;
- Identifying opportunities where the development or provision of resources may be helpful for clergy in times of transition (e.g., retirement resources) and employee supervision (e.g., performance reviews); and
- Development of 2025 compensation recommendations to Synod Council.

I would like to take this time to thank the members of our committee for their ongoing efforts and sharing of their expertise towards this important ministry in the diocese.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Tiernay  
Chair



# REPORTS OF THE BISHOP'S COMMITTEES

## THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH BUILDINGS

Members of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings (BACCB) are volunteers who dedicate their time and expertise in their related fields of engineering, architecture, construction management and regulated authorities that provide assistance and guidance on any capital projects for parishes within the Diocese of Niagara.

All parish capital projects within the Diocese of Niagara are governed under Canon 4.6 and its associated regulations.

Parishes are encouraged to contact the Secretary to Synod as soon as a project idea takes shape in order to avoid any issues that might impede its success.

### **Activities**

Since last year's Synod, the committee advised on over \$828,000 worth of capital projects throughout the diocese, including barrier-free upgrades, electrical upgrades, paving of lots, roof repairs and sound systems. This is an amazing amount of work done and the committee congratulates all the parishes who completed their projects.

The BACCB also recommended that the financial threshold for regulated capital projects be raised from \$15,000 to \$25,000. This corresponds to increases in interest rates, cost of living and taxes. The revised regulations pertaining to Canon 4.6 were approved by Synod Council on June 20, 2023, and went into effect.

### **Future**

With hope and faith, we are able to use our churches and continue to provide a safe place to worship and provide community support. With this in mind let's continue to renovate, rebuild, and upgrade our churches and properties for the future.

They are an ever-present symbol of accessibility to Christ. They are a sign of welcome to persons who feel either stranded, alone, anxious, or angry. They are the on-the-street face of Anglicanism for they reflect the care and love they have been given to all who come near.

Respectfully submitted,

Andre Gravelle, CBCO, CRBO  
Chair

## THE BISHOP'S DECENNIAL INSPECTION COMMITTEE

The committee's mandate is to ensure that Anglican Church properties within the diocese are inspected on a rotating ten (10) year cycle. To accomplish this task, we maintain a Terms of Reference Inspection Requirements Document. We schedule, monitor, and assist to facilitate and track these inspections for each Parish in the Diocese. All building physical structures, building fabric, building systems, building components, grounds and cemeteries (if applicable) are reviewed.

The committee also reviews and maintains a list of competent professional inspection firms that are deemed qualified to undertake the required inspection work to meet the requirements of our Terms of Reference. The BDIC reviews all inspection reports and documents prepared by the inspection firms prior to their issuance to each parish to ensure they meet the requirements of our Terms of Reference. We remain available to assist parishes (when requested) to develop their action plans for the completion of critical and longer-term items noted in their inspection reports. We are also available on an as needed basis to visit parishes if requested to assist with any building concerns they might have.

Committee members are equipped to perform reviews of existing vacant diocesan buildings related to structural and other building system conditions and can provide advice on other building related items.

In 2022, only two (2) Decennial Inspections were completed due to ongoing COVID-19 constraints. In 2023 ten (10) Decennial Inspections were scheduled. Three (3) have been completed as of September, five (5) have requested and been granted extensions until 2024 – again due to limitations from COVID-19 – and eight (8) are in process. Including these five (5) extensions and those normally scheduled a total of seventeen (17) Decennial Inspections are due in 2024. There are seven (7) parishes that remain outstanding from recent previous years. The BDIC continues to be in discussions with these parishes to help schedule Decennial Inspections to fit their unique circumstances. Also, there are two (2) Parishes whose Decennial Inspections are on-hold due to other extenuating circumstances. These will be added back to the schedule when their circumstances change.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Swing  
Chair

## THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY RENEWAL

Established in 2019, this committee advises the Bishop of Niagara on matters pertaining to strategic and missional renewal of designated properties. The committee may also be asked to oversee renewal of properties associated with existing parishes in the case of a proposed new church or major modification of an existing church building.

The committee is comprised of volunteers with specific expertise and knowledge in the areas of real estate, municipal planning, appraising, architecture, heritage resource management, law and community engagement.

In the past year, the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Property Renewal continued to meet by Zoom advancing the evaluation of ongoing initiatives. This includes disestablished sites with current or future development potential, parishes asking for advice on property uses, and strategic assessments of sites with historic or missional value to the diocese.

In March of this year, All Saints Mission finally took occupancy of the main floor church space in the new Platinum condo building at the corner of King Street West and Queen Street South in Hamilton. The committee is proud to have been of assistance in this successful project.

In the coming year, we will continue to explore new opportunities, and provide recommendations as requested for ongoing property matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Canon Terry Charters  
Chair

## SEPARATELY INCORPORATED BODIES

### THE ANGLICAN CHURCH MINISTRIES FOUNDATION, NIAGARA

The Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara (ACMF) and its Board oversees about \$26 million in assets in accordance with its by-laws.

The main activities of the ACMF are:

- to ensure that funds received by the ACMF are being used to support the charitable purposes of the Synod, consistent with its objects;
- to review and approve the annual audited financial statements; and
- to enact policies and authorize expenditures as may be necessary for the management of the funds held.

In the past year, the ACMF has undertaken the following activities:

- The key priorities for 2023 include:
  - Finalising the ACMF by-laws to be compliant with the new Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act.
  - Review and approval of the audited 2022 Financial Statements.
  - Continue working on an educational or marketing narrative with the objective of “Telling Our Story” ... to shine a light on the positive contributions the ACMF makes to the Diocese and to the greater community in the Anglican tradition. Advancing this initiative.
- The Board met on December 8, 2022
  - The final draft of the revised by-laws was approved by the Board and subsequently approved by the ACMF members in December 2022
- The Board met on June 8, 2023
  - To review and approve the audited 2022 financial statements.
  - Consistent with the new by-laws, the Board reviewed and approved a revised Board size of seven (7) directors. The new by-laws stipulate a Board size of no less than five (5) directors and no more than nine (9) directors. A Board of seven directors was deemed a reasonable size for the amount of work expected of the directors and the number of meetings to attend.
  - A small working group, consisting of 3 members of the Board, with the mandate of developing a narrative that tells our story had been on hold, pending the appointment of a new Diocesan stewardship and campaign advisor (Canon Drew MacDonald now appointed);
  - With new advisor in place mid-year, the “Telling our Story” Committee met for the first time in July to begin this valuable work.

The Annual General Meeting of the ACMF membership was convened with Synod Council on June 20, 2023, to elect the new board members and appoint KPMG as auditors for the 2023 fiscal year.

A second board meeting is planned for November 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Denning  
President

## MISSION ACTION PLAN REPORT

The diocesan Mission Action Plan and the parish Mission Action Plans are living documents designed to capture the exciting ways we are actively coming alongside God at work in our communities and our parishes to co-create God's new society. These priorities and initiatives reflect an intersection of our spiritual yearnings, strengths, and challenges and it's so affirming to see this work renewing and transforming our ministries.

In the past year, parishes have been busy with Mission Action Plan (MAP) activities, including:

- 47 parishes developed a Mission Action Plan (32 in 2022 and 14 in 2023) and received Diocesan Mission and Ministry rebates for doing so..
- Across the 47 participating parishes, 469 initiatives were chosen (156 for Adult Faith Formation, 159 for Reshaping Parish Culture to Enable Ministry, and 154 for Fullness of Life in the Neighbourhood).
- Parishes have been implementing the initiatives, and, through a survey sent to MAP advocates in April, most have reported a good level of engagement and new energy for mission within their congregations.
- A few parishes have struggled to make progress in implementing their MAP and have received support to address the specific challenges they are facing and chart a new path forward.
- It is recommended that parishes refresh the MAP regularly (every 1 – 2 years). Some parishes have completed the goals set out in their first MAP and are now embarking on their second MAP process. We are developing a MAP 2.0 guide to help parishes to take next steps and set new goals.

In the past year, we have continued to engage with the diocesan Mission Action Plan in the following ways:

- *Create and Implement Opportunities to Ignite and Strengthen Faith*
  - Our four intentional missional ministries continue to share the Good News through Mission in Acts (Chinese Anglican ministry), the Cathedral Community of Prayer, St. Luke's Common Prayer, and the missional witness in the neighbourhoods around All Saints Mission, Hamilton.
  - The Niagara School for Missional Leadership has added more courses each term, growing missional leaders in many exciting areas.
  - 21 parishes identified developing or reinstating a Bible Study program as one of their MAP goals. The diocese is providing resources and support for both the Revive and Alpha programs as well as access to many Bible Study resources through the lending library.
  - The Bishop's Lenten Book Study for 2023 featured three books by authors from within the diocese (Dr. John Bowen's *The Unfolding Gospel*; The Rev. Michael Coren's *The Rebel Christ*; The Rev. Canon Martha Tatarnic's *Why Gather?*). These books encouraged readers to examine our lives, churches, and the world to see how God is at work making all things new through Jesus Christ.

- Under the leadership of the Children, Youth, and Family Ministry (CYFM) program consultant, “The Table” - a monthly gathering of young adults from across the diocese – met regularly to engage in authentic conversations about life’s big questions, trending topics, and Christian spirituality.
- 2023’s Youth Leadership Training program welcomed a full cohort back to gathering in person at Canterbury Hills. Inspired by Jesus’ leadership, the youth explored gifts, identity, belonging, and purpose in the context of discipleship.
- The CYFM leaders network welcomed several new members this year and hosted their first retreat, which equipped participants to grow faith formation in their parishes through Godly Play.
- Niagara Huron Anglican Cursillo held its first in-person weekend since the pandemic. There were 41 people in attendance (18 were new participants).
- *Reimagining Parish Culture and Adapting our Structures to Enable Ministry*
  - All Saints Anglican Mission, established by the bishop and Synod Council, and functioning with the support of the All Saints Mission Advisory Board, moved into their new building on Palm Sunday. The church space was consecrated by Bishop Susan Bell on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. In addition to offering regular Sunday worship and faith formation opportunities, All Saints is becoming a community hub for neighbours (e.g., coffee & co-working space on Mondays and knitting with neighbours’ group twice a month).
  - Staffing at the diocesan office has been reimagined to better support the Church’s mission in Niagara. In 2023, we welcomed Canon Drew MacDonald, stewardship and campaign advisor, Shannon MacKenzie, human resources and volunteer coordinator, Hannah Keller, administrative assistant, as well as Canon Ian Mobsby, our new community missionary. We have now reached a full staff complement with the skills and competencies necessary for our ministry in the coming years.
  - Synod Council continues to consider new policies and canons designed to enhance our shared ministry and focus our energy on God’s mission. Updated terms of reference for the Human Resources for Ministry committee, refreshed building project regulations pertaining to Canon 4.6, and an updated process for endorsing Anglican Foundation grants are a few examples.
- *Prioritize Social Justice with an Emphasis on Environmental Justice*
  - The Anti-Racism Working Group finalized the “made in Niagara” anti-racism curriculum for clergy and parishioners. The program consultant for justice and outreach will be leading the train-the-trainer sessions using the curriculum this year in preparation of training all the clergy in 2024/25.
  - As the Migrant Farmworker Project emerged from the pandemic, workers identified a need for something beyond Sunday communal dinners and so the hub model has been developed at St. Alban’s, Beamsville. Workers are now gathering from the fields to build relationships amongst one another and with volunteers over

coffee and delicious food in the newly developed café on Thursday in the late afternoon and evening. And the café along with the medical clinic, staffed by our partner, Quest, as well as the thrift shop, the Hispanic groceries and Bikes for Farmworkers program are meeting the needs of 80-100 migrant farm workers weekly necessitating the addition of a second evening. In addition, an ESL class has been added at the Hub and with a recent donation of laptops, a WiFi lounge is in the planning stages. Plans are underway to provide 300 Christmas bags for the farmworkers again this Christmas with participation from several area Anglican churches.

- Bishop Susan Bell hosted a conversation with leading Climate Scientist Katherine Hayhoe at a Bishop's Company online event. Katherine provided insight and tools for creating community advocacy initiatives and conversations with our friends, family, and neighbours. Bishop Susan has stayed in touch with Katherine and referred to Katherine's witness and call to action as part of her remarks at General Synod for a motion calling on the Church to move towards a net zero carbon emission approach.
- Climate Justice Niagara (CJN)'s work with the Net Zero Churches Project as well as resourcing World Water Day, Earth Sunday and the Season of Creation.
- The Communion Forest initiative has started in Niagara with CJN exploring partnerships with Neighbourwoods and Green Venture to do tree inventories on parish properties and planting of native trees in appropriate places around the diocese.
- The Human Trafficking Working Group created and promoted resources for "Freedom Sunday" on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. They also hosted a webinar about human trafficking that included speakers from the YMCA of Hamilton /Burlington/ Brantford and the Niagara Sexual Assault Centre.
- The in-person *Fiercely Loved: God's Got You* liturgy on June 11<sup>th</sup> celebrating pride, allyship, and diocesan support of the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Truth and Reconciliation: *Listening to Indigenous Voices* - a virtual learning event with Bruce Weaver for National Indigenous' Peoples Day - and a *Kairos Blanket Exercise* learning opportunity at the cathedral with Archdeacon Val Kerr for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
- The diocese has provided a major gift of \$100,000 to St. Matthew's House to support 412 Barton Project – 12 deeply affordable housing units intended for seniors facing homelessness, with a special focus on Indigenous and Black older adults.

It is exciting to see how God is at work in the diocese through the MAP goals and initiatives. Thank you to everyone who has been involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Emily Hill  
Parish Development Missioner

## OTHER REPORTS

### THE DIOCESAN ARCHIVIST

It is only fitting that this report begins with a tribute to Archdeacon John Rathbone, who died on June 15, 2023. After his retirement from parish ministry, John diligently served as the diocesan archivist for more than a quarter century. His mind and written notes held so much of our history as a diocese, and through his efforts so much of this has been preserved in our archives.

Since 1975, McMaster University has overseen the storage of non-current diocesan records dating back to 1875, parish registers, service books, minute books, and other material from more than 100 congregations. The records are on deposit only and remain the property of the diocese. The care and upkeep of the diocesan archives are governed under Canon 2.6.

The diocesan archives kept at Cathedral Place include:

- synod journals from 1875 to present;
- copies of Niagara Anglican from 1975 to present;
- personnel files of deceased or retired clergy;
- parish files, current or closed, including some parish histories and clergy biographies;
- some artifacts of our ministry;
- confirmation records; and
- some blueprints or drawings of past construction or additions.

In the past year, we have consulted with McMaster University to review the materials we currently hold at Cathedral Place and to undertake an assessment of our practices for storing, cataloguing, and preserving our heritage. We are excited by the possibility of engaging a summer student in the future, in partnership with the university, to support our ongoing archival efforts.

As public acts, records related to baptisms, marriages and burials are held in trust for the participants and for the whole church and are thereby parishes and the diocese are responsible for maintaining the integrity of the records. Lorna Shaw receives and processes requests for records that are held by the diocese, primarily related to disestablished parishes. All such archival inquiries should be directed to [lorna.shaw@niagaraanglican.ca](mailto:lorna.shaw@niagaraanglican.ca).

Respectfully submitted,

The Venerable Bill Mous  
Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod



## THE CLIMATE JUSTICE NIAGARA COMMITTEE

The Lambeth Calls on environmental and sustainable development has been the guiding framework of Climate Justice Niagara (CJN) in 2023. It urgently calls for a deeper Anglican commitment to tackle the three simultaneous environmental crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. CJN has been focused on supporting parishes to respond to these environmental crises in the following ways:

1. Becoming a low-carbon church by completing walk-through energy audits to analyze the carbon footprint of parish buildings with the creation of a 5-year plan to cut down greenhouse emissions by 10% by 2030
  - 29 (out of 80) parishes have signed up and are working towards the goal
  - hosted a hybrid meeting “The Roadmap to a Low-carbon Church” on October 22 at The Church of Our Saviour The Redeemer, Stoney Creek
  - assisted in the creation of a national effort - Zero Emission Churches (<https://zeroemissionchurches.ca>), and now working with 5 other Anglican dioceses in Canada to convert parish buildings into zero emitters
  - created a printable booklet and data base link for parishes to conduct self-guided energy audits and collect utility data to be analyzed
  - collaborated with Humber College to adopt the use of infra-red thermal imaging for more effective energy audit
2. Becoming a steward of biodiversity by intentional tree planting and building pollinator habitats
  - 13 parishes were awarded garden certificates to recognise their works on creating pollinator and vegetable gardens
  - leading the diocesan Communion Forest initiative, heeding the call from the Lambeth Conference, to encourage tree preservation, restoration, and planting across the Diocese of Niagara
  - St. George’s Georgetown, being the first parish to take action under this initiative, planted a mini-forest of native trees and shrubs on September 24
3. Becoming a champion of low-waste ministry practice - We acknowledged this work was greatly slowed by the pandemic, though over 40 parishes have passed the motion of banning single use plastics. We continue to encourage parishes to use reusable materials in ministry and cultivate a creative mindset to serve others without causing harm to God’s creation. We congratulate St. John’s, Jordan, and All Saints, Ridgeway, as they became Accredited Green Parishes (Bronze level) in March.

Other highlights of the work of our committee have been:

Prayer and Liturgy: organized the first-ever Climate Justice Sunday (April 23), providing liturgy, CJN prayer and action items for parishes under the theme of “Make Peace with Creation”.

Education:

1. Presentations in regional clergy meetings about energy audit and communion forest
2. Visual for all parishes – “5 small acts with big impacts all parish can do in 2023”
3. Monthly article in Niagara Anglican
4. Speaking and preaching in various parishes

Action and Advocacy:

1. Speaking up for Greenbelt protection by writing a letter to the provincial government in February
2. Bishop Susan added her voice by making 2 videos for Climate Justice Sunday and Season of Creation respectively. She also presented a motion, submitted by former CJNI members, at the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada in June, to set climate emergency as a priority.
3. Initiated conversation to forge the path to fossil-free investment – first meeting in May and will continue to facilitate discussion on how to align diocese investment with climate priority and make a positive impact on social and environmental justice.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Pang  
Chair

## **THE ANTI-RACISM WORKING GROUP**

The Anti-Racism Working Group has led the effort to develop Anti-Racism Training for the Diocese of Niagara since 2020. Through education and training taken on by the working group members, they have created a series of training modules for use in a pilot test program for 2023.

The work in 2022 and 2023 included:

- Continued dialogue about the particular needs of the diocese pertaining to the curriculum.
- Editing the current training modules.
- Engaging Evelyn Myrie, of EMpower Strategy Group, in editing the final anti-racism training curriculum which will be piloted in 2023.

In June 2023, Bishop Susan Bell led a celebration of the group's work over the last three years. She particularly noted the leadership provided by the Reverend Naomi Kabugi, and former Director of Congregational Development and Support, Canon Christyn Perkons, who co-chaired the group from its inception.

The work has now been transferred to the Justice and Outreach Program Consultant Deirdre Pike who will be leading the "train-the-trainer" sessions this year in preparation for the training of all the clergy of the diocese in 2024 and 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Naomi Kabugi  
Chair

## THE DIOCESAN REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP INITIATIVE

Over the last year, parishes and community groups across our diocese have continued to sponsor refugees from around the world, providing essential orientation and care for newcomers as they are resettled in Canada.

According to information from the United Nations Refugee Agency, at the end of 2021, the total number of people worldwide who were forced to flee their homes due to conflicts, violence, fear of persecution, and human rights violations was 89.3 million. This is more than double the 42.7 million people who remained forcibly displaced a decade ago and, once again, the highest level since World War II.

Since the last report to Synod in September 2022, our diocese has:

- submitted applications for 10 new sponsorship cases totalling 41 people; and
- welcomed 38 newcomers to Canada, representing 22 sponsorship cases, from Eritrea, Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

Our diocese undertakes this ministry as a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH) through the Private Sponsorship of Refugees program of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. A new five-year agreement was approved by Synod Council on September 19, 2023, after the diocese successfully met the revalidation requirements of the SAH organization assessment.

As with all ministries of the Church, this work happens because of passion and faithfulness of parishioners and people in the communities we serve. In addition, there is a team of dedicated volunteers and staff who help support this diocesan ministry, helping us live into our responsibilities as a Sponsorship Agreement Holder. We continue to search for a new coordinator for this important ministry. If you are interested in learning more about this work, or generally supporting our refugee sponsorship efforts, please email [refugees@niagaraanglican.ca](mailto:refugees@niagaraanglican.ca).

Respectfully submitted,

The Venerable Bill Mous  
Coordinator, Diocesan Refugee Sponsorship Initiative

## THE CATHEDRAL PLACE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Cathedral Place Property Management Committee has been active this year not just in caring for Cathedral Place (CP), but in striving to ensure that it can be an effective and flexible asset for ministry in the diocese. We are truly grateful to Cathedral Place's Property Manager, Mr. Derek Smith for his diligent leadership and partnership in this work.

The most significant project since last Synod has been the replacement of flat roof sections over the 'schoolhouse' portion of CP. Long a source of leaks and other challenges, this work will prevent further damage while keeping those people using the building safer and more comfortable.

Perhaps the most obvious work over the past year have been the updates to Myler Hall—a vital ministry resource. Anyone in CP will see Myler Hall in active use. It's the room most often used for diocesan meetings (and meetings of other bodies), for receptions after Cathedral and diocesan services, and for active outreach. The Cathedral Café serves as a rest centre for unhoused and precariously housed people on multiple days each week. More than just a spot to rest in a climate-controlled environment with refreshment, deep personal engagement is supplemented with attention to physical needs including clothing. Storage, deep cleaning, and updated audio-visual supports have made Myler Hall a warm and welcoming place for meetings and ministry, and more attractive as a rental option for outside groups.

CPPMC offers deep thanks to Wendy Newman and her team for their work spearheading a grant application to install a new hearing support system in the Cathedral proper. With the success of that grant being awarded, we look forward to improved accessibility options for services and events.

Use of the Cathedral proper for anything other than worship has been a challenge because some aspects of the space do not meet fire code needs, sharply limiting the size of gatherings. CPPMC secured a report about what is needed to allow for more flexible use of the space, and upgrade work has begun and will continue in the new year.

A Cathedral Place Use of Space Policy has been developed and adopted by CPPMC to help make decisions around rentals and other ways the space is used to support the work of the Church.

Since May of 1986, Cathedral Place has been designated by Hamilton City Council as an historic property and registered with the Ontario Heritage Trust. The by-law that enacted the registration notes in particular the exterior elements of the facades (e.g. stone walls, buttresses, tracery windows, etc.); architectural features of the nave (chancel, windows, etc.); and the wrought-iron fence on James St. North.

This year, the CPPMC commissioned and received a report studying the condition of the heritage attributes of the exterior of Cathedral Place. The report specifies significant work that needs to be attended to preserve the building's distinctive features and support our on-going ministry. CPPMC has begun discussing how best to address this work in the years ahead, and prioritizing aspects of the work. This work will require additional funding beyond current levels.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin  
Chair

## THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING JUSTICE NIAGARA WORKING GROUP

Human Trafficking Justice Niagara (HTJN) continues to follow the lead of the General Synod 2019 Resolution [A204 Human Trafficking and Modern slavery](#), equipping the people of the diocese to live more deeply into the Fourth Mark of Mission and our diocesan Mission Action Plan to be strong advocates for local and global change in the following ways:

- **Prayer** – Ensure that prayers and concern for human trafficking become an integral part of parish life, particularly on National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, the third Sunday of February.
- **Education** – Equip and inspire social justice facilitators and teams by developing and disseminating current local resources and evidence-based knowledge about modern day slavery, human trafficking and forced labour.
- **Action** – Provide facilitators, clergy, and lay leaders with the tools to ensure their parishes are able to assist local outreach in support of victims of human trafficking.
- **Advocacy** – Model strong leadership and resolute political action to address human trafficking and modern-day slavery. Support parish and Diocesan leaders in recognizing the presence of trafficking in our communities and ways to speak out against it.

Over the past year, HTJN members:

- Met regularly to keep up to date on human trafficking stories in Canada and beyond, review educational resources, and make plans to deliver on the mandate.
- Hosted a diocesan webinar with a panel of experts from Niagara and Hamilton to assist participants in understanding local realities and resources available to address them.
- Assembled more liturgical resources for parish use for Freedom Sunday.
- Presented information to Clericus meetings to further the education of clergy and licensed lay workers.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Jody Szoke  
Chair

## THE NIAGARA SCHOOL FOR MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE

The Niagara School for Missional Leadership (NSML) is a Gospel-focused learning community based in the Diocese of Niagara that trains effective missional leaders (both clergy and lay) to respond to the needs of God's world. The school centres its learning on the Good News of Jesus Christ – that the Church is called to participate in Jesus' mission in the world in bringing about the Kingdom of God. Jesus calls us to life and compels us to love, and as we live into and out of this calling, the kingdom breaks into the world around us.

The mandate of the NSML Steering Committee is to support the school's vision of creating a practical and coaching based learning environment where participants are equipped to respond creatively and faithfully to God's mission. The work of the Committee shall include providing input regarding the development and administration of the school, promotions, finances, and monitoring alignment between the school's operations and the school's mission and vision.

In the past year, a few highlights of our ministry have been:

- Over 300 students have been served by the school, with 27 course offerings since the launch in September of 2021.
- Welcoming new teacher practitioners: Jon Swales, Alice Brencher, and Mark Dunwoody.
- The introduction of the diaconate preparation pathway, offering specialized classes to support those discerning the call to ministry.
- The piloting of Climate Justice, Following Jesus in a World of Climate Breakdown, a class developed to offer group learning opportunities for parishes across the diocese.
- Continued and ongoing changes to the school's website and administrative platforms to promote efficiency and diocesan brand alignment.

Over the last few months, the NSML Steering Committee devoted time to review the parish mission action plans that were submitted to the diocese. Each MAP provided rich insight that marked new visions, priorities, needs, and initiatives that will provide a guide for future NSML class offerings, formation pathways, and trainings. The Niagara School for Missional Leadership will continue to live through the diocesan missional action plan objectives to *create and implement opportunities to ignite and strengthen faith, reimagine culture, and prioritize justice* by developing practical, accessible, and culturally relevant studies, ignited by the irresistible love of Jesus.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Smith  
Chair

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## 2022 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements

Consolidated Financial Statements of

### **THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA**

And Independent Auditor's Report thereon

Year ended December 31, 2022



KPMG LLP  
Commerce Place  
21 King Street West, Suite 700  
Hamilton ON L8P 4W7  
Canada  
Tel 905-523-8200  
Fax 905-523-2222

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Bishop and the Members of The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara

### ***Qualified Opinion***

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara (the "Diocese"), which comprise:

- the consolidated statement of financial position as at end of December 31, 2022
- the consolidated statement of operations for the year then ended
- the consolidated statement of changes in net assets for the year then ended
- the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies

(Hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the "***Basis for Qualified Opinion***" section of our auditor's report the accompanying financial statements, present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Diocese as at end of December 31, 2022, and its consolidated results of operations and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### ***Basis for Qualified Opinion***

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Diocese derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of Diocese. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to:

- the current assets reported in the consolidated statements of financial position as at end of December 31, 2022
- the fundraising revenues and excess of revenues over expenses reported in the consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2022
- the unrestricted net assets, at the beginning and end of the year, reported in the





consolidated statements of changes in net assets for the year ended December 31, 2022

- the excess of revenues over expenses reported in the consolidated statements of cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2022

Our opinion on the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 was qualified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation in scope.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the “**Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**” section of our auditor’s report.

We are independent of the Diocese in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

### ***Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Diocese’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Diocese or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Diocese’s financial reporting process.

### ***Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually



or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Diocese's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Diocese's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Diocese to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.



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- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*KPMG LLP*

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Hamilton, Canada

June 22, 2023

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash (note 2)	\$ 1,329,511	\$ 1,692,934
Short-term investments	–	16,483
Restricted cash (note 3)	96,904	99,337
Amounts receivable (note 4)	810,179	682,451
Other receivables	264,848	324,112
Prepaid expenses	8,804	31,206
Loans receivable (note 5)	295,200	320,692
	<u>2,805,446</u>	<u>3,167,215</u>
Investments (note 6)	5,677,681	6,458,645
Long-term receivables (note 7)	3,249,381	3,404,189
Capital assets (note 8)	3,886,698	2,228,326
	<u>\$ 15,619,206</u>	<u>\$ 15,258,375</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Deferred revenue	\$ 24,725	\$ 45,247
Due to parishes	16,811	22,573
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 9)	1,237,427	1,252,110
Bank loans - special purposes (note 10)	135,450	165,441
	<u>1,414,413</u>	<u>1,485,371</u>
Supplemental insurance reserve (note 11)	509,725	669,046
Long-term liabilities (note 12)	144,239	164,818
	<u>2,068,377</u>	<u>2,319,235</u>
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets	3,886,698	2,228,326
Externally restricted (note 13(a))	2,003,228	2,250,376
Internally restricted (note 13(b))	4,523,655	4,388,221
General	3,137,248	4,072,217
	<u>13,550,829</u>	<u>12,939,140</u>
Contingencies (note 20)		
COVID-19 (note 21)		
	<u>\$ 15,619,206</u>	<u>\$ 15,258,375</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

## Consolidated Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
<b>Revenue:</b>		
Diocesan assessment	\$ 2,661,862	\$ 2,839,258
Administrative fees and rental income	586,374	552,139
Government grants	11,817	187,359
Bishop's Company	37,116	47,959
Canterbury Hills (note 14)	500,818	413,880
Programs	105,582	68,720
Sundry	213,618	156,732
Interest income	5,934	4,220
Investment (loss) income	(565,258)	681,078
Insurance premiums from parishes	1,280,140	1,184,459
Parish payroll	9,156,897	8,997,923
	<u>13,994,900</u>	<u>15,133,727</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
General and Provincial Synod	665,417	625,761
<b>Programs:</b>		
Congregational support and development	189,297	175,553
Ministry support	229,688	56,630
Outreach support	6,539	20,844
<b>Operations:</b>		
Diocesan staff	1,628,905	1,450,433
Office administration, communication, and committees	703,464	292,157
Diocesan managed properties	430,591	288,030
Disestablished parish properties	36,427	89,720
Property staff	179,613	193,632
<b>Other:</b>		
Parish subsidies	191,623	211,197
Depreciation	326,367	220,003
Bad debts (note 16)	254,087	5,549
Interest	334	160
Grants issued	88,980	91,378
Insurance	1,474,930	1,276,835
Parish payroll	9,156,897	8,997,923
Bishop's Company expenses	32,249	18,856
Canterbury Hills (note 14)	536,232	261,222
Total expenses	<u>16,131,640</u>	<u>14,275,883</u>
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses before the undernoted	(2,136,740)	857,844
Gain on acquisition of properties (note 16)	1,740,000	-
Gross proceeds on sale of properties (note 15)	500,000	392,600
Restricted gifts and bequests (note 17)	310,611	3,572
Excess of revenue over expenses	<u>\$ 413,871</u>	<u>\$ 1,254,016</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

## Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended December 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	Invested in capital assets	Externally restricted	Internally restricted	General fund	Total 2022
Fund balance, beginning of year	\$ 2,228,326	\$ 2,250,376	\$ 4,388,221	\$ 4,072,217	\$12,939,140
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(326,367)	(83,148)	(204,752)	1,028,138	413,871
Inter-fund transfers:					
Net change in invested in capital assets	1,984,739	—	—	(1,984,739)	—
Transfers between funds	—	(164,000)	338,250	(174,250)	—
Insurance fund	—	—	1,936	(1,936)	—
Employee future benefits (note 11)	—	—	—	197,818	197,818
Fund balance, end of year	\$ 3,886,698	\$ 2,003,228	\$ 4,523,655	\$ 3,137,248	\$13,550,829

	Invested in capital assets	Externally restricted	Internally restricted	General fund	Total 2021
Fund balance, beginning of year	\$ 2,315,448	\$ 2,136,777	\$ 3,931,262	\$ 3,257,416	\$11,640,903
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(220,003)	112,733	(58,704)	1,419,990	1,254,016
Inter-fund transfers:					
Net change in invested in capital assets	132,881	—	—	(132,881)	—
Transfers between funds	—	866	477,208	(478,074)	—
Insurance fund	—	—	38,455	(38,455)	—
Employee future benefits (note 11)	—	—	—	44,221	44,221
Fund balance, end of year	\$ 2,228,326	\$ 2,250,376	\$ 4,388,221	\$ 4,072,217	\$12,939,140

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	\$ 413,871	\$ 1,254,016
Items not involving cash:		
Change in supplemental insurance liability	(159,321)	(87,829)
Actuarial gain on supplemental insurance liability	197,818	44,221
Depreciation	286,060	193,543
Depreciation - Canterbury Hills	40,307	26,460
Gain on acquisition of properties	(1,740,000)	-
Decrease (increase) in fair value of investments	656,714	(784,839)
Change in non-cash operating working capital:		
Deferred revenue	(20,522)	19,816
Restricted cash	2,433	(15,771)
Amounts receivable	(127,728)	(188,312)
Other receivables	59,264	101,430
Prepaid expenses	22,402	31,869
Due to parishes	(5,762)	(4,910)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(14,683)	(93,806)
	(389,147)	495,888
Financing:		
Changes in long-term liabilities	(20,579)	(81,463)
Repayment of bank loans - special purposes	(29,991)	(233,111)
	(50,570)	(314,574)
Investing:		
Purchase of capital assets	(85,166)	(129,659)
Purchase of capital assets, Canterbury Hills	(159,573)	(3,222)
Investment contributions	(588,705)	(587,430)
Investment withdrawals	712,955	207,984
Decrease (increase) in short-term investments	16,483	(42)
Decrease in long-term receivables	154,808	113,590
Collection of loans receivable	25,492	148,391
	76,294	(250,388)
Decrease in cash	(363,423)	(69,074)
Cash, beginning of year	1,692,934	1,762,008
Cash, end of year	\$ 1,329,511	\$ 1,692,934

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2022

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The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara (the "Diocese") is a Christian community of faith that geographically encompasses the area of the Niagara Peninsula, Greater Hamilton, the Region of Halton and portions of Wellington and Dufferin Counties, and Haldimand County and which includes approximately 80 Anglican parishes (congregations). The governance of the Diocese is done through The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara which was incorporated by an act of the Provincial Government of Ontario, assented to on February 10, 1876 and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. The Synod is comprised of the Bishop, clergy and designated representatives from each parish. The Bishop is the Chief Officer of the Diocese and, as such, provides oversight for the clergy and parishes who comprise the Diocese.

## 1. Significant accounting policies:

### (a) Basis of presentation:

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-For-Profit entities in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook. These consolidated financial statements do not include the operations nor the assets and liabilities of the individual parishes.

From time to time, the Diocese assumes the management of the Church properties from parishes or congregations (former parish properties). This can occur when a church is closed; when a parish or congregation is disestablished or amalgamated with another parish or congregation; or, when the Diocesan Council deems such action necessary. If church properties are disposed of, the Diocese is responsible for any such resulting gain or loss.

These consolidated financial statements include the operations of Canterbury Hills. Canterbury Hills operates a summer camp during the summer months and provides conference services during the remainder of the year. Administrative and financial services are provided to Canterbury Hills by the Diocese.

### (b) Fund accounting:

The Diocese follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

The General Fund reports revenues and expenses related to program delivery and administrative activities. All investment income is recorded in the General Fund.

The Restricted Fund reports resources contributed for which the use is restricted by the donors or management.



# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

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## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

### (c) Revenue recognition:

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. If at the outset of the arrangement, the Diocese determines that collectability is not probable, the Diocese defers the revenue and recognizes the revenue when payment is received.

### (d) Capital assets:

Purchased capital assets are recorded at cost. Contributed capital assets are recorded at fair value at the date of contribution. Repairs and maintenance costs are charged to expense. Betterments which extend the estimated life of an asset are capitalized. When a capital asset no longer contributes to the Diocese's ability to provide services, its carrying amount is written down to its residual value.

Land and buildings (churches, rectories, etc.), which are under the administration of the parishes, are not included in these financial statements.

Capital assets are amortized over the estimated useful lives of the assets on the straight-line basis at the following rates:

Asset	Basis
Buildings	10 to 40 years
Building improvements	5 to 10 years
Computer equipment	2 to 3 years
Furniture and fixtures	3 to 5 years
Vehicles	5 years

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# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

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## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

### (e) Supplemental insurance benefits:

The Diocese provides its active members and retirees with a life insurance benefit of \$10,000 for active members and \$8,000 for retirees. The Diocese maintains funds within their investments to fund the obligation. These funds are held by the Diocese and not as a segregated trust. As a result, these funds and the related investment income are not included in the actuarial valuation and subsequent extrapolations. Active clergy employees contribute at a rate of \$6.67 and lay staff contribute at a rate of \$2.50 to the fund per employee per pay cycle.

The Diocese accrues its obligation using the accrued benefit method. The measurement date of the obligation coincides with the year end of the Diocese. The most recent full actuarial valuation was December 31, 2022.

Actuarial gains (losses) on the accrued benefit obligation arise from differences between actual and expected experience and from changes in the actuarial assumptions used to determine the accrued benefit obligation. The accrued benefit obligation and current service costs for these plans are recognized using the accrued benefit method pro-rated on service, and income is charged with the cost of the benefits in the years in which the employees render the service which gives them the right to receive such benefits. Remeasurement and other items are recognized as a direct increase (decrease) in net assets and are not reclassified to the statement of operations in subsequent periods.

### (f) Contributed services:

Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in these consolidated financial statements.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

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## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

### (g) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are subsequently measured at fair value. All other financial instruments are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. The Diocese has not elected to carry any such financial instruments at fair value.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of financial instruments measured subsequently at fair value are expensed as incurred and are offset with investment income in the Statement of Operations. All other financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs, which are amortized using the straight-line method.

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indicators of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, the Diocese determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount the Diocese expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future period, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial carrying value.

### (h) Use of estimates:

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the carrying amounts due from parishes, loans receivables, long-term receivables and obligations related to supplemental insurance benefits. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### (i) Cash, bank overdraft and short-term investments:

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash, bank overdrafts and short-term investments in money market or other short term instruments with maturity of less than 90 days.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

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## 2. Cash and bank indebtedness:

The Diocese considers deposits in banks and certificates of deposit as cash. The Diocese has a revolving demand line of credit with interest calculated at prime. There was no bank indebtedness balance as at December 31, 2022 (2021 - \$nil). The limit on the line of credit was \$1,500,000 (2021 - \$1,500,000) as at December 31, 2022.

## 3. Restricted cash:

Restricted cash consists of funds received on behalf of parishes and funds received for the direct benevolent work of the Bishop.

## 4. Amounts receivable:

Amounts receivable from parishes consist of:

	2022	2021
Diocesan Mission and Ministries due from parishes	\$ 636,459	\$ 577,381
Insurance	58,241	31,752
Payroll due from parishes	75,863	38,238
Other	104,441	99,905
Provision for doubtful accounts	(64,825)	(64,825)
	<u>\$ 810,179</u>	<u>\$ 682,451</u>

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

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## 5. Loans receivable:

Loans receivable are comprised as follows:

### (a) Emergency Loans:

Emergency loans totaling \$157,531 (2021 - \$170,531) represent funds loaned to parishes for COVID-19 related expenses. Each parish can apply for a loan up to \$10,000. Sixteen parishes have utilized this loan.

### (b) Church Extension:

Church extension loans totaling \$135,450 (2021 - \$145,441) represent funds loaned to parishes for land, buildings and additions. The Diocese has borrowed money that has been re-loaned to the parishes to finance these church extension projects.

### (c) Employee Loans:

Employee loans totaling \$2,219 (2021 - \$4,719) are bridging loans advanced to employees to cover EI processing time, which usually takes about 4-6 weeks. These are normally clawed back from employees upon receipt of EI payments. Only employees on authorized sick leave are eligible to access this loan.

## 6. Investments:

Investments are comprised as follows:

	2022	2021
Mutual and pooled funds	\$ 5,677,681	\$ 6,458,645

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Investments include \$509,725 (2021 - \$699,046) set aside to fund the supplemental insurance benefits (see note 11).

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

## 7. Long-term receivables:

Parish	2022	2021
Parish operating debt:		
St. Luke, Hamilton	\$ 177,515	\$ 177,515
Cathedral Place, Hamilton	79,039	104,039
All Saints, Hamilton	–	45,511
St. John's Rockwood	85,541	87,941
Holy Trinity, Fonthill	55,196	61,196
St. Paul, Caledonia	116,132	98,185
St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls	58,691	64,691
Holy Trinity, Hamilton	–	8,280
Grace Church, Arthur	36,808	36,808
All Saints, Welland	24,767	27,167
Various disestablished parishes	71,837	24,905
	705,526	736,238
Parish mortgages and loans:		
St. Luke's Palermo	132,826	138,983
Church of the Incarnation, Oakville	61,029	78,968
	193,855	217,951
Vendor take back mortgages:		
2601265 Ontario Inc.	1,600,000	1,700,000
2706703 Ontario Inc.	750,000	750,000
	2,350,000	2,450,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,249,381</b>	<b>\$ 3,404,189</b>

The amounts due from parishes are unsecured with no fixed terms of repayment and do not bear any interest with the exception of St. Luke's Palermo and Church of the Incarnation. St. Luke's Palermo is unsecured and bears interest at a 4% fixed rate with repayments of \$967 per month due April 1, 2028. Church of the Incarnation is unsecured, has no fixed terms of repayment and bears interest at prime plus 0.25% charged monthly.

2601265 Ontario Inc. is a mortgage that bears interest at a 4.00% fixed rate with no repayments until the maturity date of January 16, 2024. Effective January 16, 2023 the interest rate will increase to 7.45%.

2706703 Ontario Inc. is a mortgage that bears interest at a 3% fixed rate with interest only monthly repayments of \$1,875 until June 20, 2023. Thereafter, the loan will bear interest at a 4% fixed rate with interest only monthly repayments of \$2,500 until the maturity date of November 20, 2025.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

## 8. Capital assets:

	2022		
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
Land			
Canterbury Hills	\$ 35,749	\$ –	\$ 35,749
Buildings			
Palermo Community Centre	2,496,163	747,680	1,748,483
Leasehold improvements	1,160,452	1,156,961	3,491
Residential condo units	1,806,787	90,339	1,716,448
Canterbury Hills	723,980	518,029	205,951
Building improvements	765,981	627,193	138,788
Computer equipment	311,201	304,376	6,825
Furniture and fixtures	174,406	143,443	30,963
Vehicles	15,370	15,370	–
	<b>\$ 7,490,089</b>	<b>\$ 3,603,391</b>	<b>\$ 3,886,698</b>
	2021		
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
Land			
Canterbury Hills	\$ 35,749	\$ –	\$ 35,749
Buildings			
Palermo Community Centre	2,496,163	622,872	1,873,291
Leasehold improvements	1,160,452	1,156,288	4,164
Canterbury Hills	564,407	477,722	86,685
Building improvements	765,979	586,865	179,114
Computer equipment	297,556	284,787	12,769
Furniture and fixtures	169,674	133,120	36,554
Vehicles	15,370	15,370	–
	<b>\$ 5,505,350</b>	<b>\$ 3,277,024</b>	<b>\$ 2,228,326</b>

Included in Palermo is a cost recovery of \$257,858 relating to construction costs incurred by the Diocese on behalf of and repaid by the long-term care centre on the premises, a contribution by the parish to the construction costs and hydro permit refunds.

## 9. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

There are no government remittances payable included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities, including payroll related taxes, for 2022 (2021 - \$nil).

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

## 10. Bank loans - special purposes:

	2022	2021
Loans obtained on behalf of parishes, due on demand, bearing interest at prime plus 0.25%, maturing from 2016 to 2028, with minimum annual repayments of \$24,931	\$ 135,450	\$ 145,441
Other special purpose loans for parish renovations and extensions, due on demand, bearing interest at prime plus 0.25%, with a minimum annual repayment of \$70,000	-	20,000
	\$ 135,450	\$ 165,441

Principal repayments over the next five years are as follows:

2023	\$	24,931
2024		24,931
2025		24,931
2026		24,931
2027		35,726
	\$	135,450



# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

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## 11. Supplemental insurance benefits:

The Diocese self-insures certain life insurance benefits for current and retired employees. Current employees are entitled to \$10,000 if actively employed at the time of death and retirees are entitled to \$8,000 upon death. If a current employee leaves the Diocese before retirement their benefit is forfeited.

The Diocese measures its benefit obligation for accounting purposes based on the most recent actuarial valuation which was as at December 31, 2021. The obligation estimate is reviewed annually, and a full actuarial valuation is completed every three years.

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	2022	2021
Change in benefit obligation:		
Benefit obligation, beginning of year	\$ 699,046	\$ 756,875
Actuarial gain	(197,818)	(44,221)
Interest costs	24,497	26,392
Benefit payments	(16,000)	(40,000)
Benefit obligation, end of year	\$ 509,725	\$ 699,046

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## 12. Long-term liabilities:

Included in long-term liabilities is \$91,503 (2021 - \$91,503) relating to the Residential Schools Healing Fund. In consultation with the Anglican Church of Canada, the Diocese has renewed its commitment to the work of truth, reconciliation and indigenous ministries. These funds are held in a Diocesan investment fund designated for this purpose.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

## 13. Restricted fund balances:

a) Major categories of fund balances with externally imposed restrictions are as follows:

	2022	2021
Theological education	\$ 409,298	\$ 409,298
Episcopal support	347,333	347,333
Other	373,439	373,439
Mission work	151,803	151,803
Youth and children's work	15,000	15,000
Canterbury Hills	706,355	953,503
	<b>\$ 2,003,228</b>	<b>\$ 2,250,376</b>

These fund balances represent the value of funds received less drawings over time.

b) Major categories of fund balances with internally imposed restrictions are as follows:

	2022	2021
New church development from parish proceeds	\$ 2,051,322	\$ 2,105,802
Parish sale proceeds	748,472	748,472
Legal reserve fund	50,000	370,000
Residential schools fund	91,503	128,963
Closed parishes	219,806	208,556
Girls' Friendly Society / Holiday House fund	172,158	172,158
Church insurance fund	162,874	163,938
Church planting reserve fund	110,000	100,000
Property renewal reserve fund	96,882	100,000
Minnie Easter estate	41,356	41,356
Investment review fund	38,744	38,744
Stephen Hopkins leadership fund	51,301	89,627
Other	16,625	16,625
Dorothy Elizabeth Roberts' estate	8,365	8,365
E. Ferres	7,115	7,115
Paul Austin Moore estate	6,000	6,000
Canon D. Ricketts bursary fund	8,525	8,000
William Aspel legacy fund	5,000	5,000
Differentiated Curacies reserve fund	275,000	-
Capital reserve fund	176,455	-
James Wellington Upson estate	111,786	-
Canterbury Hills	520	520
Bishop's Company	73,846	68,980
	<b>\$ 4,523,655</b>	<b>\$ 4,388,221</b>

The use of these funds is governed by the restrictions set by the donee, as applicable.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

## 14. Canterbury Hills:

	2022	2021
Revenues:		
Canterbury Hills (unrestricted)	\$ 583,966	\$ 301,147
Canterbury Hills (externally restricted)	(83,148)	112,733
	<u>\$ 500,818</u>	<u>\$ 413,880</u>
Expenses:		
Canterbury Hills (unrestricted)	\$ 536,232	\$ 261,222
Canterbury Hills (externally restricted)	–	–
	<u>\$ 536,232</u>	<u>\$ 261,222</u>

## 15. Gross proceeds on sale of properties:

Gross proceeds on the sale of properties in 2022 includes proceeds from the sale of All Saints, Hagersville (2021 – proceeds from the sale of Nelles Street, Haldimand – Cemetery and Nelles Street, Haldimand – Sidewalk).

	2022	2021
Nelles Street, Haldimand – Cemetery	\$ –	\$ 375,000
Nelles Street, Haldimand – Sidewalk	–	17,600
All Saints, Hagersville	500,000	–
	<u>\$ 500,000</u>	<u>\$ 392,600</u>

## 16. Sale of All Saints, Hamilton:

The Diocese acquired three residential condominium units as part of a sale and development agreement for the All Saints, Hamilton property. These condominiums have been recorded at their appraised fair market value of \$1,740,000 plus acquisition costs of \$66,787.

As a result of this agreement, the Diocese has forgiven the parish's debt including obligations arising from the development activities as well as any debt arising for the parish's diocesan mission and ministry assessments, insurance payments and employment costs through 2020. A total of \$45,511 of long-term receivable and \$141,614 of amounts receivable have been recognized as bad debt in 2022.

## 17. Restricted gifts and bequests:

Restricted gifts in 2022 totaled \$310,611 (2021 - \$3,572) which consists of donations of \$111,250 (2021 - \$3,572) and unrealized investment income of \$199,361 (2021 - \$nil). These relate to gifts to the Closed Parish Fund. The funds are held within the Diocesan investments.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

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## 18. Parish funds:

- a) From time to time, parishes deposit funds through the Diocese for investment purposes. The funds are not reflected in the financial statements of the Diocese. The capital and income earned thereon remain the property of the contributing parish. At December 31, 2022, the fair market value of the parish, Diocese, and Anglican Church Ministries Foundation funds invested through the Diocese amounted to \$47,865,903 (2021 - \$54,554,866).
- b) The Diocese is affiliated with the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation (the "Foundation") by virtue of their joint control by Synod Council. The Foundation was established to raise funds for the use of the Diocese and its Bishop in their mission work. The Foundation is incorporated under the Act by letters of patent on January 1, 1999 and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. At December 31, 2022, the Foundation held net assets in the amount of approximately \$25.2 million (2021 - \$28.4 million), the benefit of which will accrue to the Diocese and some of its affiliates in the future.

Investment administration fees of \$27,500 (2021 - \$27,500) were charged by the Diocese to the Foundation and have been included in Administrative fees and rental income on the Statement of Operations.

## 19. Financial instruments:

- (a) Currency risk:

The Diocese is exposed to financial risks as a result of exchange rate fluctuations and the volatility of these rates. In the normal course of business, the Diocese purchases investments denominated in foreign currencies. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2021.

- (b) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Diocese will be unable to fulfill its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. The Diocese manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements. The Diocese prepares budget and cash forecasts to ensure it has sufficient funds to fulfill its obligations. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2021.

- (c) Credit risk:

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty may default on its contractual obligations resulting in a financial loss. The Diocese is exposed to credit risk with respect to the amounts due from parishes, loans receivable, and long-term receivables. The Diocese assesses, on a continuous basis, these balances and provides for any amounts that are not collectible in the allowance for doubtful accounts. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2021.

# THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2022

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## 19. Financial instruments (continued):

### (d) Interest rate risk:

The Diocese's long-term debt has a variable interest rate based on prime. As a result, the Diocese is exposed to interest rate risk due to fluctuations in the prime rate. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2021.

### (e) Market risk:

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of market factors. Market factors include three types of risk: currency risk, interest rate risk and equity risk.

The Diocese's investment activities involve investments in mutual funds which are monitored by an investment committee as well as management. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2021.

## 20. Contingencies:

The Diocese issues letters of guarantee through its financial institution to provide guarantees to certain parishes. Outstanding letters of guarantee amount to \$nil (2021 - \$51,697).

## 21. COVID-19:

On March 11, 2020 COVID-19 was declared a pandemic which has resulted in governments worldwide, including the Canadian and Ontario governments, enacting emergency measures to combat the spread of the virus. These measures have caused material disruption to businesses globally and in Ontario resulting in an economic slowdown. Governments and central banks have reacted with significant monetary and fiscal interventions designed to stabilize economic conditions however the success of these interventions is not currently determinable. The challenging economic climate had a direct impact on the Diocese's operating results and financial position. Specific to the Diocese, there is a risk pertaining to defaults on Parish loans and permanent and adverse effects of the stock market negatively impacting the fair value of the investments. The Diocese experienced an increase in revenue to pre-COVID-19 levels as Covid-19 restrictions were relaxed and the economy opened. The Diocese extended a \$250,000 Diocesan assessment rebate to some parishes whose revenues were adversely impacted by Covid-19. During 2022, the Diocese did not receive any government grants relating to COVID-19 (2021 - \$180,754). Note 5(a) outlines the emergency loans provided to parishes.

## 2024 Proposed Budget

	2022 Full Year Actual	2023 Full Year Budget	2024 Full Year Budget
<b>REVENUES:</b>			
DIOCESAN MISSION & MINISTRIES	2,755,991	2,700,000	2,475,000
DIOCESAN MISSION & MINISTRIES - REBATES/MISSION INCENTIVES	(94,129)	(50,000)	0
INTEREST ON TRUST FUNDS	8,308	10,000	10,000
INVESTMENT GAIN (LOSS)	(573,566)	0	0
INVESTMENT FUND ADMINISTRATION TRANSFER	120,397	110,000	120,000
INSURANCE FUND ADMINISTRATION TRANSFER	27,500	28,050	29,000
ADMINISTRATION FEE ACMF NIAGARA	27,500	28,050	29,000
RESTRICTED GIFTS & BEQUESTS, PROPERTY SALES	2,550,611	0	0
SPECIAL APPEALS	49	0	0
SUNDRY	106,567	100,000	100,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>4,929,228</b>	<b>2,926,100</b>	<b>2,763,000</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
BEYOND NIAGARA, EPISCOPAL & GOVERNANCE - Schedule 1	1,200,619	1,229,716	1,193,246
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES - Schedule 2	1,950,037	1,395,665	1,424,129
MINISTRY EXPENSES - Schedule 3	695,569	864,175	851,275
EDUCATION AND FORMATION EXPENSES - Schedule 4	165,298	211,483	253,303
DIOCESAN HELD PROPERTIES - Schedule 5	15,460	319	3,025
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>4,026,983</b>	<b>3,701,358</b>	<b>3,724,978</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) BEFORE DEPRECIATION</b>	<b>902,245</b>	<b>(775,258)</b>	<b>(961,978)</b>
DEPRECIATION (NON-CASH)	282,719	0	0
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>619,526</b>	<b>(775,258)</b>	<b>(961,978)</b>
<b>Draws from Investments:</b>			
Survive & Thrive Outreach Fund (ACMF 6000012)	35,000	25,000	40,000
Survive & Thrive Education & Training Fund (ACMF 6000011)	85,000	46,000	104,000
New Church Development & WOW Grants Fund (5006961)	60,000	0	60,000
Diocesan Housing Fund (ACMF 5006993)	20,000	50,000	30,000
General Admin Fund (ACMF 5006962)	50,000	150,000	80,000
Synod Endowment Fund (ACMF 5006959)	0	50,000	10,000
General Investment Fund (ACMF 5006960)	0	125,000	100,000
Church Planters Fund (Synod 5006966)	0	80,000	75,000
Theological Education Funds	0	14,500	15,000
Differentiated Curacies Reserve Fund	0	100,000	155,053
<b>Operating Surplus / Deficit after applying use of investments</b>	<b>869,526</b>	<b>(134,758)</b>	<b>(292,926)</b>
<b>Mortgages due to diocese paid</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>
<b>Overall Operating Surplus / Deficit</b>	<b>869,526</b>	<b>(134,758)</b>	<b>907,074</b>

**Notes:**

- The budget does not include investment gain/loss and depreciation expenses, which are non-cash items determined at year end
- Capital expenses are now budgeted for separately; see schedule 6

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA  
BEYOND NIAGARA, EPISCOPAL & GOVERNANCE EXPENSES - Schedule 1  
12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>2022 Full Year Actual</b>	<b>2023 Full Year Budget</b>	<b>2024 Full Year Budget</b>
<b>BEYOND NIAGARA</b>			
GENERAL SYNOD APPORTIONMENT	625,000	625,000	555,000
GENERAL SYNOD DELEGATE FEES	0	20,000	0
PROVINCIAL SYNOD ASSESSMENT	22,917	25,000	25,000
PROVINCIAL SYNOD DELEGATES	0	0	15,000
LAMBETH - CORE BUDGET	0	0	0
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Beyond Niagara</b>	<b>647,917</b>	<b>670,000</b>	<b>595,000</b>
<b>EPISCOPAL &amp; GOVERNANCE EXPENSES</b>			
EPISCOPAL STAFF	479,263	489,716	512,746
EPISCOPAL EXPENSES	34,940	30,000	40,000
CONFERENCE / TRAVEL	9,416	10,000	10,000
SYNOD COUNCIL & COMMITTEES	7,395	2,500	10,000
STEWARDSHIP HOSPITALITY	1,800	5,000	5,000
DIOCESAN DIGNITARIES	19,887	17,500	20,000
(Archdeacons, Reg. Deans, Dio. Liturgical/Ecumenical Officers)			
COMPANION DIOCESES / PARTNERS IN MISSION	0	5,000	500
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Episcopal &amp; Governance</b>	<b>552,702</b>	<b>559,716</b>	<b>598,246</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,200,619</b>	<b>1,229,716</b>	<b>1,193,246</b>

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA  
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES- Schedule 2  
12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>2022 Full Year Actual</b>	<b>2023 Full Year Budget</b>	<b>2024 Full Year Budget</b>
<b>ADMIN STAFFING AND SUPPORT</b>			
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFING	565,278	597,749	659,494
ADDITIONAL PAYROLL	2,630	5,000	5,000
WAGE ADJUSTMENTS PRIOR YEARS	2,871	0	0
WAGE ADJUSTMENTS CURRENT YEAR	(18,308)	0	0
WAGE ADJUSTMENTS CEWS	149	0	0
PAYROLL AND BENEFITS TIMING DIFFERENCES	(0)	0	0
EMPLOYEE / FAMILY ASSISTANCE PLAN	8,977	10,000	10,000
EMPLOYEE / RETIREE LIFE INSURANCE COSTS	(153,574)	0	0
PAYROLL SYSTEM	1,532	1,500	1,500
PENSION SUPPORT - RETIRED BISHOPS	4,662	4,000	2,880
LOUISA PARKE COMMITMENT (PENS. SUP. RET. CLERGY)	17,348	20,000	16,500
RESOURCES / SUBSCRIPTIONS / MEMBERSHIPS	1,725	3,500	2,000
CLERGY MOVING EXPENSES	13,647	10,000	20,000
SABBATICAL SUPPORT	0	5,000	5,000
PERSONNEL TRANSITION & SEVERANCE	72,148	100,000	50,000
POLICE & REFERENCE CHECKS	1,024	2,000	1,500
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Admin Staffing &amp; Support</b>	<b>532,766</b>	<b>753,749</b>	<b>768,874</b>

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>OFFICE EXPENSES &amp; PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>			
COMPUTER SYSTEMS SUPPORT	58,913	47,500	48,000
EQUIPMENT RENTAL	10,864	14,000	14,000
EQUIPMENT SERVICE / CONTRACTS	3,274	4,000	4,000
OFFICE SUPPLIES	8,377	12,000	10,000
TELEPHONE	14,601	17,500	15,000
PRINTING	0	1,000	2,000
MAILING	2,164	4,500	3,000
AUDIT EXPENSES	53,142	40,000	42,000
LEGAL & PROF. EXPENSES	15,436	40,000	35,000
INSURANCE - NET RECOVERY IN RESERVE	(1,936)	0	0
BANK CHARGES / SUNDRY	7,877	15,000	10,000
RECOVERY INTEREST ON PARISH RECEIVABLES/PARISH INTEREST	(5,322)	(4,000)	(6,000)
BANK INTEREST	334	1,000	500
RESTRICTED FUNDS EXPENDITURES	408,980	0	0
CONTINGENCY / NON-BUDGETED	0	5,000	5,000
OTHER EXPENSES	50,929	0	0
BAD DEBTS & RECEIVABLE W/O's	320,874	5,000	5,000
STAFF EXPENSES	9,348	15,000	12,500
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Office Expenses &amp; Professional Fees</b>	<b>957,855</b>	<b>217,500</b>	<b>200,000</b>
<b>CATHEDRAL PLACE</b>			
PROPERTY STAFFING	163,863	152,900	167,455
MAINTENANCE/CLEANING	81,989	96,304	100,000
MAJOR REPAIRS - NOT CAPITALIZED	124,884	50,000	50,000
SERVICING	4,127	5,000	5,000
UTILITIES	35,797	70,000	75,000
INSURANCE	92,761	102,300	107,800
FACILITY/RENTAL REVENUE	(16,025)	(23,000)	(15,000)
HACCC RECOVERY COST	(70,560)	(74,088)	(75,000)
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Cathedral Place</b>	<b>416,835</b>	<b>379,416</b>	<b>415,255</b>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
NIAGARA ANGLICAN NEWS	24,658	15,000	17,000
DIGITAL MINISTRY	273	5,000	3,000
WEBSITE SUPPORT	17,649	25,000	20,000
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Communications</b>	<b>42,580</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,950,037</b>	<b>1,395,665</b>	<b>1,424,129</b>



**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA**  
**MINISTRY EXPENSES - Schedule 3**  
**12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	2022 Full Year Actual	2023 Full Year Budget	2024 Full Year Budget
<b>GENERAL MINISTRY</b>			
MINISTRY STAFFING	503,231	624,876	590,975
YW GRANT	(2,525)	0	0
DIOCESAN SERVICES & EVENTS	1,400	1,000	5,000
PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING	6,648	30,000	25,000
MINISTRY RESOURCES	4,527	8,150	10,300
DONOR & SPONSORSHIP DEVELOPMENT	104,136	7,000	10,000
PARISH SUBSIDIES	90,377	100,000	100,000
WOW AND CHAPLAINCY GRANTS		60,000	100,000
<b>SUB-TOTAL GENERAL MINISTRY EXPENSES</b>	<b>707,794</b>	<b>831,025</b>	<b>841,275</b>
<b>PARISH DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY:</b>			
<b>YOUTH &amp; FAMILY MINISTRIES</b>			
CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY	10,067	15,950	1,000
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (The Table)	(520)	2,900	2,500
YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM	2,779	4,000	8,000
CYFM NETWORK SUPPORT & TRAINING	(5,745)	3,300	3,500
<b>JUSTICE &amp; OUTREACH MINISTRIES</b>			
ADVOCACY & COALITION SUPPORT	948	2,500	2,000
JUSTICE WORKING GROUPS	510	2,000	1,000
CLIMATE JUSTICE NIAGARA	220	1,000	9,500
INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES	(149)	0	0
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Parish Development Ministry</b>	<b>8,110</b>	<b>31,650</b>	<b>27,500</b>
<b>COMMUNITY MINISTRY</b>			
CHINESE ANGLICAN MINISTRY PROGRAMS (NET)	(20,487)	0	0
MIGRANT FARM WORKERS (NET)	0	0	(20,000)
MISSIONER/CHURCH PLANTERS MINISTRY SUPPORT	152	1,500	2,500
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Community Ministry</b>	<b>(20,335)</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>(17,500)</b>
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY EXPENSES</b>	<b>695,569</b>	<b>864,175</b>	<b>851,275</b>

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA**  
**EDUCATION & FORMATION - Schedule 4**  
**12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	2022 Full Year Actual	2023 Full Year Budget	2024 Full Year Budget
<b>NIAGARA SCHOOL FOR MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP</b>			
INCOME - Fees, Draws	(30,269)	(83,549)	(70,000)
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	38,317	33,124	36,960
COURSE HONORARIA	27,744	38,000	22,000
EDUCATIONAL PLATFORM	0	3,250	2,000
TEACHING MATERIALS AND SUPPORT	0	375	240
COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING	0	2,000	2,000
WEBSITE	832	1,000	1,000
TRAVEL	0	5,000	5,000
MISCELLANEOUS	2,177	800	800
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Niagara School for Missional Leadership</b>	<b>38,801</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FORMATION FOR MINISTRY</b>			
DIFFERENTIATED CURACY SUPPORT	50,484	100,283	155,053
DIVINITY STUDENTS	3,429	18,700	15,000
VOCATION EVENTS	3,510	3,000	3,500
CLERGY / LAYWORKERS CONFERENCE	37,782	25,000	40,000
TRAINING & RESOURCES	6,896	31,000	7,500
PROVINCIAL SYNOD OPCOTE	17,500	17,500	17,500
VOCATIONAL DIACONATE	6,769	1,000	750
STARTING WELL/TRANSITIONING WELL	127	5,000	4,000
COACHING / MENTORING	0	10,000	10,000
<b>SUB-TOTAL - Formation for Ministry</b>	<b>126,497</b>	<b>211,483</b>	<b>253,303</b>
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY EXPENSES - EDUCATION &amp; FORMATION</b>	<b>165,298</b>	<b>211,483</b>	<b>253,303</b>

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA  
DIOCESAN HELD PROPERTIES  
Former St. Peter's, Hamilton Property - Schedule 5 A  
12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
RENTAL INCOME	(77,350)	(76,800)	(83,400)
TELEPHONE	916	1,000	1,000
MAINTENANCE / PEST CONTROL	857	1,250	1,000
MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS	21,186	20,000	21,400
MAINTENANCE / SNOW PLOW / GRASS CUT	6,585	6,000	6,500
MAINTENANCE / SUPPLIES	0	500	500
INSURANCE	26,009	26,000	29,700
HEAT / OIL	12,678	7,500	12,500
HYDRO	487	1,500	1,500
WATER	2,119	1,500	2,000
CAPITAL RESERVE TRANSFER	0	10,000	2,500
MISCELLANEOUS	3,702	0	0
<b>NET FORMER ST PETER HAMILTON PROPERTY COSTS</b>	<b>(2,810)</b>	<b>(1,550)</b>	<b>(4,800)</b>

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA  
Geneva Street (St. Catharines) Property - Schedule 5 B (1)  
12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
RENTAL INCOME	(63,830)	(16,900)	(43,860)
TELEPHONE	2,189	500	500
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL	0	0	0
BANK CHARGES	0	0	0
MAINTENANCE / PEST CONTROL	0	0	0
MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS	8,437	1,000	6,500
MAINTENANCE / SNOW PLOW / GRASS CUT	6,548	5,000	6,800
MAINTENANCE / SUPPLIES	0	0	0
SECURITY MONITORING	6,542	2,000	6,000
INSURANCE	24,956	11,291	7,900
HEAT / OIL	16,738	4,500	16,000
HYDRO	2,203	1,200	3,000
WATER	1,105	500	1,200
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0
<b>NET GENEVA STREET ST CATHARINES PROPERTY COSTS</b>	<b>4,888</b>	<b>9,091</b>	<b>4,040</b>

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA  
Former St. Luke's Hamilton Property - Schedule 5 B (2)  
12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
RENTAL INCOME	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)
TELEPHONE	2,016	0	1,200
MAINTENANCE / PEST CONTROL	1,143	1,000	1,000
MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS	3,138	7,500	7,500
MAINTENANCE / SNOW PLOW / GRASS CUT	0	0	0
MAINTENANCE / SUPPLIES	93	0	0
SECURITY MONITORING	607	850	850
INSURANCE	17,418	10,000	17,000
HEAT / OIL	4,355	4,000	4,000
HYDRO	2,808	6,000	4,000
WATER	2,798	2,000	2,000
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0
<b>NET FORMER ST LUKE'S HAMILTON PROPERTY COSTS</b>	<b>16,377</b>	<b>13,350</b>	<b>19,550</b>

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA**  
**Fennell Avenue (Hamilton) Property - Schedule 5 B (3)**  
**12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
RENTAL INCOME	(66,875)	(69,000)	(69,000)
MAINTENANCE / PEST CONTROL	1,556	1,600	1,600
MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS	12,821	7,500	7,500
MAINTENANCE / SNOW PLOW / GRASS CUT	14,919	15,000	15,000
MAINTENANCE / SUPPLIES	0	1,000	1,000
INSURANCE	7,358	10,000	12,492
HEAT / OIL	7,629	6,000	9,000
HYDRO	4,022	6,500	6,500
WATER	2,863	1,000	1,800
CAPITAL RESERVE TRANSFER	0	10,000	10,000
MISCELLANEOUS	8,280	0	0
<b>NET FENNEL AVENUE HAMILTON PROPERTY COSTS</b>	<b>(7,427)</b>	<b>(10,400)</b>	<b>(4,108)</b>

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA**  
**All Saints Hamilton Mission Property - Schedule 5 B (4)**  
**12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
RENTAL INCOME	(15,836)	(29,940)	(30,659)
CONDO FEES	4,659	2,989	2,989
PROPERTY MGT FEE	3,822	2,707	2,453
TAXES	1,726	7,440	7,440
CONTINGENCY (8%)- Capital Expense and Misc	2,530	3,083	3,083
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0
<b>NET ALL SAINT HAMILTON MISSION PROPERTY COSTS</b>	<b>(3,099)</b>	<b>(13,722)</b>	<b>(14,694)</b>

**THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA**  
**Vacant and Other Properties - Schedule 5 C**  
**12 Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Full Year</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
RENTAL INCOME	(82,500)	(22,500)	(24,996)
TELEPHONE	63	0	240
MAINTENANCE / PEST CONTROL	0	0	0
MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS	9,500	5,000	5,000
MAINTENANCE / SNOW PLOW / GRASS CUT	4,592	0	4,000
MAINTENANCE / SUPPLIES	5,919	0	0
SECURITY MONITORING	0	850	0
INSURANCE	11,327	13,000	9,594
HEAT / OIL	248	5,100	5,100
HYDRO	0	2,100	2,100
WATER	0	0	2,000
PROPERTY RENEWAL/DEVELOPMENT	16,812	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	4,777	0	0
<b>NET VACANT AND OTHER PROPERTIES COSTS</b>	<b>(29,262)</b>	<b>3,550</b>	<b>3,038</b>



## MEMBERS OF SYNOD

The 149<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Niagara

November 4, 2023

(# Indicates No Vote)

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