



Friday, Nov. 7, 2003 / a.m.

Opening formalities: The Primate welcomed members and introduced Louise Peters of Cariboo, a new member. Regrets were received from some members.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

Table group members 'checked in' with each other at their individual tables.

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Primate's Reflections: The primate noted that he is speaking on several occasions during this meeting and said he would try to remain focused. He reviewed his schedule since the last meeting and explained how he had spent his time. He noted work the Anglican Foundation is doing on it's future and said there are real possibilities for expansion of the Foundation's horizons. The Foundation is keen on 'distance education.' "I really hope that will be a thing to watch." The Foundation seems to be on to new things.

He highlighted a visit to St. Martin's church on the outskirts of Calgary, which came five days after the city 'pulled the plug' on their development plans.

In international work, the primate will continue on the WCC Special Commission on Orthodox Participation. He said he was glad to have a few more years working with this group. "issues of unity have always been dear to my

heart." The future acting primate has agreed to delegate the primate to continue on the Metropolitan Council of Cuba. An interim Bishop has been appointed.

Spoke to the House of Bishops at the ECUSA General Convention about how they can help with restoration of funds and healing and reconciliation.

Attended the Lutheran World Federation Assembly in Winnipeg where 10 per cent of delegations were refused visas by the Canadian government. All those refused came from Asia and Africa. All were women and young people. "It was absolutely appalling."

I have been to a couple of meetings of Anglican primates. The statement of the primates on blessing of same sex unions is a classic statement drawn up by people from across the spectrum. A commission was appointed and Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan is a member. The document must be read very carefully because the words are carefully chosen. The meetings are held in "strict confidence" but material subsequently appears on Web sites. It was a difficult meeting.

Thoughts on episcopal leadership through which the church confers on individuals great responsibility and accountability. "I have found it very difficult to go to meeting after meeting where there is no one but bishops."

The document must be read very carefully and you also have to consider the source.

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Break

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The primate reported on the recent meeting of the **House of Bishops:**

There is a resolution on ACPO which is very significant to the life of the church. Ordination has implications far beyond the local area where it takes place. It implies a kind of universality. The resolution reflects the tension between local and universal.

There is a resolution on 'adequate episcopal oversight' and the primate is asked to strike a task force. The key word is 'adequate.' What is adequate? The primates said 'dissenting minorities.' 'Minorities' can arise around anything. The primate is asked to consult with the Archbishop of Canterbury. The membership of the task force will be announced in the next couple of days.

A second four-part motion had a difficult passage. Parts 2 and 3 are consequent on part 1.



A third motion recognized the existence of the international commission.

The primate answered questions on the report from the House of Bishops. A motion recognizing the status quo in the diocese of New Westminster did not pass because that was the presenting issue.

The resolutions passed by the House of Bishops are not before this council for adoption.

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Andrew Wesley presented a program report outlining activities ACIP is involved with. Mr. Wesley also presented a report on the *ACIP Leadership Meeting*. The leadership meeting was held *in camera* because it contained elements of self-evaluation by the original signatories of the Covenant. The leadership meeting was followed by a conference. A pastoral letter was subsequently drafted and made public that pledged ACIP to 'walk with the church.' The conference approved the establishment of a Covenant implementation commission. ACIP felt it was important to maintain communication with the rest of the church, through the appointment of a liaison person by the primate.

Charlie Bobbish spoke about the implementation commission, the support it will need and where the funds will come from. Total expenses will be \$84,000. The time commitment is about four years. Four words describe the work of the commission: vision, time, knowing and doing.

Mr. Wesley and Mr. Bobbish answered some questions.

Jim Boyles said the General Synod budget for this year and next would meet a portion of the ACIP request. Ellie Johnson said the commission would be staffed through a reorganization of Church House staff responsibilities.

Marion Jenkins introduced topics for discussion in table groups: What have you heard? What have you learned? What has been missed? What message do you have for the Council?

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Lunch Break 12:05

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Council reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

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Marion Jenkins reintroduced topics for table group discussions.

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Table Group discussions

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The council heard a report from the *Anti-Racism Working Group*, presented by Godfrey Mawejje of Rupert's Land. Ellie Johnson introduced a draft education module prepared by the working group. She also introduced a draft *Anti-Racism Charter*. A document on *white privilege* was discussed in *table groups*.

Maylanne Maybee introduced a draft anti-racism policy. She asked council members to send comments to members of the group for consideration at its next meeting.

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Council received a report from the *Pension Committee* presented by Tom Morgan. The report includes an actuarial report prepared as required by the Pension Benefits Act. Laura Solomonian of Eckler Partners summarized the actuarial evaluation of the pension plan.

Jenny Mason, introduced Judy Robinson who will become Director of Pensions on January 1, 2004 after Ms Mason retires.

Archbishop Morgan introduced resolutions to 1) maintain the annual accrual rate of 2% and increase contributions to the plan from 12.2 % to 13.4% over two years, the increase to be paid by the employer. The resolution **carried**.

Archbishop Morgan introduced the enabling legislation. **Carried.**

Archbishop Morgan introduced legislation to improve movability from the lay plan to the General Synod plan. The resolution **carried**. A resolution to permit movement from the General Synod plan to the lay plan was introduced and **carried**.

Archbishop Morgan thanked Ms Mason for her years of service to the plan.

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Break

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The *Framework (strategic plan)* was introduced by Peter Elliott, chair of the Planning and Agenda Team. He gave a history of the work that has been done on the plan since the last was approved in 1995. There will be three opportunities for council to work on the plan. The purpose this afternoon is 1) to explain the logic of the framework and 2) to get council's input into it. He introduced Jonathan Bays, a consultant, who will assist with the work this afternoon. Council will be invited to approve the plan in principle. A resolution will be presented tomorrow.

Bishop Joe Fricker and Marion Jenkins gave the context to the development of the plan.



Bishop Fricker reviewed the intentional listening process; Ms Jenkins summarized information gleaned from consultations held in dioceses from each ecclesiastical province. General Secretary Jim Boyles introduced the specifics of the framework and went through the document aided by a PowerPoint presentation.

The document is called a *framework* instead of a *strategic plan* to indicate flexibility.

Robert Dickson, chair of FMD Committee introduced the financial component of the plan, entitled *Letting Down the Nets*.

Jonathan Bays reviewed questions to be considered: Is the plan moving in the right direction? Today, council will consider the plan in table groups, and tomorrow it will deal with issues arising.

- 1) Is the plan clear?
- 2) Is it clear why we have chosen these priorities? Is it responsive to inputs?
- 3) What changes should be made?

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Table groups

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First group: The plan is clear. The reality is that we might hit a financial wall. Is this a vision or a money grab? The plan *has* heard what people have said. It must build in the value of flexibility. It's difficult to articulate a vision. Are we still struggling with a vision rather than articulating a vision? There has to be a human connection with the local church and the congregations.

Second group: How does the church reflect cultural diversity? This may be a missing piece in the plan. Will GS and this council need structural change? Review the language for clarity. Relationships with incorporated entities require them to be described differently. How do we present the work of GS as good news? Does the vision statement require more theological language? How prepared are we for substantial realignment in the church? Should priorities be ranked?

Third group: The plan is clear and as a draft it is good. Would like more discussion on how youth will be supported. We need to show parishes how GS supports them. Communications will be a huge part of this. Maybe some of the instruments of communication used now assume too much. Must look at forms of communications and how effective they are.

Fourth group: On the whole the document is fair, well-written and concise. Is anything

dropped from the previous plan? GS exists to do collectively what dioceses cannot do on their own. The plan will need a lot of communication.

Fifth group: There is not much about what we are *not* going to do. Should there be reference to *Preparing the Way*? The vision statement is good. We liked the directness of it. Including the Baptismal Covenant is good. There should be more reference to youth and indigenous people. Priorities should be linked to the consultations. Some concern about response locally to *Letting Down the Nets*. One united annual appeal might not be helpful.

Sixth group: Concern about *Letting Down the Nets* and whether funding proposals should not be better integrated in the rest of the plan. Not clear if new staffing is envisioned. Communications is key; concern about capacity for communications. People care along human lines not institutional lines. Is the prophetic role missing? There should be reference to committees. Is there a vehicle for staff to comment on the document?

Seventh group: It is clear to us, but maybe an interpretive document would be useful. Wonder at the order in which priorities are listed. Nothing about GS being a unifying factor in the church. Who is served by the plan?

Eighth group: Identity is very important. Story-telling is important. Concern about whether youth was consulted and whether the importance of youth is recognized.

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Partner's Reflection: Grant Hyslop – Sonia Free has been appointed ELCIC representative to this body. ELCIC bishops were pleased with their meeting with Anglican bishops last week. There was excitement at the prospect of joint meetings between Anglican and Lutheran church bodies. ELCIC is also struggling with strategic plan; with pension fund issues. Enjoyed five-year association with ELCIC. Will be presenting motions compliment ELCIC on the World Federation meeting and protesting to the government about how visas were handled.

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Announcement -- Archbishop David Crawley of British Columbia and Yukon read a letter from Yukon Bishop Terry Buckle announcing he had withdrawn his offer of episcopal oversight to disaffected parishes in New Westminster. He read a letter written by Bishop Buckle to the Anglican Communion in New Westminster explaining his decision to withdraw.



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Archbishop Crawley said he had spoken to Bishop Michael Ingham of New Westminster and that proceedings would be stayed against dissenting clergy and against Bishop Buckle.

Council adjourned at 5:35

Evening

Council reconvened at the Mississauga Golf and Country Club for a farewell dinner honoring Michael Peers and Jenny Mason.