

DEC meeting of February 27, 2025.

Present: the Rev. Deacon Peter Clarke, Gail Shewchuk, the Rev. Don Thompson Brian Vance, Cheryl Anderson, Bishop David Greenwood, Tammy McKeachnie, the Rev. Fr. Leon Cadsap, Jamie McIlvenna, Candace Mahaffey, Stan Berry

Regrets: the Rev. Rose Howell, the Rev. Dr. Maryann Amor

Absent: None

Meeting opened with prayer at 7 pm by Bishop David

Adoption of the Agenda: approved by consensus

Minutes from previous meeting

MOTION: Tammy / Cheryl : approve DEC minutes from January 23, 2025 as amended.
Carried unanimously.

7:05 pm – entered breakout rooms

7:45 pm – returned from breakout rooms

DECISIONS:

1. Financial Donations to Specific Parishes

Decided no one was in need of assistance this month. Asked Bishop to have a meeting for Management Committee for Mar 12th at 10:00 am to discuss the Regulation # 18 with an eye to possible changes.

2. Updating of Regulations

MOTION: Cheryl / Stan Update Regulation 1 as distributed by the Management Committee for this Diocesan Executive Committee meeting. Carried Unanimously

MOTION: Leon / Jamie Update Regulation 2 as distributed by the Management Committee for this Diocesan Executive Committee meeting. Carried Unanimously

MOTION: Cheryl / Don Update Regulation 3 as distributed by the Management Committee for this Diocesan Executive Committee meeting. Carried Unanimously

MOTION: Leon / Jamie: Update Regulation 4a) to state: “Every parish in the diocese is encouraged to engage in ongoing stewardship education.” and 4c), second paragraph: “If the request is approved, the loan will be granted at a zero per cent interest rate.” And the rest as distributed by the Management Committee for this Diocesan Executive Committee meeting. Carried Unanimously

MOTION: Cheryl / Jamie Update Regulation 5 as distributed by the Management Committee for this Diocesan Executive Committee meeting with the correction of “maintenance” from “maintenasnce”.

- Suggested amendment: “the Parish Rectory Maintenance Reserve Fund must be in a separate account from the Operating Account.”

Motion was tabled for further review.

Gail had to leave meeting.

3. Insurance Request Form

MOTION: Cheryl / Stan The Synod Office distribute the Insurance Request Form to the parishes to assist them with rental insurance requirements. Change preamble wording to begin with “The Diocese of Athabasca requests all non-parish activities ...”. Carried unanimously.

- Synod Office to request definition & examples of “parish events” vs non-parish events” & report. Who defines it – Ecclesiastical or us?
- Is there an overall insurance which we can apply.

UPDATES

4. Insurance Update – Ecclesiastical will send everything in writing for us to review (Lloyd-Sadd waiting for), looking specifically for where we have large variances from last year. Ecclesiastical, Management Committee, Bishop, and Diocesan Secretary, and Lloyd-Sadd will then meet over the web, currently planned for March 6th. Premiums will be retroactive to Dec 31st once decided
5. Northern Lights Parish – \$8000 mailed to parish to fund new boiler in Rectory, from Property Replacement Fund.
6. St. Andrew’s Lac La Biche Rebuild – Completed. Waiting for final invoice from builders.
7. Diocesan Marketing – After consulting with Hannah Wygiera (the Provincial Social Media rep), the Bishop publishing one teaser per week on Facebook Youtube Bluesky Instagram Twitter or X. Hannah is sharing to the Provincial Facebook page as well.
8. Legacy Giving – an informational brochure has been created. WHY committee will create a motion for next meeting.
9. Centralized Parish Financial Support – St. Andrew’s Lac La Biche are now onboarded. To on-board Lac La Biche and complete 1st month’s cycle took the Diocesan Administrative Assistant just under sixteen hours and involved staying an extra night in Lac La Biche to meet with banking representatives and get everything signed off.

St. Thomas' Fort McMurray has formally requested to be onboarded next. Planning to meet with them in May.

10. Upcoming Conferences

- a. Diaconal Retreat planned March 1st, 10 am to 2 pm at the Synod Office in Peace River. Please pray for.
- b. Clergy conference planned for May 13-14 (Tues-Wed.). Looking at Grande Prairie.
- c. DEC in-person planned for April 25-26 in Peace River.
 - Friday evening at the Cathedral
 - Saturday at Bishop's Lodge
 - o hosted by the Bishop's wife
- d. Diocesan ACW Conference planned for May 2-4 in Grimshaw.
- e. Diocesan Camp and Synod 2026 covered elsewhere.
- f. Lay Reader Conference not currently planned.
- g. Clergy-Spouse Conference not currently planned.
- h. National ACW Conference will be held in Grande Prairie from September 24 to September 27, 2026-. Please pray for.

11. Diocesan Investments Policy – Management Committee met with a banking representative, and once internally. Anticipating more meetings before ready to present to DEC.

12. Diocesan Education Officer – Position Description has been completed. See *13 Diocesan Education Officer Role.pdf*. The bishop announced that the Rev. Dr. Maryann Amor has accepted this position in addition to her roles as Rector of Christ Church and Regional Dean for the Peace Deanery.

13. Diocesan Camp 2025 being organized -- Theme of TASTE (Trust, Act, See, Try, Explore; Psalm 34:8). Camp Planning Committee (consisting of Candace Mahaffey, Rose Gish, Chianna Pedersen, Lesley Hand, the Bishop (ex officio), Benita Greenwood, Tammy McKeachnie, Amanda Oldale, Blessing Shambare, and Stan Berry) is putting in place an agenda modelled on last years'.

Bishop yet to announce Adult Track facilitator. Looking for Youth Track Leader as well. Prayer coverage has been arranged, and prayer is being asked for across the Diocese.

The Camp Committee is working with the Anglican Foundation for web registration and fundraising.

14. 2026 Diocesan Synod Planning Meeting -- Synod 2026 A.D. planning committee has been created, and consists of the bishop (ex officio), the Diocesan Secretary, the Diocesan Administrative Assistant, Leslee Tanasiuk, Dorothy Malone, Brenda Singh, and the Rev. Don Thompson. Via the *Weekly Diocesan Email*, the committee has asked for input on date and location.

INTRODUCE TO DEC

15. Demolish Rectory in Fort Chipewyan -- Have asked for quote from local contractor, and have received demolition permit documentation required by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo for us to fill out.
16. Bible Reading Marathon -- Initial Planning Meeting between the Rev. Deacon Peter Clarke, the bishop, and the Diocesan Administrative Assistant has occurred. Planned for Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday. Expect to see advertising soon. *Looking for assistance in coordinating during the 100-hour event.*
17. Change in the Provincial House of Bishops -- Please keep these dioceses in your prayers as they discern and elect their new bishops:
 - Saskatoon - March 8
 - Arctic - May 9
 - Rupert's Land- May 31
18. Bishop taking week off in March. Bishop taking March 12th to 19th off, then in Ontario from March 28th to April 4th (Friday to Friday) for provincial and national house meetings.

Focus Area: Future Sustainable Ministry in the Diocese – continuing some thoughts and questions (to be led by the bishop). Tabled due to running out of time.

Next meeting: Mar 27 @ 7 pm

9:11 pm – Meeting closed with prayer