

Page 1. CNOB November 9, 2022 at 7 pm, meeting by Zoom.

Minutes of the 148th meeting of the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda, held by Zoom on November 9, 2022.

The Moderator, the Rev Caleb Kim, opened the meeting with devotions and constituted the court with prayer.

Attendance:

East Toronto: E Bisset, A Bisset, B McGowan, J Greer

West Toronto: J Miranda, D Glasford, M Asiamah, S Chopp

Kingston: C Merrill

Lindsay-Peterborough: C Kim, A Blane, S Wray

Pickering: D Slabbert, B Grace, M Barylak, L Bridgebassie

Oak Ridges: R Manafo, H Vais, L Smart, R Morden

Brampton: C McAvoy, C Bahadoor, T McDonald, R Darjes

Algoma-North Bay: D Laity

Temiskaming: C Walker

Eastern Han Ca:

Waterloo-Wellington: H Donnelly, P Bush, S Senior, D Mallett

Barrie: J Giurin, J Terry

Also present were members of the Synod Executive: D Dougall, J Biggs, G Myers, J Buie

Other attendees included Synod staff, T Smit and JP Smit, M Roberts (Cairn Camp), D Kendall (Music Camp), and L Leung

Regrets were received from S Howard and G Macdonald.

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR SYNOD 2022.

1. Roll of the meeting. Moved by B Grace/H Donnelly that the roll of the Synod be the list of commissioners submitted by the CNOB's Presbytery clerks. Carried
2. Sit and Correspond. Moved by B McGowan/J Greer that JP Smit, T Smit, G Myers, J Biggs, D Dougall, J Buie from Executive as well as

M Roberts and D Kendall be invited to sit and correspond. Carried

3. Minutes. After receiving comments and suggestions from last year's commissioners and Executive, it was moved by D Laity/C Walker that the minutes of the 147th Meeting of the Synod of CNOB be adopted. Carried

4. Moderator. It was moved by D Laity/C Walker that the Rev D Slabbert, minister at Knox Church in Oshawa, be elected moderator of the 148th meeting of the Synod of CNOB. Carried

The Moderator, the Rev Caleb Kim, inducted Rev Slabbert as moderator. Rev Slabbert assumed the chair.

5. Agenda. It was moved by A Bisset/D Laity that the agenda and order of business be adopted as printed. Carried

6. Presbytery Minutes. It was moved by A Bisset/D Laity that the Synod clerk review the minutes as they come in and report the results within the minutes. Carried

Note: The clerk received and reviewed the minutes of Kingston, Lindsay-Peterborough, East Toronto, West Toronto, Oak Ridges Presbyteries and attested them as neatly and correctly kept. More minutes may still be submitted.

7. Reports from Committees and staff. It was moved by B McGowan/J Greer that that the reports be received and their recommendations be considered. Carried

Reports

1. Executive Committee Report. The clerk, J Biggs, presented the report of the Executive. He spoke of the role of Executive and the desire to have even more of the Presbyteries informed on an ongoing basis by appointing a representative to the Executive. He also spoke of Executive's gratitude for the service of S Kwon and J Terry as they finish their responsibilities and leave the executive. Synod 2021 received a notice of motion to amend Synod's Standing Orders to state that "The Synod will normally meet virtually in the fall". This was presented as a motion by Bisset/D Laity and it carried. It was then

moved by A Bisset/D Laity that Synod express its thanks to S Kwon and J Terry. Carried

It was then moved by A Bisset/D Laity that a grant in the amount of \$61000 from the Life and Mission Agency be requested for 2023 in order to support the funding of Synod Regional Staff. Carried

The Clerk also reported the following items. Executive responded to a request from Brampton Presbytery for two Assessor Presbyters to assist in a particular situation. Oak Ridges has provided two names and this has been passed on to Brampton's clerk. Colleen Walker has been named as Synod's nominee to the General Assembly Committee to Nominate.

Finally, some money has been added to the Synod Ministry Fund from savings, so the treasurer will announce that the final instalment of \$10000 to be paid by the Presbyteries will be waived.

2. Women's Missionary Society Synodical. J Terry presented her report for information. She spoke of polling the members of Presbyterials and Synodical to see if there is interest in having a 110th Anniversary Event in 2024.

3. Sexual Abuse and Harassment. NO REPORT

4. Regional Consultative Committee. In her report, G Macdonald reflected on the reports of JP Smit and T Smit, as they tell us of their busy schedules doing God's work so faithfully and creatively within the Synod and beyond. She particularly spoke of dealing with so many difficult situations through COVID and churches reopening.

5. Regional Minister for Faith Formation. T Smit sent her regrets as she was ill. Her printed report is appended to the minutes.

6. Regional Minister for Congregational Health. JP Smit reported for both of them. He spoke of what a hard year it has been. They are so grateful for the support and prayers of the Synod and the RCC. He is spending 80% of his time helping congregations make decisions about their future. He presents options to congregations who feel they have no options. The ability to see possibilities is liberating and empowering. He spoke of how Tori is doing teacher training and curriculum workshops in person now. All Advent materials are on the web site. CNOB.org

7. Cairn Camp. D Dougall spoke of making it through their first in-person summer since 2019. He thanked M Roberts and R Howard for all their efforts and skills to keep Cairn going well. M Roberts spoke of the summer of '22. Many campers had no Christian experiences since 2019. There were six weeks of overnight children's programs. The theme was "Let all that you do be done in love". D Dougall then reported on finances, that Cairn was breaking even and a little bit more.

8. Music Camp. D Kendall reported they gathered in person this year. The camp lasts one week using rented facilities. For their 50th Anniversary, a song was commissioned, as was a history of Music Camp by Angus Sutherland.

It was moved by A Bisset/D Laity that the previous reports and their recommendations be adopted. Carried

9. Treasurer. G Myers presented all the financial reports.

Moved by A Bisset/D Laity that Synod accept this report and financial statements for consideration. Carried

They then moved that the financial statements to September 30, 2022 be accepted. Carried:

They moved that the 2021 Financial Statements and review report from the reviewers, Smith, Sykes, Leeper and Tunstall LLP be accepted. Carried

They moved that Synod appoint this same firm for the 2022 review.

Carried

They then moved that the 2022 proposed budget be approved. Several questions were raised. When does the assessment become untenable? Will Executive consider that the rate is too high?

It was moved by D Laity/J Giurin that on January 1, 2023 and forward, the \$10000 Synod Ministry Fund line be dropped from the budget. Carried

It was moved by D Laity/A Bisset that the moderator and clerk find and recommend new members for the Synod Ministries Fund Committee by January 1, 2023, according to the guidelines set up and approved in 2014. Carried

D Laity/B McGowan moved that the budget be reconsidered. Carried

They then moved that the Unit Rate be \$11.

They then moved that the budget be accepted as amended. Carried

Report as a whole. A Bisset/D Laity. Carried
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Business not dealt with. Moved by C Walker/B McGowan that Synod Executive be given power to issue on business not dealt with during the Synod meeting, as well as any emergent business until Synod meets again. Carried

Next meeting. C Walker/B McGowan moved that the Synod of CNOB next meet as a commissioned court of the Presbyterian Church in Canada at a time and place to be determined by the Executive. Carried

C Walker/B McGowan moved all the reports as a whole. Carried

Motion to adjourn. There being no further business, B McGowan/D Laity moved that the meeting adjourn. Carried

The Moderator, D Slabbert concluded the meeting with prayer and the benediction.

Moderator.

Clerk9