

Report of the Executive to the 2025 meeting of the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda.  
October 8, 2025.

The Synod is composed of 12 presbyteries. Its main tasks are to oversee the work of our two main ministries, Cairn Camp and our Regional Staff. Synod is also the court of the PCC in between Presbyteries and the General Assembly. Synod holds an annual meeting each fall to report its work to the various Presbyteries and to present a budget for the following year. Presbyteries appoint four commissioners (two clergy and two elders) to attend and vote on such matters.

The Executive is made up of its Moderator, Past Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, President of the Women's Missionary Society, Chair of the Cairn Camp Board, Chair of the Regional Consultative Committee, as well as members that represent some of the Presbyteries. The Cairn Camp Executive Director, Music Camp Director and Synod staff are non voting participants. Presbyteries are urged to consider naming a representative to Executive to help ensure communication lines between the Synod and Presbyteries are strong.

One of the real highlights of the past year has been the hiring of the Rev Jonathan Tait as the Regional Minister for Congregational health. You can find out more about Rev Tait and how you can use his services on our website, CNOB.org

This was a long process that involved extra meetings of the Synod to create a final job description before an interview process could begin. As a result of the 18 month vacancy in the position, extra funds were available to assist Cairn Camp with several construction projects as well as helping to raise the income for seasonal staff.

Another highlight has been the response of several presbyteries to Synod's request to consider using 5% of whatever comes to Presbyteries from the sale of church properties to build up the Synod Ministry Fund. If this generous response continues, the fund will reach its original target of a million dollars in several years, to be used to support the work of Cairn Camp and our staff. Thank you so much to the supporting presbyteries. We continue to ask other presbyteries to consider this way of supporting the Synod's ministries.

Motions.

- 1) That the Regional Consultative Committee be congratulated and thanked for all their hard work over the past two years in preparing the Synod for the beginning of the ministry of the Rev Jonathan Tait, Regional Minister for Congregational Health.
- 2) That the Cairn Camp Board be commended for finding new ways to minister as well as build up camper numbers again after COVID. Also, we offer congratulations on their 95th Anniversary.
- 3) That Cairn be permitted to apply for various grants within the PCC and beyond.
- 4) That Synod endorse the application to the Life and Mission Agency for a grant for 2026 to support Regional Staff.
- 5) That the Synod thank George Myers for his many years of faithful and skilled work as our treasurer. George is retiring from this position at the end of 2025. He is already working on transition with his successor, Rob McMaster, an accountant from Whitby.
- 6) That Past Moderator Alex Bisset be thanked for his two year term on Executive. His wisdom and experience and kindness marked this period. Executive is grateful also for all the years he has served as representative of East Toronto Presbytery (he will continue in that role) as well as Camp Board Chair.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev Jim Biggs, Clerk of CNOB Synod.