

TALES OF TRANSITION

# SYNOD 2024



OCTOBER 18-20, 2024



# SAANICH PENINSULA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## WELCOME TO VANCOUVER ISLAND

### OUR HOST

#### **Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church**

9296 East Saanich Road  
North Saanich, BC V8L 1H8  
(250) 656-2241  
[www.saanichpeninsulapc.org](http://www.saanichpeninsulapc.org)

### FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

#### **Wifi Information at Saanich Peninsula Church**

Name: SPPCnetwork  
Password: Ecclesiastes

#### **To Contact the Clerk**

Rev. Dr. Teresa Charlton  
250-307-2127 (talk/text)

# WELCOME FROM THE MODERATOR



**MARGARET  
PEACOCK**

Presbytery of Kamloops  
Moderator 131st Synod

**REV. DR. ROSS  
LOCKHART**

Presbytery of Westminster  
Incoming Moderator



Presbytery of Kamloops Retreat  
Fairhaven Retreat Center, Vernon

On behalf of the Synod Executive, it is my pleasure to welcome each of you to this, the 132 nd Synod of British Columbia. May you feel God's presence as we gather this weekend on beautiful Vancouver Island.

My thanks to our hosts at Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church for their generosity and hard work to make our time together both meaningful and pleasurable. Thanks also, to our facilitators who will guide us through 'Tales of Transition' here in B.C., during our time together.



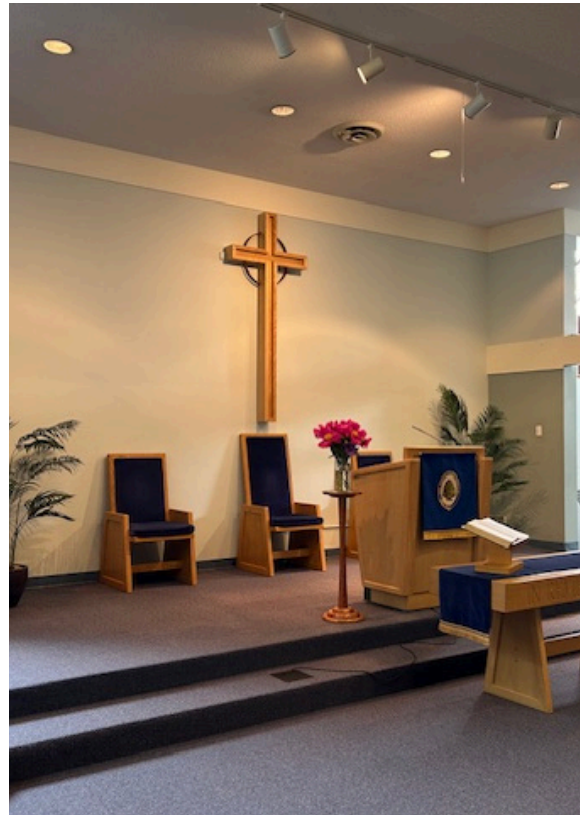
# PROGRAM

## FRIDAY

5:00 PM - Welcome Table Open  
6:30 PM - Business Meeting – Part 1  
7:00 PM - Opening Worship  
7:30PM - Tale of Transition # 1  
8:45 PM - Reception

## SATURDAY

9:00 AM - Morning Devotions  
9:30 AM - Tale of Transition # 2  
10:45 AM - Break  
11:00 AM - Business Meeting – Part 2  
11:45 AM - Early Lunch  
12:30 PM - Tale of Transition #3  
1:45 PM - Break  
2:00 PM - Afternoon Activities  
6:30 PM - Banquet  
8:00 PM - Free Evening



## SUNDAY

10:00 AM - Worship  
Guest Preacher - Rev. Dale Woods  
11:30 AM - Return Home

## YOU WERE ASKING...

### Synod Expenses

- Expense Sheets have been supplied in your package.
- Synod pays for travel expenses.
- Your Congregation or Presbytery pays for accommodation expenses.





# TALES OF TRANSITION



## NEW LENSES

**Professional Shift**  
A fresh look at Ministry

## TRANSITION

**St. Andrew's, Victoria**

Making new wine out of old wine skins.



## SHARED MINISTRY

**Central, Vancouver**

Blurring the lines between sacred and secular

# AFTER LUNCH ACTIVITIES



Don't Go Hungry Program

## BUTCHART GARDENS

Lose yourself in the smells and colours of the season. Car pooling will ensure your trip is convenient and you return in time for the banquet.

## NATURE WALK

Let a local naturalist show you the sights that beautiful Vancouver Island has to offer with the rush.

## THE SIGHTS OF SIDNEY

Perhaps a stop at a local art show or a warming beverage on the waterfront suits, before a little shopping.

## ON THE HOMEFRONT

For those who would rather stay put, the church will remain open. Curl up with a good book, a mad game of scrabble or tinkling the ivories with your favourite hymns.



Don't Go Hungry Program



# WE REMEMBER

Rev. David Heath (Kamloops)  
Rev. Robert Kerr (Vancouver Island)  
Rev. Campbell Smyth (Vancouver Island)  
Rev. David Stewart (Vancouver Island)  
Dr. Richard Patterson  
Myrna Campbell  
Joy Robinson

~at time of printing





# BUSINESS MEETING



## OPENING MOTIONS

**Recommendation #1** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Synod Executive Report be received and its recommendations be considered.

**Recommendation #2** Moved by P. Eastwood, seconded by R. Napier, that Teresa Charlton be appointed as Clerk of Synod for a one-year period.

**Recommendation #3** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that Ms. Annette Pardais (Synod Financial Manager) be permitted to sit and correspond.

**Recommendation #4** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that Committee to Examine Minutes be as follows:

- Presbytery of Westminster –
- Presbytery of Kamloops –
- Presbytery of Vancouver Island –
- Kootenay Presbytery–
- Western Han-Ca Presbytery –

**Recommendation #5** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Docket as printed be the Order of Business for the 132nd Synod of B.C.



n the weeks leading up to this year's Synod gathering, the Clerk of Synod asked the five respective Presbyteries to provide up to date numbers of active ministers and elder representatives within their bounds, as requested by the court at last year's meeting. As of October 1, 2024 the following numbers were presented:

Presbytery	Active Ministers	Elder Representatives
Westminster	25	25
Western Han-Ca	11	8
Kamloops	7	6
Vancouver Island	9	12
Kootenay	4	17

**Recommendation #6** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Roll of Synod be the Roll of the Presbyteries of Kootenay, Kamloops, Westminster, Vancouver Island and Western Han-Ca as provided by their Clerks, and that attendance be noted according to the registration of Synod.

**Recommendation #7** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca propose the nomination for the Moderator of the 133rd Synod for the year 2025.

**Recommendation #8** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that those reports to Synod, not appearing on the Docket and not having specific recommendations, be received and appended to the Minutes of the 132nd Synod.

**Recommendation #9** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the minutes of the 131st meeting of the Synod of British Columbia, as circulated, be approved.

## ELECTION OF NEW MODERATOR

**Recommendation #10** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart be nominated for the position of Moderator of the 132nd Synod for the year 2024-2025.

## PRESENTATION OF THE 2025 BUDGET

**Recommendation #11** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that the Budget for 2025 be received and considered.

*The court will begin a time of worship which will include the Installation of the New Moderator followed by the first "Tale of Transition."*





## FUTURE SYNODS

Each year it is more challenging to find congregations willing to host Synod and venues and locations that are not cost prohibitive. The Synod Executive thanks the Presbyteries for both the discussion at last year's meeting, and post-Synod comments that are helping to shape future meetings.

One of the added features to this year's program is a Worship Service for Lay Leaders which has been provided on the Synod Website, to assist with congregational leadership at home, while Ministers and Lay Elders attend the annual meeting. Worship links are also made available on the website for personal use or corporate worship, and congregations are also reminded that the Sunday Morning Worship is available by Livestream for use.

The Synod is mindful that creative and cooperative solutions may be the best way moving forward to continue this important opportunity to gather and learn from each other. While the Executive discussed at length the ideas put forward of changing the conference from a week-end to a mid-week program, and the ideas put forward by the court last year of financial penalties (or rewards) for lack of attendance, or rewards for attending, it was decided in the end, that those who wish to attend, and see value in the time will attend.

The Synod Executive encourages Presbyteries to remind their members that attendance at Synod is part of their obligations as a Minister of Word & Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and an opportunity to share ideas, fellowship, and discourse with other like minded professionals. Synod can be a place to be encouraged.

The following Presbyteries are indicated as upcoming hosts for Synod.

**2025: Kootenay (for Westminster)**  
**2026: Westminster**  
**2027: Western Han-Ca**

**Recommendation #12** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the presbyteries, in the above order, be asked to supply the names of host congregation or venue for the upcoming Synod Meeting.





# LIFE & MISSION AGENCY

Regional Resource Funds from the Life and Mission Agency were almost fully exhausted this year by a wide variety of programs. Recipients of grants in 2024 were:

**Presbytery Retreat (Kamloops) - \$10,000**  
**Camp Douglas (Westminster) - \$7000**  
**UpLift 2024 (BC Youth) - \$10,000**  
**Presbytery Retreat (Western Han-Ca) - \$12,000**  
**52 Song (Brentwood) - \$3000**  
**Presbytery Retreat (Vancouver Island) - \$7250**

The full grant amount for the Synod of British Columbia for 2025 is \$61,000. Funds cannot be rolled over into future years and must be used with the calendar year for which it was granted. While the Synod continues to report on the work of these funds, the decision process of grant applications rests with Canada Ministries. The grant application is available on the national website. Please note the following Terms of Reference when applying for a Regional Resource Grant:

**1) The application form requires:**

- a. A narrative of the project**
- b. Proposed budget**
- c. Presbytery support**

**2) Projects must be educational in nature.**

**3) Projects must offer learning opportunities for more than one congregation.**

**Recommendation #13** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that the Life and Mission Agency funds through the Regional Resourcing Grant for the Synod be allotted among the FIVE (5) presbyteries equally an amount of \$10,000 AND the remaining \$11,000 for Synod Planning for the year 2025.

**Recommendation #14** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by T. Charlton,

- 1.** That the Clerks of presbyteries be given Power to Issue to apply for this grant directly through the PCC website "Grants" page as projects are approved within each presbytery.
- 2.** That the presbyteries be strongly urged to have their submissions for Life and Mission Agency funding to the Grant Review Committee by June 30th 2025.
- 3.** That the Clerks of Presbyteries copy applications to the Clerk of Synod for the Synod Executive's information.
- 4.** That each Presbytery bring a presentation of each grant to the Open House at the 132nd Synod of British Columbia.

**Recommendation #15** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that after July 1st 2024, any Regional Resourcing Grant funds that are not already allocated to projects/event be made available to any submitted project within the Synod of B.C.



# SYNOD GRANTS

The Synod reviewed several grant applications over the year, both for ongoing projects and new applications. The list of available resources and their Terms of Reference can be found on the Synod Website. The court is reminded that the Synod Executive considers applications at each of its meetings. Like the Regional Resource Grant Applications, Synod Grant Applications require:

- a) A narrative of the project
- b) A proposed Budget
- c) Presbytery approval

Grants approved by the Synod Executive in 2024 were:

## **Ongoing Projects – Jack Smith Fund**

Korean Campus Ministry – \$2500  
Simon Fraser Campus Ministry – \$900

## **New Projects – Jack Smith Fund**

Don't Go Hungry Program (Trinity) – \$10,000  
Knox Vernon – Flooring Upgrades – \$5000



## YOU WERE ASKING...

### **The Jack Smith Fund**

- The Terms of Reference can be found on the Synod Website
- Only the income each year may be used for grants
- The principal is locked in
- Any income not used folds into the principal
- One-time grants for projects are available
- On-going grants for up to a three year period are also available
- The available earnings are usually drawn to be ready for grants
- Any residual income for the year not used is set aside to assist future grants rather than be returned to the principal where it becomes locked in

## SYNOD DUES FOR 2025

The Synod Executive is mindful that while COVID has come and gone, the financial struggle for many congregations is acute. As the Synod Finances continue to be in a healthy position at this time, the Executive is supportive of a nominal fee again for the coming year. If your congregation is in financial distress, please advise the Executive, as fees may be reduced or deferred by request.

**Recommendation #16** – Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Robertson that Synod Dues for 2025 be a flat rate of \$100/congregation.

## SYNOD LOANS

Synod is able to offer congregations and ministries loans with agreeable terms and conditions. The current policy on repayment of Synod loans is as follows.

1. Loans received prior to December 31, 2020 to be re-paid with a yearly amount of \$500 (minimum) + 1% of the outstanding amount.
2. Loans received after January 1, 2021 to be re-paid with a yearly amount of \$1000 (minimum) + 1% of the outstanding amount.

No new loans were applied for this past year. The Executive thanks those for their timely payments and keeping their account up to date.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & BUDGET FOR 2025

The Synod Executive Committee met, by Zoom, with Mr. Justin Dyer, RBC Investment Advisor, and reviewed the Synod investment portfolio, as of settlement date, September 24, 2024. Mr Dyer is our new investment advisor and has some thirty years of experience in the investment business.

The portfolio (\$880,169) consisted of investments in equities (82.85%), Fixed Income (Canada, USA and international (14%) and cash and cash equivalents (3%).

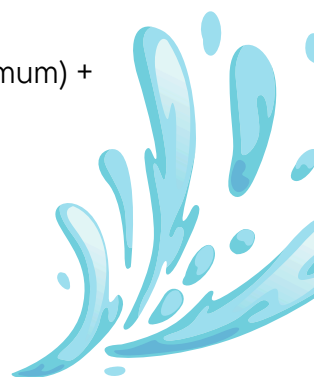
Over this past 10 years, after fees, the average rate of return is 6.71%; past five years 7.34%; and last year 21.7%.

On reviewing particular investments, Mr. Dyer recommended some changes in particular equities to better balance the portfolio by decreasing equity exposure a little, to around 75%.

It was suggested by Mr. Dyer that the committee might consider better aligning the portfolio with a sharper focus on investments which are more consistent with environmental concerns. The Executive Committee will consider this and advise on any appropriate adjustments to the Synod's portfolio.

**Recommendation #17** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that the Synod Financial Manager's Report be received and considered.

**Recommendation #18** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that Ms. Annette Pardais be appointed Synod Financial Manager for a one-year term.





**Recommendation #19** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that Justin Dyer, of RBC Dominion Securities, continue for one year, as Synod Investment Advisor.

**Recommendation #20** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Budget for 2025 be approved.

**Recommendation #21** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that Ms. Annette Pardais be offered thanks for her continued diligence with managing the financial accounts of the Synod.

**Recommendation #22** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Robertson, to approve the Financial Manger's Report.

## APPEALS AND PETITIONS

The Synod Executive has been working towards the resolution of Appeals received.

**1)** Regarding the Appeal of the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca and Rev Seung Choi – the Synod Executive has received correspondence from the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca as part of the resolution determined by General Assembly this past June.

**2)** Regarding the Appeal of the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca and Rev. Inkyu Park, the Synod Executive is hoping to be close to a resolution.

**3)** Regarding the Appeal (Corrective) and Petition of the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca from the Rev. Alfred Lee and Mr. Wolfgang Struchtrup, the Synod Executive is still collecting pertinent information before moving forward.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Synod Executive met in person in the Spring of 2024, to review and update the Standing Orders of the Synod of British Columbia. These Draft Orders, along with a Working Copy of the old Standing Orders is available on the Synod Website for your consideration.

**Recommendation #23** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Robertson, that the updated Draft Standing Orders be received and considered.

**Recommendation #24** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Robertson, that the Draft Updated Standing Orders be approved.

## FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Synod Executive will continue the work of the Court beyond this meeting. Their next planned meeting is in late January 2025, so those with correspondence or grant requests are encouraged to submit their information or requests by January 15, 2025, in order to ensure they are placed on the agenda.

**Recommendation #25** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the thanks be extended to Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church, Rev. Irwin Cunningham, and the many helping hands who made this event possible.

**Recommendation #26** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Committee to Examine Records reports the following:

Presbytery of Westminster -  
Presbytery of Kamloops -  
Presbytery of Vancouver Island -  
Kootenay Presbytery -  
Western Han -Ca Presbytery -

**Recommendation # 27** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood that the Report of the Synod Executive be adopted and that any unfinished business of the 132nd Synod of BC be referred to the Executive of the Synod with power to issue.

**Recommendation # 28** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Synod of B.C. rise with the Benediction of worship on Sunday, October 20, 2024, to resume business again at the 133rd Synod of BC on \_\_\_\_\_.



Knox Vernon Fashion Show Flooring Fundraiser

# 2024 FINANCIALS

## SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA BALANCE SHEET

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
	<b>Assets</b>	
RBC Community Account	13,805	15,622
RBC Dominion Securities	789,731	773,813
	<u>803,536</u>	<u>789,435</u>
Loans Receivable		
Abbotsford PC	30,000	30,000
Abbotsford Korean PC	20,000	-
Central PC, Vancouver	6,343	6,343
St. Paul's PC	-	-
St. Aidan's PC	12,860	12,860
Surrey Korean PC	13,033	13,033
Trinity PC - Campbell River	-	-
	<u>82,236</u>	<u>62,236</u>
Funds Held in Trust		
Estate of Jack Smith	685,678	612,202
	<u>685,678</u>	<u>612,202</u>
Total Assets	<u>1,571,450</u>	<u>1,463,873</u>
	<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>	
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Equity		
Opening balance	1,463,873	1,719,900
Current year income	107,577	(256,027)
Ending balance	<u>1,571,450</u>	<u>1,463,873</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>1,571,450</u>	<u>1,463,873</u>



**SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Assessments		
Kamloops Presbytery	700	800
Kootenays Presbytery	500	610
Vancouver Island Presbytery	1,100	-
Western Han Ca Presbytery	-	1,638
Westminster Presbytery	2,700	2,700
	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,748</u>
 Synod Registration	 1,304	 1,567
Loan interest, net	650	1,395
Jack Smith Fund		
Earnings	21,472	(2,971)
RBC Investments		
Interest	54	1,264
Dividends	7,745	7,767
Other	15,506	12,129
Other income - Regional Grant	9,000	-
	<u>60,731</u>	<u>26,899</u>
 <b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Bank charges	147	101
Executive meetings	1,458	897
Grants	34,800	43,300
Honorarium - Clerk	5,000	5,000
Investment costs	8,090	8,371
Liability insurance	1,729	1,746
Synod expenses		
Administrative	4,931	2,668
Catering	2,586	704
Travel	7,119	8,690
Office expense	-	70
	<u>65,860</u>	<u>71,547</u>
 Excess of receipts over disbursements	 (5,129)	 (44,648)
 Unrealized gain (loss) on investments		
Jack Smith Fund	52,004	(108,478)
RBC Investments	60,702	(102,901)
	<u>112,706</u>	<u>(211,379)</u>
 Excess of receipts over disbursements	 107,577	 (256,027)

# 2025 BUDGET

SYNOD OF B.C.

2024 Budget with 2023 Comparison and 2022 Actual

FINAL - For Approval

RATE	\$100.00		\$100.00		\$100.00	
YEAR	2023 ACTUAL		2024 BUDGET		2025 BUDGET	
	Members (2021 base) #	(\$100 per congregation) \$	Congregations (2022 base) #	(\$5 per member to a maximum of \$100 per congregation) \$	Congregations (2023 base) #	(\$5 per member to a maximum of \$100 per congregation) \$
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
<b>Presbytery Assessments</b>						
Kamloops	425	700	8	765	7	655
Kootenay	148	500	5	390	5	410
Vancouver Island	929	1,100	11	1,100	11	1,100
Western Han-Ca	1,910	0	13	1,265	13	1,190
Westminster	2,089	2,700	23	2,370	25	2,370
Total Assessments	5,501	5,000	60	5,890	61	5,725
Transfer to / from Reserve		0		21,000		37,000
		5,000		26,890		42,725
<b>Other Income</b>						
Synod Registrations		1,304		2,500		2,500
Loan Principal & Interest		650		500		500
Jack Smith Fund		21,472		20,000		20,000
RBC Income:						
Interest		54		1,000		100
Dividends		7,745		7,500		7,500
Other		15,506		0		0
Other income		9,000		10,000		7,500
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		60,731		68,390		80,825
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>						
<b>Synod Meeting</b>						
Administrative & promotional		4,931		2,000		3,300
Catering		2,586		1,500		3,500
Honoraria		0		2,500		1,500
Travel		7,119		10,000		7,500
<b>Administration</b>						
Bank Charges		147		300		300
Clerk's Honorarium		5,000		6,000		6,150
Executive Meetings & Travel		1,458		500		500
Investment Fees		8,090		9,000		9,000
Liability Insurance		1,729		1,500		2,000
Office supplies and postage		0		150		100
<b>Travel</b>						
Other		0		0		100
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		31,060		33,450		33,950
<b>Grants &amp; Loans</b>						
Canada Youth Conference		0		0		0
Don't Go Hungry		0		0		5,000
Inter Faith Centre		1,800		1,800		1,800
Korean Campus Ministry		2,500		2,500		2,500
Abbotsford Korean PC		20,000		20,000		0
Knox Vernon PC		4,500		4,500		20,000
Penticton PC		0		0		7,000
St. Andrew's Kamloops		0		0		10,000
Western Han Ca		6,000		6,000		0
		34,800		34,800		46,300
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		65,860		68,250		80,250
<b>EXCESS, RECEIPTS LESS DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(5,129)		140		575

# MINUTES FROM 2023 MEETING



## Friday, October 13, 2024

The annual gathering of the Synod of British Columbia was called to worship at 7:30PM on Friday, October 13, 2024 within the building of Calvin Presbyterian Church, Abbotsford, British Columbia. Worship began a little later than usual, to allow for those travelling from Vancouver proper to manage with traffic. Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart, our guest speaker for the conference preached a sermon titled "CALL, Answer."

During opening worship, the following names were lifted up in a memorial prayer.

*Doreen Brown (Elder) – Knox Vernon  
Muriel Sanderson (Elder) – Knox Vernon  
Peter Spyksma (Elder) – Knox Cranbrook  
Cliff Hughson (Elder) – St. Andrew's Salmon Arm  
Rev. Charlie Scott (Retired) – St. Andrew's Victoria  
Mrs. Laura Cronsberry (Archives, International Ministries)*

Following worship, a light reception was presented by the host congregation for those who arrived late, as they had also provided finger foods prior to worship, for those who arrived early.



## Saturday, October 14, 2023

The Second Sederunt began with worship on Saturday, October 14, 2024 with Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart once again preaching, this time a sermon entitled, "Call, ANSWER.". Following a brief break to organize technology at the front of the Sanctuary, the meeting was called to order by the Moderator.

### Roll & Regrets

Attended (In Person) – 32

Attendance (Online) – 5

Regrets – 20

Notes:

1)Two of the regrets were last minute cancelations due to personal and pastoral matters.

2)Nine individuals who expressed regrets asked for print copies of materials to be sent to them so that they might keep informed.

### Notice of Motion

The Synod Executive gave Notice of Motion that a discussion of when Synod is to be held (i.e. weekend conference verses mid-week conference) to take place later in the Business Meeting in order to facilitate greater participation in future conferences.

### Opening Motions

**Recommendation #1** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Synod Executive Report be received and its recommendations be considered.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #2** Moved by P. Eastwood, seconded by R. Napier, that Teresa Charlton be appointed as Clerk of Synod for a one-year period.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #3** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that Ms. Annette Pardais (Synod Financial Manager) be permitted to sit and correspond.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #4** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that membership on the following committee be approved:

Committee on Courtesies - Teresa Charlton

**Carried**

**Recommendation #5** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that Committee to Examine Minutes be as follows:

Presbytery of Westminster – John Hanna, Steve Filyk

Presbytery of Kamloops – Meridith Robertson, Curtis Bablitz

Presbytery of Vancouver Island – Not Received

Kootenay Presbytery- Roy Napier, Iwin Cunningham

Western Han- Ca Presbytery – Not Received

**Carried**

**Recommendation #6** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Docket as printed be the Order of Business for the 131st Synod of B.C.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #7** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Roll of Synod be the Roll of the Presbyteries of Kootenay, Kamloops, Westminster, Vancouver Island and Western Han-Ca as provided by their Clerks, and that attendance be noted according to the registration of Synod.

**Carried**

It was suggested that in future years, the numbers of Ministers and Representative Elders should be listed. It was noted that the Synod Treasurer uses the latest edition of the Act & Proceeds to make calculations for the budget, that this document does not necessarily provide an accurate statement of current standings within a Presbytery.

**Recommendation #8** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Presbytery of Kootenay propose the nomination for the Moderator of the 132nd Synod for the year 2024.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #9** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that those reports to Synod, not appearing on the Docket and not having specific recommendations, be received and appended to the Minutes of the 131st Synod.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #10** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the minutes of the 130th meeting of the Synod of British Columbia, as circulated, be approved.

**Carried**

## **Election of New Moderator**

It was the responsibility of the Presbytery of Kamloops to provide a nomination for the position of Moderator of Synod for the coming year.

**Recommendation #11** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that Mrs. Margaret Peacock be nominated for the position of Moderator of the 131st Synod for the year 2023-2024.

**Carried**

The court paused briefly to allow for the Installation of the New Moderator. After Mrs. Peacock had voiced her vows, the outgoing Moderator, Rev. Alfred Lee took a few minutes to thank the court for the opportunity to serve the church in this capacity.

The remainder of the business then continued.

## **Future Synods**

The responsibility of future Synods continues to be an ongoing topic of conversation. We continue to work through motions made in previous years to adjust the location of Synod, in what was supposed to be a three year initiative to provide recognized speakers and programs. In the post-COVID world, the church is discovering that priorities are now changed. As such, the Synod still recognizes the following rotation of hosting responsibilities.

*2024: Vancouver Island  
2025: Kootenay (for Westminster)*

The Synod Executive discussed at length the continued need for a Synod Planning Team. It was decided that the input of such a group remained valuable for the Executive in helping to plan meaningful conferences with timely speakers.

**Recommendation #12** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the presbyteries, in the above order, be asked to supply the names of host congregations.

**Carried**

## Life and Mission Agency Funding

Regional Resource Funds continued to be used in modest fashion this past year. This year, recipients of grants were:

*Camp Douglas Worship Leader (Westminster)  
Happy Conference for Spouses (Western Han-Ca)  
Presbytery Retreat (Vancouver Island)*

The full grant amount for the Synod of British Columbia for 2024 is \$61,000. It is hoped that each Presbytery would take the opportunity to use these funds to further the work in their region. Please Note:

- 1) The application form requires:
  - a. A narrative of the project
  - b. Proposed budget
  - c. Presbytery support
- 2) The Life and Mission Agency makes the final approval of projects.
- 3) Projects must be educational in nature.
- 4) Projects must offer learning opportunities for more than one congregation.

**Recommendation #13** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that the Life and Mission Agency funds through the Regional Resourcing Grant for the Synod be allotted among the FIVE (5) presbyteries equally an amount of \$10,000 AND the remaining \$11,000 for Synod Planning for the year 2024.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #14** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by T. Charlton,

1. That the Clerks of presbyteries be given Power to Issue to apply for this grant directly through the PCC website "Grants" page as projects are approved within each presbytery.
2. That the presbyteries be strongly urged to have their submissions for Life and Mission Agency funding to the Grant Review Committee by June 30th 2024.
3. That the Clerks of Presbyteries copy applications to the Clerk of Synod for the Synod Executive's information.
4. That each Presbytery bring a presentation of each grant to the Open House at the 132nd Synod of British Columbia.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #15** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that after July 1st 2024, any Regional Resourcing Grant funds that are not already allocated to projects/event be made available to any submitted project within the Synod of B.C.

**Carried**

## Synod Grants

The Synod reviewed several grant applications over the year, both for ongoing projects and new applications. The list of available resources and their Terms of Reference can be found on the Synod Website. The court is reminded that the Synod Executive considers applications at each of its meetings. Like the Regional Resource Grant Applications, Synod Grant Applications require:

- a) A Narrative of the project
- b) A proposed Budget
- c) Presbytery Approval



Grants approved by the Synod Executive this year were:

Ongoing Projects – Jack Smith Fund  
Korean Campus Ministry – \$2500  
Simon Fraser Campus Ministry – \$1800

New Projects – Jack Smith Fund  
Abbotsford Korean – \$20,000 [Building Upgrades/Repairs]  
Knox Vernon – \$4500 [Lighting Upgrades]

Emergency Support – St. Denis Fund  
Korean Presbyterian Church, Edmonton – \$6000

## **Synod Dues For 2024**

The Synod Executive appreciated the work of the court at last year's meeting to settle on a flat rate for each congregation. It is suggested that the same rate be applied for the upcoming year. A reminder to the court that if a congregation is in financial distress, they can apply to the Synod Executive for a reprieve or review of their fee.

**Recommendation #16** – Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Robertson that Synod Dues for 2024 be a flat rate of \$100/congregation.

***Carried***

## **Synod Loans**

Synod is able to offer congregations and ministries loans with agreeable terms and conditions. The current policy on repayment of Synod loans is as follows.

1. Loans received prior to December 31, 2020 to be re-paid with a yearly amount of \$500 (minimum) + 1% of the outstanding amount.
2. Loans received after January 1, 2021 to be re-paid with a yearly amount of \$1000 (minimum) + 1% of the outstanding amount.

This past year, the Synod Executive provided the following loan:

*Abbotsford Korean – \$20,000 (Ongoing Repairs)*

It came to the Synod Executive's Attention that Surrey Korean is currently undergoing significant financial distress. After discussion it was proposed that outstanding loan payments be suspended for a THREE year period (interest + principal) with a reassessment to be completed after that time.

## **Financial Management & Budget for 2024**

The Synod finances continue to be in a healthy position, supported by the ongoing work of Mrs. Annette Pardais, and the long-range planning of RBC Dominion Securities.

**Recommendation #17** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that the Synod Financial Manager's Report be received and considered.

***Carried***

**Recommendation # 18** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that Ms. Annette Pardais be appointed Synod Financial Manager for a one-year term.

***Carried***



**Recommendation #19** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that Mrs. Nancy Farran, of RBC Dominion Securities, continue for one year, as Synod Investment Advisor.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #20** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that the Budget for 2024 be received and considered. The budget is located on Page 15.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #21** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Budget for 2024 be approved with amendments the condition that the Executive review the Jack Smith allocations for 2024.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #22** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that Ms. Annette Pardais be offered thanks for her continued diligence with managing the financial accounts of the Synod.

**Carried**

**Recommendation #23** Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Robertson, to approve the Financial Manager's Report.

**Carried**

## **New Business**

At last year's Business Meeting, a Notice of Motion was moved by Roy Napier and seconded by Laura Kavanagh that the Executive review expense allocations at their January 2023 meeting. At the meeting, updating the expense rates was discussed.

**Recommendation #24** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Robertson, that the following rates be updated on the Expense Sheet, and these changes be reflected in the Standing Orders.

Milage rate: Increased to 0.50 cents/km

Passenger rate: Increase to 0.25cents/km

Breakfast: \$15.00

Lunch: \$25.00

Dinner: \$40.00

**Carried**

Further discussion ensued and the following amendment was made:

**Recommendation #24(b)** Moved by Steve Filyk and seconded by Martin Baxter that the mileage and passenger rates reflect the CRA accepted rate for the year and that these changes be reflected in the Expense Sheet and Standing Orders of the Synod.

**Carried**

In combination with updating the expenses in the Standing Orders, it became apparent to the Executive that the Standing Orders as a whole are overdue for a review, with a view that they would be a more useful set of Terms of Reference in this Post-COVID reality.

**Recommendation #25** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Robertson, that the Synod Executive work through the existing Standing Orders and prepare a proposed draft of Updated Standing Orders at the next Synod Business Meeting.

**Withdrawn**

***A Notice of Motion was given that the Synod Executive would review the Standing Orders over 2024 and provide a proposed update of the Standing Orders at the next meeting of the Synod.***

### **Notice of Motion [Discussion]**

The court then opened up the floor to discuss the ways and means to facilitate more meaningful conferences with greater participation. It was noted that:

- 2022 – 35% participation
- 2023 – 25 % participation

Some of the ideas shared were:

- Mid-week verses weekend conference
- Commissioner system
- Make pulpit supply easier
- Provide prepared worship service for Elders
- Responsibility to attend
- Some business on the Friday evening to allow for time to reflect on budget (as per the Standing Orders)

The Synod Executive invited thoughts from the Presbyteries to be forwarded to the Synod Executive for discussion at the January 2024 meeting.

### **Final Recommendations**

The Synod Executive will continue the work of the Court beyond this meeting. Their next planned meeting is in late January 2024, so those with correspondence or grant requests are encouraged to submit their information or requests by January 15, 2024, in order to ensure they are placed on the agenda.

**Recommendation #26** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the thanks be extended to Calvin Presbyterian for hosting the Synod this year and to Abbotsford Korean Church for their hospitality at lunch on Saturday.

***Carried***

**Recommendation #27** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Committee to Examine Records reports the following:

- i. Presbytery of Westminster – Neatly and Correctly Kept
- ii. Presbytery of Kamloops – Neatly and Correctly Kept
- iii. Presbytery of Vancouver Island – Not Submitted
- iv. Kootenay Presbytery – Neatly and Correctly Kept
- v. Presbytery of Western Han-Ca – Not Submitted

***Carried***

**Recommendation # 28** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood that the Report of the Synod Executive be adopted and that any unfinished business of the 131st Synod of BC be referred to the Executive of the Synod with power to issue.

***Carried***

**Recommendation # 29** Moved by R. Napier, seconded by P. Eastwood, that the Synod of B.C. rise with the Benediction of worship on Sunday, October 15, 2023, to resume business again at the 132nd Synod of BC at a date and time and place to be confirmed by the Synod Executive.

***Carried***

Following the close of business, commissioners were invited to make the short drive to the Abbotsford Korean Church for lunch. This congregation has recently finished significant upgrades to their building and as a 'thank-you' to the Synod for their financial assistance, the congregation wished to show and share these improvements with the court.

After lunch an education segment was led by Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart, along with other activities that had been arranged by the Synod Executive, for the purpose of training, socializing, and encouraging respite and care of one another. At the end of this casual afternoon. The day ended with a formal banquet, hosted by the congregation of Abbotsford Presbyterian Church in their hall.

## **Sunday, October 14, 2024**

The final day of the annual Synod gathering was a coming together of the congregation of Calvin Presbyterian Church and the remaining commissioners. Communion was served. At the benediction of the service, the Synod for 2023 was declared finished. Commissioners returned home at their leisure throughout the afternoon.



Uplift 2024 Youth Event



# ATTENDANCE

Meridyth Robertson  
Roy Napier  
Laura Kavanagh  
Alfred Lee  
Margaret Peacock  
John T. Hanna  
Anne Krauss  
Thomas Kim  
Gavin Robertson  
Dale Woods  
Doo Je Kim  
Faith Furlong  
Curtis Bablitz  
Beverley Shepansky  
Ross Lockhart  
Paddy Eastwood  
Irwin Cunningham  
Steven Filyk  
Mary Moore  
Marion Hannaford

Emily Wilson  
Teresa Charlton  
Sharon New  
Willem van de Wall  
Geof Jay  
Gordon Shields  
Isobel Evans  
Ken Selwell  
Diane Cunningham  
Lydia Bae  
Martin Baxter  
Laurie McKay

## Online

Curtis Wilson  
Annette Pardais  
Jen Geddes  
Norma Ashcroft



## Uplift 2024 Youth Event





# 2023 FINANCIALS



## SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

### BALANCE SHEET

	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
RBC Community Account	15,622	14,773
RBC Dominion Securities	773,813	908,925
	<u>789,435</u>	<u>923,698</u>
Loans Receivable		
Abbotsford Korean PC	30,000	-
Central PC, Vancouver	6,343	6,343
St. Paul's PC	-	4,675
St. Aidan's PC	12,860	14,000
Surrey Korean PC	13,033	13,033
Trinity PC - Campbell River	-	4,500
	<u>62,236</u>	<u>42,551</u>
Funds Held in Trust		
Estate of Jack Smith	612,202	753,651
	<u>612,202</u>	<u>753,651</u>
Total Assets	<u>1,463,873</u>	<u>1,719,900</u>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets		
Opening balance	1,719,900	1,540,530
Excess of receipts over disbursements	(256,027)	179,370
Ending balance	<u>1,463,873</u>	<u>1,719,900</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>1,463,873</u>	<u>1,719,900</u>

# **SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

## **STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Assessments		
Kamloops Presbytery	800	800
Kootenays Presbytery	610	-
Vancouver Island Presbytery	-	1,100
Western Han Ca Presbytery	1,638	1,300
Westminster Presbytery	2,700	2,700
	<u>5,748</u>	<u>5,900</u>
Synod Registration	1,567	-
Loan interest, net	1,395	1,570
Jack Smith Fund - Earnings /(Loss)	(2,971)	38,902
RBC Investments		
Interest	1,264	1,580
Dividends	7,767	7,680
Other	12,129	23,876
	<u>26,899</u>	<u>79,508</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Bank charges	101	99
Executive meetings	897	186
Grants	43,300	18,300
Honorarium		
Clerk	5,000	5,000
Investment costs	8,371	9,005
Liability insurance	1,746	1,304
Synod expenses		
Administrative	2,668	-
Catering	704	-
Travel	8,690	-
Office expense	70	198
	<u>71,547</u>	<u>34,092</u>
Excess of receipts over disbursements before the undernoted	<b>(44,648)</b>	<b>45,416</b>
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments		
Jack Smith Fund	(108,478)	40,054
RBC Investments	(102,901)	93,900
	<u>(211,379)</u>	<u>133,954</u>
Excess of receipts over disbursements	<b>(256,027)</b>	<b>179,370</b>

SYNOD OF B.C.  
2024 Budget with 2023 Comparison and 2022 Actual  
FINAL - For Approval

RATE		\$1.00	\$100.00		\$100.00	
YEAR		2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET		2024 BUDGET	
	Members		Congregations		Congregations	
	(2020 base)		(2021 base)		(2021 base)	
	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
<b>Presbytery Assessments</b>						
Kamloops	457	800	8	775	8	765
Kootenay- paid late	155	610	5	395	5	390
Vancouver Island	997	0	11	1,100	11	1,100
Western Han-Ca	1,638	1,638	13	1,300	13	1,265
Westminster	2,195	2,700	27	2,480	27	2,370
Total Assessments	5,442	5,748	64	6,050	64	5,890
Transfer to / from Reserve		0		0		20,000
		5,748		6,050		25,890
<b>Other Income</b>						
Synod Registrations		1,567		2,500		2,500
Loan Principal & Interest		1,395		500		500
Jack Smith Fund		(2,971)		30,000		20,000
<b>RBC Income:</b>						
Interest		1,264		1,000		1,000
Dividends		7,767		7,500		7,500
Capital gains		0		0		0
Other		12,129		10,000		10,000
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<u>26,899</u>		<u>57,550</u>		<u>67,390</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>						
<b>Synod Meeting</b>						
Administrative & promotional		2,668		2,500		2,000
Catering		704		3,000		1,500
Honoraria		0		2,500		2,500
Travel		8,690		20,000		10,000
<b>Administration</b>						
Bank Charges		101		300		300
Clerk's Honorarium		5,000		5,000		5,000
Executive Meetings & Travel		897		500		500
Investment Fees		8,371		9,000		9,000
Liability Insurance		1,746		1,500		1,500
Office supplies and postage		70		150		150
<b>Travel</b>						
Other		0		0		0
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<u>28,247</u>		<u>44,450</u>		<u>32,450</u>
<b>Grants &amp; Loans</b>						
Canada Youth Conference		0		0		0
Inter Faith Centre		1,800		1,800		1,800
Korean Campus Ministry		2,500		2,500		2,500
<b>Jack Smith Fund</b>						
Abbotsford Korean PC		20,000		0		20,000
Brentwood Presbyterian		5,000		0		0
Edmonton Korean PC		6,000		0		0
Knox Vernon PC		0		0		4,500
Tlichio Christian		8,000		8,000		0
Western Han Ca		0		0		6,000
		<u>43,300</u>		<u>12,300</u>		<u>34,800</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<u>71,547</u>		<u>56,750</u>		<u>67,250</u>
<b>EXCESS, RECEIPTS LESS DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<u>(44,648)</u>		<u>800</u>		<u>140</u>



# **The Synod of British Columbia**

## **Standing Orders**

*Updated October 2024*

### **Preamble**

The Synod of British Columbia was created by action of the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and is governed by the Book of Forms, particularly Chapter VII.

The procedures for conducting its business are those of the General Rules for Church Courts found in Chapter II of the Book of Forms. Section 271 of the Book of Forms states: "A Synod has full power to fix its own standing orders, and to arrange its business from time to time as seems best to the court."

The Synod of British Columbia shall be conducted under structural and procedural policies as described below.

### **Executive Committee Composition**

Moderator, (assumes Convenorship at the rising of the Synod)  
Moderator  
Clerk  
Synod Financial Manager/Treasurer  
Synodical President or Representative  
A Representative Appointed by Each Presbytery

### **Responsibilities**

- Plans Synods that are meaningful, worshipful, educational, and promotes unity.
- Supports, oversees, and conducts the business of the Synod of BC between the Annual Meetings of Synod.
- Brings to the Synod any reports and or recommendations.
- Reviews the preliminary budget for the Synod.
- Review and/or approve requests for grants/loans.
- Ensures a service of worship for Lay-Leadership is prepared annually for use within our Synod.
- Meets at least twice annually.

### **Responsibilities at Synod**

- Arrange for the review of Presbytery Minutes.
- Arrange for expressions of gratitude.



## Nominating Committee

### Composition

Past Moderator, (Convenor)  
Moderator  
Clerk



### Responsibilities

- Brings forward nominations for the following positions:
    - Moderator
    - Clerk
    - Financial Manager
    - Investment Advisor
    - Auditor
  - Reports to Synod through Synod Executive Report
  - Any other nominations as required or requested.
- 

## Standing Orders

1. The regular meeting of the Synod of British Columbia will normally shall be held over the third weekend in October. The first session will normally include the installation of the Moderator, and presentation of the budget, concluding with a service of worship. A service of worship preferably including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will conclude the Synod.
2. The Synod normally meets every other year within the bounds of The Presbytery of Westminster, and in the other presbyteries of the Synod in rotation: The Presbytery of Vancouver Island, The Presbytery of Kamloops, the Presbytery of Kootenay, The Presbytery of Western Han-Ca.
3. The election of the Moderator will take place at the opening session of the Court. The Nominee for Moderator shall be from the Presbyteries in rotation. (i.e. The Presbytery of Vancouver Island, The Presbytery of Westminster, The Presbytery of Kamloops, The Presbytery of Kootenay, The Presbytery of Western Han-Ca). Nominations for Moderator may also be made from the floor of the meeting.
4. The Synod Executive shall organize the business of the court so that the Executive Committee Report is presented at the first session of the meeting. At the second session, sufficient time will be given for consideration of the report and its recommendations.

5. The report of the Financial Manager/Treasurer must be submitted the Clerk, for review and ready for circulation, fifteen (15) days before the opening of Synod.
6. The report of the Nominating Committee must be submitted to the Clerk, and ready for circulation, fifteen (15) days before the opening of Synod.
7. Matters requiring a financial commitment from the Synod must be received by August 15th, for review by the Synod Financial Manager and then by the Executive.
8. Verbal reports and reports from committees not printed in advance will be received only with the permission of the court. Motion to receive such reports must be made at the opening session prior to the adoption of the docket.
9. The Rolls and Minutes of the Presbyteries are to be submitted to the Clerk prior to the start of Synod.
10. The Clerk should be notified 15 days prior to the date of the opening of the Synod meeting of any guest who will be invited to speak during the meeting.
11. Referrals from the General Assembly will be examined by the Synod Executive for report to the second session of the meeting. Response to any referrals from the General Assembly will be presented by the Synod Executive for approval by the Synod. These responses will be included in the report of the Executive Committee.
12. The program for Synod and associated costs is the responsibility of the Synod.
13. Reasonable travel costs to attend Synod will be reimbursed according to Standing Orders.
14. Travel cost by car will be reimbursed based on the current year CRA Guidelines.
15. The Clerk's Honorarium will to be adjusted yearly by the PCC-COLA.







With Thanks to Canada Ministries for their Financial Support of this  
Synod Conference Through a Regional Resource Grant