

OCTOBER 17-19, 2025

Synod of British Columbia

133rd Annual Business Meeting and Conference



Hosted by Knox Presbyterian, Cranbrook
Trickle Creek Resort, Kimberley, BC

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PLEASE NOTE:



Kimberley runs on MCT (Mountain Central Time). Turn your watch ahead one hour for your stay!



*The wifi code for your stay at Trickle Creek is: **trickle5175***



*If you need assistance during your stay, please text or call the Clerk at **250-307-2127***



WELCOME

Mission & Jazz Merge in the Mountains

Dr. Mark Glanville is the Director of the Centre for Missional Leadership at St. Andrews Hall. Mark trains church leaders for post-Christian contexts using biblical scholarship and jazz piano.

Through a variety of lenses, Mark shows how the Bible is forming churches that extend the tenderness of Jesus in their particular neighbourhood. Mark's life goal is to research, teach, write, speak, and play music to nourish Christian leaders to creatively reimagine what the church can be and do in post-Christian societies, with the Bible in our hands.



Based out of Vancouver, Canada, Thad is a prolific instrumentalist, composer, and music educator. His career as a performing artist has led to his versatility in numerous styles of music, including but not limited to: jazz, avante-garde, classical, R&B, soul, pop, rock, hip-hop, and Latin music.

In addition, Thad pursues composition and improvisation as deep-seated passions to which he aims to impart on his students. He holds a Bachelors Degree with Honors in Jazz Studies from Capilano University.



INCOMING MODERATOR

Rev. Curtis Bablitz

*Richmond Presbyterian Church
Presbytery of Westminster*

Curtis grew up in the Lower Mainland and spent many years working at Camp Douglas in Roberts Creek, BC. He graduated from VST in 2011 with an MDiv with Honours in Homiletics. He served for 12 years as minister of Brant Hills Presbyterian Church in Burlington, Ontario before coming to RPC in 2023. He loves preaching and teaching, as well as playing video games and board games and cheering for the Vancouver Canucks. His wife Johanna is an elementary school teacher and they have two children



Synod Executive

Moderator - Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart

Clerk - Rev. Dr. Teresa Charlton

Presbytery of Westminster - Rev. Geof Jay

Kootenay Presbytery - Rev. Gavin Roberston

Presbytery of Kamloops - Rev. Dr. Teresa Charlton

Presbytery of Western Han-Ca - Rev. Sungill Choi

Presbytery of Vancouver Island - Mr. Roy Napier





PROGRAM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025

FROM 4:00 PM GATHERING, REGISTRATION
6:00 PM APPETIZERS @ BUCKHORN & MAIN
7:00 PM SEDERUNT # 1 & BUDGET PRESENTATION
7:30 BREAK FOR APPETIZERS
7:45 PM WORSHIP & INDUCTION
8:15 PM JAZZ MEDITATION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025

8:00 AM BREAKFAST @ BUCKHORN & MAIN
9:00 AM MORNING DEVOTIONAL - PURCELL BOARDROOM
9:30 AM WORKSHOP # 1 - PURCELL BOARDROOM
10:30 AM COFFEE BREAK
10:50 AM SEDERUNT # 2 - PURCELL BOARDROOM
12:15 PM LUNCH @ BUCKHORN & MAIN
1:15 PM WORKSHOP # 2 - PURCELL BOARDROOM
2:15 PM AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES
• WALK-A-BOUT IN KIMBERLEY
• INFORMAL LECTURE – PREACHING FOR BEGINNERS
4:30 PM OLD FASHIONED HYMN SING - PURCELL BOARDROOM
5:30 PM BANQUET WITH FRIENDS @BUCKHORN & MAIN
7:30 PM JAZZ BAR EVENING & FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025

8:00 AM LIGHT BREAKFAST - BUCKHORN & MAIN
• CLOSING MEDITATION & COMMUNION
9:15 AM DEPARTURE





KEN DAHL, ELDER
ST. GILES, PRINCE GEORGE

SABINE TEETZEL, FORMER CLERK OF SESSION
ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN, VICTORIA

KELLY PATRICK, CLERK OF SESSION, REP ELDER
WESTPOINT GREY, VANCOUVER

HAROLD CRAWLEY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN, TRAIL

MEMORIAL MOMENT

2025 BUSINESS MEETING

First Sederunt - Friday, October 17, 2025

As the 133rd Meeting of the Synod of British Columbia gets underway, the following motions are presented:

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

Recommendation #2 Moved by G. Jay, 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 G. Jay, that Ms. Annette Pardais (Synod Financial Manager) be permitted to sit and correspond.

Recommendation #5 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Jay, 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 #6 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Jay, that the Docket as printed be the Order of Business for the 133rd Synod of B.C.



2025 BUSINESS MEETING

In previous years, the Synod has found discrepancies between the statistical information provided in the Acts & Proceedings and the current status of congregations within the Presbyteries. It has become our habit to ask the Clerks of each presbytery to provide current information just prior to our annual meeting, to assist with budget calculations.

As of October 1, 2025, the five presbyteries have reported the following information:

Presbytery	Active Ministers	Elder Representatives	Active Congregations
Westminster	24	24	24
Western Han-Ca	9	9	10*
Kamloops	7	7	6
Kootenay	4	14	5
Vancouver Island	8	12	11

*Based on draft 2025 Acts & Proceedings Statistical Report as no information provided.

Recommendation #6 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Jay, 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 G. Jay, that those reports to Synod, not appearing on the Docket and not having specific recommendations, be received and appended to the Minutes of the 133rd Synod.

Recommendation #8 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Jay, that the minutes of the 132nd meeting of the Synod of British Columbia, as circulated, be approved.

Election of New Moderator

Recommendation #9 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Jay, that Rev. Curtis Bablitz be nominated for the position of Moderator of the 133rd Synod for the year 2025-2026.

Presentation of the Budget

Recommendation #10 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that the Budget for 2026 be received and considered.

The court will now have a time of worship including the installation of the new Moderator of the Synod, followed by a meditation from our guest speaker.

2025 BUSINESS MEETING

Second Sederunt - Saturday, October 18, 2025

Future Synods

Arranging for the annual Synod Meeting and Conference continues to be an ever changing landscape, as the availability of both churches and volunteers to host are in shorter supply than in the past. The Synod Executive recognizes the limitations of both congregations and presbyteries in hosting such events, and is dedicated to working with those interested in hosting in creative ways that do not overburden.

We continue to try to rotate the location of Synod each year, to ensure all the presbyteries take a turn. It continues to be our habit to alternate every other year between the Lower Mainland and another location.

The following Presbyteries are indicated as upcoming hosts for Synod.

2026: Westminster
2027: Western Han-Ca
2028: Westminster

Recommendation #11 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Jay, that the presbyteries, in the above order, be asked to supply the names of host congregations.

Regional Resource Funds

Our Synod continues to make good use of the Regional Resource Funds supplied by the Canadian and Congregational Ministries department (formerly Canada Ministries). Here is how our Synod used these funds in 2025.

Presbytery Retreat (Kamloops) - \$10,000
Camp Douglas (Westminster) - \$7,000
Presbytery Retreat (Western Han-Ca) - \$12,000
Presbytery Retreat (Vancouver Island) - \$6,000
Women's Retreat (Vancouver Island) - \$4,000
Synod Business Meeting (Including Kootenay) - \$21,000

The total grant for the Synod of British Columbia in 2026 is once again, \$61,000.

While the Synod continues to play a reporting role in the Regional Resource Grant approval, the application process now takes place online, and is submitted to our national office.

2025 BUSINESS MEETING

The Terms of Reference for these grants are as follows:

1) The Application Form

- A narrative of the project
- Proposed budget
- Presbytery support

2) Projects must be educational in nature.

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

4) Projects outcomes must be reported to Canadian and Community Ministries, and the Synod of British Columbia in time for the annual meeting.

Recommendation #12 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 2026.

Recommendation #13 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 2026.

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 133rd Synod of British Columbia.

Recommendation #14 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that after July 1st 2026, 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 manages several funds which can provide grants to congregations and programs within its bounds. The Terms of Reference for these grants can be found at the back of this report, as well as on the Synod website under the tab, “Grants.” A report is required by the Synod explaining the outcomes of your projects. This year’s reports can also be found at the back of this report.

2025 BUSINESS MEETING

The application process for Synod Grants is similar to those for Regional Resource Grants.:

- A narrative of the project
- Proposed budget
- Presbytery support

Grants approved by the Synod Executive in 2025 were:

Ongoing Projects – Jack Smith Fund
Korean Campus Ministry – \$2,500 (Final Year)
Simon Fraser Campus Ministry - \$900 (Final Year)
Don't Go Hungry Program - \$5,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

New Projects - Jack Smith Fund
St. Andrew's Kamloops - Upgrades - \$10,000
Brentwood - New Chairs - \$3000
Saanich Peninsula - New Roof - \$10,000

New Project - Janet Thornburn Fund
St. Giles - Sound Panels - xxxxxxxx



Synod Dues for 2026

The Synod Executive is fully aware of the financial realities of managing congregations in the present day. As such, they have attempted to keep the dues modest to allow full participation. As always, though, the Synod looks with compassion on those congregations struggling financially, and offers an opportunity for those in need to discuss alternative fees.

Recommendation #15 – Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Robertson that Synod Dues for 2025 be a flat rate of \$150/congregation.

Synod Loans

This past year the Synod Executive looked closely at the outstanding loans on its books. The Executive continues to correspond with the respective parties. We are pleased to report that St. Aiden's paid their loan in full. Adjustments were made to the following loans:

Central Presbyterian - \$6,342 - Commuted to Grant
Surrey Korean - \$13,032 - Loan Forgiven

There remains one outstanding loan on the books:

Abbotsford Korean - \$50,000

2025 BUSINESS MEETING

The Synod continues to be willing 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.

Financial Management and 2026 Budget

The Synod Executive met with Mr. Justin Dyer, RBC Investment Advisor in September of 2025 to review our current portfolio. Mr. Dyer noted that our rate of return was positive, both with a short term and long term view: 8% return since January 2025, 11% return for 1 year, 8.8% for five years, and 7.7% for 10 years.

Our asset mix is currently at 78% equity based diversified with companies and geography, with the remaining 22% in bonds. He did not recommend any changes at this time.

Recommendation #16 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that the Synod Financial Manager's Report be received and considered.

Recommendation # 17 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that Ms. Annette Pardais be appointed Synod Financial Manager for a one-year term.

Recommendation #18 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that Justin Dyer, of RBC Dominion Securities, continue for one year, as Synod Investment Advisor.

The court will pause for questions regarding the budget

Recommendation #19 Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Jay, that the Budget for 2026 be approved.

Recommendation #20 Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Jay, that Ms. Annette Pardais be offered thanks for her continued diligence with managing the financial accounts of the Synod.

Recommendation #21 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by G. Robertson, to approve the Financial Manger's Report.

2025 BUSINESS MEETING

Special Committees

This past spring the Synod Executive made the difficult decision to forward TWO appeals to the General Assembly for consideration. The first involved an appeal from Rev. Inkyo Park and the second from Rev. Alfred Lee.

The General Assembly formed TWO Special Committees to assist the Synod with working through a favourable response. Members of these two committees have attended the last two Synod Executive meetings, offering support and suggestions along the way. This relationship will continue into the new year, with the Committees giving a report to next General Assembly and their outcomes.

General Assembly re Reference No. 1, 2025, the Rev. In Kyu Park and the Presbytery of Western Ha-Ca, be adopted as follows.

- 1. The Special Committee is established under the authority of the 2025 General Assembly and within its terms of reference.*
- 2. The procedures and actions of the Special Committee shall be consistent with the laws of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.*
- 3. The Special Committee shall be made up of five members of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, at least two whom shall be fluent in Korean and English.*
- 4. The Special Committee shall be empowered to review and comment on the process and procedures followed by the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca and the Synod of British Columbia in relation to the ministry of the Rev. In Kyu Park, the dissolution of Mr. Park's pastoral tie, and to advise the synod on appropriate action.*
- 5. The Special Committee shall review the Minimum Stipend and Allowance Schedule and the Policy for the Dissolution of Pastoral Ties with a view to ensuring the Synod of British Columbia is equipped to inform the Presbytery of Western-Han-Ca of its obligations to the Rev. In Kyu Park and to support the synod as it seeks to ensure these obligations are fulfilled.*
- 6. The Special Committee shall meet expeditiously to help the Synod of British Columbia bring these matters to a conclusion with due regard for the best interests of all concerned and for the peace and harmony of the Church of Jesus Christ.*
- 7. Reasonable expenses for the members of the Special Committee to carry out their work shall be reimbursed.*
- 8. The Special Committee shall report its action to the 2026 General Assembly and shall use, insofar as is possible and appropriate, the following framework: preamble, terms of reference, membership, procedures, and pastoral comment.*
- 9. The Special Committee shall be supported by the Rev. Victor Kim (Principal Clerk).
Special Committee of the 2025 General Assembly*



2025 BUSINESS MEETING

General Assembly re Reference No. 2, 2025, the Rev. Alfred Lee and Presbytery of Western Ha-Ca, be adopted as follows

- 1. The Special Committee is established under the authority of the 2025 General Assembly and within its terms of reference.*
- 2. The procedures and actions of the Special Committee shall be consistent with the laws of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.*
- 3. The Special Committee shall be made up of three to five members of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, at least two whom shall be fluent in Korean and English.*
- 4. The Special Committee shall be named assessors to the Synod of British Columbia with voice and vote on matters related to the work of the Special Committee.*
- 5. The Special Committee shall be empowered to assist the Synod of British Columbia in its oversight of the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca.*
- 6. The Special Committee will consult with the Intercultural Liaison and the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly.*
- 7. The Special Committee shall meet expeditiously.*
- 8. Reasonable expenses for the members of the Special Committee to carry out their work shall be reimbursed.*
- 9. The Special Committee shall report its action to the 2026 General Assembly.*
- 10. The Special Committee shall be supported by the Principal Clerk, the Rev. Victor Kim.*

Recommendation #22 Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Robertson, that the a Special Honorarium be provided to the Clerk in the amount of 50% annual honorarium to compensate for the additional work with the Special Committees. This arrangement to continue only for the duration of the Special Committees.

Recommendation #23 Moved by T. Charlton and seconded by G. Robertson, that members of the Synod Executive plan a visit to each of the FIVE Presbyteries within the bounds before May 2026.

NOTICE OF MOTION

The Synod Executive gives notice that, at a future meeting of Synod, the Clerk will move or caused to be moved, that the Standing Orders of the Synod of British Columbia be reconsidered.

Final Recommendations

The Synod Executive will continue the work of the Court beyond this meeting. Their next planned meeting is in late January 2026, so those with correspondence or grant requests are encouraged to submit their information or requests by January 15, 2026, in order to ensure they are placed on the agenda.

Recommendation #24 Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Jay, that the thanks be extended to Knox Cranbrook, Rev. Jan-Hendrik du Plessis and the many helping hands who made this event possible.

2025 BUSINESS MEETING

Recommendation #25 Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Jay, 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 # 26 Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Jay that the Report of the Synod Executive be adopted and that any unfinished business of the 133rd Synod of BC be referred to the Executive of the Synod with power to issue.

Recommendation # 27 Moved by R. Napier, seconded by G. Jay, that the Synod of B.C. rise with the Benediction of worship on Sunday, October 19, 2025, to resume business again at the 134th Synod of BC on October 16, 2026.

Third Sederunt - Sunday, October 19, 2025

We welcome you to a time of breakfast and worship including communion with members of the Cranbrook and Kimberley congregations.



2024 FINANCIAL REPORTS

SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA BALANCE SHEET

	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
	Assets	
RBC Community Account	5,837	13,805
RBC Dominion Securities	891,460	789,731
	<u>897,297</u>	<u>803,536</u>
Loans Receivable		
Abbotsford Korean PC	50,000	30,000
Central PC, Vancouver	6,343	6,343
St. Aidan's PC	12,860	12,860
Surrey Korean PC	13,033	13,033
	<u>82,236</u>	<u>62,236</u>
Funds Held in Trust		
Estate of Jack Smith	808,251	685,678
	<u>808,251</u>	<u>685,678</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>1,787,784</u></u>	<u><u>1,551,450</u></u>
	Liabilities and Equity	
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Equity		
Opening balance	1,571,450	1,463,873
Current year income	216,334	107,577
Ending balance	<u>1,787,784</u>	<u>1,571,450</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u><u>1,787,784</u></u>	<u><u>1,571,450</u></u>

FINANCIAL REPORTS

SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
RECEIPTS		
Assessments		
Kamloops Presbytery	-	700
Kootenays Presbytery	500	500
Vancouver Island Presbytery	2,200	1,100
Western Han Ca Presbytery	-	-
Westminster Presbytery	2,500	2,700
	<u>5,200</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Synod Registration	945	1,304
Loan interest, net	-	650
Jack Smith Fund		
Earnings	3,759	21,472
RBC Investments		
Interest	78	54
Dividends	7,894	7,745
Other	21,951	15,506
Other income - Regional Grant	21,000	9,000
	<u>60,827</u>	<u>60,731</u>
DISBURSEMENTS		
Bank charges	105	147
Executive meetings	5,041	1,458
Grants	28,400	34,800
Honorarium - Clerk	3,200	5,000
Investment costs	8,957	8,090
Liability insurance	-	1,729
Synod expenses		
Administrative	1,700	4,931
Catering	3,739	2,586
Travel	12,928	7,119
Office expense	-	-
	<u>64,070</u>	<u>65,860</u>
Excess of receipts over disbursements	(3,243)	(5,129)
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments		
Jack Smith Fund	118,814	52,004
RBC Investments	100,763	60,702
	<u>219,577</u>	<u>112,706</u>
Excess of receipts over disbursements	216,334	107,577

2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

SYNOD OF B.C.
2026 Budget with 2025 Comparison and 2024 Actual
DRAFT

Budget 2026 DRAFT (2)

YEAR	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	Rate
	Members # (2023 base)	Congregations # (2023 base)	Congregations # (2023 base)	(\$150 per congregation)
	(\$ per member to a maximum of \$100 per congregation)	(\$ per member to a maximum of \$100 per congregation)	(\$ per member to a maximum of \$100 per congregation)	
RECEIPTS				
Presbytery Assessments				
Kamloops	346	7	6	900
Kootenay	137	5	5	750
Vancouver Island	863	11	11	1,650
Western Han-Ca	1,847	13	10	1,500
Westminster	1,862	25	24	3,600
Total Assessments	5,055	61	56	8,400
Transfer to / from Reserve	0	37,000	30,000	30,000
	5,200	42,725	38,400	
Other Income				
Synod Registrations	945	2,500	2,500	2,500
Loan Principal & Interest	0	500	500	500
Jack Smith Fund	3,759	20,000	20,000	20,000
RBC Income:				
Interest	78	100	100	100
Dividends	7,894	7,500	7,500	7,500
Other	21,951	0	0	0
Regional Resource Grant	21,000	7,500	11,000	11,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	60,827	80,825	80,000	
DISBURSEMENTS				
Synod Meeting	0			
Administrative & promotional	3,739	3,300	1,000	1,000
Catering	1,700	1,500	3,500	3,500
Honoraria	12,928	7,500	2,000	2,000
Travel			15,000	15,000
Administration				
Bank Charges	105	300	300	300
Clerk's Honorarium	3,200	6,150	6,150	6,150
Executive Meetings & Travel	5,041	500	500	500
Investment Fees	8,957	9,000	9,000	9,000
Liability Insurance	0	2,000	2,000	2,000
Office supplies and postage	0	100	100	100
Special Committees				
Proposed Visitations	0	0	2,000	2,000
Clerk's Special Honorarium (Special Committees)	0	0	3,075	3,075
Travel				
Other	0	100	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	35,670	33,950	44,625	

As reported by Clerks and
on the Draft 2024 Report



2024 MINUTES

Synod Business Meeting - October 18-20, 2024 Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church

Friday, October 18, 2024

Commissioners gathered for the 132nd meeting of the Synod of British Columbia on a very rainy Friday, October 18, 2024. Our host for the weekend was Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church. For those arriving early, appetizers from a spectacular table size charcuterie board were made available. Commissioners gathered in the sanctuary and the meeting began at 6:35PM. The outgoing moderator, Mrs. Margaret Peacock opened the meeting with prayer.

There were 43 individuals present, and 6 individuals sent regrets.

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 Committee to Examine Minutes be as follows:

Presbytery of Westminster – Marrion Hannaford, Faith Furlong
Presbytery of Kamloops – Bev. Shepansky, Emily Wilson
Presbytery of Vancouver Island – Gavin Robertson, Meridyth Robertson
Kootenay Presbytery- John Lee, Geof Jay
Western Han-Ca Presbytery – Not Received
Carried.

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.
Carried.

In 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.

Carried.

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.

Carried.

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.

Carried.

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.

Carried.

Election of New Moderator

It then came time to present the name of the moderator elect to the commissioners. Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart’s name was put forward with enthusiasm.

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.

Carried.

The outgoing moderator, Mrs. Margaret Peacock asked to speak for a few minutes. She offered her thanks to the Executive and to the Synod for the opportunity to lead in this capacity, as she would continue to support as past-moderator for the coming year.

Presentation of the 2025 Budget

At last year’s meeting, the court had been reminded that our Standing Orders state that the budget is to be presented to the court on the opening day of the meeting to allow time for consideration and reflection. On the second day of the meeting, further questions can be answered before a vote is taken.

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

Carried.

The court then adjourned for the evening. A time of worship began at 7PM. During the worship service, the following names were lifted up in memory of their work and service to the church respective congregations and the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

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

The outgoing moderator installed the new moderator near the close of the worship service. After a short break, the first guest speaker, Rev. Mitch Coggin from Trinity, Victoria presented the first “Tale of Transition.”

Mitch has trained and worked in the United States for much of his career, and brought to the audience a polished framework for using Adaptive Leadership strategies to assist a congregation rediscover its strengths, and then work towards establishing a new reality for the longevity of the congregation.

Following this first workshop, a social time began, with additional refreshments.

Saturday, October 19, 2025

Saturday began with a short devotional and worship time in the sanctuary. After a short break, our second guest speaker, Rev. Bruce Carnie presented a different “Tale of Transition.” Rev. Carnie challenged commissioners to consider a professional shift as another type of transition, expanding the skill set of ministers, chaplains and lay leaders from their existing roles. After a coffee break, the group gathered again to resume the business meeting.

Future Synods

The challenge of finding meaningful educational topics that are relevant to those in the congregations today is ever pressing on the Synod Executive. Challenges of attendance, increasing costs, lack of host churches and declining volunteers press heavily on the planning team. As always, new ideas are welcome. The moderator offered a prayer.

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.

Carried.

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.

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.

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 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 133rd Synod of British Columbia.

Carried.

Recommendation #15 Moved by T. Charlton, seconded by R. Napier, that after July 1st 2025, 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. 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



Synod Dues

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

Synod Loans

No new loans were applied for this past year. The current policy on repayment of Synod loans is as follows. The court reminded the Executive of the need to send out regular notices to encourage repayment.

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.

Financial Management

The Synod Executive Committee reported that they had met with Mr. Justin Dyer, RBC Investment Advisor, via zoom prior to the annual meeting. While the growth of the portfolio in the current financial climate was positive, Mr. Dyer had suggested some changes to the ratio of equities to bonds to better balance the overall outcome.

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 Justin Dyer, of RBC Dominion Securities, continue for one year, as Synod Investment Advisor.
Carried.

The Budget

Prior to the next motion, the court began to discuss details from the upcoming budget. Some of the items of significance:

- a) On the Balance Sheet, the Loans Receivable of Abbotsford and Abbotsford Korean Church, were in fact, two installments of one larger loan, both to Abbotsford Korean Church.
- b) On the Budget, to separate out the Grants from Loans to clearly indicate which was which
- c) That each Grant be required to write a small report outline their activity or program.
- d) There were questions from the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca about the work of the Interfaith Center at Simon Fraser University and the Korean Campus Ministry at UBC. The Executive deemed to clarify and report back to the Presbytery.

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

Carried.

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.

Carried.

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

Carried.

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.

Carried.

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

Carried.

Final Recommendations

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.

Carried.

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

Presbytery of Westminster - Neatly and Correctly Kept
Presbytery of Kamloops - Neatly and Correctly Kept
Presbytery of Vancouver Island - Attested With Notes
Kootenay Presbytery - Neatly and Correctly Kept
Western Han -Ca Presbytery - Not Received
Carried.

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.
Carried.

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 Friday, October 17, 2025.
Carried.

Following the business meeting, the court took a lunch break. Following lunch, we returned to listed to our third and final speaker, Rev. Dale Woods as he discussed the radical ways that the church is being changed by the world around it. People want different things from the church, and we must find ways to remain rooted in our faith, yet bring new traditions into view.

The atmospheric river which had been keeping everything wet all day continued, causing some problems with the planned afternoon activities. The trip to Butchart Gardens was substituted for some, by a trip to the Butterfly Sanctuary instead. Many chose to remain at the church and enjoy conversation and coffee.

An evening banquet cheered everyone's spirits, as commissioners enjoyed Michelin level cooking and fine service from volunteers at Saanich Peninsula.

Sunday, October 20, 2025

The Synod gathered together one last time on Sunday Morning, and joined the church family at Saanich Peninsula for worship. A traditional communion service was served before everyone said their farewells until next year.

And the rain stopped.



**SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
BALANCE SHEET**

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
	Assets	
RBC Community Account	13,805	15,622
RBC Dominion Securities	789,731	773,813
	803,536	789,435
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	-	-
	82,236	62,236
Funds Held in Trust		
Estate of Jack Smith	685,678	612,202
	1,571,450	1,463,873
Total Assets		
	Liabilities and Equity	
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	-	-
	-	-
Equity		
Opening balance	1,463,873	1,719,900
Current year income	107,577	(256,027)
Ending balance	1,571,450	1,463,873
Total Liabilities and Equity	1,571,450	1,463,873

SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

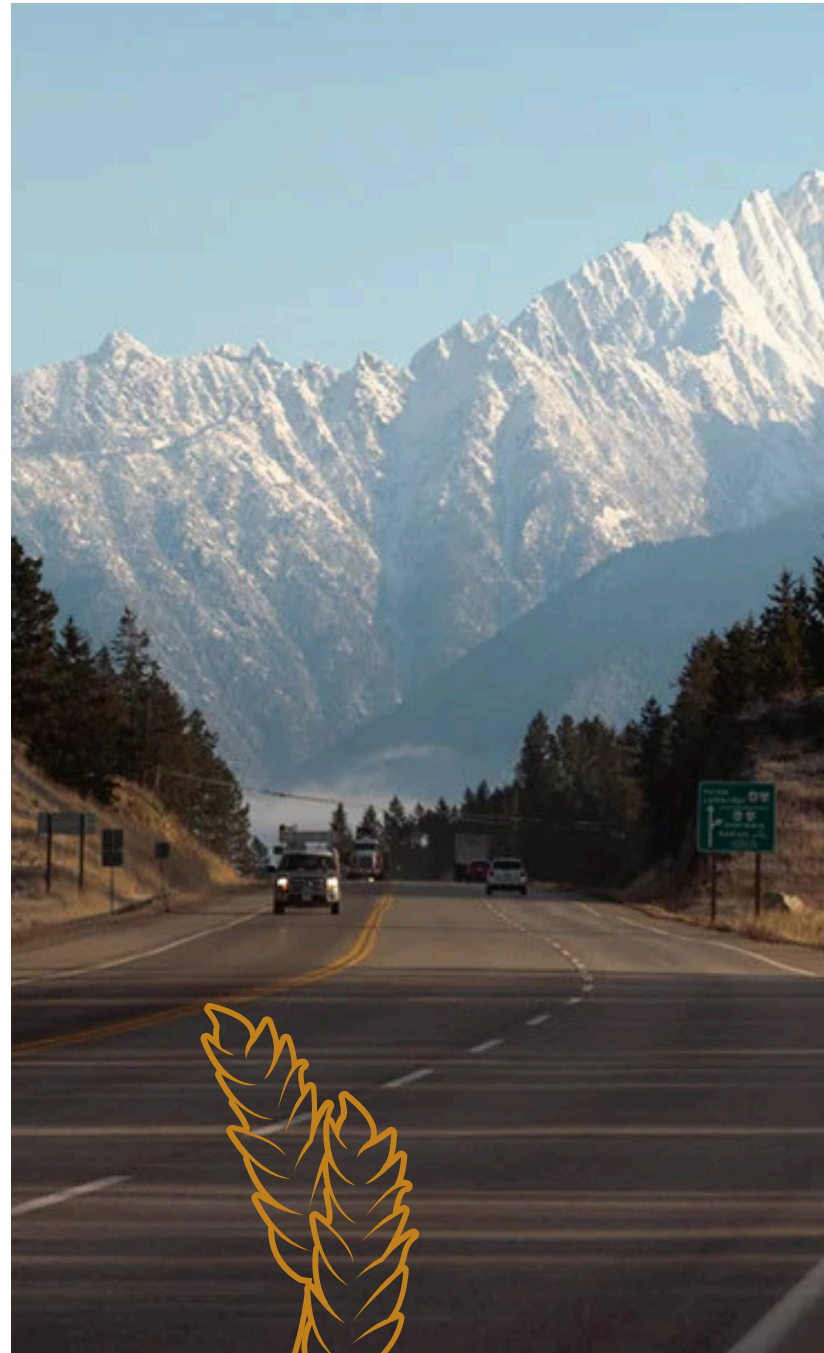
	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
RECEIPTS		
Assessments		
Kamloops Presbytery	700	800
Kootenays Presbytery	500	610
Vancouver Island Presbytery	1,100	-
Western Han Ca Presbytery	-	1,638
Westminster Presbytery	2,700	2,700
	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,748</u>
Synod Registration	1,304	1,567
Loan interest, net	650	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>
DISBURSEMENTS		
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)

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

RATE	\$100.00		\$100.00		\$100.00	
	2023 ACTUAL		2024 BUDGET		2025 BUDGET	
YEAR	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) \$
RECEIPTS						
Presbytery Assessments						
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
Other Income						
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
TOTAL RECEIPTS		60,731		68,390		80,825
DISBURSEMENTS						
Synod Meeting						
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
Administration						
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
Travel						
Other		0		0		100
TOTAL EXPENSES		31,060		33,450		33,950
Grants & Loans						
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
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		65,860		68,250		80,250
EXCESS, RECEIPTS LESS DISBURSEMENTS		(5,129)		140		575

2024 ATTENDANCE

Meridyth Robertson
Roy Napier
Laura Kavanagh
Alfred Lee
Anne Krauss
Vincent Tan
Gavin Robertson
Curtis Bablitz
Margaret Peacock
Laurel Gorman
Eleanor Shambrook
Marion Lade
Nehemia Neuhisa
Michelle Yoon
Mitch Coggin
Thomas Kim
Geof Jay
Steven Filyk
Curtis Wilson
Drew Clifton
Beverly Feiyk
Dale Woods
Faith Furlong
John Lee
Beverley Shepansky
Colin Cross
Dyane MacDonald
Lydia Bae
Teresa Charlton
Ross Lockhart
Paddy Eastwood
Laura Turnbull
Jennifer Geddes
Norma Ashcroft
Seongduk Nam
Mary Moore
Jeremy Bellsmith
Irwin Cunningham
Marion Hannaford
Emily Wilson
Stephen Bell
Paul Peacock
Wolfgang Struchtrup



REGIONAL RESOURCE GRANT REPORTS



Regional Resource Grants are supported by Canadian and Communities Ministries

ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

PRESBYTERY OF VANCOUVER ISLAND

Our Vancouver Island Women's committee welcomed 35 ladies from 5 of our Island Presbyterian churches for a weekend away in April 2025 at Camp Imadene located on beautiful Mesachie Lake. Our ladies ranged from 19-83 year old! What a gift to have so many ladies spanning decades to laugh and learn together.

We welcomed our guest speaker The Rev. Dr. Mona Scrivens from Pickering, Ontario who explored Holy Habits with us over 4 sessions from Friday evening to Sunday morning. Our ladies were given plenty of time to learn offering personal growth workshops, art activities or hiking in the afternoon.

The ladies enjoyed endless coffee/tea and snacks – delicious meal prepared for them with no dishes to be done. Having margins in their busy lives to retreat and relax was welcomed. Many enjoyed doing puzzles together, some kayaked or hot tubbed, others played pickle ball and some enjoyed the option to nap or read a good book. This retreat is a perfect time to meet new people, catch up with friends and grow in our faith. Thank you for your financial support that offsets the costs for our ladies –from university students to seniors on fixed income to not have a financial barrier to be able to attend.

Looking forward to our retreat in 2026!



CAMP DOUGLAS

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERY

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for your generous support in funding my position as Worship Director at Camp Douglas this past summer. As a first time employee at Camp Douglas, I was uncertain of what my role entailed and what was to be expected in this position. However, after completing just the first week I quickly understood how impactful and important the role of Worship Director was.

This summer, I saw campers deepen their relationships with God through the activities we held, such as our worship night 'JANT', our campfires, and our bible studies. It was incredible to witness campers grow their curiosity and interest in Christ throughout the days at camp. I recall a few occasions where campers approached me after our bible studies to ask more about Jesus, which was not only heartwarming but inspiring.

Ultimately, it was a tremendous experience to have taken on this role during the summer. Being able to witness growth in many young campers' faith, along with strengthening my own faith is an experience that will forever impact my life and it could not have been done without your thoughtful contribution.

Thank you so much again and God Bless.
Joséah Spooner



HARRISON HOT SPRINGS RETREAT

PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN HAN-CA (2024 REPORT)

The Elder Seminar of the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca was held at Harrison Hot Springs from November 18(Mon) to November 20(Wed) with the participation of 24 pastors and elders. This seminar was organized by the Ministry Committee and the Education-English Subcommittee under the theme: “The Church that God Dreams” (Ephesians 2:22). The seminar included two lectures, one recreation session, and a prayer meeting.

Seminar 1: “We Are Called” (Speaker: Rev. Heung Ryeol Han) In this session, participants explored the purpose of God’s calling for them as elders and pastors. The discussion focused on the biblical teachings and PCC constitutional guidelines regarding the roles of pastors and elders.

Seminar 2: “The Church of the Lord’s Love and Concerns” (Speaker: Rev. Chul Soon Park) This session provided an opportunity to share concerns about the church and discuss the qualities of a church being built together. Participants exchanged perspectives on the various challenges faced by churches today, shared experiences of difficulties encountered in ministry, and reflected on how God has resolved such issues in their lives.

Seminar 3: “We Pray” (Facilitator: Rev. Seongduk Nam) The seminar included a recreation session where participants enjoyed quizzes related to churches and their communities.

Following this, a time of confession and mutual forgiveness took place through the Sacrament of Communion. The session concluded with fervent prayers before God, seeking renewal and unity.

Despite the challenges faced by the various churches within the Presbytery of Western Han Ca, this seminar served as a meaningful time for participants to come together in unity and seek God’s help and guidance. We are grateful for the opportunity to report this fruitful gathering and humbly request continued prayers for the churches within our presbytery as we strive to build the church God dreams of.



“THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC”

PRESBYERY OF KAMLOOPS

The Presbytery of Kamloops welcomed around twenty five lay leaders to Silver Star Mountain in late June for three days of music, learning and leadership opportunities. Music leaders from congregations within the bounds were invited to lead workshops in their areas of expertise. In a short period of time, we were able to have meaningful discussion on the place and purpose of music inside and outside the worship experience.

Topics for discussion and singing were:

Choral Music

Hymn Playing

Instrumental Music in Worship

Use of Music for Social and Fundraising Activities

Of special interest was a training session with local handbell instructors. The leaders and their team brought with them, an entire set of bells, and after a few basic lessons, the groups was playing a passable version of “Joyful, Joyful.”

Thanks to the off season availability of the location, our group was able to wander the slopes, enjoy the majestic views, and a retreat like experience.

It was noted that this year, almost an entirely new group of participants signed up, with a great desire to strengthen lay leadership in their congregations. The Presbytery sees this a promising sign of growth and interest within our churches, and look to develop this further in coming years.



ANNUAL PRESBYTERY RETREAT

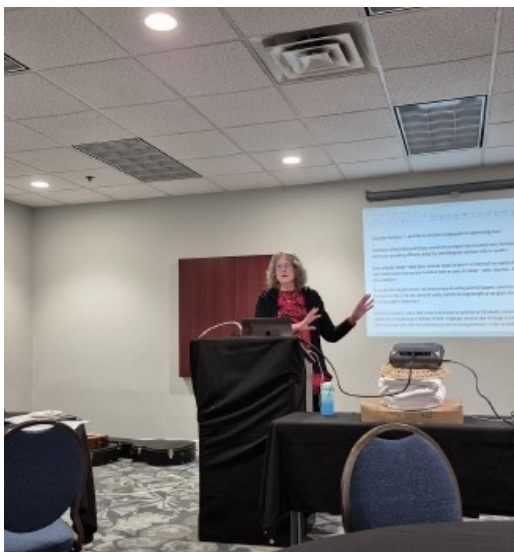
PRESBYTERY OF VANCOUVER ISLAND

On January 21, 2025, 24 members of the Vancouver Island Presbytery gathered at the Dorchester Inn, in Nanaimo, BC. The annual retreat has meant better fellowship and support amongst our Presbyters. This year we had the privilege of having the Moderator of the 149th General Assembly as our speaker.

The Rev. Dr. Pat Dutcher Walls led us in a Narratives of Hope and Possibility Workshop. This also helped us feel connected with the national church as this is a workshop she has led in many congregations, presbyteries and synods across the country. We have been given some new insights and hopes!

In the evening we had a “banquet” dinner followed by further fellowship. On January 22 the retreat continued with some business matters until we completed our time together just before lunch.

These retreats have really helped us think differently about missiology and missional work while also maintaining or developing deep connections with colleagues and friends within the Presbytery. Thank you to the Synod and the Regional Resourcing Grant for helping to fund this time together.



SYNOD GRANT REPORTS



Synod Grants can be a one time grant for a specific project, or a sustaining grant to support an ongoing program for a period of up to three years

“DON'T GO HUNGRY” PROGRAM

JACK SMITH SUSTAINING GRANT (YEAR 1 OF 3)

The Don't Go Hungry food security program of Trinity Presbyterian Church has undertaken a year of administrative, programmatic, and financial consolidation since our application to the Jack Smith Fund of the BC Synod last year. We remain very grateful for the support and encouragement the Synod has provided through the grant we received this past year. Financial support from the church, the local community and our growing group of donors has enabled DGH to continue to feed our neighbours through four grocery distribution sites and two home delivery programs in New Westminster and Burnaby.

This past year, the number of our neighbours fed remained consistently in the 1600 – 1800 range each week, with a few weeks pushing a high of almost 1900. We do notice that some clients stop coming to receive groceries (we hope because they are in a better financial situation), but in a time of inflation and economic uncertainty, there are always new families and individuals seeking food – sometimes as many as 20 new clients in a week. The items we offer include dry goods, bakery, dairy, deli, produce, and meat. When we can, we offer pet food, diapers for all ages, feminine hygiene products, cleaning supplies, and personal items like shampoo and toothpaste. Food comes to us through the Vancouver Food Bank network, local grocery stores, food drives, and donations.

The Steering Committee for DGH continues as the primary planning, oversight and executive body in DGH's governance structure; all decisions related to finances, personnel, and strategic plans are adopted by the Session of Trinity PC to which DGH reports. The Steering Committee includes folks from Trinity, site coordinators from the two food hubs, and our paid part-time staff, the Program Manager and the Controller. The paid staff positions were created in 2024 in order to bring better and more consistent administration to the feeding program at the two hubs and to the financial side of DGH. These positions so far have been covered by generous grants from the Presbytery of Westminster, the BC Synod, and the Renewing Ministries Fund of the national Presbyterian Church in Canada.



CHAPLAINCY AT SIMON FRASER

JACK SMITH SUSTAINING GRANT (YEAR 3 OF 3)

Alfred Lee has resigned as the Presbyterian chaplain at SFU and that ministry is now vacant. It is our hopes for the synod to appoint a new campus chaplain to continue the near 60 years of ministry at SFU.

Seth Greenham
Director
Simon Fraser Multi-Faith Center



KOREAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

JACK SMITH SUSTAINING GRANT (YEAR 3 OF 3)

No Report Received.



APOLOGETICS CANADA MINISTRIES

NEW ROOF FOR SAANICH PENINSULA

JACK SMITH GRANT

In December 2023, our church was starting to have problems with our Heat pump/Hi-Vac system, which failed just a few days before our annual Christmas Eve service. A quick temporary, handyman fix helped us stay warm for the next few weeks which, fortunately, were reasonably mild. However, it was clear that a new heat pump was required, at a cost of about \$35,000; this was a significant financial challenge for our congregation.

Members of the congregation responded generously and their gifts, along with some modest funds in our reserve Building Fund, enabled us to complete the replacement of the heat pump....now, we could stay warm and dry in the winter, and cool in the summer..... but no, not quite....!!

We had been experiencing significant leaks as water poured in from the badly designed, flat roof at the front of the church. The roof, like many leaky roofs in BC was designed to hold water from the winter to assist cooling in the summer! But, over time, things deteriorate, and water always finds a way of flowing with gravity.....right through to our narthex. Atmospheric rivers beget atmospheric floods, which led to soaked carpets, ceiling tiles, to name a few!

We simply had to fix the leaking roof, and there was no quick fix.

The flat roof had to be completely repaired and re-surfaced. Quotes were obtained from roofing companies, ranging from over \$100,000 to \$36,000. We were fortunate to have a small, local roofing company fit us in for repairs/roof replacement in August 2024, at a cost of almost \$36,000.

We were so glad to have this completed before Synod came to visit in October 2024. Guess what, on the Saturday of Synod we had an atmospheric river, just to test our "new roof". We were delighted that Synod could stay dry, and enjoy our hospitality!!



STRUCTURAL UPGRADES IN KAMLOOPS

JACK SMITH GRANT

Over the past several years, the congregation of St. Andrew's has been discerning how best to care for our aging facility. A facility audit was completed in March 2022, followed by a full property appraisal in November of the same year.

In 2023, the congregation engaged in a series of visioning activities. A survey conducted in November revealed that more than half of respondents believed our present facility was still needed and expressed a willingness to increase financial support for its upkeep. This encouragement in conjunction with the addition of couple particularly skilled people in our congregation led us to begin a series of smaller repair and renewal projects around the church.

At a congregational meeting in September 2024, the church board proposed repainting the exterior of the building. This work was seen as essential both to protect the structure from rot and to signal to our community that we take the stewardship of our facility seriously. The cost of the project was estimated at \$30,000, with interior painting expected to follow. Funding was to come from congregational giving, accumulated savings, and outside support. The refurbishment project has gone very well. Contractors completed the exterior painting and signage upgrade, while the congregation contributed at least 420 volunteer hours to the interior painting.

Many additional hours were spent on design and consultation and oversight. Costs were higher than anticipate, and the scope of the projected was extended, but in the end but God provided what we needed. The congregation is grateful for all that has been accomplished in a short period of time. Many neighbors have shared their appreciation for the renewed look of the building. St. Andrew's has come out of the woodwork! We are especially grateful for the support of Synod in helping our facility reflect the vibrancy and life of our church community.



NEW CHAIRS FOR BRENTWOOD

JACK SMITH GRANT

The folks whose souls are being nourished to flourish at and through Brentwood Presbyterian Church as most thankful for the support the Synod provided in purchasing new chairs for the Brentwood sanctuary.

We made a careful search for chairs that were durable yet flexible, allowing those sitting in them to dance a bit to the music that happens so frequently in our little space of grace. Thanks to the folks at Sauder Worship for their help in providing this wonderful seating.

The old chairs that are still usable were donated to Lakeview Multicultural United Church.



SOUND PANELS AT ST. GILES

JANET THORBURNE GRANT

St Giles' is extremely thankful to the Synod of British Columbia for providing us with the generous grant money from the Jane Thorburne Fund to improve the acoustics of our fellowship hall.

This upgrade to the space will provide both the congregation and the various groups who use the hall space with the chance to hear each other clearer as our hall (though beautiful) echoes greatly. Those who are hard of hearing will notice the change the most.

As with many projects in Prince George, timelines are often stretched out. Project managers have long lists of clients to work through and materials take longer to reach us. At the moment, contact with Primacoustic has been made and we are just waiting for materials to come in and delivered before installation can begin. I regret that we are unable to provide any visual updates but we shall send them once the panels arrive. Once again, thank you to the Synod of BC for assisting St Giles' in improving this space for ministry and service.

GRANTS & LOANS INFORMATION



LENDING FUND

This Fund is used to make small loans and grants to congregations in B C. Several gifts and bequests were made to Synod and allocated to the Fund.

Memorandum of Association

1. The name of the Fund is the Presbyterian Lending Fund
2. The office of the Fund will be located in British Columbia.
3. The object for which the Fund is formed is:
 - To receive gifts, donations and bequests
 - To make loans to congregations, or groups or societies directly affiliated with and responsible to the Synod of BC, The Presbyterian Church in Canada, a Presbytery thereof, or a congregation thereof within BC.
 - To invest funds at the discretion of the directors.
 - To engage employees or agents and to enter into such agreements or undertakings as the Fund may deem necessary or convenient for the purpose of carrying out any object for which it was formed.

Guidelines for Use and Allocations

1. For capital expenditure to assist extension and expanding congregations with outreach and growth potential.
2. To provide loans at low rates of interest (not to exceed Bank of Canada prime).
3. Repayment of the principal is to be outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement between the Synod of B.C. and the borrower. This may be postponed at the discretion of the Lending Fund Committee of the Synod of B.C. in order to assist the orderly repayment of outstanding other loans.
4. Interest shall be paid annually as agreed in the Memorandum of Agreement.
5. Loans outstanding shall be reviewed annually by the Synod.
6. All applications shall be made by the congregations in the manner directed and shall be approved by the respective Presbytery before submission to the Synod.
7. The Synod or its committee shall consider and judge each application on its own merit.
8. The amount of loan from this Fund shall not exceed 25% of the total amount of loans arranged by the congregation from other sources.
9. The congregation shall raise a minimum of one dollar for each dollar loaned from this Fund.
10. A maximum of \$20,000 shall be outstanding to a specific congregation at any given time.
11. In unique circumstances and projects of the Synod or Presbytery, a special loan may be considered from this Fund.

Administration of Fund

1. The Fund shall be administered by the Executive Committee of the Synod. Its annual audited statement shall be part of the Synod of B. C.'s annual audited Statements.
2. The Lending Fund Committee shall be the Executive Committee of the Synod of B. C. or as the Synod of BC. shall appoint. Its duty will be:-
 - a) To receive and consider all loan applications
 - b) To inform the Administrator of the Fund of approved loans.
 - c) To review annually all outstanding loans
 - d) To provide an annual report to the Synod of B. C. in respect of the operation of the Fund.
3. The Administrator of the Fund will be the Treasurer or Financial Manager of the Synod of B. C.

GENERAL RESERVE

This Reserve is to be maintained for unforeseen or Special Expenses and is not intended to provide continuing support for any project nor to supplement an unbalanced budget. It is to receive the Investment income, earned by the portion of the Lending Fund, which is not lent. Drawing on the General Reserve requires a motion of the Executive Committee.

JACK SMITH FUND

The Fund was left to the Presbyterian Church in Canada for the purposes of extending the Church's work in the Province of BC. It is administered by the Trustee Board of the Church.

Present Guidelines

1. That the bequest from the John (Jack) Smith estate be administered by The Presbyterian Church in Canada with the interest and/or principal being expended on recommendation of the Synod of BC.
2. That the funds of the Smith bequest be considered supplementary to and in no way a replacement of or substitute for the normal grants of Canada Ministries.
3. Notwithstanding the right of the Synod to use principal from the Smith bequest, except under special need, that interest monies only shall be used towards the projects of the Synod
4. That the principal could only be expended on the approval of the Synod of BC
5. That projects and requests for assistance from the Smith bequest for new work or new charges within the Synod of BC shall normally be channeled through the Synod Executive to the Synod. The Synod Executive shall have power to issue on expenditures of interest only, to a limit of \$10,000 per request, between Synods.
6. That the budget costs for any project or ministry shall be shared proportionally by the sponsoring body and the Smith Bequest Funds, normally on the basis of a matching grant.
7. That funding from the Smith Bequest shall normally be provided to any single project for no more than a three year period.
8. That projects applying for funding from the Smith Bequest should present the Synod Executive with a carefully developed program mandate and goal descriptions, budget projections and well prepared processes for the supervision, evaluation and follow-up report of the program.
9. That all applications for funding from the Smith Bequest be presented for the Synod's approval through the Synod Executive.

Additionally ten percent of the interest monies generated by the Smith Bequest is to be reinvested into the Fund and any monies not used in a given year is to be automatically added to the capital unless agreement by the Synod has been given to hold the interest in reserve for some specific project.

As a Synod, we do not actually control the guidelines for this Fund, as it wholly managed by the Trustee Board of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Although not bound by these, indications are that they would try and work within the guidelines, detailed above, which were established at the 1991 Synod meeting. They are not however bound by these.

All requests for funds have to be made to the Trustee Board.



FRED ST. DENIS MONIES

These monies did not actually form part of the Rev St Denis estate but were excess funds that Mrs St Denis released from the money she inherited. The original will had a conditional clause, which would have left money to the Presbyterian Church, had Mrs St Denis predeceased him. This did not happen, but the conditions Mrs St Denis attached to the monies reflect the conditions attached in the original will.

The terms of the gift are that these monies be used by the Synod to help financially distressed congregations in BC. In clarification, Mrs St Denis amended this to any need of financial help. She further suggested that we use the financial gift as need arises in the Synod churches.

Synod's understanding, from her comments regarding interest to be earned on the fund, is that the gift was intended as monies to be actively used, including capital. It was not the intention that only the interest be used. She asks us to be thoughtful and prayerful in any decisions we make.

Guidelines

1. In normal circumstances, Grants should match the cash input of the Congregation involved.
2. Grants should be limited to \$10,000 per Congregation unless there are special factors to consider.
3. Congregations must show a reasonable ability to survive once assistance has been given.

JANET THORBURN ESTATE

The terms of the will are that the monies be used for the new church development of small churches of the Presbyterian Church in Canada throughout the Province of British Columbia.

Unlike the Jack Smith Bequest, the governing document - although leaving the money to the PCC - states that "the receipt of the Treasurer of the British Columbia Synod in Canada shall be sufficient discharge to my Trustee." This was interpreted as a desire to leave the monies under the management of the BC Synod.

Guidelines

1. The Trust Capital be considered to be \$120,000
2. Grants may be made from accumulated investment earnings, which shall remain available from year to year and will not be capitalized
3. Total grants from all sources should not exceed 70% of the total budget for the project.
4. The level of grant should be considered according to the input of the Congregation in cash and labour.
5. Grants should be limited to \$10,000 unless there are special factors to consider.

JEAN WOODROW ESTATE

The solicitor's letter accompanying these funds stated that they were to be used "for the purpose of providing assistance to a needy church or churches" within Synod bounds "as the members of the Synod of B C deem advisable."

Guidelines

1. Congregations must show a reasonable ability to survive once assistance has been given.
2. Grants are normally to be given for capital purposes and not for on-going funding unless it can be shown that a one time grant will ensure survival.
3. There is no stipulation regarding cash input by the Congregation but the level of their efforts to carry on will be a consideration in assessing the level of Grant.
4. With limited funds available, grants should not exceed \$10,000
5. Consideration should be given to mixing Grants and Loans.



THE SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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WITH THANKS TO
CONGREGATIONAL AND
COMMUNITY MINISTRIES
FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT
THROUGH A REGIONAL
RESOURCE GRANT