

# The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces



## Minutes & Reports

of the

One Hundred and Fiftieth Annual Meeting

*(The 205<sup>th</sup> since organization)*

St. James' Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia

October 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Moderator: The Rev. M. Glen Sampson  
716 Golf St Bathurst NB E2A 2K9

Clerk: John Barrett  
25 Katie Drive, Charlottetown, PEI C1E 1X8

Treasurer: Ms. Cheryl Weeks  
1061 Montague Road, Montague Gold Mines, NS B2R 1V3

## MEETING PLACES AND MODERATORS OF THE SYNOD OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES 1875 TO 1944

1875	Montreal	Robert Sedgewick, Musquodoboit NS
1875	Saint John	Robert Sedgewick, Musquodoboit NS
1876	Halifax	Thomas Duncan, St. Andrew's, Halifax NS
1877	Charlottetown	James Byers, Clifton NS
1878	Pictou	Alexander Ross, Knox, Pictou NS
1879	Truro	William McCullough, First, Truro NS
1880	Chatham	J. B. Logan, Kentville NS
1881	New Glasgow	Allan Pollok, D.D., Presbyterian College, Halifax NS
1882	Charlottetown	Prin. McKnight, D.D., Presbyterian College, Halifax NS
1883	Halifax	Robert Burns, D.D., Fr. Massey, Halifax, NS
1884	Pictou	James McLean, D.D., Great Village NS
1885	Saint John	Thomas Sedgewick, D.D., Tatamagouche NS
1886	Truro	Alexander McLean, D.D., Hopewell NS
1887	New Glasgow	E.A. McCurdy, D.D., James, New Glasgow NS
1888	Charlottetown	Jno. McLeod, Zion, Charlottetown PEI
1889	Pictou	Neil MacKay, D.D., St. John's, Chatham NB
1890	Moncton	Jno. MacMillan, D.D., Chalmers, Halifax NS
1891	Halifax	H.B. McKay, Wallace NS
1892	Saint John	Isaac Murray, D.D., North Sydney NS
1893	Truro	Allan Simpson, D.D., Park St., Halifax NS
1894	New Glasgow	P.M. Morrison, D.D., Church Agent, Halifax NS
1895	Charlottetown	J. MacGregor McKay, (retired), New Glasgow NS
1896	Pictou	Alexander Falconer, D.D., Prince St., Pictou NS
1897	Moncton	J. H. Chase, Onsloe NS
1898	Halifax	F.J. Forbes, St. Andrew's, Sydney NS
1899	Truro	M.G. Henry, St. Croix NS
1900	Chatham	John Morton, D.D., Trinidad
1901	Saint John	A.F. Carr, D.D., Campbellton NB
1902	New Glasgow	Thomas Cummings, D.D., Scotsburn NS
1903	Charlottetown	K.J. Grant, D.D., Trinidad
1904	Pictou	Edwin Smith, D.D., Middle Musquodoboit NS
1905	Sydney	E.D. Millar, D.D., St. John's, Yarmouth NS
1906	Moncton	Jos. Annard, D.D., New Hebrides
1907	Halifax	A.B. Dickie, D.D., Sackville NB
1908	Truro	Robert Cummings, D.D., Westville NS
1909	Saint John	James Sinclair, Bridgeville NS
1910	New Glasgow	John Murray, D.D., Clifton PEI
1911	Charlottetown	W.P. Archibald, D.D., Springside NS
1912	Pictou	Anderson Rogers, D.D., St. John's, Halifax NS
1913	Sydney	T. Chalmers Jack, D.D., North Sydney NS
1914	Halifax	Donald MacDonald, B.D., Grand River NS
1915	Saint John	H.R. Grant, D.D., Secy. N.S. Temperance Alliance
1916	Truro	J.A. Maclean, B.A., Mahone Bay NS
1917	New Glasgow	J.A. MacKenzie, B.A., Elmsdale NS
1918	Charlottetown	A. MacMillan, Marion Bridge NS
1919	Fredericton	James Ross, D.D., Supt. of Missions, Halifax NS
1920	Pictou	Prof. J.W. Falconer, D.D., Presbyterian College, Halifax NS
1921	Halifax	C. Munro, D.D., Hopewell NS
1922	Halifax	Thomas Stewart, D.D., Church Agent, Halifax NS
1923	Saint John	J.M. McLeod, M.A., St. Peter's Bay PEI
1924	New Glasgow	John MacIntosh, D.D., St. James, Sydney NS
1924	New Glasgow	Robert Johnston, D.D., Westminster, New Glasgow NS
1925	New Glasgow	Robert Johnston, D.D., Westminster, New Glasgow NS
1926	Halifax	Wm. McC. Thompson, M.A, D.D., Sydney NS

1927	Saint John	W.M. Townsend, M.A.,D.D., Fairville NB
1928	Charlottetown	W. Bruce Muir, St. James, Charlottetown PEI
1929	Stellarton	Daniel MacVicar, Thorburn NS
1930	Truro	R.H. Stavert, B.D., Hunter River PEI
1931	Pictou	G.S. Mitchell, B.D., Campbellton NB
1932	New Glasgow	S.J. MacArthur, M.A., B.D., Moncton NB
1933	Westville	D.O. MacKay, B.A., Elmsdale NS
1934	Charlottetown	J.W. Britton, Blue Mountain NS
1935	Halifax	A. Craise, D.D., Sackville NB
1936	Pictou	N.D. Kennedy, M.C., M.A., New Glasgow NS
1937	New Glasgow	A.D. MacKinnon, B.A., Little Narrows NS
1938	New Glasgow	CJ. St. Clair Jeans, Saint John NB\
1939	Sydney	C.M. Kerr, Ph.D., St. David's, Halifax NS
1940	Summerside	G.C. Webster, Zion, Charlottetown PEI
1941	Stellarton	L.L. Young, D.D., Oxford NS
1942	Saint John	Samuel Davies, Ph.D., St. Andrews NB
1943	Truro	F.G. MacDonald, Merigomish NS
1944	New Glasgow	D.A. MacKinnon, Springhill NS

**MEETING PLACES AND MODERATORS OF THE SYNOD OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES 1945 TO 1965  
AND THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES 1966 TO 2007**

1945	New Glasgow	W.L. MacLellan, B.A., B.D., First, New Glasgow NS
1946	Pictou	D.W. MacDonald, B.A., Dublin Shore NS
1947	Charlottetown	T.H.B. Somers, M.A., S.T.M., St. James, Charlottetown PEI
1948	Sydney	A.E. Morrison, St. Andrew's, New Glasgow NS
1949	Halifax	Alexander Allen, Lunenburg NS
1950	Westville	R.S. Quigley, Ph.D., Belfast PEI
1951	Pictou	Murray Y. Fraser, B.A., Stellarton NS
1952	New Glasgow	A.O. Maclean, B.A., Moncton NB
1953	Truro	Hugh Jack, B.A., Sydney NS
1954	Glace Bay	H.M. Buntain, B.A., St. Andrew's, Pictou NS
1955	Saint John	J.R. Humphreys, B.A., St. Matthew's, Saint John NB
1956	Pictou	D.A. Campbell, B.A., Montague PEI
1957	Charlottetown	T.A.A. Duke, B.A., Campbellton NB
1958	Sydney	J.A. McGowan, B.A., Springville NS
1959	Halifax	Frank Lawson, B.A., B.D., St. David's, Halifax NS
1960	New Glasgow	Hugh Creaser, B.A., First, New Glasgow NS
1961	St. Andrews	TJ. Watson, B.A.,B.D., D.D., Fredericton NB
1962	Truro	Wm. Reid, B.A., St. Andrew's, New Glasgow NS
1963	Fredericton	Robert W. Ross, Sunny Corner NB
1964	Lunenburg	James A. Goldsmith, B.A., St. Andrew's, Dartmouth NS
1965	Westville	Everett H. Bean, B.A., B.Th., B.D., Sydney NS
1966	Chatham	Laurence E. Blaikie, B.Th., Moncton NB
1967	St. John's	M.C. Currie, B.A., Murray Harbour PEI
1968	Charlottetown	Wallace E. Whyte, B.A., B.D., Chatham NB
1969	Moncton	Frederick Pauley, B.Th., M.Th., Durham NS
1970	Stellarton	John R. Cameron, B.A., B.D., Lunenburg NS
1971	Charlottetown	Gordon L. Blackwell, B.A., Saint John NB
1972	Sydney Mines	Gordon J. Matheson, Tatamagouche NS
1973	Saint John	Ian G. Macleod B.A., B.D., Baddeck NS
1974	New Glasgow	J.S.S. Armour, B.A., 8.D., S.T.M., St. John's NF
1975	Dartmouth	R.D. Maclean, B.A., B.D., Halifax NS
1976	Kensington	J. Bruce Robertson, B.A.,B.Comm.,B.D.,S.T.M., New Glasgow NS

1977	Sydney	John P. Posno, Chatham NB
1978	Halifax	Basil C. Lowery B.A., B.D., Riverview NB
1979	Fredericton	Murray M. Graham, B.A., B.Th., B.D., Campbellton NB
1980	Summerside	Owen Channon, B.A., B.D., M.Sc., Windsor NS
1981	Pictou	P. Alexander McDonald, B.A., B.D., Dartmouth NS
1982	Truro Lee	M. MacNaughton, B.A., Blue Mountain NS
1983	New Glasgow	Philip J. Lee, B.Sc., S.T.B., Saint John NB
1984	Riverview	Murdo Marple, B.Sc., B.D., Stellarton NS
1985	Charlottetown	W.J.O. Isaac, C.D., D.D., Truro NS
1986	Pictou	Edgar F. Dewar B.A., Springville NS
1987	Lunenburg	G. Cameron Brett, B.A., B.D., Fredericton NB
1988	Stellarton	Ian S. Wishart, C.D., B.A., B.D., M.Th., St. John's NF
1989	Saint John	R.A.B. Maclean, C.D., B.A., 8.D., M.R.E., Barney's River NS
1990	Charlottetown	Cedric Pettigrew, B.A., B.D., M.A., Halifax NS
1991	Moncton	D. Laurence Mawhinney, B.A., 8.D., Lunenburg NS
1992	Truro	J. Kenneth Macleod, B.A., B.D., D.Min., New Glasgow NS
1993	Dartmouth	L. George Macdonald, B.A., B.Th., Halifax NS
1993	Pictou	L. George Macdonald, B.A., B.Th., Halifax NS
1994	Sydney Mines	L. George Macdonald, B.A., B.Th., Halifax NS
1995	Truro	L. George Macdonald, B.A., B.Th., Halifax NS
1995	New Glasgow	Mark R. McLennan, B.A., B.Th., M.Div., Scotsburn NS
1996	Stellarton	H. Kenneth Stright, B.A., M.Div., Pictou NS
1997	Fredericton	Davida Stewart, Charlottetown PEI
1998	Pictou	Patricia A. Rose, B.N.Sc., M.Th., M.Div., Windsor NS
1999	Sydney	David W. K. Sutherland, B.Comm., M.Div., M.Th., St. John's NF )
2000	Charlottetown	R. Ritchie Robinson, B.A., B.Th., M. Div. Boularderie NS
2001	Dartmouth	E. M. Iona MacLean, B.A., M. Div., A.R.C.T., Pictou NS
2002	New Minas	Charles McPherson, B.Sc., B.Th., M.Div., Stellarton NS
2003	New Glasgow	Donald W. MacKay, B.A., B.D., S.T.M., D. Min., New Glasgow NS
2004	Charlottetown	Robert Lyle, B.A., M.Div., Sydney NS
2005	Hanwell	Cynthia J. Chenard, B.A., B.Ed., B.Th., M.Div., D.Min., Dartmouth NS
2006	Halifax	Timothy F. Archibald, B.A., M.A., M.Div., New Minas NS
2007	Stellarton	D. Laurence DeWolfe, B.A., M.Div., D. Min., Halifax NS

## MEETING PLACES AND MODERATORS OF THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES 2008 TO 2023

2008	New Glasgow	John Crawford, B.A., M.Div., D.Min., Saint John NB
2009	Dartmouth	Shirley F. Murdock, Dip. C.E., Baddeck NS
2010	Saint John	P. A. (Sandy) McDonald, B.A., B.D., D.D., Dartmouth NS
2011	Lower Sackville	Lara Scholey, B.Sc. (Hons.), M. Div., Scotsburn NS,
2012	St. John's	Andy den Otter, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., St. John's, NL
2013	Sydney	Cheryl Weeks, St. Andrew's, Dartmouth, NS
2014	Summerside	Jeffrey Murray, B. Hum.(Hons.), M.Div. Sackville, NB
2015	Moncton	Jeffrey Lackie, M.Div., Thorburn, NS
2016	Stellarton	G. Murray MacDonald, Stillwater Lake, NS
2017	Halifax	Derek Krunys, St. John's, NL
2018	Sydney	Michael Koslowski, Halifax, NS
2019	Charlottetown	Marion Barclay MacKay, North Sydney, NS
2020	No meeting due to COVID-19 Pandemic	
2021	Virtual Zoom	Charles Greaves, Albert Bridge, NS
2022	Hanwell	Bradford Blaikie, Summerside, PE
2023	New Glasgow	Marlene Phillips, Harvey, NB
2024	Truro	M. Glen Sampson, NB

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## **FIRST SEDERUNT**

At Truro, Nova Scotia, on the traditional and unceded territories of the Mi'kmaq people known as Mi'kma'ki, within St. James Presbyterian Church, on Monday the twenty-first day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four at seven in the evening, the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces began its annual meeting with worship.

### **WORSHIP**

As a result of the passing of the Moderator of Ms. Marlene M. Phillips, worship was conducted by the Moderator of the 148<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces, the Rev. Bradford Blaikie, and Minister of St. James' Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Andrew Campbell. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated.

### **MEMORIALS**

During the service of worship, the Moderator and Clerk led a time of prayerful remembrance for the following Teaching and Ruling Elders who had passed away since the last meeting of the Synod and the congregations they served.

#### **Order of Diaconal Ministries:**

Margaret Alice MacLeod

#### **Ruling Elders:**

Patricia H. Brown  
 Wilma Christine Cameron  
 Mary Evelyn Cress  
 Marion Ruth Dotten  
 Gordon Hillier  
 John Floyd MacIver  
 Clara I. MacKenzie  
 Gerald Newcombe MacLellan  
 Allan (Buck) MacLeod  
 Kenneth MacNeil  
 Raymond MacNair

Margaret MacNichol  
 Mildred Irene MacPhee  
 Patricia Ann Miller  
 Lorne Moase  
 Matthew (Raymond) Moore  
 Daniel (D.R.) Raymond Morrison  
 Roderick William (Wilrod) Morrison  
 Marlene Phillips  
 Gwen Smith  
 Janet Eileen Theriault  
 Donald Lee Tower  
 Rachel Margaret Waugh

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## **CONSTITUTION**

Following the final hymn, the Moderator, the Rev. Brad Blaikie, constituted the Synod, with prayer.

## **THE ROLL OF THE SYNOD**

The Clerk described the process used for determining the Roll of Synod and reported that to the best of his knowledge it was complete and accurate. He presented the Roll of Synod:

### **Presbytery of Cape Breton:**

Ministers – David Coull, Lydia MacKinnon, Marion Barclay, Peter MacDonald.

Representative Elders – Ernest Wiesner, Charles Greaves.

### **Presbytery of Halifax and Lunenburg:**

Ministers – Michael Koslowski, Thomas Summers, Peter A. (Sandy) McDonald, Calvin Burt, Robert Lyle, Whitney Canning, Andrew Campbell, Michael Veenema.

Diaconal – Margaret Craig.

Representative Elders – Davida Mackay, Karen MacLeod, Linda MacKinnon, Cheryl Weeks, Ann MacDonald.

### **Presbytery of New Brunswick:**

Ministers – Andrew Human, Don Shephard, John Crawford, Wendy MacWilliams, Anne Boudreau, Glen Sampson.

Representative Elders – Carol Stymiest, Kenneth MacKeigan, Dr. Kate McLellan, Janet Higgins, Brian Neilson, Wina Parent, Cheryl Messer, Jessie Kelly.

### **Presbytery of Newfoundland:**

Ministers – David Sturtevant.

Representative Elders – Lynne Allan, Mike Gillan.

### **Presbytery of Pictou:**

Ministers – Bonnie Langille, Andrew MacDonald, Enjei Achah, Glen Matheson, Susan Smith, Barbara Fotheringham, Joon Ki Kim.

Representative Elders – Frank Parker, Gary Ross, Mary Hunter, Bonnie McGrath, Peter MacKay, Murray Hill, Susan Robinson, Jessie McKay, Frank MacLeod, Robin Campbell.

### **Presbytery of Prince Edward Island:**

Ministers – Dawn Griffiths, Bradford Blaikie, Torrey Griffiths, Amanda Henderson-Bolton, Kirk MacLeod.

Representative Elders – John Barrett, Robert Griffiths, Nancy Harvey, Kent Smith.

## **REGRETS**

Regrets were received from the following:

Deborah Summers, Charles McPherson, Gail Johnson-Murdock, Janet Higgins, Allyson MacLeod, Nicki Cameron, Cindy Shea, Jeffrey Murray.

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### **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF SYNOD**

The Moderator invited the Clerks of Presbytery to introduce new members to the court from their respective presbyteries.

### **WELCOME TO GUESTS AND OTHER VISITORS TO THE COURT**

The Moderator extended a welcome to guests and other visitors to the court.

### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The Moderator called upon D. Mackay to present the Synod Business Committee Report (pages 18-19).

#### **Recommendation 1**

It was moved by D. Mackay and duly seconded that the report of the Business Committee be received, and its recommendations considered. Adopted.

D. Mackay moved, duly seconded, that these recommendations be adopted by consensus:

Recommendation 2 (page 18) Adopted by consensus.

Recommendation 3 (page 18) Adopted by consensus.

Recommendation 4 (page 18) Adopted by consensus.

Recommendation 5 (page 18) Adopted by consensus.

### **REPORT OF THE SYNOD COUNCIL**

The Rev. Bradford Blaikie, the Moderator of the 149<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Court called upon C. Greaves, to present the Council's report (pages 19-25) and to present the nomination for Moderator to preside over the deliberations of this 150<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

#### **Recommendation 1**

C. Greaves moved, duly seconded that the report of the Synod Council be received, and its recommendations considered. Adopted.

### **ELECTION OF THE MODERATOR:**

The Synod adopted the following method for electing the Moderator: (1) presbytery nominations for Moderator be sent to the clerk by April 30 before the May meeting of Synod Council (2) Election for Moderator be held online with the election starting the day after the Official Call is circulated to Presbyteries and closing on September 30.

The council received two nominations for Moderator of the 2024 meeting of Synod: Rev. Glen Sampson and Rev. Anne Boudreau. Following prayerful consideration, Rev. Boudreau declined the nomination due to ongoing commitments within her charge.

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There being one remaining nominee for the position of Moderator, the Synod Council provides the following recommendation:

**Recommendation 2**

C. Greaves moved, duly seconded that the Rev. Glen Sampson of the New Brunswick Presbytery be nominated for Synod Moderator for the 2024 Annual Meeting. Adopted.

**Recommendation 3**

C. Greaves moved, duly seconded that a bursary of \$1,000 be awarded to the sole applicant, Norna Hugasdottir, for the 2024-2025 academic year. Adopted

**REPORT OF THE RETIRING MODERATOR**

The Rev. Bradford Blaikie, the Moderator of the 149<sup>th</sup> meeting of Synod gave a report on his service through his partial year and expressed condolences on the passing of Marlene Phillips during her year as Moderator. He expressed his appreciation to the Synod for the opportunity to continue his service as Moderator for the balance of Marlene’s year.

**INSTALLATION OF NEW MODERATOR**

Rev. Glen Sampson was conducted to the chair by the Moderator, who then asked him the appointed questions; he then installed him as Moderator of The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces. The Moderator led in prayer and extended the right hand of fellowship on behalf of the court.

The Moderator, G. Sampson, expressed his thanks to the Presbyteries for their nomination and to the Rev. Bradford Blaikie for stepping back into this role due to the death of the previous Moderator.

**REGISTRATION COMMITTEE**

The Moderator called upon the Registration Committee to give a preliminary report on registrations. Karen MacLeod noted that the registrations constituted a quorum of the Synod. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  of the members of the roll or 15, whichever is smaller).

**PRESENTATION OF PRESBYTERY AND SYNOD MINUTES**

The Moderator called for the presentation of the minutes of the Presbyteries and of the Synod. These were brought forward by the Clerks of the Presbyteries and Synod.

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

The Moderator called for notices of motion.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Moderator called for announcements.

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### **ADJOURNMENT & CLOSING**

C. Greaves moved and was duly seconded that the First Sederunt adjourn. Adopted. The Moderator adjourned court and closed the meeting with prayer and benediction and announced that the court would gather again in the sanctuary of St. James' Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of October 2024, at nine o'clock in the morning for the business of the Synod.

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Rev. Brad Blaikie  
 Moderator

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John Barrett  
 Clerk

### **SECOND SEDERUNT**

At Truro, Nova Scotia, on the traditional and unceded territories of the Mi'kmaq people known as Mi'kma'ki, within St. James Presbyterian Church, on Tuesday the twenty-second day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four at nine o'clock in the morning, the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces began the second sederunt.

### **CONSTITUTION**

The Moderator constituted the Synod, with prayer.

### **PRESENTATION FROM THE CANADIAN BIBLE SOCIETY**

Don Shephard, on behalf of the Canadian Bible Society, presented the new Moderator with a bilingual Bible.

### **INVITATION TO SIT AND CORRESPOND**

It was moved by Peter A. (Sandy) McDonald and duly seconded that the Rev. Dr. Ernest Eck and the Rev. John Borthwick be invited to sit and correspond. A welcome was extended to Karen Plater and Jennifer Astop from the National Office and to Helena Human, our Synod and Youth Consultant. Adopted.

### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

It was noted by Business Committee Convenor, D. Mackay, that there was no anticipated change to the business of the Synod.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

While regular correspondence took place throughout the year between the Clerk, members of Synod Council, Presbytery Clerks, Session Clerks, Clerks of Assembly, Committee Convenors and Helena Human, the significant written correspondence consisted of the following:

May 1, 2025:	Request to host 2025 Synod from Zion Church, Charlottetown, PEI
August 13, 2024:	Jennifer Astop, PCC, confirming acceptance of Synod's grant request
September 30, 2024:	Don Shephard, Canadian Bible Society
October 1, 2024:	Camp Keir requesting Synod's endorsement of their RRG request.
Ongoing:	Host Committee, Program Committee, Camping & Youth Consultant

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### CLERK'S REPORT

I wish to thank all those who have been of assistance as I find my way through the various ins and outs involved with my new role as your Clerk. In particular, I want to acknowledge our Treasurer, Cheryl Weeks, who has been of assistance in helping me find my way. Preparing for Synod does involve one's dependence on many members of Synod when it comes to reports, schedules, hosting details and the completion of our In Memoriam and Directory publications. I appreciate everyone's willingness to provide the information required (even when some of it is late!).

On December 28, 2023, it had been my privilege to represent our Synod at the funeral of the late Marlene Phillips - our Moderator for 2023/24. It was certainly apparent by the overflow numbers in attendance how loved and missed Marlene was in her community and throughout the New Brunswick Presbytery. A beautiful and touching service was led by Rev. Anne Boudreau at Knox Presbyterian Church in Harvey Station, New Brunswick.

On August 9, 2024, I had the pleasure to represent The Presbyterian Church in Canada and The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces at both the business meeting and President's breakfast of the annual assembly of the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada which took place at Crandall University in Moncton, New Brunswick.

The Synod Council, to whom I report, have met on two occasions - May 1, 2024, and more recently on October 2, 2024. Reports contained in this Book of Reports were reviewed prior to Synod and necessary motions regarding the business of Synod were placed, discussed and carried.

The Synod Directory has now been published, and sufficient copies have been printed to cover all members of Synod. These have been boxed and given to each Presbytery Clerk. An additional 5 copies have been added to each Presbytery's complement of Directories. It is my hope that the Directory can become an online only publication accessible by means of a password on the Synod web site therefore saving us printing costs and giving us the ability to update the Directory in real time.

The In Memoriam publication has been distributed during the Monday night worship service and copies will be mailed to any living relatives noted on the In Memoriam form completed by Presbytery Clerks.

Below is the statistical report for this year:

	Ministers	Elders	Appendix	Diaconal
Cape Breton	6	12	5	
Newfoundland	1	3	5	1
Pictou	10	23	13	
Halifax & Lunenburg	10	12	12	
New Brunswick	11	18	14	
Prince Edward Island	13	15	17	

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Total 2024	51	83	66	
Total 2023	51	80	57	
Change	0	+3	+9	+1

John Barrett  
 Clerk of the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces

### **SYNOD COUNCIL REPORT (continued)**

The Moderator called upon C. Greaves to continue the Council Report (pages 19-25)

Recommendations marked with an \* are presented as consent recommendations and will be adopted by one motion unless any member of the Court wishes to have one or more recommendations removed from the consent agenda.

C. Greaves moved, duly seconded that these recommendations be adopted by consensus:

- \*Recommendation 4 (page 19) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 5 (page 19) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 6 (page 19) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 7 (page 19) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 8 (page 20) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 9 (page 20) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 10 (page 20) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 12 (page 20) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 13 (page 20) Adopted by consensus
- \*Recommendation 15 (page 20) Adopted by consensus

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Treasurer, C. Weeks, introduced the financial statements for 2023 and the Synod budget for 2025.  
 (pages 25-38)

### **SYNOD SPEAKER**

The Moderator invited J. Barrett to introduce our Synod Speaker, the Rev. Dr. Ernest Eck, Principal of Knox College. Dr. Eck offered his first presentation on the Parables with an historic and factual background to help us better understand the context of these teachings.

The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces  
 Minutes of the 150<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting – October 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024  
 St. James Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia

### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

The Moderator called for notices of motion.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Moderator called for announcements.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Moderator called for a motion to adjourn.

P.A. (Sandy) McDonald moved, duly seconded, that the court adjourn. Adopted.

### **CLOSING**

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer and benediction and announced that the Court would gather again in the sanctuary of St. James' Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of October 2024, at one-thirty o'clock in the afternoon for the business of the Synod.

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Rev. Brad Blaikie  
 Moderator

---

John Barrett  
 Clerk

### **THIRD SEDERUNT**

At Truro, Nova Scotia, on the traditional and unceded territories of the Mi'kmaq people known as Mi'kma'ki, within St. James' Presbyterian Church, on Tuesday, the twenty-second day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four at one thirty o'clock in the afternoon, the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces began the second sederunt.

### **CONSTITUTION**

The Moderator constituted the Synod, with prayer.

### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

It was noted by Business Committee, Convenor D. Mackay, that there was no anticipated change to the business of the Court.

### **CAMP GEDDIE**

The Moderator invited P.A. McDonald to present the Camp Geddie report (pages 45-56).

P.A. McDonald moved, duly seconded, that the report be adopted. Adopted.

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### **CAMPING AND YOUTH CONSULTANT**

The Moderator invited Helena Human, Camping and Youth Consultant, to address the court.  
 The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces  
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 St. James Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia

### **COLLEGES**

Written reports were received from The Presbyterian College & St. Andrews Hall/VST (pages 39-45). A verbal report on the activities of Knox College, Toronto, and its extension department, the Ministry Forum, was presented by the Rev. John Borthwick.

### **WORKSHOPS**

Three workshops were presented twice during the third sederunt allowing members of Synod to attend two of these three learning sessions. Workshop topics and Leaders for the 2024 Synod were as follows:

**Finding Funding – Exploring places & ways to support ministry ideas** – Jennifer Astop, Karen Plater

**Capital Campaign Fundraising Ideas** – John Barrett

**Helping Youth/Young Adults Find Beauty in a Chaotic World** – Helena Human

### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

The Moderator called for notices of motion.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Moderator called for announcements.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Moderator called for a motion to adjourn.

Andrew McDonald moved, duly seconded, that the court adjourn. Adopted.

### **CLOSING**

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer and benediction and announced that the court would gather again in the sanctuary of St. James Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Wednesday, the 23rd day of October 2024, at nine o'clock in the morning for the business of the Synod.

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Rev. Brad Blaikie  
 Moderator

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John Barrett  
 Clerk

The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces  
 Minutes of the 150<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting – October 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024  
 St. James Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia

## **FOURTH SEDERUNT**

At Truro, Nova Scotia, on the traditional and unceded territories of the Mi'kmaq people known as Mi'kma'ki, within St. James' Presbyterian Church, on Tuesday, the twenty-third day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four at nine o'clock in the morning, the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces began the second sederunt.

### **CONSTITUTION**

The Moderator constituted the Court, with prayer.

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

The fourth sederunt began with a continuation of Dr. Eck's expansion on the historic context of the Parables.

### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

It was moved by P.A. (Sandy) McDonald and duly seconded that the amended agenda would be required to complete the business of the court. Adopted.

Constitution and Prayer  
 Presentation 2 – Synod Speaker  
 Business Committee  
 Registration  
 Reports to be received together  
 The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces  
 Minutes of the 150<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting – October 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024  
 St. James' Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia  
 Committees to examine Synod Minutes & Presbytery Minutes  
 Resolutions Committee  
 Appointment of Commission on Unfinished Business  
 Business Committee (Recommendation 6)  
 Announcements  
 Adjournment  
 Closing

### **REGISTRATION**

K. MacLeod gave the final registration report of 25 Ministers, 1 Diaconal, 27 Representative Elders, 6 members on the Appendix, 1 Synod Staff and 4 Guests of Synod.

The committee granted leave to withdraw to the following persons:  
 Kirk MacLeod, Brian Neilson, David Coull

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## REPORTS

J. Barrett moved, duly seconded, that the following reports be received for information by consensus.

**Programme Committee** (page 57) Received for information by consensus.

**Mission Committee** (pages 57-58) Received for information by consensus.

The recommendation from this report has been withdrawn and a budget request submitted to Synod Finance for consideration in 2025

**Atlantic Mission Society** (pages 58-59) Received for information by consensus.

**Camp Keir** (pages 60-63) Received for information by consensus.

**Camp MacLeod** (pages 64-68) Received for information by consensus.

## SYNOD AND PRESBYTERY MINUTES

The Moderator called upon B. Blaikie to give the report.

**Motion:** B. Blaikie moved, duly seconded, that the Minutes of the Presbyteries of Halifax and Lunenburg, New Brunswick, Pictou, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton be approved as neatly and correctly kept; and the Minutes of 2023 regular meeting of the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces be sustained as published. **Motion:** B. Blaikie moved, duly seconded, that the Minutes of Presbytery for Newfoundland be attested by Synod Council.

## RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Davida Mackay presented the report from the Resolutions Committee.

Motion: D. Mackay moved, duly seconded, that the following report of the Resolutions Committee be adopted.

That appreciation be expressed to:

St. James' Presbyterian Church, Truro, for hosting the 2024 Synod of the Atlantic Provinces;

The Rev. Andrew Campbell and the Rev. Brad Blaikie for their leadership given at the opening worship service;

Synod Speaker – The Rev. Ernest Eck for his presentations on The Parables;

Workshop Leaders – Jennifer Astop, John Barrett, Helena Human and Karen Plater for their workshop presentations;

The Rev. Dr. Joon Ki Kim for conducting the worship services;

The Rev. Glen Sampson for moderating the meeting of Synod decently and in good order;

John Barrett for his efficient work as Synod Clerk and for conducting the Memorial Service with respect and compassion;

The members of the Registration and Organization Committee of St. James' Presbyterian Church, Truro, for their efficient work in organization and hospitality for the meeting of the Atlantic Synod.

## APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PA (Sandy) McDonald moved, duly seconded, that the Moderator, Clerk and Convener of the Synod Council be appointed as a Commission to deal with any unfinished business of this court. Adopted.

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#### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The Moderator called upon D. Mackay to present the Synod Business Committee's final recommendation

**Recommendation 6** (page 19) was moved by D. MacKay, duly seconded. Adopted.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Moderator called for announcements.

#### **ADJORNMENT & CLOSING**

It was moved by Andrew MacDonald and duly seconded that the meeting of the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces adjourn. Adopted.

The Moderator adjourned the meeting with prayer and benediction and announced that the court would gather again at Zion Presbyterian Church, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on Monday, the 20th day of October 2025, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening for worship followed by the business of the Synod.

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Rev. Brad Blaikie  
Moderator

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John Barrett  
Clerk

## Synod Business Committee

Recommendations marked with an \* are presented as consent recommendations and will be adopted by one motion unless any member of the Court wishes to have one or more recommendations removed from the consent agenda.

* Recommendation 2	Order of Business
* Recommendation 3	Schedule for Sederunts
* Recommendation 4	Leave to Withdraw
* Recommendation 5	Orders of the Day

### Recommendation 1

That the report of the business committee be received, and its recommendations considered.

### AGENDA:

The provisional agenda is outlined below subject to changes proposed by the Business Committee:

#### First Sederunt:

Constitution of the Court  
 The Roll of the Synod  
 Regrets  
 Welcome new members of Synod  
 Welcome of guests  
 Business Committee  
 Report of Synod Council (Recommendations 1 & 2)  
 Election of Moderator  
 Report of the retiring Moderator  
 Installation of new Moderator  
 Registration Committee  
 Presentation of Presbytery and Synod minutes  
 Notices of motion  
 Announcements  
 Adjournment

#### Second Sederunt:

Constitution and Prayer  
 Business Committee  
 Correspondence Report  
 Clerk's Report  
 Synod Council Report (Consent Agenda and other recommendations)  
 Finance Committee (Synod Council)  
 Presentation 1 – Synod Speaker

Notices of motion  
 Announcements  
 Adjournment

**Third Sederunt:**

Constitution and Prayer  
 Synod Report continued  
 Colleges (VST, Knox, PC)  
 Workshops 1, 2 & 3  
 Workshops 1, 2 & 3  
 Camp Geddie  
 Notices of motion  
 Announcements  
 Adjournment

**Fourth Sederunt:**

Constitution and Prayer  
 Presentation 2 – Synod Speaker  
 Business Committee  
 Registration  
 Reports to be received together:  
     Program Committee, Mission Committee, Atlantic Mission Society, Camp Keir, Camp MacLeod  
 Committees to examine Synod Minutes & Presbytery Minutes  
 Resolutions Committee  
 Appointment of Commission on Unfinished Business  
 Business Committee (Recommendation 6)  
 Announcement  
 Adjournment  
 Closing

Recommendation 6      That the Report of the Business Committee as a whole be adopted

## Synod Council Report

Recommendations marked with an \* are presented as consent recommendations and will be adopted by one motion unless any member of the Court wishes to have one or more recommendations removed from the consent agenda

\*Recommendation 4 Nominations for standing committees and Assessor Elders

\*Recommendation 5 Nominations for Synod working committees

\*Recommendation 6 Synod Council naming additional members to committees

\*Recommendation 7 Hospital Visitor – permission to address the Court

- \*Recommendation 8 Camping & Youth Consultant – permission to address the Court
- \*Recommendation 9 financial review for the Synod for 2023
- \*Recommendation 10 Approval that MacDonald & Murphy, Inc. be engaged for next financial review
- \*Recommendation 12 2025 Regional Resourcing Grant for Synod
- \*Recommendation 13 guest speaker for Synod 2025
- \*Recommendation 15 accept an invitation for the 2025 meeting of Synod

### **Recommendation 1**

That the report of the Synod Council be received, and its recommendations considered.

### **ELECTION OF THE MODERATOR:**

The Synod adopted the following method for electing the Moderator: (1) presbytery nominations for Moderator be sent to the clerk by April 30 before the May meeting of Synod Council (2) Election for Moderator be held online with the election starting the day after the Official Call is circulated to Presbyteries and closing on September 30.

The council received two nominations for Moderator of the 2024 meeting of Synod: Rev. Glen Sampson and Rev. Anne Boudreau. Following prayerful consideration Rev. Boudreau declined the nomination due to ongoing commitments within her charge.

There being one remaining nominee for the position of Moderator, the Synod Council provides the following recommendation

### **Recommendation 2**

That the Rev. Glen Sampson of the New Brunswick Presbytery be nominated for Synod Moderator for the 2024 Annual Meeting.

### **Recommendation 3**

That a bursary of \$1,000 be awarded to the sole applicant, Norna Hugasdottir, for the 2024-2025 academic year.

### **REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

This year's nominations for standing committees of Synod are marked in Bold print.

#### **Synod Council**

Charles McPherson (2018-21) (2021-24); **Convenor** (2021-24) **(2024-25)**

Linda MacKinnon (2021-24) **(2024-27)**

Corrie Stewart (2021-24) **(2024-27)**

Dawn Griffiths (2023-26)

**Brian Neilson (2024-26)**

**Charles Greaves** (2018-21) (2021-24) **(2024-25)**

Membership: 6 persons, appointed by Synod, two in each of the three years (the Convenor to be nominated from among these), plus the following members: Officers of the Synod (Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer),

conveners of Standing Committees, President or delegate of AMS, and a representative from the Presbytery of Newfoundland.

### **Camp Geddie**

**PA (Sandy) McDonald** (2010-13) (2013-16) (2016-19) (2019-22); **Convenor** (2010-13) (2013-16) (2016-17) (2021-22) (2022-23) (2023-24) (**2024-25**); Co-Convenor: (2017-18) (2018-19)(2019-21)

**John Reeves** (2018-21) (2021-24) (**2024-27**)

**Greg Fraser** (2021-24) (**2024-27**); Vice-Convenor (2021-22)

**Calvin Burt** (2021-24) (**2024-27**)

**Paul MacLellan** (2021-24) (**2024-27**)

Ian Watson (2014-15) (2015-18) (2018-20) (2020-23) (2023-26)

Chelsey (Joudrie) MacLean (2018-20) (2020-23) (2023-26)

Patricia Smith (2023-26)

Chris MacDonald, Co-Convenor: (2017-18) (2018-19) (2019-21); (2013-16) (2016-19) (2019-22) (2022-25)

Harold Smith (2016-19) (2019-22) (2022-25)

Allison Jack (2022-25)

Daniel Jack (2022-25)

Membership: 12 persons appointed by Synod, four in each of the 3 years (the Convenor to be nominated from among these), plus the following members: Geddie Treasurer, 1 from Presbytery of New Brunswick, 2 from each of the Presbyteries of Halifax & Lunenburg & Pictou (appointed by Presbyteries), 1 by correspondence from the Presbyteries of Newfoundland, Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island (appointed by Presbyteries), Camp Geddie staff, as applicable, one AMS representative (appointed by AMS)

### **Mission Committee**

Carol Stymiest (2022-25) **Convenor**

**Lydia MacKinnon (2024-27)**

Kathleen MacIsaac (2017-20) (2020-23) 2023-26)

Membership: 3 persons appointed by Synod, one in each of the 3 years (Convenor to be nominated among these) plus the following members: 1 representative from each Presbytery (appointed by Presbyteries), 2 representatives from AMS (appointed by AMS), youth representative, Synod staff, as applicable.

### **Program Committee**

**David MacKay (2024-26) Convenor**

**Cheryl MacFadyen (2024-27)**

**Jeff Murray (2024-27)**

**Enjei Achah (2021-24) (2024-27)**

**Torrey Griffiths (2024-26)**

**Brenda Butler (2024-25) (completing Beth Mattinson's term)**

Membership: 6 members appointed by Synod, two in each of the 3 years (the Convener to be nominated from among these), plus the following members: 1 representative from AMS (appointed by AMS), 1 representative from the Presbyteries of Pictou, Cape Breton, Halifax & Lunenburg, New Brunswick and PEI (appointed by Presbyteries), 1 representative from Presbytery of NL by correspondence, Synod staff, as applicable, youth representative.

### **Personnel Committee**

**Marion Barclay** (2019-22) (2022-24) **(2024-26) Convener**

**Kate MacLellan** (2021-2024) **(2024-27)**

**Glen Sampson** Convener (2022-24) **2025**

Membership: 3 members appointed by Synod, in each of the 3 years, (Convener to be nominated among these) plus the following members: 1 representative from each Synod Standing Committee (appointed by the standing committees); 1 representative from AMS (appointed by AMS.)

### **Synod Representative to the Canadian Ministries Regional Resourcing Grant Consultation**

Linda MacKinnon

### **Assessor Elders to Presbytery of Newfoundland**

Charles McPherson, Bonnie McGrath

### **Synod Meeting Committees:**

Business Committee: P.A. McDonald, Davida Mackay

Registration Committee: Karen MacLeod, Cheryl Weeks (Ex-officio)

Resolutions Committee: Davida Mackay

Examination of Synod Minutes: P.A. McDonald, Frank MacLeod

Examination of Presbytery Minutes:

Convener, Brad Blaikie

Cape Breton: Nancy Harvey, Peter MacKay

Newfoundland: Michael Koslowski, Davida MacKay (not received)

Pictou: Anne Boudreau, Ernie Wiesner

Halifax & Lunenburg: Wendy McWilliams, Carol Stymiest

New Brunswick: Torrey Griffiths, Linda MacKinnon

Prince Edward Island: Lydia MacKinnon, Lynne Allen

### **\*Recommendation 4**

That the nominations for Standing Committees & Assessor Elders be adopted.

### **\*Recommendation 5**

That the nominations listed for working Synod meeting committees above be adopted.

**\*Recommendation 6**

That Synod Council be given power to issue in naming additional members to committees as the need arises.

**REPORT OF THE HISTORY COMMITTEE**

The Archives for the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces has been located within First Presbyterian Church, New Glasgow, since 2007, when they were relocated from Summerside, P.E.I. and delivered into the keeping of Rev. Dr. Glen Matheson who has served as Archivist and Convenor of the History Committee.

The Archives are currently under the care of the Rev. Andrew MacDonald, minister of First Church.  
[yick96@hotmail.com](mailto:yick96@hotmail.com) 902-331-0322.

At present there is no need for financial support from Synod, but congregational histories, bulletins from significant events and documents dealing with the history of our congregations are always welcome.

**HOSPITAL VISITOR****\*Recommendation 7**

That permission be granted for the Hospital Visitor, the Rev. Calvin Burt, to address the Court.

The Synod continues to be well served by the Rev. Calvin Burt, the Synod Hospital Visitor who has continued to visit the hospitals on our behalf one day a week.

**SYNOD STAFF****\*Recommendation 8**

That permission be granted for the Camping & Youth Consultant, Helena Human, to address the Court

**Synod Camping & Youth Consultant**

Please note: The camping component of this position is covered in the Camp Geddie Report.

*Choose Joy-* On November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, my day had started typically but took a dramatic shift at 1055 when I started to feel unwell. Within 5 minutes I knew something was wrong, calling 911, telling them, "I'm pretty sure I'm dying". I don't remember the end of the phone call or much of the day. When I was alert, I heard a doctor tell me my body was septic. Not unlike other sepsis survivors, in the months that followed I struggled with my mental health as I recovered. My sepsis was caused by dual infections in my body, neither of which I knew I had. I struggled to understand how I was so unaware of my body and every time I didn't feel I had moments of flashback. Professionally, I knew my ministry at the time was nearing its end, it was no longer life-giving or sustainable. It was challenging doing college chaplaincy during a pandemic at a college that did not allow any in person activity and was not super thrilled about spiritual care on its campus. I found myself discerning more about what God was calling me to do in life and why I so easily, physically, recovered from sepsis.

The reason I am including that story is because, in large part, it was this experience (and a couple others), that led me to this position two years ago. Someone from this Synod had emailed me the job description, encouraging me to apply, and asking me multiple times in between if I had applied. A few hours before being

informed by the clerk in the summer of 2022 that my name was being recommended, I had received another job offer, one that prior to November 2021, I likely would have accepted. My recovery from sepsis had given me new perspective and insight- it led me to seek out joy. It gave me the space to discern what exactly it was that God was calling me to do, to find that right call, as opposed to one that seems convenient or has a higher income. Seeking joy allowed me to sit with both offers, see the bigger picture, and hear God's call into my life. I admit, when I called the Synod Clerk back a few days later, I was slightly surprised by my response to him stating "yes, I'll let my name stand". Nearly two years later, I can say with full confidence, I have never made a phone call more "right" than that one. And each day as I choose joy, I am reminded of the power of the Spirit, the renewal of Jesus, and the wisdom in trusting God, even when it may not feel like it makes sense.

And it is from the posture of choosing joy that I do the ministry that I do in, for, and with this Synod. Every conversation I have, congregation or presbytery I visit, every presentation I give, and advisory team I have sat on, has been done from the place of joy; Joy at being able to see how God is fully present, even in the situations that seem bleak or discouraging. While the work is not always easy, it is always, always, always joyful. And for that, I am grateful for this Synod, and all its people, for helping me find joy on the daily.

With gratitude, Helena Human

And now, in case you want to see what I do all year, an overview since Synod 2023 follows, and as sneak peek to what's coming up.

### **Youth Consultant Overview**

Monthly Newsletters that include a letter, book recommendation, calendar of events, and other random information about Youth Ministry in the Synod

Sent: November, December, January, February, March, April, September, October

Zoom Gatherings that include a time of teaching on a faith formation topic followed by an open time of fellowship

November 2023 Engaging Children and Youth During Advent

January 2024	Intergenerational Communication
February 2024	Supporting Youth Leaders
March 2024	Choosing and Using Sunday School Material
April 2024	Cultivating Authentic Relationships with Youth
May 2024	Helping Youth See Beauty in a Chaotic World
September 2024	Launching Well
October 2024	Teaching Challenging Topics

PAYS Retreat-

Spring: April 19-21, 2024, hosted at Camp Geddie

Autumn: October 18-20, 2024, hosted at Camp Geddie

Spring theme: Sitting with the Chaos

Autumn theme: Fall into Faith

Uplift- We sent 10 people (3 leaders and 7 youth) to Uplift (former Canada Youth) in July, held in St Catharines, ON at Brock University.

Presbytery visits- I made it to a meeting with each presbytery at least once (minus Newfoundland) to give an update on my work and that of Camp Geddie. I have attended my home presbytery with more regularity.

Congregational Visits- I have attended 25 different congregations (eluding my home congregation) since last October. Visits have included leading part of worship, given a presentation, or done pulpit supply.

Pastoral Guidance- Throughout the year I have provided pastoral guidance to various congregations and ministry situations, both meeting in person and having conversations over zoom with leaders

Small Groups- I have also led several different small groups/Bible study's/educational experiences for groups throughout our synod, typically done over Zoom

These are some of the more 'major' things that are easier to track, there are of course many other smaller things that I tend to forget about, such as visiting outreach events, helping plan Uplift, attend various committee meetings and AMS events.

### **-Upcoming-**

PCCCA Conference- Lake Tahoe, Nevada	Presenter/Workshop Leader	Nov 10-15, 2025
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November Teaching: Living in a Nostalgic World	November 4, 2024
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December Teaching: Seeing Hope in Darkness	December 2, 2024
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Spring PAYS	May 23-25, 2025
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January- April Teaching Topics will be announced December 2<sup>nd</sup>

Running a few small groups rooted in my doctoral research on Reformed Theology, Art, and Youth Ministry

Small Group Educational Experiences will be offered over Zoom throughout the coming months.

## **FINANCES**

### **\*Recommendation 9**

That the Report of MacDonald & Murphy, Inc., be received as the financial statements of the Synod for the year 2023 and that the report be adopted.

### **\*Recommendation 10**

That Scott Bannerman from MacDonald & Murphy, Inc. be named to conduct a review engagement of the Synod financial statements ending December 31, 2024. (Next review 2025)

**Recommendation 11**

That the following be approved as the Synod Budget for 2025:

	<b>2023 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>Actual to Sept. 12/24</b>	<b>Proposed 2025 Budget</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>					
Cape Breton Allocations	19,180.96	19,182.07	18,192.79	16,648.27	22,698.64
Newfoundland Allocations	8,114.08	8,114.08	8,984.82	8,114.08	11,567.32
Pictou Allocations	28,758.52	23,774.54	28,189.20	30,468.30	26,712.37
Halifax and Lunenburg Allocations	30,598.00	30,069.29	31,166.60	28,069.29	27,726.21
New Brunswick Allocations	38,349.68	34,461.00	38,511.51	36,943.92	38,104.74
P.E.I. Allocations	43,052.90	43,722.83	42,718.56	28,512.97	44,159.68
Synod Offering	1,000.00	721.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
Interest Earned	350.00	0.00			
Hospital Visitor Allocations	10,000.00	6,254.90	10,000.00	3,355.83	10,000.00
Regional Resourcing Grant(PCC)	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	33,750.00	45,000.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>224,404.14</b>	<b>211,299.71</b>	<b>223,763.48</b>	<b>185,862.66</b>	<b>226,968.96</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Synod Minutes	1,000.00	316.76	1,000.00		1,000.00
Synod Travel	15,000.00	9,104.12	12,000.00		12,000.00
Synod Accommodations and Meals	5,700.00	4,087.48	5,700.00		5,800.00
Synod Speaker	2,000.00	2,096.19	2,500.00		2,500.00
Synod- Other Expenses	800.00	0.00	800.00	153.95	800.00
Synod Council	2,800.00	0.00	1,400.00		1,400.00
Mission Committee	11,500.00	11,500.00	13,500.00	500.00	13,500.00
Programme Committee	8,000.00	3,205.70	8,500.00	3,095.75	9,000.00
Personnel Committee	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
Geddie Insurance Check	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00
Camp Geddie	20,000.00	20,000.00	22,000.00	22,000.00	22,000.00

Camp Keir	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Camp MacLeod	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
MacGregor Cairn	300.00	0.00	300.00		300.00
Miscellaneous	500.00	1,636.62	500.00	100.00	1,000.00
Sexual Abuse/Harassment Committee	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
Bank Charges	100.00	28.97	100.00	12.86	100.00
Gift to Whitney Canning	0.00	4,681.00			0.00
UPLIFT 2024				5,161.32	
Camping & Youth Consultant Salary	45,880.00	45,880.30	48,631.00	36,473.22	50,138.00
Camping & Youth Consultant Travel	8,000.00	7,833.66	8,500.00	5,717.04	8,500.00
Camping & Youth Consultant Housing	16,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	11,999.97	16,000.00
Camping & Youth Consultant EI	900.00	1,518.89	1,500.00	1,106.28	1,600.00
Camping & Youth Consultant CPP	3,000.00	3,543.96	3,500.00	2,727.99	3,800.00
Camping & Youth Consultant Health	4,784.00	4,918.00	4,900.00	3,873.00	5,200.00
Camping & Youth Consultant Cont. Ed	600.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,100.00
Camping & Youth Consultant Gen Exp	4,000.00	4,386.01	4,000.00	2,400.32	4,300.00
Synod Hospital Visitor	10,000.00	6,254.90	10,000.00	3,355.84	10,000.00
Clerk's Honorarium	3,700.00	3,700.00	3,700.00	1,849.98	3,700.00
Clerk's Expenses	500.00	630.21	600.00	280.32	600.00
Moderator's Expenses	500.00	817.27	600.00	307.28	600.00
Treasurer's Honorarium	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	1,999.98	4,000.00
Treasurer's Expenses	1,700.00	1,012.55	1,200.00	157.16	1,200.00
Assessor Presbyter NL	4,000.00	1,856.32	3,000.00		3,000.00
Synod Insurance	2,800.00	2,588.67	2,800.00		2,900.00
Financial Review	3,000.00	2,418.75	2,600.00		2,800.00
Clerk's Consultation	550.00	0.00	0.00		550.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>221,114.00</b>	<b>201,516.33</b>	<b>224,331.00</b>	<b>140,772.26</b>	<b>228,888.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>3,290.14</b>	<b>9,783.38</b>	<b>(567.52)</b>	<b>45,090.40</b>	<b>(1,919.04)</b>

**\*Recommendation 12**

That the Clerk be instructed to apply for \$45,000 in funding through the Regional Resourcing Fund of the Presbyterian Church in Canada

**\*Recommendation 13**

That an invitation be extended to Tom Reynolds as Synod's guest speaker in 2025

**Recommendation 14**

That the Synod dues for the year 2025 be set at a rate of 1.95% of the dollar base figure reported in the Acts and Proceedings of the 2024 General Assembly.

**\*Recommendation 15**

That Synod approve Synod Councils recommendation to accept the invitation received from Zion Presbyterian Church in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island to host the 2025 annual meeting of the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces during the dates of October 20-22, 2025.

**Recommendation 16**

That the report of the Synod Council be adopted.

**THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES**  
**Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2023**

## INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

### To the Members of The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces (the Synod) that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, and the statements of revenues and expenses, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

### Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces as at December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with ASNPO.

New Glasgow, Nova Scotia  
September 19, 2024

*MacDonald +  
Murphy Inc.*

Chartered Professional Accountants

**THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenses**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2023**

	2023	2022
<b>Revenue</b>		
Cape Breton	\$ 19,304	\$ 19,528
Halifax - Lunenburg	30,598	27,618
New Brunswick	40,268	35,567
Newfoundland	8,114	8,378
Pictou	28,476	26,355
Prince Edward Island	43,243	38,330
	<u>170,003</u>	<u>155,776</u>
Other revenue (Note 4)	54,734	51,401
	<u>224,737</u>	<u>207,177</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Assessor - Newfoundland	1,856	
Camp Geddie	26,500	53,500
Camp Keir	20,000	19,000
Camp MacLeod	11,000	10,000
Camping and Youth Consultants (Note 5)	88,500	92,144
Clerk's expenses	630	663
Clerk's honorarium	3,700	3,700
Interest and bank charges	28	29
Miscellaneous	1,637	308
Mission Committee	11,500	11,519
Moderator's expenses	817	
Professional fees	2,419	2,419
Programme Committee	3,206	1,650
Synod hospital visitor	6,255	6,047
Synod insurance	2,589	2,571
Synod meetings (Note 5)	15,476	16,703
Treasurer's expenses	1,013	906
Treasurer's honorarium	4,000	4,000
	<u>201,126</u>	<u>225,159</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses from operations</b>	<b>23,611</b>	<b>(17,982)</b>
<b>Other income</b>		
Unrealized gain (loss) on Consolidated Investment Portfolio	7,437	(7,220)
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$ 31,048</b>	<b>\$ (25,202)</b>

**Statement of Changes in Net Assets**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2023**

	2023	2022
Net assets - beginning of year	\$ 181,200	\$ 206,402
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	31,048	(25,202)
Net assets - end of year	<u>\$ 212,248</u>	<u>\$ 181,200</u>



THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES  
Statement of Financial Position  
December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 96,729	\$ 86,357
Accounts receivable (Note 6)	39,064	29,651
HST recoverable	1,888	1,241
	<u>137,681</u>	117,249
Long term investments (Note 7)	92,261	82,375
Trust funds (Note 10)	<u>229,824</u>	210,016
	<u>\$ 459,766</u>	<u>\$ 409,640</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable (Note 9)	\$ 12,707	\$ 18,424
Deferred income	4,987	
	<u>17,694</u>	18,424
Trust funds (Note 10)	<u>229,824</u>	210,016
	247,518	228,440
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted net assets	<u>212,248</u>	181,200
	<u>\$ 459,766</u>	<u>\$ 409,640</u>

THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES  
Statement of Cash Flows  
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Cash receipts	\$ 217,861	\$ 201,564
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(207,460)	(216,475)
Interest paid	(29)	(28)
	<u>10,372</u>	<u>(14,939)</u>
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Funds received from Camp Geddie in Trust		160,000
Funds invested with Presbyterian Church in Canada		(250,000)
		<u>(90,000)</u>
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash flow</b>	<b>10,372</b>	<b>(104,939)</b>
<b>Cash - beginning of year</b>	<u>86,357</u>	<u>191,296</u>
<b>Cash - end of year</b>	<u>\$ 96,729</u>	<u>\$ 86,357</u>
<b>Cash consists of:</b>		
Cash	\$ 46,729	\$ 86,357
Guaranteed investment certificate	50,000	
	<u>\$ 96,729</u>	<u>\$ 86,357</u>

**THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES**

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Year Ended December 31, 2023**

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**1. Purpose of the Synod**

The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces (the "Synod") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated provincially under the Societies Act of Nova Scotia. As a registered charity the Synod is exempt from the payment of income tax under Section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces (the "Synod") is a court of the Presbyterian Church of Canada which oversees and supports presbyteries, congregations and joint ministries in the Atlantic Provinces.

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies**

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO) and, in management's opinion, with consideration of materiality and within the framework of the following accounting policies:

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents represent amounts on deposit short-term investments with a financial institution with maturities of three months or less.

**Contributed services**

Volunteers contribute their time to assist the Synod in carrying out its services and programs. Due to the difficulty of determining their fair value, these contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements. Contributed services or amounts where a fair value can be determined are recorded in the financial statements. In the current year \$nil (2022 - \$nil) of contributed expenses were recorded.

**Revenue recognition**

The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces follows the deferral fund method of accounting for contributions.

Under the deferral method of accounting, restricted contributions related to expenses of future periods are deferred and recognized as revenue in the period in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are reported as revenue when they are received or receivable, if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

**Trust funds**

Funds held in trust are comprised of guaranteed investment certificates with interest rates ranging from 4.25% to 5.35%. Also held in trust are funds invested with an investment portfolio managed by The Trustee Board of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

**Measurement uncertainty**

Certain amounts in the financial statements are subject to measurement uncertainty and are based on the Synod's best information and judgment. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Examples of significant estimates include:

- the allowance for doubtful accounts;
- the recoverability of long term investments;

*(continues)*

**THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2023**

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**2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Financial instruments**

The Synod initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. It subsequently measures all of its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Transaction costs related to financial instruments measured at fair value subsequent to initial recognition are expensed as incurred. Transaction costs related to other financial instruments are added to the carrying value of the asset or netted against the carrying value of the liability and are then recognized over the expected life of the instrument using the effective interest method.

**3. Financial instruments**

The Synod is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the Synod's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2023.

**Credit risk**

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The Synod is exposed to credit risk from members. In order to reduce its credit risk, the Synod reviews a new members credit history before extending credit and conducts regular reviews of its existing members' credit performance. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific accounts, historical trends and other information. The Synod has a significant number of members which minimizes concentration of credit risk.

**Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Synod is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its receipt of funds from its members and other related sources, contributions to the pension plan, and accounts payable.

**Market risk**

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Synod is exposed to this risk in respect of its investment portfolio.

**Interest rate risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. In seeking to minimize the risks from interest rate fluctuations, the Synod manages exposure through its normal operating and financing activities. The Synod is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its cash equivalents and trust fund investments.

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Synod is not exposed to significant other price risks arising from these financial instruments.



**THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2023**

**4. Other revenue**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Regional Resourcing Grant (PCC)	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000
Hospital visitor allocations	6,255	6,047
Synod Offering	721	695
Interest earned	308	65
Consolidated Investment Portfolio income (losses)	2,450	(406)
	<u>\$ 54,734</u>	<u>\$ 51,401</u>

**5. Expenses**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Camping and Youth Consultants</b>		
Wages and employee benefits	\$ 76,542	\$ 89,156
Travel	7,602	2,049
Office expenses	4,356	939
	<u>\$ 88,500</u>	<u>\$ 92,144</u>

**Synod meetings**

Travel	\$ 8,976	\$ 9,909
Accommodation and meals	4,087	4,372
Speaker	2,096	2,195
Other expenses	317	227
	<u>\$ 15,476</u>	<u>\$ 16,703</u>

**6. Accounts receivable**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Allocations receivable	\$ 50,811	\$ 46,016
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(12,777)	(16,365)
Other receivables	1,030	
	<u>\$ 39,064</u>	<u>\$ 29,651</u>

**THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2023**

**7. Long term investments**

	2023	2022
Presbyterian Church in Canada - Consolidated Investment Portfolio, at cost	<u>\$ 92,044</u>	<u>\$ 89,594</u>
Market value	<u>\$ 92,261</u>	<u>\$ 82,375</u>

The Synod has invested in the Consolidated Investment Portfolio, an investment fund managed by the Trustee Board of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Board acts as trustee of the Consolidated Investment Portfolio and monitors the investments in the fund for conformity to appropriate investment and Church policies.

The total investment made to the Consolidated Portfolio was \$250,000 in April, 2022. The Synod contributed 36% (\$90,000) towards the investment, while the remaining 64% (\$160,000) was received from, and is invested in trust on behalf of Camp Geddie.

Any realized and unrealized income or losses during the year are allocated to each entity, consistent with the original investment allocation.

**8. Pension plan**

The Synod is a member of The Presbyterian Church in Canada Pension Plan which was established to provide retirement income for eligible individuals. The plan is a contributory single-employer defined benefit pension plan. The Synod has accounted for this pension plan as a defined contribution pension plan because sufficient information is not available to use defined benefit plan accounting. The Synod recognizes the contributions required to be made under the plan as an expense. Total combined employer and employee contributions for the year were \$nil (2022 - \$11,460).

**9. Accounts payable**

	2023	2022
Trade	\$ 6,732	\$ 6,348
Payroll remittances	4,335	10,511
Funds held for Comfort Fund - Hospital Visitor	<u>1,640</u>	<u>1,565</u>
	<u>\$ 12,707</u>	<u>\$ 18,424</u>

**THE SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2023**

**10. Trust funds**

	2023	2022
<b>Trust funds</b>		
Camp Geddie	\$ 164,020	\$ 146,444
Dr. E.H. Bean Bursary	23,377	22,529
Grace Doucette Bequest	10,702	10,374
Dr. Frank Baird Bursary	10,559	10,135
Margaret MacDougall Bursary	5,793	5,582
Celina Heppell Bequest	4,608	4,491
Synod Bursary	3,877	3,718
Lady Sarah Smith Bequest	3,508	3,430
Dutch Bequest	2,962	2,895
Hospital Emergency Fund	418	418
	<u>\$ 229,824</u>	<u>\$ 210,016</u>

**The trust funds are represented by:**

Presbyterian Church in Canada - Consolidated		
Investment Portfolio	\$ 164,020	\$ 146,444
Guaranteed investment certificates	61,551	59,344
Cash in operating account	4,253	4,228
	<u>\$ 229,824</u>	<u>\$ 210,016</u>

During the year, the trust funds held in guaranteed investment certificates received \$2,206 (2022 - \$651) of interest revenue. Bursaries totaling \$nil (2022 - \$192) were paid out of these trust funds.

The portion of the investment with the Presbyterian Church in Canada that is held in trust realized \$4,355 of investment income (2022 - \$722 investment loss) and an unrealized gain of \$13,222 (2022 - \$12,834 unrealized loss).

**11. Related party transactions**

Transactions with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, presbyteries, congregations and joint ministries are recorded at the exchange amount. The relationship of the bodies is disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

# VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

## THOUGHTFUL, ENGAGED AND GENEROUS CHRISTIAN LEADERS

VST is called to educate and form thoughtful, engaged, and generous Christian leaders for the church and the world. Our graduates are thoughtful people, reflective about how to interact with the large issues of our time out of the deep resources of faith. Our students are engaged, willing to get involved in the world, not just wait for the next one. Our theological ethos is designed to nurture practitioners who give their lives for God and the gospel. Our graduates are generous, able to find friends with whom to collaborate for the love of God and the good of the world. We go deep with God in Christ and so wide with the world God loves.

### Executive Summary

The academic year 2023-2024 has been a strong year. We were granted ten years of accreditation by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in June of 2023. This is longest possible period of accreditation granted and the longest period of accreditation VST has ever achieved. VST is also accredited by the Provincial Government, carries the Educational Quality Assurance designation provided by the British Columbia Ministry of Advanced Education and holds a degree granting charter through the province. VST is also a Designated Learning Institution, a federal designation. The degrees of Presbyterian students are granted by VST on the strength of its provincial degree granting charter, its status as an accredited institution and teaching college at the University of British Columbia. The General Assembly regards graduates from VST as holding a degree from a Presbyterian College.

We will enroll the first students in our Ph.D. program in conjunction with Pretoria University this year. Two new faculty hires, in preaching and field education, give us our full complement of faculty. In addition, VST has made a strong commitment to “students first” in new hires for student support and services and in robust financial support to our students. The numbers of students enrolled in our programs is back at all time highs – both head count (202) and credit hour enrollment. We have strong enrollment from the US and Asia, as well as Canada. Online students now makeup at least half of most classes. We are committed to first rate and up-to-date technology and pedagogy for online students so that their classroom experience is participatory and excellent. We are now into the second iteration of online classroom technology. We have a work plan to renew some classrooms and facilities every year in both our buildings. Pastoral courses are still taught in an intensive in-person format. Housing expenses for those occasions are underwritten by VST to 50% of costs through the generosity of donors. We have engaged our denominational partners to find suitable housing for non-resident students with some success. 24 students will convocated this year at Kerrisdale Presbyterian Church.

### FACULTY/PRESBYTERIAN FACULTY

Our Presbyterian faculty include The Rev. Dr. Richard Topping, President and Vice-Chancellor and St Andrew’s Hall Professor of Studies in the Reformed Tradition, the Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart, Dean of St Andrew’s Hall and half-time Professor of Mission Studies at VST, and The Rev. Rebecca Simpson, half-time Director of Denominational Studies and half-time Academic Programs Supervisor at VST. The Rev. Rebecca Simpson was granted a renewal of contract after a very positive review by her VST colleagues with input from students, denominational officials and staff. Ms. Joyce Huang, a Presbyterian, became the new Registrar at VST this past fall and we are glad for her work among us.

Faculty are productive as scholars and pastors, regularly publishing significant monographs and articles for the life of the church now. The faculty collectively published a volume of sermons on the Ten Commandments in 2023. All of our faculty are regular preachers across the country and around the world. The Rev. Dr. Joni Sancken (Mennonite) and The Rev. Mary Nichol (United Church) began as professors - of Preaching and Director of Field Education - in January of 2024. This completes our complement of 11 Faculty members, supplemented by highly experienced and credentialed Sessional lecturers. VST has committed itself to holding a course every semester taught by an Indigenous Instructor.

### **VST BOARD/EMPLOYEES**

Bishop David Lehmann is the Chair of the VST Board. The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris is Vice-Chair. Ms. Catherine Evans is the Chancellor at VST. We are well served by their excellent leadership. We are a theological school preparing Christian leaders for the United, Anglican and Presbyterian Churches and our board membership reflects that ecumenical composition and more. Our strategic plan was reviewed, updated and approved in November of 2022 and will undergo subsequent revision in 2024-2025. In 2023-2024, we welcomed two new Presbyterian Board members from the Board of St Andrew's Hall, Dr. Victor Ling and The Rev. Gwen Brown.

### **PARTNERSHIPS**

VST extends its reach and magnifies its impact through strategic partnerships. In addition to our core relationships with our Affiliate (Anglican and United) and Associate (Presbyterian) denominations, we work with UBC, the Sauder School of Business, Huron College at Western University, Durham University in the UK, St Mark's College and Regent at UBC, The Canadian Chinese School of Theology in Vancouver, and the University of Pretoria to deliver educational programs ranging from certificate to Ph.D. levels. Our relationships with Jakarta Theological Seminary, Indonesia, and St Andrew's, Quezon City, Philippines, continue with visiting faculty teaching in our summer school and making guest appearances in classes. These agreements help us deliver a theological education that is contextually appropriate and global in awareness.

### **GRANTS/FINANCES/FOUNDATION**

Vancouver School of Theology has achieved a balanced operating budget for ten years in a row. Annual donations in the past three years average around 2 million dollars. Each year we plan for an increase of 5%. We have allocated annual surpluses to capital expenses and maintenance and use these funds every year. Our employees have received increases in each of the past nine years based on COLA, equity and performance standards. Our CFO and Vice-President, Ms. Shari Coltart, retired this year. She will stay on to direct HR and student awards. Mr. Eduard Gutierrez is our new CFO. He works closely with our Audit and Finance subcommittee of the Board, chaired by Mr. Rob Dickson. The VST Foundation is chaired by The Rev. Dr. Doug Goodwin, and it provides a significant revenue stream for the operations of the school drawn at 5% in keeping with federal legislation. We have undertaken to provide more student support, in addition to current scholarships, in the form of bursaries of up to 70% for students with financial need for the past and next academic years. In the academic year 2022-2023 VST provided students with over a half million dollars in bursaries, scholarships and awards. We anticipate that significant additions to our endowment will be required to support the mission of VST – to educate and form thoughtful, engaged and generous Christian leaders - in the coming years. We do not want to borrow against the future, but to set up those who follow for success in the work of theological education. A campaign –Hope and Vitality: A Plan to Flourish Together has begun.

VST has completed the expenditure of a Luce Grant for Indigenous Ministry (\$400,000 US) through the Teaching House that Moves Around. The program will continue for one more year, in Northwest Communities in British Columbia, funded by a grant (\$225,000) through the United Church of Canada, and in Saskatchewan, funded by the Anglican Foundation of Canada (\$15,000). This important ministry is a continuation of a 35-year commitment to Indigenous Ministry by the Vancouver School of Theology through its Indigenous Studies Program, currently under the direction of The Rev. Dr. Ray Aldred. The Indigenous Summer School is unique in the country drawing Indigenous scholars who teach Indigenous students using Indigenous methodology and practice.

VST has received significant gifts in the recent past through the robust efforts of our Advancement team. The Lilly Endowment awarded the school a \$1 million (US) phase-two grant in 2023 to retool and revitalize Field Education. We envision spending around \$500,000.00 this coming year for program development and as stipends for students doing field education. This is in addition to other student support. Our Sauder School of Business program is completely endowed so that students can learn finance, adaptive leadership, leading in times of transition, coaching and mentoring, excellence in administration **in addition** to their theological education. They receive the Sauder Certificate in Leadership Excellence through the completion of this program. Significant gifts from the Anglican Foundation of Canada (\$15,000.00) and two British Foundations (2X\$ 20,000.00) help fund the Indigenous Summer School program with particular attention to youth and children.

In 2022-2023, VST received over \$300,000.00 to endow the O’Driscoll Forum in Preaching and the Arts. This program, named in honour of The Rev. Herbert and Paula O’Driscoll, will take place each summer at VST in conjunction with the Summer School program. It is modelled after the College of Preachers which took place at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC., where Herb was leader. It gives preachers and liturgical leaders a chance to “workshop” with each other under the direction of a master preacher and liturgical artist. This year, summer 2024, the Forum will be facilitated by Bishop William Willimon and Mr. Lonnie Delisle on the theme of preaching as leadership. The Anglican Foundation made a significant donation for start up costs for this program (\$15,000.00). <https://vst.edu/odriscollforum/>

VST held the 2023 Inter-religious Conference, “Making Meaning in a Time of Media Polarization,” May 30-June 1. This annual conference includes presentations by leading practitioners and scholars and a series of student papers for which there is an annual prize. The 2023 winner of the Ruth and Bernard F. Duhan Inter-religious Student Essay Prize was Chanil Lee, who is a doctoral student at VST. In 2024 the theme is “Sacred Arts in a Pluralistic Society”, and the conference took place May 21-23. This event is funded by VST and through a series of donors and foundations (\$40,000.00). It took place in person and online. <https://vst.edu/inter-religious-studies-program/conference/>

Renovations in Epiphany chapel to green the space, update the technology and refresh the building are in motion. The roof has been replaced, students online can now share in services through participative technology and the sound and lighting systems in the building have been completely replaced. All windows and doors were replaced this spring and stain glass will be installed. This project is fully funded through a \$1.2 million legacy gift.

## ACADEMIC ENROLLMENT

The headcount at VST for spring 2024 is 202. Our enrollment is very strong, the second highest in the last 20 years and up 24% from last year. The largest area of growth at the school in recent years is the numbers of student doing research degrees and students preparing as Spiritual Care workers. In the past 6 years, we have a 500% increase in research degree students. M.Div. students are still the largest cohort with the highest number of course registrations - followed by MAPPL, MATS, TH.M. and doctoral students. A discussion is under way about right-sizing our school.

Of the three historic partners of the school in the spring semester of 2024, the Anglican/Episcopal Church has the largest cohort at 40 degree students, the Presbyterian and United Churches both have 37. VST continues to expand its ecumenical bandwidth, in keeping with the vision of its founders: 52 degree students come from other Christian churches, 10 a variety of faith traditions, and 7 do not identify their religious background. Students at VST come from other denominations, including Catholic, Methodist, Lutheran, Pentecostal, Baptist, Orthodox, Alliance, Mennonite, international Reformed and Quaker. 5 students are enrolled in the Ph.D. program, which VST offers in partnership with Durham University, UK. There are 35 students registered as auditors or for certificate level programs in the spring semester. We have new certificate/ diploma programs for training deacons and lay leaders for engagement in the church, with specialization in pastoral care, youth and children's ministry and preaching. VST has a joint BA-M.Div. program with St Mark's College. This combined program reduces the overall time to complete both degrees by one year. Two students are registered in this program.

VST has a robust online recruitment program, engages online international recruitment services, holds a VST Sunday once a year, in which over 50 churches across Canada participate, and hosts an Explorers Weekend at the school where students experience life as a student for a few days. Our Coordinator of Recruitment, Mr. Sam Andri, provides outstanding leadership. We are grateful to congregations where our students are welcomed. We are experiencing a solid influx of applications for the 2024-2025 academic year. VST has taken a "Students First" approach to the application process and is working hard at minimizing steps and supporting applications, including providing online seminars with legal and immigration experts. Once students arrive at VST, the school invests in coaching for writing and research, a buddy program for international students and assistance in finding housing. We recently established the position of Associate for Student Support and Services.

## SPECIAL LECTURES/SUMMER SCHOOL 2023

Vancouver School of Theology welcomed a series of outstanding lecturers in 2023 and 2024.

- The Somerville lecturer in September of 2023 was led by Rev. Dr. Joni Sancken, Butler Professor of Homiletics and Biblical Interpretation at VST, who gave a lecture and workshop entitled, "All our Sins and Grievs to Bear – building resilience through faith practices."
- Internationally renown professor of sociology, Prof. Hartmut Rosa, was our G. Peter Kaye Lecturer on the topic of "The Listening Society: Religion, Music and Democracy in Resonance."
- Our Visiting Distinguished Scholar for July of 2024 will be Prof. Jehu J. Hanciles who will teach a course entitled, "Beyond Empire: Rethinking the History of Global Christianity" and give a public lecture June July 8 in our summer school on the theme of "Global Migration and Christian Witness." Jehu was not able to come last year. We are glad he is able to do this summer.

All these lectures are fully funded through generous funding restricted for these events and held in the VST Foundation. All these lectures are recorded and available through our You Tube channel.

Summer School 2024 will be held July 1-12 in hybrid format with VST welcoming outstanding scholars, church leaders and students from around the world, including Prof. Will Willimon, Artist James He Qi and Prof. Angela Parker from Seattle School of Theology and Psychology - <https://vst.edu/vst-summer-school/>. Participation in these courses is possible both in person and through zoom.

In partnership with St Andrew's Hall, VST is bringing Dr. Kate Davis of the Seattle School of Theology and Psychology to campus for the Cork Lecture/Workshop: Friday, August 16 and Saturday, August 17 – “Resilience for Ministry in Changing Times: Crisis as Formation” is the topic.

### **CONVOCATION 2024**

On May 7 we conferred degrees and certificates on 25 students. Our convocation was held at Kerrisdale Presbyterian Church, Vancouver. Four students received the Sauder School of Business Certificate in Leadership Excellence. We presented the TEG (thoughtful, engaged and generous) Christian Leader Award to the Rev. Andria Irwin, a VST alumni. This award of \$2,000.00 is to encourage excellent leadership by clergy in the earlier years of ministry. VST awarded an honorary doctorate to Mr. Michael Francis for his nine years of wise and transformative leadership as Chair of the Board at VST. Prof. Norman Wirzba, Gilbert T. Rowe Distinguished Professor of Christian Theology; Senior Fellow at the Kenan Institute for Ethics; Director of Research for the Office of Climate and Sustainability, was our convocation speaker.

Vancouver School of Theology is thankful of its relationship to the Presbyterian Church in Canada. We pray that the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit will be with and among you at General Assembly 2024.

Richard Topping, President

## **KNOX COLLEGE**

A verbal report by Rev. John Borthwick will be presented regarding the Ministry Forum and Counselling Centre programs of Knox College.

## **PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE**

From Montreal we extend greetings to the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces, and trust and pray that you know the riches blessings of Christ as you meet together and as you pursue your ministry and mission. This report represents an opportunity for us to share something new, and to briefly report on the life of the college.

### **Something New – Lay Leadership Formation**

One of the gifts of Presbyterianism is the conviction that leadership arises from the congregation and is embodied in the session. Moreover, given the current landscape of churches in Canada, equipping lay leaders is

becoming increasingly important. To help with this, the Leadership Centre of The Presbyterian College is offering a series of online workshops led by experienced and passionate teachers to help fill this need. The schedule of workshops, each of which will cost \$135 per person, will be as follows:

Spring 2025     *Leading Prayers in Public Worship*, led by Rev. Dr. Roland De Vries

Fall 2025        *Preaching that Connects*, instructor TBD

Spring 2026     *Pastoral Care and Visiting*, instructor TBD

Fall 2026        *Fostering a Missional Imagination*, instructor TBD

Each course will include 4-6 online sessions, and will include activities, short readings, and small assignments to assist participants develop skills. Each session will be approximately 1 ¼ hours in length. Participants are not required to take all 4 but could choose those of most relevance to them.

As lay leaders take on greater responsibilities within congregations of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, the college wants to be present to support and equip them—to give them confidence in their competence for ministry.

We encourage Presbyteries and Synods to identify and encourage those who might benefit from this series of online workshops, and also to consider providing financial support for the workshops for those who are serving within their bounds.

**For more information about this program, please reach out to Adrian Langdon (Director of Programs, at [alangdon@pcmtl.ca](mailto:alangdon@pcmtl.ca)) or to Roland De Vries (Principal, at [rdevries@pcmtl.c.a](mailto:rdevries@pcmtl.c.a)).**

### **What else are we up to?!**

The Leadership Centre continues to renew our Mentoring Program with the support of major Lilly Endowment grant (via the Montreal School of Theology). The college has recently established three new mentoring groups focussed on

Spiritual Care Providers in Health Care

Rural and Remote Ministry

Transitioning into Ministry

These groups provide pastors and other leaders with mutual support and encouragement as they walk the path of ministry today. If you are a pastoral leader and keen to find a supportive environment and encouragement, consider exploring the Mentoring Program of the college.

Our annual pastors conference took place in May of this year. There were presentations on Faith and Work (Adrian Langdon), Media and Ministry (Matthew Ruttan), and the Church and Disability (Andrea Bourne). In addition, there was dynamic daily worship, an evening of Jazz and Poetry, a workshop in the visual arts, and presentations by our keynote speaker, Dr. Carmen Imes. We're grateful for positive reviews, and **we are looking forward to May 2025 when Dr. Tod Bolsinger will be our main speaker.** Again, be in touch with Adrian Langdon ([alangdon@pcmtl.ca](mailto:alangdon@pcmtl.ca)) for more information, and remember that May's conference will likely fill up quickly this year!

A word about enrollment. This Fall our enrollment is higher than it has been in decades, with 20 students in English-language programs offered collaboratively with McGill University and the Montreal School of Theology (BTh, MDiv, STM, PhD), and 25 in our French-language Master of Theological Studies program (in practical and missional theology). 45 students in all degree programs! This makes for a busier and more dynamic institutional life, and it is enriching for each one who is part of the community of the college.

Our team at the College has welcomed two new staff members—a new Dean of Residence, and a new Worship Leader for our chapel services. At present Principal De Vries is on a 6-month sabbatical (until December 31, 2024) and Professor Karen Petersen is serving in the role of Acting Principal.

As a community, The Presbyterian College is grateful for your friendship and support in the gospel and is grateful for your prayers for us.

Rev. Dr. Roland De Vries

## **CAMP GEDDIE**

### **Convenor's Report**

Your Camp Geddie Committee works very hard to provide a suitable camping program for children and youth and to care for the large property that the Synod owns at Ponds near Merigomish, NS. The Camp was begun in 1946 and thus Camp Geddie is about to mark its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

The Committee is very grateful to the Synod for providing the Camp with the leadership of Helena Human who is its Executive Director on a 50% basis. She will have completed two years of service at the beginning of November! Her report on the summer of 2024 is attached to this report. The Committee also very much appreciates the annual operating grant that it receives from the Synod.

The financial statements to the end of December 2023 are attached.

The Committee made major changes to its provision for drinking water since the 2023 camping season resulting in many positive comments because of the improved taste. Heat pumps were installed in the dining hall and kitchen area making the atmosphere much better on very hot days. The Committee is struggling to do the many repairs made necessary by Hurricane Fiona! The Committee wishes to build a new washhouse; this is something for which it has done much planning in recent years. Funding is on the horizon! There are a few other property improvements required to keep the site in a suitable condition.

The Committee makes arrangements for rentals in the off-season; many congregations and groups make use of this provision of the Committee.

I express deep gratitude to the Executive Director, to the staff and Chaplains who served in the summer of 2024 and to the Camp Geddie Committee members, particularly our Treasurer, Marilyn Parker, our Finance Convenor, Greg Fraser, our Personnel Convenors, Daniel and Allison Jack, and John Reeves, our Property Committee Convenor. I also express the gratitude of the Committee to our Rental Office and Property Check person (also our Camp cook!), Lorraine Wright.

May the grace of God continue to sustain, guide and bless the ministry of Camp Geddie.

**P.A. (Sandy) McDonald, Convenor**

## CAMP GEDDIE

### Executive Director Report

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit- Romans 15.13.* During our first morning of our full staff training, I was up early along with a few staff members. As I was making my coffee, I looked outside to where our compost shed was, paused, then looked at my young staff members. One of them quipped “um, I don’t think that’s good, what are you going to do”? I took a sip of my coffee, staring outside, and said “I have no clue”.

The thing we were looking at was an adorable, yet problematic black bear who had broken into the compost shed and was enjoying our compost. After making noise and getting the bear to leave, the staff asked me again what I was going to do. I repeated I had no idea. I went into my office and opened my devotion, in which this passage from *Romans* was the verse for the day. With a calm head, and dwelling in a place of joy and peace, with help from members of the Camp Geddie Committee, Department of Natural Resources, and the MLAs office, we were able to address the bear problem and had no further bear visits. Throughout the summer, however, this passage from *Romans* became one I found myself reciting to myself and to staff members. And without fail, each time, Paul’s words refreshed our minds and spirits as we dwelt in joy and peace that comes from the God of Hope.

Perhaps that started off sounding negative, but it is not- it was a reminder of our purpose, that the work we do at Camp is rooted in the God of hope and through him we are filled with joy and peace. The ministry we do at camp is not without its challenges- children will be homesick, campers will have clashes with each other, there will be sickness and injuries. Campers don’t want to do the activities or are easily distracted during Bible Studies and vespers. Weather- both those hot days and rainy days and burn bans- can cause shuffling of plans. It can feel daunting at times as we realize that over 250 parents entrusted us with their children, trusting us to provide a safe, fun, and welcoming place that will give their children memories forever and perhaps be a life-changing experience. It can feel like a lot at times when we step back and really understand the depth of what we are being called to do over the summer months. Parents and campers had choices, and they chose us to be that safe place this past summer. And the best thing we can do, as staff, is dwell in the trust the God of hope provides us and allow ourselves to be filled with joy and peace.

But, of course, the moments of challenge are minimal compared to the moments of joy and peace, of laughter and fun. When I look back to the summer my mind goes to those moments. I recall the excitement of a camper receiving her first Bible and running around telling other campers they can have one, too, and having a line of campers asking me for a Bible. And having those campers tell me at every meal about the Bible stories they were learning, with one camper asking me why we were keeping the stories a secret, because surely if other

people knew them, the churches would be filled. I am reminded of the young camper who excitedly shared about getting over their fear of the lake and learning how to canoe. Or the camper who walked into my office and handed me a craft she made, stating she had time to make two and wanted to give us (our program director and me) a thank you gift for making camp so fun. I look through the petition that circulated during our Intermediate Camp to bring back the LIT program after a hiatus this summer. As I look to our social media, I see notes of gratitude from parents and campers for this past summer. I scroll through text messages from staff members asking me when they can reapply for 2025 and thanking me for hiring them because it was the best summer, or the emails from staff members asking me if I can help them find a church home near them. I am reminded of the impact our camp had when I am in my home congregation and campers ask me when they can register for next summer. These are, of course, just some of the few stories, and I know each staff member and chaplain could easily write long reports of their own stories about their time at Geddie this summer.

We don't always know the impact that our camp has on people, but I do know that as we root ourselves in the God of Hope, that the Spirit will do great work and as the gospel is being shared, the Geddie legacy continues to grow in another generation of campers. And it is not without the faithful and dedicated support and work of this Synod that we get to do this meaningful work. It is because of our Camp Geddie Committee who do extensive 'behind the scenes' work during the year. It is because of the support from congregations around our Synod who invite us into their churches to speak about Camp Geddie, who give financially, who promote Geddie, and who pray for Camp Geddie regularly. It is because of the presbyteries who send us committee representatives, share our emails, and receive reports. It is because of this Synod as a whole- as you provide financial support, provide oversight, give us space to speak, as you receive our reports, and hold us in prayer throughout the year. It is because of all this that Camp Geddie has the legacy it does within so many people. There is no proper way or adequate words to say thank you for making this ministry possible.

**With deepest gratitude,**

**Helena Human, Executive Director**

### **Camp Overview**

**Theme:** *Linked with Love*. The material is provided by the National Church Office and is produced by Inside Out Curriculum. The theme focused on reminding children they are linked with Love, and are loved, cherished, and treasured as children of God.

**TREC:** Our August Junior and Intermediate Camps were offered as TREC- Teens Ready to Enjoy Creation. We followed a similar structure to our other camps, but had more emphasis on nature/creation, having more meals outside, more time on canoe, survivor day, and creation care activities during programs.

**Chaplains:** Each of our camps was staffed with a volunteer chaplain, all of whom came from this Synod. We had 6 different chaplains, with 2 chaplains volunteering for 2 camps.

## Staff

18 Full-Time Staff

13 are Nova Scotia Residents (11 are from Pictou area, 2 from HRM)

2 are Ontario Residents

2 are Manitoba Residents

1 is a Newfoundland Resident

3 Staff were in 'Admin' Roles (Business Admin, Program Director, Medical Counsellor)

5 Staff were in 'Program' Roles (Canoe, Nature, Arts, Missions, Waterfront/Recreation)

10 Staff were in Cabin Counsellor Roles

## Campers

268 Campers attended throughout the summer

Campers came from: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Ontario, Alberta, Northwest Territories, and Maine

27 Campers came on campership with many others receiving other external funding to attend camp

## Camp Sessions

Pre-Teen	July 2-7	36 Campers	Age: 11-12
Intermediate	July 8-15	36 Campers	Age: 12-15
Mini- Junior	July 17-20	41 Campers	Age: 8-10
Junior	July 22-27	49 Campers	Age: 9-11
Novice I	July 29-31	34 Campers	Age: 7-9
Intermediate TREC	August 2-8	20 Campers	Age: 12-15
Junior TREC	August 10-15	40 Campers	Age: 9-11
Novice II	August 17-19	12 Campers	Age: 7-9

Leader-in-Training Program was on hiatus for 2024.

## Looking Ahead to 2025:

### Dates

Pre-Teen	July 2-7	Age: 11-12
Intermediate	July 8-15	Age: 12-15
Mini- Junior	July 17-20	Age: 8-10
Junior	July 22-27	Age: 9-11
Novice I	July 29-31	Age: 7-9
Intermediate TREC	August 2-8	Age: 12-15
Junior TREC	August 10-15	Age: 9-11

Novice II  
LIT

August 17-19  
Dates: TBD

Age: 7-9  
Age: TBD

### Camp Geddie Financial Report

<b>2023 Camp Geddie</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Operating Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>to Dec 31</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>to Dec 31</b>
<b>Revenue</b>					
Summer Camp Registration	<b>84,000</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>71,311</b>	74,595	72,653
<b>Campership Fund</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>9,650</b>	<b>2,367</b>	6,500	2,209
Synod Grant	<b>22,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	25,000	25,000
Synod grant - Property Check	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,500</b>	6,500	6,500
Donations - Churches, NS **	<b>25,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>30,192</b>	20,000	25,138
Donations - Churches, NB	<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>	350	100
Donations - Churches, NL	<b>250</b>	<b>500</b>		350	
Donations - Churches, PEI	<b>250</b>	<b>250</b>		50	
Donations - Individuals	<b>4,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,556</b>	2,000	1,863
Donations - Groups	<b>7,500</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,610</b>	3,000	5,313
Donations - Memorials	<b>500</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>400</b>	2,000	624
Fund Raising	<b>6,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>1,301</b>	5,000	2,389

Grants	35,000	37,500	20,346	39,000	31,722
Rentals	70,000	42,000	55,642	29,500	42,627
School group rentals	4,000	4,000			3,636
Sale of Clothing, etc	1,600	1,600	1,587	1,000	1,620
Donations in Trust (Missions)			109		283
Other Income	500		134		22,017
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>274,100</b>	<b>236,500</b>	<b>219,155</b>	214,845	243,694
					500
					3,100
					35,000
					5,000
			219,155		287,294
<b>Loan from Site Development</b>			45,000		10,000
Water treatment grant			10,000		5,000
<b>GST/HST Rebate for 2022</b>			4,517		302,294
Hurricane Insurance payment			37,429		
			316,101		
***Grants from:					

Govt student Grants Fed/Prov			14,846		11,222
1st Church - Pictou (1 Staff)					5,000
St Andrew's, Dartmouth (2 staff)					10,000
St. David's - Halifax (1 staff)			5,500		5,500
			-	In Bank =	\$9,984.80
				Total	

\*\* \$1346 from St. Andrew's NG was fundraising coffee house

\*\* \$616 from 1st Church Pictou - their Geddie Spageddie fundraiser

<b>2023 Camp Geddie</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Operating Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>to Dec 31</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>to Dec 31</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
Salaries	151,420	115,000	113,143	96,300	119,579
CPP/EI/WCB	12,155	9,000	9,923	7,345	9,841
Food	40,000	37,000	41,635	35,000	36,448
Insurance	20,500	20,500	1,455	20,000	19,395
Property Checks for Insurance	6,500	6,500	6,424	6,500	5,285
Repairs & Maintenance	6,000	10,000	13,151	10,000	12,915

Maintenance & Mowing person	2,500	2,000	2,540	2,500	1,713
Snow Removal	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,030
Waste Management	4,000	4,000	3,905	3,000	5,772
Honorarium for Treasurer	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
Utilities	9,000	7,500	9,561	10,000	10,979
Superior propane/Other propane	1,000	600	1,111	500	925
Telephone/Internet	1,700	1,700	1,908	1,700	1,706
Honorarium for Rental Officer	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,400
Program	500	1,000	420	1,000	1,058
Clothing for Sale	250	1,000	2,422	1,000	1,400
Camper & Staff Shirts	750	2,750	3,658	2,750	3,395
Business Fees & Licenses	2,400	2,400	2,425	2,000	2,652
Cleaning Supplies	500	500	645	500	112
Medical Supplies	100	300	63	300	204
Office Supplies	200	300	338	300	274
Printing, Ads & promotions	500	500	555	500	513
Postage	200	200	209	200	237

Van Operating Expense	1,000	500	1,726	500	1,441
Leadership Development	100		117	200	
Travel	100	250	94	250	140
ACTIVE Fees	1,250	1,250	1,273	1,000	1,248
Credit Card Processing Fees	2,000	1,900	2,102	1,750	1,896
Bank Fees	25	50	2	50	15
Donations In Trust (Mission Offer)			109	-	283
Professional Fees & Lawyer	100	100	100	100	100
RV Expenses	250	500	177	500	1,177
Miscellaneous	200	200	719	100	190
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>274,100</b>	<b>236,400</b>	<b>229,806</b>	<b>214,745</b>	<b>249,824</b>
	Site Development				12,451
	Hurricane Repairs		33,695		2,300
Site Development loan repaid			10,000		
Deposit on Water Treatment system			9,427		
Unexpected Expenses for water			5,520		
For Kitchen Vent			8,383		

Surge Control, wiring for Water Filter			2,239		
Payment on van loan			4,765		5,000
Purchase of mattress covers re: Inspection			1,110		
Purchases of equipment - Fridges, freezer, computer,etc			4,031		
Camperships covered			4,444		
			313,420	-	269,575

### Summary year end

#### Income to come – Approx.

Rentals - Army Cadets	\$9,884.50
Refund on Sysco bill	\$3,500.00
HST Rebate for 2023	\$7,169.23

Expenses still outstanding

<b>Insurance (approx)</b>	\$22,000.00
<b>Water Treatment System (approx)</b>	\$30,000.00
<b>Site Development Loan (see below)</b>	\$27,066.07

**Purchases: We bought a new freezer, 2 new to us fridges.,2 new water coolers. Also had to buy a new laptop. We had \$2420 in donations come in towards these items. We also were donated a microwave to replace the one that crashed.**

**Site Development**

Borrowed	45,000.00
Purchases	4,030.62
Unexpected expenses for water	5,520.12
Kitchen vent repairs	8,383.19
<b>Owed back</b>	27,066.07
<b>plus from 2022</b>	1,951.00
	<hr/>
	<b>29,017.07</b>

**Camperships**

CAMPERSHIP MONIES USED AT CAMP GEDDIE FROM 2021 UNTIL END OF 2023

	COVERED	DONATED	PAID TAXES
2021	\$3,005	\$124	\$4,407.91
2022	\$4,805	\$2,209	\$6,166.23
2023	\$4,444	\$2,367	\$6,104.45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,254</b>	<b>\$4,700</b>	<b>\$16,678.59</b>

Total camperships covered from Operations, minus donated funds received for the same timeframe, plus taxes paid from 2012 until end of 2023 equals \$24,237.59

**This amount of \$24,232.59 has been paid totally from our Operating Account.**

**Water Filter System**

Grant from Prov. Gov't	\$10,000
Deposit paid on it	\$9,426.40
New wiring, etc	\$2,238.86
Amount over amount received	<b>-\$1,665.26</b>





**CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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Church E-mail: [calvinhalifax@bellaliant.com](mailto:calvinhalifax@bellaliant.com)

April 2, 2024

We have completed a review of the financial records of Camp Geddie for the year ended December 31, 2023.

We confirm the prepared Financial Statements represent an accurate picture of the financial position of the Camp as of December 31, 2023.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Bonnell

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Campbell

*Worship - Teaching - Fellowship - Service - Outreach.*  
Striving to live the Christian Life in today's world.

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

It was with a heavy heart, that I accepted the interim position as convenor for the Synod Program Committee, after the death of our Moderator, Marlene Philips, who also served as the convenor for this committee.

The Program Committee oversees Leadership Development (i.e. the workshops at the meeting of the Synod), as well as funds PAYS weekends, and assists in funding Youth in Mission applications.

At the 2023 meeting of the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces, at First Presbyterian, New Glasgow, NS. we hosted four successful workshops.

These topics included:

*Shifts, Drifts and Lifts: Presbyterians Persist* led by Rev. Dr. Jean Morris

*Empowering Lay Leaders for Worship* led by Rev. John Borthwick (Knox College)

*Communication & Intergenerational Ministry* led by Helena Human (Synod)

*Tips & Tricks for Interim Moderators* led by Rev. Tim Purvis (PCC)

We extend a thank you to all our workshop leaders for their work and expertise.

In 2023 a PAYS weekend was not held for the youth of the Synod. Neither were there any applications submitted for Youth in Mission. Therefore, as a committee, it was decided that being in-line with our mandate of leadership development, some of these unused funds would be used to offset part of the cost for individuals interested in taking the Mental Health First Aid Training that was organized by our Synod Camping and Youth Consultant, Helena Human.

This spring (2024) a successful PAYS weekend was held at Camp Geddie. The youth who attended had a great time and expressed an interest in more PAYS events. Therefore, it was decided that a second PAYS weekend will be held this fall, again at Camp Geddie.

In setting the budget for the upcoming year, 2024-2025, the Program Committee recognizes that hosting two PAYS weekends exceeds our traditional allocation of \$8500. Therefore, we are requesting an addition \$500 to help subsidize the costs of these important youth events.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Torrey Griffiths

Interim Convenor of the Synod Program Committee

## MISSION COMMITTEE

Mission is service, a call to help people in need and to permeate all of life with the compassion of God.

*Living faith 9.1.3*

For the past few years, the focus on Mission has been to support projects at the local level in Congregations across the Synod.

The Committee corresponded by email and zoom.

The major item of business was to inform the Presbyteries of the money available for Mission projects. Notices were sent out with an application form to the Clerks of the Presbyteries in the Synod.

Eleven grant applications were received and sent to the Committee members. Three of the applications were new projects in the Congregations. Two Presbyteries did not send in applications.

The Committee met by Zoom on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to discuss the applications and to disperse the available funds. We also discussed getting more congregations involved in applying for help in funding their local outreach programs. 14,000 was dispersed in 2023.

A late request came from St. Andrew's in Fredericton, Nb. Following a conversation with the Treasurer, Cheryl Weeks and a meeting with the Committee it was decided to grant their application and to borrow from the 2024 budget.

The amount available for 2024 will be \$13,000.

### **Project funded in 2023**

St. James Hanwell, NB Feed the bears and Cubs program (lunch program at school) new application

Kensington and St. John's, New London School snack program new application

Summerside Presbyterian, PE Kraft dinner lunch to Three Oaks school

Kirk AMS Nfld. Personal items for Bridges to Hope. Seniors luncheon social (new)

St. Andrew's and St. David's Bridges to Hope food bank in St. Johns Nfld.

St. David's Caring and sharing for Shut ins

St. James Presbyterian Charlottetown, baby needs for at risk mothers

Burning bush AMS, Pictou Landing Feed the hungry

St. Luke's Bathurst, NB Community Pregnancy Crisis center

Calvin and friends Miramichi, NB. Bag lunches for the Hungry

First Presbyterian, Pictou, NS, Soup luncheons

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Fredericton, Nb. Breakfast on the go,

The total money was used in projects rather than travel or other Committee expenses. We also wanted to have the whole Synod represented in funding projects.

### **Recommendation 1**

That the budget for the Synod Mission Committee for all mission projects be increased to \$15,000.

*nb. This recommendation was withdrawn and Finance was contacted regarding future budgets.*

Carol Stymiest

Convenor Synod Mission Committee

## **AMS**

The purpose of the Atlantic Mission Society (AMS) is to glorify God and support with prayer, study and service mission endeavors through The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

We are a group of women and men from the four Atlantic Provinces who have a heart for Christ's mission in the world. The AMS provides financial support to Presbyterians Sharing and PWS&D projects from the general Society level and from local auxiliaries. AMS members serve on national committees of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, including Assembly Council, Life and Mission Agency Committee, PWS&D and the

International Affairs Committee as well as serving on Synod and Presbytery Committees and Synod Council. Members also work with, and support financially, one Synod and two Presbytery camps.

The AMS continues to publish *The Presbyterian Message*, with subscriptions going across Canada. The *Message* keeps its members connected with each other and the wider church with mission studies and news of mission events happening locally, nationally and internationally. There are five publications each year. The *Message* is also available electronically.

Each year members of the AMS Mission Education Committee prepare the service for Mission Awareness Sunday.

The focus of AMS is shifting from doing the mission work itself, to educating and empowering the people of God so that congregations and Sunday Schools are encouraged and enabled to reach out with Christ's love. Many groups lead worship on Presbyterians Sharing and PWS&D Sundays, providing education for the whole congregation and arranging for opportunities for greater involvement in carrying out Christ's mission. Many AMS auxiliaries develop Lenten, Advent or other seasonal materials.

The AMS Annual Meeting was held on September 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> in Truro. Our guest speakers included Helena Human, Atlantic Synod Camping and Youth Consultant, Cathy Reid, WMS President, Rev. Ian Ross McDonald, AMS member and General Secretary of Life and Mission, PCC, and Allyson Carr, Associate Secretary, Justice Ministries, PCC.

Our treasurer Lillian Crawford retired from her position after many years of faithful service. Well done good and faithful servant.

The AMS yearly gives out bursaries. There are four bursaries available to students studying for ministry valued at \$1200 each. This year we received one application and awarded \$1200 to the ministry candidate. We would like to encourage other to apply. Information and applications can be sent to the President of AMS Carol Stymiest, e mail [stymiestcarol@gmail.com](mailto:stymiestcarol@gmail.com).

The following recommendation was passed at the 2023 Annual Meeting: That we proceed with the divestment of Royal Bank shares to the value of \$40,000 to be distributed as follows: \$20,000 to be distributed in 5 equal amounts to:

Presbyterian Sharing  
PWS&D  
Canada Ministries  
International Ministries  
Priorities for Mission Fund

The remaining \$20,000 in accordance with the recommendation of Auxiliaries. Nineteen projects were recommended. Two projects were recommended by more than one Auxiliary. Ten were PCC Projects-Canada Ministries and International Ministries and the remainder were local Projects in Atlantic Canada.

The way we do mission work is changing, but giving thanks to God, and relying on the Holy Spirit to lead us, we continue to share Christ's love with the world.

Carol Stymiest,  
President, AMS

## CAMP KEIR

The camping season began with staff training June 19-28.

### Staff

Sheila Smith - Camp Director

Scarlett Dovey - Program Director

Chelsey Butler - Camp Cook

Bonnie Butler - LIT and Cook (assistant)

Xan Sizemore - Senior Counsellor - Male

Dakota Hearn - Senior Counsellor - Male

Harry Lewis - Junior Counsellor - Male

Riley Wilson - Junior Counsellor - Male

Ocean Dugay - Senior Counsellor - Female

Ava Searle - Junior Counsellor - Female

Purpose of Staff Training:

1. Build Staff Skills
2. Camper and Staff Safety Training
3. Encourage a Positive Camp Environment and Team Building
4. Staff Growth in Leadership Abilities
5. Study of the Camp Manual and Camp Procedures

Training included Leading with Care presented by Torrey Griffiths. The staff also learned about different age groups and age-appropriate activities and how children grow and change, as well as how this affects their behaviour. The days of staff training were set up with similar elements to the camping season so staff could become familiar with the games and crafts they would be leading. Staff learned ways to connect with campers of different ages and backgrounds: how to start conversations and keep campers engaged, how to anticipate situations such as homesickness, camper disagreements, and working with special needs such as ADHD and behavioural challenges. Staff were given handouts on related subjects and practiced role playing as a group taking turns to become personally familiar and equipped to deal with situations they may encounter. All aspects of the staff training manual were covered as well as additional materials and spiritual formation in worship and prayer for the campers and upcoming camping season.

### Camp Weeks and Number of Campers

Camp Week	Ages	Number of Campers	Girls	Boys
Indiana Keir - June 30 - July 5	Ages 9-11	10	5	5
Leaders in Training June 30-July 12	Ages 15+	2	1	1
Keir - July 7 -12	Ages 9-11	16	13	3
Enkeirto - July -14-17	Ages 6-8	4	3	1
Super Mario Bros - July - 21-26	Ages 10-12	11	3	8
The KeirWizard Cup - July - 28- Aug 2	Ages 13-15	10	6	4
The Adventures of Kieralot Aug 4-9	Ages 11-13	5	3	2
The Land Before Keir Aug 11-14	Ages 7-9	10	6	4
<b>Totals</b>		<b>68</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>28</b>

Camp Keir is a beautiful property with many resources and space for games and activities, time in the water and at the beach, as well as sports and campfires. Each week the campers had fun in actives and heard and participated in Bible studies and songs about key characters such as Adam and Eve, Noah, Moses, David and

New Testament Stories of the Prodigal Son, the Samaritan Woman and the Well, Nicodemus and the Feeding of the 5,000.

The gospel message was shared each week that Jesus died for everything each person has done wrong, and he rose again from the dead so that we could know God. Campers were prayed with to accept Jesus as their Saviour and begin a friendship with God as well as have a deeper relationship with God. Many campers were impacted and asked further questions as well as listened and participated in stories and songs.

The camp committee is faithfully stewarding the responsibility of continuing the camp ministry as it is such a vital ministry in campers' lives and the future of the church. Many campers do not come from Christian families and hear the message of Jesus at camp for the first time. Some campers that come from a church background also had little understanding or knowledge of Bible stories. A concentrated time of fun as well as worship, prayer and Bible study activities provides a unique and essential opportunity and role in spiritual formation that can impact young people for their entire lives.

One staff member has been attending Camp Keir in past years as a camper and LIT and was on staff this year. He comes from an Atheist home, and his parents actively discourage his faith; however, he has a strong Christian faith because of camp and was one of the greatest assets practically and spiritually among the staff this summer. Camping ministry is so important and has much potential to be developed in the future.

The buildings at Camp Keir are functional and offer a lot of space to grow. The addition of A/C this year made the camp very comfortable and reduced problems with humidity and mold. Some areas of the property need paint, both outdoor and indoor, and some minor repair which can hopefully be completed by the next camping season.

More advertising and churches working together for upkeep and promotion would go a long way to ensuring Camp Keir has continued success and impact. Many have a heart to volunteer and fill essential support needs that cannot be completely covered by paid staff. The camp clean-up day was so helpful, and others continued to offer support during the summer.

The camping season was a success with staff fulfilling their roles and campers enjoying the activities and learning about God's love. The future of Camp Keir is bright with good facilities and programs as well as many with a heart to share the message of the gospel and impact lives for the kingdom of God.

### Camp Keir Financials

CAMP KEIR FINANCIAL STATEMENT, September 30, 2024		
Balance on Hand January 1, 2024 Chequing		\$4,304.83
Balance on Hand January 1, 2024 Saving & Sponsorship		\$4,010.47
Balance on Hand January 1, 2024, Shares		\$125.58
Total		\$8,440.88
<b>INCOME</b>		

Donations Churches	\$9,688.00	
Donations AMS	\$2,617.00	
Donation Individuals	\$3,194.23	
Donation Presbytery & RRG	\$25,000.00	
Donation Synod	\$20,000.00	
Interest Savings	\$14.94	
GST/HST Refund	\$3,379.94	
Donations to SponsorShip Fund	\$1,515.00	
Registrations/SS	\$22,061.00	
StudentWage Subsidy	\$4,636.00	
Camp Store sales	\$560.00	
PEI Government Rebate for Heat Pump	\$7,525.00	
Rentals	\$7,300.00	
Sale of Old Furnace	\$2,000.00	
Canada Helps	\$192.00	
Fundraising Supper	\$3,810.00	
Cheques Outstanding	\$2,027.15	
Total	\$115,520.26	\$123,961.14
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Electricity	\$5,600.70	
Phone	\$86.96	
Advertising	\$576.00	
Fuel	\$0.00	
Insurance Bldg/car/liability	\$16,891.00	
Travel and Auto	\$316.42	
Janitorial Wages	\$2,995.60	
Cleaning Supplies	\$1,769.29	

Grass Cutting	\$184.80	
Repairs/Gas	\$179.02	
SponsorShip	\$3,600.00	
Snow Removal	\$1,150.00	
Office	\$829.82	
Property Tax	\$743.84	
Maintenance	\$6,913.09	
Program/Crafts/Photo	\$122.27	
Food & Tuck	\$12,380.62	
First Aid Supplies	\$150.43	
Kitchen Supplies	\$236.41	
Salaries Staff	\$40,882.61	
Worker's Comp	\$419.99	
Rev. Can	\$4,412.39	
Alarm System	\$370.89	
Garbage	\$1,151.94	
Camp (Starlink)	\$1,288.00	
Refund	\$300.00	
Misc Petty Cash & Supper Expenses	\$1,388.21	
Total	\$104,940.30	\$19,020.84
BREAKDOWN IN EACH ACCOUNT		
Balance in Cheque (General)	\$17,985.71	
Balance in Savings-Sponsorship	\$907.36	
Balance in Shares	\$127.77	
TOTAL	\$19,020.84	

**Amelia Campbell**  
**Camp Keir Convenor**

## CAMP MACLEOD

We are pleased to report that Camp MacLeod had another successful season of regular camping. Our directors this year were both new to the job but performed well in concert to ensure that the camp was well led and organized. Some of the staff was also new, but what remained the same was the ministry that Camp MacLeod has always engaged in. Being a place where young people can encounter God and each other in the beauty of creation and learn about His Son while living together in fellowship.

As convenor, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the ministry of the Camp for their efforts and support. From the congregations that fund Camp MacLeod, to the staff that work there, the committee members that volunteer their time and their efforts and the campers that come and take part in the activities there. In particular, I wish to thank the various congregations and individuals that heard our request for food donations for their great generosity. The response we received was doubly helpful in that it stretched our food budget further, and the cook had to spend less time shopping. We are so very grateful for all the help we have received. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Camp MacLeod Committee

**Rev. Peter MacDonald**  
**Camp Macleod Director Report**

The year of 2023 at Camp Macleod was a very successful summer and brought back hope that kids still enjoy going to bible camp and will return year after year, plenty of campers showed up for all the fun activities throughout the summer, in the extremely hot weeks or the more wet rainy weeks the staff at Camp Macleod continued to engage in activities to ensure every week all the campers had the chance to enjoy their stay at camp.

We had slightly less staff this year compared to the 13 staff from the previous year we had a total of 11 staff this year with the majority as brand-new staff members, luckily our staff were fast learners and picked up on how camp works and how to work as a team with the help of our returning staff guiding the way. Our staff consisted of; Braeden Axworthy and Alyssa Lahey as Co-Directors, Janet Maxwell as the Camp Cook, Maggie Ball as Lifeguard, Hailey Sydney as Sports Instructor, Declan Fortune as Devotional Leader, Audrey Belmore as Craft Instructor, Samuel Murrant as our Media Coordinator, and our LIT's (Leader in Training) Marcus Kelly, Charley Nason, and Chloe Willis.

Camp Macleod had received roughly 153 campers new to camp and returning to camp within the age range of 7-14 years old attend camp this summer with many of them registering for 2 or more weeks during the summer. Our most popular age groups were Novice and Junior as seems to be a trend the last year or so. All staff worked hard and improved every single week that passed, by the end of the summer the whole staff worked together very well, and we hope they will return the following year if they are able. The staff worked together to think of new games and activities for the campers to engage in throughout the summer. Our Sports Instructor Hailey would be in charge of the activities played outside, some of the campers favourite outdoor games we played would be fireball (free for all dodgeball), capture the flag, cops and robbers, soccer baseball, bump, and our

weekly dodgeball tournament campers vs counsellors. Even night games like spotlight, holy grail and counsellor hunt. We have plenty of crafts for the campers to create and take home to show their parents. Audrey was our Craft Instructor who planned the crafts each week, some of the crafts the campers can participate in are gods eye, bracelets, necklaces, painted rocks, drawings and finger puppets.

Our days spent in the hot weather would mostly consist of swimming at our beautiful waterfront with an area enclosed by buoys where campers can swim and if they pass the swim test conducted by our lifeguard Maggie then they will be able to swim out to the raft where they can jump off into the water and swim around with their friends safely with staff always around and watching. Declan was in charge of conducting all Bible studies as the Devotional Leader, keeping the campers engaged and interested in the bible by telling them plenty of story's and even getting the campers to read the to the group if they felt comfortable doing so.

Camp Macleod is a wonderful place where lifelong friends are found and plenty of good memories are made, when I was a camper, I always wanted to be a staff member. To work at Camp Macleod was a dream of mine because I saw how the staff were like a family that were always so nice and inclusive with all the campers, I wanted to be like them. I was given that opportunity when I was old enough to join the staff and I was able to be the kind of counsellor that younger me would have wanted me to be and do my best for the campers to enjoy themselves as much as I did when I was a camper. Now I have been lucky enough to hold the title of Co-Director and I feel as though younger me would be so excited knowing he would have such a large role in this camp I had come to love. I think I speak for all the staff when I say, the best part of every year that passes is when we get to walk through the red gate and into the cabins of Camp Macleod

**submitted by Alyssa Lahey and Braeden Axworthy**

### **Camp Schedule**

July 3<sup>rd</sup> to July 9<sup>th</sup> - Junior Co-Ed (Ages 9-11)

July 10<sup>th</sup> to July 16<sup>th</sup> Intermediate Co-Ed (Ages 12-14)

July 17<sup>th</sup> to July 23<sup>rd</sup> Junior Co-Ed (Ages 9-11)

July 24<sup>th</sup> to July 30<sup>th</sup> Intermediate Co-Ed (Ages 12-14)

July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup> Novice Co-Ed (Ages 7-8)

August 7<sup>th</sup> to August 13<sup>th</sup> Junior Co-Ed (Ages 9-11)

August 14<sup>th</sup> to August 20<sup>th</sup> Junior Co-Ed (Ages 9-11)

August 21<sup>st</sup> to August 27<sup>th</sup> Intermediate Co-Ed (Ages 12-14)

Camp MacLeod Committee Members:

Peter MacDonald, Corrie Stewart, Irving MacSween, Wendy Bryan, Kathleen Jerrott, Terrance MacLeod, Jimmie Campbell, Sarah MacInnes, Sandra MacLeod, Taylor Maxwell, Jessica Breen, Braeden Axworthy, Margie MacIntyre.

**Camp MacLeod  
Income Statement  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023**

	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>		
Congregation allocations	\$15,496.00	\$15,750.75
Camper registration fees	\$30,000.00	\$25,445.00
Camperships		\$0.00
Rentals		\$400.00
Donations including memorials	\$3,500.00	\$8,577.80
Payroll grants	\$4,600.00	\$4,570.00
Fundraisers		\$1,069.23
Synod support	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00
AMS support	\$500.00	\$2,150.00
Interest		\$0.38
HST rebate	\$700.00	\$810.51
Registration refunds		(\$1,166.35)
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$65,796.00</b>	<b>\$68,607.32</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>		
<b>Staff &amp; Benefits</b>		
Regular staff including benefits	\$40,000.00	\$46,083.46
LITs	\$5,200.00	\$3,600.00
	<u>\$45,200.00</u>	<u>\$49,683.46</u>
<b>Supplies &amp; Equipment</b>		
Food & Tuck	\$12,000.00	\$10,746.27
Offering paid		\$0.00
Christian education	\$400.00	\$20.00
Sports	\$300.00	\$51.19
Crafts	\$300.00	\$462.64
Photos & T-shirts	\$300.00	\$303.07
First aid	\$200.00	\$124.28
	<u>\$13,500.00</u>	<u>\$11,707.45</u>

**Camp MacLeod  
Income Statement  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023**

	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL
<b>Administration</b>		
Postage & office	\$400.00	\$175.41
Telephone	\$800.00	\$771.46
Brochures		\$0.00
Training & travel	\$500.00	\$0.00
Publicity	\$500.00	\$0.00
Fees & permits	\$200.00	\$0.00
Bank charges	\$100.00	\$64.00
Petty cash	\$200.00	\$0.00
	<u>\$2,700.00</u>	<u>\$1,010.87</u>
<b>Property:</b>		
Power	\$6,000.00	\$3,482.45
Insurance	\$7,052.00	\$7,052.00
Repairs & maintenance	\$2,500.00	\$4,729.79
Capital Allocation (transfer)		
	<u>\$15,552.00</u>	<u>\$15,264.24</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u><b>\$76,952.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$77,666.02</b></u>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u><b>(\$11,156.00)</b></u>	<u><b>(\$9,058.70)</b></u>
<b>Other Items:</b>		
Capital transferred from operating		
Capital funds spent		<u>(\$1,282.33)</u>
		<u>(\$1,282.33)</u>
Bank balance Beginning		\$43,715.70
<b>Bank balance, Ending</b>		<u><b>\$33,374.67</b></u>

**CAMP MACLEOD**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	Operating	FUND			Capital	TOTAL
		Shaw	Canoe	Mattress		
<b>Net Assets:</b>						
Bank	\$19,191	\$4,245	\$2,328	\$4,398	\$3,213	\$33,375
Money market investment	\$22,383					\$22,383
Due From (To) other Funds						\$0
Restitution receivable						\$0
Fixed Assets					\$298,932	\$298,932
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$41,574</b>	<b>\$4,245</b>	<b>\$2,328</b>	<b>\$4,398</b>	<b>\$302,145</b>	<b>\$354,690</b>
<b>Equity:</b>						
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$49,616</b>	<b>\$4,245</b>	<b>\$2,328</b>	<b>\$4,398</b>	<b>\$302,145</b>	<b>\$362,732</b>
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	-\$9,059					-\$9,059
Contributions & transfers						\$0
Non-capital expenditures						\$0
Money market earnings	\$1,017					\$1,017
						\$0
<b>Ending Equity</b>	<b>\$41,574</b>	<b>\$4,245</b>	<b>\$2,328</b>	<b>\$4,398</b>	<b>\$302,145</b>	<b>\$354,690</b>

# APPENDIX A

## CHANGES AFFECTING STUDENTS, PROFESSIONAL CHURCH WORKERS AND CONGREGATIONS

### SYNOD OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES

(October 1, 2023– September 30, 2024)

#### STUDENTS CERTIFIED AS CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY

##### PRESBYTERY OF PICTOU

St. James Smith, Patricia          January 16, 2024

#### CANDIDATES CERTIFIED FOR ORDINATION

None Reported

#### ORDINATIONS

None Reported

#### DESIGNATION TO ORDER OF DIACONAL MINISTRIES

None Reported

#### RECEPTIONS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS

None Reported

#### INDUCTIONS

##### PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Coull, David F., Bethel, Sydney, December 17, 2023

##### PRESBYTERY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

MacLeod, Allyson A., Zion, Charlottetown June 2, 2025

MacLeod, Kirk D., Zion, Charlottetown June 2, 2025

**INSTALLATIONS****None Reported****APPOINTMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS****PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX AND LUNENBURG**

MacLean, E.M. Iona, The Presbyterian Church of St. David, Halifax, stated supply, October 1, 2023

**DESIGNATION OF OVERSEAS MISSIONARIES****None Reported****PLACED ON CONSTITUENT ROLL****MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENTS**

McDonald, P.A. (Sandy), Iona Church, Dartmouth, equalizing minister, April 1, 2024.

**PLACED ON THE CONSTITUENT ROLL****MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF DIACONAL MINISTRIES****None Reported****PLACED ON THE APPENDIX****MINISTERS OF WORD AND SCARAMENTS****PRESBYTERY OF CAPE BRETON**

Robinson, R. Ritchie, June 1, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX & LUNENBURG**

McDonald, P.A. (Sandy), April 1, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

Burdett, Kent E., January 24, 2024

Kraglund, Eric W., June 30, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

MacPhee, Roger W., December 31, 2023

Burdett, Kent E., June 18, 2024

**PLACED ON THE APPENDIX TO THE ROLL****MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF DIACONAL MINISTRIES**

**None Reported**

**REMOVED FROM APPENDIX****MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENTS**

**None Reported**

**REMOVED FROM APPENDIX TO ROLL****MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF DIACONAL MINISTRIES**

MacLeod, Margaret A., deceased, February 2, 2024

**PLACED ON CONSTITUENT ROLL BY LEAVE OF ASSEMBLY**

**None Reported**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**None Reported**

**RESIGNATIONS**

**None Reported**

**DISSOLUTION OF PASTORAL TIE****PRESBYTERY OF CAPE BRETON**

Robinson, R. Ritchie, St. Giles, North Sydney and St. Andrew's, Sydney Mines, June 1, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX & LUNENBURG**

McDonald, P.A. (Sandy), St. Andrew's, Dartmouth, April 1, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

Kraglund, Erik W., Saint Columba, Saint John, June 20, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

MacPhee, Roger W., St. John's, Wood Islands and St. John's, Belfast, December 31, 2023

**APPOINTMENT CONCLUDED**

None Reported

**TRANSLATIONS**

None Reported

**CERTIFICATES GRANTED****PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

Burdett, Kent, to Presbytery of Prince Edward Island, June 18, 2024

**RETIREMENTS****PRESBYTERY OF CAPE BRETON**

Robinson, R. Ritchie, St. Giles, North Sydney and St. Andrew's, Sydney Mines, June 1, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX & LUNENBURG**

McDonald, P.A. (Sandy), St. Andrew's, Dartmouth, April 1, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

Kraglund, Erik W., Saint Columba, Saint John, June 20, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

MacPhee, Roger W., St. John's, Wood Islands and St. John's, Belfast, December 31, 2023

**NAME CHANGE OF MINISTER**

None Reported

**DEATHS****PRESBYTERY OF CAPE BRETON**

MacLeod, Margaret A., February 2, 2024

**HISTORICAL CERTIFICATES****None Reported****LETTER OF STANDING GRANTED****None Reported****DEMITTED FROM MINISTRY****None Reported****SUSPENSION FROM MINISTRY****None Reported****SUSPENSION LIFTED****None Reported****DEPOSITION FROM MINISTRY****None Reported****DESIGNATION OF INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS****None Reported****CHANGE OF STATUS OF PRESBYTERY****None Reported****NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT/NEW MINISTRIES****None Reported****CONSTITUTION OF NEW CONGREGATIONS****None Reported**

**CHANGE OF STATUS OF CONGREGATION**

**None Reported**

**AMALGAMATION OF CONGREGATIONS****PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX LUNENBURG**

Knox, Dublin Shore and St. Matthew's, West Dublin, with St. Andrew's, Rose Bay, December 31, 2023

**TRANSFER OF A CONGREGATION TO ANOTHER PRESBYTERY**

**None Reported**

**DISSOLUTION OF CONGREGATION****PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX LUNENBURG**

St. John's, Windsor, January 31, 2024

**PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

St. Paul's, Hampton, April 24, 2024

**NAME CHANGE OF CONGREGATION**

**None Reported**

**MISSION OR PREACHING POINT ESTABLISHED**

**None Reported**

**DEDICATION OF CHURCH BUILDINGS**

**None Reported**

**DECOMMISSION OF CHURCH BUILDING****PRESBYTERY OF PICTOU**

Knox, Blue Mountain, December 31, 2023

## APPENDIX B

### HARASSMENT AND RESPONSE TEAM (HAART)

- Rev. Lorne MacLeod, Convener, 4442 Little Harbour Road, New Glasgow, N.S. B2H 5C4  
902-695-2817 (h) 902-759-7634 (cell) [lorne.macleod@eastlink.ca](mailto:lorne.macleod@eastlink.ca)
- Blair Bannerman, R.R. #1, Barney's River NS B0K 1A0  
902-924-201\*6 (h) 902-924-2271 (cell) [bam-bam@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:bam-bam@ns.sympatico.ca)
- Ms Joyce Graham, 3 Mount Pleasant Court, Saint John NB E2K 3V7  
[jjgraham@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:jjgraham@nbnet.nb.ca)
- Ms Judy MacDonald, 28 Kaleigh Dr., Eastern Passage NS B3G 1N1  
902-463-5577 (h) 902-494-1347 (o) judy.macdonald@dal.ca [macdona6@is.dal.ca](mailto:macdona6@is.dal.ca)
- Daphne E. Dumont, QC P.O. Box 965 Water St., Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 7M4  
902-892-4092(h), 902-894-5003(w), 902-368-3782(f) [macnutt.dumont.lawyers@pei.sympatico.ca](mailto:macnutt.dumont.lawyers@pei.sympatico.ca)
- Mary Pyche, MSW,RSW, 81 Symonds St., Dartmouth, NS B3A 3M1  
902-463-9052(h), 902-454-1421(w), 902-240-7534(c) [mary.pyche@nshealth.ca](mailto:mary.pyche@nshealth.ca)

## APPENDIX C

### SYNOD BURSARIES

Bursaries providing financial assistance to students preparing for full-time service in the Church are available, with various limitations, as the following list details. The addresses will be listed in the most recent edition of the Acts and Proceedings.

**For information re Bursaries 1 through 6 write the Clerk of Synod.**

**1. Dr. Frank Baird Bursary** - Eligibility - (a) Students who have served within the Synod under appointment of the Board of Missions. (b) Students who have served within the Synod under appointment of a Church Court within the Synod, (c) Students whose home congregation is within the Synod, upon recommendation of the Presbytery under whose care the student is.

**2. Dr. E. H. Bean Bursary** - Eligibility - (a) Students for the Ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada from the Synod and certified by one of the Presbyteries of the Synod, (b) Overseas Students (they could be ordained) having some connection with the Board of World Mission studying at one of the Colleges of our Church, (c) Students from other Synods certified by a Presbytery of our Church.

**3. Ross Millar Bursary** - Eligibility - An undergraduate in Arts at Dalhousie University who "is qualifying himself for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Canada", to be awarded by the Board of Governors of Dalhousie on the recommendation of Synod.

**4. David Wark Bursary** - Eligibility - Any student from this Synod in either Arts or Theology studying intramurally at a Canadian institution in preparation for the Ministry of our Church, with a preference for a candidate from any congregation in New Brunswick.

**5. W. L. Harper Scholarship** - Eligibility - Such students of Dalhousie as the Senate may see fit, preference to be given to a student who is looking forward to service in The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

**6. Margaret MacDougall Bursary** - Eligibility - A student who is preparing for full-time service in the Presbyterian Church in Canada with preference being given to students from within the Atlantic Synod.

**For information re Bursary 7 write the Clerk of the Presbytery of Cape Breton.**

**7. Roderick MacLeod Trust** - Eligibility - Candidates from the Presbytery of Cape Breton

**For information re Bursaries 8 through 11 write the Clerk of the Presbytery of Pictou.**

**8. Dr. Robert Johnston Bursary** - Eligibility - (a) Students in Arts or Theology who are certified to Knox or Presbyterian Colleges or the Vancouver School of Theology whose communicant membership is in a congregation within the Presbytery of Pictou. (b) Students for the Presbyterian Ministry residing elsewhere in the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces. (c) Any student recommended by the Principal of one of the above Colleges.

9. John and Carol Sim Bursary - Eligibility - Students in preparation for the Ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada or the Diaconate who are either members of a congregation within the Presbytery of Pictou or under its care.

10. Grace Doucette Bursary - Eligibility - Students certified for the Diaconate (Ewart College) who are members of a congregation within the Presbytery of Pictou.

11. James MacGregor Bursary - Eligibility - Candidates for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Canada from Pictou County; or failing such, from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, or failing such, candidates for the Ministry of the United Church of Canada.

**For information re Bursary 12 write the Clerk of the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island.**

12. Wilkinson Trust - Eligibility - Students for the Christian Ministry from Prince Edward Island.

**For information re Bursaries 13 through 18 write the Clerk of Session of the congregation indicated.**

13. Dr. James M. Cameron - Eligibility - Persons studying for the Presbyterian Ministry, members or adherents of First Presbyterian Church, New Glasgow, N. S., or children of close relatives of any member or adherent of First Church - First Presbyterian Church, New Glasgow, N.S.

14. Lorin Coles Bursary - Eligibility - Candidates for the Christian Ministry from Prince Edward Island - Zion Church, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

15. R. K. Brace Bursary - Eligibility - Candidates for the Ministry of the Methodist, Presbyterian, or Baptist Churches from Prince Edward Island - Zion Church, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

16. Winfield Chester Scott McLure Bursary - Eligibility - Students for the Christian Ministry with the following preferences: (a) The Kirk, (b) Zion Church, (c) St. Mark's Church, (d) New London Church, (e) P.E.I. - Kirk of St. James, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

For information re Bursaries 19 through 27 write the Registrar or Principal of the institution named.

17. Elizabeth Anne MacLean Fund - Eligibility - Theological students preparing for Ministry in the Presbyterian Church in Canada at The Presbyterian College, Montreal.

18. Mary Anne MacAuley - Eligibility - A student from the Maritime Provinces studying for the Presbyterian Church in Canada Ministry at either Knox or Presbyterian Colleges.

19. William McCullough - Eligibility - Student entering the ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, preference to a candidate from St. James, Truro, or First Church, Pictou.

20. David T. Thompson and Elizabeth J. Thompson - Eligibility - A student from Pictou Presbytery enrolled at Presbyterian College.

21. John and Mary P. Thompson - Eligibility - A student from Pictou Presbytery enrolled at Presbyterian College.

22. General Bursaries - Eligibility - Terms are varied - The Registrar, The Presbyterian College, Montreal

23. General Bursaries - Eligibility - Terms are varied - The Registrar, Knox College, Toronto, Ontario.

24. Rogers-Cairns Scholarship - Eligibility - Third and Fourth year students intending to enter the Christian Ministry - The Registrar, University of Prince Edward Island.

25. Lawrence Stewart Bursary - Eligibility - Pre-theological student in first year at Acadia University, preferably a Presbyterian from Sydney Mines or New Glasgow areas - The Registrar, Acadia University, Wolfville, N.S.

For information re Bursaries 28 through 31 write the President of the Atlantic Mission Society.

26. Susan Sylvester Bursary - Eligibility - A student who is preparing for full-time service in the Presbyterian Church in Canada, under the care of a Presbytery in the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces. Preference will be given to a student enrolled in the Christian Education/Diaconal Programme at Knox College.

27. Estelle MacKenzie Bursary - Eligibility - A student who is preparing for full-time service in the Presbyterian Church in Canada, under the care of a Presbytery in the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces. Preference will be given to a student enrolled in the Christian Education/Diaconal Programme at Knox College.

28. Jean MacGregor Memorial Bursary - Eligibility - A student who is preparing for full-time service in the Presbyterian Church in Canada and under the care of a Presbytery in the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces.

29. Burns Memorial Bursary - Eligibility - A student who is preparing for full-time service in the Presbyterian Church in Canada and under the care of a Presbytery in the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces.

For information re Scholarship 32 write the Secretary for Canada Ministries, Life and Mission Agency, The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

30. McKenzie Scholarship - Eligibility - Members of the graduating class of Knox or Presbyterian Colleges or the Vancouver School of Theology who is a fully accredited student at one of the above Colleges, and who during preparation for Ministry has served at least three summers under appointment of the Life and Mission Agency, and who in the judgment of that Agency has rendered the most valuable service to the Agency during the years of training.

## APPENDIX D

### SYNOD CAMPING STRATEGY

#### Historical Overview:

##### Camp Geddie:

In 1943, a special committee for Sabbath Schools and Young Peoples Society was appointed by the Synod to discuss the formation of a Synod Camp believing that camping was an effective means of Christian Education and spiritual growth for youth. The first Synod Camp was held at Camp Roderick at Sunnybrae, Nova Scotia in 1944. In that same year a former lobster factory/dance hall and 5 acres were purchased in Ponds, Nova Scotia (the heart of the current site of Camp Geddie). Children and youth attended from all over the Synod.

The ministry context of these decisions was a growing vision to augment the Sabbath School and Congregational youth programmes with camping experiences. That vision also gave birth to congregational camps throughout the Atlantic Provinces in places like Campbellton, Sunny Corner, and St. John, New Brunswick, St. John's, Newfoundland and Sunnybrae, Nova Scotia, to name a few. Presbytery camps also developed in Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton.

The facilities have seen significant development over the years with the building of individual and double cabins and the Margaret McDougall A Frame Lodge through the completion of the Irwin Lodge in 1989, a new crafts hall, a new washing facility, a new infirmary, new cabins, and a new marina to host the canoe programme. In 1990 an additional 10.5 acres were purchased.

With the completion of the winterized Irwin Lodge in 1989 a new phase of ministry was opened in winter retreats for organizations and congregations of the Synod. During this period and into the next two decades the focus of staffing at the camp changed. Young people, aspiring to further education were seeking paid employment and were not available for volunteer positions. Gradually government grants became available to assist with this expense but there was also a need to increase the financial commitment of the Synod to address this need.

In the late 1990's the need for an executive director was identified. This grew into an inclusion of this responsibility within the ministries of Synod Staff and eventually the Synod Youth and Camping Consultant.

##### Camp MacLeod:

It was during the post-war period (around 1945) that at least one minister in the Presbytery of Cape Breton advocated for a camp for Presbyterian young people within the Presbytery. By the early 1950s a camp was purchased from a Sydney service organization who had run the facility as a camp for under-privileged children. The first camp was held in either 1952 or 1953 under the Presbyterian banner. The camp has operated under the Presbytery of Cape Breton from its inception to the present.

A significant driving force for the creation of the camp was to provide a Christian camping experience for Presbyterian youth of the Presbytery that could be easily accessed. Realistically today, the campership, and staff, is made up participants from a variety of denominational backgrounds, and even no church background. Part of its current philosophy is to be an outreach in Christian community and faith to those who attend. We acknowledge the considerable financial support the Presbytery of Cape Breton provides for Camp MacLeod.

In these times few youth have available parents or guardians who are willing to drive to Camp Geddie from Cape Breton so this seems to be “a barrier” for participation at Camp Geddie.

#### **Camp Keir:**

Presbyterians have led the way in regards to camping ministry on the Island. While the Island currently has 5 Christian camps, Camp Keir is the longest running. It had its origins in 1947 when Rev. Jim McGowen, who was serving in Kensington at the time, bought some property in French River for the purposes of establishing a Presbyterian camp for our young people here on the Island. At the time, it was felt that sending our youth to Camp Geddie was not a feasible option for Island parents. The reasons for this were two-fold: first the travel and expense of transporting children back forth was unrealistic, and at the time Geddie was always running near full capacity.

As the years progressed, things began to change. A change in the ocean currents resulted in a much less appealing swimming situations and the numbers of those enrolling in our camps continued to decline.

These challenging circumstances caused presbytery to re-examine its camping ministry. It was proposed by some that a change of location might be the catalyst to breathe new life into our camping ministry. Land was purchased in Canoe Cove. During this period the Canoe Cove Church and the Charge of Central Parish really took hold of things and were integral in the operation and ongoing maintenance of the new building(s).

#### **Funding and Accountability:**

##### **Camp Geddie:**

The camp is owned and operated by the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces, with oversight provided by the Synod’s Camp Geddie Committee, which reports to the Synod council and the Synod. The camp is accountable to the Synod, which receives annual reports of its ministry and finances. While funding for the camp comes from various sources the Synod does contribute a significant portion to support its camp.

##### **Camp MacLeod:**

Financially, each congregation is assessed by the Presbytery on a per household formula on an annual basis. There are also opportunities to make special contributions. The last several years the camp committee has initiated a pantry drive for designated food items. Last year there was a “wish list” circulated among the congregations for needed up grades to equipment at the camp. Some congregations provide camperships for their youth to attend; the camp does have a campership fund that was initially set up through a bequest at Bethel, Sydney. It is the Presbytery that oversees the operation of this camp.

##### **Camp Keir:**

The Camp does its own fundraising. Congregations are encouraged to support it as well by mean of fundraising and donations. We acknowledge the considerable financial support the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island provides for Camp Keir.

It is the Presbytery that oversees the operation of this camp.

**Synod's Current Camping Strategy:**

All the Camps within the Synod grew out of a calling to augment and support Christian Education among our young people. It is clear that while this focus on Christian Education continues, the camps note that this calling includes more than "our" Presbyterian young people as the camps offer Christian witness to young people from different denominations and from no church affiliation.

As stated in the historical overview the synod founded, and continues to own and operate, Camp Geddie to be a means of Christian education, spiritual growth and leadership training for our young people coming from various presbyteries, denominations and non-church back grounds within Atlantic Canada. The Synod also offers a camping experience to young people in presbyteries that do not have a presbytery camp. The Synod also offers an opportunity for young people to camp with people from other presbyteries, an experience which is continued in our synod youth events.

The Synod employs a Camping and Youth Consultant who serves as Executive Director of Camp Geddie to oversee and participate in the operation, administration, and promotion of the Synod Camp. The Executive Director provides direction and pastoral care to the campers and staff to promote the building up of young people in their relationship with Christ and each other. Given that it is not feasible in many cases for young people from PEI and Cape Breton to attend Camp Geddie these presbyteries have "filled a gap" by offering a more accessible means for Christian education through camping within their bounds. While Camp Keir and Camp MacLeod are not owned by nor held directly accountable to the Synod the Synod offers support to these camps recognizing their vital role in extending the camping opportunity in locations more accessible and feasible.

To offer support to Camp Keir and Camp MacLeod the Synod includes within its budget a grant for each camp. Furthermore, the Synod has assigned to its Camping and Youth Consultant the tasks of promoting camping ministry to the Synod, which would be inclusive of Synod and Presbytery Camps. The Synod also calls upon its Camping and Youth consultant to be a resource to Camps Keir and MacLeod and provide training.

## APPENDIX E

### MINISTRY DESCRIPTION

#### Camping and Youth Consultant

*(Adopted - 2021 Annual Meeting)*

This is a full-time 3 year contract position which consists of two roles; 1. Director of the Synod Camp, Camp Geddie and 2. Synod Youth Consultant.

*The Duties of this position include:*

#### 1. Director of Camp Geddie:

- Oversee and participate in the operation, administration, and promotion of the Synod camp
- Serve as an ex officio member on the Camp Geddie Committee, and its sub-committees  
(For details of duties and responsibilities see *the Camp Geddie Committee: Job Description for Executive Director*)

#### 2. Synod Youth Consultant:

- Actively promote camping/and youth ministry to the Synod.
- Initiate and facilitate regular training opportunities for Children/Youth/Young Adult ministry leaders throughout the Synod (i.e. retreats, online meetings, webinars, guest speakers)
- Actively provide online resource materials and/or links to online resources through the Synod's website to aid congregations in developing their own Children/Youth/Young Adult and ministries.
- Work in consultation with the Synod's Programme Committee to:
  - o initiate, plan, and provide leadership for Synod Children/Youth/or Young Adult ministry events including PAYS
  - o provide oversight of booking, registration and transportation for participants to CY.
- Initiate regular contact with Presbyteries for the purposes of:
  - o Promoting/advertising Children/Youth/or Young Adult ministry events within the Synod, or within the larger national church (i.e. PAYS, CY, etc.)
  - o Discerning together opportunities to share in initiating, planning, and leading Presbytery Youth Events
- Initiate personal contact with congregations for the purposes of:
  - o Networking and fostering supportive relationships with local ministry leaders
  - o discerning opportunities to assist with congregational Children/Youth/or Young Adult ministry events
- Initiate contact as a resource person to Camp Keir and Camp MacLeod for the purposes of helping to equip, support and train their staff
- To foster a relationship among the camps within the Synod

#### Education:

- University degree, preferably in a field relevant to the position.
- Theological education or other preparation for ministry within the Reformed tradition is required.

- Ordination or Designation to the Order of Diaconal Ministries is desirable, but a candidate with relevant qualifications and experiences who is prepared to function in a ministry role, subject to appropriate structures of accountability and disciplines, will be considered.
- Training and/or experience in Program Development.
- Knowledge of and compliance with The Presbyterian Church in Canada's policy to ensure the safety of children, youth and vulnerable adults ("Leading with Care")

#### **Qualifications:**

- Experience in camping and/or youth ministry leadership
- Self-directed, able to initiate and follow through on a variety of tasks
- Ability to work in a collegial way with others
- Strong interpersonal skills (including strong communication skills, conflict resolution, etc.)
- Ability to lead a variety of ages in a group task
- Skills in planning and time management
- Proficient in technology (i.e. web use, social media/networking platforms, etc.)
- Membership in good standing in a congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, or on a Roll of a Presbytery (Qualified candidates from other branches of the Reformed Tradition may be considered)
- Knowledge of the polity and practices of The Presbyterian Church in Canada
- Complete and up-to-date Child Abuse registry and Criminal Record checks

#### **Accountability and Consultation**

- The Camping and Youth Consultant will be supervised by the Personnel Committee of Synod and will report to Synod Council through the committee
- The Camping and Youth Consultant will be an ex officio member of the Synod Programme Committee with voice but no vote
- If an Ordained Minister or Diaconal Minister, the Camping and Youth Consultant will be a member of the Presbytery in which she or he resides.
- The Camping and Youth Consultant will be expected to seek out and attend continuing education opportunities to remain up to date
- The Camping and Youth Consultant will be subject to an annual review of performance and ministry, conducted by the Synod Personnel Committee
- The Camping and Youth Consultant will be employed under the terms of the Human Resources Manual of the Synod
- Termination of the contract will be in compliance with the process outlined in the Synod's Human Resource Manual

#### **Compensation:**

This position is funded by The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces and its stipend, and allowances are subject to the categories and rates of compensation regulated by the General Assembly's annual Minimum Stipend & Allowance Schedule.