

**Minutes of the Archdiocesan Council Meeting  
Archdiocese of Canada, Orthodox Church in America  
Annunciation / St Nicholas Cathedral, Ottawa, Ontario  
October 24 - 25, 2003**

Council members in attendance at this meeting were:

Ruling Bishop of the Archdiocese, His Grace SERAPHIM  
Chancellor of the Archdiocese, Archpriest Dennis Pihach  
Treasurer of the Archdiocese, Nikita Lopoukhine  
Eastern Secretary, Olga Jurgens  
Western Secretary, Protodeacon Andrew Piasta  
Dean of British Columbia, Archpriest Lawrence Farley  
Dean of Manitoba/Saskatchewan, Priest Robert S Kennaugh  
Dean of Ontario, Priest John Jillions  
Dean of Québec, Higoumène Irénée (Rochon)  
Assistant Dean of Manitoba/Saskatchewan, Priest Rodion Luciuk  
Archpriest. Larry Reinheimer  
Priest James Griggs  
Priest Geoffrey Korz  
David Grier  
John Hadjinicolaou  
Denis Lessard  
David Rystephanuk  
Rod Tkachuk  
Nun Sophia (Zion)

Council member absent with regret and with a blessing from the Bishop was Richard Schneider.

Observers at various times over the two days of sessions were: Archpriest Anatoly Melnyk, Priest Oleg Razumov, Priest Symeon Rodger, Protodeacon Cypnan Hutcheon, Deacon Kevin Miller, Hélène Culhane, Liviu Ignat, Jane Szepesi, Thomas Tilbrook, and Alex Wloch.

## Session I, held on Friday evening October 24

The fall 2003 meeting of the Archdiocesan Council began at 8:05 p.m. in the temple of Annunciation/St Nicholas Cathedral with the singing of "O Heavenly King."

In opening the meeting, Bishop Seraphim asked the Council to remind him that he should not ever again schedule an Archdiocesan Council meeting over a St Demetrios Saturday weekend; he called attention to the Divine Liturgy which would be served the next morning in this temple; and he introduced the new Dean of the Cathedral and Dean of Ontario, Fr John Jillions. He then transferred the chairmanship to the Chancellor.

The Chancellor then called the meeting to order in the church temple at 8: 15 p.m., with roll call and regrets (1.0). There followed a brief discussion and approval of the agenda (3.0).

### 2.0 Minutes of the previous meeting

A factual inaccuracy in the minutes of the last meeting was noted: on p.9, #4, the amount of money to be sent to Fr John Hainsworth was \$1,000.00, not \$500.00. This amendment was unanimously approved.

The Chancellor quickly went through the "action portions" of the last meeting's minutes:

P.3: The bishop did deliver his Ruling Bishop's Report to council members by e- mail shortly after the spring meeting ended.

P.4: Fr Dennis sent a letter to parishes which are in default on the insurance and retirement matters.

P.4: Fr Dennis is still working on the- possibility of a group property and liability insurance policy for all parishes in the diocese.

P.5: The Finance Committee is being consulted for advice on how best to oversee and keep track of expenditures in the Western office, so as to avoid liability with. the CCRA (Canada Customs and Revenue Agency).

P.8: Just for the sake of clarification, Rod Tkachuk said that he thinks that the fact that the diocese itself is a "voluntary association," rather than an incorporated entity, is a good thing. Upon questioning, he noted that the bishop of the diocese is registered in Ontario as a "corporate sole" and as such can hold property, but associating this status of the bishop to the diocese itself is difficult.

P.8: Obtaining for the treasurer the address of the man in Sitton to whom the tax bill has been sent, has not been done yet, but it soon will be.

**ACTION: FR BOB KENNAUGH**

P. 9: An account has been set up, with signing authority to both the Treasurer and the Bishop, into which is deposited monies from the DCA. This is for the Bishop's use on expenses and, as a separate account, will create a paper trail for accountability to the CCRA for the DCA money.

P. 9: The following were done by the Treasurer since the last meeting: he has talked to Mark Steski about the possibility of inclusion of Fair Haven on a group insurance policy for church property; he has grouped the small parishes near Yorkton under "Yorkton rural parishes" in financial reports; and he has adjusted the budget, presented at the last meeting, with its deficit, and send out a letter to the parishes regarding their responsibilities.

P. 10: All grants approved by the Program Unit and the Council at the last meeting have been disbursed.

Pp.10 -13: It was noted that all the action items for various members of the Communications Unit would be reported on in detail at a later time in this meeting.

Pp. 13 - 14: It was likewise noted that all the action items for various members of the Administration Unit would be reported on in detail at a later time in this meeting.

P. 16: Richard Schneider was not present to report on the two "action items" on this page.

P. 17: There will be a fuller report on the Canadian Assembly 2004 later in this meeting.

The members of Council then broke up into their respective units to discuss and create reports to be presented to the meeting as a whole the next day.

Prior to adjournment of this session, the Chancellor announced that Richard Schneider is now the president of the Canadian Council of Churches.

He also announced the schedule for the next day: the Administration Unit would meet at 8:00 a.m. to complete the work on their report. Divine Liturgy would be at 9:00 a.m., followed by a quick breakfast. The day's working session would have to be between the end of breakfast and Vespers at 5:00 p.m., with a luncheon in the church hall in the middle. Dinner after Vespers would be at the nearby home of the Lopoukhines'.

The session was adjourned at 10:00 p.m. with the singing of "It is truly meet."

## Session II, held on Saturday morning. October 25

This session of the meeting began at 10:40 a.m. with the singing of “O Heavenly King.”

### Cathedral Report

The bishop asked Fr John Jillions to give a report on Annunciation/St Nicholas Cathedral. Fr John began by saying that, as everyone knows, the cathedral parish is in the midst of planning for a new location, since the present one is bursting at the seams, so to speak. He said that he has talked with Bishop Seraphim, and they have discussed what might be needed for a truly “diocesan cathedral,” rather than just a building for the Ottawa parish that happens to be the Bishop’s cathedral. It must be noted, he said, that Ottawa is the heart of Canada and that Bishop Seraphim is the only Orthodox ruling bishop in this capital city of the nation. He said that he and the Bishop have talked about the need for space for at least 300 people, with room for expansion, and about the need for an apartment for the Bishop and at least one or two rooms for guests. Because such ideas are now being talked about in the parish, there is a new enthusiasm on the parish council. On November 15 the parish council will meet with the Bishop at Fair Haven.

Fr John said that what he needs to know is whether or not the Archdiocesan Council is basically behind this concept of a truly “diocesan cathedral.” If Council approves the concept, the parish council will begin to start discussing plans in this light with the Bishop. He noted that thus far, the parish council has been looking first for a transitional building, and hoping to build at a later time when more funds are available. There will, of course, be uncertainty for some time.

Rod Tkachuk said that we must concentrate on funding people, not buildings.

The Bishop immediately replied that we must do both. The parish has to move soon, and they need a bigger vision for the future.

The Chancellor said that the cathedral parish must see itself as the diocesan cathedral. They must see this as part of their burden. It is imperative that eventually we have a really adequate cathedral for the diocese. This is also the responsibility of the whole diocese, to see that there is a true cathedral for the whole country.

The Bishop said that the parish has to be helped to grow into maturity, not just to see itself as a cozy family, but also as the national cathedral.

The Treasurer said that we need the vision: look at Fair Haven and how that has progressed because of long-term vision.

Observer Protodeacon Cyprian Hutcheon said that we must always keep the vision, start a fund, commit ourselves, etc. We are definitely in a growth phase, insofar as memberships in the diocese are concerned.

Fr Larry Reinheimer asked, what about Orthodox unity in Canada—should we not rather be thinking beyond our diocese? The Bishop replied that this is too problematic to think of at this time.

John Hadjinicolaou asked how should the diocese prioritize this? We need a master plan.

Fr John Jillions said that (1) the Council could say that “we bless you to build”; or, (2) it could say “although we have no money with which to help you at this time, we bless that Bishop and the cathedral build a cathedral suitable to the church and the diocese.” But perhaps the Council will need more-concrete plans in front of it prior to being able to bless one or the other.

Observer Thomas Tilbrook said that his own local parish in Kingston has caught this vision and sees a need for a national cathedral.

Rod Tkachuk said that perhaps the cathedral could buy a chunk of land only, and then start a campaign to raise money. Maybe the cathedral parish could then build something small, with room for expansion.

The Chancellor said that the Council should bless and encourage the cathedral parish’s efforts, encourage them in their search, encourage them to bring us their plans, and think of them as our national cathedral. We encourage them to do a project/proposal, knowing that they have our support.

The Bishop said that the main thing is to understand that the cathedral wants the moral support of the rest of the diocese to go in the direction that God leads them, to become a truly national cathedral. This parish has a responsibility to the rest of the diocese, and the other churches in the diocese have a responsibility to give prayer and moral support to the cathedral.

Fr John concluded by saying that he will present a plan to the Archdiocesan Council at the spring meeting, and then if blessed, it will be presented to the Assembly in Saskatoon. [This matter was left over until Saskatoon.]

**ACTION: FR JOHN JILLIONS**

## **5.0 Ruling Bishop’s Report** *[see attached, #5]*

The Bishop added to his written report that he has just heard about the possibility of a new mission on Vancouver Island. And now we also have a new mission in Newfoundland under Fr Oleg Razumov, he said.

## **6.0 Chancellor's Report** *[see attached, #6]*

To his written report Fr Dennis added that he has spent some time with our two retired bishops, and that he now feels very positive about them. He also has had a very positive impression of the church of St Nicholas in Surrey which they brought with them into our diocese (the parishioners are mainly Romanians). He also noted that there continue to be many immigration issues which he has been working on for the Bishop. Related to the missions topic in the Chancellor's report, Rod Tkachuk said that he will make changes to the Sample Parish By-laws to suit needs of new mission parishes, and that he will present these changes to the Council at its next meeting. Revisions will also be made to coordinate with CCRA requirements.

**ACTION: ROD TKACHUK**

## **7.0 Reports of the Deans**

### **7.1 Québec Deanery Report**

Fr Irénée (Rochon) gave a verbal report. He called attention to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of The Sign of the Theotokos in Montréal, to be held at the end of November. He also- noted that Fr Vladimir Tobin in Halifax has been transferred to the OCA from the Antiochian Archdiocese.

### **7.2 Ontario Deanery Report**

Fr John Jillions gave a verbal report. He said that he is still so new in the deanery that he is at the stage of learning where the parishes are located and who the clergy are; but with the Bishop's blessing, he hopes he will be able to begin visiting deanery churches in January.

### **7.3 Manitoba Deanery Report** *[see attached, # 7.3]*

Fr Robert Kennaugh gave this written report.

### **7.4 Saskatchewan Deanery Report** *[see attached, # 7. 4]*

Fr Rodion Luciuk gave this written report.

### **7.5 Alberta Deanery Report** *[see attached, # 7. 5]*

Fr Dennis Pihach gave this written report. He added to his report that Fr John Ivanoff of the CCA will be speaker at the Conference on Evangelism and Outreach to be held in Edmonton Nov 8 - 10. He noted also that a new mission is being opened in Red Deer AB. It is intended to be a co-mission with the Ukrainians, and Fr Michael Shaplowsky will serve.

## **7.6 British Columbia Deanery Report** *[see attached, # 7. 6]*

Fr Lawrence Farley gave this written report.

## **8.0 Report of the Treasurer** *[see attached, # 8 & 8.1]*

To his written report the Treasurer added that this is the last year that the diocese has to pay out on the loan to pay for the Bishop's car.

He noted also that this year the company which holds the diocese's property and liability insurance required an audit by a certified accountant. The auditing was done by a volunteer in Montréal and was acceptable to the insurance company. Because this has been done by a CA, the required yearly reporting to the insurance company in future years should be easier, since they now have a baseline for the diocese's finances that they trust.

Nikita Lopoukhine stated also that the "bottom line" for the diocese is that we are spending more than we are taking in. The diocese is in a serious financial deficit because certain large parishes which have traditionally given to the diocese for years have ceased to give. The deficit is approximately \$12,000.00, and we are having to borrow from our designated funds. This cannot go on indefinitely. "The deans need to encourage the parishes.

Mother Sophia said that the last time Nikita Lopoukhine wrote a full-page article on the financial state of the diocese for the Canadian Orthodox Messenger, approximately three years ago, all was going well, and the article was about glowing success. She suggested that the Treasurer write another article for either the March or June issue of COM, explaining in some detail what has happened since, so that people will be aware prior to the July Assembly. The Treasurer agreed to do this, and Mother Sophia gave him the deadline dates for the issues: either January 15 (for spring issue) which probably would be the best time, or April 15 (for summer issue). Nikita agreed to do the article for April.

**ACTION: NIKITA LOPOUKHINE**

The morning session was adjourned at 1 :45 p.m. for luncheon in the church hall.

## Session III, held on Saturday afternoon, October 25

The third session of the meeting was called to order by the Chancellor at 2:30 p.m.

### 8.0 (Continued) Report of the Treasurer

Continuing the discussion of the financial report of the Treasurer, John Hadjinicolaou recommended that individual reports be sent to each parish. The report should be about their giving line and a reminder of their obligation of 10% to the diocese. He suggested that we tell them what our target is and give them a target to aim for. This can be done statistically, he said. The Bishop suggested that the wording of a letter from the Treasurer and/or the Deans contain something to the effect that "In most dioceses, the Bishop would demand a copy of each parish's budget. In this diocese, we have a relationship of trust and responsibility: the diocese trusts that the parishes will give 10%, and the parishes have a responsibility to give the 10%. Some are not giving. If all gave their 10% to the parish, and the parish to the diocese, we would not have to be sending this letter."

**ACTION: TREASURER AND DEANS**

It was also decided that a small article should go in the *Messenger*, as soon as possible (December 2003 issue) with regard to this deficit. At first, the Treasurer agreed to write it; but then Mother Sophia said that she had enough facts (in the paragraph immediately above) to write it herself and to include it in the "From the Bishop's desk" column with appropriate comments by His Grace.

**ACTION: NUN SOPHIA**

### 9.0 Other financial matters

#### 9.1 Stewardship and funding proposal report [*Attached, # 9.1*]

The Council received this written proposal from Deacon Ignatius Rigden-Briscall and Rob Waller, a professional fund-raiser from Waller and Associates of British Columbia. It was suggested that the Administrative Unit (Finance) look into this proposal further, to find out what the bottom line will be with the Waller Associates. Also it was suggested that the Administrative Unit ask whether we are prepared to entertain this professional relationship and give them a percentage of the funds raised.

**ACTION: ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT (FINANCE)**

Rod Tkachuk suggested that everyone on Council should read the book *The Faithful Steward*. He said that he would get copies for all members.

**ACTION: ROD TKACHUK**

#### 9.2 Guidelines related to the topic of sexual misconduct, and the insurance for liability in this area



Rod Tkachuk said that he has been giving presentations in the west on the subject of awareness and prevention of sexual misconduct in churches and the legal responsibilities and liabilities in this area, etc. The Chancellor added that in the west, anyone dealing with youth must sign a declaration that he or she has never been convicted of sexual assault.

It was mentioned that parishes have found out that it is almost impossible to get sexual misconduct liability insurance, and if they manage to do so, the cost is extremely high. Mother Sophia said that she thinks the liability insurance on the “board of directors” (*i.e.* the Archdiocesan Council members, both elected and appointed) covers at least some aspects of sexual misconduct, but only as related to legal liability of the diocese, not the individual persons or their parishes. Rod Tkachuk asked that the Eastern Secretary send him a copy of the Archdiocesan insurance policy (a combined property and liability package) for examination.

**ACTION: OLGA JURGENS**

The Chancellor said that our people need education about what to watch for, both abuse and false accusation. Priests should inform parishioners of expectations. Fr Larry Reinheimer noted the Archdiocesan obligation to implement a prevention programme. Fr Lawrence Faley offered his parish’s draft of their programme when it is completed.

**ACTION: FR LAWRENCE FARLEY**

Bishop Seraphim noted the different legal/social imperatives governing sexual abuse in the US vs. Canada (*e.g.*, immigrants to Canada must learn Canadian lifestyle before having to learn unfamiliar laws/policies).

Everyone agreed that sexual misconduct liability insurance, no matter the cost, is cheap compared to what could happen.

This must be a topic at the Archdiocesan Assembly in July 2004. Probably Rod Tkachuk and Deacon Ignatius, and perhaps Thomas Tilbrook, will help with the presentation(s). The Chancellor should relay this fact to the Assembly Committee in Saskatoon.

**ACTION: FR DENNIS PIHACH**

## **4.0 /10.0 Unit Reports**

### **4.1/10.1 Communications Unit**

Denis Lessard began his report by thanking Nikita Lopoukhine for including the line-item in the budget that the unit has requested, but the unit thinks it should be called “other Archdiocesan publications” rather than “printing services.”

With regard to the project of translating the *Lives Of North American Saints* into French, Denis Lessard reported that he wrote to the diocese of the West to request permission, but has received no reply. He said that Mother Sophia has suggested that he now write to Fr George Gray in Oregon (one of the writers) for the permission. Denis reported that Paul Ladouceur now has a project on the go, which involves translating lives of the saints, and it could replace this one.

The scriptographic book on Orthodoxy, which the Finnish Church asked us to translate, has been sent to them. Denis Lessard needs only the Finnish address from Mother Sophia in order for him to write and request the 100 copies for the diocese.

**ACTION: DENIS LESSARD AND MOTHER SOPHIA**

Paul Ladouceur's translation of the *Rencontre* into English, as *Living Orthodoxy*, has been published by Alexander Press in a very attractive format. It should also be noted that the original French version is now in its third printing, for a total of 1,500 copies. Also worthy of note is that the French version has sold very well in Greece.

The Bishop's book on Holy Communion is now out in French, translated by Evelyn Dumas, and published by Paul Ladouceur. Paul will try to distribute this book in France also. The title is Participants à la nature divine: La Sainte Communion et Le Croyant Orthodoxe.

The Russian leaflet brochure Project, which involves one brochure on the OCA and another on stewardship, is still in the works. The latter brochure is in two versions, one literal and the other "culturally sensitive." Fr John Jillions has read the translations (made by Mother Dorofea of Fair Haven), and Fr Irénée will read them during the weekend, and Olga Jurgens will talk with both of them for directions. The Council also suggested that she give copies of the translations to both Fr Anatoly Melnyk and Fr Oleg Razumov for their comments.

**ACTION: OLGA JURGENS**

All the old and/or outdated brochures in English have been either distributed or destroyed.

As stated at the last meeting, Prof Kyrill Holden and his helper Kathy Szalasznyj are projecting their having the updated and revised *Chronology* ready by this Christmas. If she does not hear from them earlier, Olga Jurgens will call Prof. Holden in January.

**ACTION: OLGA JURGENS**

Denis Lessard called attention to Olga Jurgens' written report on the Parish Directory [see attached # 10.1] with its questions. In answer, the

Council unanimously agreed that the directory is very valuable and should continue. They also mandated that the Deans gather the information changes and give them to Olga Jurgens.

**ACTION: DEANS, OLGA JURGENS**

The diocesan web-page, created by Fr John Hainsworth, is almost ready. Mother Sophia reported that, although Fr John has designed and created it, he does not have the time to maintain it. He has negotiated a deal with a priest in Chicago (a fellow-student of Fr John at St Vladimir's Seminary) who has a web-maintenance business. For \$100.00 a year, he will maintain our site. The Chancellor noted that Fr Michael Schaplowsky has purchased the domain name "Archdiocese of Canada" for the diocese. Mother Sophia reported also that she has been told that the Blessed Archbishop Arseny Institute also has a web-site nearly ready for launching.

The Chancellor reported that because he wants a Quick-communications e-mail directory for the diocese, he has Mark Petasky working on this at St Herman's Sobor in Edmonton. Mark is busy getting all the clergy on the list, for the use of the Bishop, the Chancellor and the Deans.

Denis Lessard asked the Bishop if the translation of the Psalm article on readers into French is still a priority for him. The Bishop answered in the affirmative.

**ACTION: DENIS LESSARD**

At the close of his report, Denis Lessard announced that he will have to depart the Council after the Saskatoon Assembly in July because of his personal/career workload. He said that he has really enjoyed working with the Council and he thanked everyone for the privilege of serving in this manner. He also suggested that the Bishop consider replacing him with Paul Ladouceur, since Paul is so active and productive in the publication of Orthodox materials.

#### **4.2 /10.2 Programme Unit**

Fr Lawrence Farley reported that the unit recommends that Richard René and Deacon Edward Hewlett (both at St Vladimir's) and Nicholas Young (at St Tikhon's) receive \$1,000.00 each out of the scholarship fund. The Council approved unanimously.

**ACTION: NIKITA LOPOUKHINE**

The unit believes there is a need to alert parishes that they must work towards providing for clergy pensions. This must be mentioned at the Assembly in July. The Chancellor should send out a letter each September 1, asking the parishes to think of clergy compensation (pension, insurance,

etc.) and stating that there should be an annual clergy compensation review.

**ACTION: FR DENNIS PIHACH**

Noting that there is no money in either the missions or charities funds, the unit nevertheless asked if there is something that can be done to help out the Victoria mission. The CCA church planting grant will “kick in” beginning in July, but until then the Hainsworths are in crisis financially.

In reply, the Council directed the Treasurer to take the monies from the November Charities Appeal, up to \$1,600.00, and distribute it to Fr John Hainsworth in \$200.00 per month supplements. The actual amount will depend upon what the appeal receives.

**ACTION: NIKITA LOPOUKHINE**

**Ecumenical Affairs:** [see attachment # 10.2]

**Missions:** [see attachment # 10.3]

#### **4.3/10.3 Administration Unit** [see attached, # 4.3, 10.4, 10.5, 10.6]

Rod Tkachuk reported that the diocese’s investments have generally rebounded. The unit is comfortable with Fr Phillip Eriksson’s management of these, and is not interested in the Vishnakov proposals from Vancouver.

The unit will present a financial picture of the diocese to the Archdiocesan Council at the spring 2004 meeting. This will include the potential costs associated with an Auxiliary Bishop.

**ACTION: ADMINISTRATION UNIT (FINANCE)**

With regard to properties, Rod Tkachuk stated that we now have a market value of \$50,000.00 from a reputable, knowledgeable local realtor, on the second house across from the main property at Fair Haven. John Hadjinicolaou obtained \$20,000.00 worth of pledges from a group of Montrealers in a quick spring campaign to raise money for the purchase of this property. He is working on a brochure to go out all over the diocese in order to raise more money for it.

The unit asked the Council to approve a committee to negotiate with the seller: John Hadjinicolaou, Nikita Lopoukhine, and Thomas Tilbrook. This was approved. The committee was given the mandate to begin negotiating whenever they are able, and to offer up to \$60,000.00 for the property. The offer must then be brought back to the Council for approval.

**ACTION:**

## JOHN HADJINICOLAOU AND NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

With regard to by-laws, Rod Tkachuk stated that parish by-laws must reflect the fact that parishes belong to Christ, held in the person of the Bishop of the Archdiocese of Canada. Outdated/older by-laws in many parishes have enshrined a congregational ownership.

Rod Tkachuk is creating a list of lawyers for parishes, lawyers who are sensitive to the Orthodox understanding of ecclesial organization. He would appreciate Council members' forwarding to him any possibilities they can think of.

"Consensus decision-making" for parishes, as described by Bishop Seraphim, is again encouraged, although the challenges for established parishes are also acknowledged.

Rod Tkachuk reported that St Herman's Sobor in Edmonton has raised concerns about the Chancellor's salary's being borne by their parish. The possibility of the parish's bearing the costs of an Auxiliary Bishop are of real concern too. The Bishop indicated that the actual appointment of an Auxiliary Bishop is probably about two to three years away. Further, St Herman's is only one possibility for placement. Moreover, it is anticipated that compensation for an Auxiliary Bishop would, at the beginning, be a shared expense between the parish and Archdiocese.

Rod Tkachuk also emphasized the need for all missions to establish themselves as charities.

Rod Tkachuk noted that the Societies Act is a non-episcopal model, and such a model for non-profit organizations is fundamentally not Orthodox, and leads to jurisdictional questions.

The Administrative Unit requested an early start for subsequent Archdiocesan Council meetings. It is felt that a two- or three-hour earlier start, at least for the Administration Unit (but maybe also for the whole Council), is absolutely necessary.

### 11.0 Other business

#### 11.1 Archbishop Arseny Glorification

Bishop Seraphim reported that at the recent Holy Synod meeting he was encouraged to keep doing research, file everything, etc., about Archbishop Arseny. He called the attention of the Council to a letter from Mr James Read of New Zealand [*see attachment #11.1*], who believes that a medical

favour was granted to him by the Blessed One. His Grace noted that it is normal to pray to Archbishop Arseny, write icons of him, etc.

**11.2 Metropolitan Council** [*see attachment # 11.2*]

**11.8 Blessed Arseny Theological Institute** [*see attachment #11.8*]

His Grace reported that our diaconal programme at the Blessed Arseny Orthodox Christian Theological Institute has been approved by the Holy Synod. However, any teacher or student who is teaching or studying at the school from outside our diocesan territory must have the written blessing of his bishop to do so.

**11.9 Archives**

His Grace said that the archives room is proceeding along. It is nearly complete and the shelving is on order and will be coming soon. More details are in his Ruling Bishop's Report [*see attachment # 5.0*].

The Saturday afternoon session of the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. with the singing of "It is truly meet."

## **Session IV, held on Saturday evening, October 25**

Following Vespers in the cathedral, the meeting was reconvened at the nearby home of the Lopoukhines.

### **11.5 Canadian Assembly 2004 Report** *[see attachment #11.5]*

David Grier presented the written report from the Planning Committee of the 2004 Assembly. He said that they are expecting at least 200 people, and that it seems to be a “vision” kind of Assembly. The Metropolitan will attend, and the youth want to do a big presentation. He urged the Council that if they want anything on the agenda, they should contact Lorraine Grier or Fr Dennis Pihach as soon as possible.

### **11.8 Blessed Arseny Institute** [continued from session III]

Fr Anatoly Melnyk spoke on the written report presented at the prior session, commenting on some parts of it. He requested that parishes have one Sunday a year when they take up a collection for the Institute. Fr Dennis Pihach thanked Fr Anatoly for his work on the Institute, and he commented that John Hadjinicolaou is working on accreditation for it. He said that the local Ukrainian Orthodox establishment are hesitant to support, but are not outright enemies.

### **11.10 Spring 2004 meeting of the Archdiocesan Council**

It was decided to hold the next meeting in Winnipeg/Narol on 23 - 24 April 2004. The meeting will begin at 1 :00 p.m. on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April in order to allow more time, as requested by the Administration Unit.

The fall meeting of the Archdiocesan Council was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. with the blessing of the dinner, provided for the Council and their various billeting hosts by Nikita and Mary Ann Lopoukhine.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nun Sophia (Zion)  
30/01/04