

Executive Summary of
The ARCHDIOCESE OF CANADA (OCA) Council Meeting
Held at Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral, Ottawa, ON, Canada
On the 1st & 2nd of October, 2010

I. Preamble

The inaugural meeting of the Archdiocesan Council (hereafter “the Council”), elected at the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly, took place on the 1st and 2nd of October, 2010 at the Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. After an Hierarchical Liturgy for the Pochaev of the Theotokos, when Archbishop SERAPHIM ordained Subdeacon Sebastian Scratch to the diaconate, and a Moleben for the new Council, the Council convened to discuss matters related to the administration and the care of the parishioners of the Archdiocese of Canada.

Over the two days, the Council reviewed a number of reports from members of the Executive Council, the Episcopal Treasurer, the Administrative and the Programming / Communications Units, the Theological Education Committee, the Archdiocesan representatives to the Metropolitan Council and the Canadian Council of Churches and the representatives from St. Tikhon’s Archdiocesan Stewards and St. Arseny Theological Institute. The Council deliberated on a number of items related to ongoing and new business. The actions and recommendations resulting from this meeting are summarized below.

II. Ongoing Action Items

1. Igumen ALEXANDER will organize monthly conference calls with the regional deans.
2. Bishop IRÉNÉE (Rochon) will complete the French revisions to the moleben service book used at Council meetings.
3. Deacon Peter Choi will continue to work on the creation and testing of a standard Quickbooks template for parish use.
4. Father Lawrence Farley will provide a useable English text for the Akathist “Bringing Workers to the Vineyard.”
5. Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine will provide the lay representative to the Metropolitan Council an accounting of the spending of monies reserved for the Syosset account for the 2008 and 2009 fiscal years.
6. Protodeacon Nazari Polataiko will continue to revise the Archdiocesan metrical books of baptisms, marriages, and funerals.
7. Igumen ALEXANDER will contact parishes that have not made their contributions to the Archdiocese this year.

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8. Deacon Matthew Francis will continue to work on the historical chronology of the Archdiocese of Canada.
9. Members of the Archdiocesan Council will gather for a photograph during this meeting.

III. New Action Items

1. The Chancellor, Igumen ALEXANDER, will write a letter to the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly Local Planning Committee to request a financial report and repayment of the advance of \$2000.00 provided by the Archdiocese for start-up costs.
2. Father Rodion Luciuk will confer with the Internal Auditing Committee, including Mr. German Ovodov, to determine the appropriate steps needed to prepare the Archdiocesan books for an external audit before the 2012 Archdiocesan Assembly. He will submit his recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Archdiocese.
3. \$1000.00 USD will be paid to Father Justin Mathews (FOCUS North America) as an honorarium, from the “charity” line of Archdiocesan budget.
4. The difference (\$186.72) between the grant funding received for and total expenses incurred from the Alberta-Ukraine Genealogy Project will be paid from the “education / seminarians” line of the Archdiocesan budget.
5. Father Anatoliy Melnyk will investigate and determine the appropriate method for directing the received gifts to emergency relief in Yakutia, Russia.
6. The Archdiocese will grant \$2000.00 to St. Aidan of Lindisfarne Orthodox Mission from the “mission / evangelism” line of the Archdiocesan budget to support this mission’s bid for a Church Planting Grant from the OCA Department of Evangelization.
7. Deacon Matthew Francis will contact Father Andrew Piasta and the Archdiocesan Archivist to provide coordination in support of historical research related to the Archdiocese.
8. Two general fundraising appeals for the various needs (e.g., publication costs of the *Canadian Orthodox Messenger*) of the Archdiocese will be made by the Executive Council annually *via* the *Canadian Orthodox Messenger* at the beginning of Great Lent and at the beginning of the Nativity Fast.
9. A Fair Havens planning committee consisting of the Chancellor, the Episcopal Secretary, Dr. John Hadjinicolaou, and Ms. Leslie-Ann Judge, will meet to examine options for the development of the Archdiocesan Centre and report back to the Archdiocesan Council.

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10. The Executive Council will produce Terms of Reference for deanery positions in accordance with the *Statute* of the Orthodox Church in America and the *Bylaws* of the Archdiocese.
11. The Council recommends that the Treasurer be authorized to spend up to \$2000.00 *per annum*, beginning in the 2011 fiscal year, for assistance in bookkeeping.
12. Igumen ALEXANDER will draft Terms of Reference for the members of the Archdiocesan Vocations Assessment Committee.
13. The Treasurer, Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine, and the STAS Western Liason, Subdeacon Jesse Isaac, will be added as signing authorities to the Archdiocese of Canada's "St. Tikhon Archdiocesan Stewards" account with the Alberta Treasury Board.
14. The Treasurer will add a budget line for the St. Tikhon's Archdiocesan Stewards ("STAS") in the amount of \$1000.00 for promotional activities.
15. The Executive Council will draft letters to the former Regional Deans and Lay Delegates to request them to forward all prior documentation to their respective replacements.
16. The Chancellor will forward provincial marriage forms and documentations to the respective Regional Deans as marriage legal documentation is handled most appropriately at the provincial level.
17. Mr. Rod Tkachuk will create a committee to determine *a)* the legal considerations of sexual misconduct claims related to church personnel; *b)* the level of risk at the individual, parish, deanery, and archdiocesan level; and *c)* the proper level of coverage required. He will report his findings to the Archdiocesan Council at the Spring 2011 Meeting.
18. All members of the Archdiocesan Council will obtain a Skype account in preparation for the telephone conference call.

IV. Recommendations for Deaneries

1. Any routine documentation required by the Archdiocese (*e.g.*, annual parish reports) will be sent by the parish to its Regional Dean, who will be responsible for forwarding the documentation to the Archdiocese. Any request for documentation made by the Archdiocese will be made through the Regional Deans to ensure proper communications between parishes, deaneries, and the Archdiocese.
2. When the Ruling Archbishop or Auxiliary Bishop is visiting and serving a Vespers or an All-Night Vigil, the Regional Dean and all clergy are strongly encouraged to attend the service unless extenuating circumstances exist.

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3. Drafts of the minutes of the meetings of the Archdiocesan Council need to be available to all members of the Archdiocesan Council within *two* weeks of the adjournment of the meeting. The Regional Deans will be responsible for disseminating the minutes to their respective parishes.
4. A Deanery Meeting needs to be held annually.
5. Deans will handle documentation related to the conduct of weddings and the legal recognition of marriages.

Minutes of
The ARCHDIOCESE OF CANADA (OCA) Council Meeting
Held at Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral, Ottawa, ON, Canada
On the 1st and 2nd of October, 2010

Session I – Friday, October 1, 2010 (Pochaev of the Theotokos)

I. Liturgical Services & Call to Order

The inaugural meeting of the new Archdiocesan Council, elected at the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly, was preceded by an Hierarchical Liturgy (with ordination of Subdeacon Sebastian Scratch to the diaconate) followed by a Moleben served for the Council by Archbishop SERAPHIM. The services were followed by lunch in the parish hall of the Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral.

The sessions of the Archdiocesan Council meeting took place in the new Archdiocesan offices at Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral. Session I convened at 14:00 with the singing of “O Heavenly King” and the blessing of His Eminence, Archbishop SERAPHIM. Igumen ALEXANDER, acting as Chair, called the meeting to order. The roll was called (see item #2) and the Agenda was adopted as presented. Igumen ALEXANDER announced that Mother Sophia (Zion) has stepped down from the editorship of the *Canadian Orthodox Messenger*. Dns. Matthew Francis and Peter Choi were appointed to take minutes for this council meeting. The BC & Yukon lay representative, Mrs. Maria Campbell, has resigned and Dn. Peter Choi was appointed as the interim lay member for the Deanery of BC and the Yukon.

II. Roll Call and Regrets

- Present:* His Eminence, the Most Reverend SERAPHIM (Storheim), Archbishop of Ottawa & Canada
His Grace, the Right Reverend IRÉNÉE (Rochon), Bishop of Quebec City
Igumen ALEXANDER (Pihach), Chancellor of the Archdiocese & Archdiocesan Clergy Representative to the Metropolitan Council
Protodeacon Nazari Polataiko, Episcopal Secretary
Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine, Treasurer
Archpriest Anatoliy Melnyk, Dean of Quebec & Atlantic Canada
Archpriest Oleg Kirilov, Dean of Ontario
Archpriest Rodian Luciuk, Dean of Saskatchewan & Manitoba
Archpriest Vasyl Kolega, Dean of Alberta
Archpriest Michael Fourik, Dean of British Columbia & the Yukon
Archpriest John Tkachuk, Clergy Member-at-Large (Assembly Elected)
Dr. John Hadjinicolaou, Lay Member, Ontario
Mr. David Grier, Lay Member, Saskatchewan & Manitoba and Archdiocesan Lay Representative to the Metropolitan Council
Deacon Matthew Francis, Lay Member, Alberta
Deacon Peter Choi, Lay Member-at-Large (Assembly Elected)
Subdeacon Jeremy Scratch, Eastern Liason, St. Tikhon’s Archdiocesan Stewards
Subdeacon Jesse Isaac, Western Liason, St. Tikhon’s Archdiocesan Stewards
- Regrets:* Archpriest John Jillions, Ecumenical Advisor
Priest Anthony Estabrooks, St. Arseny Theological Institute
Reader Mark Petasky, Western Secretary
Mr. Boris Krieger, Lay Member, Ontario
Mrs. Maria Campbell, Lay Member, British Columbia & the Yukon
- Observers:* Archpriest Nectaire Femanias, Holy Trinity Mission, Quebec
Deacon Gregory Scratch, Chair, St. Tikhon’s Archdiocesan Stewards
Ms. Olga Jurgens, Annunciation Cathedral, Ottawa

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III. Report of the Ruling Archbishop (see Attachment #1)

The written report of the Ruling Archbishop was received, along with a letter from Vladyka SERAPHIM announcing that he has received, for health reasons, a three-month leave of absence from his Archdiocesan responsibilities, as well as release from his additional Holy Synod duties. During the period of this three-month leave of absence, His Grace, Bishop IRÉNÉE will serve as Administrator of the Archdiocese (as of 13:00 today). All of the pastoral and administrative responsibilities of the Archdiocese will be under the care of Bishop IRÉNÉE, as well as Igumen ALEXANDER as Chancellor, and Protodeacon Nazari Polataiko as Secretary. The Council accepted the report of the Ruling Archbishop, and His Eminence departed the meeting at this time.

IV. Minutes of the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly, held at the University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, July 26-30, 2010

The draft Minutes of the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly were distributed *via* email to the members of the Archdiocesan Council for information only. Approval of the minutes will be made at the next Archdiocesan Assembly in 2012.

V. Minutes of the Spring 2010 Meeting of the Archdiocesan Council, held at Christ the Saviour Sobor, Toronto, Ontario, March 5-6, 2010 (see Attachment #2)

Igumen ALEXANDER reviewed the action items from the Minutes of the Spring 2010 meeting of the Council.

1. *"The organization of monthly conference calls with the regional deans [...] still needs to be done, and it seems necessary to try to arrange for all Deans to have a Skype account to eliminate any costs for these conferences."* This task has not been done yet.

ACTION: Igumen ALEXANDER will organize monthly conference calls with the regional deans.

2. *"... the project of publishing a 4- or 5-year spreadsheet of the parishes' contributions to the Archdiocese, including a column of STAS receipts will be prepared for the Victoria Assembly."* **COMPLETED**
3. *"Mr David Grier and Mr Rod Tkachuk are reminded to review the By-laws of the Archdiocese and recommend revisions as needed, prior to the 2010 Assembly."* **COMPLETED**
4. *"Archbishop Seraphim said that he is continuing to work on a new moleben book, to include French, for Council meetings."* Archbishop SERAPHIM has completed the English revisions to the moleben book; revisions are underway for the French version.

ACTION: Bishop IRÉNÉE will complete the French revisions to the moleben service book used at Council meetings.

5. *"Fr Alexander said that he has contacted Rod Tkachuk about drafting a letter for Archbishop Seraphim to send to John Loukadelis of Hamilton, asking him to clarify (1) the impact of Ontario charitable rules on the Archdiocese of Canada, and (2) the rules pertaining to the reserving of money. The Chancellor said that he would be getting back to Mr Tkachuk about this."* **COMPLETED** – Mr. Rod Tkachuk has written the letter to Mr. John Loukadelis.
6. *"Rod Tkachuk says that indeed we can apply for a name change of the corporation we were given, from 'Canadian Orthodox Church' to 'Orthodox Church in Canada.' The Archbishop said that he will let Mr Tkachuk know that the Council has mandated this change, and that he should begin working on applying for the change as soon as possible."* **COMPLETED**
7. *"Peter Choi reported that [...] determining whether the [Quickbooks] format can be adapted at a parish level using St John of Shanghai's test site, has not been completed yet [...]."* The work on providing a standard Quickbooks template for parish use is underway but incomplete.

ACTION: Deacon Peter Choi will continue to work on the creation and testing of a standard Quickbooks template for parish use.

8. *"Fr Lawrence Farley reported that he has not yet received anything from Dr Hadjinicolaou with regard to the Greek akathist entitled "Bringing Workers to the Vineyard." Fr Lawrence will edit this akathist into good English for publication, once John can get it translated into rough or basic*

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English first. The plan is that John should be able to find someone to do this, and would then send the translation to Fr Lawrence.” This task is incomplete.

ACTION: Father Lawrence Farley will provide a useable English text for the Akathist “Bringing Workers to the Vineyard.”

9. *“The Treasurer [will] give David Grier an accounting of his spending of the monies reserved for the Syosset account for 2008 and 2009 [fiscal years].”* This task has not be completed yet.

ACTION: Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine will provide the lay representative to the Metropolitan Council an accounting of the spending of monies reserved for the Syosset account for the 2008 and 2009 fiscal years.

10. *“Protodeacon Nazari [...] suggested, and the Archbishop and Council agreed, that there is need for our own new metrical books of baptisms, marriages, and funerals, which would automatically generate copies which the Chancery would file.”* Revisions to the Archdiocesan metrical books have not been done.

ACTION: Protodeacon Nazari will continue to revise the Archdiocesan metrical books of baptisms, marriages, and funerals.

11. *“The Chancellor volunteered to contact all of the parishes and missions which contribute nothing to the Archdiocese.”* This task is still in progress.

ACTION: Igumen ALEXANDER will contact parishes that have not made their contributions to the Archdiocese this year.

12. *“[...] it was decided that all themes, topics, workshops, etc. for the Assembly need to be complete by Pascha.”* **COMPLETED**

13. *“In the discussion of the “Historical Chronology,” Deacon Matthew reported that this new edition will go into the “Roots of Community” section of the website. The deacon will keep up with this process.”* Chronology of the Archdiocese of Canada is underway. (See also #12.1 item #)

ACTION: Deacon Matthew Francis will continue to work on the historical chronology of the Archdiocese of Canada.

14. *“The [Administrative] Unit recommended and Council approved the building of new offices on the lower level of the Cathedral [...]; that the ceiling amount for the construction costs be \$40,000.00, regardless of the source of funds; that the Archdiocesan Executive Committee seek skilled volunteer labourers and donations of building materials to minimize the cost of the project; and that construction be started after Pascha 2010.”* **REVISED & COMPLETED** – The original building plan for the Archdiocesan offices was changed. Instead of building new offices in the lower level of the Cathedral, one rental suite was converted to Archdiocesan offices in the Annunciation Cathedral. The revisions were completed yesterday.

15. *“[...] the Archdiocese recently received a letter [from the Canadian Council of Churches (CCC)] asking our diocese to raise the OCA’s contribution from \$1200.00 to \$2150.00 per year. Fr Cyprian [Hutcheon] replied that he thinks this letter was based on inaccurate information about the number of active churches we have. He will investigate.”* **COMPLETED** – Fr. Cyprian Hutcheon has discussed this with the CCC and the CCC has agreed to keep our contribution at \$1200.

16. *“The Chancellor was asked to make note that a photograph of the new Council should be made at the end of the closing moleben of the Assembly.”* The photograph was not taken at the end of the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly.

ACTION: Members of the Archdiocesan Council will gather for a photograph during this meeting.

17. *“Archbishop Seraphim said that he will write a letter to the Metropolitan explaining that the new Sexual Misconduct Guidelines document is not applicable to us in Canada, since we are subject to Canadian law, not US law. We are already fulfilling the Canadian laws in this area.”*

COMPLETED – Igumen ALEXANDER has written a letter to the Metropolitan Council indicating that we are in compliance with Canadian laws.

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18. *“Council unanimously agreed that Archbishop Seraphim should send a letter to Bishop Tikhon to ask him to raise the relics of St Arseny, and requesting that he will let us know when this will be done, so that we can send a delegation.”* **ON HOLD** – A letter was written by Archbishop SERAPHIM to Bishop TIKHON but no response has been received.
19. *“Deacon Gregory was asked to submit a brief paper on “first fruits” to the Assembly Planning Committee for inclusion in the delegate packages.”* **COMPLETED**

The Minutes of the March 5-6, 2010 Council Meeting were **ADOPTED** as presented by the Archdiocesan Council.

VI. Additions to Agenda

Fr. Michael Fourik requested that deanery concerns be added to the agenda. (See #16.3)

VII. Report of the Auxiliary Bishop

His Grace, Bishop IRENÉE reported on his work this year, including his travels to the Czech Republic and Slovakia, as well as Western Canada. Bishop IRENÉE asked for the Council's prayers as he assumes the role of temporary Administrator for the Archdiocese during Vladyka SERAPHIM's leave of absence.

VIII. Report of the Chancellor

1. Igumen ALEXANDER reported on some of the difficulties arising during the planning and execution of the 2010 Archdiocese Assembly. There was difficulty in communication with the Local Planning Committee in Victoria. To date, the Archdiocese has not received any report or financial statement. An advance of \$2000 provided by the Archdiocese as start-up costs has not been repaid. Igumen ALEXANDER recommended greater involvement of the Executive Council (Ruling Bishop, Auxiliary Bishop, Chancellor, and Episcopal Secretary) of the Archdiocese in the planning of subsequent Archdiocesan Assemblies.

ACTION: The Chancellor, Igumen ALEXANDER, will write a letter to the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly Local Planning Committee to request a financial report and repayment of the advance of \$2000.00 provided by the Archdiocese for start-up costs.

2. Igumen ALEXANDER announced that, as of September 2010, he will divide his time equally between Ottawa and Edmonton in 5-week rotations to carry out his responsibilities as rector of St. Herman of Alaska Sobor in Edmonton and Interim Dean of Annunciation Cathedral in Ottawa.
3. Igumen ALEXANDER reported that the presence of the relics of St. Vladimir have blessed our parishes, wherever they have visited.

IX. Report of the Episcopal Secretary

Protodeacon Nazari Polataiko reported on his travels with Archbishop SERAPHIM to Romania and the Ukraine for a summer pilgrimage. He reported that His Eminence participated in many services while in Romania and the Ukraine. Protodeacon Nazari indicated that his attention is currently focused on arranging the Canadian visitation of the holy relics of St. Vladimir from the Ukraine. To date, he has accompanied the relics to Vancouver, Victoria, Toronto, Oshawa, Kingston, and Ottawa. He will accompany the relics to other churches on the prairies and to Montreal. He is in dialogue with the various jurisdictions (Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia, Greek Metropolis of Canada) and St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary regarding the visitation of the relics. There are discussions regarding future visits of Ukrainian choirs to Canada, perhaps as fundraising events for the Archdiocese. The immediate focus after the visitation of the holy relics will be moving the Archdiocesan office from Fair Haven to Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral here in Ottawa.

X. Report of the Western Secretary

No report is available at this time. The Chancellor mentioned that the Western office provides a help “back-up” of the Archdiocesan records.

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XI. Report of the Treasurer (see Attachment #3)

Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine reported on the Archdiocesan finances, including a detailed report of receipts received from parishes to date, the status of the Archdiocesan rolling funds and special appeals funds, and the current cash position.

Fr. Rodion Luciuk questioned the limitations of the current Archdiocesan standards for book-keeping. He made a strong recommendation for the hiring of a bookkeeper to assist the Episcopal Treasurer in ensuring the books are ready for an external audit.

ACTION: Father Rodion Luciuk will confer with the Internal Auditing Committee, including Mr. German Ovodov, to determine the appropriate steps needed to prepare the Archdiocesan books for an external audit before the 2012 Archdiocesan Assembly. He will submit his recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Archdiocese.

XII. General Discussion on the Work of the Archdiocesan Council

1. The Archdiocesan Council spent 60 minutes to brainstorm and to discuss ways to share the workload of the Archdiocesan Council. During the first 30 minutes the Council divided into two groups, clergy and lay representatives, chaired by Bishop IRÉNÉE and Igumen ALEXANDER respectively to discuss this item. During the next 30 minutes the chairs and deanery representatives from BC/YT, SK/MB, QC/Atlantic deaneries switched groups and continued the discussion. All members returned together to share their thoughts (see below).
2. There are a number of ministries and responsibilities that are part of the work of the Archdiocese. Currently, the bulk of this work is being done by the Executive Council. The members of the Archdiocesan Council voiced concerns of burnout of the Executive Council. The Archdiocesan Council indicated a need to develop the deanery to share the workload of the Archdiocese. There was a consensus that there is a need a) to make the deanery more functional, b) to communicate the roles of the dean and lay representative to the parishes, and c) for all members of the Council to take on roles and responsibilities within the Council.

Session I of the Archdiocesan Council meeting adjourned at 17:30 for supper.

Session II – Friday, October 1, 2010 (Pochaev of the Theotokos)

Session II of the Archdiocesan Council meeting convened at 19:00. Members of the Archdiocesan Council divided into the Administration & Finance Unit and the Programming & Communications Unit to address separate issues related to their respective units. Discussion in the Administration & Finance Unit was led by Dr. John Hadjinicolaou with Protodeacon Nazari Polataiko, Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine, Archpriest John Tkachuk, Archpriest Rodion Luciuk, Mr. David Grier, Deacon Peter Choi, Subdeacon Jeremy Scratch, and Subdeacon Jesse Isaac in attendance. Discussion in the Programming & Communications Unit was led by Igumen ALEXANDER with Bishop IRÉNÉE, Archpriest Anatoliy Melnyk, Archpriest Vasyl Kolega, Archpriest Michael Fourik, Deacon Gregory Scratch, and Deacon Matthew Francis in attendance. Both units adjourned at 20:00.

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Session III – Saturday, October 2, 2010

Session III opened at approximately 10:00 with the singing of “O Heavenly King.” Igumen ALEXANDER greeted His Grace, Bishop IRÉNÉE, the temporary Administrator of our Archdiocese, on the first anniversary of his Episcopal ministry. The Chancellor intoned and the Council sang “Many Years” for His Grace, Vladyka IRÉNÉE.

XIII. Report of the Programming & Communications Unit

Deacon Matthew Francis reported on the recommendations of the Programming / Communication Unit.

1. Requests for Funding

- a) *FOCUS North America*: This is an American organization headed by Father Justin Mathews, who was a keynote speaker at the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly.

ACTION: The unit recommends that \$1000.00 USD be paid to Father Justin Mathews (FOCUS North America) as an honorarium, from the “charity” line of Archdiocesan budget. **APPROVED**

- b) *Alberta-Ukraine Genealogy Project*: The Archdiocese’s rural churches and cemeteries have been documented through this historical research project. The Archdiocese received a Government of Alberta STEP grant to hire a summer student. The grant received was \$1470.00 and the total costs were \$1656.72.

ACTION: The unit recommends that the difference (\$186.72) between the grant funding received for and total expenses incurred from the Alberta-Ukraine Genealogy Project be paid from the “education / seminarians” line of the Archdiocesan budget. **APPROVED**

- c) *Flood relief funds for Yakutia, Russia*: Igumen ALEXANDER reported that the Archdiocese has received gifts to be directed for emergency flood relief in Yakutia, Russia. The Council discussed how these gifts can be used for this purpose while keeping to the regulations of the *Income Tax Act*.

ACTION: The unit recommends that Father Anatoliy Melnyk will investigate and determine the appropriate method for directing the received gifts to emergency relief in Yakutia, Russia. **APPROVED**

- d) *St. Aidan of Lindisfarne Orthodox Mission*: St. Aidan of Lindisfarne Orthodox Mission in Cranbrook, BC, is currently applying to the OCA Department of Evangelization for a three-year Church Planting Grant. The mission is requesting \$2000.00 from the Archdiocese as one of the OCA’s requirement is that the local archdiocese also support the mission as part of the application.

ACTION: The unit recommends that the Archdiocese grant \$2000.00 to St. Aidan of Lindisfarne Orthodox Mission from the “mission / evangelism” line of the Archdiocesan budget to support this mission’s bid for a Church Planting Grant from the OCA Department of Evangelization. **APPROVED**

2. *Canadian Orthodox Messenger*

The unit, having received Mother Sophia (Zion)’s report on the *Messenger* from the Archdiocesan Assembly, and having received Deacon Gregory Scratch’s recommendation that the *Messenger* partner with the St. Tikhon’s Archdiocesan Stewards *STEWARDS* newsletter, recommends exploring creative options for sustaining, enhancing, and renewing the *Messenger* over the next year. This could include developing more online content. The unit reported that Father James Griggs, Mr. Matthew Zacharias, and Mr. Jesse Butler, all from Annunciation Cathedral in Ottawa, are willing to take up responsibility for the *Messenger*. Dr. John Hadjinicolaou recommended that Father James Grigg be appointed as the Editor for a one-year term, with the other named individuals assisting him. Pere Nectaire Femenias, from Holy Trinity Mission in Quebec City, at the invitation of His Grace, Bishop IRÉNÉE, agreed to assist with the provision of French language content. **APPROVED**

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3. Historical Research
 - a) Deacon Matthew Francis agreed to coordinate the work related to the history of the Archdiocese, and will contact Father Andrew Piasta, who has done a great deal in this regard, and the Archdiocesan Archivist.

ACTION: Deacon Matthew Francis will contact Father Andrew Piasta and the Archdiocesan Archivist to provide coordination in support of historical research related to the Archdiocese. **APPROVED**

- b) Dr. John Hadjinicolaou informed the Council of a government program that can provide compensation for churches that burn down without insurance, such as the recent fire at Sifton.
4. Missions
The Committee recommended that, in view of Fr. Larry's Reinheimer's current leave of absence for health reasons, Fr. Anatoliy Melnyk be appointed as Mission Director. The Mission Director will work with each of the Deans to ensure that each Deanery has a "Mission Coordinator" who can assist in facilitating missionary efforts across the Archdiocese. **APPROVED**

XIV. Report of the Administration & Finance Unit

1. Fundraising Appeals
STAS is the only annual fundraising appeal across the Archdiocese. This is a targeted appeal.

ACTION: The unit recommends two general fundraising appeals for the various needs (e.g., publication costs of the *Canadian Orthodox Messenger*) of the Archdiocese. The appeals will be made by the Executive Council annually via the *Canadian Orthodox Messenger* at the beginning of Great Lent and at the beginning of the Nativity Fast. **APPROVED**

2. Fair Haven Planning Committee
In accordance with Resolution #3 passed at the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly, a planning committee needs to be struck to resolve the future of the Archdiocesan Centre, Fair Haven.

ACTION: The unit recommends a Fair Havens planning committee consisting of the Chancellor, the Episcopal Secretary, Dr. John Hadjinicolaou, and Ms. Leslie-Ann Judge. The planning committee will meet to examine options for the development of the Archdiocesan Centre and report back to the Archdiocesan Council. **APPROVED**

3. Terms of Reference and Operating Procedures for Deaneries
Based on the general discussion on the work of the Archdiocesan Council, the unit recommends the drafting of terms of reference and operating procedures for the deaneries.

ACTION: The Executive Council will produce Terms of Reference for deanery positions in accordance with the *Statute* of the Orthodox Church in America and the *Bylaws* of the Archdiocese. **APPROVED**

4. St. Tikhon's Archdiocesan Stewards
Subdeacon Jeremy Scratch reported on the recent activities of STAS. STAS plans to have a promotional poster sent to each parish. STAS would like to have a representative at every parish. A suggestion has been made to have STAS partner with the *Canadian Messenger*. The future focus of STAS is Canadian missions. As missions will require clergy, who will need a seminary education, STAS views support of mission by supporting seminarians. In addition, STAS is discussing ways to provide some monetary support for the deans. STAS requests permission to prepare a budget for promotions.

ACTION: The unit recommends that STAS present a promotions budget for review during this meeting. **APPROVED**

5. Funding of the Executive Committee
The unit expressed concern regarding the funding of the positions of the Executive Committee (e.g., Ruling Bishop, Auxiliary Bishop, Chancellor, Episcopal Secretary, Treasurer). The unit noted that the long-term goal must be to fund the staff needed to administer the activities of the Archdiocese.

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6. Bookkeeping at the Archdiocesan Office

The unit discussed the Episcopal Treasurer's need for assistance in bookkeeping. A paid bookkeeper will help relieve the workload of the Treasurer, train other personnel in the tasks of the treasury, and will be a progressive step in preparing the books for a future audit during the term of this Archdiocesan Council.

ACTION: The unit recommends that the Treasurer be authorized to spend up to \$2000.00 *per annum*, beginning in the 2011 fiscal year, for assistance in bookkeeping. **APPROVED**

XV. Report of the Metropolitan Council Member (see Attachments #4 & #5)

Mr. David Grier reported on his written report to the Council on the recent work of the Metropolitan Council, including the work of developing the OCA's Strategic Plan. The next All-American Council will be held in November 2011 in Seattle, Washington, to be followed immediately by a pilgrimage to Sitka, Alaska.

XVI. Report from the Archdiocesan Representative to the Canadian Council of Churches

No report is available at this time.

XVII. Theological Education Committee

1. The report of the Theological Education Committee from the 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly was circulated to the Council. No report was submitted to this meeting as the committee has not met since the Assembly. Another meeting will take place later this year.
2. The Archdiocesan Vocations Assessment Committee has codified the ordination process but some amendments and improvements are needed. Dr. John Hadjinicolaou mentioned that the Church of Greece has shown interest in the assessment process used in our archdiocese. Mr. David Grier expressed the need for formalized terms of reference and operating procedures for the AVAC.

ACTION: Igumen ALEXANDER will draft Terms of Reference for the members of the Archdiocesan Vocations Assessment Committee.

3. Dr. John Hadjinicolaou and Dr. Lila Amirali are preparing a report on their experiences with the psychological assessments of candidates for ordination. They have been asked to publish their experiences in a Greek Orthodox journal.
4. Dr. John Hadjinicolaou reported that His Grace, Bishop GABRIEL of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia has blessed the Orthodox Theological Program of the University of Sherbrooke for use by students of his Diocese.

XVII. St. Tikhon's Archdiocesan Stewards

1. Deacon Gregory Scratch presented his report to the Council. There are 159 individuals participating currently as St. Tikhon's Archdiocesan Stewards with an ongoing, monthly contribution just under \$4000.00.
2. Deacon Matthew Francis requested the Treasurer, Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine, and the STAS Western Liason, Subdeacon Jesse Isaac, be added to the list of signing authorities of the STAS account.

MOTION: That the Treasurer, Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine, and the STAS Western Liason, Subdeacon Jesse Isaac, be added as signing authorities to the Archdiocese of Canada's "St. Tikhon Archdiocesan Stewards" account with the Alberta Treasury Board. (**MOVED** by Deacon Matthew Francis; **SECONDED** by Dr. John Hadjinicolaou; **CARRIED**)

3. Subdeacon Jeremy Scratch requested \$800.00 for the promotional activities of STAS. Dr. John Hadjinicolaou requested that this amount be raised to \$1000.00.

ACTION: The Treasurer will add a budget line for the St. Tikhon's Archdiocesan Stewards ("STAS") in the amount of \$1000.00 for promotional activities. **APPROVED**

XVIII. St. Arseny Theological Institute

No report is available at this time.

DRAFT ONLY – PENDING APPROVAL BY ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL

XIX. New Business

1. Archdiocesan Office (*see also item V.14*)
The move of the Archdiocesan Office from Fair Haven to the Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral is underway. The new offices have been completed and the movement of Office's contents will take place in the near future.
2. Deanery Concerns
Father Michael Fourik spoke on behalf of the regional deans and made suggestions to strengthen the function of the regional deaneries. The Council made the following actions / recommendations:

- a) *Documentation*: The Executive Council will draft letters to the former Regional Deans and Lay Delegates to request them to forward all prior documentation to their respective replacements.
- b) *Parish reports*: Any routine documentation required by the Archdiocese (*e.g.*, annual parish reports) will be sent by the parish to its Regional Dean, who will be responsible for forwarding the documentation to the Archdiocese. Any request for documentation made by the Archdiocese will be made through the Regional Deans to ensure proper communications between parishes, deaneries, and the Archdiocese.
- c) *Hierarchical visits*: When the Ruling Archbishop or Auxiliary Bishop is visiting and serving a Vespers or an All-Night Vigil, the Regional Dean and all clergy are strongly encouraged to attend the service unless extenuating circumstances exist.
- d) *Meeting minutes*: Drafts of the minutes of the meetings of the Archdiocesan Council need to be available to all members of the Archdiocesan Council within *two* weeks of the adjournment of the meeting. The Regional Deans will be responsible for disseminating the minutes to their respective parishes.
- e) *Deanery meetings*: A Deanery Meeting needs to be held annually.
- f) *Marriage certificates*: The Chancellor will forward provincial marriage forms and documentations to the respective Regional Deans as marriage legal documentation is handled most appropriately at the provincial level. Deans will handle documentation related to the conduct of weddings and the legal recognition of marriages.

3. Archdiocesan Assembly Planning Committee
Protodeacon Nazari Polataiko and Mr. and Mrs. Nikita and Mary Ann Lopoukhine were put forward as the 2012 Archdiocesan Assembly Local Planning Committee. **APPROVED**

XX. Canadian Orthodox Church incorporation

Igumen ALEXANDER informed the Council that the Canadian Orthodox Church Incorporated is a corporation of the Archdiocese of Canada, Orthodox Church in America. Diocese of Vancouver Canadian Orthodox Church is a separate BC corporation.

XXI. Insurance

1. Parish Property
Mr. Gabriel Lanteigne is the contact person for parish property insurance. Igumen ALEXANDER informed the Council that a Canadian-wide Orthodox Church plan is the only way to get sufficient subscribers to receive a reasonable insurance rate.
2. Sexual Misconduct Liability
Igumen ALEXANDER reiterated the need for parishes to have proper insurance coverage for liability from potential sexual misconduct claims.

ACTION: Mr. Rod Tkachuk will create a committee to determine the legal considerations of sexual misconduct claims related to church personnel; the level of risk at the individual, parish, deanery, and archdiocesan level; and the proper level of coverage required. He will report his findings to the Archdiocesan Council at the Spring 2011 Meeting.

DRAFT ONLY – PENDING APPROVAL BY ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL

XXII. Glorification of St. Arseny of Winnipeg

On hold. Deacon Matthew continues to conduct historical research on the life and works of St. Arseny.

XXIII. Date and Location of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held from Thursday, April 7th to Saturday, April 9th, 2011, inclusive at St. Herman of Alaska Sobor in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. A telephone conference call of the entire Archdiocesan Council, using Skype, will be attempted in December 2010.

ACTION: All members of the Archdiocesan Council will obtain a Skype account in preparation for the telephone conference call.

The Meeting adjourned with “It is truly meet” and prayer at 13:15.

* * * * *

Respectfully submitted,

Deacon Matthew Francis
Deacon Peter Choi

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Archdiocese of Canada
Archdiocesan Council Meeting
Ottawa, Ontario
1-2 October 2010
Bishop's Words

Announcement:

Dear Brothers, and Sisters in Christ,

I am informing all at this time that, on 19 September 2010, I wrote to Metropolitan Jonah, and asked the blessing to resign from all the duties I held with the Holy Synod, in particular those of the Lesser Synod, and Chairing External Affairs, and Chairing the Board of Theological Education. Metropolitan Jonah then responded by blessing this resignation from these responsibilities.

Shortly afterwards, the Metropolitan, with the Lesser Synod, gave me a Leave-of-absence for three months from my responsibilities within the Archdiocese. This Leave then began in part, but with the exception of several particular matters that had to be completed first. The last of these is the opening of this Archdiocesan Council Meeting on 1 October at about 1300 hrs in Ottawa. Having also seen my physician, I was informed that this Leave is rather over-due.

During the course of the Leave, Bishop Irénée (Rochon), our Vicar Bishop, together with the Chancellor, Igumen Alexander (Pihach), and the Secretary, Protodeacon Nazari Polataiko will care for all of the pastoral service, and the administrative service of the Archdiocese.

As all ought by now to be aware, the Office of the Archdiocese is in the process of its move to the Cathedral premises in Ottawa, a process which takes time, and which should be completed before the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord. The telephone number of the Office has been forwarded to Protodeacon Nazari's mobile telephone number since 10 September. The general e-mail address of the Archdiocesan Bishop (vladyka@archdiocese.ca) will remain as it is, and be administered by Protodeacon Nazari.

It is my intention, and hope, to maintain as much solitude and silence as possible.

Giving thanks to God for everything, and in particular giving thanks to God for all the Christ-loving labour and service being offered to Him by the clergy and the faithful of the Archdiocese of Canada, I remain,

With love in Christ,

The Archbishop of Ottawa, and of Canada,
the unworthy +Seraphim

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Further Words

The Leave which is now in effect should not preclude the prepared-for October Pilgrimage to Jerusalem, but it does preclude all other travel. I expect to be active primarily in the Domestic Chapel during the time of the Leave. I believe that all pressing matters that were anticipated have now been dealt with officially. From this time forward, it will be necessary to change both the methodology of pastoral visitations, and the expectations we all have (both of visitation, and of administration). Much must change in my own life. I was told long ago, with a certain hint that things might be done differently, that I serve the Diocese as I would a parish family. It was obviously not really possible.

In having left the meeting in the capable hearts and hands of Bishop Irénée and Igumen Alexander, who lead this meeting, I am telling you all that I have confidence and trust in you as advisors, and supporters of the Episcopate, and of the Archdiocese. This is the true rôle of the Archdiocesan Council.

Relics of St Volodymyr (Vladimir) of Kyiv

The Relics of St Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Prince of Kyiv, have been with us in Canada since late September, and they will remain with us until November. It cannot be stressed enough how significant is the presence of these Relics with us. First, this is the only Relic that Ukraine has of its Baptiser. It is a miracle that this Relic exists, because only the Head of St Vladimir remained after various invasions. It had been finally kept in the Church of the Tithe in Kyiv until the Revolution. Then it was transferred to the Kyiv Caves Monastery. At the same time, a portion was given to the Diocese of Rostov. During World War II, the Sobor of the Dormition, where the Head of St Vladimir rested, at the Kyiv Caves Monastery, was destroyed, along with all its contents. It was only after the Renewal of the Church after Perestroika that this Relic came to Kyiv, at the request of Metropolitan Volodymyr, and that Ukraine again had the presence of her Baptiser in her midst. It is this solitary Relic that is with us, and for this length of time. Once again, we are blessed beyond imagination or expectation. The name of St Vladimir contains the word "mir", which can mean "peace" ; and peace is indeed what has been being experienced in every place that the Saint is brought. May this peace, the Peace of Christ, remain with us all, and grow with us all !!! The Relics will return to Kyiv in time for the 75th Birthday Celebration of Metropolitan Volodymyr. We owe, indeed, our prayerful support to him, and to the Ukrainian Church, for their generosity in allowing us to care for the Relics for this length of time, and even at all.

Office Move

It has to be mentioned that the renovation of the apartment-space at the Cathedral into office-space is the work of only a few persons, volunteers, at the

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Cathedral. They worked very long hours to remove a door-and-wall, to clean, to paint, to tear up carpets, to sand floors, to varnish floors, to prepare the offices, and the meeting-room. We owe these unnamed persons a considerable amount of gratitude.

The move of the office is not a simple matter at all, and it is just as well for all those involved that there is now a Leave occurring. It is not only that the filing system itself takes a great deal of time to transfer ; it is deciding how best to deal with the Archives – to transfer them to a particular place at the Cathedral, or to leave them at Fair Haven, and improve their environment there. It is also a matter of finding the time at last to establish the electronic personnel database. This database has been promised from different sources for several years ; a server has been purchased to accommodate it, but the structure, the programme itself, has yet to appear. Patience is always required, and given situations in which to grow. There will need to be a reasonable rhythm established for the bishop to be present in the office, and to do the work required, but without doing so in the manner typical of the last two decades (when at home, perpetual presence at the desk, no breaks). At Fair Haven, I am in the process of establishing a home-office, not in the old space.

Bishop's Office West

The revived Office West is being re-organised by the Western Secretary, Mark Petasky. He informs us that there is the foundation of a distinct office in Edmonton now, at St Herman's Sobor. There is a desk, a computer, an e-mail address, a fax-machine, and filing cabinets. The Monk Tikhon (Green) and he are together preparing it for active service. Together with the rest of the Executive Committee, they are moving towards a clearer understanding of how this Office will best serve the Archdiocesan administration, both for the present, and in the future.

Fair Haven

Fair Haven, our Archdiocesan Centre, continues to be inhabited by a few persons besides me, with someone who is always there, but not always the same person. The premises are kept clean, and the grounds maintained by some persons I pay to do this, from a special allowance provided for the purpose. Renovations of the smaller house at 2800 Newman Road (St Arseny's House) are continuing slowly, thanks to a dedicated volunteer, who proceeds with this work as he is able, and free to do so. In the main house (St Tikhon's House), what has been the office is expected in time to become a common-room space. The room beside the kitchen requires some drastic attention during the next year. The kitchen itself has been re-painted, and it is rather brighter. Services at the Chapel have continued sporadically, of a Saturday, whenever I have been present. Over the last years, this has been little. Nevertheless, the persons who do attend this Chapel (mostly from northern New York State) continue to appear whenever services are available.

There has been talk about trying to re-establish a monastic presence at Fair Haven, perhaps through making an arrangement from over-seas. It is perhaps the best

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use of this property on our behalf, and for the sake of the Church. However, until the overall environment of our Church is more settled, it is not appropriate to attempt this. Please refer to my remarks about the Episcopal Assembly in this regard.

Theological Education

Although the Committee on Theological Education will not convene at this meeting in the manner it has previously, there will nevertheless be a meeting in order to discuss all the facets of the possible ways in which to study in Canada. There are many students in the various programmes of the St Arseny Institute. Likewise, there are many studying through Sherbrooke University, St Paul's University, and the University of Toronto. Recently, I learned that it is possible for our students to study also at the Toronto Orthodox Theological Academy of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto, which now has affiliation both with Sherbrooke and St Paul's Universities. How this Academy may be able to serve this Archdiocese in terms of preparing priests locally remains to be discerned.

Archdiocesan Assembly:

The Archdiocesan Assembly in July in Victoria seems to have been a refreshing experience for some persons, and for others either a disappointment, or an exasperation in some ways. In all, the lacks regarding this Assembly must be taken in the context of my own excessive absences, and my inability to give enough attention to some details. At the same time, without having had this particular experience, important changes which are needed for the future might not have become visible.

In the context of commenting on the only two years remaining before the next Assembly, and in commenting correctly that my way of life causes deep exhaustion, the very good point was raised to me recently : "Our planning committee this year could benefit from an education on 'What is an Assembly'". It was then noted that the Victoria committee planned in the manner of planning a conference, with a conference-structure, and theme-context. When I considered these points, and the good ecclesiological comments accompanying, I realised that this is what, in fact, we have been doing all along, without necessarily considering the implications. We have always imitated the structure of the more recent All-American Councils, which themselves had taken on a conference-format. However, when the Church meets in an ecclesiastical context to address the details of her interior life, a "conference" it is not. First, we assemble to serve the Lord in the Divine Liturgy and other services (worship must be first, and central). It is this, in the end, that ought always to be our Theme (without having to state one), in the context of loving service of Christ. We should not need to discern another. Second, we assemble to meet the administrative needs required of the assembly, for the sake of the well-functioning of the Archdiocese. These items are generally available in the Statute of the OCA, and in the Archdiocesan By-laws. This part, it was correctly noted, we managed in a somewhat disorderly fashion this year (it was partly due to communication gaps), and there was unnecessary confusion and mis-

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understanding. Third, we meet together as friends, and as family in Christ, and we support, nourish, and encourage one another in our perseverance in the Life in Christ. In this regard, meeting as family, we have been trying to include younger people, who wish to serve, and who wish to understand how we make decisions. This year, we seem to have failed our youth. There was reportedly very little that was substantial provided for their nurture, and they participated little in our deliberations. There were, nevertheless, some good questions posed from amongst them. What we have continued to do well, however, is to avoid divisive procedural techniques, and to seek always instead a common heart and mind regarding our perception of the Lord's direction.

Therefore, since it is intended that the next Assembly's development be guided more directly from the Council, it is important that we all remember the need to re-educate ourselves and the Local Committees regarding what it means to be the Church, and to meet together as the Church, to make decisions as the Church, to choose representatives and leaders as the Church, and to live always remembering that Christ is the Head, and that He guides everything we do by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, it is important also that we organise our time so that we allow for enough time for serious consideration of the various subjects presented for decisions ; and that we allow enough time for us simply to be together. Yet another comment is also quite *à propos*. This is that we should avoid the expression "Church business". Actually, it could be said that this expression is close to being an oxymoron. So let's do our best to enable us to gather as the Body of Christ next time, and to help ourselves perceive that this is the case. Let's pray that we will both understand, and do what the Lord is directing.

Web-site :

Alexander Vasilievich Ovodov in Vancouver has been working on re-organising the appearance of our Web-site, and those who have visited the Site over the last two weeks will have noticed a very different presentation. There are more changes necessary. At one time, after the Archdiocesan Assembly, the whole site collapsed for a week because there were too many persons using the site at one time for the server to accommodate. The final details regarding the transfer of the ownership of the Domain-name to the Archdiocese are in process, and other controls have been transferred already, so that we avoid such difficulties in the future. It is important that we remember with gratitude all the volunteer service that has been provided from the beginning until now by those who organised, established, and developed the Web-site, and those who continue to do so. It is a large resource.

Contributions :

Our Archdiocese has, from its earliest days, attempted to live out its life in the context of the Scriptural principles of giving. This means that it should be out of love for Christ, and voluntarily, that we make our offerings. These offerings to the Lord are to be from our first-fruits, not the left-overs. And so, people have received many a

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reminder that 10% of the gross income is the appropriate offering to the Lord at the local, parish-level. In the same manner, it is appropriate that the parishes offer the same from their gross income to the Archdiocese, and the Archdiocese also to the Central Administration. It is this principle, when lived out by most people, that first honours the Lord God, and that then brings economic stability to the Church (without giving a sense of oppression to the givers).

Lately, it is clear, something has been happening that reminds one of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5), regarding contributions to the Archdiocese from the parishes. Let's do our best to put all our house in the proper order which is pleasing to the Lord, and not tight-fisted out of fear. Blessings from the Lord are blocked by tight-fistedness, because this phenomenon is fear-based. Let us, with open hearts, open arms, and open hands serve the Lord freely.

Episcopal Assembly

The Episcopal Assembly of the Bishops of North America convened in New York in the last week of May of this year. There were fifty-six of the sixty-seven active bishops present. This meeting was historic, and momentous, because in its following of the Chambésy directives, the Assembly begins the process of coming to visible unity in an orderly, and canonical fashion. This visible unity must, in accordance with Orthodox Ecclesiology, take precedence over any other principle or interest. This Regional Assembly, in the end, replaced SCOBA, and assumed all of SCOBA's component parts, services, commissions, responsibilities, and resources. It spent all of its other attention on basic organisational procedures, in accordance with the directions of the Chambésy Preconciliar Commission's requirements. From this meeting came also the approval of the request by the Canadian and South American bishops, that Canada be blessed to become a distinct and separate Region, and that the Mexican Bishops be blessed to be part of the South American Region. This approval, which became the request of the Assembly was then forwarded to Constantinople. Following the provided procedure, the Patriarch of Constantinople would then request a consensus of the other Heads of universally-recognised Autocephalous Churches that this be blessed. It does not seem at present that there would be any great opposition, although surprises happen.

In this context also, the Canadian bishops, including Bishop Irénée and me, were listed separately from the rest of the Synod of The Orthodox Church in America. There were, in fact, different ways of addressing our existence. The Orthodox Church in America bishops sat together, but they were not officially called the OCA. Therefore, it seems to me important to try to understand what will be our position in the future, when (God willing) the Canadian Conference of Orthodox Bishops (the Canadian Regional Episcopal Assembly) would be officially blessed, and begin to assemble. Do the Autocephalous Churches accept that we, specifically as bishops of the OCA, would participate actively? If not, then what is to be done? In one or another manner, we bishops must be able to participate, because we must be able to contribute towards the development of the necessary visible unity. If we refuse the visible unity, we refuse the

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Incarnation of Christ. This is how important all these developments are, and they show how seriously we must pray, so that we do all in accord with the Lord, with the Gospel. I know that the Holy Synod of the OCA is taking this whole situation (and particularly in the context of the USA) very seriously, and not forgetting this principle of visible unity. Let us pray that we do the Lord's will.

With love in Christ, I remain yours,
The Archbishop of Ottawa, and of Canada
The unworthy +Seraphim

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Pastoral Activities 2010

March

4-7	Toronto, ON	Archdiocesan Council ; Christ the Saviour Sobor
9-10	Toronto, ON	Orthodox-Roman Catholic Bishops' Dialogue
11	Toronto, ON	Canadian Council of Orthodox Bishops
12-14	Crestwood, NY	St Vladimir's Seminary
15-18	Syosset, NY	Holy Synod
20	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
20-21	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
27	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
27-28	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
28-31	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan

April

1-4	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
10	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
10-11	Montréal, QC	Sts Peter & Paul Sobor
12-26	Jerusalem, Israel	: Pilgrimage Group
26-29	Colorado Springs CO	: Holy Synod

May

1	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
1-2	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
7-8	Jersey City, NJ	Ordination Bishop Michael
8-9	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
12-17	Mexico City, MX	Ascension Cathedral Feast ; 50 th Wedding Anniversary of a classmate
20-23	Chicago, IL	Sts Constantine & Helen Romanian Orthodox Cathedral, Archbishop Nicolae
25-28	New York, NY	Episcopal Assembly
29	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
29-30	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
30-31	South Canaan, PA	St Tikhon's Monastery Pilgrimage ; Holy Synod

June

5	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
5-6	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
12	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
12-13	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
18-21	Windsor, ON	St John the Divine
26	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
26-27	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral

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July

2-4	Rawdon, QC	Église St-Séraphim
5	Westport, ON	St Anthony's Hermitage
10	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan
10-11	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
11-19	Alberta Deanery:	Holy Trinity, St Herman's Sobor Edmonton ; Holy Trinity, Sunland (100 th Anniversary)
23-25	Victoria, BC	All Saints of Alaska
25-30	Victoria, BC	Archdiocesan Assembly
31	Johnstown, ON	St Silouan

August

1	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
2-15	Romania : Monasteries	Pilgrimage : Constantza, Petru Voda, Putna, Bukovinian
16-31	Ukraine : area, Kyiv	Pilgrimage : Khust, Pochaiv, Lutsk, Stoyaniv, Chernivtsi

September

4	Westport, ON	St Anthony's Hermitage
4-5	Ottawa, ON	Cathedral
5-8	South Canaan, PA	St Tikhon's Monastery ; meetings
10-20	Vancouver, BC	BC Deanery : St John of Shanghai ; St Herman of Alaska ; Holy Transfiguration Hermitage ; Holy Resurrection Sobor
20-22	Syosset, NY	Meeting
25-26	Toronto, ON	Christ the Saviour Sobor

Pastoral Acts

March

- 1 The Mission Station of the First-called Apostle Andrew in Canora, Saskatchewan was advanced to Mission Status.

April

- 4 Diocesan Awards : Priest John Bingham, the Nabedrennik, Purple Skufia, and the Kamilavka ; Priest-monk Silouan (Bourjeily) the Nabedrennik ; Priest Justin Hewlett, the Purple Skufia, and the Kamilavka ; Priest Constantine Katsilas, the Purple Skufia, and the Kamilavka ; Deacon Kurt Edward Jordan, the Double Orarion ; Deacon Ioann Sturzu, the Double Orarion.

Holy Synod Awards : Priest Phillip Eriksson, the Gold Cross ; Priest-monk Luke (Majoros), the Gold Cross ; Priest-monk Peter (Kondratyev), to be an Igumen ; Priest Vasyl' Kolega, to be an Archpriest ; Priest Rodion Luciuk, to be an Archpriest ; Archpriest Lawrence Reinheimer, to wear the Palitsa ; Archpriest

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Lawrence Farley, to wear the Jewelled Cross ; Archpriest Michael Fourik, to wear the Jewelled Cross ; Archpriest Cyprian Hutcheon, to wear the Jewelled Cross; Igumen Alexander (Pihach), to wear the Jewelled Cross ; Protodeacon Raphael Cole, to wear the Purple Kamilavka

- 7 Igumen Peter (Kondratyev) was assigned permanently as Priest-in-charge of Holy Trinity Sobor in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

May

- 31 Archpriest Cyprian Hutcheon was released from his responsibilities as Rector of Holy Resurrection Sobor in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He was granted retirement.

June

- 1 Archpriest Cyprian Hutcheon was attached to the Bishop's Chapel of St Silouan the Athonite in Johnstown, Ontario.
Archpriest Daniel Guenther, in addition to his other duties, was assigned as Interim Priest-in-charge of Holy Resurrection Sobor in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.
- 15 Archpriest Stephen Slipko was released from his attachment to Holy Resurrection Sobor in Vancouver, BC, and from the Archdiocese of Canada, and was transferred to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, under the Omophor of Metropolitan John.

July

- 12 Bishop IRÉNÉE (Rochon) ordained the Subdeacon Nicholas P Svetlovsky to the Holy Diaconate in the Sobor of the Apostles Peter & Paul. Deacon Nicholas P Svetlovsky was assigned to the Sobor as Deacon.
- 15 Archpriest Stephen Keaschuk was released from his attachment to the Bishop's Chapel of St Silouan in Johnstown, Ontario, and from the Archdiocese of Canada, and was transferred to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, under the Omophor of Metropolitan John.
- 17 The Russian-language Mission in Edmonton, Alberta, was named for St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow, Enlightener of North America.
- 25 Bishop IRÉNÉE (Rochon) ordained the Rasophor-monk-Subdeacon Philip (Ptashnik) to the Holy Diaconate. He was assigned to the Monastery of All Saints of North America in Dewdney, BC.
- 31 Archpriest Lawrence Farley was released from his responsibilities as Dean of BC and Yukon ; he was appointed as Confessor for the Deanery of BC and Yukon until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.
Archpriest Vasyl' Kolega was re-appointed as Dean of Alberta and Northwest Territories until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.
Igumen Philip (Speranza) was appointed as Confessor for the Deanery of Alberta and Northwest Territories until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.
Archpriest Robert S Kennaugh was released from his responsibilities as Dean of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Inuktitut, while retaining all other responsibilities.

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Archpriest Rodion Luciuk was appointed as Dean of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Inuktitut until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.

Priest-monk Vladimir (Lysak) was appointed as Confessor of the Deanery of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Inuktitu until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.

Archpriest Oleg Kirillov was re-appointed as Dean of Ontario until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.

Priest Geoffrey Korz was appointed as Confessor of the Deanery of Ontario until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.

Archpriest Anatoliy Melnyk was appointed as Dean of Québec and the Maritimes until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.

Bishop IRÉNÉE (Rochon) was appointed as Confessor of the Deanery of Québec and the Maritimes until the following Archdiocesan Assembly.

August

15 Priest Juan Pablo Ruiz-Gomar was released from his responsibilities as Rector of Église St-Séraphim in Rawdon, Québec.

Archpriest Daniel Guenther was released from his responsibilities as Interim Priest-in-charge of the Sobor of the Holy Resurrection in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, while retaining all his other responsibilities.

Priest Juan Pablo Ruiz-Gomar was assigned as Rector of the Sobor of the Holy Resurrection in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

31 Igumen David (Edwards) was released from his responsibilities as Rector of Holy Trinity Church in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and from his attachment to St Herman of Alaska's Sobor in Edmonton, Alberta.

Priest John Bingham was released from his responsibility as attached to the Church of St Herman of Alaska in Langley, BC.

September

1 Igumen David (Edwards) was attached to the Bishop's Chapel of St Silouan the Athonite in Johnstown, Ontario.

Priest John Bingham was assigned as Rector of Holy Trinity Church in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

The Annunciation Hermitage in New Germany, NS, was released from its status as a Metochion of the Communauté Monastique de St-Séraphim de Sarov in Rawdon, QC, and it was established on its own.

Priest-monk Roman (Bonnel) was released from his membership in, and attachment to the Communauté Monastique de St-Séraphim de Sarov in Rawdon, QC, and he was assigned as Superior of the Hermitage of the Holy Annunciation in New Germany, NS.

The Mission of St Andrew the First-called Apostle in Canora, Saskatchewan, was released from any remaining attachments to its maternal parish of the Apostle Mark in Yorkton, Saskatchewan.

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The Archpriest Andrew Piasta was released from any remaining attachment to the Church of the Apostle Mark in Yorkton, Saskatchewan, and assigned Rector of the Mission of St Andrew the First-called Apostle in Canora, Saskatchewan.

- 14 At Holy Resurrection Sobor in Vancouver, BC, Subdeacon Peter Tsz-Lung Choi was ordained to the Holy Diaconate. He was assigned to the Church of St John of Shanghai and St Nina of Georgia in Vancouver, BC, as Deacon.
At Holy Resurrection Sobor in Vancouver, BC, Monk-deacon Samuel (Panchuk) was ordained to the Holy Priesthood. He was assigned to the Chapel of the Entrance of the Theotokos of Holy Transfiguration Hermitage, as Economos.

October

- 1 At the Cathedral of the Annunciation in Ottawa, Ontario, Subdeacon Sebastian Scratch was ordained to the Holy Diaconate. He was assigned as Fourth Deacon to the Cathedral of the Annunciation in Ottawa, Ontario.
Bishop IRÉNÉE (Rochon) was appointed to be pastorally in charge of the Archdiocese of Canada for three months.
Archbishop SERAPHIM (Storheim) began a Leave-of-absence of Three Months.

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Second Draft

Minutes of the Archdiocesan Council Meeting
Archdiocese of Canada, Orthodox Church in America
held at Christ the Saviour Sobor, Toronto, Ontario
5 – 6 March 2010

Council members in attendance at this meeting were:

Ruling Bishop of the Archdiocese, Archbishop Seraphim
Bishop of Québec City, Bishop Irénée (Rochon), Auxiliary Bishop
Chancellor of the Archdiocese, and Interim Dean of Annunciation Cathedral,
Igumen Alexander (Pihach)
Secretary of the Archdiocese and Clergy Representative to Metropolitan Council,
Archpriest Cyprian Hutcheon.
Treasurer of the Archdiocese, Mr Nikita Lopoukhine
Dean of British Columbia and Yukon, Archpriest Lawrence Farley
Dean of Alberta and North West Territories, Priest Vasyl Kolega
Dean of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nunavut, Archpriest Robert Kennaugh
Dean of Ontario, Archpriest Oleg Kirilov
Dean of Québec and Atlantic Canada, Archpriest Anatoliy Melnyk
Lay Member from British Columbia and Yukon, Dr Peter Choi
Lay Member from Alberta and North West Territories, and Archdiocesan Director of
Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Deacon Matthew Francis
Lay Member from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nunavut and Lay Representative to
Metropolitan Council, Mr David Grier
Lay Member from Ontario, Deacon Gregory Scratch
Lay Member-at-Large, Ms Mira Davidson
Episcopal Secretary to the Archbishop, Protodeacon Nazari Polataiko
Western Secretary to the Archbishop, Mr Mark Petasky
Director of the St Arseny Institute, Fr Anthony Estabrooks
Canadian Orthodox Messenger Editor, Nun Sophia (Zion)

Visitor and observer : Mr Basil Kriger.

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Session I, held on Friday morning, March 5

AGENDA # 1 Liturgical Services and Call to Order

The Spring 2010 meeting of the Archdiocesan Council began at 11:40 a.m., following a Pre-Sanctified Liturgy in the temple, a moleben served for the Council by Archbishop Seraphim in the temple, and breakfast in the lower hall, all in Christ the Saviour Sobor. All sessions of the Council were held in the upper hall of the Sobor. The lower hall was the venue for meals prepared and served by Christ the Saviour's parishioners. Immediately following breakfast, the first session began with the singing of "O Heavenly King," and was called to order by the Chancellor, who was in the chair.

AGENDA # 2 Roll Call and Regrets

Council members absent from the meeting with a blessing were: Archpriest John Jillions, Ecumenical Officer for the Archdiocese, and Dr John Hadjinicolaou, Lay Representative from Québec and Atlantic Canada.

AGENDA # 3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting [*see # 3, attached*]

The second draft of the Minutes of the Fall 2009 meeting of the Archdiocesan Council was passed unanimously without discussion.

AGENDA # 4 Action Items from the Previous Minutes [*See # 4, attached*]

As the Archdiocesan Council began to review the minutes of the previous meeting (Fall 2009), in the interest of accountability, the Chancellor and the recording secretary called the Council's attention to all the "Action Items" listed. The following points were made:

(p.4) The Chancellor said that **the organization of monthly conference calls with the regional deans has not been accomplished yet. This still needs to be done, and it seems necessary to try to arrange for all Deans to have a Skype account to eliminate any costs for these conferences.** ACTION: FR ALEXANDER (PIHACH)

(p.4) Fr Alexander said that we still need a **history of the parishes' and missions' giving in tithes to the Archdiocese for four years to be listed on a separate sheet of Treasurer's reports. The Treasurer said he would do this for the Victoria Assembly.** ACTION: NIKITA LOPOUKHINE

(p.4) The Chancellor noted that the decision about **whether or not to allow the position of Episcopal Secretary (and possibly also the position of Western Office Secretary) to be a voting member of the Council, continues to be a matter for discussion and possible proposal of By-laws changes at the 2010 Assembly.** ACTION: FR ALEXANDER (PIHACH), DAVID GRIER, AND ROD TKACHUK.

(p. 6) **Archbishop Seraphim said that he is continuing to work on a new moleben book, to include French, for Council meetings.** ACTION: ARCHBISHOP SERAPHIM.

(pp.5-6) The Treasurer said that **the project of publishing a 4- or 5-year spreadsheet of**

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the parishes' contributions to the Archdiocese, including a column of STAS receipts, will be prepared for the Victoria Assembly. ACTION: NIKITA LOPOUKHINE

(p.6) Protodeacon Nazari reported that he has obtained roofing quotes for the part of the chancery office roof which requires repairs. This topic will be covered in his written report.

(p.6) **The Treasurer noted that he is still trying to find and contract a bookkeeper.** ACTION: NIKITA LOPOUKHINE

(p.6) Fr Alexander said that he has contacted **Rod Tkachuk about drafting a letter for Archbishop Seraphim to send to John Loukadelis of Hamilton, asking him to clarify (1) the impact of Ontario charitable rules on the Archdiocese of Canada, and (2) the rules pertaining to the reserving of money. The Chancellor said that he would be getting back to Mr Tkachuk about this.** ACTION: FR ALEXANDER (PIHACH)

(p.6) **The project of translating into French (and possibly into Russian and Romanian too) the shorter life of St Arseny has not been done yet. Mira Davidson said that she would be emailing the original document to Bishop Irénée.** ACTION: MIRA DAVIDSON

(p.7) The Chancellor reported that **Rod Tkachuk says that indeed we can apply for a name change of the corporation we were given, from "Canadian Orthodox Church" to "Orthodox Church in Canada." The Archbishop said that he will let Mr Tkachuk know that the Council has mandated this change, and that he should begin working on applying for the change as soon as possible.** ACTION: FR ALEXANDER (PIHACH)

(p. 12) The Archbishop also reported that he had created and chaired the first meeting of a commission to examine how we can set up a system for academic and spiritual training for priests, planning how we can use all of our resources to do this. It met on the day prior to this present Council meeting.

(p.13) The Chancellor said (1) the Episcopal Secretary translated and adapted the forms from Ukraine to reflect the information needs of the Archdiocese; (2) the Chancellor drafted a cover letter to explain the forms and the information requested from each parish; (3) the Chancellor and Episcopal Secretary determined the deadline for receipt of the completed forms (early in 2010); (4) the Episcopal Secretary sent out the forms and letter to all the parishes in late fall 2009; and the Chancellor has received the majority of the completed forms, although not all have been returned to him yet.

(p.14) **Peter Choi reported that the project of visiting St Herman's in Langley to view the Quickbooks format used by the treasurer there, and determining whether the format can be adapted at a parish level using St John of Shanghai's test site, has not been completed yet, due largely to changes being made in the computer systems involved. He hopes to complete this project soon and to report to the Archdiocesan Treasurer on the result, forwarding the template used, if successful.** ACTION: DR PETER CHOI

(p.14) The Chancellor reported that (1) the 2010 spring appeal will be for STAS (to support the Episcopal Secretary and seminarians), and will be held on Palm Sunday 28 March 2010; that the 2010 Fall appeal will be in support of missions, and will be held on 19 September 2010, the Sunday before or after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (depending on Julian or Gregorian calendar); and that (3) Protodeacon Nazari will remind the treasurer of each

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parish of each appeal, to ensure donations are sent to the Archdiocese.

(p.15) **Mr David Grier and Mr Rod Tkachuk are reminded to review the By-laws of the Archdiocese and recommend revisions as needed, prior to the 2010 Assembly.**
ACTION: DAVID GRIER AND ROD TKACHUK

(p.15) The Treasurer said that he had dispersed monies as approved by Council: \$1,200.00 to Fr Larry Reinheimer for the 2010 Project Mexico bus trip, taken from the 2010 budget charity fund; \$4,000.00 to Fr Richard Rene's mission in Cranbrook BC, from the 2009 budget missions fund; and \$4,000.00 to the mission in Quebec City, from the 2009 budget missions fund. In the case of the two missions, monies were sent to the parish, not to the priest.

(p.15) The Chancellor said that reports from the respective Deans of how the two missions used the monies which were given them were received in the Archdiocesan office.

(p. 15) The Chancellor reported that Fr Larry Reinheimer has been promoting the Project Mexico trip for the summer of 2010 through emails to clergy list members, an article in the *Canadian Orthodox Messenger*, etc.

(p. 16) It was noted that Deacon Gregory will present at this meeting a financial accounting (*i.e.*, a financial statement and projections of pledges and monies coming in for the year), and that he had emailed it earlier to Council members, as requested.

(p. 16) The Chancellor also said that Deacon Matthew Francis has replaced Mr Peter Ewanchuk as the Alberta Deanery Lay Representative for the remainder of the current triennium.

(p.16) The Chancellor noted that David Grier's work on the "Memorandum to OCA Metropolitan Council Strategic Planning Committee from Protodeacon Peter Danilchik" was done as Council had requested. Mr Grier's Metropolitan Council report will give an update.

(p.17) The Chancellor also said that Protodeacon Nazari will report to Council, as requested, on the financial implications of enabling a small monastic community to make a beginning of its life at the Archdiocesan Centre, along with what progress has been made toward this.

(p.17) The Chancellor noted that Fr John Hainsworth and Mira Davidson had been very quick to comply with Council's directive to scale back their first proposed budget of, and projected number of expected participants for the Assembly.

(p.18) Archbishop Seraphim said that he had given to the clergy a petition asking God to send "labourers to the vineyard," asking them to insert it in the triple litany after the sermon at Divine Liturgies. **It was then suggested by Council that "STAS Sunday" also be promoted as "Vocations Sunday" in the Archdiocese.** **ACTION: ARCHBISHOP SERAPHIM**

(p.18) Fr Lawrence Farley reported that he has not yet received anything from Dr Hadjinicolaou with regard to **the Greek akathist entitled "Bringing Workers to the Vineyard."** **Fr Lawrence will edit this akathist into good English for publication, once John can get it translated into rough or basic English first. The plan is that John should be able to find someone to do this, and would then send the translation to Fr Lawrence.** **ACTION: DR JOHN HADJINICOLAOU AND FR LAWRENCE**

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FARLEY

(p.18) The Chancellor said that Mr Rod Tkachuk has investigated the name change to “Orthodox Church in Canada.”

(p.19) The Chancellor reported that he had sent a letter to the Canadian Minister of Immigration, with a copy to the CCC, protesting the refusal of the Canadian government to give Bishop Alejo a visa in adequate time to enter Canada for the consecration of Bishop Irénée. He also sent copies of the letter to several MPs, although there was no reaction at all from anyone.

(p.19) The Treasurer said that because of the transition to new computer programming, he had not been able yet **to give David Grier an accounting of his spending of the monies reserved for the Syosset account for 2008 and 2009.** ACTION: NIKITA LOPOUKHINE

(p.19) The Chancellor reported that he had sent a letter to Boris Kriger, thanking him for his Russian, English, and French publications about Orthodoxy.

AGENDA # 5 Approval of Agenda *[see # 5, attached]*

To the Agenda which the Chancellor had distributed, the following items were added, all under AGENDA #18 New Business :

- 18 c Boris Kriger’s report on his newspaper
- 18 d “First Fruits”
- 18 e Sifton
- 18 f Display from Ukrainian embassy

The Agenda was then approved unanimously.

AGENDA # 6 a Report of the Ruling Bishop *[see # 6 a, attached]*

In addition to his written report, Vladyka Seraphim spoke to the Deans with reference to the importance of keeping accurate the metrical books in all the parishes and missions. For the next while, Protodeacon Nazari will be visiting parishes with Archbishop Seraphim or Bishop Irénée in order to examine metrical books. **Protodeacon Nazari at this point suggested, and the Archbishop and Council agreed, that there is need for our own new metrical books of baptisms, marriages, and funerals, which would automatically generate copies which the Chancery would file.** ACTION: ARCHBISHOP SERAPHIM AND PROTODEACON NAZARI.

Vladyka Seraphim then went on to comment on the most recent meeting of Metropolitan Council which he had attended. The Archbishop repeated his exasperation with the insensitivity towards Canadians of some of the members of the Metropolitan Council. He also expressed his fatigue in having to remind Metropolitan Council members, after twenty years of so doing, that the OCA is an international, not a national Church.

Fr Oleg Kirilov at this point said that the Archdiocese of Canada really should be autonomous, not an exarchate, and we should think about this. Archbishop Seraphim commented that the

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current Metropolitan probably would not be opposed to this.

Archbishop Seraphim also called special attention to the fact that the Canadian Assembly of Bishops would be meeting in the week following this Council meeting, and that, as described in his report, there is a very important assembly in New York in May of all canonical Orthodox bishops in North America, as directed by the Preconciliar Commission that met last year in Chambésy. It is a good thing, he said, that we have our own Canadian Assembly of Bishops, because two of the Canadian bishops cannot obtain visas to enter the USA for the May general assembly. (Should Canada be a separate “district,” as Chambésy defines it, from the rest of North America?)

AGENDA #6 b Report of the Auxiliary Bishop *[see # 6 b, attached]*

Bishop Irénée (Rochon) presented his written report.

AGENDA # 6 c Report of the Chancellor *[see # 6 c, attached]*

Igumen Alexander (Pihach) presented his written report. In addition, he noted that there are now 86 or 87 clergy in the Archdiocese, and at least three vacancies. A number of the clergy (for one example, Fr Larry Reinheimer) are ill.

AGENDA # 6 d Report of the Episcopal Secretary *[see # 6 d, attached]*

Protodeacon Nazari Politaiko presented his written report.

AGENDA #6 e Report of the Western Secretary *[see # 6 e, attached]*

Mr Mark Petasky presented his written report.

AGENDA # 18 c Boris Krieger’s Report

Mr Krieger expressed gratitude for all the support he has been receiving for his newspaper which attempts to explain Orthodox life in all its aspects. In our own Archdiocese he has received much support particularly from Fr Oleg Kirilov, Archbishop Lazar’s monastery, and many people in Vancouver. The paper is truly a missionary activity. It is published in Russian, English, and French, and is publically available (*e.g.*, 200 drop-off places in Toronto, 100 in Montreal, etc.). Such articles as “Why should we believe in God” appeal to everyone, and many are searching for Truth as the Orthodox know it.

He asked members of Council to give him feedback by e-mail, and particularly he would like ideas about the kinds of articles to publish.

Aside from donations, the costs of publishing are borne by him alone. Before Pascha he would like to publish three papers -- in Russian, English, and French, but for the moment he has only enough money for the Russian edition.

At this point, Fr Oleg Kirilov urged the Deans to ask parishes to help Mr Krieger with donations.

The Chancellor expressed the gratitude of the Archbishop and the Council for the missionary

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work that Mr Krieger is doing.

Session II, held on Friday afternoon, March 5

After luncheon in the lower church hall, the second session began at approximately 2:30 p.m., with the Chancellor in the Chair.

AGENDA # 7 Treasurer's Report *[see # 7, attached]*

Nikita Lopukhine presented his spreadsheets report,

He said that the good news is that the Archdiocese for the year 2009 ended "in the black." The bad news is that although twenty-nine parishes gave something to the diocese, twenty-four gave nothing. Also, the majority of parishes do not respond to the appeals. Certain parishes and missions are giving a tithe, others are giving at least something, but so many give nothing.

The Chancellor volunteered to contact all of the parishes and missions which contribute nothing to the Archdiocese. ACTION: IGUMEN ALEXANDER (PIHACH)

AGENDA # 9 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly Report *[see # 9, attached]*

Ms Mira Davidson presented her written report.

When asked for an estimate of how many more people are expected than are at this point accounted for in the report, she suggested a number of thirty to forty.

There followed a discussion concerning what things the Council/Executive Committee/Assembly Planning Committee needs to begin doing at this time:

1. a delegate package must be prepared, to be sent out ahead of the actual meeting of the Assembly, It should contain:
 - a. a general introduction to the work of the Assembly;
 - b. for lay delegates, a statement on the duty of the parish delegate to report to his or her parish after the Assembly (early in September);
 - c. a statement of what will be done in the business sessions;
 - d. a statement of who the speakers are and what they will be doing;
 - e. reports for the delegates to have in hand ahead of time, such as financial statements from both the Treasurer of the diocese and the STAS committee; a summary of insurance matters from the Chancellor; a By-Laws Report with explanations of changes projected, and various other reports as necessary. In the past there have been reports from the Ruling Bishop, the Chancellor, the Metropolitan Councilors, the Youth Director, the Director of St Arseny's Insitute, the Sifton Project, the webmaster of archdiocese.ca, the *Canadian Orthodox Messenger*, the Glorification of St Arseny project, and so forth. Having these reports printed and distributed ahead of time saves a great deal of time in business sessions of the Assembly;

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- f. An explanation of how Council members are elected or appointed.
2. a search beginning now for the most qualified persons (one priest and one lay person) to co-chair the Assembly.

Ms Davidson also said that the Programming and Communications Unit needs to discuss the possibility of an e-mail base for the diocese, for such a base would have helped and can still help in the planning process for the Assembly, as well as with future ease of communication within the diocese.

She also asked the Chancellor to explain the Council election/appointment process for each triennium. Fr Alexander began by recommending that we go back to having both an Eastern Secretary and a Western Secretary for the Archdiocese, as in the beginning of Archbishop Seraphim's tenure. These Secretaries would be appointed, as would the Chancellor, the Treasurer, and the five Deans of the five provincial areas now covered. The five Deans would fill five of the six priest ("clergy") positions on Council.

In the past triennium, the Dean of the Cathedral was appointed as the sixth Dean (the sixth appointed priest member of Council), but Fr Alexander recommends, he said, that the Sixth Priest position on Council be elected, by the priestly ("clergy"?) delegates only, at the Assembly. This would allow for one Priest member who is not a Dean. For Lay Members of Council, Fr Alexander explained, each of the five Deaneries would present its lay representative, by a previous process of either election or appointment within each Deanery. A sixth Lay Member-at-Large would then be elected by the lay delegates only at the Assembly. Thus, at the coming Assembly, one Priest Member and one Lay Member-at-Large will be elected. All other members of Council are either appointed or (in the case of Lay Representatives from Deaneries) possibly previously elected at the Deanery level.

It was noted that nominations for the Sixth Priest Member of Council and the Lay Member-at-Large should be received by the Co-Chairs of the Assembly by suppertime on Tuesday of the Assembly. The next day written submissions by the candidates (explaining why they would like to serve as a Council member, their qualifications, etc.) should be received by the Co-Chairs, for distribution to the Assembly delegates. At the Assembly, once all Clergy and Lay Members are either appointed or elected, among those who are to sit on the new Council, the Assembly will then elect one Priest Member and one Lay Member of Council to serve on the OCA's Metropolitan Council.

To sum up, four people are elected during the Assembly : one Priest Member and one Lay Member-at-Large, one Priest Representative to Metropolitan Council, and one Lay Representative to Metropolitan Council, the latter two elected by the Assembly from those already appointed or elected to the new Archdiocesan Council.

At the close of this extensive discussion, **it was decided that all themes, topics, workshops, etc. for the Assembly need to be complete by Pascha. Then requests for all reports and statements can go out to those responsible for them, in preparation for assembling the delegate packages.** ACTION: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ASSEMBLY PLANNING COMMITTEE

AGENDA # 8.1 Deanery of British Columbia and Yukon Report [see # 8.1, attached]

The Dean, Archpriest Lawrence Farley, presented his written report. As an update to it, he said

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that Fr Peter (Kondratyev) will serve Holy Trinity Sobor in Winnipeg, at least through Pascha.

AGENDA # 8.2 Deanery of Alberta and Northwest Territories Report *[see # 8.2, attached]*

The Dean, Priest Vasyl Kolega, presented his written report. In addition to it, he said that there is a real need for a Slavic-speaking priest for the Slavonic mission which is based in St Herman's, Edmonton. He said also that he thinks there should be two priests at St Peter the Aleut's Church in Calgary.

The Lay Member from Alberta, Deacon Matthew Francis, spoke about the government project of documenting the rural churches, cemeteries, etc., of Alberta. He said that we have requested a grant to have a student help with this.

AGENDA # 8.3 Deanery of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nunavut Report *[see # 8.3, attached]*

The Dean, Archpriest Robert Kennaugh, presented his written report.

AGENDA # 8.4 Deanery of Ontario Report *[see # 8.4, attached]*

Archpriest Oleg Kirilov presented his written report. In addition to it, he spoke of his gratitude for having Fr Roman Pavlov as his assistant, and then explained in some detail the demographics of his parish (Russians, Georgians, Byelorussians, Moldovans, Romanians, Ukrainians, etc.).

The Lay Member for Ontario, Deacon Gregory Scratch, said that the priest of St Gregory of Nyssa Mission in Kingston, Hieromonk Luc (Majores), had been quite ill, but has now recovered and things are back to normal at St Gregory's. He noted also that financial support for Fr Nicholas Young at St Nicholas's Mission in Toronto is problematic, and Fr Nicholas will be seeking employment. The Hamilton parish under Fr Geoffrey Korz has had its fourth annual dinner which raises funds for Chinese missionary work, and as usual, it was very successful.

AGENDA # 8.5 Deanery of Quebec and Maritime Provinces Report *[see # 8.5, attached]*

Archpriest Anatoliy Melnyk presented his written report.

AGENDA # 8.6 Report of the Cathedral Dean

The Chancellor and Interim Dean of the Cathedral, Igumen Alexander (Pihach), presented this oral report. He said that Annunciation Cathedral is a very busy place, and it is growing. On an average Sunday, between 125 and 140 people are present. The facilities must be used, and for that reason there are many activities during the week: the Three Deacons Bookstore, a Chinese table tennis club on two days, a Russian ballet school, a local food bank club for a month, Ethiopians using the chapel downstairs behind the stage on Sunday morning, Eritrians using the upper church at 3 p.m. on Sundays, and so forth. Moving of the Archdiocesan offices into the Cathedral facilities is being planned.

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AGENDA # 8.7 Lay Representative-at-Large Report [see # 8.7, attached]

Ms Mira Davidson presented her written report.

AGENDA # 12 Youth and Young Adult Ministries Report [see # 12, attached]

Deacon Matthew Francis presented his written report.

AGENDA # 15 Theological Education Committee Report [see # 15 a and # 15b, attached]

Archbishop Seraphim, in addition to his letter to Council on 3 February 2010 (the attachment referred to above), gave an oral report about the meeting of the new Theological Education Committee held the previous day.

Among the things discussed were the fact that theological education is not just for priests, but also for the faithful in general to be informed ; the constant need to discuss the clergy-training needs of the diocese ; the possibility of regional accommodations to reduce the necessity for travel ; a proposal for a pastoral course in Ottawa occasionally, using all of the facilities there ; using the Orthodox theological education available in Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, and Montreal; that in addition to theological courses, there should be courses in liturgical and pastoral formation, as well as some way of offering vocal training ; the need for candidates to be aware of 12-step programmes ; and so forth. There was also discussion of how to refine the AVAC process : there should be at least two meetings of AVAC for each person, before study begins and after study is completed ; and after ordination, there should be a mentoring process. A paper will be prepared about this process, and it will be published, possibly in the *Messenger*.

AGENDA # 18 e Sifton Report

Archbishop Seraphim gave this report from Ms Katya Szalasznyj, reading it from his Backberry. Ms Szalasznyj said that they will plant a garden at the church in the spring. There is no Canada Works grant for a person to be on the premises this summer, so seeing the church will have to be by appointment. Katya is “dreaming” that a group of monks or nuns will come to Sifton and restore monastic community there, and possibly earn their living by taking care of the many retirees in the area.

At this point in the meeting, Vladyka Seraphim spent a few moments discussing changes he would be making to some of the statements in his earlier Ruling Bishop’s Report. These changes will be reflected in his editing of the Addendum and can be seen in the attachment [# 6 b] to these Minutes.

Session III, held on Friday evening, March 5

After dinner in the lower hall, Council members returned to their units for work in preparation for the next day’s sessions.

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Session IV, held on Saturday morning, March 6

The Archdiocesan Council meeting was reconvened at 10:00 a.m. with the singing of “O Heavenly King.” The Chancellor was in the Chair.

AGENDA # 14 Report of the Programming and Communications Unit

Deacon Matthew Francis presented this report.

Requests for funding : Deacon Matthew said that the unit had received two requests for funding: (1) from the Assembly Planning Committee, a request that \$2,000.00 from the Youth budget line be made available, if needed, for Fr Justin Matthews’ travel expenses to the Assembly; and (2) also from the Assembly Planning Committee, a request that \$1,000.00 from the Publications budget line be made available, if needed, for an Almanac/Yearbook of all the diocese’s parishes and missions, to be given/sold to delegates at the Assembly. The Unit recommended that these requests be granted. Council disagreed with this recommendation. The Chancellor said that the Assembly Planning Committee should work with the \$1,700.00 “floater” already given them ; later, if there is an Assembly deficit, Council can decide what to do at that time.

Publications : in the Unit’s discussions, it was noted that www.archdiocese.ca is a work in progress ; some changes have been made, but possibly there will be more.

In the discussion of the *Canadian Orthodox Messenger*, the Unit’s members expressed concern about the poor quality of photographs. What is the cause for this? Are the photos being photocopied? Mother Sophia said that she sends photos in digital format to the print shop, so they should not be photocopied. **Fr Anatoliy Melnyk offered to print out the pdf file (from the website) of an issue of the Messenger on his own printer, on regular paper, to see what the quality is like, and will let Mother Sophia know, and she can follow through with the print shop.** ACTION: ARCHPRIEST ANATOLIY MELNYK

In the discussion of **the “Historical Chronology,” Deacon Matthew reported that this new edition will go into the “Roots of Community” section of the website. The deacon will keep up with this process.** ACTION: DEACON MATTHEW FRANCIS

Communications : Mira Davidson led a discussion in the Unit on the need for better communications within the Archdiocese. The Unit suggested that **a simple survey in the registration package would be good to have as a reference point, asking people what are their preferred ways of communication (e-mail, telephone, regular mail, Skype, etc.). Council saw this as a good idea, but only if the survey stated clearly “Would you be prepared to have this information used by the Archdiocese?”** ACTION: MIRA DAVIDSON

Council also recommended that as many people as possible use Skype, at least at the Council level. ACTION: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

AGENDA # 13 Report of the Administrative and Financial Unit [see # 13 and # 13 a, attached]

Dr Peter Choi reported for this unit.

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Relocation of Archdiocesan office to the Cathedral : The Unit recommended and Council approved the building of new offices on the lower level of the Cathedral [see plan, #13 a] ; that the ceiling amount for the construction costs be \$40,000.00, regardless of the source of funds ; that the Archdiocesan Executive Committee seek skilled volunteer labourers and donations of building materials to minimize the cost of the project ; and that construction be started after Pascha 2010. ACTION: COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Archdiocesan automobile : Dr Choi said that Protodeacon Nazari had informed the Unit that Archbishop Seraphim's current vehicle is unsafe in winter driving conditions. Its fuel-efficiency is poor. The car is currently two years old and has 75,000 km mileage. The vehicle was purchased with a car loan, and \$20,500.00 remains to be paid (unfortunately, the car was purchased right before the recession set in). The resale value of the car is \$9,500.00. The Protodeacon explained that the cost of a 2006 Volkswagen TDI (diesel), a car with better handling, safety, and fuel efficiency, would cost \$21,800.00. The total cost of replacing the current vehicle would be \$32,700.00. The Unit recommended that in the light of the recommendations regarding the relocation of the Archdiocesan office, no action should be taken at this time, although Council may need to re-consider this matter in future.

Travel costs related to visits by bishops : Nikita Lopoukhine told the Unit that expenses related to visits to parishes by the Archbishop and the Vicar Bishop are increasing. The Unit recommended that for parishes which have not contributed their first fruits to the Archdiocese, the travel costs of the Archbishop or Vicar Bishop to those parishes be recovered from the parish councils, at least for any event to which the bishop is specifically invited by them.

There followed a discussion about the need for great sensitivity in this matter. The Chancellor said that there has to be some talk with these sixteen parishes, to explain the situation more fully, negotiating with them and explaining the costs involved with travel. There is definitely a much-needed educational component here. Fr Alexander said that he would talk with these non-contributing parishes by telephone, explaining about travel costs of Episcopal visits, and attempting to negotiate with them with regard to the repayment of travel costs for the visitations. ACTION : FR ALEXANDER (PIHACH)

AGENDA # 10 Metropolitan Council Report [see # 10, attached]

Mr David Grier presented this written report which briefly described the topics dealt with at the most recent Metropolitan Council meeting, ending the previous day : the Strategic Plan, external affairs, legal issues, finances, the upcoming AAC, and committee activity.

At this point Archbishop Seraphim spoke again about the assembly of North American bishops which is to be held in May. There will be annual meetings of this assembly, and perhaps it will be the beginning of a synod for North America some day. At the least the meeting(s) can give a sign of unity, which is very important. The Greek Archdiocese is funding all the expenses of the first meeting.

AGENDA # 11 Canadian Council of Churches Report [see # 11, attached]

Fr Cyprian Hutcheon, who is on the Governing Board of the CCC, presented this written report. Archbishop Seraphim and Nikita Lopoukhine called Fr Cyprian's attention to the fact that

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the Archdiocese recently received a letter asking our diocese to raise the OCA's contribution from \$1200.00 to \$2150.00 per year. Fr Cyprian replied that he thinks this letter was based on inaccurate information about the number of active churches we have. He will investigate. ACTION: ARCHPRIEST CYPRIAN HUTCHEON

AGENDA # 16 STAS Report [see # 16 and # 16 a, attached]

Deacon Gregory Scratch presented this written report, which included a separate paper [# 16 a] on the structure of STAS, with a flow chart.

Nikita Lopoukhine said that our numbers in STAS are slipping. A renewal is much needed, so the upcoming STAS Sunday (March 28, Palm Sunday) is very important.

AGENDA # 19 Pilgrimages

The Chancellor noted the two pilgrimages to the Holy Land, which will occur in April and October. Another pilgrimage to Ukraine will be offered in August.

AGENDA # 21 Parish Property Insurance

The Chancellor explained that Aon is no longer the broker for our Ecclesiastical insurance, because we could not deliver them all of our parishes. Some of the parishes really were not helpful at all. We now have asked Gabe Lanteigne of Langley BC picking up some of these policies for Ecclesiastical. Our clergy/church workers insurance continues to exist, but costs have gone up.

Session V, held on Saturday afternoon, March 6

AGENDA # 17 Report of St Arseny Theological Institute [see # 17 a, 17 b, 17 c, attached]

Fr Anthony Estabrooks presented this written report in three parts, a report giving a current overall account of the Institute [17 a], a report by Deacon Lasha Tchantouridze about the *Canadian Journal of Orthodox Christianity* [17 b], and an administrative assistant report [17 c] by AmandaEve Wigglesworth.

AGENDA # 24 Date/Place of next Archdiocesan Council meeting

The date and place of the fall meeting of Council must be decided at the Assembly in July by the newly elected/appoint Council. **The Chancellor was asked to make note that a photograph of the new Council should be made at the end of the closing moleben of the Assembly.**
ACTION: IGUMEN ALEXANDER (PIHACH)

AGENDA # 22 Sexual Misconduct Guidelines

The Chancellor said that a new set of guidelines has been produced by the Metropolitan Council/Holy Synod. All bishops are to forward these to their parishes for signing. **Archbishop**

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Seraphim said that he will write a letter to the Metropolitan explaining that the new Sexual Misconduct Guidelines document is not applicable to us in Canada, since we are subject to Canadian law, not US law. We are already fulfilling the Canadian laws in this area.

ACTION: ARCHBISHOP SERAPHIM

AGENDA # 23 St Arseny Glorification

Archbishop Seraphim said that nothing is being done currently on this matter by Holy Synod. Deacon Matthew Francis and Fr John Hainsworth are working on finalizing the Vita of St Arseny. Also, Deacon Matthew has interviewed three priests (Fr Dan Ressetar, Fr John Nehrebecky, and Fr Igor Soroka) who had contact with Archbishop Arseny near the end of his life, when they were the bishop's young cell attendants at St Tikhon's. Deacon Matthew is planning to put the transcripts of these interviews on www.archdiocese.ca.

Fr Cyprian Hutcheon called attention to the fact that there is a lot of Canadian material in the Archives at Syosset. Deacon Matthew said that the archivist there, Alex Liberovsky, has been very helpful to those working on St Arseny's life.

Vladyka Seraphim said that he hopes we can think about doing a "local" glorification on our own.

Council unanimously agreed that Archbishop Seraphim should send a letter to Bishop Tikhon to ask him to raise the relics of St Arseny, and requesting that he will let us know when this will be done, so that we can send a delegation. ACTION: ARCHBISHOP SERAPHIM

Mr Mark Petasky said that Cropo Funeral Home is prepared to handle any legal matters with regard to the relics crossing the border.

Vladyka Seraphim said that carpenter Fr Mark Korban may be able to build the transporting coffin.

It was also noted that the three priestly interviewees mentioned above, as well as Willy Hatton of Winnipeg who was St Arseny's altar boy there, should be at the raising of the relics and the glorification.

AGENDA # 18 a Archdiocesan Office

The Chancellor pointed out that this New Business topic had already been handled extensively in the Administrative Unit report.

AGENDA # 18 b Fairhaven

The Chancellor said that the only thing to report on this topic is that there remain at Fairhaven a lot of things to repair.

AGENDA # 18 f Display from the Ukrainian Embassy

Protodeacon Nazari Politaiko said that this New Business topic relates to the "Women in Orthodoxy" display that the Ukrainian Embassy is making available for our diocese to use. It is

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primarily a series of photographs of Ukrainian nuns and their monastic life. A photographer wants to take this display to our Eastern parishes, and then would leave the approximately forty pictures for us to display permanently wherever we want. The Abbess of the monastery involved has asked for donations, 50% of which would go to the monastery, and 50% to our Archdiocese.

The display is coming to Canada anyway, the Protodeacon said, so why not? Asked about why the Ukrainian Embassy contacted us instead of others, he said that the Embassy has come to know us well, but they do not express their reasons for their decisions.

Archbishop Seraphim said that he and the Protodeacon will contact our parishes about displaying this “Women in Orthodoxy” project from the Ukrainian Embassy. ACTION: ARCHBISHOP SERAPHIM AND PROTODEACON NAZARI

AGENDA #18 d “First Fruits”: Tithing in the Archdiocese

Deacon Gregory Scratch spoke about this New Business topic. He started out by saying that maybe we are going about encouraging tithing the wrong way. Perhaps it would be better to start with two Scriptural concepts : (1) “members of one another” (Ephesians) and (2) “they held everything in common” (Acts). What does it mean to be members of one another? How can the riches of each be held in common? Within this context, we should talk not about tithes, but rather about “first fruits.” With these concepts and questions as background, how do we assess our current needs? Is our current system of receiving contributions really working, and will it work in the future? If not, why not? How do we answer the inhibiting issues? We need to “brainstorm” about this matter at the Assembly because it is our only chance to get diocesan feedback on this.

Deacon Gregory was asked to submit a brief paper on “first fruits” to the Assembly Planning Committee for inclusion in the delegate packages. Council noted that this document should be in people’s hands before the Assembly starts. Deacon Gregory must obtain a deadline from Mira Davidson. ACTION: DEACON GREGORY SCRATCH

Just prior to adjournment of the Council meeting, members of Council asked Archbishop Seraphim to give a press release to the Archdiocesan website about the letter he is sending to Bishop Tikhon, highlighting the action Council has taken in requesting that Archbishop Seraphim ask Bishop Tikhon to raise the relics of St Arseny. ACTION: ARCHBISHOP SERAPHIM

AGENDA # 25 Closing Prayers and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m. with the singing of “It is truly meet”

Respectfully submitted,

Mother Sophia (Zion)

ATTACHMENT #3

DATE PRINTED 17-Oct-10		TOTAL RECEIVED	ORTHODOX PAPER-SYOSSET	ARCHDIOCESE CONTRIB.	MISSIONS EDUCATION	CHARITY	BISHOP and other purp.	BISHOP CAR	Pochaiev Exec Episc.	Icon	St. Arseny I Vestments		
Deanery		PARISH											
B C & Y T	Comox:Holy Apostle Barnabas	\$0.00											
	Cranbrook: St. Aidan	\$0.00											
	Dewdney:All Saints	\$0.00											
	Gibsons:Holy Transfiguration	\$0.00											
	Langley:St. Herman	\$9,600.00	\$960.00	\$8,640.00	(\$6600 from 2009)								
	Langley:St. Nicholas	\$0.00											
A I b e r t a	Vancouver- Holy Resurrection	\$17,000.00	\$1,700.00	\$15,300.00									
	Vancouver: St. John Shanghai	\$5,000.00	\$500.00	\$4,500.00									
	Victoria:All Saints of Alaska	\$0.00											
	Whitehorse: St. Nicholas	\$0.00											
S K & M B	Andrew/Kysylew - Nativity of the	\$0.00											
	Andrew/Shandro -St. Mary's	\$0.00											
	Andrew/Sachava - St. Michael	\$0.00											
	Andrew/Sunland - Holy Trinity	\$450.00	\$45.00	\$405.00									
	Andrew/Wostok/Buk.:St. Nickola	\$0.00											
	Calgary: St. Peter the Aleut	\$9,680.06	\$908.01	\$8,072.05				\$350.00	\$350.00				
	Cranbrook:St. Aidan	\$0.00											
	Desjarlais - St. Nicholas	\$0.00											
	Dickie Bush - Sts Peter and Paul	\$200.00	\$20.00	\$180.00									
	Edmonton - St. Herman of Alaska	\$9,600.00	\$960.00	\$8,640.00									
	Edmonton - Holy Trinity	\$500.00	\$50.00	\$450.00									
	North Bank:Holy Transfiguration	\$0.00											
	Pakan (Sm. Lake)- St. Elija	\$400.00	\$40.00	\$360.00									
	Shandro:St Mary's	\$300.00	\$30.00	\$270.00									
O N T A R I	Sherwood Park: St. Athanasius	\$0.00											
	Smoky Lake - Holy Trinity	\$600.00	\$60.00	\$540.00									
	Star - Holy Transfiguration	\$0.00											
	Stary Wostok - Holy Trinity	\$0.00											
	Canora - St. Andrew	\$1,037.85	\$103.79	\$934.06									
	Kayville - Holy Trinity	\$0.00											
	Meadow Lake:	\$0.00											
	Moose Jaw - Holy Trinity	\$250.00					\$250.00						
	Narol - St. Nicholas	\$550.00	\$55.00	\$495.00									
	Sandy Lake - St Nicholas	\$0.00											
Q C & M a r	Saskatoon - Holy Resurrection	\$7,800.00	\$780.00	\$7,020.00									
	Stenen - Holy Assumption	\$0.00											
	St. Wallburg:Sts. Peter and Paul	\$0.00											
	Winnipeg - Holy Trinity	\$200.00	\$20.00	\$180.00									
	Winnipeg - Spring of Theot.	\$984.90	\$96.87	\$888.03									
	Yorkton - St. Mark	\$1,242.50	\$124.25	\$1,118.25									
O t t a w a	Hamilton:All Saints	\$0.00											
	Kingston - St. Gregory of Nyssa	\$0.00											
	Toronto - Christ the Saviour	\$0.00											
	Toronto - St. Nicholas	\$0.00											
	Toronto:St. Seraphim	\$0.00											
	Windsor - St. John	\$0.00											
	Halifax:St. Vladimir	\$1,849.95	\$185.03	\$1,664.92									
	Labelle - St. Sergius Chapel	\$0.00											
	Montreal - Sign Theotokos	\$0.00											
	Montreal - Ss Peter and Paul	\$2,400.00	\$200.00	\$1,800.00			\$400.00						
O t t a w a	Montreal - St. Benoit de Nursi	\$600.00	\$60.00	\$540.00									
	New Germany:Annunc. Herm.	\$0.00											
	Rawdon - St. Seraphim	\$1,000.00	\$100.00	\$900.00									
	St. John's - H.L. of Vladimir	\$150.00	\$15.00	\$135.00									
Ottawa - Annunciation Cathedral	\$9,493.80	\$949.38	\$8,544.42										
		\$80,889.06	\$7,962.33	\$71,576.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

ATTACHMENT #4

Learnings from the Presentation of the Draft OCA Strategic Plan at the Assembly of the Archdiocese of Canada on July 28, 2010

Before the Assembly

It took considerable effort to get this onto the agenda. The Planning Committee had long ago filled the agenda and did not appreciate our request for two hours. After the Archbishop insisted the agenda was adjusted to include it, but with partial overlap with a separate speaker. The Draft Strategic Plan and the slide presentation were placed on the Assembly website in a separate section entitled Workshops exactly one month before the Assembly. People were invited to download them for themselves and read it ahead of time. We were told that upon registration that there would be a hard copy of all reports. I assumed this would include the Plan, but since they treated it as a workshop, it was not available in hard copy. As a result only those that brought their own copy had a copy in front of them during the presentation.

Learnings: Start early with your assembly planning committee to get sufficient time on the agenda and insist (don't assume) that copies be available for participants.

Presentation

The discussion of the Strategic Plan was given a split session – one hour from 4:00pm to 5:00 pm and another 1.5 hours after vespers and supper starting at 7:30pm. We had the great fortune of following Fr. David Rucker of OCMC who not only focused on the great commission in Mt 28, he told his own story of his road to Orthodoxy. This included his learning about Chinese and African cultures for the purpose of evangelizing them and how he surprisingly struggled with learning the culture of his home state (Kentucky) when he returned there to establish an Orthodox church in an area that had no idea of Orthodoxy. It was the perfect intro to our presentation.

We began with me quickly presenting the first four slides of the presentation and then turning the floor over to Fr. Michael Oleksa. Fr. Michael did a half hour version of his explanation of culture, how it affects our relationships, and the importance of telling and learning from our stories (personal, parish, diocese, OCA). I then skipped ahead to the “Initial Elements” slide and reviewed that as an overview of what we have done. Then with the “Who Are We?” slide up, I read the text of this section from the plan. I did the same for the “Where are we going?” slide. Since many did not have the text, I wanted them to hear our actual words. I mentioned that the plan, like all corporate plans has a “Values” section which told them they would see as being very Christian and encouraged to read for themselves. Next I had inserted four slides – one for each of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. I believe this is an important step for people to understand how we got from mission/vision to our Top Level Goals. Next I went through the three “Specific Goals” slides and the two Examples of “Goals and Actions”. Finally I put up the “And now it is your turn!” slide and invited everyone to come back after vespers and supper to discuss what they had heard.

Learnings: It helps tremendously to have a spell-bounding story-teller/teacher to break the ice and get the people into the subject. I believe the SWOT has to be part of the presentation. It is the bridge from the vision to the goals. A number of people told me privately that they really

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liked the session. These two points aren't really learnings – I already believed them and the experience only confirmed my belief.

Feedback Session:

I was afraid that the break would result in the loss of the audience, but by the time we were about to start we had pretty much everyone from before (my guess is 40) and a few more who had been attending the overlapping session. This session was after supper, so the university tech had shut down the AV and gone home so we lost use of the slides. So I just opened up the floor for questions and comments. Fr. Michael, Fr. Alexander Garklavs (who had also been at the Assembly of the Diocese of the South), and I fielded them. This went on for about an hour and a quarter at which time we concluded and went for a beer. The comments and questions in the order they came as best as I can remember from my sketchy notes were:

- I agree with the life is a story idea. Explaining our faith and church in a story context makes sense. Parish events, books, etc. that tell our story get people excited
- Is preparing your story a pre-requisite? Because if it is, a lot of great work and energy is kind of wasted (on hold). [He was assured that it isn't a pre-requisite, it is just one of many actions that could be taken.]
- Love is highlighted! The OCA is coming of age!
- This is about starting to build or re-building the church.
- We are getting a new priest who has no idea of who we are – the telling our stories idea will be a great way to help him get started. He needs to know our parish's story.
- Our parish has lots of photo albums of various events in our life. The kids are always looking at them.
- Structure and governance seems wrong – the AAC isn't the highest authority, the Metropolitan and the HS are. [We explained that the words used are accurate according to our statute, and if/how to modify this is being reviewed.]
- I am from a small rural parish. There are many like ours with 100 years of history and stories, but very few people and few services. We need to learn how to fit into or get connected with the larger parishes so we can have life. People want things to continue as they were, but with less people on the farms, it will never be as it was.
- We need to make a resolution that the delegates take this document to their parishes for review and comment. [This was done.]
- Success with this will depend on the character of the people implementing. There has to be human contact. The Bishop has to be accessible, in our midst.
- Archbishop Seraphim said (at a later point, but I put it here because it address the previous comment) that he wishes people wouldn't call him "Your Eminence". It is too formal – it separates. He prefers Vladyka.
- How seriously do the Hierarchs take this? [We said – very seriously, they are participating in their own strategic planning sessions and providing feedback to ours. The Metropolitan is on the SP committee.]
- We need to learn from our stories. The story sets/explains the context.

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- Does this discussion advise the plan? [Yes]
- My understanding of the OCA in Canada has improved a lot in the last 10 years, but still I don't know enough. This document helps my understanding.
- Change is a big step. We need to urge consideration and patience.
- It is most important that we change for the young people's sake.
- We need to increase contact between parishes.
- So far we are emphasising thinking and talking. We must put more emphasis on doing – what, when, how. We also have to be careful not to get too far ahead of our brothers and sisters.
- Taking time is good. I am glad that your committee has taken this long to get to this point – it shows in the quality of the work. I was afraid that a plan would be created overnight and the ramifications not thought through.
- A strategic plan is a process. When it is developed far enough to be comfortable with the direction, it is time to put things into action and adjust based on experience. Most action plans will be made and implemented at the parish level.
- If you take in too much information you run the risk of doing nothing. [I think this person was talking about paralysis by analysis.]
- Share your practices – things that work. Help each other.
- I am a very critical person. I have read the document four times. I am frustrated because I can't find anything to criticize. It is very good.
- This document describes the church as I believe it should be. I only wish it was like that or that we could see more of what is talked about in here being lived out in our parishes.
- Perhaps the document could be used for sort of a gap analysis – for looking at ourselves in the light of what we should be and identifying what we need to change.
- The document shouldn't go too far into action plans. It should stay high level. The dioceses and parishes should decide for themselves what actions they should take.
- Don't call it a strategic plan – it sounds too corporate. [The first slide calls it “A Road Map” – maybe we should use that.]

Learnings: In additions to comments – there are lots of lessons there – it seems that perhaps having a break between the presentation and the discussion was a good idea. People had time to absorb what was said and came back ready to share.

Resolution

The presentations were made on Wednesday afternoon and evening. The following resolution was passed at the Friday morning resolutions session.

Resolution 2: OCA Draft Strategic Plan

WHEREAS the Canadian Archdiocesan 2010 Assembly was asked to provide feedback on the Working Draft of a Strategic Plan for the Orthodox Church in America (OCA).

The delegates noted the value of the articulated vision that reflects well our understanding of who we are as the Church in North America and provides a strong guide for our future path, and

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The delegates commended the articulated process of involving faithful in providing input to the plan. And,

WHEREAS The Canadian Archdiocesan 2010 Assembly recognizes that the Strategic Plan must be realized through actions at the local level.

BE it resolved that the Canadian Archdiocesan 2010 Assembly delegates ensure that: Their Parish review the Draft Strategic Plan and provide comments to the Archdiocesan Representative on the Strategic Planning Committee, David Grier (david.grier1812@gmail.com), and That their Parish commit to take action on at least one of the Top Level Goals of the Draft Strategic Plan and provide each Diocesan Dean, before the spring meeting of the Archdiocesan Council, a report on the process of review and plans to take action on the realization of the Draft Strategic Goals.

This was carried with no opposition.

Report respectfully submitted by David Grier, August 10, 2010

ATTACHMENT #5

Metropolitan Council Meeting, September 20 – 23, 2010

Retreat

The fall meeting of the Metropolitan Council (MC) opened with a retreat led by Fr. Thomas Hopko. Fr. Tom first challenged us all to look at our spiritual lives. Do we regularly pray, study the Scriptures, fast, confess, take Communion, be silent before God, and do acts of mercy? Do we let lusts of the flesh (addictions, gossip, anger, etc.) separate us from God? His point was that regardless of our role in the church, if we are not dealing with our passions we will be worse than ineffective, we will be the cause more trouble. Then he asked us to discuss what we thought were the most important thing that the Church's leaders should do – Metropolitan, Holy Synod, MC, and the Chancery staff. This led to some very open and candid comments. The retreat was not to make decisions, it was to bring out problems that have been stumbling blocks to either making or implementing decisions. It was an important step.

Finance

In 2010 it is projected that we will obtain the \$2.4 million revenue that was budgeted. Expenses will be such that we will finish the year with a surplus of \$125k. The 2011 budget assumes the same revenue and begins to rebuild some of the ministry departments leaving a planned surplus of \$75k. The OCA's primary method of obtaining revenue is an issue that needs to be faced. Parishes tithing 10% of their income will not bring in as much money as the existing head tax system. The Diocese of the South, asks its parishes to tithe to the diocese. The diocese then provides 35% of its revenue to the Central Administration in order to provide as much money as the head tax would. Part of the solution is to teach tithing so that the parishes have more money. Would that be enough? The Diocese of the South believes its people already average 5%, so growing this to 10% would certainly help, but the Central Administration would still need more than 10% of the Diocese's revenue.

Legal

The action on the lawsuit front is greatly reduced. Several suits have been settled and others have been withdrawn. There are some issues that could become legal problems, but the administration is being much more proactive in dealing with things as they come up which strengthens our position and reduces our exposure. One 143 year old issue – who owns the lands that the Russian Orthodox Church owned at the time that Alaska became part of the United States – was settled at this meeting. All lands in Alaska are now in the name of the Diocese of Alaska. On another front, a task force is sorting out the diocese, seminary, and orphanage property ownership confusion at St. Tikhons. 2010 legal expenses are projected to be \$181k versus the budget amount of \$350k.

External Affairs

It is far from clear as to how the Episcopal Assemblies process will conclude. The process seems to be driven by EU funding issues more than it is by the need for church unity in the Americas. The OCA, although humiliated by not being given the status as full member, must find a way to continue to be involved to keep the unity issue on the table. Our External Affairs Officer, Fr. Leonid, said on the OCA web site and again in person that when facing humiliation the only Christian response is humility, and our bishops gracefully met the challenge.

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Bishops

We have four dioceses without ruling Bishops – South, Midwest, Alaska, and Bulgarian. This is putting a heavy load on the Metropolitan as he is responsible for two of them plus his own, and two other bishops who have temporarily taken on a second diocese. Finding new Bishops to meet these needs is a stated priority of the Metropolitan.

Strategic Planning Committee

The plan has been discussed at three diocesan assemblies so far. (The feedback from the Canadian Assembly is provided in a separate report.) In addition there have been comments on the OCA web site and others. In general feedback has been positive, but not as much as expected. The most common mentioned omission is the area of how the church should enhance family life. Although people do not seem to want the plan to be too prescriptive, there is a desire for the plan to articulate more options to help people see what could be done. The MC approved the concept of developing working groups to address this idea.

Sexual Misconduct Policy

Compliance with the policy is essential – one parish not in compliance endangers all. The Archdiocese of Canada has stated that it will not comply because of the difference in Canadian laws. This needs to be articulated more clearly so that our parishes respond appropriately.

Going Forward

This meeting, as each of its predecessors, grows in approaching very difficult issues in an attitude of peacefully seeking solutions versus the old way of confrontation and argument. Fr. Tom commented that this attitude was apparent. He, both in the retreat and in statements made during the meeting contributed much. He was offered and accepted an invitation to come to as many MC meetings as he can.

Respectfully submitted by David Grier, September 26, 2010