

**REPORT OF THE CANADIAN CHURCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
TO GENERAL SYNOD 2023**

1. FOR ACTION

1. The appointment of a member of the Council of General Synod to the Canadian Church Historical Society Committee.

2. FOR INFORMATION

1. Introduction

Effective 5 November 2021, with a decision of the Council of General Synod (COGS), the Canadian Church Historical Society (CCHS) became a committee of General Synod. Please see the attached Appendix for the background of this decision in the approved CCHS Terms of Reference. On behalf of the CCHS Committee, I wish to express our thanks to General Synod for this decision, including the staff who facilitated it. For some years, CCHS occupied a very ambiguous position, both institutionally and legally, and this decision has regularized it as an integral part of the Anglican Church of Canada, concerned as it is with the Canadian Church’s history. We believe that both the Anglican Church of Canada and the CCHS will benefit from this decision.

2. Recent activities

The CCHS Executive Committee has met regularly since CCHS became a General Synod committee, usually by Zoom, but was able to meet in person on 2 December 2022. These meetings have usually consisted of planning for future events and monitoring publication of the CCHS *Journal*. A General Meeting was held by Zoom on 12 November 2022. General meetings include a programme with a featured speaker. At that meeting, Dr. William Acres gave a presentation on “Report of the Journals of the Rev. and Mrs. Robert Ashton, Superintendent of the Mohawk Institution, Brantford, Ontario, 1872-1876.”

3. Committee membership

Current members of the CCHS Committee and their positions, as approved by the CCHS General meeting, are as follows:

Executive Members

President	The Right Rev’d Dr. Terry Brown, Hamilton, Ontario
Vice-President	Dr. Jonathan Lofft, Toronto, Ontario
Secretary-Treasurer	Laurel Parson, also <i>ex officio</i> member of the Committee as General Synod Archivist
Journal Co-Editor	The Rev’d Daniel F. Graves, Aurora, Ontario
Journal Co-Editor	Dr. Bill Acres, London, Ontario
At-large member	The Rev’d Dr. Alan Hayes, Toronto, Ontario

Committee Members

The Rev’d Paul G. Walker, Toronto, Ontario (CCHS Past President)
The Rev’d Stephen Sharman, Selkirk, Manitoba
The Rev’d Dr. Norman J. Knowles, Calgary, Alberta

Canon Trevor Powell, Regina, Saskatchewan

Dr. Richard Virr, Montreal, Quebec

Dr. Tom Power, Toronto, Ontario

Dr. Susan Paterson Glover, Sudbury, Ontario

COGS Member: To be appointed by the 2023-2025 Council of General Synod (**See above**)

It should also be noted that the Primate and National Indigenous Archbishop are Patrons of the Society and very welcome at CCHS Committee meetings.

Current overall paid-up membership in the CCHS at the end of 2022 was 31 personal memberships and 46 institutional memberships, although because of a grace period the actual numbers of those on the membership list is higher. Institutional memberships are largely tied to the subscription to the CCHS *Journal*.

4. *Journal of the Canadian Church Historical Society*

The most recent issue of the *CCHS Journal* is dated Spring/Fall 2019 but did not appear until early 2021. Copies are available for General Synod members at the CCHS booth. The publication delay is related to the workload of the editors, the COVID pandemic, and lack of articles submitted. However, two issues are expected in Spring 2023, a regular issue, and a special issue containing the edited journal of the Rev'd and Mrs. Robert Ashton (see above). The latter will be of significance in understanding the operation of the Mohawk Institution and identifying Indigenous students and their experiences there. The *Journal* continues to solicit articles and book reviews.

5. The T.R. Millman Prize

The CCHS offers the T.R. Millman Prize for an exceptional piece of writing by a Canadian theological student. It was most recently won by Kieran Wilson, a student of the Divinity Faculty of Trinity College, Toronto, for an essay entitled "By What Law Established? Anglican Ambiguities of Jurisdiction and the Cridge Controversy of 1972-74." It is being published in the next issue of the *CCHS Journal*.

6. Upcoming activities

CCHS is planning a conference (hybrid in-person and on-line) on the history of Canadian Anglican materiality on 29-30 September 2023 at Trinity Church, Aurora, Ontario. The conference welcomes proposals in areas such as Canadian Anglican architecture, vestments, stained glass, monuments, and (especially) enculturated Indigenous materiality. It is anticipated that the papers given at this conference will comprise an issue of the *CCHS Journal*. Preliminary planning is also taking place for an international conference, with the support of many international partners, in Toronto in April 2024, to mark the 60th anniversary of the 1963 Anglican Congress. Similarly, papers presented here would be published in the *CCHS Journal*.

7. Financial Report

CCHS funds are held in two places: The Consolidated Trust Fund of General Synod and the Diocese of Quebec Church Society pooled funds. The latter largely comprises the T.H. Millman Endowment Fund. The current (13 March 2023) balance of the General Synod-held funds is \$73, 726.22 and the Quebec Church Society-held funds is \$50, 745.97. Because of the delay in the publication of the *Journal*, there has been

little call upon these funds in 2021 and 2022 but major expenditures are expected in early 2023 for the publication costs of two issues of the *Journal*. There will also be costs associated with the September 2023 Conference. A committee of General Synod, the CCHS can now legally issue General Synod tax receipts for donations.

8. Conclusion

Interest in Anglican church history remains high at the parish level. CCHS is working on resources to support that interest. However, as the Anglican Church of Canada undergoes retrenchment at all levels, including in theological education, sometimes archives and church history are not regarded as high priorities. The existence of CCHS and its inclusion in General Synod is witness that the Anglican Church of Canada believes otherwise and that we still have much to learn from the past, both its strengths and weaknesses.

As president of the CCHS, on behalf of the Committee and members, I also wish to express thanks to Ms. Laurel Parson, General Synod Archivist, who has been immensely helpful in the process of becoming a Committee of General Synod and in the ongoing work of the Society.

Bishop Terry Brown
President, Canadian Church Historical Society

APPENDIX

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CANADIAN CHURCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
APPROVED BY COUNCIL OF GENERAL SYNOD, 5 NOVEMBER 2021

The Canadian Church Historical Society

Background

The Canadian Church Historical Society (CCHS) was constituted under the auspices of the General Synod in 1946 and held its first official meeting at the General Synod in 1949. In 2002, the CCHS became an incorporated charitable organization under the laws of Ontario. In 2021, the separate legal corporation was dissolved and the CCHS re-established its position within the General Synod.

1. Ministry of the General Synod

The Canadian Church Historical Society is a ministry of the General Synod of The Anglican Church of Canada.

2. Purpose of the CCHS

The purpose of the CCHS is to:

- (a) further the study and writing of the history of the Christian faith in Canada, and particularly that of the Anglican Church and its traditions;
- (b) publish historical studies, documents, reviews, and other materials in the *Journal of the Canadian Church Historical Society*, an academic double-blind peer reviewed journal;
- (c) provide support and encouragement for those involved in scholarly research;
- (d) pursue, generally, the advancement of religion and education through conferences and symposiums; and
- (e) support the preservation of culturally significant artefacts, documents, objects, and properties.

3. Membership

Membership in the CCHS shall be open to all persons interested in its purposes on payment of the annual membership fees prescribed by the CCHS Committee.

Members may resign by notifying the Secretary in writing. Resignation shall be effective on the date it is received by the Secretary.

Subscriptions to the *Journal* may be made available to individuals and institutions who are not members upon payment of the fee prescribed by the CCHS Committee.

4. Meetings of Members

A general meeting of the members shall be held every two years, either virtually or in-person, for the purpose of receiving reports and electing members of the Committee.

Notice of a general meeting of members shall be provided in writing or electronically to each member at least fourteen days prior to the date of the meeting.

5. The Committee

The Committee of the CCHS shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to six members elected by the membership, and in addition shall include a member of the Council of General Synod, the General Synod Archivist, the Editor(s) of the Journal of the CCHS, the immediate Past-President, Honorary Presidents and Honorary Vice-Presidents.

The elected members of the Committee shall serve for a three year term and may be elected for further terms.

No member of the Committee shall receive remuneration for acting as such but may, at the discretion of the Committee, be paid their reasonable expenses properly incurred in the performance of their duties.

6. The Executive

There shall be an Executive as determined by the Committee.

7. Meetings of the Committee and the Executive

The Committee and the Executive shall meet as required, either virtually or in-person, reasonable notice having been given to the members thereof.

The Committee may adopt rules, regulations, and policies for conducting the management and operation of the CCHS.

8. Finances

The General Synod administers the finances of the CCHS, including issuing receipts for donations for its ministry, and will provide financial information to the Committee as appropriate.

The T.R. Millman Endowment Fund is currently held for the CCHS by the Church Society of the Diocese of Quebec. Other endowment funds will be held in the Consolidated Trust Fund of General Synod.

The Committee shall provide a report of its activities and finances annually to General Synod, and to each general meeting of the membership.

9. Amendment to these terms of reference

The Council of General Synod may amend these terms of reference upon recommendation by the Committee.

10. Patrons

The Primate and the National Indigenous Archbishop are the Patrons of the CCHS.