ST JOHN’S COLLEGE COUNCIL
Minutes
For the Meeting of November 25, 2015
Meal at 5:30, Meeting from 6:00 in the Cross Common Room (#108)

Present: J. James, D. Phillips, S. Close, C. Trott, D. Brydon, P Brass, I. Froese, J. Markstrom, J. McConnell, J. Ripley, H. Enns, E. Jones, B. Castelo, A. Braid, H. Kennedy, B. Beare (Chair), S. Peters (Secretary)

Regrets: C. Loewen, C. Morrison, H. Richardson, B. Pope

1. Opening Prayer
D. Phillips opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Approval of the Agenda
MOTION: That the agenda of the meeting be approved as distributed.
J. McConnell / S. Close
CARRIED

3. Approval of the September 30, 2015 Minutes
MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of September 30, 2015 be approved as distributed.
J. James / B. Cantelo
CARRIED

4. Business arising from the Minutes
None

5. New Business
a) Budget Summary - The Bursar reviewed the budget for the previous quarter on behalf of the Finance and Admin committee.
b) Review of Awards Given out - The Registrar distributed the list of the award recipients and the amounts given, for information. This year the total amount given was over $90,000.00.
c) Strategic Planning Update - The Warden updated Council on the strategic planning process. The comments from the surveys were first incorporated into the plan. Then it was taken to faculty and student council for further suggestions. He then reviewed the Pillars. If Council members have further comments or suggestions, please pass them along to the Warden or the Development Officer.
d) Warden’s Review - The Chair of Assembly informed Council that some work has been done as to how a committee should be formed, and is to be formed officially by Assembly. The committee will be formally established in January
e) Call for Honorary Degree Nominations - The Warden noted that next year will be the 150th anniversary of the College. Please pass suggested nominations to the Warden.

6. Reports from Committees, College Officers and Student Council
a) Reports from Committees – Council Executive, Development, Finance & Admin.
   Council Executive met on November 10 to set the agenda for tonight’s meeting.
b) Report from Assembly
There has been discussion among Assembly regarding the Strategic Plan. There has also been considerable concern regarding the physical state of the College in terms of maintenance and cleanliness. Fellows are working with the Warden and the Bursar in how to work with the University’s Physical Plant.

c) Report from College Officers and Student Council
i) Warden

St John’s College  
Warden’s Report for Council  
November 25, 2015

We have just passed through high ceremonial season since last Council with the celebration of both Matriculation and Convocation. Both events went extremely well thanks to the careful work and planning of the College Staff, especially Sherry Peters. We were most honoured to have Dr. Shirlee Ann Smith and The Right Reverend Dr. Mark MacDonald at Convocation and Bishop Mark’s address was particularly moving reminding us of the history of the College and the work of the Venerable Robert MacDonald.

There have been numerous complaints from homeowners in Fort Richmond to the city and the province about many single-family dwellings in the area being used as rooming houses for students. We have attended a couple of the meetings on this issue putting forward the notion that St John’s can be part of the solution with support to build our new residence. We have attracted some interest in our suggestion and we will continue to work this avenue forward.

I have also been working to advance our strategic planning process leading two meeting each with the Fellows and Staff over Soup and Bread and attending two meetings of Student Council. The feedback has been invaluable.

Other activities I have participate in include:

1) Isbister Society Luncheon, October 1
2) Arts Celebrating Arts, Oct. 2
3) Bombers Football Game and launch of Front and Centre Campaign, Oct. 3
4) Homecoming Dinner, Oct. 3
5) Announcement of Government support for Front and Centre, Oct. 9
6) Meeting of four Anglican Archives in Winnipeg, Oct. 14
7) Attended Faith Horizons, Oct. 17
8) Represented the College at two University Convocations, Oct 21 & 22
9) Represented the College at the Bishop’s Dinner, Oct. 22
10) Attended the Evening of Excellence, Oct. 28
11) Attended two lectures at St Margaret’s, Oct. 29 and Nov. 12
12) Represented the College at the opening of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, Nov. 3
13) Hosted the Kairos workshop on “Education for a New Relationship”, Nov. 8
14) Attended the Naming Ceremony for the U of M “Allies” group
15) Hosted the Sistema Fundraiser at the College, Nov. 15
In addition to the usual collection of committees, I am currently the Acting Chair of the Board of the University of Manitoba Press and I sit as a member on the Bishop’s committee on a theology of reconciliation.

ii) Dean of Studies

**Dean of Studies. Report to Council. November 25, 2015**

**Fall Events 2015.** Our fall schedule has been busy and below are some of the highlights.

**Wednesday, October 28th Celebrating Excellence at St. John’s College. 3:00 to 4:30 p.m..** Our annual Celebrating Excellence day recognizes the outstanding achievements of our College members and staff, library personnel and the University of Manitoba Press. It is a time when we acknowledge new publications and distinctions such as teaching, academic, professional and community awards over the past year. Congratulations to all our award winners. Adele Perry won the Hilda Neatby Prize, which recognizes the best articles in French and English on Women’s History each year. Senior Fellow and current Chair of Assembly Esyllt Jones has been elected to the Royal Society of Canada’s College on New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. Retired Fellow, Gerry Friesen won the J. B. Tyrell Historical Medal from the Royal Society of Canada. Dr. Diana Brydon was the recipient of the 2014 Dr. John M. Bowman Memorial Winnipeg Rh Institute award. Dr. Anthony Waterman, retired Fellow of the College, was recently elected as an Honorary Member of the European Society for the History of Economic Thought and gave his acceptance speech in Rome earlier this year. Lori Wilkinson received a 2014-2015 Shastri Indo-Canadian Research Fellowship and was a Visiting Professor in the Department of Sociology at Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India. Amy Scott was a finalist for the University of York Fellowship Writing Prize. Ariel Gordon’s second book, Stowaways, won the 2015 Manitoba Book Award for poetry. Registrar, Sherry Peter’s book, *Mabel the Lovelorn Dwarf*, won the Writer’s Digest Self Published e-book for best YA, and has been nominated for the Aurora Award for Best YS novel. The Aurora’s are Canada’s top literary award for Science Fiction and Fantasy. Four books published by the University of Manitoba Press received distinctions: *Indigenous Women, Work, and History* by Mary Jane McCallum was shortlisted for the Canadian Historical Association Aboriginal History prize; *The Showman and the Ukrainian Cause* by Orest Marytnowych was shortlisted for the Kozbar Literary Prize; *Prairie Forest Edge* by Merle Massie won the Saskatchewan Book Award and *Sanaaq* by MitJarjuk Nappaaluk won the Mary Scorer Publishing Award. These accolades show what an outstanding group of people we have at the College.

At Celebrating Excellence we also learned about new publications by: Adele Perry, Dawne McCance, Robert Thomas, Diana Brydon, Amy Scott, Greg Bak, Ariel Gordon, Kurt Markstrom, Paul Jenkins, Anthony Waterman, Susan Close, Sherry Peters, Bruce Erickson, Lori Wilkinson and the University of Manitoba Press. Finally, we congratulate Dr. Amy Scott on her successful defense of her dissertation, “Putting stress to the test: a critical evaluation of the biological response and physical manifestation of stress in the human skeleton.” Well done, Amy!

As in previous years, the event was jointly hosted by St. John’s College Library, the University of Manitoba Press and the College. Our coordinators this time were Robert Coutts and Paul Jenkins. Diana DeFoort worked behind the scenes with advertising, Ian Park and his staff from Food Services prepared a lovely reception for us and our Library staff, Cathy Mudry and Amrit Chinna helped with set up and made us all feel welcome.
**Sunday, November 1st**  Luncheon at 12:50 p.m. Convocation at 3:00 p.m. Once again, we had a successful Convocation luncheon and ceremony. We had a capacity audience in the chapel where we conferred honorary degrees, presented student scholarships and bursaries and celebrated the achievements of all College members.

**Nov 5- 7th. The West Before (and after) the West: A Meeting of Western Canadian Studies.**

The 2015 meeting of Western Canadian Studies was hosted in conjunction around the 150th Anniversary of St John's College. We had twenty four sessions, approximately 75 participants, and a little over 100 people registered. There were many presenters from the College, including Erin Millions, Bob Coutts, Krista Barclay, Warren Cariou, Bruce Erikson, Adele Perry, and Gerry Friesen. One session was devoted to discussing the work of Robert Kroetsch, a former fellow, and another session discussed the history of the college and its Red River Settlement's predecessors. There were also presenters from across Canada, from France, and from Finland. This event confirmed the college's longstanding relationship with Canadian Studies and furthered its connections with Indigenous Studies. The WCS conference organizers very much appreciate the support of the College, its fellows, and its staff.

**Sunday, Nov 15 - 3 p.m. Systema Fundraising Concert in Chapel**

**Wednesday, November 18. Kitty Fitzgerald presents “Finding a Voice in Fiction.”** Senior Common Room. 3:00 p.m. Ms. Fitzgerald is the Writer in Residence at the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture and the author of five novels and a collection of short stories. The event is jointly sponsored by St. John's College and the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture.

**Saturday, Nov 28th. 9:00-11:30 a.m. Bible and Breakfast.** Cross Common room.

Our **Soup and Bread lectures** have been organized by Jade Weimer this year and the fall schedule is below. Two special Soup and Breads were scheduled for October for Fellows and staff to discuss the draft Strategic Plan. Thank you to our presenters for sharing their research with us. Everyone is welcome to attend Soup and Bread events, and to share our table. We send a special thank you to Ian Park and his staff for providing us with such tasty bread, salad and vegetarian soups.

**Soup and Bread Lectures. Fall 2015.**  *Remember that all Soup and Bread lectures now begin at noon.*

- **Wednesday October 14, 2015** Strategic Planning Meeting #1
- **Tuesday October 20, 2015** Strategic Planning Meeting #2
- **Tuesday October 27, 2015** Bruce Erickson, “How to Fail in a Canoe: A truly Canadian story?”
- **Tuesday November 17, 2015** Paul Jenkins, "Religious Disguise and the Limits of Toleration in Early Enlightenment Britain (c.1660-c.1700)"
- **Tuesday December 1, 2015** Kurt Markstrom, "Finally! a World Première Opera Recording (careful what you wish for)"
Wednesday, December 2nd End of term reception in the Senior Common Room from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 3rd. 4:00 p.m in the Chapel. “Bodies of Water.” Please join us for a live, interdisciplinary dance event exploring the spiritual dimensions of movement, the body and water. The piece features choreography by Stephanie Ballard, music by Gordon Fitzell’s eXperimental Improv Ensemble (XIE) from the Desautels Faculty of Music, and performance by Brenda Cantelo’s Religion and Dance students from the Faculty of Arts.

Saturday, December 5th. 2:00 p.m. St. John’s College Annual Xmas Party. Children and grandchildren of St. John’s Fellows are invited to the annual party which features gifts, food and a special visit from St. Nicholas.

Highlights for 2016

Monday, January 25, 2016. Marjorie Ward Lecture with Tanya Tagaq. Ms. Tagaq will discuss how she uses her musical career and prominence to advocate for Inuit rights. More details will be circulated in the near future.

Soup and Bread Lecture Series. Our series will continue in the winter term with Jade Weimer coordinating events.

Brenda Cantelo
Dean of Studies

iii) Development Office

Development Officer Report to Council
November, 2015

Fundraising
- Gifts received since April as 17th November = $84,420
- Fall appeal has been mailed. Response to date is positive. There will be a follow-up mailing in December
- Just over $6,600 has been raised for the Syrian Refugee students.
- Gifts in Kind of sculpture, two teapots and two fish, have been received. And, a gift in kind of two framed prints also have been received and receipted. Deed of Gift for the first has been signed and the second donation Deed is in progress.

Alumni/Stewardship
- Continuing to call/visit with donors on a regular basis.
- Just back from visiting alumni and donors in Ottawa, Kingston and Toronto.
- I will be in Japan on vacation in December and hope to connect with one Johnian whilst I am there.

Special Events
- Convocation luncheon – 1st November was a success with 5 J-Pin recipients in attendance.
• The Committee to help with the 150th anniversary celebrations has a year-long calendar of events planned! This will end with a reunion weekend in April 2017. There is a separate Reunion Committee planning that weekend. Jill Stafford is the lead staff person on both of these committees.

**Marketing/Communications**

• In Lumine is being assembled.

**Staffing**

• We were fortunate to receive approval and funding for a work study position. We have hired Luther Konadu, a College member who is working on his Fine Arts Degree and who has event experience. Luther works approximately 10 hours a week.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jackie Markstrom
17th November, 2015

iv) Dean of Residence

**Dean of Residence Report**

**Residence Projects**

There are no major projects happening in the residence right now.

**Regular Semester**

We are currently at capacity for the fall term, but due to a number of students leaving the residence for personal, medical and financial reasons, we have at least one room to fill for January. I am currently contacting our September waitlist students and I’m going to get the information out using our Facebook page and around the residence.

**Residence Activity**

A few serious incidents have occurred or been brought to my intention in the last week. I am working on them with the support of Ivan, Chris, Elnora and Allison.

Res Council held elections in September and is now running events. They also bought a gigantic television for the larger common room, which residents are enjoying quite a lot.

v) Chaplain

**Chaplain Report to Council, November 18, 2015**

This is a wildly busy time for chaplaincy! Here’s what’s going on:

• Fundraising for two Syrian refugees to live in our residence next year (2016-2017) are well underway, with student council fundraisers and donation campaigns. So far, we’ve raised about $7,000 of our $48,000 goal. We may start looking to the wider diocese for addition funding come January, as congregations can no long submit new applications for the time being because of the system backlog.

• I’m providing support, housing, food, etc. for the family of an international student in hospital. He will be in for the long-term, so the required support will be ongoing. The
Fellows have been very generous with donations of food and cash for the family, whose financial means are limited

- Our social justice retreat is taking place this Saturday with Prairie Presbyterian church, just off campus
- We continue to get a small group of international students each week for dinner and faith discussions; it has been decided that next semester the group will meet for discussion about a different social issue each week over dinner
- The October Bible & Breakfast went well; the next one is Nov 28 with Michael Gilmour from Providence University College. We'll then take a break until January
- There was a great turnout for the workshop with Kairos on Nov 8; about 22 people attended to learn about the TRC’s recommendation #62, that the history of indigenous peoples in general and residential schools in particular be taught in all Manitoba K-12 classrooms
- We had a good Founder’s Day service on Nov 1 with bishop Mark Macdonald, but the turnout was less than last year (about 27 people) and I am suggesting that the place of this service in the life of the College be reconsidered
- Our annual Lessons and Carols service is being planning for 3pm on Sunday, December 13
- A Christmas dinner for the international students who remain in residence is in its initial planning stages. This will likely happen on the 26 or 27, and food and volunteers will be needed.

vi) Bursar

Bursars’ report to Council, November 25th, 2015

Financial
As mentioned previously, our summer residence numbers were lower than anticipated, but we are doing our best to make up for that shortfall during the regular academic term. For a brief period, we had two vacant residence rooms but those were filled as of November 1st, and September was a busy month for catered events. Overall, we are quite busy and operating at capacity in nearly every way. This should bode well for our numbers in moving forward as long as we can continue in this fashion for the rest of the year, and will at least in part make up for the shortfall over the summer.

University IST
Over the past month, there have been a number of changes taking place with the University’s networking infrastructure. Most of the phases are unseen to the front end user, and have taken place. However, the final step will be the elimination of Novell, as well as a new implementation of a file sharing system that will be much more user friendly and usable for more people.

Physical Plant
I met with Rod Berscheid, the new Director of Operations & Maintenance, to discuss with him the unique nature of St John’s and how we can best work with them to get the best service possible for both the academic areas of the college, as well as the residence. It was an extremely positive and productive meeting. We discussed the new initiatives and procedures that physical plant is rolling out, and some of the organizational changes that have taken place
since the retirement of Brian Rivers. We will be meeting again in December to review the 1970’s agreement the college has with the university – specifically the duties and obligations that physical plant has as part of our lease agreement.

Regarding caretaking, there have been some changes. Our overnight caretaker is back from some time off due to injury, and is dedicating all of her time to cleaning classrooms. I’m hopeful that we will see some improvement in that area. Also, our regular daytime caretaker is receiving some assistance in the morning, and is currently staying in the College for his whole shift. There is also now a new caretaking manager who was hired to replace the previous person who was let go a few months ago. So, as all these changes filter out and settle, I will assess what impact it is having on St John’s College specifically.

vii) Registrar

Registrar’s Report to Council
November 25, 2015

Recruitment:
Evening of Excellence was held the evening of October 27, 2015. Much thanks to the Warden for assisting. His extroversion generated more traffic to our darkened corner than we would otherwise have had.

Events:
Matriculation was held on Sunday, October 4. It was a small gathering but a great time welcoming new members as well as receiving our Chancellor’s Dissertation to the College holdings.

Convocation was held on Sunday, November 1. I believe this year’s convocation had the largest audience in attendance since I have been at St John’s College. Forty of our award winners and six of our graduates were in attendance.

Much thanks to all who attended these events, and especially to the staff of the college and student volunteers who made these events a success.

Upcoming:
Working on the College Annual Report
U of M Info Days in February
Brandon Career Symposium in March.

Sherry Peters
Registrar

viii) Senior Stick
7. **Other Business**
    None

8. **Adjournment**
    MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.
    A. Braid / I. Froese
    CARRIED

<p>| The official copy of the minutes is signed by the Chair and Secretary and kept in the Registrar’s Office |</p>
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