



**CLASSIS HURON**  
**of the Christian Reformed Church in North America**  
[www.classishuron.ca](http://www.classishuron.ca)

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**AGENDA**

**May 5, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.**

**Maranatha Christian Reformed Church**

**Cambridge, Ontario**  
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**The PURPOSE of Classis Huron**

*We will foster the Kingdom through shared resources toward spiritual renewal*

**The VISION of Classis Huron**

*The congregations, ministries, missional communities and people of Classis Huron will surrender to the work of the Spirit of Mission of Jesus, to embody the Kingdom of God. Recognizing the urgency of the times, we stand on the foundation laid for us by previous generations and step forward in the same faith we have been taught.*

## Index of Agenda Items and the day's schedule

TIMELINE	REPORT NUMBER AND NAME	REPORTER	Page
9:00 a.m.	Welcome, announcements	Rev. Norm Sennema	
	Constituting Classis: Report of the Credentials Comm.		
9:05 a.m.	Opening of Classis: Officers take seats Chair: Rev. Carel Geleynse Vice Chair: Rev. Martin Dam Stated Clerk: Rev. Vic Vandermolen Comments from Chair		
9:10 a.m.	Opening of Classis	Home Mission Committee: Rev. Kevin te Brake	
10:00 a.m.	Council of Delegates Report	Rev. Darrell Bierman	
10:30 a.m.	<b>REFRESHMENT BREAK</b>		
10:50 a.m.	Waterloo Campus Ministry Report	Rev. Brian Bork	
11:10 a.m.	CMC/AdCom/Stated Clerk Reports	Rev. Stephen Tamming	
11:40 a.m.	Christian Stewardship Services Presentation	Mr. Maynard Wiersma	
12:00 p.m.	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b> [Credentials Committee Meets]		
1:00 p.m.	Credentials Committee Report	Lucknow/Goderich	
1:15 p.m.	Safe Church Report	Atie Ott	
1:30 p.m.	2017 Financial Statements Classis Huron	Treasurer John Bell	
1:50 p.m.	Update re River City CRC	Rev. Martin Dam, Rev. Darrell Bierman	
2:15 p.m.	Church Visitors' Reports	Church Visitors	
2:30 p.m.	Church Visiting	Rev. Martin Dam	
2:45 p.m.	Adjournment		
REPORTS	World Renew [see attached]		

### 1. Constituting Classis

Call to Order, Welcome by host church  
 Credentials Committee reports on attendance.  
 Classis is declared constituted.

### 2. Devotions for the Day

Opening: Home Missions Committee  
 Pre-Lunch – Maranatha [Cambridge] CRC  
 Pre-Afternoon Session – Orangeville CRC

### 3. Committees of the Day

Credentials Committee: Community [Lucknow] CRC / Trinity [Goderich] CRC  
 Balloting Committee: Cambridge Maranatha CRC

### 4. Opening Devotions

**Home Missions Committee**

### 5. Council of Delegates Report

**Rev. Darrell Bierman**

### 6. REFRESHMENT BREAK

### 7. Waterloo Campus Ministry Report [see attached report]

**Rev. Brian Bork**

### 8. AdCom/CMC/Stated Clerk Report

**Rev. Stephen Tamming**

## 8.1 CMC Report

The Classis Ministry Committee consists of representatives of all ministries/committees within Classis: Chair, Rev. Stephen Tamming; Vice-Chair, Rev. Vicki Verhulst Cok, Member at Large: Rev. Martin Dam: Classis Ministry Leadership Team, Rev. Brian Bork; Home Missions Committee, Rev. Henry Steenberg; Safe Church Committee, Atie Ott; Huron Campus Ministry (Guelph), Rev. David Tigchelaar; Diaconal Ministries, Mary Blydorp: Huron Campus Ministry (Waterloo), Rev. John Medendorp; Youth Ministry, Amy Baarda; Treasurer John Bell, ex-officio, and Stated Clerk, Rev. Vic Vandermolen, ex officio.

### **Following are a number of administrative matters provided for your information.**

- a]** Both Collingwood CRC and Stratford CRC have volunteered to host the September 19, 2018 meeting of Classis. CMC has determined that this meeting will be held in Collingwood because:
- [i] it has been a long time since a Classis meeting was held in Collingwood;
  - [ii] it is prudent to have Classis meetings held throughout the whole of Classis;
- b]** CMC decided that the order/structure of each Classis Agenda will be determined through discussion and consultation between AdCom and Stated Clerk.
- c]** The Classis Huron website is being reviewed and will be revised in the near future. Classis will be kept apprised of ongoing progress and results.
- d]** The issues raised in the Credentials submitted to the February 2018 Classis Meeting, have been dealt with by AdCom/CMC. [Church Visitors have been appointed to meet with Vanastra Community CRC; Classis Meeting venue for September 2018 has been determined to be Collingwood CRC; Drayton has reviewed the C.O. to determine how it should deal with members who aren't regular attenders]
- e]** CMC discussed the request that time be set aside to have Classis as a whole listen to/address the video ***When Pastors Hurt***. AdCom/CMC Chair Rev. Stephen Tamming will address Classis regarding this matter at the May 2018 meeting of Classis.
- f]** CMC considered the manner in which Pastors are selected to attend Synod, and it was agreed that that Pastors should not only be able to indicate that they are unable to attend, but also if they **want** to attend as a Delegate. AdCom will review this matter and determine how this can best be accomplished, in time for the February 2019 meeting of Classis.
- g]** CMC has approved the appointment of Rev. Carel Geleynse [Community CRC, Kitchener], Rev. John Medendorp [Community CRC, Kitchener], and Rev. Tim Leferink [Community CRC, Lucknow] as Church Visitors.
- h]** In keeping with the governing structure of Classis [as per the incorporation process] Rev. Stephen Tamming will retire as Chair/President of effective September 2018. Rev. Vicki Cok will take on the role of Chair/President, at that time; Rev. Martin Dam will take on the role of Vice Chair/Vice President. A new 'Member at Large' will be appointed by Classis at the September 2018 meeting, based on nominations received from Member Churches of Classis Huron.
- i]** In keeping with the encouragement of the Home Missions Committee and the decision of CMC, all future Classis meetings will begin with a time of focusing on the need to be 'missional' in our actions and activities as Members of Classis [*missional focus*], which will also include a time of devotion.

### **In addition to these administrative matters, the following recommendations are submitted for Classis' approval:**

**R11** Rev. Chris Pool [served Collingwood CRC until May 2013] has indicated that he will not be seeking a further extension of his ministerial credentials. He did indicate however that this MAY change if the position he is currently pursuing comes to fruition before the meeting of Classis on May 5, 2018. Classis will be advised at that meeting of the status of that action. **If no information is received by that date indicating that this position has been made available to him, CMC recommends that Classis Huron [with the concurring advice of the Synodical Deputies] declare Rev. Chris Pool to be released from ministerial office.**

**R2]** In keeping with the recommendation from the Denominational Safe Church offices, **CMC recommends to Classis Huron that it approve the appointment of a Classis Huron Safe Church Coordinator with the following caveats:**

- A] that this position shall receive a stipend of \$1,500 from CRCNA for the first year;
- B] that for the second year and thereafter, Classis Huron shall pay at least the same amount annually for this position;

- GROUNDS: 1] this position is recommended and supported by the Denomination as evidenced by its willingness to provide financial support.
- 2] from other Classes it has been learned that without this kind/level of support and commitment it is difficult to properly maintain safe church practices.

**R3]** In recognition of the level of work required/being done by the Classis Huron Youth Champion, **CMC recommends to Classis Huron that it agree to pay a stipend of \$1,500 annually for this position**

- GROUNDS: 1] this action recognizes the importance of youth ministry;
- 2] it helps recognize and acknowledge the excellence of the work being done
- 3] it helps recognize the amount of time needed to be given by a Youth Champion.

**R4]** Dr. Hazel Lynn of Owen Sound has completed her first term on the Board of Governors of Redeemer College University. Redeemer has asked that Classis Huron consider her re-appointment for a second term of three years. **CMC recommends that Classis Huron appoint Dr. Hazel Lynn for a second term of 3 years to the Redeemer University Board of Governors**

**R5]** Due to health issues, Rev. Vic Vandermolen has indicated he can no longer serve as Stated Clerk of Classis Huron. CMC expressed its appreciation for his work in the past. **CMC recommends that Classis Huron appoint Alternate Stated Clerk Sharon Van Kampen [Listowel Bethel CRC] as the new Stated Clerk, effective upon the approval of Classis.**

## **8.2 Administrative Committee (AdCom)**

The Administrative Committee of Classis (AdCom) works on behalf of classis between meetings. AdCom consists of Rev. Stephen Tamming, [chair], Rev. Vicki Verhulst Cok [vice-chair], Rev. Martin Dam, [Member] and Stated Clerk Rev. Vic Vandermolen, ex-officio. Since the last meeting of classis, AdCom has met to respond to issues raised at the last meeting of Classis, and also to address a number of new matters, which have subsequently been referred to CMC and are addressed above.

## **8.3 Stated Clerk**

The Stated Clerk serves as secretary of Classis Huron, its Classis Ministry Committee [CMC], and Administrative Committee (AdCom). The Clerk continues to respond to ongoing requests for information and direction from individual members, church leadership, classis committees, and denominational offices. Since February 2018 to the time of writing this report, the Clerk has:

- dealt with/responded to some 58 telephone conversations and requests for information.
- dealt with/responded to some 383 email messages and requests for information from Denominational agencies, Classis Huron churches, Classis Huron members, and more.
- participated in a video conference call with Canadian Ministries Director Rev. Darren Roorda, and other Canadian Stated Clerks.
- attended, prepared agendas for, wrote minutes for, and did follow-up work and correspondence for one AdCom meetings, one CMC meeting, and one Classis meeting: this is in addition to meetings and conversations with CRCNA/pastors/members and others re various issues dealing with matters relative to Classis and its member churches.
- prepared a summary of the February 2018 Classis meeting, and forwarded same to all Classis Huron churches.

- on behalf of Denominational agencies, para-church organizations, and others, forwarded numerous announcements and other information, to Classis Huron churches, on a regular basis.
- filed minutes and agendas of Classis meetings with both CRCNA Canada and the Denominational offices, and forwarded these to Classis Huron churches also.
- with the assistance of the Alternate Stated Clerk continues to develop the agenda, determine and contact speakers, and attendant information, for the Classis Huron Administrators' Day [C.H.A.D.] scheduled for November 6, 2018 at Listowel Bethel CRC in Listowel
- responded to numerous written and verbal request for opportunities to address Classis at this meeting, and upcoming meetings.
- prepared the agenda and attachments for Classis Huron meeting of May 5, 2018

**9. Christian Stewardship Services**

**Mr. Maynard Wiersma**

**10. LUNCH BREAK**

**11. Credentials Committee Report**

**Lucknow CRC / Goderich CRC**

**12. Safe Church Report  
[See attached report]**

**Atie Ott**

**13. Classis Huron Financial Statements for 2017  
[See attached report]**

**Treasurer John Bell**

**14. Update re River City CRC, Cambridge**

**Rev. Martin Dam  
Rev. Darrell Bierman**

**15. Church Visiting**

**Rev. Martin Dam**

**16. Closing/Adjournment**

**Future Classis Meetings**

DATE	LOCATION	REPORTS DUE	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR
Feb. 14, 2018	Palmerston	January 10, 2017	Gary Van Leeuwen	Carel Geleynse
May 5, 2018	Cambridge Mar.	April 4, 2017	Carel Geleynse	Martin Dam
Sept. 19 2018	Collingwood CRC	August 15, 2018	Martin Dam	Henry Steenbergen
February 20, 2019	Bethel CRC Listowel	January 9, 2019	Henry Steenbergen	Amanda Bakale
May 15, 2019	Clinton CRC	April 3, 2019	Amanda Bakale	Vick Verhulst-Cok
Sept. 18, 2019	Drayton CRC	August 14, 2019	Vicki Verhulst-Cok	Ralph Wigboldus

*Delegates are reminded that you are expected to stay for the entire meeting. .If you must leave before adjournment, please consult with the chair of the day. The Classical Rules of Procedure state: "While Classis is in session, it is not permissible for any member to withdraw or to return homeward without consent of the chair."*