



MINUTES - Part 2, Tuesday Evening

Final

For Classis Hamilton of the CRCNA
Meeting Tuesday, February 25, 2025

7:30 p.m. - 8:39 p.m.

Hosted by Meadowlands Fellowship CRC, Ancaster, ON
 (211 Stonehenge Dr, Ancaster, ON L9K 1R4)

([Agenda](#) and [Addendum](#) and [Minutes Saturday](#), February 22, 2025)

([Addendum for Feb 25, 2025](#))

1. Delegates & Alternates (delegates as registered on Feb 22, 2025, with some changes noted below)

Congregation	Deacon	Elder	Minister
Bethel CRC, Waterdown	N/A	Tess Tigchelaar	Rob Laman, (Elder)
Calvary CRC, Flamborough	Ben Boekestein	Jan Vander Hout	Benj Vander Meulen, (Elder)
Calvin CRC, Dundas	David Oldenburger	Jerry Noordam	Ken Benjamins
Ebenezer CRC, Jarvis	Fred Zandstra	Darryl VanBentham Henk Wielink	N/A
Faith CRC, Burlington	Julie Pyper	Jillian Langendoen	Cara deHaan
First CRC, Hamilton	Nella Sandrock	Jules de Jager	N/A
Grace Community CRC, Ancaster	Dan Hagen	Rob Fluit	Mark Verbruggen
Hagersville Community CRC	N/A	Davis Miedema alt. Jake Elgersma	Steven Eckersley
Hope CRC, Brantford	Ben Koerssen	Dave Guichelaar	Doug Nieuwstraten
Immanuel CRC, Hamilton	Clarence Beeksma	Arthur Bosua	Anthony Elenbaas
Immanuel CRC, Simcoe	Bert Stam	Mark Vandervliet	Ernie Rauwerda, (elder)
Maranatha CRC, York	Bryan VanBentham	Jerry Haanstra	N/A
Meadowlands Fellowship CRC, Ancaster	Kevin Ritske	Ed Witvoet	Everett Vander Horst
Mount Hope Community CRC	Doug Nagtegaal	Doug Dekker	Joel Bootsma
New Hope Church, Hamilton (emerging church)	N/A	N/A	N/A

2. **Beginnings** (actually, this is a continuation of Saturday's meeting)

a. **Call to Order, Welcome, Introductory Matters & Prayer** **Chair, Anthony Elenbaas**

b. **Attendance** **Stated Clerk**

- i. Confirm that delegates tonight are those from the Feb. 22, 2025 meeting
- ii. Some changes: Deacon **David Oldenburger** (Calvin), Elder **Rob Laman** (Bethel), Deacon **Ben Koerssen** (Hope Brantford), Deacon **Kevin Ritske** (Meadowlands Fellowship)
- iii. 100 % attendance,
- iv. First time delegate: **Rob Laman**, signed the Covenant for Officebearers

3. **Overture Advisory Team** **Confirmed**

- a. **Grace Community, Ancaster**
- b. **Immanuel, Simcoe**

4. **Overtures and Communication Received:**

Classis Hamilton has received **two overtures** from Meadowlands Fellowship CRC, Ancaster, and one **other matter** for consideration from **Classis Quinte**.

a. **From Meadowlands Fellowship:**

- i. [2025 Overture –Reorganize the CRCNA as two distinct Christian Reformed Churches, one in Canada and one in the United States \(U.S.\)](#)

ii. [Advisory Team Report](#) **Dan Hagen reporting**

iii. Since the Advice is to **not accede to the overture**, the report is **tabled** and the **overture** is **up** for discussion.

iv. A motion ***that Classis adopt the overture (reorganize the CRCNA)*** is ... **DEFEATED**

b. **From Meadowlands Fellowship:** [2025 Overture - Prohibit concealed handguns at all ecclesiastical assemblies](#)

i. [Advisory Team Report](#) **Dan Hagen reporting**

ii. Since the Advice is to **not accede to the overture**, the report is **tabled** and the **overture** is **up** for discussion

iii. A motion ***that Classis adopt the overture (prohibit concealed handguns)*** is ...
(1) Voice vote not conclusive, chair calls for show of hands
(2) the motion is ... **DEFEATED**

iv. Chair leads our prayer

c. **From Classis Quinte:** [Ecclesiastical gathering of Canadian Churches](#) (Sent to all Classes in Canada)

i. **Recommendation from the Advisory Team:**

Regarding the Invitation from Classis Quinte to "an assembly of Canadian Classes to discuss Canadian CRC ministry"

that ***Classis Hamilton accept the invitation and participate in this conversation.***

Ground:

The assembly is in keeping with Church Order and will serve to address the concerns some may be having about being a Canadian CRC in a bi-national context.

ii. **Recommendations from the Classis Interim Committee:** (this is taken "as the means by which we can accept the invitation" - Chair)

(1) **Regarding the material and 4 requests from Classis Quinte,**

(a) **Quinte states, "In summary, Classis Quinte requests all Canadian Classes to:**

- (i) *Pray for the planning of this gathering*
- (ii) *Recommend an office bearer for the steering team [first zoom meeting Feb 27, 2025]*
- (iii) *Send communication about potential agenda items*
- (iv) *Be prepared to nominate 4 delegates, later this year"*

(2) **CIC recommends:**

(a) that ***Prayer (i) is always right, and the other matters, (iii) & (iv), will be taken up by CIC for further processing for the May meeting of Classis as appropriate,*** and,

(b) that ***the churches send nominees (ii) to the stated clerk (asap). CIC will select an officebearer for the steering team which is to meet by zoom on Feb 27, 2025.***

iii. **Chair:** Classis will take the ***advice of the Overture Team and the CIC together*** is ... **RULED**

iv. A motion that,

- (1) that ***Classis Hamilton accept the invitation and participate in this conversation*** and
- (2) that ***the Classis Interim Committee's Advice be adopted as the means by which Classis will accept the invitation*** is ... **ADOPTED**

v. At the Classis meeting (part 1), Feb 22, 2025, we were asked to **submit names** for the zoom meeting, but the SC reports that **none have been received** to date.

vi. The Chair reminds us that the **churches of Classis Hamilton are invited to ...**

- (1) **submit enough nominees for 4 delegates**
- (2) **and submit items for the Assembly Agenda**
- (3) **Classis Agenda material are due April 15, 2025.**

5. **Meadowlands is thanked for hosting, and thanks to all who came out to listen and observe**

6. **Ken Benjamins leads our prayer and we're adjourned**

8:39 PM

Edw. Visser