



Agenda
CLASSIS HAMILTON
of the CRCNA

Final

Meeting Tuesday, May 27, 2025

9:00 AM to no later than 4:30 PM

Hosted by Immanuel CRC, Hamilton

(61 Mohawk Rd W, Hamilton, ON L9C 1V9, Canada)

Officers of Classis: Chair: Michael Bootsma* Vice Chair: Cara DeHaan Stated Clerk: Ed W. Visser	Synodical Deputies: (not needed)
Reporter: (see RoP Section 7.1) Grace Community	Ballot Advisory Team: (see RoP section 7.7) Host Church: Immanuel Hamilton
Credentials Advisory Team: (See RoP Section 7.4) Meadowlands Fellowship Mount Hope Community	Overture Advisory Team: (if needed) Immanuel, Simcoe Maranatha, York Advice for Overture Advisory Teams

* Michael Bootsma is Immanuel Hamilton's replacement for Anthony Elenbaas who served 2 of 3 meetings.

BEFORE THE MEETING: Preparations

A. ORIENTATION: [FOR NEW DELEGATES](#) (Includes a link to the Rules of Procedure (RoP))

B. CREDENTIALS and *Due Dates*, (Attention Clerks):

1. Each **church** will fill in their [CREDENTIALS HERE](#), **before May 6, 2025**. The credential form has **two sections**:
 - a. The **first** is for entering the **names and email addresses** of those you are **delegating** to Classis.
 - b. The **second** is for your answers and observations to the **"Questions Under Church Order Article 41"**.
2. The **Stated Clerk will forward** any Article 41 questions and observations from the second section **to the Credentials Advisory Team**.
3. The **Credentials Advisory Team will email their report to the Stated Clerk by May 14, 2024**. Their report will be emailed by the Stated Clerk to all the delegates as early as with the Addendum.

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer
2. Devotions & Sharing of Ministry
3. Prayer for the Host Church

Vice Chair of Classis: Cara DeHaan

Cara DeHaan

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

10:00 a.m.

4. **Call to Order & Instructions for the Day** Chair Michael Bootsma
 - a. **Affirmation** of the [Covenant for Office-Bearers](#)
 - b. **Attendance Confirmed** Stated Clerk
 - c. **Classis Declared Constituted** Chair
5. **Approval of the Present Agenda and Addendum** (not including the consent agenda)
6. **Approval of the Consent Agenda**

A consent agenda allows Classis to approve the items below together without the need for discussion or individual motions. Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of the delegates. Removed items may be taken up either immediately after the consent agenda or placed later on the agenda at the discretion of the Chair.

- a. **Approve** Minutes of Classis Meeting [February 22](#) & [February 25](#), 2025
(Note: these minutes were reviewed and approved within days of the meeting by the CIC and the delegates who had attended).
- b. **Recommend:** that *Rev. Hayden Regeling* be appointed as member of the CIC
- c. **Reports received from Classis' Ministries**
 - i. Classis Campus Ministry
 - (1) [Campus Ministry Committee](#) Willemina Zwart
 - (a) [Mohawk Solid Rock](#) Abby Lobert
 - (b) [McMaster All Things](#) Michael Fallon
 - (c) [Emerging Leader - All Things](#) Micah Stam
- d. **Denominational Ministries Reports Received**
 - i. [Diaconal Ministries Canada](#) Ron Vanden Brink
 - ii. [Redeemer University Spring Report](#) Dr. David Zietsma
 - iii. [Becky's Playlist \(Thrive\)](#) From Becky Jones, Regional Connector
- f. See **Addendum** for any additional reports (considered as part of this consent agenda as noted)

7. CIC and Stated Clerk Reports

a. [Classis Interim Committee Report](#) (CIC), **CIC Chair: Ken Benjamins**

i. **Members on the CIC** (and Board of Directors) are: Ken Benjamins (president), Ken Tigchelaar (Treasurer), Doug Nieuwstraten, Gina Taylor, and, if approved, Hayden Regeling. Also on the CIC as *ex officio* members are the chair of Classis and the stated clerk.

ii. **Retirement of Rev. Ron Vanden Brink**

(1) The Council of Faith CRC, Burlington, requests that Classis Hamilton approve the upcoming retirement of Rev. Ron Vanden Brink, effective November 23, 2025 (his 66th birthday), and communicate this decision of Classis Hamilton to the Synodical Services office. Faith has held Pastor Ron's ministerial credentials since he began serving as the director of Diaconal Ministries Canada in 2016, and Faith will continue to do so in his retirement.

(2) **Recommendation:** *That at the request of the Council of Faith CRC, Burlington, and with the provisions of Church Order Article 18 and supplement, Classis Hamilton approves the retirement of Rev. Ron Vanden Brink, due to age, effective November 23, 2025.*

iii. **Pulpit Supply: CIC Recommends *that Classis Pause the scheduling of pulpit supply for one year starting Sept 2025.***

Grounds:

- (1) with the number of vacancies (6 by the Fall) there is an unusual increase on pastors to be away from their own congregations (on top of every thing else).
- (2) Increasingly, churches are expressing preferences, either of person or gender making scheduling difficult.
- (3) Churches whose pastors are assigned for pulpit supply, need to find a replacement. Vacant churches can just as well find replacements to fill their own pulpit.
- (4) There are retired pastors available to help out from Classis Hamilton and surrounding Classes.
- (5) Trying this for one year will tell whether there is a need for resuming scheduling and what alterations, if any, are needed.

iv. **Listening Circles** (summaries were previously distributed), now seeking any input from Classis delegates for CIC review and final advisory report.

v. **Extend Licensure to Exhort for Ray Hendriks:**

- (1) **From Ray:** *"I preach approximately twice a month with maybe 20 commitments last year. I have preached in numerous churches in the classis including Dundas, First, Meadowlands, Mount Hope, New Street, Living Hope, Hagersville, York and Jarvis."*
- (2) **Recommendation:** *That Classis **Extend Licensure to Exhort for Ray Hendriks** for an additional 3 years as stipulated in our Rules of Procedure.*

b. **Motion to Approve the work of the CIC**

c. **Stated Clerk's Report**

Ed W. Visser

i. **Draft Rules of Procedure** (for review, amendment and eventual adoption)

- (1) Over the last few years, Classis has made changes to the Rules of Procedure. CIC decided to update and refresh them. The Link above leads to that draft edited edition.
- (2) You'll find much of the document unchanged. ~~Strikeout red text~~ indicates text to be removed, **green text** indicates new, additional text.
- (3) Please review, send corrections, suggestions, questions to the stated clerk. Remember it's a draft.

ii. **Region 2 Nominee for trustee on the board of Calvin University**

- (1) *Note:* Calvin University received only one nomination for the position of Region 2 Calvin University Board Trustee.
 - (a) (Region 2 is comprised of Classes Huron, Ontario South West, Hamilton, Toronto, Quinte and Eastern Canada. All these Classes will vote the ballot – the total votes determine the outcome.
 - (b) Please vote yes or no for the person. This is an affirmation vote.

(2) **Ballots will be distributed** at the Classis Meeting

- (3) **Nominee:** *John Valk is a member of Fredericton (N.B.) Christian Reformed Church. He served as an elder at his previous church. He is a retired professor of World View Studies at the University of New Brunswick and has many years of experience within the academic community. He served on an organization promoting Christian Literacy in Canada and served as a campus chaplain. He comes from a family of many Calvin alumni.*

iii. **Approve Sandy Werkman as Classis Hamilton Regional Disability Advocate**

- (1) **Recommendation from Lindsay Wieland Capel** (crcna.org/disability):
Excerpt from her email: Sandy goes to Hope CRC and is interested in serving Classis Hamilton as your Regional Disability Advocate. This means that she can connect and support Church Disability Advocates at the churches in your classis and can help support and encourage churches who

do not have an advocate. Sandy ... is equipped for the role and will be a blessing to your classis. We provide support to Regional Advocates as they do their role ...

in Christ,

Lindsay

Lindsay Wieland Capel, LMSW

Disability Consultant

crcna.org/disability | 800-272-5125 Ext 2311

(2) Motion: That Sandy Werkman be appointed as Classis Hamilton Regional Disability Advocate

d. **Motion** to Approve the work of the Stated Clerk

MINISTRY SESSION

8. Classis' Ministries

a. **Candidacy Committee** (no written report)

Cara DeHaan

b. **Motion** to Approve the work of the Candidacy Committee

c. **Campus Ministry Committee** ([Report](#))

Willemina Zwart

i. [Mohawk Solid Rock](#) (Approved in consent agenda)

[Abby Lobert](#)

ii. [All Things](#) (McMaster) (Approved in consent agenda)

[Michael Fallon](#)

iii. [Emerging Leader - All Things](#) (Approved in consent agenda)

Micah Stam

d. **Motion** to Approve the work of the Campus Ministry Committee

e. **Classical Home Missions Committee** (no written report)

Joel Bootsma

f. **Motion** to Approve the work of the Home Missions Committee

REFRESHMENT BREAK (15 minutes)

10:45 a.m.

9. **Gather Sharing** (Houston) (10 Minutes)

Cara DeHaan & Others

10. **Classis Church Counsellor Reports:** (as available)

a. Bethel CRC

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b. Ebenezer CRC, Jarvis

— Jack Kerkhof

c. Immanuel CRC, Simcoe

— Doug Nieuwstraten

d. Maranatha CRC, York

— Joel Bootsma

e. Calvary CRC

— Ken Benjamins

11. **Church Visitor Reports** (as available)

12. **Credentials Advisory Team Report** (on addendum)

13. **Redeemer University** ([Report](#) approved on consent agenda) (10 Minutes)
President David Zietsma
14. **Council of Delegates Report** (no written report) (10 minutes) **William Koopmans**
15. **Adjourn for the Annual General Membership Meeting (AGM)**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ACTIONS**

President: Ken Benjamins

1. Establish Quorum
2. Proof of Notice for the Meeting
3. **Approve Minutes** of the [Annual General Meeting of May 28, 2024](#)
4. **Approve** [Addendum to the Minutes of the AGM May 28, 2024](#)
5. **Approve** that *Ken Benjamins, Ken Tigchelaar, Doug Nieuwstraten, and Gina Taylor Lunshof are hereby elected as directors of Classis Hamilton for twelve months commencing May 27, 2025.*
6. **New Member – Approve:** *Rev. Hayden Regeling as a director the Board of Directors for twelve months commencing May 27, 2025*
7. **RECOMMENDED** that the [2024 Management Letter](#) be approved.
8. **RECOMMENDED** that the [Draft audited financial statements and the Auditor's report thereon for fiscal 2024](#) be approved. [final copy on addedum]
9. **RECOMMENDED** that *DBK Accounting Professional Corporation be re-appointed as auditor for fiscal 2025.*
9. **Adjournment** of the Annual General membership meeting

10. **Resume Meeting of Classis Hamilton**

11. **Upcoming Dates for Classis** (also see the Classis Calendar)

a. **For October 28, 2025 Meeting of Classis**

- i. **Committee Budget Requests due July 31, 2025*** Budget Requests <---**
- ii. **Agenda material Due Sep 16, 2025**
- iii. **Credentials Due Oct 07, 2025**
- iv. **Addendum Material Due Oct 14, 2025**
- v. **Classis Meets Oct 28, 2025, Hosted by Immanuel CRC, Simcoe**

12. **Adjournment of Classis**

- a. **Closing Remarks & Prayer** **Chair**
- b. **Adjournment Declared** **Chair**