



ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA
CLASSIS HAMILTON OF THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
October 25, 2016

MEETING COMMENCES AT 12:30 PM AT HOPE CRC, BRANTFORD

There is a section included in this Addendum on the next page. It is intended to help delegates better understand the procedures at Classis Hamilton meetings as well as the obligations of each delegate. Please read those pages carefully and if you can suggest additional items for inclusion, please send them to the stated clerk who will gladly include them in future editions.

The CIC is presenting an additional recommendation to change the date of the spring classis meeting.

The two Overture Committee Reports are also included in this Addendum. There were no requests or observations noted on the credentials forms, so there is no report from the Credentials Committee for the classis meeting.

Due to computer problems relating to the submission of the Church Visitor Summary Report, it could not be included in the main agenda. That Report is now included in this Addendum.

May the Lord be with you as you prayerfully prepare for classis.

Finally, at the request of the synodical services office, the BOT Highlights report is attached.

PLEASE NOTE: Printed copies of the Agenda and this Addendum will **NOT** be available at the meeting. Please bring your own printed or electronic copies.

Thank you,

Dick L. Kranendonk,
Stated Clerk
clerk@classishamilton.ca
289-239-7564

ORIENTATION FOR DELEGATES

Introduction:

Classis consists of three delegates from each member congregation – a pastor, an elder and a deacon. First-time delegates are asked to sign the *Covenant for Officebearers* at the registration desk. *Delegate Credentials* are processed by the church council and are to be submitted by the Council, to the Stated Clerk via email prior to the classis meeting by your council clerk.

Duration of Classis Meetings

- The meetings normally are held on Tuesdays and are held in the afternoon and evening. Start time is determined based on the length/needs of the agenda.
- Ordinarily a ministry session of some kind is held in the evening in order to allow for members of your congregation to participate.

Classis Agenda:

- The Classis Agenda will, ordinarily, be in the hands of church councils eight weeks prior to the actual meeting date of classis. This is done to allow each church council to review the agenda prior to sending delegates.
- Delegates are to thoroughly familiarize themselves with the classis agenda. The assumption is that the agenda has been discussed at the delegates' local council meetings.

Executive of Classis

- The Executive consists of a Chair, Vice-Chair and the Stated Clerk. A Reporter is also appointed for each meeting and serves as the Vice-Chair at the next subsequent meeting.
- The chair is elected by classis in its October meeting to serve during the following calendar year. The vice-chair is appointed by rotation and the stated clerk is elected annually at the May classis meeting.

What May I Expect to Happen at Any One Classis Meeting?

- First time delegates are to sign the Covenant for Officebearers.
- The Classis Agenda will, ordinarily, be in the hands of church councils eight weeks prior to the actual meeting date of classis, and so delegates should have it at that time as well.
- Delegates may be requested to serve in the following capacities:
 - **Prayer:** for the ministries of classis, concerns of classis and/or for individuals.
 - **Committee work:**
 - Delegates in teams of two churches may be asked to serve on one of its advisory committees, Credentials, Ad hoc (as determined by previous Classis or Classis Interim Committee) or Overtures & Appeals. They are expected to submit their recommendations at least three weeks prior to the classis meeting.
- Though there is a degree of flexibility (especially where there is silence on a matter), classis abides by its own Rules of Procedure together with the rules of the CRCNA Church Order in conducting its meetings. The Church Order is determined by Synod and is held in covenant by all CR churches. The classis Rules of Procedure are at:
http://www.classishamilton.ca/files/ClassisHamilton/rules_of_procedure_of_classis_hamilton_iss ue_2016_1.pdf.

What Are Classis' Expectations of Me?

- Be on time for all sessions of classis.
- Delegates are expected to review the agenda with their council, sharing the thoughts of their council on any particular agenda item. Delegates are not obligated to vote according to their council's wishes. Classis is a deliberative body and the freedom needs to remain for delegates to

vote on the basis of the best information or perspective presented at classis. (*Church Order*, Article 34; & *Manual of CRC Government*, Article 34, Commentary #'s 1 – 4.)

- If you do not understand the procedure, or it is not clear what is being discussed, or you are uncertain of the implications of a decision, ***please ask***. It is important that all delegates deliberate and vote with good awareness of what is going on. Classis would rather take a moment to ensure that, also for the meaningfulness of your time there, than try 'rush' through the agenda.
- You are expected to remain at classis until the meeting is formally adjourned. If there is an urgent need to leave, or if you will be replaced at some point by an alternate, delegates are to seek the permission of the chair
- Be aware that classis is a deliberative body and may make decisions from time to time that you do not necessarily agree with.
- Strong objection to a decision of classis may be voiced by stating your objection. If you wish to have your objection recorded, you will need to submit a written statement (within 24 hours) indicating your objection and reason(s) why.
- Delegates should report to their councils the decisions made at the classis meeting.

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1. DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Church	First Name	Last Name	Title
Ancaster CRC	Rita	Klein-Geltink	Pastor Delegate
Ancaster CRC	Corrie	Mulder	Elder Delegate
Ancaster CRC	Jim	Bezemer	Deacon Delegate
Ancaster CRC	Mary	DeVries	Elder Alternate
Meadowlands Fellowship	Kevin	Vander Meulen	Elder Delegate
Meadowlands Fellowship	Jody	Bruulsema	Elder Delegate
Meadowlands Fellowship	Marcia	Hosmar	Deacon Delegate
Meadowlands Fellowship	Grace	VanStaalduinen	Elder Alternate
Hope	Andrew	Zomerman	Pastor Delegate
Hope	Tim	Vaandering	Elder Delegate
Hope	Garrett	DeVries	Deacon Delegate
Hope	John	Hensen	Elder Alternate
New Street	Joel	Bootsma	Pastor Delegate
New Street	Adrian	VanderVaart	Elder Delegate
Faith	Kevin	DeRaaf	Pastor Delegate
Faith	Ken	VanderStoep	Elder Delegate
Faith	John	Wesselson	Deacon Delegate
Faith	Henry	Hess	Elder Alternate
Calvin	Ken	Benjamins	Pastor Delegate
Calvin	Ken	Tigchelaar	Elder Delegate
Calvin	Don	Koning	Deacon Delegate
Calvin	Glenn	Elzinga	Deacon Alternate
Calvary	Gareth	Harker	Pastor Delegate
Calvary	Benj	Vandermeulen	Elder Delegate
Calvary	Bill	Dam	Deacon Delegate
Hagersville Community	Jeff	Klingenberg	Pastor Delegate
Hagersville Community	Aaron	Miedema	Elder Delegate
First	Chris	Schoon	Pastor Delegate
First	Justin	Cook	Elder Delegate
First	Gina	Taylor	Deacon Delegate
Immanuel, Hmltn	Henry	Kranenburg	Pastor Delegate
Immanuel, Hmltn	David	Rumph	Elder Alternate
Immanuel, Hmltn	John	Geerts	Deacon Delegate
Immanuel, Hmltn	Martin	Joldersma	Elder Alternate
Immanuel, Hmltn	Anthony	Elenbaas	Pastor Alternate
Mt. Hamilton	Bob	DeHaan	Elder Delegate
Mt. Hamilton	Greg	Schuurman	Elder Delegate
Mt. Hamilton	Paul	Vreugdenhil	Deacon Delegate
Ebenezer	Daryl	DeKlerk	Pastor Delegate
Ebenezer	Peter	Brouwer	Elder Delegate
Ebenezer	Leonard	Bootsma	Deacon Delegate
Immanuel, Smc	Jeff	Vandermeer	Pastor Delegate
Immanuel, Smc	Mark	Vandervliet	Elder Delegate
Immanuel, Smc	TBD		Deacon Delegate
Bethel	Bruce	Adema	Pastor Delegate
Bethel	Paul	Groen	Elder Delegate
Bethel	TBD		Deacon Delegate
Maranatha	Frank	Riewald	Elder Delegate
Maranatha	Kevin	Vanderspec	Elder Delegate
Maranatha	Mark	Vandermeer	Deacon Delegate
Maranatha	Henk	Vaarkamp	Elder Alternate
Maranatha	Devin	Grootenboer	Deacon Alternate

2. CIC REPORT ADDITION

Change in Date for the Spring Classis Meeting

The CIC received an email on October 6, 2016 from the DeVries Family Foundation informing classis that most of the senior or solo pastors in Classis Hamilton are signed up to go on a study trip, together with their spouses, to Egypt, Jordan and Israel the last two weeks of May 2017.

This new information caused the CIC to conduct an email consultation as to what to do about the classis meeting scheduled for May 23, 2017. It did not seem appropriate to hold a classis meeting where most of the pastors will be absent. The alternative would be to select a date either before or after the previously scheduled meeting.

Holding a meeting earlier in May poses a number of significant difficulties.

1. The winter 2017 meeting will be held on February 28th. If the spring meeting is moved two weeks earlier, the agenda will be due on March 14, only two weeks after the previous classis meeting. This would give the churches no time to respond to anything that might be in the Synod 2017 agenda which has a deadline of March 15th.
2. Any assignments by classis that might be given to the CIC or any other committee would not be able to be processed in time for an early May meeting.

Based on the above noted development, CIC proposes that classis consider changing the spring 2017 classis meeting from May 23rd to June 6, 2017. Technically this request could have been left until the February classis meeting. However, since updated information needs to be submitted to both the Area Directory and the denominational Yearbook, and since the Pastors need to know whether there might be a conflict with their Quad Classis Retreat, CIC considers it advisable for classis to make the decision at its October 25th meeting.

Recommendation

That Classis Hamilton decides to move its spring 2017 meeting date from the third Tuesday in May (i.e., May 23) to the first Tuesday in June (i.e., June 6).

FOUNDATIONS:

1. Most pastors will be away on May 23rd for a study trip to Egypt, Jordan and Israel.
2. It is important that as many ministers as possible are present when classis meets.
3. Moving the meeting to early in May does not give sufficient time to prepare after the February 28th meeting.
4. Any overture or communication for Synod 2017 can still be sent on time to be addressed by the appropriate synodical advisory committee which will meet start meeting on June 9, 2017.

3. OVERTURE COMMITTEE #1 REPORT

Advice Regarding Shalom Chaplaincy Ministry

Background

In the spring of 2015 Ebenezer CRC of Jarvis sent an overture to Classis requesting that Classis reduce ministry shares for chaplaincy ministry at Shalom Manor 25% per year for four years. After some discussion Classis tabled the overture so that the churches might further discuss and explore senior pastoral care ministry in general. In the fall of 2015 Classis held an evening session to discuss such matters. The general consensus was that working among seniors is very important. It provides an excellent opportunity for pastoral care but also for evangelism. It was also agreed that senior ministry should happen much more in our local communities. A whole year has gone by now. It is time to answer Ebenezer's overture.

Correspondence has continued between chaplaincy ministry of Shalom and Classis Hamilton—especially through the CIC and the CMT. It was brought to our attention, for example, that at the end of 2015 Classis Niagara held about \$24,831.00 in reserve from accumulated surpluses over the years. (Classis Hamilton's share of this reserve is about \$13,000 of this amount based on the proportional membership of the two classes) Our Advisory Committee was asked to note the discrepancy in the COLA salary adjustments. Classis Hamilton has increased COLA by 2%. The Chaplaincy committee has increased COLA by 2.5 %.

In the most recent letter to Classis, Shalom Chaplaincy offers four proposals for our consideration: First that the two classes approve the transfer of governance of the chaplaincy program to the Board of Shalom Manor. Second, that upon approval, a steering committee be formed to supervise the work of the Chaplain. Third, that funding by both classes continue for a period of 5 years to enable the development of a new funding model. And fourth, that the classes be provided a final report for the February 2017 meetings of the Classes.

Observations

It appears that the matter of greatest interest is the funding of the Chaplaincy ministry. Both Ebenezer CRC and the Chaplaincy ministry agree that funding by Classis Hamilton should discontinue sometime in the future. The discrepancy is the method of funding reduction and the timing. Ebenezer suggests a four- year period of funding reduction; the Chaplaincy committee recommends a period of five years. We believe a compromise is possible.

As for the first two proposals from the Chaplaincy committee regarding the transfer of governance: It should be noted that this transfer has already taken place. Classis Hamilton does not have any legal governing authority over Shalom's chaplaincy ministry, although we have not negated our covenantal partnership in the ministry. (This explains the discrepancy in the COLA salary adjustments between Classis Hamilton and Shalom Chaplaincy. Classis Hamilton has no legal jurisdiction over COLA adjustments at Shalom Manor). As it is, no action is required on our part regarding the first two proposals from Shalom Chaplaincy—except to remind Shalom Chaplaincy that Classis Hamilton has already approved Classis Niagara as the legal governing authority over Shalom's chaplaincy.

As for the fourth proposal from Shalom Chaplaincy regarding a final report. No action is required of us here. This is a matter that we receive for information.

Recommendations

All agree that Shalom Chaplaincy is a very important ministry. We ought to cherish in our hearts the long history between Classis Hamilton and Classis Niagara in supporting this cause. But the time has come for Classis Hamilton to discontinue funding for this ministry through ministry shares. The grounds that Ebenezer has put forward are compelling. We note that if local churches wish to continue supporting the ministry of Shalom Chaplaincy on their own—they are always free to do so.

We offer the following recommendations to Classis:

1. As a compromise between the proposals set forth by Ebenezer and Shalom Chaplaincy, we recommend the following:
We propose that beginning January 2017, Classis Hamilton begin reducing their ministry share assessment by 20% per year over the course of five years so that by 2023, Classis Hamilton will no longer collect a classical ministry share for Shalom Manor chaplaincy.

Grounds:

- a. This proposal upholds the desired outcome of Ebenezer's overture while respecting the 5-year span of funding which Shalom Chaplaincy seeks.
- b. Although this proposal seeks reduction of funding by 20% per year, there are sufficient monies available in reserve that will allow the ministry to flourish while Shalom Chaplaincy develops a new funding model.
2. We recommend that Classis remind Shalom Chaplaincy that Classis Hamilton currently does not have legal governing authority over the affairs of Shalom Chaplaincy. Legal governance is currently in the hands of Classis Niagara.
3. We recommend that the churches continue to seek ways to minister to seniors in their own communities.

Respectfully submitted,

Delegates of Calvin Dundas and New Street Burlington

4. OVERTURE COMMITTEE #2 REPORT

First CRC and Immanuel CRC, Hamilton

Appendices 8.3 and 8.4, pgs 33 and 34 in the Agenda

8.3 We recommend that Classis recommit this overture to CHHMC for further development.

Grounds:

1. The overture does not clearly explain how disbursing funds to Crosstowne advances the mission of Classis Hamilton beyond simply supporting a 'mission' outside of Classis Hamilton
2. The first ground in the overture speaks of mutual benefit and of learning from Crosstowne; however, the overture does not provide a plan for how this reciprocal relationship will be developed. While our committee sees potential for developing such a collaborative and mutually beneficial relationship, the absence of a plan leaves the overture feeling rather one-sided.
3. If these two issues - articulating how this disbursement of funds to Crosstowne advances the mission of Classis, and providing a plan for developing a mutually beneficial partnership with Crosstowne – are addressed, the recommendation to disburse funds to Crosstowne could be more appropriately considered by Classis in terms of CH mission.

8.4 – That Classis Hamilton accede to the overture from Bethel CRC of Waterdown to raise the Classis Hamilton pulpit supply reimbursement from \$100.00 to \$150.00 per service.

Grounds:

1. The increased reimbursement reflects the value that Classis Hamilton and the Reformed tradition places on providing qualified preaching/exhortation within our worship services.
2. The increased reimbursement more appropriately recognizes the time, energy, and expertise involved with preparing sermons as a guest preacher/exhorter.
3. Although an increase would only apply to what churches pay those who participate in Classis pulpit supply, it also tends to serve as a guideline for reimbursement of those who serve outside that specific schedule.
4. The increased reimbursement recognizes that Classis Hamilton has not reviewed or adjusted the pulpit supply reimbursement amount in quite a few years.

CHURCH VISITOR'S REPORT: 2016

Addressing the Questions of Church Order Article 42

-) The visitors addressed the requirements of Church Order Article 42 and in each instance the councils responded affirmatively.

Particular blessings, concerns, practices or situations to draw to the attention of Classis

-) There were no matters brought forward by the churches that require any action on the part of classis at this time, but there are a number of blessings and some matters that are a concern to the churches. Below are excerpts from our reports to the councils.

Ancaster

-) Council members shared that they appreciate the Day of Encouragement as a way of equipping and refreshing themselves for ministry. The deacons have had an information training session which they find very helpful.
-) Elders are intentional about keeping in touch with the members of their districts.
-) A member has requested a meeting with the church visitors to discuss difficulties that the member has with certain aspects of Council decisions as well as other church matters.
-) Members of Council as well as church members are “walking” alongside members of the Bosma family. There has been much prayer on behalf of the Bosma family, particularly during the recent court sessions. Pastor Rita mentioned that the Bosma story speaks into every aspect of ministry.

Brantford

-) Hope's congregation is blessed by excellent preaching and both services are felt to be spiritual beneficial.
-) Uplifting praise and worship using a variety of styles accompanies each service.
-) Home visits are a priority at Hope and there are sufficient youth elders.
-) Catechism is being taught and vibrant youth programs are in place.
-) Hope maintains several outreach programs designed to bless and engage the surrounding community in the life and mission of the church.
-) Hope plans to participate in refugee sponsorship of 2 families.

Burlington New Street

-) The church hosted serve teams last year and plans to do so again this summer. This has been a healthy stretch for the church and has helped build connections among members who do not normally interact.
-) Many examples of love are expressed at new Street through a variety of programs such as Sunday school, VBS, Coffee Break, Gems and Cadets.
-) Council has continued their efforts at restructuring how they are organized. The goal is to help streamline the function of Council by signing specific duties to specific groups.
-) Pastor Joel expressed that he believes the elders are gracious and honest in their work.

Calvary Flamborough

- J The deacons expressed that things were going well at Flamborough with no out of the ordinary demands this past year. A significant amount of money was raised by the youth for the Carpentaros.
- J At the date of the visit, Calvary was in the midst of a Pastor search and was in the stage of reviewing profiles. Additionally, Calvary has retained Pastor Garreth Harker, a candidate for ministry as interim pastor to preach six services per month as well as provide pastoral care and teach classes where applicable or possible.
- J One of the highlights was that the congregation responded well to a survey that the elders formulated dealing with a number of issues including women in leadership.

Bethel Waterdown

- J Bethel is currently looking to fill a staff position as it pertains to worship. There are several worship planners who help organize the worship service. New songs are introduced gradually and worship leaders are potentially good at teaching these new songs.
- J Council is encouraged by the young adults who have taken a leadership role in gathering their peer group together for study, social events and the like.
- J Bethel has small groups that meet regularly and have done a wide study on *Crazy Love and Alpha*.
- J In terms of outreach, Bethel has conducted a program called *Divorce Care for Kids*, a 10 week program this has proved to be quite beneficial.
- J Pastoral care is extended through various means including elders who visit people in their districts.

Calvin Dundas

- J Council was asked, "What are your blessings? What do you celebrate?" In response to this Council is very thankful that Pastor Ken Benjamins accepted the call to be their minister. One Elder remarked "the Lord is providing".
- J Council also mentioned that at least 90% of the congregation receives home visits and that members make them feel very welcome.
- J The deacons mentioned that in times of financial or other needs, there is good support from the congregation.
- J The work of Pastor Jerry Hoytema as interim pastor is greatly appreciated as well as assistance from Pastor Andrew Zommerman in teaching catechism. Council also has appreciated classical pulpit supply.

First Hamilton

- J Deacons expressed that they are enjoying their work; in particular they appreciate the hands – on aspect of this ministry. The deacons refer to the diaconate at the "deacons table", a term which reflects the type of work that is being done. Deacons are also involved in something known as Christians Against Poverty and are looking into sponsoring refugees.
- J Elders were asked what is your main challenge. One of the office bearers responded, "Getting the work done, there's always so much to do". While all elders are involved in visitation, they are also involved in other functions and appointed to various committees.
- J Prayer is an important part in the life of First CRC which is demonstrated with a number of people involved in prayer teams.

-) Since the church is located in the downtown area, there is involvement with community projects including those which help the homeless.

Jarvis

-) A very successful VBS program is in place that enfoldes many children from the surrounding community. Community participation in the GEMS and Cadets programs is also evident.
-) Both contemporary and traditional worship styles are implemented and both evening and morning worship services are hosted.
-) A well-attended youth program is having a positive effect on the lives of young people at Ebenezer. About 80% of those who move out of this age group maintain their membership.

Mount Hamilton

-) The deacons commented that there is a sense of satisfaction in fulfilling their calling as deacons, mentioning the joy of knowing that through this ministry people are being helped. The church is involved in such ministries as Victory Gardens, Neighbour to Neighbour, and the Olive Branch.
-) Pastoral care is supervised by the elders and they are aided by five teams of pastoral workers who visit the more elderly of the congregation and those requiring more than one visit per year.
-) The calling committee is actively engaged in searching for and calling a suitable pastor. Council did express some frustration in being still vacant.
-) Council expressed appreciation for Pastor Ralph Koop's preaching as well as pastoral care work.
-) The church is grappling with their future as it pertains to membership and is wondering if their current location is still suitable for them.

New Hope

-) The church visitors met with the leadership of New Hope at their request in seeking advice as to the process involved becoming an "organized" church. The discussion with New Hope is ongoing and has not yet reached a conclusion.

Concerns

-) The greatest challenge with home visits is for members making time for the visit and for elders scheduling visits.
-) It was noted that evangelism has not been strong and the churches could do better in this area.
-) Some churches have struggled with being vacant, but it's always a blessing when a vacancy is filled. We pray that the Lord may continue to provide pastors for the vacancy in churches.
-) The priority of Sunday worship is sometimes sidelined by busy schedules and involvement in sporting activities.
-) New office bearers could benefit from orientation or training sessions. Not all Councils are able to participate in the yearly Day of Encouragement. This concern remains unchanged from last year's summary report.

Visitor's advice given to councils that requires Classis approval

-) No advice was given to the councils that require Classis approval.

Common trends or problems which merit the attention of Classis

) With all the visits we, as church visitors, felt there was a common sense of love and caring for the members and for each other, and Councils reported that they were diligent in pastoral care.

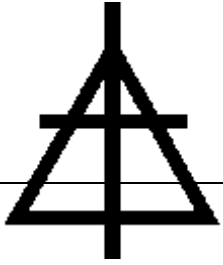
Recommendations to Classis.

) None

Submitted by:

Church Visitors, Team A Pastor Jeff Klingenberg, Pastor Siebert VanHouten and Wayne Visser

Church Visitors, Team B Pastor Ted Bootsma, Pastor Jeff Vandermeer and Jake Ellens



BOT Highlights

To: **CRC Classes and Councils**

From: Steven Timmermans, Executive Director of the
CRCNA Date: October 10, 2016

Highlights from meeting of Sept. 29 – 30, 2016

Grand Rapids, Mich. – The Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America met on September 29 – 30, 2016, at the Prince Conference Center in Grand Rapids, Mich. During this meeting the Board:

-) Welcomed Mr. Walter Mulder, Rev. Bernard Bakker, Rev. Chris deWinter, Rev. Samuel Cooper, Ms. Aaltje (Aalie) Van Grootheest, Dr. Gary D. Bos, Mr. Kevin TenBrink, and Rev. Paul DeVries as new Board of Trustees members.
-) Approved combining the role of director of Race Relations with the role of coordinator of the Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action. The Board also took note of concerns expressed that the priorities of race relations not be lost within the broad social justice sphere.
-) Approved the position description for a director of the new, unified agency that will carry forward the ministries of Christian Reformed Home Missions and Christian Reformed World Missions. Authorized the start of a search process.
-) Received an update on the work being done to transition to a new Council of Delegates.
-) Approved that the timeline for implementation of the Council of Delegate be moved up from July 2018 to July 2017, and that the nominating committee function be launched as soon as possible to aid in the transition.
-) In response to the mandate given by Synod 2016, instructed Faith Formation Ministries to develop a proposal around updated curricula for Sunday schools. This may include refreshing existing resources, creating a vetting process for curriculum from external sources, partnering with other curriculum providers to create something new, or developing a Sunday school toolkit. The proposal will be presented to the BOT at its February meeting.
-) In response to the decision of Synod 2016 not to increase ministry share, approved a reallocation of ministry share. The new allocation will direct money towards agency and ministry budgets until 100% of their previous ministry-share revenue has been received. Excess ministry shares received after this time will be directed toward Congregational Services until they also reach their budgeted income.

-) Endorsed a decision to move from conducting a broad denominational survey every five years, to conducting an every-year survey. This will better connect to the goals of the Ministry Plan.
-) Adopted a revised mandate for ServiceLink, shifting the work from exclusively volunteer services to “first and primarily, be a collaborative resourcing bridge between the agencies and ministries of the CRC and local Canadian churches.”
-) Adopted a proposal for a combined Advisory Committee for CRC and RCA Disability Concerns.
-) Received information about the memberships of committees and taskforces mandated by Synod 2016, including the full membership of the Committee to Articulate a Foundation-Laying Biblical Theology of Human Sexuality. In addition, appointed the final member, Rev. Paula Seales, to complete membership on this committee.
-) Received and endorsed a work plan from senior leadership as the first in a series of steps to address the instruction of Synod 2016 to evaluate and prioritize existing ministry, and reimagine ministry shares by 2019.
-) Voted to accept the invitation from Pillar Church in Holland, Michigan, to serve as the convening church of Synod 2018.
-) Appointed Mr. William Haverkamp to the World Renew board of delegates. Appointed Mr. Paul Bakker, Ms. Carol Bremer-Bennett, Rev. Thijs Blok, Mr. Raymond Carmichael, Dr. Ralph DeHaan, Mr. Gary Ginter, Dr. Dennis Hoekstra, Rev. Julius Medenblik, Ms. Sharon Medendorp, Mr. Stephen Tuuk, and Mr. Stuart Vander Heidi to the Timothy Leadership Training Institute (TLTI) board of directors. Accepted the Executive Committee’s action to add Rev. Emmett Harrison and Ms. Susan Hoekema from the BOT to the TLTI board.

Upcoming meetings:

February 23-24, 2017, in Burlington, Ontario

May 4-5, 2017, in Grand Rapids, Michigan

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Steven Timmermans, Executive

Director executive-director@crcna.org