



CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH

CLASSIS EASTERN CANADA of the Christian Reformed Church

ZOOM Meeting-----October 24, 2020

Classis Eastern Canada MINUTES

Classis meeting officers

Chairperson: Rev. Dan Hoogland; Vice-chairperson: Rev. James Kralt
Clerk: Rev. Bernie Bakker

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Next Meeting	March 5-6, 2021 [exact date/place TBD] Chair – James Kralt; Vice – Nick Baas

Delegates to Classis Eastern Canada [CEC]

Church	Pastor	Elder	Deacon
Athens CRC	Absent	David Morgan Henry Oosterhof	Randy Terpstra*
Brockville Bethel	Jack van de Hoef	Elizabeth Brunsveld*	
Charlottetown	Josh Schatzle*	Allan McIsaac	Rinse DeBoer
Cornwall Immanuel	Vacant	No delegates	
Dixon's Corners Community	Aaron Thompson	Alex Dekleine*	Bill Zandbergen*
Fredericton	Dan Hoogland	Ian Groen	
Halifax All Nations	Absent	Sara Hildebrand*	Geoffrey Roome*
Kemptville First	Medical leave	Rick DeVries	Reuben VanGilst
Kentville	Justin Halbersma	John Holleman	Gerrit Tenyenhuis
Milford Faith Community	Paul Vanderkooy	Luke Bokma*	Scott Smith*
Montreal First	James Kralt	Josh VanderVeen*	
Ottawa Barrhaven Fellowship	Rick Nanninga	John Gray*	Krista Murrell*
Ottawa Calvary	Pieter Heerema	Bart Rijke	Lisa Ypma*
Ottawa Calvin	Craig Hoekema	Echo MacLeod*	Jonah Ellens*
Ottawa Kanata Community	Chris Schievink	Gladys Baart	Paul Berkloo
Pembroke Zion	Vacant		Jane Wouda*
Renfrew Hebron	Daniel Meinema	Gerry Rook	Anita Smit*
Truro	Nick Baas	Rebecca Sooksam*	Lia Alkema
Williamsburg	Gregg Lawson	Ype Vanderveen	Stuart Stall

**First time delegate*

1. Constitution of Classis – 9 am

- 1.1. Pastor Paul Vanderkooy, Community CRC, Milford leads in opening devotions. He reads 2 Timothy 4:1-5 as an encouragement to pastors and reminding office bearers to be encouragers at all times, especially during these days. Leads in prayer.
- 1.2. All congregations are represented by their delegates and Classis Eastern Canada is declared to be constituted.
 - 1.2.1. Cornwall CRC not able to send an delegates.
- 1.3. The chair Rev. Dan Hoogland; vice Rev. James Kralt; and clerk Rev. Bernie Bakker serve the meeting of CEC.
- 1.4. The chair explains some details re a ZOOM meeting; thanks to Ron Hosmar and Michelle DePooter for serving as technicians for the meeting; visitors are welcomed: Leslie van Milligen, Faith Formation; Richard Smit, World Renew.

2. Reports

Agenda

Att. 1

2.1. Stated Clerk - Bernie Bakker

- 2.1.1. Stated Clerk's reported received for information

2.1.2. **Motion: that CEC approve the work of Stated Clerk.**

Adopted

2.2. Classis Interim Committee – Jack Van de Hoef [chair]

Att. 2

- 2.2.1. Pastor Gregg Lawson is new chair of CIC as Pastor Jack is now Regional Pastor.

- 2.2.2. Pastor Justin Halbersma was installed as Commissioned Pastor in Kentville, NS on August 29, 2020.

- 2.2.3. Pastor James Kralt, Montreal is counselor for Cornwall CRC in their vacancy.
- 2.2.4. CIC is recommending Ron Hosmar as new CIC member.
- 2.2.5. **Motion that CEC approve the work of the Classis Interim Committee. Adopted**
- 2.3. Finance and Administration Committee – Eva Reitsma, treasurer Att. 3
- 2.3.1. Eva gives update on present finances. Notes on page 2 of report RFI.
- 2.3.2. Proposed 20210 Budget presented. Per member ministry share set at \$83.59 minus credit due to surplus so final per member ministry share is \$68.59.
- 2.3.3. Question re Grant to Helping Churches...funds still available. Churches are encouraged to apply.
- 2.3.4. Motion to adopt proposed budget. **Adopted**
- 2.4. Personnel Committee – Dave Vroege Att. 15a,b,c
- 2.4.1. Dan Hoogland reports of Dave as he is not able to be present. The ballot is presented with some positions still vacancies: Personnel; CEC Safe Church Coordinator; Council of Delegates; and Candidacy Committee. Delegates are encouraged to fill the vacant positions during the meeting. We will vote at the end of the day.
- 2.5. Classis Ministry Leadership Team – Craig Hoekema Att. 4
- 2.5.1. All information is in report. RFI
- 2.6. Classis Resonate Global Mission Team – Rick Nanninga Att. 5a,b,d,e,f
- 2.6.1. Glenn Smith has stepped down as director of Montreal Mission. We are thankful for all the work that he has lead. He is now serving as a mentor to mission innovators.
- 2.6.2. Winston Visser has started as mission catalyst for Classis Eastern Canada. He is in process of meeting with all congregations in particular meeting with people interested in mission outreach.
- 2.7. Ministry to Seafarers, Montreal – Michele DePooter Att. 5c
- 2.7.1. Seafarers Chaplain Michele DePooter gives an update on her work. Everyone encouraged in preparing Christmas parcels to Seafarers. Thanks so much.
- 2.7.2. A reminder to all churches to bring Christmas parcels for Seafarers to Centre by November 19.
- 2.8. Diaconal Ministry Att. 16a,b
- 2.8.1. Diaconal Ministries Fall update video in agenda. RFI
- 2.9. Classical Youth Ministry Team – Joe Groeneveld Att. 6a
- 2.9.1. See the report. RFI
- 2.10. Youth Ministry – Ron Hosmar Att. 6b
- 2.10.1. See the report RFI
- 2.11. Safe Church – Rachel Boehm Att. 6c
- 2.11.1. See the report RFI
- 2.11.2. The team is working of a Classis Safe Church policy so CEC can have Liability Insurance for CEC employees and committees.

2.11.3. The CIC has asked the Safe Church Team to lead clusters of church councils in a workshop entitled, "Abuse of Power for ALL Church Leaders". Councils will be contacted so MEDIA meetings can be held. They will be recorded for future training.

2.12. Ottawa Campus Ministry – Sid Ypma

2.12.1. A video was shared with the delegates earlier. Sid answers some questions from delegates. Delegates are encouraged to share video with council and congregation.

2.13. Church Counselors

2.13.1. Cornwall – Pastor James Kralt

RFI

2.13.2. Pembroke – Pastor Dan Meinema

RFI

2.14. Church Visitors

2.14.1. East Team 2 – Craig Hoekema

2.14.1.1. Kentville – Pastor Justin was installed as Commissioned Pastor and Pastor Dave Vroege led in that service.

2.14.1.2. Charlottetown – Update on visits with council and Pastor Josh. Report on file.

2.14.2. West Team 1 – Sid Ypma

2.14.2.1. Visit to Ottawa Calvary is on file.

2.15. Regional Pastors

2.15.1. Regional Pastor (West) – Jack Van de Hoef.

2.15.1.1. Gives update on internos via ZOOM and one in person meeting. We continue to keep Pastor Ken Gehrels in prayer as cancer treatments have started again.

2.15.2. Regional Pastor (East) – Dave Vroege

RFI Att. 7

3. Prayer was offered for the ministries and situations above.

4. **Advisory Committees for classis**

4.1. Classis Credentials & Instructions: Classis Interim Committee

4.1.1. From the John Calvin CRC in Truro came the request for communal support for any church interested in using the Bridge App.

4.1.1.1. We would direct this church to the information received in our Classis agenda package, which included introductory material, as well as contact information for receiving support or answers to any questions. These can be found in Attachments 11a, b, c.

4.1.2. Several councils requested info re pastoral care during this time of COVID 19. Time permitting we will have a time of sharing at end of meeting.

4.1.3. Motion to approve work of Credentials Committee

Adopted

Break time...

5. **Denominational Representatives**

5.1. Council of Delegates – Bernie Bakker

Att. 17, 8a, b

5.1.1. Mention is made of reports forwarded to all churches and delegates.

5.1.2. In November the following study reports will be available on CRCNA website for the church to review: Committee to Articulate a Foundation-laying Biblical Theology of Human Sexuality; Ecclesiastical Marriage Task Force; Study of Bivocationality Task Force.

- 5.2. Canadian Ministry Director Fall Report – Darren Roorda RFI Att. 9
- 5.3. Canadian Restructuring Process – Greta Luimes RFI Att. 10
- 5.3.1. Greta shared some of the work the restructuring committee was doing and answered some questions. Councils encouraged to watch video in Att. 10
- 5.4. Ministry Shares Reimagined Att. 11a,b
- 5.4.1. It was mentioned that almost all church in CEC have submitted their pledge as requested under Ministry Shares Reimagined. The churches of classes are to be commended for their work and faithful support of denominational Ministry Shares.
- 5.4.2. Note that Attachment reference is to Agenda 11a “Ministry Shares Re-Imagined” and 11b “Ministry Shares Canadian Ministry Letter”.
- 5.5. Bridge App RFI Att. 11a-c
- 5.6. Calvin, Kings, and Redeemer Universities Att. 13a-c
- 5.6.1. Sid gives update re Redeemer – in person classes, first COVID case, planning for building expansion. Keep all universities in prayer.
- 5.7. Resonate Global Mission RFI Att. 14
- 5.8. World Renew – Richard Smit Att. 12
- 5.8.1. A new board delegate is needed for CEC as Richard’s 2nd term will be completed end of June, 2021. Richard shares about the joy and passion of serving on WR board.
- 5.8.2. Richard shares regarding his personal health as he continues to receive treatments for cancer. God has been present with him and the family during this time. Richards reminds us to prayer for families on those dealing with cancer.
- 5.8.3. It was mentioned that World Renew has an online worship service for World Hunger Sunday.
- 5.9. Prayer is offered for various ministries.

6. Other Items

7. Throughout the meeting Joys and Concerns from all the congregations which were shared and prayed. We are thankful for the Lord’s care and presence in the work of ministry.
8. Discussion on pastoral care during this time of COVID 19 – what has worked?
- 8.1. Phone call ministry to seniors and those along; outdoor or ZOOM coffee gathering; sending regular emails; cds of worship services to those who do not have internet service; meet in spacious location; meetings in park; coffee shop meetings; games night; ask Leslie van Milligen for ideas: hymn sing on line via ZOOM; sending out pre-addressed pre-stamped letters for seniors to send to students, elementary through university, porch support for seniors having tech challenges;
- 8.2. Consider home delivered turkey Christmas dinner.
9. Chair was thanked for his leadership in taking us through ZOOM meeting. Chair closed in devotion and prayer. 12:40 pm

10. Organizational Matters – Next Classis Meeting

10.1. Spring Date: March 5-6, 2021

Location: TBD

Officers: Chair – Rev. James Kralt; Vice – Rev. Nick Baas

Agenda deadline – January 5, 2021

CEC agenda to be sent out by January 15, 2021

21.2. Fall Date: October 15-16, 2021

Location: TBD

CLASSIS EASTERN CANADA – Personnel [March 2020]

In compliance with privacy legislation, contact information is not published. Please contact clerk.

POSITION	NAME	Term	Term end
Stated Clerk (cecstatedclerk@gmail.com)	Bernie Bakker	1	2021 Oct
Alternate Clerk	John Venema	1	2023 Oct
Treasurer (cectreas@gmail.com)	Eva Reitsma	3	
Alternate Treasurer	John Bos	1	2020 Mar
Regional Pastor (E)	David Vroege	2	2022 Oct
Regional Pastor (W)	Jack Van de Hoef	1	2023 Oct
Licensure to Exhort	Michael Vlaming		2020 Oct
	Jacob Zwiers		2021 Mar
Chaplains <i>Ministry to Seafarers</i>	Michelle DePooter		
<i>Ottawa Campus</i>	Sid Ypma		
Commissioned Pastors	Michelle DePooter		
	Ron Hosmar		
	Justin Halbersma		
Classis Interim Committee	Michelle DePooter	2	2023 Mar
	Bernie Bakker, <i>clerk; ex officio</i>		
	Gregg Lawson, Chair	1	2023 Mar
	Jack Van de Hoef	2	2023 Oct
	Brian Vandenberg	1	2022 Mar
	William DeHaan	1	2022 Oct
	Ron Hosmar	1	2023 Oct
Personnel Committee	Dan Hoogland, chair	1	2022 Oct
	Bernie Bakker, <i>clerk; ex officio</i>		
	Dave Vroege	3	2023 Oct
	Vacancy		
Classis Resonate Mission Team	Rick Nanninga chair	2	2022 Mar
<i>Outreach Ministry Developer</i>	Winston Visser	1	2022 Mar
<i>Member-at-Large - deacon</i>			
<i>Pastor</i>	Chris Schievink	2	2023 Oct

<i>Member-at-Large - Maritime</i>	Nick Baas	2	2023 Mar
	John Scholman	1	2023 Mar
	Aaron Thompson	1	2023 Oct
<i>Classis Prayer Coordinator</i>	Vacancy		
Diaconal Ministry			
<i>Diaconal Ministry Canada – board representative</i>	Peter Van Harmelen	1	2023
<i>Western Diaconal Conf; Pastoral Adviser</i>	Dan Meinema	1	2022
<i>Diaconal ministry developer (E)</i>	Karla Winham		
<i>Eastern Canada Diaconal Conf. (W)</i>	Ian White, chair		2021 Oct
<i>Pastoral Adviser</i>	Vacancy		
<i>Diaconal ministry developer (W)</i>	Anita Hoogeveen		
Classis Ministry Leadership Team	Craig Hoekema, chair	2	2021 Oct
	Eva Reitsma, <i>ex-officio</i>		
	Dan Zylstra	2	2021 Oct
	Aaron Thompson	1	2021 Oct
Financial Administration Committee	Eva Reitsma, <i>treasurer</i>		
	Dale Poel	5	2022 Oct
	Ron Hosmar, <i>chair</i>	2	2023 Mar
	Jackie Lauziere	2	2023 Mar
	Gerry Pot	1	2021 Mar
Youth Ministry Team (W)	Ron Hosmar <i>secretary; pastor rep</i>	5	2021 Oct
	Joe Groeneveld <i>chair</i>	4	2023 Oct
	John Verburg <i>vice</i>	6	2023 Oct
	Holly Byker	1	2023 Mar
	Karen Bastian	1	2020 Mar
	Adrian Brobbel	1	2021 Oct
	Presleigh Klein	1	2023 Mar
	Victoria De Schiffart	1	2023 Mar
Ministry to Seafarers Montreal Chair	George Zekveld	1	2021 Oct
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Luimes (<i>Quinte</i>)	2	2022 Mar

<i>Secretary</i>	Bert Wissink (Eastern Canada)	1	2021 Oct
	Sandra Penner (<i>Eastern Canada</i>)	1	2021 Mar
<i>Member at Large</i>	Gerard Bondt	2	2022 Oct
Church Visiting Teams			
East Team I (Truro, Milford, Halifax)	Dan Hoogland	1	2022 Oct
East Team II (Charlottetown, Kentville, Fredericton)	Craig Hoekema	2	2023 Oct
West Team I (Brockville, Ottawa Kanata, Ottawa Calvary, Renfrew)	Sid Ypma		2021 Oct
West Team II (Ottawa Barrhaven, Athens, Cornwall, Pembroke, Williamsburg)	Aaron Thompson	1	2023 Oct
West Team III (Kemptville, Dixon's Corners, Montreal, Ottawa Calvin)	Joe Groeneveld	1	2022 Oct
Church Counselors (vacant congregations)			
<i>Cornwall</i>	James Kralt		
<i>Pembroke</i>	Dan Meinema		
Synodical Deputy <i>alternate</i>	Dan Meinema Jack Van de Hoef	2 2	2021 (Mar) 2021 (Mar)
Council of Delegates	Bernard Bakker	2	2021 (Mar)
Calvin College (Region 3 - CEC/Quinte/Toronto)	Alicia Sinclair	1	2022
Calvin Theological Seminary (Region 3)	Dan Brown	2	2022
World Renew	Richard Smit	2	2021(Mar)
Redeemer University	Sid Ypma	2	2021 (Mar)
Christian Reformed Centre for Public Dialogue	Colin Conrad	2	2022 (Mar)
Historical Committee	Jean Lauziere		
Banner Correspondent	Krista Dam-Vandekuyt		
Safe Church Executive	Gayla Postma, <i>past chair</i>	2	2017 (Mar)
<i>Ottawa Calvary</i>	John Vedder, <i>member at large</i>	1	2018 (Mar)
<i>Halifax</i>	Rachel Boehm. <i>chair</i>	2	2021 (Mar)
<i>Pastoral Adviser</i>	Paul Vanderkooy	1	2022 (Oct)
	Wilma Mulder <i>treas., counselling fund</i>		ongoing

Safe Church Team			
<i>Athens</i>	Raven Lyons		
<i>Brockville</i>	Mike Van Dyke		
<i>Charlottetown</i>	Geesje Niehuis		
<i>Cornwall</i>	Sandra Eckersley		
<i>Dixon's Corners</i>			
<i>Fredericton</i>	Tammi Boonstoppel		
<i>Halifax</i>	Rachel Boehm		
<i>Kemptville</i>	Ault VanBokhorst		
<i>Kentville</i>	Gerrit Carree		
<i>Metcalfe, Living Hope</i>	Benjamin Sapper		
<i>Milford</i>	Cheryl Woodworth		
<i>Montreal</i>	Natalie Klein		
<i>Ottawa Barrhaven</i>	Monique Heidinga		
<i>Ottawa Calvary</i>	John Vedder		
<i>Ottawa Calvin</i>	Jake Brunsting		
<i>Ottawa Kanata</i>	Megan Mooibroek		
<i>Renfrew</i>	Ed Oegema		
<i>Truro</i>	Nicole Boertjes		
<i>Williamsburg</i>	Nicole Van't Foort		
Disability Concerns	Michele Glyselinck		
Synodical Delegates to annual Synod of CRCNA held in June	<i>need a minister, an elder, a deacon, one other officebearer, and alternates</i>		
2018 Dan Mienema (Alt. Nick Baas); Richard Smit, Joyce Luimes (Alt Gerrit Tenyenhius); Jack van de Hoef (alt. Piet Heerema)			
2019 Aaron Thompson (Alt. Ken Gehrels); Ron Hosmar (Tony Verheul); Mike Fekkus (Alt. Joyce Luimes); Dan Meinema			
2020 Andrea Baas (Alt. Dan Zylstra); Ron Hosmar (Alt. Dick VanVeldhuizen); Cor Dykstra; John Vedder (Alt. Aaron Thompson)			