

# Classis Huron of the Christian Reformed Church

## Minutes of meeting of Classis Huron

Meeting of November 23, 2005 at Bethel CRC in Listowel

By Stated Clerk of Classis Rev. Ed Den Haan

### Article I. Officers

Chair – Rev. George Holthof, Vice Chair – Rev. Chris Schievink, Clerk - Ed Den Haan

### Article II. Opening Devotions

#### **Section 2.01**

Rev. Jack De Vries welcomed the delegates, called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with Scripture reading and Prayer

#### **Section 2.02**

Classis was declared in session as a continuation of the September 2005 meeting.

#### **Section 2.03**

The Executive was seated - Rev. George Holthof as Chairperson, Rev. Chris Schievink as Vice Chair and Rev. Ed Den Haan as Stated Clerk.

### Article III. Welcome

Rev. George Holthof also welcomed the delegates and Called for the agenda of the day.

### Article IV. Credentials

The credentials Committee of Lucknow and Orangeville delegates reported as follows:

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
Acton	Rev. Ray Vander Kooij and Elder Tom Silvis
Blyth	Rev. John Kuperus
Cambridge	Absent
Clinton	Elders Terry Kaastra and Auke Bylsma
Collingwood	Elders Piet De Groot and Harry Hofstede
Drayton	Rev. Gerrit Bomhof and Elder John Deen
Exeter	Rev. Harry Frielink and Elder Bert Langendyk, lacking credentials
Goderich	Rev. Steve Tamming and Elder Art Haverkamp
Guelph 1	Elders Anne Lopers and John Kwantes
Guelph New Life	Rev. Henry Lunshof and Elder Judy Vander Zwaag
Kincardine	Rev. Elzo Tenyenhuis and Elder Rick Luymes
Kitchener	Rev. Andy Van Muyen and Elder Ben Merkes

Community	
Listowel	Rev. Jack De Vries and Elder John Van Donkersgoed , lacking credentials
Lucknow	Rev. Peter Janssens and Elder Wayne Bergsma
Orangeville	Rev. Roger Gelwicks and Elder Peter De Lange
Owen Sound	Rev. George Holthof and Elder Len Zevenbergen, lacking credentials
Palmerston	Rev. Chris Schievink and Elder Jack Vos, lacking credentials
Stratford	Rev. Bill Hoogland and Elder John Hordyk, lacking credentials
Vanastra	Rev. Siemen Speelman and Elder Henry Boot
Waterloo	Rev. Vicki Cok and Elder Dave De Haan

### **Section 4.01      *Credentials indicated***

- (a) Five congregational delegates came without credentials. These delegates were seated by decision of Classis.
- (b) Cambridge was absent without explanation and was, by decision of Classis, to be asked by the Stated Clerk for an explanation.
- (c) Names listed on the credentials and some delegate names did not match.
- (d) Blyth had one delegate
- (e) Various members stated they had not received the agenda or credential form
- (f) There were six first time delegates to Classis. They signed the Form of Subscription indicating their submission in it.

### **Section 4.02      *Pool Documents***

Chris Pool's documents were reported to be in and in good order. A motion was made and passed to proceed with the examination. The Synodical Deputies concurred in this.

## **Article V. The chair welcomed and introduced the Synodical Deputies**

- (a) Rev. Gordon Pols from Classis Hamilton
- (b) Rev. Dan Tichelaar from Classis Chatham
- (c) Rev. Herman Praamsma from Classis Toronto

## **Article VI. Examination of Candidate Chris Pool**

### **Section 6.01 *Practica***

Rev. Roger Gelwicks introduced Candidate Chris Pool to the meeting of Classis and then interviewed the candidate on practical theology and ministry

- (a) Delegates and Synodical deputies were offered freedom to question the candidate or comment.
- (b) A Motion was made and seconded to continue with the examination. It passed. The Synodical Deputies concurred in this.

### **Section 6.02 *Sermon and Worship***

Rev. Jack De Vries reported on his work and that of Elder Fred Tinholt as examiners of sermons and worship. He read a six page report previously discussed with Candidate Chris Pool. The report highlighted both strengths and weaknesses in Chris' work.

- (a) Delegates and deputies were given freedom to ask questions or comment.

- (b) Motion to proceed

The motion was made and seconded: That Classis proceed with the next step of the examination of Candidate Christ Pool:

Grounds:

Candidate Chris Pool has demonstrated sufficient skills in preaching God's Word and leading the congregation in God honouring worship

### **Section 6.03 *Biblical and Theological Position***

Rev. Ray Vander Kooij led the exam of Candidate Chris Pool's Biblical and Theological position.

Delegates and deputies were given the freedom to ask questions or comment.

### **Section 6.04     *Decision to grant the privilege of ministry***

- (a) The chair led the meeting in prayer for a God honouring decision re Chris Pool's privilege to ministry.
- (b) The chair declared Classis to be in executive session and asked all non-officers to leave the room.
- (c) The Synodical Deputies left to make their decision.
- (d) Classis voted by ballot and decided to grant Chris Pool the privilege to ministry
- (e) A motion was made and passed to destroy the ballots
- (f) The Synodical Deputies returned to the meeting and were informed of Classis' decision following which they stated their concurrence in the decision to grant Chris Pool the privilege of ministry in the CRCNA.
- (g) The chair declared an end to the executive session of Classis.
- (h) Non delegates were invited back into the meeting.
- (i) The chair called Candidate Chris Pool and his wife to the front, informed them of the decision of Classis, congratulated them and gave Chris a certificate.
- (j) All present were then given the freedom to congratulate the Pools on Chris' passing of this examination.

## **Article VII.     More Credential matters**

### **Section 7.01     *Re non-credentialed delegates***

A motion was made and passed to seat the non-credentialed delegates present at Classis.

### **Section 7.02     *RE Cambridge Maranatha's absence***

The following motion was made and passed:

That Classis ask the Stated Clerk to correspond with the Cambridge Council requesting an explanation for their absence from this November 23 meeting of Classis.

## **Article VIII. Closure**

*Section 8.01 The chair thanked the host church for its hospitality and wished all delegates a safe journey home in wintry weather.*

*Section 8.02 Rev. Chris Schievink led Classis in closing prayer*

*Section 8.03 Classis was adjourned.*

### **Information**

1. The deadline for submission to Classis for the agenda is December 5, 2005.  
*All committee reports and overtures must be in at that time.*
2. Classis will next meet on January 14, in Bethel C RC of Listowel.
3. Please think of hosting a meeting of Classis in the future.
4. I wish all of you a blessed Christmas and New Year. May you know the Lord God's sustaining love  
And celebrate it with great joy.

Yours in Christ, Ed Den Haan