

The purpose of the Council of Delegates (COD)

...is to govern entities and activities of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA).

In fulfilling this responsibility, the COD shall

- Transact all matters assigned to it by synod and serve in the interim of synod with matters which cannot await action by the assemblies themselves . . . and submit all such actions to the next meeting of the assembly for approval.
- Lead the integrative ministries of the CRC in light of the Mission, Vision, and Callings established by synod, providing recommendations to synod when the Missions, Vision, and or Callings need to be reconsidered.
- Cooperate with the educational institutions affiliated with the denomination and World Renew as well as other CRCNA boards toward integrating the respective missions of those institutions and functions into the denominational ministry program.
- Provide an intermediary role that serves three purposes: (1) To receive and understand input from congregations and their members (constituents), (2) bring the work and excitement of ministry to congregations and their members, and (3) understand the church—its various contexts and times—to such a degree that the COD assists in casting an appropriate vision for the future growth of the church.

Classis is requested to nominate one person, to be elected by synod 2022 to serve as classis Huron's representative on the COD.

Classis is presented with two names, one to be selected.

Lawrence Lutgendorff

- Attends Community CRC in Kitchener
- Currently serves as an Administrative elder
- Attended Synod 2 times ('95 and '96)
- Has served on many boards and committees
- Has worked for;
 - Christian Reformed World Missions and Resonate Global Mission
 - Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools
 - Christian Farmers Federation
- Currently works for Ray of Hope in Kitchener as the Director of Fundraising and Communications
- Attended the Kings University,
- Received a Master Degree in International Relations at University of Guelph
- Married with two grown children

Biographical Sketch - Peter Meerveld

General Work Background

Born and raised in Ontario, Peter started his career in 1972 with the Government of Ontario focusing on natural resources management and environment protection. He spent considerable time working with the federal government in the United States and the United Nations responsible for investigations in the illegal wildlife trade. He also held the position of *Contentious Issues Advisor* to a number of key government Cabinet Ministers. A large part of his career as a senior executive with government was dedicated to policy development for large programs including food safety and environmental protection across the province. In addition, he was responsible for the introduction of several key pieces of legislation in the Legislature related to environmental and husbandry practices in agriculture.

In 2010, Peter retired from the government, continuing to provide consulting services for businesses, non-profits, schools and churches. These services included strategic planning, leadership assessment and development, collaborative decision making, organizational governance, mediation and negotiations. He also provides training to a range of organizations in the above noted areas. He has been chair or participated in numerous steering committees, task forces and boards.

Education

Peter graduated from the Richard Ivey School of Business (University of Western Ontario) - *Executive Development Program* - where he honed his skills in leadership, strategic planning and governance. Peter also attended Wilfrid Laurier University and Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Church and Christian School Involvement

- Peter has served as an elder at two CRC churches and has held various positions with local Christian school boards, including Chair of a large Christian high school. He has attended Classis Huron in the past and is currently an elder at New Life CRC in Guelph
- Provides strategic planning services to range of Christian organizations across Ontario and internationally - including the most recent completion of a strategic plan for the Presbyterian denomination in Central America
- Provides consulting services to VOCATE (Christian Educator's Association)
- Actively involved with *EduDeo* providing leadership training to international school administrators and principals. Currently he is working on the development of a *Leadership Institute* responsible for the training and certification of Christian school leaders associated with EduDeo's school partners around the world
- Conducts mediation and negotiations services to churches on a variety of matters. He also engages Christian couples wishing to reconcile a marriage separation through mediation
- At the request of boards and councils, Peter conducts leadership assessments of a wide range of Christian leaders including pastors, denominational leaders and university presidents. In 2010, the CRCNA Board of Trustees requested Peter to undertake a leadership assessment of the Executive Director (Rev. J. Dykstra) with recommendations back to the Board.
- Peter was instrumental in the institution of a 5-year Task Force in the CRCNA in 2011 (reporting to Synod) dealing with the *structure, culture and leadership* of the CRCNA including the development of the Council of Delegates (from the former Board of Trustees),

consolidation/role of agencies and ministries and the future role of Classes among many other recommendations. As part of the Task Force, Peter and Kathy Vandergrift played an important role in assisting the Task Force to better understand and appreciate the bi-nationality issues that impact leadership roles, culture and decision-making across our borders.

- Suggested pathways to effective governing structures for local church, classis and denominational (synodical) interrelationships. Spent considerable time listening to the 47 classes and local congregations on the future direction of the denomination with respect to accountability, ecclesiastical relationships and support of ministries
- As the sole Canadian on the interview panel, selected Steven Timmerman as Executive Director of the CRCNA. Developed the selection criteria for the panel
- Peter has built a good rapport with leaders in the CRCNA through his involvement with the denomination including Colin Watson Sr., Jules Medenblik, Joel Boot, Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, Kathy Vandergrift and a number of other key leaders
- Have been requested to participate in a number of other denominational projects
- Requested to comment on the recent SALT report

On a Personal Note

Peter has lived in the City of Guelph for the past 44 years. The Lord has blessed Peter and his wife Robyn with two wonderful children. When he is not working, he can be found on a northern Ontario fishing, whitewater canoeing and experiencing the great outdoors. He also enjoys wildlife carving and stained glass artistry.

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