

AGENDA

for CLASSIS HURON of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

**Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Bethel CRC, Acton, ON.
365 Queen St E, Acton.**

C.O. Article 39

A classis is a group of Christian Reformed churches that come together to:

- **seek, discern, and submit** to God's will;
- offer one another mutual **support** and **accountability**;
- find ways to **live out** a collective calling within their region;
- and allow for a healthy and sustained **connection** to the wider denomination.

Officers of the day:	Chair:	Rev. Bart Eisen (Maitland River Community CRC, Wingham)
	Vice-Chair	Rev. Sid Couperus (First, Owen Sound)
	Stated Clerk	Mr. Fred Vander Sterre (Blyth CRC)
Devotions & Prayer:	Opening	Bethel, Acton
	Pre-lunch prayer	Clinton CRC
	Post-lunch prayer	Trinity CRC, Goderich
	Closing	Rev. Couperus
Committees for the Day:	Credentials	New Life CRC, Guelph & Orangeville CRC
	Overture	N/A
	Balloting	Bethel CRC, Acton & Lucknow Community.

Guests:

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Synodical Deputies:

- Rev. Josh Tuininga (Classis Quinte)
- Rev. Phillip Apoll (Classis Ontario SW)
- Rev.

Schedule for the May 20, 2026, session of Classis Huron

Timeline	Report/Item	Presenter/Reporter	Document #
8:30-9:00	Registration and fellowship		
9:00	Worship	Bethel, Acton	
9:20	<p>Art. 1 Welcome and Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome/Announcements • Attendance Summary (credentials) • Covenant of Office Bearers • Declaration of Conflicts of Interest • Declaration of Classis Huron Constituted • Classis Huron Primer • The executive for the day takes the chair 	<p>Bethel</p> <p>Credentials</p> <p>Committee</p> <p>Host church</p>	<p>1</p> <p>1.1</p> <p>1.2</p> <p>1.3</p>
9:30	<p>Art. 2 Round Table Session</p> <p>Living Missional</p>	Joan Brady & Rev. Sid Couperus	2
10:30	Snack time		
10:45	<p>Art. 3</p> <p>Waterloo Campus Ministry</p> <p>Motion to approve the work of the Waterloo Campus Ministry.</p>	Melissa Burmaster Carolyn Kleefman	3
11:10	<p>Art. 4</p> <p>Introduction of the Youth Ministry Consultant</p> <p>Motion: to appoint _____ to the position of Youth Ministry Consultant of Classis Huron.</p>	Nick/Joan	4
11:25	<p>Art. 5</p> <p>Examination of Josh Sweetman</p> <p>Examiner:</p> <p>IN EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>Motion: to declare Josh Sweetman eligible to be ordained as a Commissioned Pastor.</p> <p>Voting by ballot</p> <p>Motion to destroy the ballots</p> <p>Upon admission, the chair shall congratulate and bless Josh, provide the classical diploma, and offer a prayer of thanksgiving.</p>	Rev. Martin Dam	
	Pre-Lunch Prayer	Clinton CRC	

12:00	Lunch Break & Deacons' meeting		
	Post-Lunch prayer	Trinity CRC	
1:00	<p>Art. 6 Rev. Duane VanderLaan IN EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>Motion: to approve Drayton CRC's motion to approve the release of Rev. Duane VanderLaan from his active ministerial service at Drayton Reformed Church, as per Article 17a of the CRC Church Order.</p> <p>Motion: that Classis Huron declare Rev. Duane VanderLaan eligible to receive a call. <i>This will require synodical deputies' concurrence</i></p>	Rev. Craig Hoekema	Document will be handed out at the meeting
1:45	<p>Art. 7 River City Communication to classis</p>		7
2:15	<p>Art. 8 CMC Report</p> <p><u>Art. 8.1 Classical Pulpit Supply policy:</u> Motion: For sending churches: Classis Huron churches will be assigned to provide pulpit supply to pastoral vacant churches up to three appointments annually (Sept. 1–June 30). One appointment will be assigned for each of the three timeframes: September through November, January through March, and April through June.</p> <p>Motion: For receiving churches: The number of classical pulpit supplies to pastoral vacant churches during each of the three periods is matched with the number of available assignments.</p> <p><u>Art. 8.2 Appointment:</u> Motion: to elect Rev. Martin Dam as Regional Pastor for a second term.</p> <p>Motion: to nominate Rev. _____ to serve as alternate synodical deputy. Synod elects.</p> <p>Motion: To elect or reelect Rev. Ed Den Haan, _____ for a three-year term as Church Visitor.</p> <p>Motion to approve the actions of CMC & AdCom.</p>	Rev. Henry Meinen	8
2:30	<p>Art. 9 AGM (Separate agenda) Chaired by an AdCom member.</p>	AdCom member	9
2:40	Art. 10 Classical Credentials Committee	New Life & Orangeville	

2:50	<p>Art. 11 Oversight Committees' Report</p> <p>Motion: to approve the transfer of Pastor Robert Hoekstra's membership and ministerial credentials to Clinton CRC.</p>	Rev. Ray VanderKooij	11
3:00	Coffee Break		
3:15	<p>Art 12 Church Visitors' reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vanastra Community With thankfulness to God, and with Vanastra CRC's renewal and spirit of hope: Motion: That Classis approve Vanastra's initiative in preparing to call a minister. Motion: That Classis thank Revs. Tim Keep, Darrell Bierman and Ed Den Haan for their support to Vanastra and for their work in supporting Vanastra to continue in view of the hoped-for calling and the installation of a minister in Vanastra. Community and Cornerstone, Kitchener 	Rev. Tim Keep	12.1
		Rev. Ken Labbé	12.2
3:30	<p>Art. 13 CHMT</p> <p>Motion to approve the work of the Classis Huron Mission Team.</p>	Joan Brady Rev. Sid Couperus	13.1 13.2 13.3
3:45	Art. 14 Diaconal Story	Mary Blydorp	14
4:00	<p>Art. 15 Other Classical Ministries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe Church (15 min) Motion to approve the work of the Safe Church Team. Classical Counsellors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blyth Maranatha, Cambridge Guelph, Water Street, Orangeville Vanastra Waterloo CRC <p>Motion to approve the work of the Classical Counsellors</p>	Rev. Carel Geleynse	15.1
		Rev. Bart Eisen Rev. Darrell Bierman Rev. John Vanderstoep Rev. Victor Laarman Rev. Jay Crossen Rev. Craig Hoekema	15.2
4:20	<p>Art. 16 Denominational Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council of Delegates (15 min) Canadian National Gathering Steering Comm. Agenda for Synod 2026 report 	Peter Meerveld Rev. Al Postma	16.1 16.2
		Revs. Cam & Jay	16.3
4:30	<p>Art. 17 Other printed reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redeemer University 		17.1

	▪ Thrive Playlist		
	<u>Art. 18 Evaluation</u>	by Menti	
	Art. 19 Motion to Adjourn and Closing	Chair & Vice-Chair	

****A reminder that Classis delegates are expected to remain present at classis for the entire session until it is adjourned. Dates of classis sessions are known well in advance, so it becomes the responsibility of delegates to 'clear' their schedules so that they can remain at the 'table'. Please refrain from scheduling appointments on this day because, in some situations, classis may deliberate longer than expected. Delegates who need to leave before adjournment (i.e. due to an emergency) may do so with the permission of the Chairperson only who will then advise classis of his/her/their absence; names of delegates who leave early will be recorded in the minutes.**
