

AGENDA

for CLASSIS HURON of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

**Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Maitland River Community Church, 414
Josephine St., Wingham, ON**

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:	Mr. Peter Kingma (Water Street CRC, Guelph)
	Vice-Chair	Rev. Cam Oegema (Bethel CRC, Listowel)
	Stated Clerk	Mr. Fred Vander Sterre (Blyth CRC)
Devotions & Prayer:	Opening	MRCC, Wingham
	Pre-lunch prayer	Bethel CRC, Acton
	Post-lunch prayer	New Life CRC, Guelph
	Closing	Rev. Cam Oegema
Committees for the Day:	Credentials	Trinity CRC, Goderich & First CRC Owen Sound
	Overture	N/A
	Balloting	MRCC, Wingham & Maranatha, Cambridge.

Guests:

- Shawn Brix (Calvin Seminary)
- Peter Meerveld (COD)
- Mary Blydorp (Diaconal Team)

Synodical Deputies:

- Rev. Phil Apol (Classis Ontario Southwest)
- Rev. Josh Tuininga (Classis Quinte)
- Rev. Michael Bootsma (Classis Hamilton)

Schedule for the May 21, 2025 session of Classis Huron

Timeline	Report/Item	Presenter/Reporter	Document #
8:30-9:00	Registration and fellowship		
9:00	Art. 1 Welcome and Introduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome/Announcements Attendance Summary Covenant of Office Bearers Classis Huron Primer Declaration of Conflicts of Interest Declaration of Classis Huron Constituted The executive for the day takes the chair 	MRCC Credentials Committee Host church	1 1a 1b 1c
9:15	Art. 2 Morning Session Worship	MRCC, Wingham	
9:35	Art. 3 Round Table Session Covenantal responsibilities and tasks	Joan Brady & Rev. Sid Couperus	
10:05	Coffee break		
10:20	Art. 4 Waterloo Campus Ministry (via Zoom)	Melissa Burmaster Carolyn Kleefman	4
10:40	Art. 5 Examination of Josh Sweetman Examiners: Sermon review report: IN EXECUTIVE SESSION Motion: to grant Josh Sweetman a one-year license to exhort in Classis Huron.	Rev. Tim Keep Rev. John Vanderstoep Rev. Tom Bomhof Rev. Bernie de Jonge	5.1 5.2
11:40	Art. 6 Classis Huron Vision/mission/values Motion to receive the ministry plan as a working document.	Joan Brady	6
	Pre-Lunch Prayer		
12:00	Lunch Break & Visit Wingham ministry		
	Post-Lunch prayer		

1:15	<p>Art. 7 Art. 17 request for Rev. Laura de Jong. IN EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>Motion: to approve, on her own request, the termination of Rev. Laura de Jong's services to the Community CRC in Kitchener as per Art. 17a, of the Church Order, effective immediately. (This will require concurrence of the synodical deputies)</p>	Community CRC	7
1:35	<p>Art. 8 Art 14c request for Rev. Norm Sennema IN EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>Motion: to approve the honorably release of pastor Norm Sennema for weighty reasons from Maranatha CRC in Cambridge, as per Art. 14c of the Church Order, effective immediately. (This will require concurrence of the synodical deputies)</p>	Maranatha CRC	8
2:00	<p>Art. 9 Classical Credentials Committee</p>		
2:10	<p>Art. 10 CMC Report</p> <p>Motion to grant seminarian Aaron Tollenaar a one-year license to exhort in Classis Huron.</p> <p>Motion to re-elect Michelle VanderWal (Palmerston) as treasurer alternate.</p> <p>Motion to elect Rev. Kasey Vander Veen as CLMT member (Classical Ministerial Leadership Team).</p> <p>Motion to reappoint Mr. Stan Puklicz (Stratford) as Church Visitor.</p> <p>Motion to approve the actions of CMC & AdCom.</p>	Sara DeMoor	10 10.1
2:40	<p>Art. 11 AGM (Separate agenda)</p>		11.1 11.2
2:50	<p>Art. 12 Church Visitors' / Oversight Committees' Reports</p>		12
3:00	<p>Coffee Break</p>		
3:10	<p>Art. 13 CHMT The Classis Huron Mission Team Creative Outreach Venture 2.0 Youth Catalyst proposal Pastors' Retreat</p>	Joan Brady Jane Vander Velden Sid Couperus	13.1 13.2 13.3

3:25	Art. 14 Other Classical Ministries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Church (15 min) • Classical Counsellors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Blyth ▪ Maranatha, Cambridge ▪ Guelph, Water Street, ▪ Lucknow Community ▪ Orangeville ▪ Stratford ▪ Vanastra ▪ Waterloo Campus Minister 	Rev. Carel Geleynse Rev. Bart Eisen Rev. Darrell Bierman Rev. John Vanderstoep Rev. Tim Keep Rev. Victor Laarman Rev. Tim Keep Rev. Jay Crossen Rev. Jeff Vandermeer	14.1 14.2
3:50	Art. 15 Denominational Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of Delegates (15 min) • Canadian National Gathering Steering Comm. • Agenda for Synod 2025 report • Calvin Seminary (15 min) 	Peter Meerveld Rev. Al Postma Rev. Ray & Jay Rev. Shawn Brix	15.1 15.2 15.3
4:10	Art. 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February classis appointed Larry Lutgendorff to attend a steering committee meeting, in response to the request from Classis Quinte for participation in potentially organize an ecclesiastical meeting of the Canadian churches. • Community CRC, Kitchener requests classis to have a discussion about <i>“Declaration of Readiness for a Distinct Christian Reformed Church of Canada”</i> 	Larry Lutgendorff Community CRC	 16.1
4:40	Art. 17 Exhorters Renewal of the license to exhort for five years: Tom Mostert (Stratford) Sermon reviewers Steve Vogel (Bethel, Listowel) Sermon reviewers John Zwart (Drayton) Sermon reviewers	 Rev. Cam Oegema Rev. John Heidinga Rev. Tom Bomhof Rev. Bernie De Jonge Rev. Cam Oegema Rev. John Heidinga	 17.1 17.2 17.3 17.4 17.5 17.6
5:00	Art. 18 Other printed reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advancement Report ▪ Diaconal Ministries Canada ▪ Thrive Playlist ▪ Redeemer University 		18.1 18.2 18.3

	<u>Art. 15 Evaluation Sheets</u>	by Menti	
	Art. 16 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.**
