



March 31, 2024

Fred Vander Sterre, Stated Clerk, Classis Huron

Dear Fred,

I'm sending this second letter as a follow-up to the August 8, 2023 letter in support of Exeter CRC's initiative to have Kevin teBrake ordained for the position of Director of Planned Gifts & Investment at the Christian School Foundation.

With the first letter, we provided the general job description for the initial posting of the position prior to Kevin's hiring. Subsequent to hiring Kevin, the description of the role and activities has been updated to better reflect how the role has evolved. Included with this letter is an updated document which indicates more specifically the expected tasks and roles related to this position as it now exists at the Christian School Foundation.

The Foundation's mission is "to draw Christian schools and donors together to expand the influence of Christ in our culture." This mission statement is borne out of the same Christian worldview and Kingdom vision that energizes and motivates Reformed Christians in many different areas of ministry, in particular the Christian Reformed Church itself. Our mission is most effectively filled when we articulate clearly how a Biblical perspective can have significant impact in every square inch of God's world, through Christian schools.

Because Kevin's position has a significant teaching component – as he unpacks what it means to live a life of Christian stewardship in both his public presentations, his writings and in his regular appearances in the pulpits of Christian Reformed Churches – there is a significant benefit and preference to having it filled by an ordained pastor. (CRCNA document "Does This Position Qualify to Be Consistent with the Calling of a Minister of the Word?" reference point #1). This is one of the attributes that drew us to Kevin, and we are seeing the great benefit of his ordination. Being an ordained pastor of the Word allows Kevin to lead congregations as he preaches the gospel and encourages a response of stewardship with respect to our time, spiritual gifts, financial resources as well as in our care for creation. This ordained role has been an asset in supporting Christian communities across Canada, and particularly Christian Reformed Communities who have a passion for Christian education. Kevin has had the opportunity to lead congregations in B.C. as well as Ontario and his status and experience as a Minister of the Word has lent him credibility and trustworthiness among those in different ethnic groups and theological traditions.

In this position, particularly noted in the job description under "Relationships with donors and potential donors" and "Relationships with Member schools," Kevin is giving guidance to Christian Schools and their communities of donors (which include churches and Christian senior homes) to support the mission of expansion of Christ's influence in our society. All of our work that has lasting value is accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit, as we grow and equip schools and their supporting Christian communities, to witness to Jesus Christ and advance God's reign in Canada. We see this position and the work in which Kevin participates as "spiritual in character and directly related to the ministerial calling" (Church Order Art 12-c Supplement #1-d).



In addition, this position strongly supports Church Order article 71 in how the role draws councils and members of CRC congregations to their covenantal responsibility to encourage Christian education in all areas of a child's life.

The Christian School Foundation (Canada) Inc. is strengthened through Kevin's ordination as he fills this position. We recognize that this role involves administrative and financial components, but the mix of skills and experiences drawn on are not much different from those of an executive pastor or other ordained leaders of parachurch ministries. We are happy to cooperate in whatever way you suggest as you lead through this process. We assure you that we will continue to actively supervise the work of Kevin and will cooperate with Exeter CRC in their responsibility to oversee Kevin's doctrine and life.

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TK", with a flourish at the end.

Tony Kamphuis,
CEO & President
Christian School Foundation (Canada) Inc.