

# Press Release of Regional Synod East

## Nov 13, 2019

Rev. Peter Feenstra, minister of the convening church (Emmanuel Canadian Reformed Church of Guelph), opened the meeting of the delegates by requesting the singing of Ps 87:1+5, reading Acts 11:19-30, speaking some words on this passage, and offering a prayer.

After the delegates chose Rev. Peter Holtvlüwer to function as chairman, Rev. John VanWoudenberg as vice-chairman, and Rev. Marc Jagt as clerk, Regional Synod East was declared constituted.

Rehoboth Canadian Reformed Church of Burlington/Waterdown appealed Art 11 of the Acts of Classis Central Ontario June 14, 2019. This article dealt with the practice of Redemption Canadian Reformed Church regarding the Good Friday service as it relates to articles 53 and 55 of the Church Order. Regional Synod judged that Classis Central Ontario June 14, 2019 erred when it judged that Redemption church, by “inviting” members and visitors to a “commemorative service” (and not calling them to an official worship service) on Good Friday, fulfilled the obligations of Articles 52, 53 and 55 of the Church Order and the judgment of Classis on September 6-7, 2018, concerning this matter.

Rehoboth Canadian Reformed Church of Burlington/Waterdown also appealed Art 17 of Classis Central Ontario, September 13/October 10, 2019. This classis did not accept Burlington-Rehoboth’s proposal to make a judgment against the developing practice in Hamilton-Blessings and Ottawa-Jubilee to allow ministers from non-sister churches to preach on their pulpit. Regional Synod sustained this appeal.

The Canadian Reformed Church of Orangeville presented to Regional Synod a submission regarding a letter it wrote to Classis Central Ontario. In this letter Orangeville expressed some concerns it had regarding various practices in that classis that it considered as contrary to the adopted Church Order. Regional Synod judged the matter as not completed in the minor assemblies (Art. 30 CO).

The reports from the various deputies regarding the work done in the past year, particularly in connection with classical examinations, were read and received with thankfulness.

The treasurer of Regional Synod, Br. Dave VanAmerongen, as well as the church appointed to review the books of the treasurer (Covenant Canadian Reformed Church of

Grassie) submitted reports. These were received with thankfulness. The proposal to assess the Churches \$2.00 per communicant member was adopted.

The following appointments were made:

- Treasurer: Br. Dave VanAmerongen.
- Church to Review the books of the treasurer: Covenant Canadian Reformed Church of Grassie.
- Church to care for the archives: Bethel Canadian Reformed Church of Toronto.
- Church to inspect the archives: The Canadian Reformed Church of Brampton.

Regarding deputies for Regional Synod, the following appointments were made:

<b>Originating classis</b>	<b>Deputy</b>	<b>alternates</b>	<b>Classes in which to function as deputy</b>
Central Ontario	Rev. Clarence Vandervelde	1. Rev. Bill DeJong 2. Rev. Anthony Roukema	Northern Ontario Niagara
Northern Ontario	Rev. Eric Kampen	1. Rev. Marc Jagt 2. Rev. Douwe Agema	Central Ontario Ontario West
Niagara	Rev. Dick Wynia	1. Rev. Rolf DenHollander 2. Rev. Peter Holtvliüwer	Central Ontario Ontario West
Ontario West	Rev. John Louwerse	1. Rev. Ken Kok 2. Rev. Arend Witten	Northern Ontario Niagara

Cornerstone Canadian Reformed Church of Hamilton was appointed as thconvening church for the next regional synod, to be held Nov 11, 2020, beginning at 9:00 AM.

Due to the lateness of the hour, the adoption of the Acts and the approval of the Press Release was delegated to the moderamen.

The chairman requested the singing of Psalm 147:1 and closed synod with prayer.

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John VanWoudenberg, vice-chairman e.t.