

Press Release of Regional Synod East 2020, 11th November.

Rev. John Louwse, minister of the convening church, Cornerstone Canadian Reformed Church, opened the meeting by requesting the brothers to sing Psalm 122:3. He read Colossians 1:1-14 and briefly reflected on it. He then led in opening prayer.

After the delegates chose Rev. Dick Wynia as chairman, Rev. Rodney Vermeulen as vice-chairman and Rev. Peter Holtvlüwer as clerk, Regional Synod East was declared constituted. At 11:00 AM Synod observed a minute of silence in honour of Remembrance Day.

In response to an overture from Classis Central Ontario, Regional Synod East (RSE) adopted the following as part of its overture to the next General Synod: “that General Synod 2022 (Guelph) remove the limit of 100 hymns for inclusion in the Book of Praise as set in place by General Synod 2004 (Chatham).”

An overture from Classis Central Ontario “to overture the 2022 General Synod to amend the questions in the liturgical Forms for the Baptism of Infants and Adults as well as the Form for the Public Profession of Faith by replacing the term “confessions” with “Apostles’ Creed”” was not taken over by RSE.

An overture from Classis Central Ontario “to remove the bracketed qualifier “For the Second Service” from the abbreviated Form for the Celebration of the Lord’s Supper and to allow the use of the abbreviated Form at the discretion of the local church” was adopted and will be forwarded to GS2022(Guelph).

The Canadian Reformed Church of Orangeville appealed Article 9 of the Acts of Classis Central Ontario (CCO), March 13, 2020. The appeal was sustained.

A report from the deputies of RSE on attendance at Classis Ontario West was received. The report of the inspection of the archives for the meetings of RSE for November 8, 2017, May 16, 2018 and November 14, 2018 was received. A report from the deputies of RSE on attendance at Classis Northern Ontario April 2, 2020 was received. An expense report was received from the brother who maintains contact with the Ontario provincial government regarding the registration of marriage officiants for our churches. This was passed on to the treasurer of RSE. Regional Synod East’s treasurer’s report as well as an examination of the financial statements done by the Canadian Reformed Church at Grassie were received. All was found to be in good order.

The following appointments were made:

- RSE treasurer: Br. Dave VanAmerongen with the Canadian Reformed Church of Grassie as alternate.
- Church to review the books of the treasurer: Lincoln Canadian Reformed Church.
- Church to care for the archives of RSE: Bethel Canadian Reformed Church of Toronto.
- Church to inspect the archives of RSE: The Canadian Reformed Church of Brampton.

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

Originating Classis	Deputy	Alternates	Classes in which to function as deputy
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. Clarence Bouwman 2. Rev. Rodney Vermeulen	Central Ontario Ontario West
Ontario West	Rev. John Louwerse	1. Rev. Ken Kok 2. Rev. Arend Witten	Northern Ontario Niagara

Spring Creek Canadian Reformed Church was appointed as the convening church for the next Regional Synod to be held, Lord willing, on November 10th, 2021, beginning at 9AM.

Due to the late hour it was agreed that the Acts would be adopted and the Press Release approved by the moderamen.

The chairman invited the meeting to sing Psalm 87:1,2,5 and closed synod with prayer.

Rodney Vermeulen, vice-chairman at the time.