

***Press Release of Classis Northern Ontario (CNO) March 24, 2022
Convened at Guelph (Emmanuel)***

On behalf of the convening church of Guelph Emmanuel, br. Tony Lodder welcomed the delegates and opened the meeting in a Christian fashion. It was noted that the delegates of the Arthur Canadian Reformed Church were present at Classis for the first time, and that the church of Fergus Maranatha has extended a call to Rev. Dr. Dean Anderson of the Free Reformed Church of Rockingham, Australia. The deputies of Regional Synod East attended the meeting via video link.

The delegates from Grand Valley reported that the credentials were found to be in good order and Classis was declared constituted. Rev. Eric Kampen was seated as chairman, Rev. Theo. Wierenga as vice-chairman, and Rev. Douwe Agema as clerk. The agenda was adopted.

No special reports or church visitation reports were presented. The chairman posed the questions of Article 44 of the Church Order to the delegates of each church. No church requested advice concerning a matter of supervision. Several churches nominated brothers for the Committee of Appeals. The clerk was instructed to inform those brothers appointed by Classis, of their appointment.

The consistory with the deacons of Guelph Living Word requested Classis, pursuant to article 13 of the Church Order, to give concurring advice pertaining to the retirement of Rev. D. Agema. After the required documents were reviewed Classis, along with the deputies of Regional Synod East, gave concurring advice. Rev. Agema was thanked by the deputies of Regional Synod for his contributions for and in the federation of churches. The chair also expressed thankfulness for the work of Rev. Agema in CNO. He wished Rev. Agema and his wife the Lord's blessing in this new stage of their life. A certificate releasing Rev. Agema from his duties in CNO will be prepared by the vice chairman.

The Church of Guelph Living Word asked Classis to appoint Rev. Agema as counsellor, and the Church of Guelph Emmanuel asked Classis to appoint Rev. Onderwater as counsellor. Both requests were granted.

Classis appointed Guelph Living Word church as the convening church for the next Classis to be convened on June 24, 2022 at 9:00 am (or the previous evening if there are few items on the agenda). The suggested officers for that classis are: chairman - Rev. Jagt; vice-chairman - Rev. Van Luik; clerk - Rev. Kampen.

No observers from sister churches were present at this assembly. The convening church will invite observers to the next classis and send representatives to other church assemblies if invited.

Question period was held and chairman thanked the brothers for their brotherly cooperation. The acts of this classis were adopted and this press release was approved. The delegates sang a hymn and the chairman led in prayer of thanksgiving. He declared this assembly closed.

Rev. Theo Wierenga,
Vice-chair at that time