



THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA
CLASSIS BRITISH COLUMBIA NORTH - WEST

AGENDA FOR SESSION 65

Meeting D.V on Tuesday & Wednesday October 8th & 9th, 2013
STARTING AT 1:00 PM on the TUESDAY & 8:30 AM on the WEDNESDAY

Hosted by and meeting at the Nelson Ave Community Church
5825 Nelson Ave, Burnaby, B.C.

Classis Officers;

President: Rev. Albert Chu Vice-President : Rev. David Cheung
Recording secretary: Rev. Chelsey Harmon Stated Clerk: Andy de Ruyter

Art 1. Opening and Organization

- 1.1 The president calls the meeting to order, welcomes delegates and guests.
- 1.2 Praise and Worship.
- 1.3 Roll call as per credentials by Stated Clerk.
- 1.4 Deacon delegates to be seated by motion.
- 1.5 Affirmation of Reformed Doctrine and Life
- 1.6 First time delegates to classis, including deacon delegates, to sign Covenant of Office Bearers.
- 1.7 President declares this meeting of classis to be officially constituted.
- 1.8 Time schedule presented for approval;

<p>Tuesday</p> <p>1:00 pm - Opening session</p> <p>3:15 pm - Refreshments</p> <p>3:30 pm - Afternoon session</p> <p>5:30 pm - Dinner Break</p> <p>7:00 pm - Evening session</p> <p>9:00 pm – Adjournment</p>	<p>Wednesday</p> <p>8:30 am - Morning session</p> <p>10:00 am - Refreshments</p> <p>10:15 am - Morning session continued</p> <p>12:00 pm - Lunch Break</p> <p>1:00 pm – Afternoon session</p> <p>(same as Tuesday until business completed)</p>
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Art 2. Committees for pre-advice to Classis

- 2.1 Overtures / Communications Victoria CRC & Victoria CCC
- 2.2 Expense Vouchers Telkwa CRC & Smithers CRC
- 2.3 Credentials Nelson Ave CC & Mundy Park CF
- 2.4 Transcribed Minutes Maple Ridge CRC & Prince George CRC

Art. 3. Classical Ministries Committee

- 3.1 Stated Clerk..... pg. 3-5
- 3.2 Classical Ministries Committee.....pg. 6-11
- 3.3 Treasurer Report
- 3.4 Church Counsellors

<p>Telkwa CRC – Rev. Joel Ringma</p> <p>Smithers CRC – Rev. Martin Vellekoop</p> <p>Alberni Valley CRC – Rev. Darren Colyn</p>	<p>3.5 Classis Ministry Leadership Team & Student Fund Committee.....pg. 22-23</p> <p>3.6 Safe Church Team.....pg. 18-20</p> <p>3.7 Nominations Committee.....pg. 10</p> <p>3.8 Church Visitors -</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Vancouver – Rev. A. Chu</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Nanaimo CCC – Rev. Harvey Roosma</p> <p>3.9 Ministry to Seafarers.....pg. 16-18</p>
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Art 4. Church Development Team's

- 4.1 Church Development Team
- 4.2 Leadership Development Net.....pg. 14-16
- 4.3 Sierra Leone Ad Hoc Comm.
- 4.4 "downtown friends"pg 23-24
- 4.5 Chr. Ref. Campus Ministry in B.C...pg. 21-23
- 4.6 Kwantlen Multi-Faith Center.....pg. 25

Art 5. Advisory Committees

- 5.1 Overtures Committee.....pg. 12
- 5.2 Expense Vouchers Committee
- 5.3 Credentials Committee
- 5.4 Transcribed Minutes Comm.

Art 6. Denominational Ministries

- 6.1 CRC Ministries – 1/4ly reports sent to churches
- 6.2 World Renew Report – Mr. George Horlings
- 6.3 BOT-CRCNA – Rev. T. VanderVeen
- 6.4 Home Missions – Rev. Harvey Roosma
- 6.5 Home Missions – Regional Team
- 6.6 World Missions – Jenny de Groot.....pg. 26
- 6.7 Faith Formation – Rev. Joel Ringma
- 6.8 Back to God Hour International – John Vegt
- 6.9 Calvin College.....pg. 28-29
- 6.10 Calvin Seminary
- 6.11 Diaconal Ministries, Canada.....pg. 12-14
- 6.12 CRCNA Historical Comm.

Art 7. Non – Denominational Ministries

- 7.1 Bethesda Christian Association.....pg. 27
- 7.2 Cascade Christian Counseling.....pg. 30
- 7.5 Canadian Aboriginal Min. Com.....pg. 31-32
- 7.3 The Kings University College.....pg. 32-34
- 7.4 M2 / W2.....pg. 34-37

Art 8. Other Reports / Correspondence

- 8.1 List of Classical Functionaries and Denominational Representatives / Acronym List.....pg. 39-42

Art 9. Closing Exercises

- 8.1 President to inquire if all appointments have been filled
- 8.2 Recording Secretary to read concept minutes
- 8.3 Stated Clerk - next meeting of classis – March 4 & 5, 2014 – Immanuel CRC - Richmond.
 - next officers of classis - President: Rev. David Cheung
 - Vice Pres: Rev. Joel Ringma
 - announcements and reminders
- 8.4 Presidents closing remarks and any last minute announcements
- 8.5 Vice-President to thank President for conducting this session of classis and lead in closing devotions
- 8.6 President to declare Classis adjourned.

**For Lodging and Travel, please provide the following information to the
 Nelson Ave Community Church /NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2013
 c/o Judy Chi: email; nacc@shaw.ca (email preferred) 604-435-4123**

1. Name and city of home church _____
2. Name of Delegate _____
3. Billet / Lodging Yes No
4. Transportation _____ from airport _____ to the airport
5. Airline & Flight # _____ Scheduled arrival time on March 5th _____
 Airline & Flight # _____ Scheduled departure time on March 6th _____

All expense claims need to be accompanied with receipts for travel, meals, mileage etc.

Stated Clerk Report

March 5th & 6th, 2013

1] Welcome to Session 65 of Classis British Columbia North - West.

We are happy to be able to meet in the facilities of the Nelson Ave Community Church. It has been many years since this congregation has been able to host a meeting of classis and we thank the members of Nelson Ave for their kind invitation and hospitality.

2] The agenda for this meeting will keep us busy with two examinations for ordination for candidates Joe and Michelle Ellis, pastor elects for Telkwa CRC, reports & speakers from various classical and denominational ministries and committees, ministry share budgets for 2014, nominations and elections, administrative matters to hear and deal with and the all usual business of classis to take care of. Because of the need to hold two separate candidate examinations, the usual Tuesday evening workshop / seminar has been cancelled for this session only. In the CMC report are plans for future workshops, seminars and speakers.

3] As stated clerk I have engaged in numerous emails, telephone calls, conference calls, correspondence, reports, meetings, dealing with requests and information from pastors and councils, continual updating functionaries lists, web site updates and organization, arranging marriage registrations for new pastors in our classis and cancelling for those who have left as well as some temporary registration numbers for visiting pastors, organized the evaluation teams and examiners for the candidate examinations, set agendas, recorded classis minutes and regular administrative duties on behalf of classis.

4] Sent as separate attachments along with the agenda.

Classis Credential Form.

Please complete and return before the meeting of classis, either scanning and sending by email or using post-mail. If you send back the credentials by email, electronic signatures are fine. You do not have to send a second copy with signatures. Please note to include delegates email addresses.

It would be helpful if delegates could be elected/appointed at least 1 month before the meeting of classis so I can better prepare them for the large amount of material that is needed to be studied and read before classis meets. In this way we make good use of our limited time together and all delegates can come properly prepared. Please send the names of delegates with email address as soon as possible.

5] Please do what you can to **keep travel costs down**, booking flights early using possible seat sales when coming from the north and ride / ferry sharing when coming from the Island. Also please inform the office of Nelson Ave Community Church **by October 1st, 2013** on transportation and lodging requirements. (please see form at the bottom of pg. 2)

6] Delegates are reminded to review the "*classical rules of procedures*" before attending classis, (*available on our website, www.classisbcnw.ca under documents*) and are reminded that you are expected to attend all sessions of classis and if you need to leave the meeting for any length of time, it is incumbent on you to request permission from the chair of the meeting.

7] The Spring 2014 meeting of classis will be held on March 4th & 5th, 2014 at the Immanuel CRC in Richmond, B.C.

8] The approved classical and denominational ministry shares for 2013, the proposed ministry shares for 2014 and the church visitor's Teams follows;

Approved Classical and Denominational Ministry Shares for 2013

Classis BCNW Ministry Share per member \$ 71.95		Denominational Ministry Share per member \$ 360.97	
Ministry to Seafarers	\$ 9.60	BTGMI	\$ 43.97
Faith in Action – church plant	\$ 8.00	Calvin College	\$ 3.00
Student Fund	\$ 3.00	Area colleges (Kings)	\$ 63.31
Chr. Ref. Campus Ministry in B.C.	\$ 15.00	Calvin Seminary	\$ 35.91
Classis Expense Fund	\$ 13.85	Faith Alive	\$ 21.99
Richmond Tapestry-Kwantlen Chaplain	\$ 5.00	Home Missions	\$ 46.88
Safe Church Team	\$ 6.00	World Missions	\$ 60.56
“downtown friends” church plant	\$ 4.00	Denominational Services	\$ 34.84
Leadership Development Network	\$ 2.50	Special Assistance Fund	\$ 0.36
Church Planting Fund	\$ 5.00	Specialized Ministries	\$ 50.15
		The Network	\$ 13.94

Please remember that 50% of your classical ministry shares were due to the classical treasurer on July 1, 2013.

Proposed Classical and approved Denominational Ministry Shares for 2014

Classis BCNW Ministry Share per member \$ 62.80 (2800 members – yearbook 2013)		Denominational Ministry Share per member \$ 367.36	
	approx. amounts requested		
Ministry to Seafarers	\$ 9.45 (\$26,960.00)	BTGMI	\$ 43.97
Faith in Action – church plant	\$ 0.00	Calvin College	\$ 3.10
Student Fund	\$ 7.00 (\$19,600.00)	Area colleges (Kings)	\$ 63.07
Chr. Ref. Campus Ministry in B.C.	\$ 15.00 (\$35,000.00)	Calvin Seminary	\$ 35.91
Classis Expense Fund	\$ 13.85 (\$32,000.00)	Faith Formation	\$ 28.52
Richmond Tapestry-Kwantlen Chaplain	\$ 5.00 (\$14,000.00)	Home Missions	\$ 46.88
Safe Church Team	\$ 6.00 (\$12,000.00)	World Missions	\$ 60.56
downtown friends church plant	\$ 4.00 (\$11,200.00)	Denominational Services	\$ 37.05
Leadership Development Network	\$ 2.50 (\$6,000.00)	Special Assistance Fund	\$ 0.36
Church Planting Fund	\$ 0.00	Specialized Ministries	\$ 47.94

Please remember that 50% of your classical ministry shares are due to the classical treasurer by July 1, 2014.

CHURCH VISITOR TEAMS

TEAM 1		TEAM 2		TEAM 3		TEAM 4	
North	<i>Last Visit</i>	Lower Mainland I	<i>Last Visit</i>	Lower Mainland II	<i>Last Visit</i>	Island	<i>Last Visit</i>
	<i>M / Y</i>		<i>M / Y</i>		<i>M / Y</i>		<i>M / Y</i>
Houston	<i>Oct-10</i>	Burnaby NACC	<i>May-11</i>	Maple Ridge	<i>May-10</i>	Duncan	<i>Sep-06</i>
Prince George	<i>Feb-12</i>	New Westminster	<i>May-08</i>	Richmond Immanuel	<i>Apr-11</i>	Nanaimo CC	<i>Nov-08</i>
Smithers	<i>Oct-11</i>	Coquitlam MPCF	<i>Nov-09</i>	1st Vancouver	<i>May-10</i>	Alberni Valley	<i>Oct-09</i>
Telkwa	<i>Jun-10</i>			The Tapestry		Victoria	<i>Jan-10</i>
Terrace	<i>Apr-10</i>					Victoria CCC	<i>Mar-03</i>
<u>Visitors</u>		<u>Visitors</u>		<u>Visitors</u>		<u>Visitors</u>	
C. Gesch	2013	A. Chu	2013	Mary-Le Bouma	2013	H. Roosma	2013
J. Buikema	2014	T. Sheridan	2014	W. Vanriet	2013	A. Turkstra	2013
N. Lettinga, alt.	2015	J. Sneep, alt	2014	J. Sneep, alt.	2015	B. Wikkerink, alt.	2013

*note: last updated following the October 2012 meeting of Classis BCNW
visits made since that time will be recorded following the reports being made to classis*

note: Please find a new proposed way for assigning classical church visits in the CMC report, following this report.

9] Correspondence received and sent.

note; if any delegate would like to see the correspondence (mostly emails) that was received or sent, please let me know and I can provide an electronic copy of the correspondence requested.

10] *Motion to approve the work of the stated clerk.* ☺

Humbly submitted

Andy de Ruyter

Stated Clerk, Classis BCNW



CLASSICAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE
REPORT TO CLASSIS BCNW
October 8th & 9th, 2013

The classical Ministries committee does most of its work by email conversations, phone calls and conference call meetings. We had a lengthy sit-down meeting on July 16th, where several key issues were discussed and items planned for the agenda of this classis meeting.

1] Candidate Examination

Candidates Joe and Michelle Ellis, who accepted the call of the Telkwa CRC, will be examined for ordination as ministers of the word in the CRCNA. The CMC has made the following appointments for the examination:

For Candidate Michelle Ellis:

Practica – Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma / Biblical and Theological Position – Rev. Andrew Beunk

Sermon and service evaluation – Mr. Curt Gesch and Mr. John Buikema

For Candidate Joe Ellis:

Practica – Rev. Jo Schouten / Biblical and Theological Position – Rev. Walt Vanderwerf

Sermon and service evaluation – Mr. Curt Gesch and Mr. John Buikema

Synodical Deputies: Rev's. Gordon Pols, Ken Koeman and Bert Slofstra

The examination are scheduled for Candidate Michelle Ellis @ 3 pm on October 8th, 2013 and

for Candidate Joe Ellis @ 6:30 pm on October 8th, 2013

2] Workshops / Speakers

Due to the need for two candidate examinations, there will be no workshop or speaker scheduled for this meeting of classis. The CMC has appointed Rev's. Jo Schouten and David Salverda to look at possible themes and speakers for future meetings of classis.

3] Minister Changes

Candidates Joe and Michelle Ellis accepted the call of the Telkwa CRC.

Rev. Curtis Korver accepted the call of the Alberni CRC and began work in August.

Rev. Ken Vander Horst accepted the call of the Smithers CRC and also began work in August.

Motion: to approve the CMC's action of accepting the ministerial credentials for Rev. Curtis Korver from Classis Alberta/Saskatchewan and Rev. Ken Vander Horst from Classis Rocky Mountain.

As a result of these pastors accepting the calls of these vacant churches, for the first time in several years we have no need for classical pulpit supply.

4] Minister Retirements

Nelson Ave CCC requests that retirement status be given to Rev. Philip Weaver due to age.

Rev. Weaver has been serving as a chaplain at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver for many years.

Motion to approve.

Maple Ridge CRC requests that retirement status be given to Rev. Frank Sawyer due to age.

Rev. Sawyer served as a missionary in Hungary for many years and has settled in the Smithers area.

Motion to approve.

5] CMC Actions

- CMC has asked Rev. Albert Chu to serve as chair of the October meeting so that the rotation of ministers who serve on the executive can serve as vice-chair first and then as chair at the second meeting.
- Reviewed expenses of last classis meeting. Noted that overall sum was lower than usual due to three missing delegates from northern churches.
- Letter from Ben Vandezande on the youth workers conference in Vancouver in Fall of 2013, to be sent to the churches for information.
- Request from Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma on interviewing Janina Mobach, who is doing the non-resident EPMC program, in front of classis is approved for a 15 minute spot. This is a requirement from the Candidacy Committee for this type of program.
- Discussed Synod's 2013 decision of the Diakonia Remixed Report and what it would mean for our classis if implemented after synod 2015. Due to the cost of travel, accommodation and expanding the size of classis meetings, it could mean up to a \$5.00 increase in Ministry Shares. Committee agreed to leave discussion for now and see what Synod 2015 decides.
- Noted Synod 2013 approved Specialized Transitional Minister to be added to C.O. 12 b. CMC in discussions with Rev. Pete VanderBeek and the Nanaimo CCC to see if a call can be issued to Rev. Vander Beek to satisfy the requirements of C.O. art 17 c.
- Reviewed the classical rate paid for mileage of \$ 0.47 and noted the denominational rate of \$0.52. Agreed to propose raising the classical rate to match the denominational rate.

Motion to approve.

- CMC members, acting as the Board of the Richmond CRC, attended the morning service of The Tapestry on April 21st to sign the official agreement for sale in front of the congregation. By entering into this agreement, The Tapestry has completed the requirements as laid out by the former Richmond CRC and has entered into a 15 year purchase agreement of the building and property.
- Church Development Team. CMC has learned that this classical committee is no longer functioning, mostly due to the fact it has no current members. S/C contacted former members for their input on the future of this committee and possibly mandate updates.

Proposal will come by way of CMC addendum report to classis.

Rev. David Salverda reports on the proposed new church plant in Langford, near Victoria B.C., and updates committee on meetings and discussions held between the two Victoria churches. He advises committee that much more discussion and evaluation will be needed before the two existing churches can move forward on this.

CMC proposes to classis to suspend ministry shares for new church plants for 2014 till such time as it will be needed.

- Provincial Marriage Registration Numbers. It is proposed that from now on the stated clerk will only issue registrations numbers for ordained and commissioned pastors. All other un-ordained ministry staff will need to apply to the CMC for approval and require endorsement from their councils. ***Motion to approve.***
- A review of the stated clerk and CMC roles is not needed at this time as it is felt the current system of doing classis work is working well. However a review of the stipends given to the stated clerk and classical treasurer does need to be reviewed. CMC Secretary, Rev. Jo Schouten, to do review and make proposal to the floor of classis.

Requests for reporting at this meeting of classis

Ms. Melissa Van Dyk / Ms. Rachel Vroege - Diaconal Ministries Canada

Mr. Ernst DeVries - Seafarers Chaplain

Rev. Trevor Vanderveen - BOT CRCNA

Rev. Alan VanderWoerd – UNBC CRC Campus Ministry

Ms. Jenny DeGroot – CR World Missions (Tuesday right after the dinner break – 5 minutes)
Bill & Ko Spyksma - Missions Mobilizers for BC on behalf of CRWM.
Ms. Caroline Short – B.C. rep for Disability Concerns 10:00 am Wed. (as close as possible)
Mr. John Stellingwerff - SCT

6] Classis Budgets and Ministry Shares.

After some discussion on how ministry shares are distributed and which ministries classis supports, as well as doing an evaluation on the ministries classis supports, it was decided to work out a proposal for classis to appoint a task force to look at this issue in depth and make recommendations to classis on possible changes in the future on the way and amount of financial support we can offer new ministries and how we currently fund existing ministries. In short, the Task Force would be asked to come up with a policy for new ministries and then we would try and apply those guidelines to existing ministries as well.

The reason for ministry shares as we currently have is:

The ministry shares system represents the mutual covenanting of our congregations to share financial resources and responsibilities for our unified ministry endeavours.

One of the strengths of the ministry shares system is the simplicity of the allocation formula which spreads the opportunity to participate in giving across all members of the CRC. Further, our agencies expend a minimum amount of time, personnel, and money for fund-raising, thus reducing the overhead cost of our ministry.

CLASSICAL MINISTRY SHARES – CLASSICAL MINISTRY SUPPORT

The Classical Ministries Committee reviews the requests for financial support from various ministries and prepares a summary for Classis to review, discuss and vote on. There are procedures in place to add financial support for new ministries but we do not have procedures in place to evaluate existing ministries. Classis, at its meeting in March 2013 instructed the CMC that this issue should be addressed. The CMC has come to the conclusion that a committee (Task Force) be struck by Classis to review this issue and make recommendations to a future Classis meeting. (March 2014 or at the latest October 2014)

This has come up for discussion numerous times over the past 15 years without there being a resolution. The lack of commitment to a solution is in part, a result of Classis being able to fund the combined ministry share requests being made by the various ministries. It would appear that with the ever increasing demand for funding through Classical Ministry Shares and a stagnant declining membership in our churches, this issue needs study and procedures put into place as the ability to fund the ministry share requests at the current levels, is in doubt.

It is uncommon for Classis to discontinue funding for a specific ministry. The agreement to fund a ministry rarely contains a formula for phasing out funding for a Ministry started by Classis. There is no formal mechanism for Classis to evaluate the efficacy of Ministries currently being funded through Classis. In general a performance review of ministries has been left to Home Missions.

Another issue that stands in the way of discontinuing or reducing funding to an existing ministry is that it is uncommon for a ministry to perform so poorly financially or so far outside its original mandate that it would attract the attention of the churches / delegates of Classis. In general the ministries that are supported by Classis are all worthwhile and viable ministries. However, it still would be appropriate for Classis to have some formula or protocols in place to evaluate the various ministries and have measures by which Classis can

determine if ministries fulfill its mandate and financial responsibilities. In order for this to take place Classis must first establish a clear mandate as to what its priorities are. This would be one of the bases by which Classis could evaluate its support of a ministry.

With the increasing demands upon Classis for funding of ministries and a stagnant or diminishing membership, Classis will reach the point at which 100% funding for most ministries will no longer be possible. Rather than allowing for the survival of the fittest scenario, it would be appropriate for Classis to have a mechanism by which it could evaluate ministries that it supports, based on an evaluation of the mandate that Classis has previously determined.

There are various models that Classis can follow. As an example, it may have fixed term funding that diminishes over a period a number of years with the expectation that the ministry and its board will pursue funding through direct appeal to supporters of that ministry. But if Classis were to decide to have ministries raise their own support a competition could be created as the donor base is the same. The time spent fund raising by each ministry is time not being spent on the purpose for the ministry to exist.

Recommendation:

That Classis establish a committee (Task Force) to review the process by which ministries supported by Classis are evaluated and if the ministries are meeting the goals for which they were established and to make recommendations for future ministry share requests. Included would be a recommendation as to continued support for current ministries and how the new “rules” could be applied to them.

David Pel: Classis BCNW Treasurer & the Classical Ministry/Interim Committee

7] Classical Church Visitor Assignments

After consulting and reviewing how other classes do their classical church visits and also reviewing the way our classis has done it over the years, the CMC recommends following:

- *Church visitors be appointed at the Fall meeting of classis to carry out the requirements of Church Order Art. 42. in teams of two office bearers, one being a minister, the other being an elder or other ordained person, to visit each church and emergent church of Classis.*
- *Each senior pastor of classis would be assigned one classical church visit per year.*
- *Church visitors, as much as possible, would be appointed from the area they will serve.*
- *Generally use the procedure prescribed by Synod 2000 as an outline for this annual visit.*
- *To present a report of their visit to the church visited before a report is made to Classis.*
- *To file a copy of the report with the Stated Clerk.*
- *To summarize rather than read the report to the delegates unless absolutely necessary.*
- *Churches may also call on church visitors for advice on any serious problem or concern.*

Note:

CMC openly wondered whether there was a better way to do church visits, were there alternate options. Church visiting is similar to elder family visits, everyone thinks there's a better way or alternately it's time has come and gone, yet underlying the discussion is an avoidance of accountability. Without communally networking, how do we assess our spiritual and physical health to address real needs if we do not openly dialogue with each other.

Motion to approve.

If approved the following church visits would be assigned for 2013 / 2014.

Northern Churches:

Terrace CRC	- Rev. Ken Vander Horst
Smithers CRC	- Rev. Martin Vellekoop
Telkwa CRC	- Rev. Joel Ringma
Houston CRC	- Rev. Andrew Aukema
Prince George CRC	- Candidate Joe Ellis

Island Churches:

Victoria CRC	- Rev. Walt Vanderwerf
Victoria CCC	- Rev. David Salverda
Duncan CRC	- Rev. Curtis Korver
Nanaimo CCC	- Rev. Harvey Roosma
Alberni Valley CR	- Rev. Andrew Turkstra

Lower Mainland Churches

Maple Ridge CRC	- Rev. Albert Chu
Mundy Park CF	- Rev. David Cheung
New Westminster CRC	- Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma
Nelson Ave CC	- Rev. Trevor Vanderveen
Vancouver CRC	- Rev. Jo Schouten
Vancouver downtown friends	- Rev. Andrew Beunk
Richmond Emmanuel CRC	- Rev. Albert Westerhuis
Richmond The Tapestry	- Rev. Tim Sheridan

8] Classical Prayer Coordinator

Rev. Walt Vanderwerf has agreed to serve classis as the next prayer coordinator. It is agreed to present to classis for approval, his appointment and the following mandate:

- to organize Tuesday opening and Wednesday morning worship, themes, devotions, prayers, singing (worship team musicians) etc. (Vice Chair to still due short meditations)
- to organize volunteer prayer participants – especially elders
- to organize and set up prayer room for early morning Wednesday before classis session begins
- to explore ways our churches can connect better for prayer support between classis meetings.

Motion to approve.

9] Nomination Committee Report

Synodical Delegates for June 2014

1st Ministerial Delegate as per rotation: Rev. Walt Vanderwerf

2nd Ministerial Delegate: open vote

Two alternate Ministerial Delegates also needed

1st Elder Delegate

2nd Elder Delegate

Two alternate Elder Delegates also needed

CRCPD (Christian Reformed Centre for Public Dialogue)

Bi-Classis Rep with Classis BCSE

note: Mr. Michael Dieleman has resigned from committee

Rev. Curtis Korver to serve remaining 1 year of Mr. Dieleman's 2nd term.

(Rev. Korver has served on this committee from Classis Alberta South for the last few years and has agreed to complete Mr. Dielemans term if classis so approves.)

10] Submitted Written Reports

The following is a list of written reports submitted that are included in the agenda packet. These reports will not be accompanied by a verbal report, but still should be read and dealt with by each church council.

- Bethesda
- Calvin College BOT
- Cascade Christian Counselling
- Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee
- Update from Ben Vandezande on conversations with Canadian Classes (Sept. 2103)
- Kings College
- M2W2 Association

11] Motion to approve the work of the CMC

- Mr. Andy de Ruyter - Lead / Stated Clerk
- Rev. Jo Schouten - Secretary / alt. Stated Clerk
- Mr. David Pel - Classis Treasurer
- Mr. Victor Chen - CMLT/SFC rep
- Rev. Henry Numan
- Rev. David Salverda

Recommendation: To Raise the Honorariums paid to the Stated Clerk and Treasurer

The CMC recommends that Classis raise the stipend for the Stated Clerk and Treasurer. Presently the stipend is \$3000 for each + \$500 for equipment use. *We recommend that the honorariums for both the Stated Clerk and the Treasurer be raised to \$4000 + \$1000 for equipment use.*

Grounds:

As far as we know, these honorariums have not been raised in the last 7 years.

This will bring us more in line with the honorariums that other Canadian Classes give (see below)

Classis Toronto	\$5,400 each
Classis Hamilton	\$2,700 each
BC South East	\$6000 for stated clerk, Treasurer - \$7900
Classis Chatham	\$4,200 for stated clerk, \$3,100 for treasurer
Classis Quinte	\$5,000 each
Classis Alb. North	\$4,500 each plus another \$5000 for the assistant stated clerk
Classis Niagara	\$6,000 each
Classis Huron	\$3,250 each

AVERAGE HONORARIUM: \$4,943.75

To: Classis BC North –West
Mr. Andy de Ruyter / Stated Clerk

OVERTURE:

Mr. Aren Bakker, member in good standing of the Smithers Christian Reformed Church, overtures Classis British Columbia North - West to hold **one classis** meeting per year in either inthe spring or fall.

Note: This overture was submitted to the council of the Smithers CRC which did not accede to Mr. Bakker’s request to overture Classis BCNW and so has decided to submit a personal overture for classis to consider.

FOUNDATIONS:

Previous years statements of "**shortage of funds**" as well as increases in classical ministry shares from year to year.

1. Transportation costs are increasing rapidly and we may see in the future another delegate added from each congregation, "see banner of March 2013" page 10, **Task Force Calls for Deacons at Classis/Synod** which will add to transportation costs.

Synod of 2013 has set up a task force to present a proposal in 2014 for deacon delegates to represent their churches at Classis and Synod as official delegates which will be approved by Synod of 2015.

In today's financial difficulties, reducing our meetings to one meeting annually is a more efficient and steward way of using our resources and time.

2. Items covered at all classis meetings are repetitive, such as various ministry reports as well as our denominational ministries carried out in the province of British Columbia.
3. New items of interest that need to be decided upon can always be handled by the interim committee.

Humbly submitted, Aren Bakker



DIACONAL MINISTRIES CANADA www.diaconalministries.com
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August 02, 2013

Dear Friends:

Transforming Communities in Christ! It is this vision that inspires Diaconal Ministries Canada (DMC). The 3 highlights below provide a glimpse of some of the things God has been doing through the DMC network. DMC’s network consists of 12 Board Directors, 7 staff, 21 Diaconal Ministry Developers, 11 Operation Manna Committee members, plus a few other committee members. We are grateful for the opportunity to motivate and mobilize deacons and churches across Canada. If you would like to read DMC’s Annual Report, click on this link - <http://www.diaconalministries.com/about/ar.html>

1. ENGAGING COMMUNITY

Is your church “connected” to the work God is doing in your neighborhoods and communities? Call staff at DMC to explore this question - www.diaconalministries.com/about/staff.html. DMC has resources to support your church.

We praise God for yearly offerings that average around \$210,000 for Operation Manna. Currently, DMC supports 14 *Operation Manna partners* across Canada with funds and consulting. Call us if you need dollars and/or knowledge for a community program that you might want to develop.

2. EQUIPPING DEACONS

Diakonia is at the heart of the church’s mission! This message is at the heart of the Diakonia Remixed report that was discussed at Synod 2013. As you may know, questions regarding the role of ‘elder’ and their relationship to deacons will be reviewed by a new group that will report to Synod 2015. In the meantime, DMC is willing to update Classis on these developments.

DMC gives thanks for the Diaconal Ministry Shares that allow DMC to provide skilled staff and Diaconal Ministry Developers (DMDs) as well as web-based resources to equip deacons.

3. DOING JUSTICE

DMC also supports deacons and churches as they walk with refugees, immigrants, aboriginals, mental illness, single parents and others in your church and your community. You can read the stories of those who are vulnerable on our website - www.diaconalministries.com/justice.

SUMMARY

All of us in DMC are very thankful for your prayers and financial support that we receive through Diaconal Ministry Shares, the Operation Manna offering and church offerings that makes our work possible. We thank you for your partnership in the gospel. We look forward to another year of partnering together for the sake of His Kingdom.

New Appointment in Western Canada

Welcome to **Rachel Vroege**, who joins the Diaconal Ministries Canada team as *Regional Diaconal Ministry Developer for Western Canada*.

Diaconal Ministries Canada warmly welcomes Rachel Vroege to her new role as *Regional Diaconal Ministry Developer for Western Canada*. Rachel, her husband Russ and their 2 children Micah and Aaliyah, reside in Chilliwack, BC, and attend the Cornerstone CRC. Rachel is replacing Henry Bosch who is retiring from DMC after 12 years of dedicated service and support to the churches in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. She has a strong passion for social justice, influenced by her education at The Kings University College in Edmonton and her father's work at the Edmonton Native Healing Centre. Currently, she is closing in on finishing her M.Div. at College and has studied previously at Taylor Seminary. Her organizing



Regent and planning

skills have been enhanced by more than 5 years as Worship Director at Cornerstone CRC, where she has collaborated with the deacons to promote ministries of justice, community engagement and stewardship.

Rachel begins her new position with DMC on May 1st, 2013. She can be reached by phone at (604) 847-0474, by email at rvroege@crcna.org or by calling the DMC office at 1-800-730-3490.



British Columbia Leadership Development Network

June 17, 2013

Re: Classis NW Budget Request for 2013-2014

Dear fellow co-workers in Christ,

BC LDN remains grateful for the partnership we have with Classis NW in this ministry to equip and help train leaders for ministry. We also deeply appreciate the increase that was approved last Fall. It all makes a difference in how we are able to accomplish our mandate and manage both changes and growth as it happens. As regards to the budget for this coming year, please accept this as our official request for a budget amount of **\$6000** (same as was approved last year).

We will look forward to giving our written and oral reports at the classis meeting in the Fall, including progress in various areas and an update on the changes being implemented for the BC Interior LDN.

As always, please contact me directly if you require any further details.

Yours in Christ,
Perry Daciuk
BC LDN Chair

Email: pdaciuk@telus.net

Phone: 604-532-0374

LDN Report to Classis, Fall 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

LDN is inspired by Paul's teaching "to equip God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up... and become mature," and by the story of Apollo's, who "was a great help to those who by grace had believed" after being mentored by Priscilla and Aquila. Eph 4:12-13 and Acts 18:27 (new website, www.bcldn.ca)

*LDN is **Reformed theological training for the whole people of God, equipping disciples of Jesus Christ conversationally around the text of Scripture and the text of their lives.** (website)*

The mission of training and equipping disciples never fails to inspire and renew the board, facilitators and mentors of the LDN program. We, the board, are grateful to Classes for their ongoing support and recognition of the value of the LDN program. We are also thankful for the dedicated work of Wilma van der Leek who regularly updates the curriculum and encourages participants and mentors, besides teaching in the Fraser Valley. Because of growth, we are seeing a challenge to fit the facilitator hours within the current role. We are being stretched by new opportunities welling up...for youth, for councils.

The board is also very thankful for Perry Daciuk's capable leadership as Chair of the board over the past three years, and seeks God's direction in light of Perry's resignation.

Lower Mainland:

Six participants who have completed three years of LDN are eager for appropriate deployment in their home churches and pursuing as well as seeking a variety of leadership opportunities and encouragement:

Joanna Devries (The Bridge CRC)
Maria Klein-Geltink (Immanuel CRC)
Nathan Klein-Geltink (Immanuel CRC)
Carolynne Tolsma (Fleetwood CRC)
Brenda Vanderschaaf (Duncan CRC)
Henry Vanderschaaf (Duncan CRC)

Interior:

One participant graduated this past spring; Sandra Ganert (Salmon Arm CRC)

The board is thankful for Pastors Ron Vanden Brink and Andrew Vanderleek from the Interior who are willing to take on the task of facilitating LDN in their areas.

Mentors & Pastors notice these kinds of things about LDN participants:

- deepening commitment and desire to reflect on and live into their own
- particular Christ-vocation, including new paths
- growing self-awareness that comes from reading scripture personally and the
- gap LDN fills for those really desiring deeper knowledge of scriptures
- deeper awareness and capacity in leadership roles already engaged in
- that resistance to new learning opens up to significant growth when new learning is assimilated
- increased appreciation for the Reformed tradition
- black and white categories being exchanged for teachability and humility
- increasing ability to be still and listen for God's still small voice
- increasing ability to be truly present to another

Give thanks and pray for participants, mentors, facilitators and the board. Specific requests include:

Joys

- continued enthusiasm for the task of developing theologically deep leaders in the CRC
- sense that more lies ahead, that we've only just begun
- committed board

- newly designed website: a significant resource to LDN participants past and present, mentors, and to the whole people of God.
- increased awareness of LDN in the churches
- beginning to pursue whether an island LDN is a possibility one year
- internship of Jacquie Zuidhof to LDN (in completion of her master's degree in spiritual formation at Carey Theological Seminary) will provide some needed assistance for lower mainland LDN
- successful **Let's Talk About... leadership** training session was held in February and will be held in Victoria on October 26
- **Let's Talk About....discernment** leadership training session to be held November 16 at Fleetwood CRC

Concerns

- balance between male and female participants
- growth and support of the vision; is God moving us towards more?
- discernment as our resources and facilitators are being stretched
- new board members

LDN Financials

We once again express our gratitude to both Classes for approving our budget increase last year. Our budget balanced this year, and we were able to re-build our website, an over-due project. Our budget request for this year remains the same at \$6000 for both Classis SE and NW. This coming year we face new challenges and opportunities, and trust that God's provision and the LDN board will continue to grow the program. See Financial Summary – 2012-2013, attached.

In His service,
Marion Van Driel
LDN Board Secretary & Classis Liaison



THE MINISTRY TO SEAFARERS (THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH)

401 East Waterfront Road, Vancouver, BC V6A 4G9
Phone: 604-253-4421 Cell: 778-549-4944 e-mail: ernstd.mission@gmail.com
www.ministrytoseafarers.com

Report to Classis BCNW - Fall 2013

We are thankful to God for ten years of ministry by our chaplain Ernst de Vries this November. We appreciate the work he does, visiting ships and meeting the spiritual and physical needs of the seafarers. He visits an average of 70 to 90 ships at Delta Port/Roberts Bank each month.

The Mission to Seafarers at Delta Port had more than 10,000 seafarer visits last year - a lot of seafarers when you realize that this is approximately the same number as visit the seafarers' center in Newcastle, Australia, the

largest coal export terminal in the world! With the possible third terminal expansion at Delta Port, these numbers will only increase!

Committee members Roelien vanGeemen, Jeremy Vaandrager, and I, Hank Hamstra, all belonging to churches in Classis BCSE, have each agreed to serve for another three-year term. However, after three terms of service, Mike Blok, committee member of Classis BCNW, has resigned due to health concerns. We thank him for his many years of faithful service and are now searching for a replacement for him from Classis BCNW.

Over the years, the number of gifts being prepared by church members for *Christmas at Sea* has been steadily declining. The committee has therefore decided that, except for a few churches in this Classis, to discontinue the request for prepared gifts. After 43 years of asking for prepared gift boxes, we believe the time has come to move on and ask only for monetary donations for this wonderful cause. (We made this switch a few years ago with the Alberta churches with very encouraging results.) During the last few years we have learned that it is much better to make up the presents with local volunteers (downtown Vancouver Mission). Using the funds received we are able to be better stewards by purchasing great deals from local stores throughout the year. Last year more than 2,000 gifts were prepared in this way, and because they're prepared locally, we were able to include a copy of the *Today for Seafarers* and/or a copy of Nicky Gumbel's *Why Christmas/Why Jesus* booklet.

In May, our chaplain visited the newly opened Mission to Seafarers in Prince Rupert, a mission supported by local area churches. As the Port of Prince Rupert grows, more ships and more seafarers arrive daily. Is there a possibility of a future 'Reformed witness' by the Northern BC Reformed churches, not only Christian Reformed, but also the United and Canadian Reformed churches, to support this existing ministry?

In June, our chaplain and his wife hosted the Umran family for five days. The Umrans are CRWM missionaries working in Egypt. Besides sharing a wonderful time of fellowship, Naji and his wife Ann shared a wealth of information about Christian/Muslim dialogue. This was most valuable as our chaplain encounters more and more Muslim seafarers, especially from countries such as Indonesia.

Last year we reported that our Literature Fund was very low and asked for your special assistance in building it up once more. We are very thankful for all the Literature Fund donations we received from churches in BC and Alberta in response. God used you to answer our prayers!

In July, Dr. Jason Zuidema became the new Executive Director of the North American Maritime Ministry Association (NAMMA). He will be in this area visiting and meeting with chaplains at the ports of Vancouver and Seattle/Tacoma.

Finally, as a former seafarer myself, who for years experienced the danger, the loneliness at sea, and the long periods away from family and friends, I want to remind the members of Classis of the important role chaplains and seafarer centers serve. Yes, times have changed; many factors in the industry – technology and port security among others - have changed the life of a seafarer forever. They have meant the elimination of almost all contact with people outside the industry making today's seafarers possibly the loneliest seafarers ever! Please remember them in your prayers as they play a vital role in our daily lives; they make it possible for the ships that carry more than 90% of the world's trade to bring goods to our shores for delivery to our doors!

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Classis accept and approve the attached proposed 2014 Ministry budget;

2. That Classis approve the work of the Ministry to Seafarers;
3. That Classis continue to provide both prayer and financial support, and especially continuing its prayer support for our chaplain, Ernst de Vries, as he proclaims the good news of the Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For more information about the Ministry to Seafarers, or to read the chaplain's blog, please visit our website www.ministrytoseafarers.com.

Sincerely,
Hank Hamstra, Chairperson
Ministry to Seafarers

Safe Church Team: Classis BCNW

Presented by John Stellingwerff: Abuse Prevention and Response Coordinator (APRC)
Phone: (604) 702-8478 E-mail: jstellingwerff@shaw.ca
Visit us on-line at: www.bcsafechurch.com

Sustaining Healthy Congregations by: Creating Awareness, Reducing Risk and Promoting Healing

August 2013 - Report to Classis BCNW Meeting in Session October 8 & 9, 2013

A. Ministry accomplishments for the period January 1, 2013 – August 20, 2013:

- I. Workshops completed: 3 workshops (New Westminster, Mundy Park, Nanaimo)
- II. Church Consultations (meetings, phone contacts, emails with church leaders re specific inquiries or situations). Including, substantially: Maple Ridge CRC (40+ hours), Victoria 1st CRC, Vancouver 1st CRC

B. Ministry Report – Restorative Practices:

I am excited about a new program which has the strong potential for positive implications for our Safe Church ministry, and which is gaining traction in a number of our Canadian CRC's: Restorative Practices (RP). This program, endorsed and promoted by our denominational Safe Church office, uses the principles of **Restorative Justice and "Circle Conferences" as a tool to deal with conflict and as a preventative strategy**. Having taken the training (FaithCARE training sponsored by Shalem Mental Health and by the International Institute for Restorative Practices), and having facilitated many circles during my service with First Nations people, I am hopeful about the healing and reconciliation potential of this program in our churches. Currently FaithCARE is working with four Ontario CRC's seeking to become "restorative" congregations. I am excited to share the following activities relating to Restorative Practices in BC:

- Our Classis Safe Church budget is supporting 50% of the cost to send Dr John Sneep to Ontario for FaithCARE training (as described above); I'm thankful that Vancouver CRC is funding the other 50%.
- Although not yet formalized, with John Sneep (a member of Vancouver CRC) receiving this training, Vancouver CRC may consider becoming a model "Restorative Congregation".

- Although too early to name specifics, there is another church in our Classis acquiring experience in Restorative Practices. This church may also become an advocate for the use of these strategies.
- An informal group of Restorative Justice/Restorative Practices champions has been meeting to promote this program. Participants at this time include: Pastor Henry Numan, John Sneep, Henk Smidstra, Mark Nill and myself. Quarterly, we also participate in a phone conference facilitated by John De Vries (Canadian Restorative Justice (RJ) coordinator for the CRCNA), with participation from RJ/RP champions/practitioners from across Canada. Our informal BC group, along with the Classis Safe Church team of both Classis BCNW and BCSE is planning a formal three day Restorative Practices training in the Fraser Valley, possibly for winter or spring 2014.

C. Ministry Report – Abuse Awareness and Response:

Our Safe Church ministry encompasses important topics including healthy boundaries, bullying, pornography, internet safety, safe keeping children, youth, vulnerable adults, domestic violence, elder abuse, and sexual abuse. However, the greater amount of our energy is educating about what we as churches need to do to prevent child sexual abuse and what we can do to be ready, should an incident of child sexual abuse arise. Developing and following a reporting procedure is a critical component in a sexual abuse prevention program. Child sexual abuse thrives when it goes unnoticed or unreported. Often, an abuse situation continues because of someone's failure to report it. All church workers need to know what constitutes an occasion for reporting, the reporting channels they should use, and their obligations to make a report.

Our basic two hour workshop for all volunteers and staff in children and youth serving ministries covers everything you need to know about the following:

- Signs and Indicators of abuse (sexual, physical, emotional, psychological) and neglect
- Mandatory reporting obligations
- Issues for Victims of Abuse
- Issues for Volunteers and Staff
- Mutual Accountability – Adhering to Safe Church Policies
- Developing and Following a Church Reporting Procedure
- ... and much more.

Annual training for volunteers and staff is important, especially at the beginning of a new program schedule or whenever a new person begins working in a ministry or program. All church workers should know their moral and legal obligations to report a possible incident, and the importance of addressing questionable behavior. Proper training can help workers see how reporting can be done honestly and discretely.

Report from the Safe Church Advocacy Role: by Faye Martin (Classis BCSE/NW Victim Advocate)

The Safe Church ministry of the CRC has come to recognize the importance of appropriate response to those who have experienced abuse, particularly within the context of a church setting and community. Ongoing training in this area is regularly provided by the CRC Safe Church Ministry office. Hands on experience shows that when an abuse survivor experiences a long term commitment on the part of the advocates (who in essence represent the church, faith community etc), there is greater opportunity for some spiritual and emotional healing to take place. The classis SCT has several trained advocates available to respond to and support abuse survivors.

D. Recommendations to Classis BCNW:

1. That Classis approve the work of the Classis Safe Church Ministry and the "APRC".
2. That Classis encourage member churches to engage in at least 2 hours of safe church training per year (as per Synodical recommendations in 2007 & 2009; and as per insurance conditions for most churches).

Furthermore, that Classis encourage Councils to schedule 90 minutes of council training re the Advisory Panel Process.

3. Classis BCNW approve the proposed budget as submitted to Classis BCNW Stated Clerk.
4. To continue upholding the Safe Church Ministry in prayer.

Sincerely,
John Stellingwerff (Abuse Prevention and Response Coordinator)

Classis BCNW Safe Church Budget: 2014

Income

Classis BCNW – Ministry Shares \$12,000.00

Expenses

Coordinator Contract (Hours)	\$7000.00 (254 hours/year x \$27.50/hour) (note #1 below)
Office Expenses (telephone, computer, paper, copying, etc)	\$600.00 (\$50.00/month)
Ministry Travel - Coordinator(km rate, flights, motels, etc)	\$2000.00 (\$166.66/month)
Ministry Travel – Classis SCT (eg GR meetings, AP training)	\$750.00 (excludes travel expenses for Coordinator)
Resource Materials (books, church resources, dvd’s, APRC training)	\$400.00 (includes Safe Church resources from Faith Alive, Winning Kids Inc, etc)
Counselling Fund (note #2 below)	\$500.00 (fund to be used on recommendation of Classis SCT Executive Committee)
Conference Fund	\$250.00 (bi - annual Classis BCNW/SE sponsored conference – planned for Jan or Feb 2014)
Advisory Panel Fund (note #3 below)	\$500.00 (fund only to be used when needed)
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$12,000.00</u>

Note #1: 109 hours completed January 1, 2013 – July 31, 2013. Effective September 1, 2014 hourly rate for APRC increased to \$27.50 per hour. This change follows from APRC evaluation completed August 2013 by Classis BCSE SCT, and approved increase in hourly rate approved August 26, 2013 by BCSE SCT.

Note #2: This line item has not been used to date

Note #3: This line item has not been used to date



Report to Classis BCNW of The CRC Campus Ministry @ UNBC Alan van der Woerd, August 27, 2013

This summer I visited the CRC churches in Smithers, Telkwa, Houston and Terrace. I preached in each of these churches, stayed in peoples homes, and had many wonderful conversations with supporters, parents, students, and supporters of students. Interest in the UNBC Chaplaincy and prayerful support for this ministry, is evident in each of these churches and is a source of great encouragement to myself!

Early September is a busy time! We help new students move into the dorms. Then we participate in a parent welcome evening, and orientation activities that involve several hundred students drop by the chapel in groups of 20. I explain the purpose and activities of the UNBC Chaplaincy, hand out brochures, and meet students. In the first few weeks of September, important friendships are established. What a blessing that the CRC chaplaincy can be integrated into campus life at UNBC.

This year we have sixteen volunteer chaplains from a wide denominational spectrum. I'm happy that two First Nations elders are joining our team as well as two new chaplains that represent the Catholic Diocese of Prince George. Rachel Allen, who was the chaplaincy assistant last year, will again be assisting the Chaplaincy this year.

CRC Home Missions approved our application for an Emerging Leadership Grant. The recipient this year is Jerry Doffe from 100 Mile House. Jerry is a third year microbiology student. For the past two years he has been active with IVCF student leadership. This summer Jerry went on a mission trip to Congo where he led church leadership training seminars. I am particularly impressed with Jerry's commitment to prayer and trust in God.

This fall I am again teaching Comparative Religions. The class was moved from the spring to the fall semester. Because it meets at 8.30 am it is slightly smaller (60 students) than the one I taught last year. This is good in that it facilitates more discussion and allows me to get to know the students more personally.

Over the summer I have been meeting with counselors from the Wellness Centre and First Nations. **We have developed a group therapy program called "Live Your Incredible Life."** During 8 weeks participants referred by counselors will work on issues of identity, cognition, competence, emotions, and interdependence. This new program is an attempt to work proactively in the area of student wellness as well as collaboratively between departments. The invitation to the chaplaincy to participate in the design and implementation of this program is significant.

Request of Classis BCNW:

- 1] The CRC campus ministry at UNBC requests ministry share support for 2014 at the same level as 2013. (\$15.00 per member)**
- 2] Also, Mr. William Van Delft has stepped down as committee member. Mrs. Teresa Reitsma has also stepped aside as chair of the committee. The board of directors for the Association for Christian Reformed Campus Ministry in BC (UNBC) has appointed Dr. Ted Binnema (as chair) and Dr. Sunchul Choi to serve on its board as chair for a three year terms.**

The board request ratification from Classis BCNW.

BCNW CMLT Report To Classis

August 21, 2013

Team Members: Trevor Vanderveen (co-chair BCNW), Mike VanderKwaak (co-chair BCSE), Nathan Elgersma (Secretary – BCSE), Grant VanderHoek (BCSE), Martin Vellekoop (BCNW), Peter Stellingwerff (BCSE), Dan Hoogland (BCSE), Peter Lim (BCNW), and Victor Chen (BCNW).

The BCSE and BCNW joint CMLT committee continues to meet on a regular basis. Our main objective is to serve, guide and support students and pastors towards candidacy for Minister of the Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church. The CMLT functions as an umbrella which includes the Student Fund Committee.

The main routes that people can follow towards candidacy are:

- 1) In resident MDIV Calvin Theological Seminary (CTS) student;
- 2) Non-resident MDIV CTS student;
- 3) EPMC (MDIV non-CTS) either 10 week resident or 24 month non-resident
- 4) Ordained Pastors from another denomination who wants to be a candidate in the CRC.

To this end, we work with a wide range of people—from those who just want more information about the CRC to those who are in residence at CTS and are nearing candidacy.

Our committee is witnessing a resurgence of students and people who are interested in CRC ministry. The amount of people we are working with has been increasing and with that we have much to be thankful for. We see God increase the number of students that are pursuing candidacy in the CRC.

We have worked closely with Regent College and we are establishing a working relationship with ACTS seminary in Langley. We are building connections with ACTS in hopes to supporting current students who want to pursue candidacy. As we have done in previous years, we are requesting once again for a \$500 budget for BCNW to help offset the costs of a luncheon we are currently planning to network with the Regent College students interested in CRC ordination.

We recommend to Classis:

1) Renew our \$500 budget for 2014 for operating expenses in the CMLT

2) The following individuals receive support from the BCNW Student Fund:

- *Albert Wu* from The Tapestry. EPMC Resident 2014: \$5,000
- *Sam Lee Chaplain* at Kwantlen. EPMC Resident 2014: \$9,000
- *Additional considerations given for the relocation of the Lee family of 5.
- *Shane Rozeveld*, Alberni Valley. Calvin Distance MDiv: \$8,000
- *Se-Youn Moon*, First Vancouver. Regent MDiv: \$9,000
- *Additional considerations given for 3 children and both parents are studying.
- *Steven Berkenpas* First Vancouver. Regent MCS: \$5,000
- *Janina Mobach* First Vancouver. non-resident EPMC \$1,830

For a total of: \$37,830

3) That the 2014 Ministry Share level be \$7 per member.

Additionally, we ask Classis to Pray:

1) That God would equip, develop and affirm His call on these new emerging leaders in the

2) That the CMLT would be able to provide good service, including financial support to an increasing number of people.

Motion to accept the work of the committee

Respectfully Submitted,

Trevor Vanderveen (Co-chair BCNW), Victor Chen, Peter Lim, Martin Vellekoop

downtown friends October 2013 Update to Classis BC-NW

In order to respect people who are exploring the Jesus-Way, please do not post this update on a website. This is meant to be shared aloud or hung on church bulletin boards, so as to protect the details of people's lives and keep them anonymous. Thank you!

Recent Highlights

Perhaps most helpful this winter and spring to our church community has been the **training in how to engage in spiritual conversations with coworkers, neighbours, and friends**. To learn how to pique people's interest in Jesus or to connect with the deeper philosophical questions people ask when they discuss movies, politics, popular music has intrigued the unbelievers among us and emboldened the believers. One mature student has been able to figure out how to talk about **questions about sexuality** as he develops friendships with and supports younger students as he returns to school; another man now realizes that just because he's always believed there was a spiritual force (even before he knew Jesus) he must **respect and draw out those who don't think that way**; a long-time christian who has been in christian schools and universities through her twenties enters a secular graduate program this fall **empowered and excited about the interest level she can expect among fellow students and professors**; a kind and loving but quiet christian has begun to invite colleagues into spiritual conversations and now **meets monthly to read the gospel of Luke with a coworker**.

The most committed and invested member of our church is a **recovering addict with gifts of mercy and evangelism** who prays with passion and serves eagerly wherever and whomever he can. Drawing *Sam to Jesus and now training him in the Jesus way has been sheer delight.

*Reiji began participating in *downtown friends* events and Sunday gatherings simply out of a desire for community. "You all are so loving," he now says. A reader and sceptic, the consistent and genuine welcome shown to him through meals, time, tennis, and simply including him in everything even though he's not yet a Jesus follower, has profoundly affected him. Lately he's reading the gospel of John and meeting to talk it over with a church member.

And we're pleased that 3 of our members **regularly visit the HIV/AIDS and general surgery floors of St Paul's hospital where desperately poor residents** of the Downtown Eastside often find themselves.

Shift in Focus?

Six months ago we described to you a process of prayer and fasting which had led to our readiness to invite dozens of unbelieving long-term friends and neighbours (mostly from Yaletown) to meet in small groups to share a potluck meal and study Bible passages from Jesus' ministry. Although we did indeed invite those men and women to gather together, no new churches or bible study communities began. Naturally many wonderful **spiritual conversations came out of those invitations, and many of the relationships have deepened with those whom we invited.** Yet the only current Bible discussions with unbelievers are one-on-one or one-time spontaneous Bible studies with a small group of people already hanging out over coffee or a meal. Jesus surprised his disciples when he said, "It's harder for the rich to enter to enter the Kingdom of God than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle." In the same way, although we continue to pray for our wealthy unbelieving downtown friends, it seems the time is not yet right for them to have second birth.

And just as Neil Cole explains in *Organic Church* that his ministry always begins new churches by spending time where students, the poor, immigrants, and people in special need live and congregate, so we've found that those most open to getting to know Jesus have been immigrants, those in crisis, international students, and the poor.

As a result, after 5 years as a church, **the core missional team of downtown friends is now fully integrated socio-economically.** Our church may gather on Sundays in a park, shoulder to shoulder around a large dining room table in a condo, or seated on the bed, sole chair and floor of someone's social housing apartment.

Recently those with apostolic gifts in our church have met twice to pray, listen, and discuss God's leading for the future. Most likely we will focus on developing our relationships with those in social housing (buildings found in every downtown neighbourhood) while also building community with short-term internationals, who are hungry for friendship with Canadians and open to new ideas.

Thank you so much for your prayers, your loving encouragement, and your financial support. It is our joy to go to those who don't yet know Jesus and introduce them to him for the first time.

For the Kingdom,
Mary-Lee Bouma
August 2013

**Note: names changed.*



KWANTLEN MULTI-FAITH CENTRE
REPORT FOR CLASSIS BCNW FALL 2013

Classes are beginning once again at Kwantlen Polytechnic University, and for the third school year the Multi-Faith centre is opening its doors for students, faculty and staff. Through the continued growth of the centre (largely thanks to the financial support of Classis BCNW and CDT) there has been a growing Christian and Reformed presence on campus.

The centre tries to provide a pastoral presence for students, staff and faculty where we can foster faith and social responsibility. Our hope and dream for this ministry is that we would be a place of solace and sanctuary where we encourage students, staff and faculty in their spiritual journey; honour the diversity of religious and spiritual beliefs; inspire thoughtful, integrated, virtuous living; and be an open door of care and counsel. Ultimately we hope to be good sign pointers that can point to our hope in Christ through all our actions and interactions on campus.

Last year we attempted to do this through initiatives like drop in office hours, thanksgiving dinners, displays and campaigns on campus, dialogue and discussion with other faith based leaders in the community, helping to organically grow and build a student led faith presence on campus, building relationships and the favour of campus staff, and we hope to do much more of the same this year.

This year will also be especially exciting because the centre has a new office positioned right in the centre of its Richmond campus. Beside that office is also new space specifically designated for prayer and meditation. Last year the centre was able to open prayer space on Kwantlen's surrey campus. This year we hope to continue the process of installing a resident CRC chaplain in Surrey.

Through the last year we have seen students come to know and deepen their relationship in Christ. We have also seen others consider their spirituality more deeply. We have also seen faculty, staff and students find respite from their struggles and a place to share their joys.

We want to thank Classis BCNW for your generous support of our ministry at Kwantlen. Together you are helping us provide a pastoral presence for students, staff and faculty where we can foster faith and social responsibility.

We hope the Classis and the CDT would continue to support this exciting opportunity. For the year 2013, the classical ministry share going to the Kwantlan Chaplaincy was \$5.00 per professing member. We would graciously ask that classis consider allocating the same amount to this ministry in 2014.

Every Blessing
Albert Wu
Chaplain at Kwantlen University's Multi-Faith Centre
Associate Pastor at the Tapestry Church



CHRISTIAN REFORMED WORLD MISSIONS
(CRWM)

Fall 2013 Classis Report for BCSE and BCNW

Greetings,

This past April CRWM was very present in BC in two unique ways. On the weekend of April 20 – 21 CRWM Canada hosted a GO conference in Smithers for our northern churches. The following week, April 24 – 26, the international CRWM board met in Langley. On Sunday, April 28th, arrangements were made for board members to preach or give presentations during the morning service in many of the CR churches in the lower mainland. A **deep thank you** to the churches from Vancouver to Chilliwack who welcomed board members that Sunday. From all reports back, they appreciated the opportunity, felt well paired and well-received in your congregations.

These two events were also going to be BC's opportunity to meet the newly appointed Canadian director, **Steve Kabetu**. Unfortunately he came down with acute appendicitis and was unable to attend. I hope that we will have the opportunity to welcome him here in the future.

In July Canadian missionaries **Naji Umran and Anne Zaki** and their family returned to BC to connect with family and supporting churches before returning to their new CRWM ministry post in Egypt. On a warm summer evening New Westminster CRC hosted an evening of information and dialogue. At the time of writing there is great unrest in Egypt. Personally and at this time the Umrans "are being cautious and feel safe." But they ask for fervent prayer vigils for the situation in Egypt and the entire middle east. We trust that churches are keeping them and this ministry in your prayers. Continue prayers as well for the Salaam project, formed in 2010, as it continues to provide training for ministry and outreach to the Muslim world.

Nathan and Kimberly Boersema and their three children are newly appointed partners with CRWM for their posting in Nicaragua. The Boersemas, who are from Langley, will be involved in educational leadership in conjunction with the Nehemiah Centre.

The most recent BC CRWM partnership is with **Krissy Bucholtz**, a young woman from Langley whose heart was captured by the communities in Sierra Leone when she went as a student with a team from Fraser Valley Christian High School in 2007. Since then she has returned to Kabala numerous times, setting up the People's Foundation, a scholarship fund for post-secondary education for students in SL. Bucholtz will be teaching at the Kabala CRC Primary Junior School this fall.

I am honored to be submitting a BC classical report on behalf of the Christian Reformed World Missions (CRWM) board. I am beginning my second of a three year term. Ko Spyksma continues to serve as the CRWM BC mobilizer on behalf of the board and the classis. As you meet with classis may you share and celebrate God's way with His people with much prayer and thanksgiving and support. God Bless.

Jenny deGroot

ddegroot@telus.net 604 888 5505

BETHESDA CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

Report to Classis BCNW/ Fall 2013

Dear Friends,


As in past years, Bethesda receives requests from families throughout British Columbia who require assistance in meeting the unique needs of a loved one with a disability. Despite financial pressures and budgetary restraints in our province, Bethesda continues to walk alongside these families, offering support and assistance by utilizing the resources with which we have been entrusted. It is only through the ongoing financial support of church communities throughout the province that we are able to offer some of the services these families so desperately need. Together, we represent Christ in honoring God and individuals with disabilities, by ensuring that they and their families are able to receive these services. We are requesting the support of Classis British Columbia North- west to partner in the ministry work of Bethesda through designated offerings.

Financial support received will enable Bethesda to provide donation based services that include :

- Affordable housing
- Respite Care
- Family support workers
- Special Equipment Assistance
- Crisis support
- Long Term Planning
- Church Ministry Support
- Summer Camp opportunities
- Transportation

We are grateful for the faithful support we have received over many years. The Lord has truly blessed Bethesda and continues to provide opportunities for us to maintain and expand services.

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. H. ...".

Calvin College Board of Trustees

Report to Classis-

Classis Alberta North, Alberta South and Saskatchewan, B.C. South East and North West

Pan Zhang

Enrolment Committee and Investment Committee

– August 13, 2013

This report will capture the financial challenges Calvin College has unearthed since fall 2012 and address major progresses the college has made in achieving a sustainable financial future while upholding the mission.

An Inconvenient Truth

In the fall of 2013, Calvin College's new president Michael Le Roy commenced a task force to ensure sound financial administration and governance of the college. The task force found that Calvin College had \$116m long-term debt and a funding gap of approximately \$70m. As the U.S. economy was slow in recovery, Calvin College faced a harsh reality: lower returns on investments, rising benefit costs, lagging faculty and staff salaries, and future institutional debt service payments.

Heading toward Financial Stability

With an unwavering commitment to Christian education and excellence in delivering quality programs, managers of all areas were engaged in identifying cost reduction opportunities. To close the budget gap, the current projection is that the college will need to repurpose 10% of its operating budget by 2017.

In May 2013, the Calvin College Board of Trustees approved a budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, which identified \$4.7 million in cost savings over the previous year and puts the college ahead of schedule in its budget goals. The cost savings was achieved largely through personnel reductions equal to 22 full-time employees (through attrition and non-renewal of faculty contracts) and a change of health care plans.

To ensure sustainable financial governance, the board also appointed a new investment committee and fiduciary advisor; restructured board governance committees and approved a plan to appoint faculty advisors to key trustee committees.

Strategic Planning of the Future

President Le Roy's leadership is characterized with humility, stewardship and collaboration. Under his leadership, campus-wide collaborative dialogues took off. Over 400 members of the Calvin community participated in the SWOT sessions and hundreds more are involved in the brainstorming phase.

In May 2013, the board of trustees spent significant time addressing the college's strategic plan—reviewing the summary of results from the eight SWOT analysis sessions this past winter, and brainstorming around key strategic issues the college faces. The college will continue to work on the strategic plan and aim to have it ready for board approval at its February 2014 meeting.

Enrolment number is the driving force of revenue for Calvin College. The budget number for 2013 was based on 975 FTIACS and 105 transfers = 1,080 total. As of August 14, 1013 FTIACS deposited and 97 transfers with a total of 1,110 incoming new students. There are 21 Canadian students among them. Low tuition in Canadian Christian colleges continue being an issue for sustained Canadian enrolment at Calvin College.

Despite the challenge, total enrolment number exceeded the goal. We praise God and thank the hard work done by the enrolment team headed by V.P. Russell Bloem. Please encourage students in your areas to consider Calvin College as the choice of education, experience God's wonder through excellent academic standards, top-notch facilities and continue strengthening Christ-like characters along with other Christian peers and committed faculty members.

Into a Hopeful Future

James 5: 3-5 states "More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

God's faithfulness to Calvin College prevailed throughout the challenging time. Today Calvin College remains committed to Christian education in the Reformed tradition and academic excellence. Throughout the difficult time, faculty, staff, management and the board of trustees worked closely together: identified issues, formulated plans and moved forward. There are still a lot of work involved in the coming years. Please keep Calvin College in your congregation prayers.

Calvin College Vision Statement

Calvin College is a comprehensive liberal arts college in the Reformed tradition of historic Christianity. Through our learning, we seek to be agents of renewal in the academy, church, and society. We pledge fidelity to Jesus Christ, offering our hearts and lives to do God's work in God's world.

Contact:

Pan Zhang
12308 - 47 St. Edmonton, AB
Canada T5W 5C9
Tel: 780.990.5824
Email: panzh32@hotmail.com





201-14980 – 104 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3R 1M9

www.cascadechristiancounselling.com

Email: info@cascadechristiancounselling.com

Phone: 604-585-1411 Surrey
604-854-5413 Abbotsford
Fax: 604-585-1413

REPORT TO CLASSIS – BCNW

August, 2013

A. YEARLY REVIEW

It has been my pleasure to be the new Director of Cascade Christian Counselling. Over the last year, there have been a number of changes to the face of the organization with a rebranding initiative that has incorporated a new logo, website, and signage. The purpose of this is to update the look of the Cascade organization and to clarify the vision for the organization. Because of my specific call in dealing with the Christian community more actively, the client mix has changed due to clients being referred through pastors, church workers, and word of mouth referral. We are no longer dealing with a majority of EAP work (Employee Assistance program) but typically individuals who align themselves with some kind of faith. The internet continues to be a referral source for us.

B. NEW DEVELOPMENTS

An important new development is the hiring of a contract counsellor for the Abbotsford area. Workload in this area dictated the need for additional counselling hours. We hired Mike Ayers, who started with us in April working one day a week in the Abbotsford office. Mike was a former pastor before pursuing counselling as a career. He has been a good addition to our staff. We also provide counselling in Smithers, BC two days a month for the Christian school and for individuals seeking Christian counselling. Currently, Jan Bryant is the counsellor fulfilling the counselling work in Smithers. She will continue for the 2013/2014 school year.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

We humbly ask for the following recommendations:

1. That Classis encourage member churches to continue to remember our ministry in their pastoral prayers on a regular basis – prayer is powerful.
2. **That Classis encourage member churches to hold two collections annually for the work of Cascade Christian Counselling.**

We pray God's blessing on your deliberations this fall.

Elaine Binnema, MA RCC
Director/Therapist

Report to Canadian Classes from Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee (CAMC)

Submitted by Yvonne Schenk, chairperson

As the committee meets in a variety of places across Canada, we are getting a clearer picture of how many Christian Reformed communities are already connecting with the First Nations people in their community. We are also seeing how much work needs to be done, in Jesus' name, to continue to reconcile the broken relationships between aboriginal and non-aboriginal people, particularly Christian non-aboriginal people.

The reForming Relationships art tour continues to move across the country. reForming Relationships is a cross-country art tour inspired by our Creator's call to live as people of reconciliation. Through the dynamic artwork series Kisemanito Pakitinasuwin – Creator's Sacrifice by Cree artist Ovide Bighetty, and through tour events, this art tour creates space for listening, learning, dialogue and building relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Canada, especially within our own Christian Reformed churches. We encourage churches, particularly in Alberta and British Columbia, to host the art tour in 2013 or 2014.

More information about the art tour can be found at www.reformingrelationships.ca. The committee is developing a "toolkit" to accompany this tour to help congregations find their next steps after the art tour has left. This toolkit will include a booklist, a resource list, ideas and/or suggestions of where a congregation can go next, based on some best practices that we have seen/heard from other congregations. We hope to have this toolkit ready for congregations to use by 2014.

We hope that every Canadian Classis will have hosted the blanket exercise (see www.crcna.org/pages/publicdialogue_blankets.cfm for more information) by **the end of 2014**. The blanket exercise is an interactive way to learn the history that has shaped the current relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Canada. This exercise is a good starting place for churches that are looking to work toward reconciliation with their Aboriginal neighbors.

We would love to develop a compilation of stories of healing and reconciliation that are already taking place between CRC people and Aboriginal people. We invite anyone with stories to share to connect with our committee and tell us what you are doing.

CAMC, as a committee, is in a time of transition. We welcome Shannon Perez as our new Justice and Reconciliation Mobilizer.

Shannon has been a valued member of the Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee and is currently also serving as chair of the board of directors for the Indian Family Centre. Shannon is a member of the Sayisi Dene First Nation and a member of the Good News CRC in Winnipeg. Shannon brings her experience as a CRC member, a volunteer in aboriginal ministry as well as her own aboriginal perspective to this position, which is very exciting for our committee! This means of course, that we have sadly said good-bye to Steve van de Hoef. Steve has been the CRC Justice and Reconciliation Mobilizer since 2010. We will miss his energy, his clear thinking and his big ideas of peace and justice in the future. We wish him well in his future endeavors. Our committee membership has also changed. We are glad to welcome Christina DeVries as a new committee member from Ontario. We are thankful that Jean deBeer (from SK) has agreed to serve another term on this committee.

Since the autumn of 2012, CAMC has met twice face to face and twice by phone conference. CAMC attended the Day of Encouragement in Truro, Nova Scotia in the fall of 2012. This Day of Encouragement focused on

aboriginal reconciliation. It included speakers such as Harold Roscher, Isabelle Knockwood, Terry LeBlanc and Mark MacDonald. This was an exciting time to be in Truro and see the area congregations energized to connect with their aboriginal neighbors. CAMC met jointly with the Committee for Contact with the Government (CCG) in Truro as well, in order to see how our two committees can work together toward justice, and how we can complement each other in our work. We plan to continue meeting jointly once a year with CCG.

In the spring of 2013, we met in Regina, SK at the Indian Metis Christian Fellowship (IMCF). For those on the committee who had never visited IMCF, it was great to see the building and premises and get a good idea of what is offered on behalf of the CRC denomination. The director, Bert Adema, invited us to join in circle prayer with IMCF staff and participants which was a beautiful experience.

CAMC is looking to connect very directly with the Christian Reformed churches in Canada. We seek to be both a resource and a source of encouragement to enable congregations to live out God's call to justice and reconciliation with Aboriginal people in Canada. Please connect with us by emailing myself (yvonne@tbccc.ca) with your thoughts, ideas, stories and questions. If you are interested in having the reForming Relationships art tour come to your church or having the blanket exercise offered at your classis, please contact yvonne@tbccc.ca.

The Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee (CAMC) has the specific role of educating and mobilizing CRC members and congregations to live in reconciled relationships as covenant (treaty) people before our Creator. CAMC works toward three goals:

- ***Awareness and Education***
- ***Engaging and Building Relationships***
- ***Advocacy and Seeking Justice***



9125 – 50 Street NW
Edmonton, AB Canada T6B 2H3
(780) 465-3500
Fax (780) 465-3534
kingsu.ca

Report to Classis B.C. North-West of the Christian Reformed Church: Fall 2013

Greetings from The King's University College! We're pleased to have this opportunity to share the blessings we've enjoyed since our last report, and to look ahead to the exciting opportunities in the upcoming academic year.

We're grateful to God that for the third year in a row, King's ranks number one of post-secondary institutions *of any kind in Canada* for overall student satisfaction, according to the Canadian University Survey Consortium's annual report published in *Maclean's 2013 University Rankings*. Students were surveyed with five questions

relating to their professors, quality of education and learning opportunities outside of the classroom. King's earned the highest scores for every question.

Dr. Melanie Humphreys took up her role as president of The King's University College on July 2. We are thankful to God for our new president and know that her proven track record in Christian higher education and effective leadership will help take King's into the next phase of its promising future. Dr. Humphreys' official inauguration will be held on Saturday, October 5th at 3:00pm and will be a part of a week of events and opportunities for students, alumni, supporters and friends of King's to join together in community as we celebrate our new president, honour our history, and anticipate greater opportunities to carry out our mission. For more information or to register for events, please visit our website www.kingsu.ca/thrive.

We look forward to introducing you to our new president over the coming year. "Meet the president" events will be organized in various locations across western Canada throughout the next several months giving you an opportunity to hear more about Dr. Humphreys' vision for King's and an opportunity to interact with her on a personal level. We hope you will plan to attend.

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of all of the members of our community who helped us raise over \$2.6 million in the 2012-2013 fiscal year. This represents a substantial increase over the \$2.2 million in donations raised during the previous year – a wonderful and encouraging blessing for which we are grateful to God and His people. This support continues to add momentum to the university and is a tremendous investment in our mission to "provide university education that inspires and equips learners to bring renewal and reconciliation to every walk of life as followers of Jesus Christ, the Servant-King." Thank you for this blessing and for your continued support as we once again work to achieve our fund raising goal of \$2.6 million in the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

On May 4th, King's celebrated the success of 140 graduates with an afternoon ceremony and reception that was attended by many of the graduates and their family and friends. Dr. Gordon T. Smith, President of Ambrose University College, gave the convocation address based on the theme text "But seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33) Graduation day is a concrete expression of the mission of King's, and is always a wonderful testimony to the faithfulness of God from one generation to the next.

Plan to attend one of our two open houses during the coming academic year. On October 26th, 2013 or March 8th, 2014, come and take a tour, ask questions, meet professors and much more. People who apply for admission at the event get the application fee waived. Attendees can also enter to win a \$1,000 tuition credit. Come and see why students thrive here. These are drop-in events so no registration is required.

Thanks to a \$400,000 donation from Mr. Gerry Segger of St. Albert, AB, King's has been able to build the Gerry Segger Heritage Collection archive that is housed in the library. The Heritage Collection is a research centre that collects historical materials related to the Dutch Canadian experience. It will also hold materials associated with the traditions of Dutch and German Reformed Christianity in Canada. The collection will be a part of the national archives system and will enhance the university experience for our current students and will be available as a resource for the greater community. For more information on the archive, visit www.kingsu.ca/heritage-collection. If you would like to make a donation of materials to the archive or have further questions, please contact King's at heritagecollection@kingsu.ca.

Our partnership with our supporting community has played a significant role in the life of King's to date and we have been blessed by these relationships. Our plans to continue to move forward in providing students with a high quality, Christian university education will continue to rely on the faithful support and prayer from the community of people who support the vision and mission of The King's University College. On behalf of the entire King's community, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the CRC churches in Classis B.C. North-West for their faithful and generous support. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Christian higher education at King's. May God bless your work on behalf of His Church.



Dan VanKeeken
Vice President for Institutional Advancement



**SUMMARY REPORT
TO
CLASSIS B.C. NORTH-WEST OF THE CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCHES
Fall, 2013/14**

Dear Classis Participants:

In this report, I will inform you of some activities of the agency for the completed fiscal year April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013, and to the present (August 31, 2013). These are to be shared at our Annual General Meeting in November of this year.

IMPACTS OF OUR MINISTRY

Federal Prisons:

- Number of paid/volunteer coordinators: 1 full-time, 2 part-time (paid); 6 (volunteer)
- Number of prisons: 11
- Number of volunteers (average monthly): 178
- Number of inmates matched to a volunteer (average monthly): 161
- RRAC (Regional Reception and Assessment Centre) has a group setup with about 3 inmates per month attending.

Provincial Prisons:

- Number of paid/volunteer coordinators: 1 part-time (paid); 3 (volunteer)
- Number of prisons: 3
- Number of volunteers (average monthly): 29
- Number of inmates matched to a volunteer (average monthly): 53
- SPSC (Surrey Pretrial Services Centre) has a group setup with about 35 inmates per month attending.

CoSA (Circles of Support and Accountability):

- Number of Staff: 3 M2/W2; 1 Catholic Charities
- Number of volunteers (average monthly): 70+
- Number of Circles (average monthly): 18

Hidden Treasures

- Number of Staff: 2 part-time (paid)
- Number of volunteers: 35

NOLA (No One Leaves Alone)

- Number of Staff: 2 part-time (paid); 1 to be hired – start date, September 8, 2013
- Currently: First trial circle with 2 part-time staff; 1 program participant; and 5 volunteers.
- Official launch: September 8, 2013

M2/W2 Association – Restorative Christian Ministries, 208-2825 Clearbrook Rd., Abbotsford, BC V2T 6S3

Phone: (604) 859-3215 or 1-800-298-1777 / Fax: (604) 859-1216

Email: info@m2w2.com

There continued the recruitment, training, deployment and supervision of volunteers from a cross-section of churches in the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley for our **one-to-one (M2/W2) prison ministry**. **Two CORE training sessions** were held last year for prison volunteers. Volunteers made thousands of visits and contacts. We still feel the challenge of over 200 men in federal prisons currently awaiting volunteers. Through our Director of Programs we have developed a significant M2/W2 program evaluation tool that is currently being assessed by federal corrections headquarters. It may be combined with the Evaluation tool to be used as well for our newest program, NOLA (please see below). We anticipate this will serve us in our ongoing fundraising bids. We have no federal or provincial government funding to do our one-to-one program. With the consequent loss last June of one full-time federal coordinator, we have continued visitation in all federal prisons as before, but with considerable extra workload on all our coordinators, and I added two prisons (coordination) to my workload.

A **Circles of Support and Accountability** (Vancouver/Fraser Valley CoSA) five-year contract through federal Chaplaincy, held jointly with Catholic Charities, and with significant additional National Crime Prevention Centre (NCPC) funding has been in place since November, 2009. It includes involvement with fourteen other CoSA projects across Canada in an evaluation component designed to continue demonstration of the high success rate of this kind of intervention in warrant expiry (WED) and Long-Term Supervision Order (LTSO) sex offenders released into our communities. (This research will add to the findings of the research that already exists, showing an 83% reduction in sexual offence recidivism with offenders who are a part of a CoSA Circle and significant reduction in violent and other reoffending. For more information please click [CoSA](#) on our website.) We work with high risk sex offenders in a support and accountability role. The CoSA mantra is: “no more victims”. Trainings for CoSA occur regularly. An Advisory Board also meets regularly. The NCPC funding runs out September 2014. We are already strategizing on how to continue funding the program beyond then.

A significant ministry is carried out by our **Thrift Store, “Hidden Treasures”**. Its original purpose was to abet agency financial stability. There have developed expansion dreams and plans to better serve our prisoners and ex-prisoners and also to increase the financial support. We’ll report on these as they are underway/realized. The Thrift Store has also evolved into its own ministry both to several returning clients who

shop there, and also to several prisoners who give and receive at the Thrift Store while out on passes throughout the year.

Our newest program, **NOLA: No One Leaves Alone** was designed initially to attract ex-prisoners to participate in an evening of fellowship, games, and refreshments. It has been significantly redeveloped since then by our Director of Programs and us here, and is described on our [NOLA](#) website. To date, our \$92,500 budget for fiscal year 2013/14 has been partially met by a [Stronger Together](#) Grant (put up by a consortium of Christian donors), partially by our Thrift Store, and the rest by private donors. In this third category, we still need about \$25,000. It is modelled on the CoSA program, but is for all categories of ex-offenders. Its goal is to “help build the capacities, strengths and assets of the program participant through practical help and guidance [from our brochure].” It acts as a kind of connector/broker of social support for each person. It has garnered considerable interest and support by people in the system. There are few models in Canada for such a program.

There are currently ten full-and part-time staff: two on our payroll who work for CoSA, and one contractor (Director of Programs). There are seven volunteers who fulfill significant volunteer coordinating duties to enhance our work in five institutions.

I reported about Staff/Board tensions last time. Through a mediator’s involvement that included one three-hour session attended by all Board and Staff, June 2013, we collectively resolved to move beyond the issues. Almost three months later, that resolve is holding and we are moving on.

Our biggest financial concern is the continued impact of loss of \$120,000 federal funding three years ago; and earlier, of over time more than \$200,000 of provincial programs funding.

Our government funding sources are: CSC Chaplaincy and National Crime Prevention Centre for CoSA. CSC Chaplaincy funding is renewed annually; NCPC funding continues until September 2014. We also ask annually for renewed provincial funding. We renewed services two years ago at **Kamloops Regional Correctional Services**, but there is no funding. Government funding over the past ten years has significantly dried up.

We receive funding otherwise from the community through a wide base of regular individual donors (the majority of whom have supported us for many years), through the Thrift Store (largest funding source), various service agencies, through several churches, Grants, the United Way, and through Christian Reformed Church classes. In the CRC churches, we continue to be grateful for significant and longstanding support.

Our [Newsletter TimeLines](#) is produced four times annually. It includes stories, information, updates, etc. It is available for anyone and any church.

Stories, etc. will also be told at our **Fall Promotional Event, Saturday October 26, 2013**. A poster on the website is soon available. Defence lawyer and Board Vice-Chairperson Darrel Schultz is our keynote speaker. There will also be lots of good food and fellowship. Tickets are likely \$15.00.

Our website (www.m2w2.com) is a primary information and inspiration source about all aspects of our ministry. Our newsletters, many articles about justice, links, etc. are posted there. We are also now on



We also posted on our [Home](#) Page a downloadable promotional video, and a new one on NOLA. Several additional resources are on our [Restorative Justice](#) page including “M2/W2 Promotional Materials”, and so much more.

We continue our commitment overall to an understanding of biblical justice as *restorative* as developed in the global “Restorative Justice” movement, also part of our name, “Restorative Christian Ministries”. At its most basic it is a call to a *just peacemaking* over against a *warmaking* response to crime. We try to play our part in educating the wider public on Restorative Justice issues. We have a substantial amount of material accessible on our [Restorative Justice](#) page. I have also published extensively in [Justice Reflections](#) that is distributed through the International Prison Chaplaincy

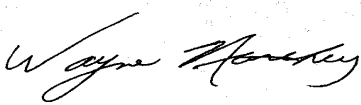
Association, and elsewhere. A Google search will find much else, such as for instance on the website: [Clarion: Journal of Spirituality and Justice](#).

We are accountable to our supporting constituency through a governance model Board. We solicit questions, challenges, suggestions, etc. from anyone so that we can continue to be highly accountable and responsive to our supporters. We are continuing this fall with the second phase of an “Appreciative Inquiry” that is designed to identify and build on the strengths and assets of the agency, and help us move forward. In that regard, we are moving towards a transition (after by then 16 years in that role and 40 years with the agency), of the current Executive Director into retirement, officially effective March 31, 2014. Succession planning is imperative and underway.

We are, as ever, deeply grateful for the ongoing support of the Classis churches. M2/W2 sincerely requests that Classis B.C. North-West recommend M2/W2 to the Christian Reformed Churches for their schedule of collections for the coming year.

Thank you for receiving our report, and for your continued commitment to support us financially, and we ask, in your prayers. We are most willing to make presentations in your churches, in any kind of meeting or format. This both allows us more personal contact, and permits you to be challenged and challenging, encouraged and encouraging, in response to the call to do for the other as to Jesus in this criminal justice ministry.

Sincerely



Wayne Northey
Executive Director

Update on the Canadian Ministries Process

Introduction

This is an update on the process related to the Canadian Ministries Director position and the conversation on bi-nationality. This update is intended to describe the pathway forward subsequent to Synod 2013.

As you may have noted synod did not act in a particular way on the specifics of the position description of the Canadian Ministries Director. The intent was not for it to do so but to authorize the Board of Trustees to change position descriptions and/or initiate hiring processes of senior executive positions going forward. Synod did give that approval.

The Canadian Ministries Director Position

The report on the position of the Canadian Ministries Director was discussed at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees at which time the board endorsed the direction of the report. The board also referred the report to the Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture. The Task Force is looking at the senior executive leadership positions in the denomination and how they would work together to provide team leadership. The Canadian Ministries Director position would be a member of that team. Their report and recommendations will go to the Board of Trustees in September 2013.

During the past few months there have been a number of suggestions for editing of the report and the position description. A revised version of the report will be forwarded to the Board of Trustees and the board will be asked to approve the position description.

A Search Process

Once a revised position description is in place a search process can be initiated. The design of a search process is being discussed as we speak and a proposed process will be shared with the Board of Trustees at its September meeting.

A search process could begin by October with an interview of the finalist(s) at the February meeting of the Board of Trustees. There was some consideration of waiting until a new Executive Director was in place. However, it has been recognized that we don't to leave the position vacant for too long a period.

The Discussion on Binationality

The report on binationality was part of the agenda for synod (*Agenda for Synod 2013, pp. 353 to 360*). The Board of Trustees endorsed the report at its February meeting and synod instructed the Board of Trustees to “*explore the proposed pathways for cultivating binationality as presented in this report including its governance implications, in consultation with the Interim Director of Canadian Ministries and the Executive Director.*”

The report includes five pathways for cultivating binationality:

1. Gatherings to Discern Vision
2. Developing an Organizational Culture
3. The Senior Leadership Position
4. Senior Staff Team to Develop Collaboration
5. Governance

There are plans underway to have an intentional conversation at each of the next two meetings of the Board of Trustees to explore these pathways. The intent is to develop specific ways of cultivating binationality as part of an ongoing process.

The report in binationality is available by going to the Canadian Ministries website page: [crcna.org/Canadian Ministries](http://crcna.org/Canadian_Ministries). Click on “Cultivating Binationality in the CRCNA” located under the quick links section on the right hand sidebar.

The exploration of what it means to have “generous space to cultivate binationality” will be actively explored in the coming months. Such exploration includes the implications of what that means for the Board of Trustees and the CRCNA Canada Corp.

Questions/Comments?

If you have comments or questions on any of this update please feel free to be in touch with your Board of Trustees members from your classis or be in touch with myself, Ben Vandezande.

Please Pray

Please pray for wisdom and discernment in this journey and process as we develop a senior leadership position in Canada and cultivate the pathways to binationality.

Blessings

Ben Vandezande

Interim Director of Canadian Ministries

bvandezande@crcna.org

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEES OF CLASSIS BCNWWEB SITE: classisbcnw.ca**STATED CLERK (S/C)**

Mr. Andy de Ruyter 2016 (2) classisbcnw@shaw.ca
 Alternate - Rev. Jo Schouten 2015(1)

**CMC - CLASSICAL MINISTRIES (INTERIM) COMMITTEE
& NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Andy de Ruyter – S/C - lead 2016(2) classisbcnw@shaw.ca
 Rev. Jo Schouten - alt. S/C - Secretary 2015(1) pastorjo@shaw.ca
 Mr. Victor Chen – CMLT/SFC 2014(1)
 Mr. David Pel – Classis Treasurer 2014(5)
 Rev. Henry Numan 2016(1)
 Rev. David Salverda 2016(1)
 Mr. John Stellingwerff – SCT Coordinator EX OFFICIO

CLASSICAL TREASURER

Mr. David Pel 2014(7) david@dpelcga.com
 Mrs. Henrietta Hamming – alt. 2016(5)

CLASSIS AUDITOR

Mr. Fred Bosma 2015(7)

SCT - SAFE CHURCH TEAM COORDINATOR

Mr. John Stellingwerff jstellingwerff@shaw.ca

SCT – SAFE CHURCH TEAM CLASSIS REPRESENTATIVE

Rev. Chelsey Harmon 2015(1)

CLASSICAL LICENSURE

Mr. Curt Gesch (250-846-9511) 3/15
 Dr. Neil Lettinga (250-964-7734) 9/13

REGIONAL PASTORS

Rev. Joel Ringma Northern Churches
 Rev. Walt Vanderwerf Island Churches
 Rev. Andrew Beunk Lower-Mainland Churches

LDN - LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Mr. Perry Daciuk (bcse) Chair pdaciuk@telus.net
 Rev. Andrew Beunk (bcnw) Secretary 2016(2) abeunk@nwerc.ca
 Mrs. Marion Van Driel (bcse)
 Ms. Melissa Van Dyk (bcnw)
 Mrs. Wilma van der Leek Fraser Valley LDN Facilitator
 Rev. Henry DeVries Interior LDN Facilitator

CDT - CHURCH DEVELOPMENT TEAM – no current members assigned**CMLT/SFC - CLASSIS MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM**

/ STUDENT FUND COMMITTEE (BI-CLASSIS COMMITTEE WITH CLASSIS BCSE)

BCNW Members

Rev. Trevor Vanderveen – Secretary 2014(2) trevorvanderveen@gmail.com
 Mr. Victor Chen - Chair 2014(1)
 Rev. Peter Lim 2015(1)
 Rev. Martin Vellekoop 2015(1)

MINISTRY TO SEAFARERS

Chaplain Ernst deVries ernstd@flyingangel.ca
Mr. Hank Hamstra – Chair BCSE 2013(2)
Mr. David Pel – Treasurer BCNW 2014(8)
Mr. Mike Blok – BCNW 2012(3)
Mrs. Roelien Van Geemen – Secr. BCSE 2013(2)
Mr. Walter Griffioen – BCSE 2014(2)
Mr. Jeremy Vaandrager – BCSE 2013(2)
Mr. Ed Van der Meer– BCSE 2015(1)

CRCM – ASSOCIATION FOR CHRISTIAN REFORMED CAMPUS MINISTRY IN B.C.

Rev. Dr. Alan VanderWoerd – Chaplain alan@alabanza.ca
Rev. Martin Contant – RDHM EX OFFICIO
Ms. Teresa Reitsma – Chair 2014(2)
Mr. Ted Van Helden – Treasurer 2014(2)
Mrs. Cindy VerBeek – Houston 2014(2)
Mrs. Teryl Schopfer – Telkwa 2013(1)
Mr. Clay Harmon – Terrace 2015(1)
Dr. Scott Green – UNBC Fac 2015(2)
Mr. William Van Delft – Prince George 2015(1)

DIACONAL MINISTRIES CANADIAN BOARD MEMBER FOR B.C.

Ms. Melissa Van Dyk

DIACONAL MINISTRY DEVELOPERS

Mr. Gary Veenman for BCNW
Mr. Gord Pierkik for Vancouver Island

SIERRA LEONE BC PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Mr. Dave Meyer – Chair BCNW
Rev. Joel Ringma – Secretary BCNW
Mr. Barry Lester BCNW
Mr. Asher DeGroot BCNW
Ms. Sonya Grypma BCSE
Mr. Ted DeVries BCSE
Mr. John Richey BCSE
Mr. Dennis Degroot BCSE
Rev. Sid Ypma EX OFFICIO
Rev. Martin Contant EX OFFICIO – HOME MISSIONS
Mr. Al Karsten EX OFFICIO – WORLD MISSIONS
Ms. Henrietta Hunse EX OFFICIO – WORLD RELIEF
Mr. Martin Grypma – alt.

DISABILITY CONCERNS / B.C. Reps

Northern – Mr. Curt Gesch
Southern – Ms. Caroline Short

BANNER CORRESPONDENT – BCNW / BCSE

Ms. Tracy Yan tracey.yan@hotmail.com

DENOMINATIONAL REPRESENTITIVES

SYNODICAL DEPUTY

Rev. David Cheung 2015(1)
Rev. Henry Jonker - alternate 2016(1)

BOT - BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CRCNA

Rev. Trevor Vanderveen 2015(2)

REGIONAL BOARD REPRESENTITIVES

CCBOT - CALVIN COLLEGE: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mrs. Margaret Verboon 2014(1)

CTS - CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Rev. Andrew Van der Leek 2013(1)

BGMI - BACK TO GOD MINISTRIES INT'L

Mr. John Vegt 2014(1)

HOME MISSIONS

Rev. Harvey Roosma 2015(2)

WORLD MISSIONS

Mrs. Jenny Siebring-deGroot 2015(1)

WORLD RENEW (Formally CRWRC)

Mr. George Hurlings 2015(1)

CRCPD - CHRISTIAN REFORMED CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIALOGUE

vacant

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE LIAISON

Mrs. Anne Kwantes 2016(3)

note: Synod 2013 eliminated Faith Alive Board

Revised September 2013
s/c AD



Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA)
& Classis British Columbia North-West (Classis BCNW)

Acronym List

ACRCMBC	Association for the Christian Reformed Campus Ministry in British Columbia <i>aka</i> Christian Reformed Campus Ministry at UNBC
ART	<i>see</i> SCT
BCSE	Classis British Columbia South-East
BOT	Board of Trustees (usually refers to the denominational board of trustees; however, the various agencies each have their own BOTs)
BTGH	<i>see</i> BTGMI
BTGMI	Back to God Ministries International (<i>sometimes</i> B2GMI; <i>formerly</i> The Back to God Hour)
CC	Candidacy Committee (<i>formerly</i> Synodical Ministerial Candidacy Committee)
CCG	<i>see</i> CRCPD
CDT	Church Development Team (classical)
CMC	Classical Ministries Committee
CMCC	<i>see</i> CMLT
CMLT	Classis Ministry Leadership Team (<i>formerly</i> Classis Ministry Candidacy Committee)
CO	Church Order (<i>also</i> CO Art. = Church Order Article)
CPD	<i>see</i> CRCPD
CPJ	Citizens for Public Justice
CRCM	Christian Reformed Campus Ministry (<i>see also</i> ACRCMBC)
CRCPD	Christian Reformed Centre for Public Dialogue (Canadian ministry; <i>formerly</i> Committee for Contact with the Government)
CRHM	Christian Reformed Home Missions
CRWM	Christian Reformed World Missions
CRWRC	Christian Reformed World Relief Committee
CTS	Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids MI
DMC	Diaconal Ministries Canada
DV	Deo Volente, Latin for “Lord Willing”
FOS	Form of Subscription (<i>may become known as</i> Covenant for Officebearers)
LDN	Leadership Development Network
M2/W2	Man-to-Man/Woman-to-Woman restorative ministry often within prisons
MA	Ministry Associate
MSC	Moved, Seconded, Carried (shorthand in classis minutes)
NCD	Natural Church Development (inter-denominational ministry)
OSJHA	Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action (denominational)
PCR	Pastor-Church Relations (denominational)
RMT	Regional Ministry Team
ROP	Rules of Procedure (classical)
SC	Stated Clerk (classical)
SCE	Sustaining Congregational Excellence
SCT	Safe Church Team (<i>formerly</i> Abuse Response Team) (can refer to either denominational or classical ministry)
SFC	Student Fund Committee (classical)
SL	Sierra Leone (<i>as in</i> CRC in BC & SL)
SMCC	<i>see</i> CC
SPE	Sustaining Pastoral Excellence
TKUC	The King’s University College, Edmonton AB
UNBC	University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George BC (<i>see also</i> ACRCMBC and CRCM)