

**Day 1 — Evening Session  
Tuesday, May 10, 2016**

**Article 9 – Reopening**

Synod reopened in plenary session.

**Article 10 – Agenda**

The following agenda was **adopted**.<sup>1</sup>

**Agenda of General Synod Dunnville 2016**

1. Opening on behalf of the convening church
2. Examination of the credentials
3. Election of the officers
4. Constitution of Synod
5. Information from the convening church
6. Adoption of the agenda
7. Setting of time schedule
8. Incoming mail

**8.1. General Matters**

- 8.1.1. Letter from RSW dated November 3, 2015 – Nominations for Board of Governors (BoG) for the CRTS
- 8.1.2. Letter from RSW dated November 3, 2015 – Appointments and credentials for delegates to GS Dunnville 2016
- 8.1.3. Letter from RSE dated November 12, 2015 – Delegates to GS Dunnville 2016, wages claim and recommendations re: BoG for the CRTS
- 8.1.4. CRTS replacements BoG nominations (Personal & Confidential)
- 8.1.5. Letter from the Rev. J. and sr. B. VanPopta
- 8.1.6. Letter from br. D.J. Bolt (reporter *Eén in Waarheid*)

**8.2. Committee Reports**

- 8.2.1. Committee on Relations with Churches Abroad (CRCA)
- 8.2.2. CRCA addition to GS 2016 report re: FRCA recommendation 3c
- 8.2.3. CRCA to GS 2016 re: appointments
  - 8.2.3.1. CRCA Subcommittee Reformed the Netherlands (CRCA-SRN)
  - 8.2.3.2. Appendix 1 – Letter Ede to CanRC
  - 8.2.3.3. Appendix 2 – Decisions regarding objections churches abroad (*English*)
  - 8.2.3.4. Appendix 3 – Decisions Men/Women in the church (*English*)
  - 8.2.3.5. Appendix 4 – Account of the Theological University Kampen (TUK) (*English*)
  - 8.2.3.6. Appendix 5 – Responsibilities: TUK, General Synod, and the churches (*Dutch*)
  - 8.2.3.7. Appendix 6 – Decisions regarding the NRC (NGK) (*Dutch*)
- 8.2.4. Committee for Contact with Churches in North America (CCCNA)
  - 8.2.4.1. Letter re: appointment of committee members
- 8.2.5. Committee for Church Unity (CCU)

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<sup>1</sup> Reference numbers derived from this agenda can be found between brackets in the lists of materials prefacing the decisions of this Synod further on in these Acts, beginning with Article 11.

- 8.2.6. CCU: Church Order Subcommittee
  - 8.2.6.1. Attachment 1: Response to the “Directives from Synod Carman 2013”
  - 8.2.6.2. Attachment 2: Other Items from the letters of the Churches
- 8.2.7. CCU: Theological Education Subcommittee
- 8.2.8. CCU: Liturgical Forms and Confessions Subcommittee
- 8.2.9. Standing Committee for the Publication of the *Book of Praise* (SCBP)
  - 8.2.9.1. Supplementary report
- 8.2.10. Inspection of Archives for GS 2013 – the Burlington-Rehoboth CanRC
- 8.2.11. Board of Governors (BoG) of the Canadian Reformed Theological Seminary (CRTS)
- 8.2.12. Pastoral Training Program Funding Committee
- 8.2.13. Days of Prayer
- 8.2.14. Committee for Bible Translation (CBT)
- 8.2.15. Committee for the Official Website (CWEB)
  - 8.2.15.1. Letter re: Nomination of members
- 8.2.16. Committee for the Needy Students Fund (CNSF)
- 8.2.17. General Fund
- 8.2.18. Address Church for the CanRC
- 8.2.19. Archives for General Synod

**8.3. Letters from the Churches regarding the reports**

- 8.3.1. *Committee on Relations with Churches Abroad (CRCA)*
  - 8.3.1.1. Subcommittee Netherlands
    - 8.3.1.1.1. The Burlington-Rehoboth CanRC dated February 1, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.2. The Smithers CanRC dated February 3, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.3. The Chatham-Ebenezer CanRC dated February 15, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.4. The Grand Valley CanRC dated March 4, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.5. The Langley CanRC dated January 16, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.6. The Ancaster CanRC dated March 7, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.7. The Fergus-North CanRC dated February 26, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.8. The Edmonton-Immanuel CanRC dated February 4, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.9. The Fergus-Maranatha CanRC dated March 17, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.10. The Glanbrook-Trinity CanRC dated March 5, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.11. The Grand Rapids ARC dated March 22, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.12. The Taber CanRC dated March 24, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.13. The Abbotsford CanRC dated March 10, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.14. The Grassie-Covenant CanRC dated March 24, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.15. The Cloverdale CanRC dated March 21, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.16. The Brampton-Grace CanRC dated March 23, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.17. The Elora CanRC dated March 24, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.18. The Burlington-Ebenezer CanRC dated March 28, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.19. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC dated March 29, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.20. GKNvv dated March 23, 2016
    - 8.3.1.1.21. GKNvv: copy of general synod press release
    - 8.3.1.1.22. GKNvv: copy of letter from GKNvv to DGK
  - 8.3.1.2. The Hamilton-Providence CanRC dated February 10, 2016 re: FERC
  - 8.3.1.3. The Smithville CanRC dated March 7, 2016

- 8.3.1.4. The Glanbrook-Trinity CanRC dated March 5, 2016
- 8.3.1.5. The Hamilton-Blessings CanRC dated March 19, 2016
- 8.3.1.6. The Flamborough CanRC dated March 21, 2016
- 8.3.1.7. The Lincoln-Vineyard CanRC dated March 22, 2016
- 8.3.1.8. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC dated March 29, 2016
- 8.3.1.9. The Abbotsford CanRC dated March 10, 2016
- 8.3.1.10. The Abbotsford CanRC re: request RCR dated March 10, 2016
  - i. Appendix 1 Report – Committee Reformed Churches Restored
  - ii. Appendix 2 From – Deputies Contact Churches Abroad of De Gereformeerde Kerken (DGK) dated Oct. 20, 2015
  - iii. Appendix 3 – call to Liberation dated July 17, 2007
- 8.3.1.11. Letter from CRCA-SRN
- 8.3.1.12. Letter from the Abbotsford CanRC
- 8.3.2. *Committee for Contact with Churches in North America (CCCNA)*
  - 8.3.2.1. The Orangeville CanRC dated January 22, 2016
  - 8.3.2.2. The Carman West CanRC dated February 1, 2016
  - 8.3.2.3. The Cloverdale CanRC dated February 15, 2016
  - 8.3.2.4. The Guelph-Emmanuel CanRC dated March 10, 2016
  - 8.3.2.5. The Ancaster CanRC dated March 7, 2016
  - 8.3.2.6. The Fergus-North CanRC dated February 26, 2016
  - 8.3.2.7. The Smithville CanRC dated March 7, 2016
  - 8.3.2.8. The Edmonton-Immanuel CanRC dated February 26, 2016
  - 8.3.2.9. The Fergus-Maranatha CanRC dated March 17, 2016
  - 8.3.2.10. The Glanbrook-Trinity CanRC dated March 5, 2016
  - 8.3.2.11. The Hamilton-Blessings CanRC dated March 19, 2016
  - 8.3.2.12. The Grand Rapids ARC dated March 22, 2016
  - 8.3.2.13. The Abbotsford CanRC dated March 10, 2016
  - 8.3.2.14. The Grassie-Covenant CanRC dated March 24, 2016
  - 8.3.2.15. The Lynden ARC dated March 21, 2016 (letter 1)
  - 8.3.2.16. The Lynden ARC dated March 21, 2016 (letter 2)
  - 8.3.2.17. The Willoughby Heights CanRC dated March 21, 2016
  - 8.3.2.18. The Elora CanRC dated March 24, 2016
  - 8.3.2.19. The Lincoln-Vineyard CanRC dated March 22, 2016
  - 8.3.2.20. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC re: CCCNA report–EF with RPCNA dated March 29, 2016
  - 8.3.2.21. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC re: CCCNA not to deal with past issues dated March 29, 2016
  - 8.3.2.22. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC re: CCCNA and NAPARC–Report 5 dated March 29, 2016
- 8.3.3. *Committee for Church Unity (CCU)*
  - 8.3.3.1. The Orangeville CanRC dated January 22, 2016
  - 8.3.3.2. The Fergus-Maranatha CanRC dated March 17, 2016
  - 8.3.3.3. The Glanbrook-Trinity CanRC dated March 5, 2016
  - 8.3.3.4. The Hamilton-Blessings CanRC dated March 19, 2016
  - 8.3.3.5. The Abbotsford CanRC dated March 10, 2016
  - 8.3.3.6. The Lincoln-Vineyard CanRC dated March 22, 2016

- 8.3.4. *Board of Governors of the Canadian Reformed Theological Seminary (CRTS)*
  - 8.3.4.1. The Dunnville CanRC dated January 19, 2016
  - 8.3.4.2. The Fergus-Maranatha CanRC dated March 17, 2016
  - 8.3.4.3. The Lincoln-Vineyard CanRC dated March 22, 2016
  - 8.3.4.4. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC dated March 29, 2016
- 8.3.5. *Committee for the Official Website (CWEB)*
  - 8.3.5.1. The Winnipeg-Redeemer CanRC dated February 1, 2016
  - 8.3.5.2. The Cloverdale CanRC dated March 21, 2016
  - 8.3.5.3. The Abbotsford CanRC dated March 10, 2016
  - 8.3.5.4. The Lincoln-Vineyard CanRC dated March 22, 2016
- 8.3.6. *Committee for the Needy Students Fund (NSF)*
  - 8.3.6.1. The Winnipeg-Redeemer CanRC dated February 1, 2016
  - 8.3.6.2. The Abbotsford CanRC dated March 10, 2016
  - 8.3.6.3. The Willoughby Heights CanRC dated March 7, 2016
- 8.3.7. *Committee for Bible Translation (CBT)*
  - 8.3.7.1. The St. Albert CanRC dated March 14, 2016
  - 8.3.7.2. The Glanbrook-Trinity CanRC dated March 5, 2016
  - 8.3.7.3. The Hamilton-Cornerstone CanRC dated March 29, 2016
- 8.3.8. *Standing Committee for the Publication of the Book of Praise*
  - 8.3.8.1. The Glanbrook-Trinity CanRC dated March 5, 2016
  - 8.3.8.2. The Cloverdale CanRC dated March 21, 2016
  - 8.3.8.3. The Abbotsford CanRC dated March 10, 2016
  - 8.3.8.4. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC dated March 29, 2016
  - SCBP Supplementary report
  - 8.3.8.5. The Tintern-Spring Creek CanRC dated March 15, 2016
  - 8.3.8.6. The Lynden ARC dated March 21, 2016
  - 8.3.8.7. The Winnipeg-Redeemer CanRC dated March 28, 2016
- 8.3.9. *Concern Re: GS 2013 art. 30, General Fund*
  - 8.3.9.1. The Orangeville CanRC dated March 21, 2016
- 8.3.10. *Letters from the Churches re: GS 2013 art. 110, Women voting*
  - 8.3.10.1. The Grand Rapids ARC dated March 22, 2016

#### **8.4. Overtures**

- 8.4.1. Overture from RSW dated November 5, 2015, re: care of theological students by their home church and examination of theological students by their home classis
- 8.4.2. Overture from the Brampton-Grace CanRC re: CBT Report

#### **8.5. Letters from the churches regarding the overtures**

- 8.5.1. *Overture from RSW (8.4.1)*
  - 8.5.1.1. The Burlington-Rehoboth CanRC dated February 1, 2016
  - 8.5.1.2. The Ancaster CanRC dated March 7, 2016
  - 8.5.1.3. The Fergus-North CanRC dated February 27, 2016
  - 8.5.1.4. The Hamilton-Providence CanRC dated March 9, 2016
  - 8.5.1.5. The Grand Rapids ARC dated March 22, 2016
  - 8.5.1.6. The Abbotsford CanRC dated March 10, 2016
  - 8.5.1.7. The Grassie-Covenant CanRC dated March 24, 2016
  - 8.5.1.8. The Lincoln-Vineyard CanRC dated March 22, 2016

#### **8.6. Appeals**

- 8.6.1. *Appeals re: GS 2013 art. 110, Women voting*
  - 8.6.1.1. The Hamilton-Cornerstone CanRC dated November 1, 2015
  - 8.6.1.2. The Hamilton-Blessings CanRC dated March 19, 2016 – agreement with Hamilton-Cornerstone CanRC appeal
  - 8.6.1.3. The Vernon CanRC dated August 18, 2014
  - 8.6.1.4. The Smithers CanRC dated October 7, 2015
  - 8.6.1.5. The Burlington-Ebenezer CanRC dated August 17, 2015
  - 8.6.1.6. The Burlington-Rehoboth CanRC dated September 14, 2015
  - 8.6.1.7. The Langley CanRC dated May 18, 2015
  - 8.6.1.8. The Ottawa-Jubilee CanRC dated January 29, 2015
  - 8.6.1.9. The Cloverdale CanRC dated May 4, 2015
  - 8.6.1.10. The Guelph-Living Word CanRC dated November 9, 2015
  - 8.6.1.11. The Flamborough CanRC dated November 16, 2015
  - 8.6.1.12. The Aldergrove CanRC dated March 27, 2014
  - 8.6.1.13. The Edmonton-Providence CanRC dated February 13, 2016
  - 8.6.1.14. The Burlington-Fellowship CanRC dated February 15, 2015
  - 8.6.1.15. The St. Albert CanRC dated March 12, 2016
  - 8.6.1.16. The Brampton-Grace CanRC dated March 23, 2016
  - 8.6.1.17. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC dated March 29, 2016
- 8.6.2. *Appeals re: GS 2013 art. 101, Wording of the Subscription Form*
  - 8.6.2.1. The Dunnville CanRC dated May, 2014
- 8.6.3. *Appeals re: GS 2013 art. 125, Wording in Article 59, CO*
  - 8.6.3.1. The Burlington-Rehoboth CanRC dated September 14, 2015
- 8.6.4. *Appeals re: GS 2013 art. 97, Bible Translation*
  - 8.6.4.1. The Burlington-Fellowship CanRC dated February 15, 2015
- 8.6.5. *Appeals re: GS 2013 art. 128, Women's Voting as Local Matter*
  - 8.6.5.1. The Burlington-Fellowship CanRC dated February 15, 2015
- 8.6.6. *Appeals re: GS 2013 art. 173, Hymn Mandate*
  - 8.6.6.1. The Burlington-Fellowship CanRC dated February 15, 2015
  - 8.6.6.2. The Toronto-Bethel CanRC dated March 29, 2016
- 8.6.7. *Appeals re: Decision of RSE November 11, 2015*
  - 8.6.7.1. The Hamilton-Providence CanRC dated March 7, 2016
  - 8.6.7.2. Letter from br. Arnold Sikkema
- 8.6.8. *Appeals re: GS 2013 art. 62*
  - 8.6.8.1. The Abbotsford Liberated Reformed Church dated February 25, 2016
- 8.6.9. *Appeals re: GS 2013 art. 125 rec. 4.5*
  - 8.6.9.1. The Hamilton-Blessings CanRC dated March 19, 2016
- 8.6.10. *Appeal re: Ancaster Appeal of a decision made by RSE Nov. 2013*
  - 8.6.10.1. The Ancaster CanRC, dated February 8, 2016
    - i. Appeal of Ancaster including Summary of Ecclesiastical Process
    - ii. Appendix 1
    - iii. Appendix 2
    - iv. Appendix 3
    - v. Appendix 4
    - vi. Appendix 5
    - vii. Appendix 6

- viii. Appendix 7
- ix. Appendix 8
- x. Appendix 9
- xi. Appendix 10

8.6.10.2 Letter from br. Jitse M. van der Meer

9. Appointments

9.1. Letter from the Rev. Anthon Souman

9.2. Letter from CCCNA

10. Censure ad Article 34 CO

11. Publication of the Acts

12. Financial Matters—wages claim (see letter in agenda item 8.1.3)

13. Preparation for next General Synod

14. Adoption of the Acts

15. Approval of the Press Release

16. Closing

**Article 11 – GGRI-NTT – Letter of Greeting**

The chairman read a letter of greeting sent by the Reformed Churches of Indonesia in the Province NTT (GGRI-NTT), expressing gratitude for our relationship of EF and expressing regret at being unable to attend synod in person on account of lack of funds. The full text of the letter can be found in *Appendix #*. A letter will be sent in response.

**Article 12 – RCNZ – Letter of Greeting**

The chairman read a letter of greeting sent by the Reformed Churches of New Zealand (RCNZ), expressing gratitude for our relationship of EF and expressing regret at being unable to attend synod in person on account of illness of the designated delegate. The full text of the letter can be found in *Appendix #*. A letter will be sent in response.

**Article 13 – FRCA – Fraternal Delegate Address**

The chairman introduced the Rev. Stephen 't Hart and br. Peter Witten, credentialed delegates of the Free Reformed Churches of Australia (FRCA). Br. Witten addressed synod expressing joy over our warm and close relationship. The full text of his address can be found in *Appendix #*. The Rev. R. Vermeulen responded with appropriate words.

**Article 14 – OPC – Fraternal Delegate Address**

The chairman introduced br. Mark Bube, credentialed delegate of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). Br. Bube addressed synod, describing the history of the OPC over the past three years and its current state. The full text of his address can be found in *Appendix #*. The Rev. E. Kampen responded with appropriate words.

**Article 15 – RCUS – Fraternal Delegate Address**

The chairman introduced the Rev. George Horner, credentialed delegate of the Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS). The Rev. Horner addressed synod, encouraging faithfulness to God's Word, and describing the recent history and current state of the RCUS. The full text of his address can be found in *Appendix #*. The Rev. J. Poppe responded with appropriate words.

**Article 16 – Free Reformed Churches of Australia (FRCA)**

Advisory Committee 1 presented its report on the FRCA. The report was discussed. The committee took the report back for refinement.

**Article 17 – Reformed Churches of New Zealand (RCNZ)**

**1. Material**

1.1 Report of Committee for Relations with Churches Abroad (CRCA) (8.2.1)

**2. Observations**

2.1 GS 2013 (Article 192) decided:

2.1.1. To continue the relationship of EF with the RCNZ under the adopted rules;

2.1.2. To try to get a better understanding of the practical changes entailed by the relationship of EF that was begun in 2007 and to encourage the RCNZ to be consequent in their relationship with the CRCAustralia as they develop and finalize the rules for EF;

2.1.3. To encourage the RCNZ to keep seeking ways to grow closer towards the FRCA;

2.1.4. To invite the RCNZ to become better acquainted with CRTS in Hamilton;

2.1.5. To send a delegation to the next RCNZ synod in 2014, if feasible.

2.2 From the CRCA report, the following:

2.2.1. The Rev. Arend Witten attended Synod Bishopdale in 2014 as delegate;

2.2.2. The RCNZ changed their relationship with the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia (CRCAus) from sister church relationship to the more restricted ecumenical fellowship, a new relationship for which new rules have been established;

2.2.3. The relationship between the RCNZ and the FRCA has become a sister church relationship;

2.2.4. The RCNZ deputies for the training of the ministry endeavor to supervise the training of the ministry by visiting the seminaries where their students are studying. Current commitments with other seminaries limits their ability to add another seminary at this time;

2.2.5. The RCNZ and Christian Reformed Churches in The Netherlands (CRCN/CGKN) mutually decided to discontinue their sister church relationship due to limited contact;

2.2.6. The RCNZ continues to appreciate the cooperation with the CanRC with the work of mission in Papua New Guinea (PNG).

2.3 The CRCA recommends:

2.3.1. To continue the relationship of ecclesiastical fellowship with the RCNZ under the adopted rules;

2.3.2. To express appreciation for ongoing cooperation with the RCNZ in the mission in PNG;

2.3.3. To send a delegation to the next RCNZ Synod in 2017.

**3. Considerations**

3.1. From the CRCA report it is evident that the RCNZ remain true and faithful churches of our Lord Jesus Christ.

3.2. The CanRC also value the bond with the RCNZ.

#### **4. Recommendation**

That Synod decide:

- 4.1 To continue the relationship of Ecclesiastical Fellowship with the RCNZ under the adopted rules;
- 4.2. To express appreciation for ongoing cooperation with the RCNZ in the mission in PNG;
- 4.3. To mandate the CRCA to send a delegation to the next RCNZ Synod in 2017.

#### **ADOPTED**

#### **Article 18 – Closing Devotions and Adjournment**

The Rev. J. Poppe read Revelation 1:9-20, spoke some words, had those present sing Hymn 46:1,4 and led in prayer.

Synod was adjourned until the morning session.

#### **Day 2 — Morning Session Wednesday, May 11, 2016**

#### **Article 19 – Opening**

The chairman noted all synod members are present. He read Acts 1:1-5, spoke some words, led in prayer and had those present sing Psalm 68:2,7. Some housekeeping matters were dealt with. Newly arrived fraternal delegates and a fraternal observer were welcomed.

#### **Article 20 – Adoption of Acts**

Articles 1-8 of the *Acts* were corrected and adopted.

#### **Article 21 – Free Reformed Churches of Australia (FRCA)**

##### **1. Material**

- 1.1. Report of Committee for Relations with Churches Abroad (8.2.1)
- 1.2. CRCA addition to report 2016 re: FRCA recommendation 3c (8.2.2)
- 1.3. Letter from the Flamborough CanRC (8.3.1.6)

##### **2. Observations**

- 2.1. GS 2013 (Article 123) decided:
  - 2.1.1. To continue the relationship of ecclesiastical fellowship with the FRCA under the adopted rules;
  - 2.1.2. To express thankfulness and appreciation for the FRCA's ongoing support for and interest in the Theological Seminary, including their generous financial support;
  - 2.1.3. To assure the FRCA of our continued attention to the nature and direction of the relationship of the RCNZ with the CRCAus;
  - 2.1.4. To maintain close contact with the various deputyships of the FRCA in matters of relations with sister churches abroad and informing the FRCA of changes or developments in third party relationships;
  - 2.1.5. To invite the various deputyships of the FRCA to seek direct contact with the corresponding CanRC committees (e.g., our SCBP, sub-committee RCN, our



- committee in charge of reviewing the liturgical forms, Committee on Bible Translations, and perhaps others) in areas of mutual interest where the CRCA's mandate does not apply;
- 2.1.6. To send a delegation to the next synod of the FRCA in 2015.
- 2.2. From the CRCA report, the following:
- 2.2.1. Two brothers, O. Bouwman and J. Van Laar, attended the Synod Baldivis 2015.
- 2.2.2. Synod Baldivis decided to accept the request of the RCNZ to be sister-churches.
- 2.2.3. Synod Baldivis decided to suspend the relationship with the RCN, while still maintaining contact.
- 2.2.4. Synod Baldivis offered a sister church relationship to the First Evangelical Reformed Church (Singapore) (FERC), which has been accepted.
- 2.2.5. The FRCA mandated their deputies to develop an Australian version of the Canadian Book of Praise and present it to their next Synod.
- 2.2.6. The FRCA continue to support the CRTS. Deputies have been tasked with investigating the feasibility of establishing a FRCA theological seminary at some point in the future.
- 2.3. The CRCA recommends that Synod decide:
- 2.3.1. To continue the relationship of EF with the FRCA under the adopted rules;
- 2.3.2. To express thankfulness and appreciation for the FRCA's ongoing support for and interest in the CRTS, including their financial support.
- 2.3.3. To mandate the CRCA
- 2.3.3.1. To maintain close contact with the various deputyships of the FRCA in matters of relations with sister churches abroad and informing the FRCA of changes or developments in third party relationships;
- 2.3.3.2. To invite the various deputyships of the FRCA to seek direct contact with the corresponding CanRC committees (e.g., our SCBP, subcommittee RCN, our committee in charge of reviewing the liturgical forms, Committee on Bible Translations, and perhaps others) in areas of mutual interest where the CRCA's mandate does not reach;
- 2.3.3.3. To send a delegation to the next FRCA Synod in 2018.
- 2.4. Flamborough suggests to inquire of the FRCA about further contact with the PRCA.

### **3. Considerations**

- 3.1. From the CRCA report it is evident that the FRCA remain true and faithful churches of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3.2. The CanRC also value the bond with the FRCA.
- 3.3. Synod should indeed express thankfulness for the continued support of the CRTS.
- 3.4. We note the suggestion of Flamborough and pass it on to the CRCA for their consideration.

### **4. Recommendations**

That Synod decide:

- 4.1. To continue the relationship of ecclesiastical fellowship with the FRCA under the adopted rules;
- 4.2. To express thankfulness and appreciation for the FRCA's ongoing support for and interest in the Theological Seminary, including their financial support;
- 4.3. To mandate the CRCA

- 4.3.1. To maintain close contact with the various deputyships of the FRCA in matters of relations with sister churches abroad and informing the FRCA of changes or developments in third party relationships;
- 4.3.2. To invite the various deputyships of the FRCA to seek direct contact with the corresponding CanRC committees (e.g., our SCBP, subcommittee RCN, our committee in charge of reviewing the liturgical forms, Committee on Bible Translations, and perhaps others) in areas of mutual interest where the CRCA's mandate does not reach;
- 4.3.3. To send a delegation to the next FRCA synod in 2018.

**ADOPTED**

**Article 22 – Appeal of Ancaster re: RSE 2013 article 8**

Synod went into closed session.

Committee 4 presented a report on the admissibility of the appeal of the Ancaster CanRC (8.6.10.1) and the letter of br. Jitse M. van der Meer (8.6.10.2). The report was discussed. The committee took back the report for refinement.

Synod returned to open session.

Synod was adjourned for committee work until the evening session.

**Day 2 — Evening Session  
Wednesday, May 11, 2016**

**Article 23 – Reopening**

Synod reopened in plenary session. The chairman noted all synod members are present. Some housekeeping matters were dealt with.

**Article 24 – Committee for Contact with Churches in North America (CCCNA) – General**

Advisory Committee 2 presented its report on the CCCNA: General Report. The report was discussed. The committee took the report back for refinement.

**Article 25 – Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC)**

Advisory Committee 2 presented its report on the OPC. The report was discussed. The committee took the report back for refinement.

**Article 26 – Korean Presbyterian Church in America (Kosin) (KPCA-K)**

**1 Material**

- 1.1 The Committee for Contact with Churches in North America (CCCNA)–Report on Korean Presbyterian Church in America (KPCA-K)
- 1.2 Brief History of the KPCA-K
- 1.3 Report on Visit to the 30th General Assembly of KPCA-K
- 1.4 Report on Meeting with the IRC of the KPCA-K at NAPARC 2014

**2 Observations**

- 2.1 GS 2013 mandated the committee to respond, if possible and feasible, to specific requests

- made to attend assemblies, synods, or meetings of other churches in North America and to report on its findings with suitable recommendations to the next general synod.
- 2.2 August 2014, Rev. Holtvlüwer received a written request directly from a representative of the KPCA-K to attend their upcoming 30th General Assembly in Chicago, IL. He was invited and attended in his dual capacity as chairman of NAPARC as well as a representative of the CanRC. This marked the first time such a formal invitation from this church was received by the CanRC.
  - 2.3 A meeting of representatives of their IRC and our CCCNA was held at NAPARC 2014. This meeting was helpful to become acquainted with each other's respective churches. It was agreed to hold another such meeting at NAPARC 2015, the Lord willing.
  - 2.4 The KPCA-K is the daughter church of the Kosin Presbyterian Church in Korea (KPCK), a church with which the CanRC has ecclesiastical fellowship. The KPCA has the very same confessional basis as the mother church. This daughter church exists much closer to the CanRC in North America including parts of Canada.
  - 2.5 The dominant language of the KPCA-K remains Korean at this time. Official assemblies and worship services are held entirely in Korean. Younger leaders and members are transitioning to English on a personal level but this is not expected to occur broadly on a denominational level in the near term. The language barrier is an impediment to meaningful ties and practical interaction with one another on both the federational and local levels and suggests the wisdom of taking a long-term approach toward formal ecclesiastical fellowship.

### **3 Consideration**

- 3.1 The committee has fulfilled its mandate in this matter.

### **4 Recommendations**

That Synod decide

- 4.1 To express gratitude to the Lord for the establishment of contact with the KPCA-K.
- 4.2 To mandate the CCCNA to continue dialogue with the KPCA-K where feasible, with a view to getting to know the KPCA-K better over time.

## **ADOPTED**

### **Article 27 – Point of Order: Application CO article 32**

As there had been some confusion on the floor of synod over the application of CO article 32, the chairman indicated delegates could vote as follows.

- Appeals: if a synod member has been involved in the judging of a certain appeal at a minor assembly, he is advised not to vote when an appeal in the same matter is dealt with by synod.
- Committees: if a synod member is a member of the Board of Governors or the Standing Committee for the *Book of Praise*, their legal context prevents them from voting. Members of other committees (e.g. CRCA, CCCNA, CNSF) are free to vote in matters pertaining to the committee of which they are part.

### **Article 28 – Reformed Church of Quebec (ERQ)**

Advisory Committee 2 presented its report on the ERQ. The report was discussed. The committee took the report back for refinement.

**Article 29 – Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS)**

Advisory Committee 2 presented its report on the RCUS. The report was discussed. The committee took the report back for refinement.

**Article 30 – North American Reformed and Presbyterian Council (NAPARC)**

Advisory Committee 2 presented its report on the NAPARC. The report was discussed. The committee took the report back for refinement.

**Article 31 – General Fund**

**1. Material**

- 1.1. Financial Report for General Fund from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015 (8.2.17)
- 1.2. Letter from the Orangeville CanRC regarding Article 30 of the Acts of GS 2013 (8.3.9)

**2. Observations**

- 2.1. The Carman East CanRC was appointed by GS 2013 to administer the General Fund, and to collect funds as required from the churches.
- 2.2. Carman-East appointed two office bearers to audit the books. They found the books to be in good order.
- 2.3. To administer this fund the churches were assessed \$4 per communicant member for 2013; \$4 for 2014; \$3 for 2015.
- 2.4. The balance of the Fund as of January 1, 2013 was \$22095.92; total disbursements amounted to \$96548.66; balance as of January 1, 2016 was \$41614.59.
- 2.5. Orangeville expressed appreciation for the work of Carman East in administering the General Fund. At the same time it expressed concern that two of Carman East's own office bearers audited the books. Orangeville proposed, "That the Church of Carman East ask the Church of Carman West do (*sic*) such audit of the record keeping of the books of the General Fund as administered by Carman East." Orangeville expressed the sentiment that it would be good practice that audits of "financial aspects concerning Synod or the Churches as a whole, be done by Churches in close proximity to the administering Church of such funds, and not the same Church auditing its own records."

**3. Considerations**

- 3.1. Carman East has fulfilled its mandate regarding the General Fund.
- 3.2. While in no way questioning the integrity of the audit completed by the brothers of Carman East, Orangeville makes a valid point that it would be practical and proper to ask the neighbouring congregation of Carman West to audit the books of the General Fund.

**4. Recommendations**

That Synod decide:

- 4.1. To receive with thankfulness the report from Carman-East;
- 4.2. To express gratitude to the office-bearers who audited the books and to Br. G. Vandersluis for functioning as treasurer;
- 4.3. To authorize Carman East to collect funds from the churches as required until the time of

- the next synod;
- 4.4. To discharge Carman East for the duties completed during the period of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015;
  - 4.5. To reappoint Carman East to administer the General Fund;
  - 4.6. To appoint Carman West to audit the books of the General Fund.

**ADOPTED**

**Article 32 – Archive Church**

**1. Material**

- 1.1 Report of the Archives for GS 2013 (8.2.19)
- 1.2 Report on the Inspection of Archives for GS 2013 (8.2.10)

**2. Observations**

- 2.1 The Burlington-Ebenezer CanRC reports:
  - 2.1.1. All material from GS 2013 has been placed in the Archives of general synod and has been catalogued.
  - 2.1.2. There have been no inquiries for information or request for materials from the archives since the last general synod.
  - 2.1.3. Jonathan Chase has completed scanning of all the Synod archive material for the CRTS – all Acts, reports, and standing committee material.
- 2.2. The Burlington-Rehoboth CanRC inspected the archives of GS 2013 and reports that they are in good order.

**3. Considerations**

- 3.1. Burlington-Ebenezer has fulfilled its mandate regarding the archives.
- 3.2. Burlington-Rehoboth has fulfilled its mandate regarding inspection of the archives.

**4. Recommendations**

That Synod decide:

- 4.1. To express gratitude to Burlington-Ebenezer and Burlington-Rehoboth for their reports;
- 4.2. To express gratitude to Jonathan Chase for the work he did in scanning synod archive material;
- 4.3. To reappoint Burlington-Ebenezer as Archive Church for synod archives;
- 4.4. To reappoint Burlington-Rehoboth to inspect synod archives.

**ADOPTED**

**Article 33 – Address Church**

**1. Material**

- 1.1 Report from the Burlington-Ebenezer CanRC (8.2.18)

**2. Observation**

- 2.1 Burlington-Ebenezer reported it received two requests from the publisher of *The Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches* to update the statistical information regarding the CanRC. Burlington-Ebenezer responded to each request with information taken from the

most recent copy of the *Yearbook of the Canadian and American Reformed Churches*.

**3. Consideration**

- 3.1. It is clear from the report that Burlington-Ebenezer fulfilled its mandate.

**4. Recommendations**

That Synod decide:

- 4.1. To receive with thankfulness the report from Burlington-Ebenezer;  
4.2. To reappoint Burlington-Ebenezer as Address Church for the CanRC.

**ADOPTED**

**Article 34 – Days of Prayer**

**1. Material**

- 1.1 Report from the Burlington-Rehoboth CanRC and Edmonton-Providence CanRC regarding days of prayer (8.2.13)

**2. Observation**

- 2.1 Burlington-Rehoboth and Edmonton-Providence reported that they were not called upon by the churches to organize a day of prayer.

**3. Consideration**

- 3.1. The churches appointed have fulfilled their mandate given by GS 2013.

**4. Recommendations**

That Synod decide:

- 3.1 To express gratitude to Burlington-Rehoboth and Edmonton-Providence for their report;  
3.2. To reappoint these two churches to implement Article 54 CO as needed.

**ADOPTED**

**Article 35 – Closing Devotions and Adjournment**

Br. J. Roukema spoke some words, read Romans 12:1-8, led in prayer, and had those present sing Hymn 47:4,5.

Synod was adjourned until the morning session.