



The Classis of Ontario, Inc
 Minutes of the Classis Student Examinations
 September 13, 1997.

The meeting was hosted by the Reformed Church of Guelph, for the purpose of examining Rev Henry Dekorte, who is their Pastor-elect. Rev Dekorte comes to the Classis from the Christian Reformed Church.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Our President, Mr Art Dubbeldam, called the meeting to order. He welcomed all who were present and led us in our opening song, "How Firm a Foundation".

Worship Service The service was led by Mr Art Dubbeldam led us in the reading of the Scriptures from Matthew 21:33-34. He spoke to us about the responsibility we have as believers to be doing the work of the Father in a devotional called "We Are Involved!" After leading us in prayer, the congregation joined in the singing of the hymn, "Nearer, Still Nearer".

2. THE ROLL CALL:

The following Churches were represented by:

Brantford		
Cambridge	Rev Siebrant Wilts	Elder James VandenBerg
Chatham	Rev John Kapteyn	Elder Henry Dekker
Downsview La Senda	No Current Pastor	
Drayton		Elder John Krul
Exeter	No Current Pastor	Elder Wm Bakerlaar
		Elder Bert Brand
Guelph	No Current Pastor	Elder De Vries
		Elder A Winkler
Grimsby	Rev Heino Blaauw	
Hamilton	Rev Ron Sikkema	Elder Jack Huisman
Harriston	No Current Pastor	
Kingsville		
London	No Current Pastor	
Maitland		
Mississauga	No Current Pastor	
Sheffield	No Current Pastor	Elder Barry Everts
		Elder Bill Kroesbergen
Springford	Rev Lieuwe Schaaafsma	
St. Catharines		
Stevensville	Rev Ken Ramsay	
Stoney Creek	Rev Abram Blaak	

Toronto Maple Leaf	No Current Pastor	
Tory Hill		
Wainfleet	Rev Anthon Bouw	Elder Martin DeVos
Welland		
Whitby		
Woodstock Em		

The following Unorganized Churches were presented by:

North York Christ the King	
Thorold Grace	Rev Leslie Boyd
Toronto Agapé Reformed	

Other Members of Classis Present were

Rev Thomas Meyer (Classis Treasurer), Rev Jim Moerman.

From the Executive: President Art Dubbeldam

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

Rev Winnefred Bridges, Rev Jeff Kingswood, Rev Luther Ratmeyer, Rev Jack Van Dyk, Rev Martyn Van Essen, Rev Joe Veldman, Rev Calvin Ver Mulm, Rev Charles Webster.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

Rev Brigido Cabrera, Rev Ron Cassie, Rev Carson Culp, Rev John Drost, Rev Peter De Jonge, Rev Roeland Hartmans, Rev John Heeg, Rev Dirk Kramer, Rev Will Kroon, Rev Tom Murray, Rev Chris Platteel, Rev Gordon Ross, Rev Wallace Stoepker, Rev Cliff Turkstra, Rev Tom Vanderschaaf, Rev Henry Van Essen, Rev William VanKerkhoeven, Rev Art VanSlageren, Rev John VerHoog, Mr Don Waterhouse, Rev William Wensink, Rev Art Zeilstra.

GUESTS OF THE CLASSIS:

Rev Tim Held, Peter Allen Devries, Ben and Martha Schuurman Hess, Dick Van Leeuwen, Jerry De Groot, Pieter Koudijs, Ray Mellema, Jan Weijngarden, Petggy DeGroot (with Juliana and Natasha), Sandra and Mark Baguley, Henk Frielink, John and Clare Boosma. Henry Van Leeuwen, B. Van Leeuwen, K. Exema.

AGENDA FOR CLASSIS MEETING:

1. The Examination of Rev Henry Dekorte.

Rev. Thomas Meyer introduced Rev Dekorte to the Classis. Rev Dekorte gave us a five minutes life history. He shared with us his faith journey, God's call to him in his life to ministry and his schooling and ministerial background.

THE SCHEDULE FOR EXAMINATIONS

The proper credentials had been presented to Student Care Committee before the meeting.

Rev Thomas Meyer, the Chair person of the Student Care Committee, assured the candidate that his credentials were accepted, and that we recognize his ordination. This examination, then, is about theology, history and Reformed Church Standards.

Theology: Scripture, God and Eschatology (15 min)

Examined by Rev Ken Ramsay.

M.S. to arrest this part of the examination. **Carried.**

Theology: Mankind, Christology, and Soteriology (15 min)

Examined by Rev Lieuwe Schaafsma.

M.S. to arrest this part of the examination. **Carried.**

Nature of and Administration of the Sacraments (10 min)

Examined by Rev Jim Moerman

M.S. to arrest this part of the examination. **Carried.**

Knowledge of and Adherence to the Standards of the R.C.A. (15 min)

EXAMINED BY: Rev Les Boyd

M.S. to arrest this part of the examination. **Carried.**

**Knowledge of and Adherence to the Government and
Disciplinary procedure of the R.C.A.** (15 min)

EXAMINED BY: Rev Martyn Van Essen

M.S. to arrest this part of the examination. **Carried.**

**History and Program of the R.C.A. World Mission and
Loyalty to its Agencies** (10 min)

EXAMINED BY: Rev Abram Blaak

M.S. to arrest this part of the examination. **Carried.**

M.S. to go into Executive Session. **Carried.**

-- **M.S.** to sustain examination in Theology: Scripture, God and Eschatology. **Carried.**

-- **M.S.** to sustain examination in Theology: Mankind, Christology, Soteriology. **Carried.**

-- **M.S.** to sustain examination in Nature of and Administration of the Sacraments. **Carried.**

-- **M.S.** to sustain examination in Knowledge of and Adherence to the Standards of the R.C.A. **Carried.**

-- **M.S.** to sustain examination in Knowledge of and Adherence to the Government and Disciplinary procedure of the R.C.A. **Carried.**

-- **M.S.** to sustain examination in History and Program of the RCA Missions **Carried.**

-- **M.S.** to accept the Rev Henry Dekorte be accepted as a member of the Classis of Ontario, and that he read the Declaration for Ministers. **Carried.**

Motion that we move out of Executive Session. **Supported and Carried.**

When the Rev Dekorte was back in the Sanctuary he was congratulated on the passing of his examinations, He read the Declaration for Ministers before the Classis. It was at this time that the delegates of Classis and visitors present extended their hand of fellowship to Rev Dekorte as a welcome into the Classis.

Motion that the Stated Clerk write a letter to the Consistory and members of the Reformed Church of Guelph to give thanks for their hospitality for our meeting today. **Supported and Carried.**

Motion to adjourn the meeting of Classis. **Supported and Carried.** The Rev Thomas Meyer closed the meeting in prayer.

The Elder delegates from the Guelph congregation led those present in the devotions for lunch. The reading was from Joshua 1:1-10, as an encouragement to the Rev Dekorte. The reading was followed by a prayer of blessing of the food to our bodies.

Humbly submitted

Rev Abram Blaak
Stated Clerk

Mr Art Dubbeldam
Classis President