



Minutes of the Meeting of

Classis Alberta South & Saskatchewan

of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

October 24, 2025

Iron Springs CRC

Iron Springs, Alberta



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VISION STATEMENT

Classis Alberta South & Saskatchewan is a regional group of Christian Reformed Churches dependant on the Holy Spirit, striving to function together as one body in Christ, share in worship, promote evangelism, diaconal ministries, and nurture through mutual accountability.

Chair: Rev. Henry Veldboom, Granum CRC

Vice Chair: Rev. Gary van Leeuwen, Nobleford CRC

Clerk: Nelly Eyk (Stated Clerk)

Classis was held in Iron Springs CRC in Iron Springs, Alberta, starting at 9:00 AM

1. **1.1 Brian Corr, Elder of Iron Springs CRC** : Welcomed all and shared 1 Peter 2 4-5 , ⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house^[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Allow the Living Stone to use us as Living stones to proclaim His gospel and be constructed By Christ into his Kingdom.
 - 1.2 **The worship team of Iron Springs CRC lead us in Worship.**
 - 1.3 **Brian, opened the meeting with Prayer.**
2. **Welcome to delegates and visitors by the Chair.**
3. **Classis was called to Order:**
 - 3.1. Credentials and Roll Call for attendance. Classis was constituted.

To meet the requirement of Synod 2025 for all to affirm their subscription to the Covenant for Officebearers, the following Motion was presented.

Motion: At the beginning of each meeting of Classis, the Chair will read the Covenant of Office Bearers, all delegates will be asked to stand to affirm their subscription to the Covenant.

Seconded and Carried
 - 3.2. First time delegates were asked to sign the ‘Covenant for Officebearers’.
 - 3.3. The Chair read the Covenant of Office Bearers. Delegates were then asked to stand to affirm their subscription. Those that did not stand were welcomed to address the meeting but are not allowed to vote.

Church	Minister	Elder	Deacon
Bethel	Rick Groeneveld/elder	Dusty Deruiter	Larry Friesen
Brooks	Paul Droogers	Bonnie Spagg	Wendy Bekkema
Burdett	n/a	Gordon Schussler	Simone Mastel
Covenant	Matt VandenHeuvel	Lee Himbeault	Joshua Johnson
Emmanuel	n/a	Katherine Stol	Helen McCumber
Granum	Henry Veldboom	Jon Hummel	Tom van Haarst
High River	n/a	Herman Kielstra	Tyler Nauta
Iron Springs	Nancy Nieboer / elder	Rowena Shepherd	Marien Bos
Lantern Community	n/a	n/a	n/a
Living Hope	Kevin VanderVeen	Keith Vis	n/a
Maranatha (Calgary)	n/a	Peter deJonge	Emma Deslippe
Maranatha (Lethbridge)	Dan Mienema *	Yvonne Barthel *	Beatrice Slavich*
Nobleford	Gary van Leeuwen	Dirk vander Kooij	Jason Hoetmer
River Park	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sonlight	n/a	Sean Bosman	Richard Sandstra
Taber, (First)	n/a	Richard Visser	Dan DeBoer

3.4. The Chair welcomed Peter VandenDool , **Treasurer**; Nelly Eyk, **Stated Clerk**, George Koopmans, **Medicine Hat College Chaplain**, Chris Vanderberg , Judy Heim, **As advisors**.

3.5. Guests: Martin Boardman, (Regional Pastor), Joe Elkerton (Indigenous Christian Fellowship),

4. Approve the Agenda.

4.1 Addition of

7.1.5 Report of Synod 2025.

9: Motion from Iron Spring CRC.

Motion: To Approve the Agenda with additions.

Seconded and Carried.

5. Committee Reports:

5.1 **Credentials Committee:** River Park CRC, Calgary, and Lantern Community Church CRC. Didn't file credentials. Comments on Credentials:

Emmanuel CRC: asked to be appointed a counsellor.

Covenant CRC: Nominations for Elder and Deacon delegates for Synod 2026

Lee Himbeault (Elder) Joshua Johnson (Deacon)

Living Hope: comment: Looking forward; how do we support each other moving forward.

5.2 **Nomination Committee:** Judy Heim. (Emmanuel and Covenant)

5.2.1 Election: Synod 2026 delegates.

There was only one name forwarded for both elder and deacon therefore CIC decided to allow more time for nominations and the vote will happen at the spring meeting. There are Four pastors that are able and willing to be delegated to Synod 2025. After the voting our delegates will be :

Pastor: Gary van Leeuwen, Nobleford CRC Alternate, Paul Droogers, Brooks, CRC

4th Delegate: Henry Veldboom, Granum, CRC, Alternate: Matt VandenHeuvel, Covenant CRC

5.2.2 Stated Clerk:

Emmanuel CRC recommended **Judy Heim** for the position of Stated Clerk.

She was ratified by the Delegates

5.2.3 CMLT Chair:

CIC recommended **Gerhardt Venter** for the position of Chairperson for CMLT.

He was ratified by the Delegates.

5.2.4 Committee members for Chaplain Committee:

George Koopmans nominated **Simone Mastel**. Simone agreed to serve and was ratified by the delegates. Mike Wind is also a member of this committee. Paul Droogers will be approached to serve.

5.2.5 Church Visitors committee:

Gys vanden Pol reporting:

Recommended as members of the committee

Kevin VanderVeen (Living Hope CRC)

Harry Fritzky (Emmanuel)

Art Dronkelaar (Iron Springs)

Brendan Postman (Nobleford)

Gys vanden Pol (Iron Springs)

Motion to approve committee members as listed above.

Seconded and Carried

Motion: to delegate CIC to accept and approve members of the committee and church visitors at their discretion.

Seconded and Carried

5.2.6 Synod Deputy (Alternate) Gary van Leeuwen spoke to this, if there is a Minister who would like to volunteer, please contact the CIC.

5.2.7 Motion to Destroy Ballots.

Seconded and CARRIED

6. Classical Administrative Reports:

6.1 Classical Interim Committee/ Classical Ministries Committee.

All CIC and CMC meetings were Via Zoom , minutes are posted on the website.

Motion to approve the work of the CIC and CMC.

Seconded CARRIED

6.2 Classis Stated Clerk Report: as per report in agenda

Motion: to approve the work of the Classical Stated Clerk

Seconded CARRIED

6.3 Classical Treasurer's Report - Peter VandenDool

6.3.1 The Budget for 2026 was presented and reviewed.

There has been an additional \$5,000.00 added to the Budget to cover extra funds for the CMLT.

Motion to approved 2026 Financial report as presented and reviewed.

Seconded CARRIED

6.3.2 Treasurer encouraged all churches to pay their Classical ministry shares early in the year to make sure that the treasurer has an adequate cash flow.

6.4 Classical Ministerial Leadership Team,

6.4.1 It was reported that Jim Jo of Bethel, Saskatoon is the only person that is receiving support at this time. He is working on the EPMC program at Calvin Seminary.

6.4.2 Classis Alberta North has approached our classis to help financially support them as they have more applicants than they are financial able to support. There has been initial contact, we are waiting for more details.

Motion to increase our pool of funds to \$15,000, this is an increase of \$5000.

Seconded and carried.

6.5 Medicine Hat College Chaplain: George Koopmans shared stories of his ministry at the Medicine Hat College campus. Asked for Prayer for Students who are writing exams, each student is different and each has their own story. There are celebrations weekly around worship, food and fellowship, each action is part of a prayer.

Thank you for the support from ABSS.

6.6 Church Visitor Reports: Church Visitor: Kevin vanderVeen: reporting

Visit to River Park CRC with Delbert Kooy of Nobleford CRC. This visit was made to meet with congregation and council as RPC is in the process of Disaffiliating for the CRCNA. We were blessed to be able to meet with members of the congregation that requested a visit. We then met with the council of River Park. It was a good visit and the full report has been filed with the stated Clerk.

7. Denominational Agencies / visitors Reports.

7.1 Council of Delegates: Lee Himbeault reporting: This was his first experience with the denomination and he has come to a greater understanding of the breadth of the CRCNA in the world. He will be a member of the Reasonate committee. The Church is the Lords.

The Theme for this year is Church Planting. There is a conference in Florida in November, Gerhardt Venter will be attending.

7.2 World Renew : Jeff Adams, the ABSS classis representative to World renew and President of the Canadian Board shared with us some highlights of the work that is bring done by and through World Renew, highlighting the work of Canadian Food Grains and disaster relief. World Renew has hired a new Executive Director in Canada, Peter Timmerman.

7.3 General Secretary Christian Reformed Church: A video was shared that featured Zack King.

7.4 Advancement Church Engagement Coordinator: Rebecca Reeve reporting

We are invited to a Pot Luck: Ministry shares. We all bring something. Classis ABSS brought \$339,000 to share as a covenant for Canadian Ministries, Justice and Reconciliation, Reasonate, Thrive, Reframe and Calvin Seminary.

7.5 Indigenous Christian Fellowship: Joe Elkerton reporting

This was the first opportunity for Joe to share his story with ABSS. He took this opportunity to share of his life. Starting in Toronto as an adopted child, the Military and so on through his life until it was time to think about retiring. Then he was tugged at to go to Regina, in July. Bert is still around sharing the Prayer Lodge and ceremonial gardens. The ministry reaches out to be a part of lives.

The neighbourhood around the ministry center is poor and hurting. They have an after school program for 35 kids, a sobriety program, meals to community. Many are away from their homes and so much struggle with homelessness.

7.6 GEMS: Morgan Frenette of Iron Springs reporting: Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior

GEMS is a program for girls from grade 2 – 7, depending on the church and program. There is opportunity for fellowship and earning of badges including a Religious lesson. Many GEMS program have a big outreach component.

7.7 Synod 2025 – Gary van Leeuwen and Kevin vander Veen reported.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your delegates to Synod 2025. Gary had the privilege of serving Synod as Second Clerk. The notes from the office of the General Secretary summarized the happening very well.

8 Canadian Gathering from Classis Quinte.

There was a request from Classis Quinte to share questions in small groups and share feedback with them. The body was asked to divide into groups and gather the comments to send back to Classis Quinte.

9 Iron Springs request:

Motion:

To grant Brian Corr an elder in Iron Springs, who will be serving as the interim pastor, the privilege to perform the sacraments of Baptism and Lord's Supper within the Iron Springs CRC.

Seconded and Carried.

10 Closing

10.1 Closing remarks by the Chair Henry, who thanked Gary, Nelly and all the presenters, Gary, thanked Henry for his willingness to serve as chair for this meeting.

10.2 Gary then took this opportunity to thank Nelly and shared with her a token of appreciation for her years of service as Stated Clerk.

9.2 Motion to adjourn.

9.3 Closing prayer and doxology

Fall Classis meeting to be held in High River CRC on March 7th, 2026.

(Note date one week earlier than usual)