

NORTHERN ALBERTA DIACONAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

**GENERAL BOARD MEETING -- Minutes**

7:15 pm -- Thursday, February 7, 2019 at Ebenezer CRC, Leduc

**Board Members & Advisors Present:** Norm Haayema (NADC Exec/ DMC rep/ Leduc Ebenezer), Wilma McLaughlin (NADC Exec/First), Jesse Edgington (NADC Consultant/Centrepointe CRC), Marg Hoogland (NADC Exec/Woody Nook), John Feddes (NADC Exec), Tim Pasma (Edm West End), Hans & Betty Huizinga (Edm Bethel), Sandra Vandervinne (Inglewood), Anna Feddes (Covenant Edm), Malissa Huillery (Edm The River), Nic Haayema (Ponoka Sunrise) Lucinda Klapwyk DMD (Edm/North), Jon Drock (Red Deer First) and Darryl Hordyk (St. Albert).

**Guest:** Rick Abma - from Neighbourhood Ministry and Good Neighbour Coffee (Lacombe).

**Churches and Advisors NOT represented:** Barrhead, NEW Community, The Avenue, Maranatha, Mosaic House, Fellowship, Trinity, Hope Stony Plain, Edson, Rimbey, Red Deer New Life, Neerlandia, Lacombe Bethel, Lacombe Wolf Creek, First Rocky, Covenant Rocky, Cuba Connection, Martin Mobach (Pastoral Advisor), DMD Parkland, WR and DRS.

1. **OPENING:** Welcome – Norm Haayema
2. **DEVOTIONS:** Rick Abma – Jeremiah 29: 4-10. Being a sent people, a faithful witness, overcoming fear.
3. **INTRODUCTIONS:** All
4. **AGENDA:** Review and adopt agenda – any additions? None
5. **MINUTES:** adopt October 2, 2018 Board Minutes. Supported.
6. **BUSINESS:**
  - a. Rick Abma, from Lacombe – Neighbourhood and Coffee shop ministry ([www.goodneighbourcoffee.ca](http://www.goodneighbourcoffee.ca)). Rick shared about the diverse ways his neighbourhood ministry has reached out and impacted communities. He shared stories and pictures of the connections made at block party, community and city levels. His coffee business has been something that has blessed him to be able to live into ministry as an urban missionary and the coffee has helped support him in that. He encouraged deacons that they can help play a role in that and be similar connections to their neighbours. He also suggested ways he can support deacons and churches in the community missionary work that God calls us all to do in loving our neighbours.
  - b. Lucinda Klapwyk – DMD from Edmonton/North – Senior Care and Compassion. Lucinda noted Acts 6:1 when deacons were formed to assist widows, a possible tie to early first work of deacons in churches on behalf of older members. She noted the honour and position of those who have built up the CRC churches in our areas and are living longer but now in their ‘golden years.’ She outlined three fluid age categories to keep characteristics and needs/gifts in mind. 65-75, 75-85 and 85+. She also referenced work and resources from Elly VanAlten, which can be shared on request. Lucinda looks to develop this further and hopes for input from deacons and churches.
  - c. NADC Executive committee members needed. Please contact [yournadc@gmail.com](mailto:yournadc@gmail.com) if you know of a former deacon or diaconal-minded congregation member who could serve in leading and shaping deacon ministry within our Classis.
  - d. Honduras water project – new team, church collections, coffee fundraising. Church collections have dropped off significantly for this ministry and we are in danger of not being able to meet our commitments to the partnership. If your diaconate needs clarification or information about how

the partnership works or about what the HWP is and does, please let Jesse know. Rick Abma also has a connection with the coffee he sources from Honduras and how he supports the Water Project with fundraising coffee. Many great things have come out of this partnership and involvement over the years and it would be a shame to not have it continue, but if deacons are no longer supporting it, we will have to evaluate what this means for our part in that partnership.

## 7. REPORTS:

- a. World Renew – trAID event coming up March 23 at Covenant CRC. Partnered with NADC, Partners Worldwide and CLAC. There will be a trade fair with vendors, speakers from Haiti and others. (Post script – this event has been cancelled due to low ticket sales).
- b. Disaster Relief Services – see World Renew website.
- c. Diaconal Ministries Developer's – Central update - Harvey Buit retired and they are looking for a replacement for the area. Lucinda Klapwyk (Edmonton and North) Lucinda continues to meet with diaconates and has two sessions of training coming up around helping without hurting in church benevolence. Feb 11 at Centrepointe CRC in Edmonton and Feb 27 at Wood Nook in Lacombe. She is also looking for contributions or collaborators from churches in regards to her seniors care presentation and exploration.
- d. Home Missions – Church plant starting up in Ft. Sask. with Bethel CRC as planting church and Ryan Pedde as Pastor.
- e. Cuba Connection – see Classis AB North website ([www.classisabernorth.ca/cuba-connection](http://www.classisabernorth.ca/cuba-connection))
- f. NADC Consultant – Jesse Edgington – Watch for Reconciliation walk 2.0 this summer! Classis is coming up March 8 +9, important for deacons to attend with the Friday/Saturday format. Still looking for deacons to go to Synod in June, so if you know of someone, please send their name to Classis. Sneak peak for DOE, theme will be around welcoming the stranger and celebrating 40 years of refugee sponsorship. A question about Christian Stewardship Services came up and Jesse will email out contact information for the area rep. Paul Stehelin – [pauls@csservices.ca](mailto:pauls@csservices.ca)  
Watch for further info about events and connection by email, social media ([www.facebook.com/yournadc](https://www.facebook.com/yournadc)) and web ([www.classisabernorth.ca/nadc](http://www.classisabernorth.ca/nadc))

## 8. CARING AND SHARING:

Sharing joys and concerns – opportunity for deacons to share what is happening within their ministry involvement and diaconates. This is also a time for response, questions and collaboration as we share. These are shared amongst each other or more widely on newsletters and web blog posts.

## 9. CLOSING Prayer: Next meeting date: June 6, 2019.

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Common Abbreviations: CAN: Classis AB North. CIC: Classical Interim Committee. DOE: Day of Encouragement.

DMC: Diaconal Ministries Canada. DMD: Diaconal Ministries Developer. OM: Operation Manna. WR: World Renew.

DRS: Disaster Response Services.