Membership on the

**Board of Trustees of the CRCNA**

*Note:* Synod 2015 approved the transition from the Board of Trustees to a new Council of Delegates by 2018. Revision and updates in the membership and Constitution will be made in the coming years to reflect the new board governance model.

###### I. Introduction

The Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (BOT) functions on behalf of synod and is responsible to provide the oversight for the agencies and committees established by synod. Trustees of the binational Board also serve as directors of the respective national corporations, namely the CRCNA-Canada Corporation and the CRCNA-Michigan Corporation. There are thirty elected trustees on the BOT—fifteen from Canada and fifteen from the United States.

###### II. Purposes

The purposes of the Board are to transact all matters assigned to it by synod; to supervise the management of the agencies and committees established by synod, including the planning, coordinating, and integrating of their work; and to cooperate with the educational institutions affiliated with the denomination toward integrating the respective missions of those institutions into the denominational ministry program. To fulfill its purposes, the Board

*A.* Leads in developing and implementing a denominational ministries plan for the agencies, committees, and educational institutions established by synod.

*B.* Assures collaboration among agencies, committees, and educational institutions established by synod.

*C.* Exercises general oversight and authority in the manner stated in the bylaws of the Board.

# III. Functions

To achieve the purposes described above, the Board performs the following functions:

*A.* Implementation of all matters committed to it by the specific instruction of synod, carrying out all necessary interim functions on behalf of synod, and execution of all synodical matters that cannot be postponed until the next synod.

*B.* Leadership in the development and implementation of a denominational ministries plan that reflects the biblical and Reformed mission commitment of the Christian Reformed Church. The denominational ministries plan provides a framework for the Board's supervision of the management of the agencies, the planning, coordinating, and integrating of their work, and for the integration of the respective missions of the denomination's educational institutions into the denominational ministry program.

*C.* Presentation to synod of a unified report of all the agencies, committees, and educational institutions, as well as a unified budget inclusive of all agencies, committees, and educational institutions.

*D.* Service to synod by providing analyses, reviews, and recommendations with respect to the programs and resources of the denomination.

*E.* Adjudication of appeals placed before it by the agency boards and committees.

*F.* Service as the Joint-Ministries Management Committee (JMMC), which is responsible for any joint-venture agreements between the CRCNA-Michigan and CRCNA-Canada.

*H.* Approval of all joint-ministry agreements between or among agencies and committees.

*I.* Guidance to and supervision of the ministry of the executive director (ED), and through the ED, do the same for senior denominational staff and agency directors.

**IV. Features**

*A*. The BOT meets three times a year, typically for two days with the exception of an added half-day in September for Board development. Most often the meetings are in Grand Rapids, Michigan, but meetings are held every two years in Burlington, Ontario. Appointment to a Board subcommittee may require meetings on the day prior to the BOT meeting.

*B*. The executive committee members (three from Canada and three from the U.S.) are elected annually in May by the trustees. Officer positions include president, vice president, and vice-all.

*C*. The BOT accomplishes its purposes through meetings of the whole, but also relies on its committees for preparation and preliminary work. Standing committees include the Executive Committee, BOT Finance Committee, BOT Human Resource Committee, Development Committee, Nominating Committee, and the CRC Foundation Board. In addition, the Board appoints three of its members to the *Banner* Advisory Council.

*D*. Because the BOT is binational, during its meeting time there are moments when the trustees meet separately to address matters specific to the respective national corporation.

*E*. The Board conducts its business in paperless format—all materials are posted on a secure website for access or download approximately two weeks prior to each meeting. Additional supplemental materials may be added within a week of meeting, but kept to a minimum.

*F.* Board members represent regions of the denomination and are, therefore, encouraged to attend classis meetings, when possible, during the term to report on the work of the BOT and represent the denomination.