



*"...tell the next generation..."*

PSALM 78:4



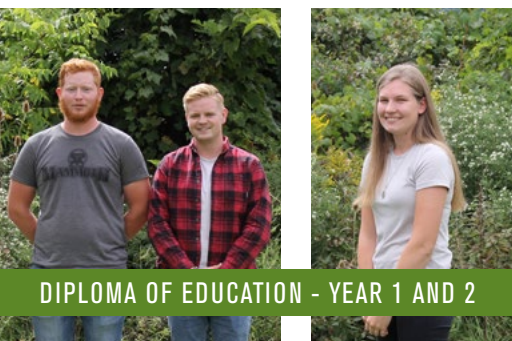
CCRTC NEWS  
**FALL 2023**







## from the principal **CHRISTINE VAN HALEN-FABER**



**DIPLOMA OF EDUCATION - YEAR 1 AND 2**



**DIPLOMA OF TEACHING - YEAR 1**



**DIPLOMA OF TEACHING - YEAR 2**



**DIPLOMA OF TEACHING - YEAR 3**

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 PETER 4:10*

With these words that form this year's theme text, we opened the 43rd year of operation of Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College (CCRTC) in the presence of twenty-two students, staff and faculty members, and the Board Chairman. The words of the apostle Peter are a powerful reminder that future teachers, current instructors, anyone who is connected to Reformed Christian education generally, and those involved with CCRTC specifically, are called to use the many and varied God-given gifts in service to one another – to the ultimate glory of God.

The academic year experienced somewhat of a head start in that at the end of August the College conducted a two-day seminar series for those who are new to the teaching profession. Full-time CCRTC faculty members facilitated a series of six sessions during which twenty-three participants, representing a wide range of educational and classroom experiences, interacted with a number of different topics. These included foundational matters, lesson and unit planning, assessment, creating a classroom environment conducive to learning, and teacher professionalism.

Although two days of instruction cannot possibly reflect two or three years of full-time teacher education, it was a privilege to interact together and to experience the participants' level of dedication and commitment to student learning.

High on this year's agenda is the quest for seeking accreditation for the two-year Diploma of Education program. The 2023 OCT Accreditation Resource Guide has been released and we appreciate the good collaboration we receive from the accreditation branch of the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT). We anticipate that this will continue as we prepare to submit the application this Fall and get ready for the review process scheduled for early 2024. In the meantime, all full-time faculty members are directly involved in the preparation of the application. This includes a careful review of course syllabi and pedagogical practices against OCT standards. In many ways the process encourages all of us to take a careful look at the "what, how, and why" of our practices in Reformed Christian teacher education and enables us to grow as a result of doing so.

As any post-secondary institution, the College also engages in regular program and course reviews. During the summer, a cluster of academic courses in the three-year Diploma of Teaching program underwent a critical review. Although the *Survey of English Literature* courses have been part of the program since its inception, the time



had come to review their relevance for today's teacher education context. With the assistance of subject experts, Dr. Karen Dieleman and Dr. Ben Faber, the decision was made to reimagine the traditional survey courses as *Exploring Writing and Reading Through Literature*. We are excited that Mr. Ronn VanAndel, who recently retired from full-time teaching, is game to take these new courses for a test drive in the Winter Semester.

Another area of review in the current academic year pertains to the current leadership model for the College. The pending retirement of the current Principal offers an opportunity to consider a separation of specific functions and tasks pertaining to the governance and operation of the College and its academic programs. As a result, the College is looking for a full-time faculty member who is able and willing to teach a number of courses within the two programs the College offers. We appreciate any assistance and encouragement you can provide.

Indeed, the 2023-2024 academic year has started and together we may actively engage with the many tasks that are before us, knowing that those who serve may "do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised". (1 Peter 4:11)



**Covenant**  
CANADIAN REFORMED TEACHERS COLLEGE

## ATTENTION! ANYONE INTERESTED IN POSTSECONDARY TEACHER EDUCATION:

In view of the pending retirement of our Principal,  
we are looking for a

### **FULL-TIME FACULTY MEMBER effective September 2024.**

Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College has always enjoyed a steady supply of qualified and highly committed full-time and sessional faculty members.

Currently we are encouraging anyone who might be interested in pursuing a vocation at a post-secondary institution and who is a communicant member of a Canadian Reformed Church, or of a church with which the federation of Canadian Reformed Churches maintains ecclesiastical fellowship, to contact us.

## INTRIGUED, INTERESTED, OR SIMPLY WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Contact Dr. Christine van Halen-Faber PRINCIPAL  
[cvanhalen@covenantteacherscollege.com](mailto:cvanhalen@covenantteacherscollege.com)

Learn about CCRTC's programs at  
[www.covenantteacherscollege.com](http://www.covenantteacherscollege.com)

## ARE YOU A "FRIEND OF CCRTC"?

Do you want others to know? Do you want to show it by wearing a unique CCRTC item?



Visit our "CCRTC Store" at:  
[ccrtc.entripyshops.com](http://ccrtc.entripyshops.com)  
or scan the QR Code.







## from the CHAIRMAN **BILL BUIST**

In January 2023, I joined the Executive Board as Vice Chairman and began to immerse myself in the behind-the-scenes activities which support the Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College (CCRTC).

There are approximately 35 CCRTC volunteers dedicating their time and talents on the Board of Governors, Executive Committee, committees, and sub-committees. The first thing that stood out to me was the love and commitment that these volunteers have for the College.

I have taken part in a number of Board of Governors meetings, including the “in-person” AGM. Each governor represents a school board. A key part of these meetings is where each governor provides an update of what is currently happening in their local school board. It is very interesting to hear the testimonies of the work of “telling the next generation” (Psalm 78:4) — a work that faithfully continues in all of these schools. It can be quite emotional to hear the stories from each board. The need for qualified teachers is striking and drives home the urgent need for the teacher training that is happening at CCRTC.

At the end of May, Bert Poort retired from his

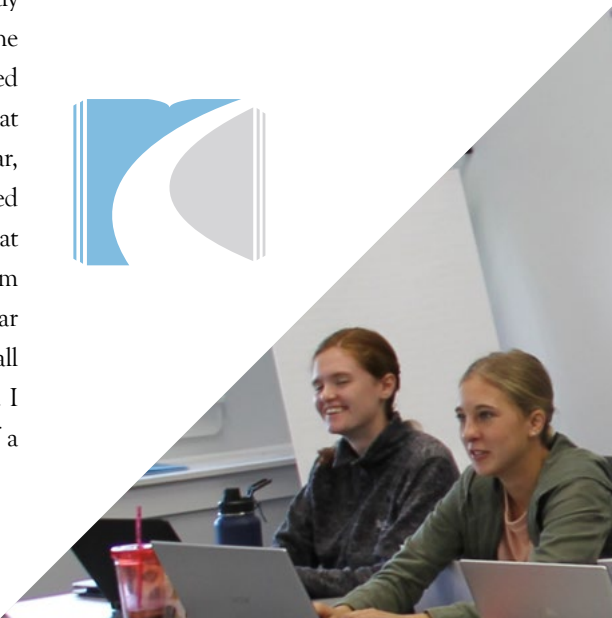
role as Chairman and is now the Past Chair of the CCRTC. Ron de Haan has stepped back from his role as “Governor at Large”. Thank you, Bert, as you continue, and Ron, for your hard work and dedication. Michelle Helder recently joined us as Executive Board Secretary. Welcome Michelle! We are now looking for a Vice-Chairman, an Assistant Treasurer, and a Governor at Large to represent the western provinces. What you will find is a professional and enjoyable group with a meaningful and impactful task. If this appeals to you, or if you have someone in mind who would be a good fit for any of these three open positions, please contact me.

On September 5, 2023, I had my first in-person introduction to daily life at Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College, as I attended the orientation session for the 2023-2024 academic year. I thoroughly enjoyed this experience. There are currently 22 students attending CCRTC. Each of the students interviewed, and then introduced another student; where they are from, what they love to do, their goals for the year, their favourite subject, their least favoured subject, their denomination, and what grades they hope to teach. The enthusiasm was contagious. It was wonderful to hear from the teachers and staff as they all introduced themselves and what they do. I wish all of the students, faculty, and staff a

blessed 2023-2024 academic year, — a year full of personal and professional growth, as you grow new bonds of healthy, Christian friendship together.

At this time, the CCRTC faculty and staff are busy formulating a draft submission of the accreditation application to the Ontario College of Teachers. With the Lord’s blessing, it is hoped that this process will be complete by the spring of 2024. Dr. van Halen-Faber will likely tell you more about this process in the “from the Principal” column.

We, at the College, covet your prayers. We ask that you pray for the students, the faculty, the staff, the board, and the many volunteers of the College. We ask that you pray for Reformed Christian education. For, as we confess in the Heidelberg Catechism LD 10 Q&A 27, “indeed, all things, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.”





## ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2024

The Board of Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College in Hamilton, Ontario, invites applications from prospective students for the 2024-2025 academic year.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

For the Two-Year Diploma of Education Program:  
a suitable university degree

For the Three-Year Diploma of Teaching Program:  
a grade 12 diploma with university entrance equivalence

Prospective candidates are invited to contact the College for more information and/or follow the Admission Procedures listed on the CCRTC website.

### APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1, 2024

Those who plan to seek admission in the year 2025-2026 are also encouraged to contact the College as soon as possible.

### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

COVENANT CANADIAN REFORMED TEACHERS COLLEGE  
410 Crerar Drive Hamilton, ON L9A 5K3  
905.385.0634 Fax: 905.385.8409

[www.covenantteacherscollege.com](http://www.covenantteacherscollege.com)

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2023 - 2024

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Guido de Brès Christian High School, Hamilton, ON  
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Harvest Canadian Reformed Christian School,  
Owen Sound, ON  
MRS. DEANNA GRIST  
John Calvin Christian School, Smithville, ON  
MRS. JACKIE DEBOER  
Maranatha Christian School, Fergus, ON  
MRS. ROSE WOUTENBERG  
Timothy Christian School, Hamilton, ON

#### MANITOBA:

MRS. SANDRA VANDERWOUDE  
Dufferin Christian School, Carman, MB  
MRS. JESSICA DEWIT  
Immanuel Christian School, Winnipeg, MB

#### ALBERTA:

MR. ROB VAN MIDDELKOOP  
Coaldale Christian School, Coaldale, AB  
MR. RICHARD BOUWMAN  
Covenant Christian School, Neerlandia, AB

#### VACANT

Parkland Immanuel Christian School, Edmonton, AB

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA:

MRS. HELEN BULTHUIS  
Credo Christian Elementary School, Langley, BC  
MRS. JUDY HOFSTINK  
Ebenezer Canadian Reformed School, Smithers, BC

#### WASHINGTON:

MRS. STEPHANIE BAREMAN  
Cornerstone Christian School, Lynden, WA



# A VERY SPECIAL GIFT-ON-LOAN

Many of you will have heard that Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College anticipates the arrival of new neighbours in January 2024 when we hope to welcome “The Sons and Daughters of Italy” to our neighbourhood.

*The Sons and Daughters of Italy* is an Order that works to preserve and promote Italian values and heritage. Their intent is to turn 420 Crerar Drive (currently the home of Guido de Brès Christian High School) into a cultural centre.

Thanks to the wide-awakeness of a former Guido de Brès Chairman, Mr. John Vanderhoeven, the question was raised, “What shall we do with a special gift given to the High School a number of years ago?” The gift consists of a map depicting a Second World War invasion plan of the Netherlands, indicating the movement of the 2nd Canadian Infantry Division

in 1944-1945. The map is signed by General Henry Duncan Graham Crerar, a Hamilton native, after which our street is named.

Thank you, Mr. Vanderhoeven, for thinking of us: This historic Hamilton connection to the Canadian efforts in the liberation of the Netherlands is very special, also to future teachers as they tell the next generation about hard-fought freedoms.



**Note:** Should the College move at some time in the future, the map will be returned to Guido de Brès Christian High School.







## 2023-2024 CCRTC PERSONNEL:

### FULL-TIME FACULTY

C. van Halen-Faber, PRINCIPAL, BA; M.Ed.; PhD  
M. den Hollander, BA; B.Ed.; M.Ed.; OCT  
J. Huizenga, B.Sc.; B.Ed.; M.Ed.; PhD; OCT  
M. Wieske, DIPED; MA; EdD (CANDIDATE)

### SESSIONAL INSTRUCTORS

R. VanAndel, BA (HONS); DIPED;  
C. Vanderpol, BA.Sc. (HONS); M.Ed.  
C. Van Eerden, BA; B.Ed.

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

E. Boeringa, LIBRARIAN  
A. Ravensbergen, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
M. Temple, FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR  
J. van Leeuwen, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

### ADJUNCT FACULTY

D. G. J. Agema, M. Div.



### CCRTC FALL

# CALL CAMPAIGN

**We can't wait to get in touch with some of you!**

Have a look at the information in your church mail slot or your inbox and then wait for our call sometime between October 30 - November 17.

If you don't get a call this time around, no worries. We'll catch you later.

*Looking forward to our conversation!*





## from the treasurer

DAN WITTEN

As we head into another school year, we can reflect on the many blessings that Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College (CCRTC) continues to enjoy.

With thankfulness, CCRTC continues to be blessed with financial stability. As Treasurer, it is an annual reminder of the Lord's provision for His people. There are so many organizations within our Federation that rely on our church communities' God-given resources, and we give thanks that CCRTC continues to be able to operate with the use of these generous donations.

At the 2023 Annual General Meeting, the Board voted in favour of updating the monthly recommended donation amount from \$40 to \$50 per month, effective September 2023. This change will not be

automatically applied on any prearranged payments. If you would like to update your donation to reflect the new recommended donation amount, please call the office or email [office@covenantteacherscollege.com](mailto:office@covenantteacherscollege.com).

Another change in CCRTC donation options involves the use of prepaid envelopes that were included in CCRTC newsletters. We noticed that many donors have moved to an online format (e-Transfer or pre-authorized payments), with the result that the prepaid envelopes are no longer used as actively as they once were. After doing a cost-benefit analysis, the decision was made to cancel the prepaid envelopes in order to avoid the costly subscription fees for this service. This cancellation also means that the old CCRTC prepaid envelopes will no longer be accepted by Canada Post, so we ask that you discard them. If you would like to receive addressed and stamped envelopes, please contact

the office and they will share some with you. Our newsletters now include a QR code that you may scan to see the various donation methods available. You may also visit [covenantteacherscollege.com/donate.html](https://covenantteacherscollege.com/donate.html).

We ask that you continue to remember Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College with your financial resources and pray for the faculty and students, and all the various other volunteers that assist in the operation of CCRTC.

Yours in Christ, Dan Witten

To see ways to financially support CCRTC please scan the QR Code or visit [covenantteacherscollege.com/donate.html](https://covenantteacherscollege.com/donate.html)



NOTE: All photos included in this issue are used with permission.

✂ Please detach and mail to: CCRTC • 410 Crerar Drive • Hamilton, ON • L9A 5K3 or visit: [covenantteacherscollege.com/donate.html](https://covenantteacherscollege.com/donate.html)

### ☐ Yes! I would like to support CCRTC!

- ☐ One-Time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (cheque enclosed)  
☐ Monthly by pre-authorized automatic withdrawal

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ PROV \_\_\_\_\_ PC \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I prefer to receive my charitable tax receipt by email

### Pre-Authorized Direct Withdrawal Form

I want to be a regular donor to Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College and allow automatic donations from my bank account as indicated below. I understand that I can terminate this agreement at any time.

- ☐ **\$50/Month** - Withdrawn on the:  
☐ 15th of the month ☐ 30th of the month
- ☐ **\$600/Year** - Withdrawn on \_\_\_\_\_ each year
- ☐ **\$\_\_\_\_\_/Month** - Withdrawn on the:  
☐ 15th of the month ☐ 30th of the month

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Please ATTACH a blank cheque marked "VOID" to this form.