

2026 CREC COUNCIL

PUBLIC BRIEFING PACKET

Abridged Public Edition

September 30-October 1, 2026

Cumberland Ballroom | Nashville, Tennessee

**PUBLIC-USE
NOTICE**

This briefing packet summarizes the business scheduled for Council. It omits full supporting papers, internal correspondence, and sensitive pastoral or disciplinary details. Individuals involved in private cases are not named. The official delegate packet remains the controlling working document. All proposed wording remains subject to Council action.

Theme: Run to Obtain the Prize

Designed for public information and convenient review.

Council Agenda at a Glance

SESSION I	Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Opening business; reports; consent agenda; formation of Boniface Presbytery; Governing Documents Review Committee; Hus Groups 1-2.
SESSION II	Wednesday, 3:00-5:00 p.m.	Hus Groups 3-5; final wording of Constitution Article IV.C; Tyndale proposals concerning candidate and mission churches, ordination, ruling elders, and guided church plants.
SESSION III	Thursday, 8:55 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Presbytery formation; Kuyper sacramental-cooperation proposals; memorial procedures; Memorial on Nations; first readings on child communion, doctor-assisted suicide, and marriage and divorce; New Westminster proposal.
SESSION IV	Thursday, 1:55-5:00 p.m.	Book of Resources; denominational logo; administrative and legal business; elections; final wording; unfinished and new business; next Council location; adjournment.

COUNCIL ACTION The agenda is subject to adoption and amendment by Council.

Event Schedule

Monday, Sept. 28	4:30-6:30 p.m.	Registration
	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Welcome reception for presbyters
Tuesday, Sept. 29	7:00-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
	8:35-8:50 a.m.	Duane Garner: "Running with a Tailwind"
	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Presbytery meetings; ladies event with Nancy Wilson at 10:00
	12:00-1:30 p.m.	Lunch
	1:35-1:50 p.m.	Jared Longshore: "Treadmills and Shadowboxing"
	1:55-4:40 p.m.	Presbytery meetings; ladies/family fellowship
	4:45-5:00 p.m.	Bogumil Jarmulak: "Put on Your Blinders"
	6:00-8:20 p.m.	Council dinner; Douglas Wilson: "Aldolatry and Worship in the Singularity"
	8:30-10:30 p.m.	Dance
Wednesday, Sept. 30	7:00-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
	8:35-8:50 a.m.	Brooks Potteiger: "Chasing Light from a Higher Horizon"
	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Council; ladies event with Sara Appel at 10:00
	12:00-1:30 p.m.	Lunch
	1:35-2:35 p.m.	Presbytery meetings
	2:40-2:55 p.m.	Leon Catallo: "Spent and Be Spent"
	3:00-5:00 p.m.	Council; ladies/family fellowship
	5:15-6:45 p.m.	Dinner
	7:00-8:30 p.m.	Worship; Pastor Bill Smith: "Stay in Your Lane"
Thursday, Oct. 1	7:00-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
	8:35-8:50 a.m.	Garry Vanderveen: "What Still Counts as Gain"
	8:55 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Council; family fellowship
	12:00-1:30 p.m.	Lunch
	1:35-1:50 p.m.	Kyle Lammott: "Give Me This Mountain"
	1:55-5:00 p.m.	Council

Consent Agenda and Public Statements

Council is asked to ratify six prior public statements and three PMOC decisions or dispositions.

Public Statements

Doctor-Assisted Murder

Condemns physician-assisted suicide; distinguishes intentionally causing death from declining extraordinary treatment; calls magistrates and physicians to protect life.

Land Acknowledgment

Explains why participating Canadian churches decline customary land acknowledgments and frames land, property, nations, and history under divine providence and Christ's lordship.

Bill C-9 and Freedom to Preach

Defends the liberty of Canadian ministers and Christians to proclaim biblical teaching, including the call to repentance, without criminal penalty.

Death of Rev. Dr. Voddie Baucham

Expresses the Communion's sorrow, gratitude for his ministry, and Christian hope in the resurrection.

Previous Christ Church Report

Clarifies that a prior advisory report was not a judicial or binding act of Council and regrets its treatment and publication as authoritative.

Victory of President Donald J. Trump

Offers thanksgiving for the election result and expresses hopes concerning public justice, peace, and ordered liberty.

STATUS

These statements are presented together for ratification as part of the consent agenda.

PMOC Decisions and Dispositions

PMOC Decision A

The PMOC upheld the determination that the appeal did not present the constitutionally required grounds for broader judicial review. Council is asked to ratify the decision.

PMOC Decision B

The PMOC reviewed the appeal, the record of proceedings, and the Presbytery ruling; upheld the Presbytery ruling; and affirmed that the local session acted within the applicable ecclesiastical process. Council is asked to ratify the decision.

DELEGATE-ONLY MATERIAL

The identities of the appellant and other private individuals, together with the factual narrative, allegations, personal and pastoral details, evidentiary record, correspondence, and full PMOC response, are intentionally omitted from this public edition.

PMOC Disposition C

The PMOC concluded that the local church and presbytery followed their governing procedures, declined the requested relief, left the presbytery decision intact, and expressed prayer for future restoration. Council is asked to ratify the disposition.

These summaries identify the actions before Council without reproducing private disciplinary records.

Governing Documents and Hus Overtures

Governing Documents Review Committee

The committee identified 21 provisions needing clarification or correction. Larger questions flagged for future work include mission-church oversight, worship across presbytery boundaries, and which liturgical functions should be restricted to ordained men.

Hus Presbytery: Overtures 1-9

- 1. Require constitutions and bylaws before particularization.
- 2. Establish notification duties for presiding ministers.
- 3. Create a preaching and sacramental licensure process.
- 4. Permit a Pastor Emeritus to serve as a pro tempore elder.
- 5. Permit a Pastor Emeritus to serve as Presiding Minister.
- 6. Make technical constitutional corrections concerning resources.
- 7. Define the Session constitutionally.
- 8. Clarify the PMOC job description and authority.
- 9. Specify male qualifications for designated liturgical roles.

STATUS

Hus Overtures 1-15 were approved by the Presbytery. Overtures 16 and 17 were listed as pending Presbytery approval.

Additional Governance Proposals

Hus Presbytery: Overtures 10-17

- 10. Amend term limits for presiding ministers.
- 11. Add qualifications for candidates for PMOC.
- 12. Clarify the status of ordained ministers not serving on a session.
- 13. Establish a single Council Book of Procedures.
- 14. Add a pre-Council meeting of presiding ministers and delegates.
- 15. Add a step in forming new mission churches.
- 16. Establish review for ministry beyond age seventy-five.
- 17. Create a Book of Confessions.

Tyndale Presbytery

Proposes clearer candidate- and mission-church processes, sponsor-church oversight, normalization of ordinations, examination of teaching and ruling elders, conditions for particularization, and guided church-plant arrangements.

Augustine Presbytery

- Amend Constitution Article III.M concerning recognition and normalization of existing ordinations when a church joins the CREC.
- Amend Constitution Article IX.C concerning the memorial process and standards governing draft memorials.

Memorial and Knox Motions I

Memorial on Nations

Council will consider final adoption of a proposed memorial addressing nations, peoples, political order, and the lordship of Christ. The full memorial and supporting paper remain in the delegate packet.

Knox Presbytery: Motions 1-5

- 1. Form Boniface (Canada) as a full presbytery, with reciprocal Knox-Boniface delegates through Council 2029.
- 2. Permit churches from multiple presbyteries, by mutual agreement, to form a new provisional presbytery.
- 3. Raise the minimum number of churches required to form a presbytery from two to five.
- 4. Require submitted draft memorials and supporting papers to state their exact word counts.
- 5. Approve a first reading of a Memorial on Child Communion, affirming the ordinary admission of baptized children who respond in faith according to age and capacity.

Knox Motions II and Kuyper Items

Knox Presbytery: Motions 6-10

- 6. Amend sacramental-cooperation language in the Constitution and Book of Procedures.
- 7. Approve a first reading of a memorial condemning doctor-assisted suicide.
- 8. Approve a first reading of a Memorial on Marriage and Divorce.
- 9. Approve a Covenantal Prenuptial Agreement as an optional resource in premarital counseling, subject to outside legal review if desired.
- 10. Approve the New Westminster Confession and Catechism for first reading, making it eligible for consideration as an adopted confession in 2029.

Kuyper Presbytery

- Amend BOP XIII.A.2 so CREC churches accept baptismal status recognized by another CREC church for membership and communicant standing.
- Consider proposed BOP XIII.A.3 alternatives addressing credobaptism by profession of faith and the prohibition of rebaptism.
- Consider a proposed Memorial on Sacraments.
- Add “Principles of CREC Polity” by Christopher Schlect to the Book of Resources.
- Add “Minding the CREC Global Financial Gap” by Roy Atwood to the Book of Resources.

Wycliffe and Final Business

Wycliffe Presbytery

- Seek legal counsel regarding protection of the denominational logo, including possible registration or enforcement measures, with a report due by the end of 2027.
- Nominate Pastor Bill Smith as Presiding Minister of Council pro tempore.
- Recommend a questionnaire, or a modified version, for evaluating prospective mission and candidate churches.

Questionnaire Categories

- History, location, demographics, membership, and financial viability
- Church government, officer qualifications, ordination, and confessional standards
- Liturgy, sacraments, and music
- Reputation within the community and relationships with prior churches
- Reasons for seeking CREC membership and principal influences
- Session positions on creation, eschatology, charismatic gifts, patriarchy, headcoverings, civil government, nationalism, kinism, and interracial marriage

Final Council Business

- Administrative and legal business
- Election of the Presiding Minister of Council and Presiding Minister pro tempore
- Final wording of adopted amendments
- Unfinished and new business
- Selection of the next stated Council location
- Announcements, prayer, and adjournment

PUBLIC EDITION

Detailed redlines, supporting papers, pastoral records, and internal correspondence remain in the official delegate packet.

End of public briefing packet.