

Overture from the Reformed Church of Hamilton **Re Report 12 – Church Extension Committee Rec. 8-10**

The Session of the Reformed Church of Hamilton respectfully overtures Synod 2014 as follows:

Overture:

That Synod:

Give the CEC a mandate to investigate whether the current ministers' remuneration package with its various allowances can be replaced with a simple salary package.

Grounds:

1. The matter of allowances and their taxability seems to be a greater point of discussion than is often warranted and a single remuneration package that covers all these different aspects seems to be a simple way to resolve the, at times, fraught discussion on this matter.
2. If the remuneration of a minister would be structured more simply, questions of application of the changing and often difficult to interpret rules of taxation on allowances would be avoided.
3. As churches we need to be extremely conservative when it comes to non taxable allowances both from the perspective of guarding our Christian character and protecting our Charitable Trust status.
4. As with our overture on the Emeritus Fund this would make it much easier to for the CEC to give advice on matters concerning stipend / salary and enable them to focus more on their "core" business, the administration of the various funds of our churches.

Respectfully submitted,

The Session of the Reformed Church of Hamilton