

Press Release, Classis Alberta (Calgary) June 19, 2025

The Chairman of the convening church welcomed the delegates, examinee, and attendees, and opened the meeting in a Christian manner, remembering the following matters in prayer:

The churches at Calgary and Coaldale remain vacant; St. Albert is planting a church in Spruce Grove; Rev. ten Haaf received calls from Arthur, ON and Calgary, and has accepted the call to Arthur; The retired ministers, Revs. Aasman, Huijgen, Kalkman, Slomp, Tiggelaar in their different circumstances; Rev Cody Swaving was installed in Hope (Neerlandia); Rev. Josh Peters was ordained in Taber.

The credentials were examined by the convening church and found to be in good order and classis was declared constituted.

The following executive officers were appointed: Revs. VanSpronsen, ten Haaf, and Veurink as chairman, vice-chairman, and clerk in that order.

Classis Alberta has welcomed two ministers since the last meeting: Rev. Josh Peters of Taber and Rev. Cody Swaving of Hope (Neerlandia). The form of subscription was read aloud and Revs. Peters and Swaving subscribed to it.

Br. Adrian Tams presented himself for a preparatory examination and supplied the appropriate documents. He presented a sermon proposal from Acts 13:1-3 and classis went into closed session for deliberation. The sermon proposal was deemed sufficient, and the remainder of the exam was conducted. He was examined in OT exegesis, NT exegesis, and Doctrine and Creeds. Once again classis went into closed session for deliberation. With thanksgiving, classis informed Br. Tams that he had sustained the examination and he was declared eligible for call in the churches. Br. Tams verbally promised not to teach anything contrary to the Word of God and the confessions of the church.

In accordance with instructions from the churches, a question of clarification was asked and answered regarding travel expense reimbursement for delegates. Calgary's and Coaldale's requests for continuing pulpit supply were granted.

In closed session, classis dealt with Neerlandia's request for approbation of their decision to dismiss Rev. Emadjeu according to Article 11 of the Church Order. Revs. J. Poppe and R. Schouten were present as deputies of regional synod west. Classis decided not to approbate Neerlandia's proposal to dismiss Rev. Emadjeu.

Several appeals were dealt with in closed session.

In accordance with Article 44 of the Church Order, the chairman asked the churches whether the ministry of office-bearers is being continued, whether the decisions of major assemblies are being honoured, and whether there is any matter in which the consistories need the judgment and help of classis for the proper government of their church.

Eight churches reported yes, yes, and no. Immanuel asked for advice in a pastoral matter and advice was given. Neerlandia expressed their current difficulties associated with the ministry of office-bearers and the obligations toward the decisions of major assemblies. It is acknowledged that Neerlandia requires ongoing help of classis for the proper government of their congregation.

The convening church for next classis is Coaldale, and the date is set for September 11, 2025 with an alternate date of December 11, 2025.

The suggested officers for the next classis are Rev. M. ten Haaf as chairman, Rev. J. Van Spronsen as vice-chairman, and Rev. C. Kos as clerk.

For Classis Alberta, Rev. M. ten Haaf, vice-chairman at the time