

Press Release, Classis Alberta (Coaldale) September 9, 2025

The Chairman of the convening church opened the meeting with the reading of Psalm 145 and a brief meditation on this Psalm. We sang Hymn 80 and the chairman led in opening prayer in which he brought the following memorabilia before God's throne:

- Candidate Joshua Schouten's decision to decline the call extended to him by Coaldale and the ongoing vacancies of Calgary and Coaldale.
- Rev. Mark ten Haaf's upcoming departure to Arthur, ON
- The Lord's blessing on the churches through the ongoing work of the retired ministers Revs. Aasman, Huijgen, Kalkman, Slomp and Tiggelaar and their wives.
- The health concerns of Rev. Tiggelaar, Rev. Slomp (who suffered a stroke recently), Rev. Kalkman's wife Gerda, and Rev. Aasman's son-in-law who is very ill
- The recent CRTS convocation and the faculty, staff and students at the CRTS as they begin a new year of study,

The chairman welcomed the delegates and extended greetings to elder René Barendregt who joined us from the Bethel FRC in Monarch. The credentials were examined by the convening church and found to be in good order. The executive officers took their places: Chairman, Rev. M. ten Haaf, Vice-chairman, Rev. J. VanSpronsen, and Clerk, Rev. C. Kos. The agenda is adopted.

The church visitors gave a brief oral report on visits made in Neerlandia. The churches received reports from the treasurer and the church for inspection of the books of the treasurer. The committee for students of theology reported on its activities and drew the attention of the churches to the excellent upgrade to the CRTS website giving good guidance to those who are looking into the possibility of entering the ministry.

Calgary, Coaldale and Providence requests for pulpit supply were granted. One church requested advice on a pastoral matter (Article 44 CO). In response Classis decided to strike an *ad hoc* committee to report to the next Classis with a proposal for advice that takes into account the comments made by the delegates at this Classis.

Brother René Barendregt, a fraternal delegate from the Bethel Free Reformed Church at Monarch, addresses the churches of Classis Alberta with words of encouragement. The chairman responds in kind.

The convening church for next classis is Devon, and the date is set for December 11, 2025 with an alternate date of March 12, 2026. The suggested officers for the next classis are Rev. K. Wieske as chairman, Rev. C. Swaving as vice-chairman, and Rev. J. VanSpronsen as clerk. Appointments to the different standing committees are reviewed and updated.

Classis Alberta delegates the ministers: Revs. Gerard Veurink and Ken Wieske (With alternates: Revs. Julius VanSpronsen and Cody Swaving *in that order*) and the elders: brothers Linden Kok and Ray Noot (with alternates: Rob deJong and Morris Vogelzang *in that order*) to Regional Synod West, November 18, 2025 convened by Willoughby Heights CanRC.

Delegates were given an opportunity for personal questions and for brotherly censure (Art. 34, CO). The Acts and Press Release were approved. The chairman spoke words of farewell to the delegate and thanked convening church and the delegates for their good cooperation. We sang Hymn 50, the chairman led in prayer and the meeting was closed.

For Classis Alberta, Rev. J. VanSpronsen, vice-chairman at the time