

Press Release of Classis Alberta of the Canadian Reformed Churches meeting on June 10, 2008 in Neerlandia, Alberta

On behalf of the convening church at Neerlandia, the Rev. J. Louwse welcomed the delegates and called the meeting to order. He read Ephesians 1: 15 - 23 and requested the singing of Psalm 122: 3 and led in prayer. He welcomed the delegates and Rev. R. Pontier, delegate of the UR churches. He also welcomed Rev. Marc Jagt, minister of the church at Taber who was at Classis for the first time. Several highlights were mentioned: the calls of Rev. Aasman to the churches at Smithers and Abbotsford, which he declined; the call of Rev. Slomp to the church at Owen Sound which he declined; the health of Professor Dr. Gootjes was also noted. He expressed thankfulness that the work in the college could continue

The delegates from the church at Neerlandia reported on the credentials. Classis was declared constituted.

The executive was as follows: Rev. J. Louwse, chairman; Rev. E. J. Tiggelaar, vice chairman and Rev. R. Bredenhof clerk in place of Rev. W. Slomp.

The agenda was adopted after some additions.

The Rev. R. Pontier was seated at Classis.

The Form of Subscription for ministers of Classis Alberta was read and signed by Rev. Jagt.

A report was received from the Church for the inspection of the Classis Archives. The Immanuel church reported that everything was found to be in good order. This was received with thankfulness.

A report from the Committee for Financial Aid to Needy Churches was received. It was thankfully noted that no aid was needed by any of the churches in Classis. Having completed their task the committee was disbanded.

A report from the Committee for Financial Aid to Needy Students was received. They reported that support had been given to a student of the Theological College. Questions concerning support of the family of a student were also brought into discussion.

Rev. E. Tiggelaar reported that he could serve the churches as contact person with the Provincial Government. There was no news from the government that needed the attention of the churches or ministers.

Question Period according to Article 44 of the Church Order was held. The ministry of the office bearers is being continued in all the churches. The decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured by all the churches. Two churches requested and received the advice of Classis on matters of discipline.

Rev. R. Pontier was given the opportunity to address Classis on behalf of the URC. He brought greetings and spoke of the desire for the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace between our federations. Rev. Aasman responded placing emphasis on the ongoing desire of the Canadian Reformed churches for an even greater unity.

The next classis will be held, the Lord willing, at St. Albert in October 14, at 9:00 a.m., the Lord willing (alternate date: Dec. 9) Suggested officers: Rev. R. Aasman, chairman; Rev. J. Louwerse, vice-chairman; Rev. E. Tiggelaar, clerk

Delegates to Regional Synod at Carman were appointed. The two minister delegates are the Revs Bredenhof and Jagt (alternates in order: Kalkman and Poppe) The two elder delegates are M. Bareman and S. Viersen (alternates in order are K. Hoeksema and B. Tuininga)

Personal question period was held and made use of.

Censure according to Article 34 C.O was not deemed necessary.

The Acts were adopted and the Press Release was approved.

Rev. E. Tiggelaar requested the brothers to sing Hymn 64: 1,2 and led in prayer. Classis was closed.

For Classis Alberta, E.J. Tiggelaar, vice-chairman e.t.