

Press Release of Classis Pacific West of the Canadian Reformed Churches meeting of June 8, 2010 at Langley, British Columbia

Classis was opened by Pastor Ryan deJonge, minister of the convening church at Langley. He welcomed the delegates, read and gave a brief meditation on Psalm 48, and invited those gathered to sing Psalm 48:1 and 3. Then he led in prayer.

During memorabilia it was mentioned with thankfulness that General Synod could complete its work on behalf of the churches in good harmony; that the Lord enabled Pastor Hendrik Alkema to reach a decision concerning his call to mission work in Papua New Guinea and will be remaining in our classis; that the Maranatha Church at Surrey may celebrate 40 years of mission work in Brazil; and that Pastor Frank Dong may celebrate his 10th anniversary in the ministry as missionary to the Chinese.

Credentials and attendance list were reviewed by the delegates of the church at Houston, convening church of the last classis, and found to be in good order. The following brothers were appointed as the executive of classis, by rotation: Pastor Anthon Souman as chairman, Pastor Theo Lodder as vice-chairman, and Pastor James Visscher as clerk.

The proposed agenda was adopted, with one addition. It was decided, by the request of the church at Smithers, to allow Pastor Jim Witteveen to give a presentation on the mission work in Prince George.

Br. Witteveen was given the floor and told us about his work. ([Follow the link to the speaking notes of this engaging and encouraging talk about what God is doing through the mission work.](#)) Opportunity was given for questions and discussion about the mission work in Prince George, and also about church planting, mission and evangelism in general. The delegates discussed both the opportunities and the challenges we face both within and outside the churches with respect to reaching outsiders. Classis spent some time considering the many doors the Lord Jesus is opening for us, and how we might be able to walk through those doors as missionaries and pastors, churches and classis.

Reports were given of church visitation to the churches at Cloverdale, Langley, Maranatha-Surrey and Willoughby Heights, by Pastors Visscher, Souman and Lodder. With thankfulness, it was noted that in the churches things are being done decently and in order by all accounts.

Question period according to Article 44 of the Church Order followed. One consistory asked for advice concerning a matter of church discipline. Another consistory clarified a matter that had been raised at the last classis.

The church at Smithers was appointed as the convening church of the next classis, to be held on October 5, 2010, the Lord willing, the alternate date being December 7, 2010.

Suggested as executive officers to serve the next classis, by rotation, are Pastor Lodder as chairman, Pastor deJonge as vice chairman and Pastor VanRaalte as clerk.

Personal question period was held. Censure according to Article 34 of the church order was observed. The acts of classis were adopted. The press release was approved.

The meeting was closed with the singing of Psalm 67:1,2, and prayer by the chairman. Before leaving, the elders and pastors enjoyed a time of fellowship over a delicious lunch prepared and served by some sisters of the hosting church.

Pastor Theo Lodder, vice-chairman at the time