

Press Release of Classis Pacific-East – March 3, 2011

On behalf of the convening church, the Vernon Canadian Reformed Church, Rev. Witten opened the meeting in a Christian manner. The chairman remembered the Abbotsford church in regard to the decline by Rev. Jagt after a call had been extended and congratulated the Abbotsford church with its recent 50th anniversary, the Aldergrove church in regard to the illness of Rev. Schouten, the Chilliwack church in regard to the situation of Rev. IJbema, the Vernon church in regards to the ordination of Rev. Witten, and the Yarrow church in regards to the call Rev. Bouwman received from the church at Grand Rapids, which he declined.

The credentials were received and examined by Lynden, and all delegates are duly present. Chilliwack requested that its office-bearers and advisors be admitted to be present during an anticipated closed session. Appointed as officers of this classis were: Rev. Wielenga as chairman, Rev. Janssen as vice-chairman, and Rev. Bouwman as clerk. The classis was constituted.

The chairman thanked Vernon for preparing this classis, and Aldergrove for hosting the classis. Regional synod deputies, Rev. Aasman and Rev. Visscher, were welcomed to the meeting. The agenda was adopted. The Regional Synod deputies were seated at classis in accordance with Article 48 CO.

In closed session classis decided on a question put to it by the church at Chilliwack per Article 44 CO. A letter from the churches at Grassie and Aldergrove regarding the Needy Students Fund was dealt with. Classis decided to recommend that the family and the church from which the student originates be given financial responsibility also, before funds begin flowing from the Needy Students Fund. The classis regulations were also changed accordingly.

Per instruction, Abbotsford asked whether the delegation to Regional Synod 2010 stands for Regional Synod 2011 as Regional Synod 2010 was “postponed”. Classis determined that the delegation does not stand, as “the last classis before regional synod shall choose the delegates to that synod” (Article 44 CO).

A church visitation in Yarrow was reported on. The treasurer reported to the classis, and Vernon indicated an audit has been carried out and all was found in good order. Yarrow reported that archives have been inspected and found in good order.

Per Article 44 CO the chairman asked a number of questions of the churches. Abbotsford asked advice of classis in two matters.

The convening church for the next classis is Yarrow, classis is to be on June 9, if cancelled on September 15.

The following officers were suggested for the next classis: Chairman Rev. R. C. Janssen; Vice-Chairman Rev. C. Bouwman; Clerk Rev. A. Witten. A number of appointments were made. Censure as per article 34 CO was not needed.

The acts of the classis were read and adopted, as was the press release.

After speaking some words of thanks, the meeting was closed by the chairman in a Christian manner.