

## **Press Release of Classis Pacific-East held in Abbotsford on February 23, 2012.**

On behalf of the convening church, Abbotsford, Rev. Janssen opened the meeting in a Christian matter, remembering various situations in the churches in prayer. A special welcome was extended to the fraternal delegates from the Reformed Church in the United States and the United Reformed Churches in North America.

All churches were found properly represented by delegates. The classis was constituted with Rev. Witten as chairman and Rev. Wielenga as clerk. Following constitution, Rev. Janssen was appointed vice-chairman.

An invitation was received from the Reformed Church of the United States, Western-Classis, to send a delegate to their next classis. As Rev. Merica was present at this classis, a letter of greeting will be sent.

The churches at Yarrow and Chilliwack requested that, in view of their vacancy, ministers serving in the classis continue to help them out with leading worship services. This was granted.

Reports were read on church visitations made to the churches in Vernon, Aldergrove, Chilliwack and Abbotsford. These were received with gratitude. The treasurer submitted his annual report. Upon his advice, the travel remuneration was adjusted to 50cents per km. As the classis has sufficient funds, there will be no assessment for 2012. The church in Vernon reported that the books of the classis have been audited and were found in good order. The church in Yarrow reported that the archives of the classis has been inspected and found in good order. Both reports were received with gratitude.

Question period as per Article 44 CO was held. The church of Abbotsford requested and received advice in relation to the Interim Report on Bible translations and on members coming into and leaving congregations.

Aldergrove was appointed convening church for the next classis, to be convened on May 31 (if cancelled, September 13). Suggested officers are Rev. Schouten (chairman), Rev. Witten (vice-chairman), and Rev. Janssen (clerk). Appointments were made as required.

Rev. Merica addressed the classis on behalf of the RCUS-western classis, encouraging the churches to remain faithful in the battles fought for the Kingdom of Christ. Br. Breukelman addressed the classis on behalf of the URCNA, bringing fraternal greetings, expressing appreciation for the growth in unity in the region. Both are responded to by Rev. Witten on behalf of the classis.

An opportunity for personal question period was given. Christian censure as per CO art 34 was considered not required. The Acts of Classis were read and adopted, as was the Press Release.

Rev. Witten closed the classis with prayer.