

Press Release of Classis Pacific West held on March 12, 2013

On behalf of the convening church, Rev. J. Slaa welcomes all the delegates. He reads Mark 15:1-15 and invites all present to sing Ps 73:1, 8 and leads in prayer.

The credentials are examined and found to be in order. Classis is declared constituted and the officers suggested by the last classis take their place. Rev. T. Lodder is the chairman, Rev. T. Van Raalte clerk and Rev. S.C. Van Dam vice-chairman. The agenda was adopted.

The classis treasurer reports on the financial situation of the Classis Pacific West Fund. It is reported that the churches will be assessed \$10 per communicant member for the year 2013. The auditors report that the books of Classis Pacific West Fund are in good order. The church at Houston reports that the classical archives were examined and found to be in good order. Rev. Souman presents the church visitation report to the church at Surrey held on March 11, 2013 which is received with thankfulness. Rev. Van Raalte, the deputy for ecclesiastical contact, presents his report on his visit to the Presbytery of the Northwest of the OPC.

The chairman asks the questions re Article 44 of the Church Order. Two churches ask advice regarding matters of pastoral oversight. In closed session, advice is given.

Opportunity is given for the churches to share the status of any mission projects they are involved with. The church at Cloverdale reports that plans are developing for an Urban mission worker. Rev. Dong was hospitalized in China for several weeks and is expected to come back to Canada soon. The church at Houston reports on activities of the local evangelism committee. The church at Langley reports that the Christianity Explored video series has been helpful. The church at Surrey reports that, together with the URCNA in New Westminster, a "Teens Actively Serving Christ" week (June 29-July 6, 2013) is being organized. The church at Willoughby Heights reports that the Burnaby Bible study is progressing well.

The convening church for the next classis is Surrey Maranatha and the date is set for June 11, 2013 with an alternate date of Sept 10, 2013. The suggested officers for the next Classis are: Rev. S.C. Van Dam as chairman, Rev. R. De Jonge, clerk, and Rev. T. Van Raalte, vice-chairman.

The following appointments are made with respect to examinations: Committee for examination: Rev. Souman and Lodder; Exegesis OT: Rev. Van Dam; Exegesis NT: Rev. Souman; Scripture Knowledge: Rev. De Jonge; Doctrine and Creeds: Rev. Van Raalte; Church History: Rev. Van Raalte; Ethics: Rev. De Jonge; Church Polity: Rev. Slaa; Diaconiology: Rev. Lodder

The church at Smithers is appointed to take care of the archives. The church at Houston is appointed to inspect the archives. Br. Ken Bulthuis is appointed as the treasurer of Classis. The church at Cloverdale is appointed as the church to audit the books of the treasurer. The committee for financial aid to needy churches is reappointed. Rev. R. De Jonge is appointed as deputy for preaching arrangements in vacant churches. Rev. T. Van Raalte is appointed as deputy coordinating ecclesiastical contacts. Personal question period is not made use of.

The chairman notes with thankfulness that nothing censurable was said or done during the meeting. The Acts of Classis are presented and adopted. The press release is presented and approved. After inviting the delegates to sing Hymn 45, the chairman closes the meeting with prayer.

For Classis,
Rev. S.C. Van Dam, vice-chairman at that time