

Press Release of Classis Niagara

September 11, 2013

held in the Spring Creek Canadian Reformed Church of Tintern

At the appointed time a delegate from the consistory of the convening church (Tintern) opened the meeting in a fitting Christian manner. The credentials were examined and found to be in good order, with one anomaly pledged to be corrected. Classis was constituted, the executive was seated, and the agenda was adopted.

In agreement with the Church Order, the churches were asked whether the ministry of the office bearers was being continued, whether the decisions of the major assemblies were being honored, and whether assistance was required in any matter of church government. All churches answered satisfactorily. One church requested assistance in matters of discipline, which was granted. The church of Dunnville requested that classical pulpit supply be allowed for Blue Bell while Dunnville continues to consider what is the right way forward for the spiritual wellbeing of the members living in Blue Bell. This request was granted.

Upon request of the church of Dunnville, classis decided that correspondence relating to classis may now freely include modern technology. The Regulations of Classis will be amended accordingly.

A letter was received from the Inter-Church Relations Committee of the RCUS, indicating regret that they could not attend our meeting and inviting us to send a delegate to their next Classis. Classis sees merit in having a delegate represent Classis Niagara at the next RCUS classis, and makes an appointment accordingly.

Under Reports it was noted that no inspection of classis archives has occurred. The books of the classis treasurer have been audited and found to be in good order. A new rate is set for the churches' assessment to cover classis expenses for the coming year. In relation to the Fund for Needy Churches, it's reported that no church has requested assistance.

Appointed as convening church for next classis is Attercliffe, on December 11 (with March 19 as alternative date). Appointments were made for church visitors and examination organizers. To Regional Synod the following were delegated to attend: brs C Bouwman, D Wynia (alt: P Holtvluwer & J vanWoudenberg); brs R Hummel, K Jager (alt: K Bergsma & J Hulleman). Outgoing classis treasurer, br D vanAmerongen sr, was reappointed for the coming year. Br P Holtvluwer was delegated to attend the next URC Classis.

After opportunity was given for Question Period, the chairman expressed that in his opinion the delegates had behaved in such a way that no censure was required. This was noted with gratitude.

The Acts of classis were read and adopted, as was the Press Release.

Rev Holtvluwer led the assembly in concluding devotions and prayer, and closed the meeting.

For classis,
C Bouwman, vice chairman