

Press Release of Classis Manitoba convened in the Carman East Canadian Reformed Church on January 9, 2015

This classis is held in response to a request by the Emmanuel American Reformed Church at Denver, CO to hold a special classis to approbate a decision to dismiss their minister, Rev. R.J. Kampen according to Article 11 C.O.

Opening

On behalf of Carman East Canadian Reformed Church, the convening church of the January 9, 2015 classis, Rev. S. Vandeveldt called the meeting to order. He read Deuteronomy 33:26-29, led in prayer and requested that the brothers sing Psalms 80: 1,7,8. He welcomed all present, including fraternal delegates Rev. R. Anjema and Br. H. Nagtegaal from the Providence United Reformed Church in Winnipeg. Also welcomed are Deputies of Regional Synod, Rev. R. Aasman and Rev. A. Souman.

Memorabilia

The Winnipeg Grace Canadian Reformed Church has extended a call to Rev. R. Schouten of Aldergrove, BC. Br. W. Gortemaker who was delegated to this classis was absent due to illness.

Examination of Credentials

The credentials of the delegates were examined by the brothers from the Carman East Canadian Reformed Church and reported to be in order. All delegates in attendance were primary delegates other than from Redeemer CanRC where one of the primary delegates was replaced by an alternate. Rev. J. Poppe, minister of Redeemer CanRC in Winnipeg is seated as advisor as requested by the Redeemer Consistory with the Deacons and approved by Classis because of his involvement in the Denver situation as Classical Church Visitor. Rev. A.J. Pol is takes his seat as President as appointed in the previous classis and Classis is constituted.

Appointment of Executive Officers

The following officers were appointed:

President:	Dr. A.J. Pol
Vice President:	Br. W. van Beek
Clerk:	Br. L. Bergsma

Adoption of the Agenda

Dr. Pol thanked the Carman East Canadian Reformed Church for the preparations involved in convening the classis. The agenda was adopted. The Fraternal Delegates and Synodical Deputies were seated.

Proposals / Instructions from the churches

A letter with appendices was received from the Denver ARC and a letter with appendices was also received from Rev. R.J. Kampen. Classis proceeded in closed session.

Classis gives approbation to the consistory of the Emmanuel American Reformed Church at Denver to proceed with the dismissal of Rev. R.J. Kampen as their minister according to Art. 11 of the Church Order. The Deputies of Regional Synod give their concurring consent. An announcement regarding this decision to the churches in the classis is formulated and approved by classis.

The church at Denver requests pulpit supply from classis. Classis decides that pulpit supply will be provided 4 times per year. Denver requests the appointment of a Counsellor. Dr. A.J. Pol is appointed.

Fraternal Delegates

The President thanked the delegates from Providence Reformed Church for participating in the discussion and gave them opportunity to address classis. Rev. R. Anjema and Br. H. Nagtegaal spoke on behalf of the PRCW in appreciation for the invitation to classis and the close bond that exists between them and the Canadian Reformed Churches in this province. Br. R. deRuiter led in intercessory prayer.

Question Period

Question Period according to Art. 44 C.O. was held. All churches answered in the affirmative that the ministry of the office-bearers is being maintained and that the decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured.

Appointments

The convening church for the next classis is the Carman West Canadian Reformed Church. The classis is scheduled to be held on March 27th. The suggested President for the next classis is Rev. J. Poppe.

Personal Question Period and Adoption of the Acts and Press Release

Opportunity was given for personal question period. No censure according to Art. 34 of the Church Order was necessary. The Acts were adopted and the Press Release approved for publication.

Closing

The Vice-President requested that the brothers sing Psalm 67:1,3 and led in closing prayer.

For Classis Manitoba
January 9, 2015

W. van Beek
Vice-President at that time.