

Press Release of Classis Pacific West held on April 14, 2015

On behalf of the convening church at Langley, Rev. D. Vandeburgt welcomes all the delegates. He reads 1 Thess 1 and invites all present to sing Ps 122:3 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. A. Souman is the chairman, Rev. D. Vandeburgt clerk and Rev. S.C. Van Dam vice-chairman.

Rev. Souman notes various memorabilia including the following: Rev. Vandeburgt is welcomed into Classis Pacific West. The illness of sr. Marina Lodder is remembered; Rev and Mrs. Lodder and their family are commended into the care of our Lord. In January, the church at Willoughby Heights celebrated their 25th anniversary of institution. The use of the new Book of Praise is noted with thankfulness.

Rev. Vandeburgt signs the form of subscription.

The agenda was adopted.

The church at Smithers requests classical pulpit supply for the period of September to December 2015 during the time of Rev.'s Slaa sabbatical. The request for official classical pulpit supply is denied but the churches are encouraged on an individual basis to consider this request as an opportunity to strengthen the bond with the churches in the north, if this is possible.

The classis treasurer reports on the financial situation of the Classis Pacific West Fund. It is reported that the churches will be assessed \$5 per communicant member for the year 2015. The auditors report that the books of Classis Pacific West Fund are in good order. The treasurer is thanked for the work that was done.

The chairman asks the questions re Article 44 of the Church Order. It is noted with thankfulness that the ministry of the office-bearers is being continued and the decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured. No advice regarding church government was needed.

Opportunity is given for the churches to share the status of any mission projects they are involved with. The church at Cloverdale reports that the mission work in China is going very well with much interest. The church at Langley reports that the ministers are leading sessions entitled Church Explored; a symposium on outreach and evangelism will soon be held in May. The church at Willoughby Heights reports that the Burnaby Reading Room will be opened in the near future.

The convening church for the next classis is Smithers to be held in Willoughby Heights and the date is set for June 16, 2015 with an alternate date of Sept 15, 2015. The suggested officers for the next Classis are: Rev. S.C. Van Dam as chairman, Rev. B. Schoof, clerk, and Rev. R. De Jonge, 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. Schoof; Scripture Knowledge: Rev. De Jonge; Doctrine and Creeds: Rev. Vandeburgt; Church History: Rev. Van Dam; Ethics: Rev. De Jonge; Church Polity: Rev. Slaa; Diaconiology: Rev. Vandeburgt.

The following ministers are appointed as church visitors: Lodder, Slaa, Souman, Van Dam, Vandeburgt (convenor).

The church at Smithers is appointed to take care of the archives. The church at Houston is appointed to inspect the archives. Br. Jake Kuik 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. De Jonge is appointed as

deputy for preaching arrangements in vacant churches. Rev. Lodder is appointed as deputy coordinating ecclesiastical contacts. Personal question period is 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 49, the chairman closes the meeting with prayer.

For Classis,

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