Press Release of Classis Niagara

September 16, 2015

held in the Canadian Reformed Church of Smithville

At the appointed time a delegate from the consistory of the convening church (Smithville) opened the meeting in a fitting Christian manner. The credentials were examined and found to be in good order. Classis was constituted, the executive was seated, and the agenda, duly modified, 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. No church requested assistance in matters of discipline.

The church at Smithville notes that there are no needy churches within Classis Niagara, and suggests that the Committee responsible for the Fund for Needy Churches be disbanded. The Regulations require that Classis appoint a Church responsible for receiving requests from potential Needy Churches, and so Smithville's request is denied.

In closed session a church visitation report was received concerning a visit made to the Vineyard Canadian Reformed Church in Lincoln last April. This report was received with gratitude.

A report from the Treasurer notes that there are sufficient funds to cover the costs of classis. An audit is also received from the Church of Grassie concerning the Treasurer's fund, with all found to be in good order. The treasurer is discharged from his work concerning the year covered.

A report was received concerning the Archives of Classis indicates that the archives are in good order. The Archive church and the auditing church were thanked for their diligence in fulfilling their tasks.

A report was received from the deputies responsible for Contact with Neighboring Classes & Presbyteries. This report concerned a visit to the latest URC classis. It was received with gratitude.

Appointed as convening church for next classis is Tintern, on December 16 (with March 9, 2016 as alternative date). Appointments were made for church visitors and examination organizers. To Regional Synod the following were delegated to attend: brs C Bouwman & R denHollander (alt: D Wynia & P Holtvluwer – in that order); brs C Feenstra & A Schutten (alt: L Kingma & H vanderVelde – in that order). Deputies for Contact with Neighboring Classes/Presbyteries were reappointed, viz, brs B Gritter and F Ludwig. Outgoing classis treasurer, br D vanAmerongen sr, was reappointed for the coming year.

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