

Press Release of Classis Pacific West, held April 11, 2017, in Langley, BC

On behalf of the convening church at Langley, BC, Rev. William den Hollander calls the meeting to order and opens the meeting with prayer and the reading of John 16:16-24, and then invites the delegates to sing Hymn 10. The credentials are examined by the delegates from the convening church of the previous classis, the church at Houston, and are found to be in good order. Classis is declared constituted and the officers suggested by the last classis are appointed: Rev. James Slaa, chairman; Rev. William den Hollander, vice-chairman; Rev. Ben Schoof, clerk.

The chairman thanks the church at Langley for hosting and presents the agenda for adoption.

The agenda is adopted with minor additions.

Rev. W. den Hollander signs the subscription form.

An opportunity is given to representatives of the Aldergrove Mission Board to provide a brief report on the mission work in Brazil and answer questions from the delegates. The chairman leads classis in prayer for that work.

An appeal was discussed in closed session.

The Willoughby Heights Canadian Reformed Church requests that the call and the acceptance of the call by Rev. R.C. Janssen be approbated by classis. Classis approbates the call after receiving the appropriate documentation from the Willoughby Heights Canadian Reformed Church according to C.O. Art. 5. Rev. William den Hollander is appointed to represent Classis Pacific West at the installation of Rev. R.C. Janssen on June 11, 2017, the Lord willing.

The treasurer report of 2016 regarding the financial situation of the Classis Pacific West Fund is received. The assessment for 2017 will be \$10, an increase to bring the fund up to a responsible level. The delegates of the church at Cloverdale, appointed to audit the Classis Pacific West Fund, report that the books are in good order. The treasurer is thanked for his work (*in absentia*) and is honorably discharged from his services.

A delegate of the church at Houston, the church responsible for inspecting the archives, reports on the state of the archives. Certain gaps in the archives are noted and appropriate arrangements are made after a discussion regarding what it is necessary to archive. The report is received with thankfulness and the Canadian Reformed Church at Smithers, responsible for the archives, is thanked for their work.

The following church visitation reports are read:

- the Houston Canadian Reformed Church (April 5, 2017)
- the Smithers Canadian Reformed Church (April 5, 2017)
- the Prince George mission congregation (April 6, 2017)
- the Willoughby Heights Canadian Reformed Church (April 10, 2017)
- the Langley Canadian Reformed Church (April 10, 2017)

With thankfulness classis can note that all things are regulated and done in full harmony with the Word of God, the office-bearers fulfil the duties of their office faithfully as they have promised, and the adopted order is being observed and maintained in every respect. Classis pauses and Rev. Carl Van Dam thanks the LORD in prayer.

Classis adjourns for lunch.

The chairman asks the questions according to 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. Cloverdale takes the opportunity to ask the help of classis in providing pulpit supply. The request is granted.

Opportunity is given for the churches to share the status of any mission projects in which they are involved.

The convening church for the next classis is the church at Smithers and the date is set for June 13, 2017, with an alternate date of September 12, 2017. The suggested officers for the next Classis are: Rev. Doug Vandeburgt as chairman; Rev. Ben Schoof, vice-chairman; and Rev. Carl Van Dam, clerk.

The following appointments are made:

- Committee for Examinations: Convenors: Rev. James Slaa; Rev. Ben Schoof
 - Exegesis OT: Rev. Carl Van Dam
 - Exegesis NT: Rev. Ben Schoof
 - Scripture Knowledge: Rev. William den Hollander
 - Church Polity: Rev. James Slaa
 - Doctrine & Creeds: Rev. Doug Vandeburgt
 - Church History: Rev. Carl Van Dam
 - Ethics: Rev. William den Hollander
 - Diaconiology: Rev. Doug Vandeburgt
- Church Visitors: Rev. James Slaa; Rev. Carl Van Dam; Rev. Doug Vandeburgt
- Church for taking care of the Archives: Smithers
- Church to inspect the Archives: Houston
- Treasurer: br. Jake Kuik
- Church for Auditing the books of the Treasurer: Cloverdale
- Committee for Financial Aid to Needy Churches: br. Jerome Lengkeek (Cloverdale), br. Harold Leyenhorst (convenor; Langley), br. Rick VanOene (Cloverdale)
- Deputies for preaching arrangements in vacant churches: Rev. Ben Schoof
- Deputy for Coordinating Ecclesiastical Contacts: Rev. William den Hollander

Opportunity is given for Personal Question Period.

The chairman notes with thankfulness the proceedings and brotherly spirit and rules that there is no need for censure. The Acts of Classis are presented and adopted. The press release is presented and approved. After inviting the delegates to sing a hymn, the chairman closes the meeting with prayer.

For classis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. den Hollander', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rev. William den Hollander (vice-chairman e.t.)