

Press Release of Classis Northern Ontario, June 9, 2017.

Classis Northern Ontario was convened on June 9, 2017, in the Canadian Reformed Church at Elora. Rev. Chase on behalf of the convening church of Elora opened the meeting in a Christian manner. All the churches were properly represented and classis was constituted. The chairman, Rev. Kampen noted that Rev. Pol is at Classis for the first time since his ordination and it is gratefully noted that all the churches in Classis now have a minister of the Word. Note was also taken of the fact that Rev. Mulder and Dr. De Jong have passed on to the Lord. The chairman reflected on the work the Lord gave these two men to do within the churches.

Classis proceeded with the Examination of br. Darren Feenstra, for the purpose of speaking an edifying word, after finding that the necessary documents were in order. Br. Feenstra then presented his sermon proposal on Acts 1:6-11. Classis determined that he had sustained his sermon proposal and that the examination could proceed. At the conclusion of the examination on Doctrine and Creeds, Classis judged that he had sustained the exam. Br. Darren Feenstra promised to abide by the subscription form and the vice-Chairman, Rev. VanLuik gave thanks in prayer.

Reports were given on church visits to the following churches: Elora, and Fergus North. These church visitation reports were received with thankfulness.

The churches answered in the affirmative that the ministry of the office bearers is being continued and the decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured (Art. 44 C.O.). The church at Elora asked for advice to proceed to the next step of discipline. Advice is given to proceed. The churches at Fergus North and Grand Valley asked for advice on pastoral matters.

Classis dealt with a proposal from the Church at Fergus North to amend the regulations of Classis on voting procedures. Classis adopted the following motion: "A motion shall be considered adopted if more than half of valid votes are in favour of it. In case of a tie vote the motion is considered defeated. Valid votes are cast by those who meet the requirements of Article 32 C.O. Blank or spoiled ballots are not valid nor are abstentions."

Classis adopts the proposal of the church at Grand Valley to change the regulation of Classis to require those who present themselves for the Peremptory Examination to provide classis with two additional sermons that have not been supervised, of which one is a Lord's Day sermon.

Classis appoints br. John Jonker to the appeals committee and br. Jason Vandeburgt as alternate.

Greetings were received from the OPC and the ERQ. They sent their regrets that they could not send a delegate to Classis.

The next Classis was scheduled for September 22, 2017, to be convened by the Church at Fergus Marantha.

The chairman noted with thankfulness that the meeting could be conducted in brotherly harmony. After thanksgiving in prayer, the meeting was closed.

Rev. M.H. VanLuik
Vice chairman at that time.