

Press Release of Region Synod West, November 6, 2017

Synod was opened by the chairman of the convening church of Aldergrove, Rev. Robert Schouten. He invited those present to sing from Ps.48:1,3, read from Matthew 16:13-28, and led in intercessory prayer.

The credential of the delegates were examined and all the classes were represented by their primary delegates. Synod was declared constituted and the following officers were elected: Chair: Rev. R. Schouten; Vice-chairman: Rev. Joe Poppe; Clerk: Rev. W. Wielenga. The agenda was adopted.

A letter was received from the Willoughby Heights church with a proposal to amend the Regulations for Regional Synod, with a letter from Classis Pacific West supporting this proposal. The proposal was adopted, and gives opportunity for the Classes held in the fall to still put matters on the Regional Synod table (which is normally held in early November).

An appeal was received from a brother and sister in Langley against a decision by Classis Pacific West held April 11, 2017. A response will be sent.

Various deputies of Regional Synod according to Article 48 of the Church Order reported that they gave their concurring consent regarding the peremptory examinations of candidates Timothy Schouten, William den Hollander, Gerard Veurink, Steve van Leeuwen, and James Zekveld, as well as the dismissal ad Article 11 Church Order of Rev. Theo Lodder, and the release ad Article 12 Church Order of Rev. Justin Roukema.

The report of the treasurer was received. No assessments are required for 2017 or 2018. The church at Taber tabled a report indicating that the books of the treasurer have been audited. The church at Edmonton Immanuel tabled a report indicating that the archives of regional Synod West are in good order.

Synod made the following appointments: J. Moedt as treasurer, the church of Taber to audit the books of the treasurer, the church of Edmonton Providence to care for the archives of Regional Synod West, and the church of Edmonton Immanuel for inspecting the archives. Deputies ad Article 48 of the Church Order were appointed as follows: from Classis Manitoba: Dr. A.J. Pol with Rev. J. Poppe and Rev. S. Vandavelde as alternates; from Classis Alberta: Rev. R. Aasman with Rev. J. van Spronsen and Rev. J. Huigen as alternates; from Classis Pacific East: Rev. W. Wielenga with Rev. R. Schouten and Rev. A. Pol as alternates; from Classis Pacific West: Rev. D. Vandeburgt with Rev. K. Janssen and Rev. J.G. Slaa as alternates.

The next Regional Synod is scheduled for Nov.5, 2018 and the church at Coaldale is appointed as convening church.

Question period was held. The chairman judged that censure according to Article 34 of the Church Order was not necessary. The Acts of Regional Synod West were adopted and the press release was approved. Rev. Schouten invited all present to sing from Hymn 61 and led in closing prayer.