

Press Release of Classis Pacific East April 26, 2018

On behalf of the convening church of Vernon, Rev. Witten called the meeting to order. He requested the singing of Psalm 122:2,3. He then read Romans 16 and lead in prayer.

The church of Lynden reported that the credentials of all delegates have been received. The officers suggested by the last classis are asked to take their place. Rev. A. Witten served as chairman, Rev. R. Schouten as vice-chairman and Rev. A. Pol as clerk. Classis was declared constituted.

The church of Yarrow requested a colloquium for their new minister, Rev. Ted VanSpronsen. After the pertinent documents were reviewed, a conversation took place with Rev. VanSpronsen focusing on the doctrines of justification and sanctification and the church order of the Canadian Reformed Churches. After this conversation, Classis met in closed session and decided that the colloquium was satisfactory. Classis therefore approved the call of Rev. VanSpronsen to the church at Yarrow. Rev. VanSpronsen signed the classical form of subscription. The church at Chilliwack was appointed to represent Classis at Rev. VanSpronsen's installation.

The church of Vernon requested a classical release for Rev. Arend Witten who has accepted a call to the church of London, ON. After review of the documents, Classis decided to issue a release. Vernon requested Classis to appoint a Counselor to the church at Vernon. Classis decided to appoint Rev. T. VanSpronsen to fulfill this responsibility. Vernon requested pulpit supply once per month and this was granted.

A report was received from the Treasurer of Classis Pacific East showing that the finances of classis are stable and that churches have paid their assessments. Church visit reports were read concerning the churches of Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Lynden.

The chairman asked each church the questions of Article 44 of the Church Order. No requests for advice were received by Classis.

Yarrow was appointed as the convening church for the next Classis which will be held on September 27, with December 13 as the alternative date. Suggested officers for next Classis: Chairman: from Aldergrove; vice-chairman: from Chilliwack; clerk: from Abbotsford.

Appointments were made for the examination of students for the ministry. As Church visitors, Classis appointed Rev. D. Deboer, Rev. R. Schouten, Rev. T. VanSpronsen and Rev. W. Wielenga. Rev. R. Schouten was appointed to coordinate the church visitors. Abbotsford was appointed as Church for the archives while Yarrow was given the task of inspecting the archives. Br. Ralph Leyenhorst of Vernon was re-appointed as Treasurer for Classis, and

Vernon was given the task of auditing the books of the Treasurer. For the Committee for Needy Churches, B. Vane, K. Louwerse and R. Stikma were appointed. Rev. R. Schouten was reappointed as deputy for preaching arrangements. Classis appointed elders R. Aikema and H. Schouten as delegates to Regional Synod West to be convened by Coaldale in November 2018. As first alternate, Classis appointed C. VanVliet and as second alternate, C. Voorhorst. As minister delegates, Classis appointed Rev. D. Deboer and Rev. T. VanSpronsen with Rev. R. Schouten as first alternate and Rev. W. Wielenga as second alternate.

The church at Abbotsford was reminded that it is responsible for contact with Classis Western Canada of the United Reformed Churches. Classis decided to remind the churches of Classis of the dire need for financial support in Classis West of the RCUS. Offerings are encouraged for the great need of our sister churches in the United States.

Censure according to Article 34 of the Church Order was not necessary. The Press Release and the Acts were read and approved. The chairman lead in closing devotions and the meeting was closed.

For Classis,

R. Schouten, clerk