

Press Release of Classis Alberta – Edmonton (Providence), March 12, 2019

On behalf of the convening church of Edmonton-Providence, Br. Martin VanderAhé welcomed the brothers and opened the meeting in a Christian manner. The delegates from the convening church examined the credentials and reported that all of the churches were duly represented. Classis was declared constituted and officers were appointed: Rev. S. VanLeeuwen chairman, Rev. C. Vanderlinde vice-chairman, Rev. G. Veurink clerk.

The vacant churches in the Classis, the work of the seminary, as well as the health concerns of Rev. E.J. Tiggelaar were remembered in prayer. Under memorabilia, the following matters were remembered. In October 2018, Rev. R. Aasman entered retirement after completing many years of faithful service. The church of St. Albert has extended calls to Rev. J. Sinke, and Rev. R. den Hollander but both were declined. Rev. C. Vanderlinde is also presently considering a call to Legana, Tasmania.

A report was received with thankfulness from Edmonton-Immanuel, the church appointed for the inspection of the Classis archives. A report was received with thankfulness from Rev. E.J. Tiggelaar, the Classis appointment for contact with the Provincial Government.

Classis entered into closed session for church visitation reports regarding the churches of Edmonton-Providence and Edmonton-Immanuel. These reports were received with thankfulness for the Lord's blessing.

The chairman asked the questions required by Article 44 of the Church Order. All the churches responded affirmatively that the ministry of the office bearers is being continued and that the decisions of the major assemblies are being honored. The churches of Edmonton-Immanuel and St. Albert requested and received, in closed session, the advice of Classis for the proper government of the church.

An appeal was dealt with in closed session.

Classis moved back into open session for a presentation by representatives of the Aldergrove Mission Board on the work being done in Brazil. Classis was informed of the history of the work, the present make-up of the federation of Brazilian churches (IRB), and ongoing activities at the Reformed Reading Room and the Aldeia Training Center. Updates were given on the work of missionaries Revs. J. Witteveen, K. Wieske, and mission aid worker Chris Boersema. A decision has been made to amalgamate the mission aid boards serving Brazil. At the present time the Board is not proceeding towards calling a third missionary. Instructions were given how the churches could contribute to the mission work in Brazil in compliance with Canadian Revenue Agency guidelines.

Requests for pulpit supply to the vacant churches at Edmonton-Providence, Neerlandia-South, St. Albert was granted. Edmonton-Providence sought and received advice regarding compensation for pulpit-supply.

Various appointments were made, among which: Neerlandia is the convening church for the next Classis; the date is set for June 11th, 2019; with the alternate date set for September 10th, 2019.

One brother made use of the personal question period. The Acts were adopted, and press release approved. After singing and prayer, the chairman declared Classis closed.

For Classis,

C. Vanderlinde

Vice-Chairman, at that time.