

## **PRESS RELEASE of Classis Pacific West Contracta, held May 29, 2020, in Surrey, BC**

Classis Pacific West Contracta was convened on May 29, 2020, in Surrey, BC, in order to deal with the request of Smithers Canadian Reformed Church to approve Rev. James Slaa's release in view of his accepting a call to the Carman West Canadian Reformed Church (see Article 9 of the Church Order).

In addition to the two churches properly represented in person (the convening church of Surrey-Maranatha and the neighbouring church of Cloverdale), at least one delegate from the churches of Langley, Smithers & Willoughby Heights was present via Zoom. All the credentials from the delegates were sent to the convening church in advance of the meeting and were examined by the delegates from Surrey-Maranatha.

Classis Contracta was declared constituted. Rev. Ben Schoof (Surrey-Maranatha) was appointed chairman and Rev. Jeremy Segstro (Cloverdale) was appointed clerk.

Since all the supporting documents were in order, Classis approved the request of the church of Smithers and prepared a classical certificate of release for Rev. Slaa. The chairman, Rev. Schoof, thanked Rev. Slaa for his many years of faithful service in Classis Pacific West, and wished the Council and congregation of Smithers the Lord's blessings during their vacancy.

Rev. Slaa thanked the brothers of Classis Pacific West for his honourable release, and for the support during his work in Classis Pacific West, including as a church visitor.

The chairman ruled that censure Art. 34 of the C.O. was not necessary. The Acts were adopted. A press release would be prepared later by the officers of Classis.

Rev. Jeremy Segstro gave thanks in prayer and the chairman closed the meeting.