

Press Release

Classis Pacific West, September 9, 2021 (Cloverdale)

On behalf of the convening church, Cloverdale, Rev. J. Segstro opened the assembly with the reading of Psalm 35:1-18, the singing of Psalm 35:1, 11, and prayer. In prayer we remembered the fact that Rev. Veurink declined a call to Houston and gave thanks that Rev. and Mrs. Schoof could receive from the Lord a healthy baby girl. We also remembered the many people in Smithers congregation who are dealing with Covid-19 or symptoms indicative of Covid-19.

The delegates of Willoughby Heights reported that all the credentials were in order and classis was declared constituted. Rev. K. Janssen was appointed to the chair, Rev. R. Visscher as vicechair, and Rev. J. Segstro as clerk. Two delegates from Smithers participated in classis via Zoom. The other delegates were present in person.

Rev. A. Plug and Rev. R. Visscher signed the Form of Subscription.

The agenda for classis was adopted with minor changes. No correspondence was received.

Smithers requested approval to extend a second call to Rev. Hendrik Alkema from the Free Reformed Church of Albany, Australia, in accordance with Article 4 C of the Church Order. Smithers explained some of the background behind this request and answered questions from Classis. Classis approved their request. Pulpit supply will continue to be provided for Smithers and Houston each at a frequency of one Sunday per month.

A report was read from the Committee for Financial Aid to Needy Churches.

Church visitation reports were received for the churches of Maranatha, Willoughby Heights, Smithers, Refuge, Houston, and Langley. Classis also received a report regarding a visitation to the church plant of Prince George as Prince George anticipates instituting in the future. All reports were received with gratitude.

Question period in accordance with Article 44 of the Church Order was held. All churches could respond “yes, yes, no” for which gratitude was given.

The churches then had opportunity to report on outreach activities. Cloverdale could report that they continue to support the work of Rev. Dong and the worship services of the Chinese Reformed Church have resumed in the Cloverdale church building. The Asia Mission Board is currently underfunded, and they have asked the Cloverdale congregation for additional support. Houston reports that they have used a budget surplus to allow the deacons to make sizeable contributions to Word & Deed, CRWRF, and other causes. Langley reports they continue to support Night Shift and conduct Christianity Explored. They continue to support the Asia Mission Board and Mission in Mexico. Refuge reports that they have hosted several Park Kids Day Camp events at local parks. Smithers reported that they continue to support the work in Prince George, the Aldergrove Brazil Mission Society and the Asia Mission Board. They also hosted a barbecue for families who had participated in First Nations Bible camps in previous years. Surrey is giving to various causes by way of assessments and special collections. Willoughby

Heights has been involved in many foreign mission projects such as the Aldergrove Brazil Mission Society, Asia Mission, etc.

The following appointments were made:

- Next classis: To be convened by Langley, DV, on December 9, 2021 (alt. April 7, 2022). Suggested officers: Chair Rev. B. Schoof, Vicechair Rev. J. Segstro, Clerk Rev. T. Schouten.
- The members of the Committee for Appeals were reappointed to their positions.
- Smithers requested that Rev. K. Janssen be appointed as church counsellor. Classis agreed to the request.
- The following brothers were appointed to serve as delegates to Regional Synod West (Smithers), November 1, 2021.
 - o Ministers: Rev. K. Janssen and Rev. D. Vandeburgt were appointed with alternates being Rev. B. Schoof and Rev. J. Segstro.
 - o Elders: K. Dykstra and H. Moes were appointed with alternates being G. Gunnink and J. Lengkeek

Opportunity was given for personal question period.

The chairman ruled that none of the brothers behaved improperly and thanked the brothers.

The Acts of Classis and the Press Release were adopted.

The chairman closed classis with prayer.

R. Visscher, vicechair at the time.