

## **Press release, Classis Pacific East, Chilliwack March 9, 2023**

Rev. B. Schoof of the convening church, Chilliwack, called the meeting to order and read from Psalm 84 after which those present sang from the same Psalm and brother Schoof led in prayer. A special welcome was extended to Rev. M. VanderPol as a fraternal delegate from the Lynden United Reformed Church.

The credentials were examined and it was reported that the churches were duly represented in their delegates. Classis was constituted; the officers to serve classis were appointed: B. Wielenga as chairman; C. Vanderlinde as vice-chairman; and P. Vandenberg as clerk. Classis adopted its agenda.

Ministers serving four churches of classis who had not previously signed the subscription form, affirmed their agreement by signing the form.

A letter was received from the Dean of Students at CRTS, Dr. W. den Hollander, requesting guidelines for classical examinations. The pertinent regulations will be sent to the seminary. Classis appointed the church of Aldergrove to propose refinements to the Classis Regulations where necessary.

An invitation was received from the clerk of Classis Pacific Northwest of the URCNA, Rev. Dr. Q. B. Falkena, for any representatives to attend and bring fraternal greetings at their upcoming meeting on March 14-15. The clerk will compose a letter of credentials for a brother in the classis region to be sent as a delegate.

Rev. M. VanderPol, on behalf of the URCNA addressed classis. He expressed appreciation for the close relations between the URCNA and Canadian and American Reformed Churches. He brought words of encouragement to the churches in our present circumstances in this world. The chairman responded with words that expressed gratitude for the encouragement.

A letter was received from the Chairman of the Interchurch Relations Committee of the Western Classis (RCUS), Rev. J. A. Merica giving fraternal greetings and providing an update on the work of the Lord in the RCUS. This letter was received with thankfulness.

Reports were received from the church visitors for visitations made to the churches of Abbotsford and Yarrow.

The chairman asked all the churches whether the ministry of the office bearers is being continued, whether the decisions of the major assemblies are being honored, and whether there is any matter in which the consistories need the judgment and help of classis for the proper government of their church. All the churches responded affirmatively to the first two questions and negatively to the third.

The following appointments were made: the convening church for the next classis is the church at Lynden on June 8, 2023 (with September 14, 2023 as the alternate date).

After personal question period, and after the chairman noted with thankfulness that censure was not needed, the Acts of classis were read and adopted; the press release was read and approved for publication. The assembly sang from Hymn 71 and the chairman led in prayer, after which the chairman declared the meeting closed.

For classis on March 9, 2023  
Calvin Vanderlinde (vice-chairman at the time)