

Press Release of Classis Pacific East, September 13, 2007 Chilliwack

The chairman of the consistory of the convening church requested the assembled delegates to sing Ps 99:1,2,6. He read Philippians 2:1-11, and led the meeting in prayer. Words of welcome were extended to all delegates, with a special word of welcome to Rev R IJbema, minister-designate of the church of Chilliwack, present for a colloquium at this classis.

Delegates from the church of Aldergrove checked the credentials, and reported that they were in good order. There were no proposals or instructions from the churches.

The officers suggested by previous classis took their seats. After perusing the agenda and the requests from the churches, an agenda for the meeting was adopted.

At the request of the church of Chilliwack, the colloquium for Rev IJbema was scheduled for 7 PM.

The following reports were presented:

1. The church of Yarrow has inspected the archives of classis Pacific East, and found them to be in good order.
2. The church of Vernon has audited the books of the treasurer for 2006, and found them to be in good order.
3. A delegate from the Committee for Financial Aid to Students for the Ministry reported that the committee had no meeting, and hence has nothing to report.
4. The Committee for Needy Churches submitted no report, since there is no church in classis requiring support. This was noted with gratitude.

The chairman asked the questions required by Art 44 CO. It was noted with gratitude that in the churches of classis the ministry of the office bearers is being continued, all decisions of the major assemblies were being honoured, and no consistory needed the assistance of classis for the proper government of their church.

The church of Lynden was appointed to convene next classis in Lynden on December 6, 2007, with alternate date set for March 13, 2008.

Classis also appointed officers for next classis, and made arrangements for counsellors and preaching supply to vacant churches.

Delegates for Regional Synod West 2007 in Carmen East were appointed as follows:

Elders: brs C. Leyenhorst and P. vanWoudenberg; alternates, D. Schouten and A. vanderGaag, in that order.

Ministers: brs C. Bouwman and R. Schouten; alternates, J. Moesker and W. Wielenga, in that order.

Question Period was made use of.

The documents pertaining to Rev IJbema's colloquium were presented according to Art 5B & C of the CO, and found to be in good order.

After supper a colloquium was conducted with Rev IJbema. After dialoguing with Rev IJbema for an hour, classis in closed session concluded with gratitude that Rev IJbema can be received into the ministry of the Word. In open session this conclusion was imparted to Rev IJbema and to the appreciative audience from the Chilliwack congregation. With this conclusion, Rev IJbema's call to the church of Chilliwack was also approved, according to Art 5, CO. Convening church for next classis was instructed to ensure that the Subscription Form be present next time for Rev IJbema to sign.

Rev Bouwman was appointed to represent classis at the welcome evening of Rev IJbema.

The chairman ruled that no censure was needed as per Art 34 CO.

Acts of classis were read and adopted. Press release was read and approved.

The chairman requested classis to sing together Hy 64:1-4, after which he closed the meeting in prayer.

On behalf of classis,
C Bouwman, vice chairman