

## **Press Release of Classis North February 2, 2024 -- convened by FRC Melville**

On behalf of the convening church of Melville, Rev. S. 't Hart welcomed the delegates. He opened the meeting by inviting everyone to sing Psalm 100. He then read that Psalm. Prayer was offered up for the Lord's blessing on the meeting.

Some items of memorabilia were mentioned by Rev. 't Hart including: the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the institution of Melville; Mount Nasura continues to be vacant; with the departure of Rev. D. Poppe, Southern River is now vacant as well.

The delegates from Kelmscott reported that all the churches were duly represented by two delegates. Classis was declared constituted and the executive took their seats. Rev. A. van Delden served as chairman, Rev. W. Bredenhof as vice-chairman, and Rev. S. 't Hart as clerk.

All the delegates rose to affirm their agreement with the Three Forms of Unity.

The chairman asked the delegates the questions from article 41 of the Church Order. The ministry of the office bearers is being maintained and the decisions of the assemblies are being honoured. Advice on discipline was sought by two of the churches.

Southern River presented a proposal for Synod regarding a Safe Church Standing Committee. This proposal sets forth a federational approach to preventing and addressing abuse in our churches. Classis decided to make some amendments and send the proposal to Synod as a proposal of Classis North of February 2, 2024.

Legana was appointed as the convening church for the next classis, scheduled for April 19, 2024. The suggested executive: Rev. A. Souman, chairman; Rev. A. van Delden, vice-chairman; Rev. W. Bredenhof, clerk.

Classis appointed the following brothers as delegates to Synod 2024: Ministers: Rev. A. Souman, Rev. S 't Hart, Rev. A. van Delden (Rev. W. Bredenhof as alternate); Elders: P. Kroeze, W. Spyker, and R. Vanderlinde (alternates in this order: A. Schiebaan, J. DenBoer, P. Veldhuis).

Opportunity was provided for personal questions. Censure was deemed unnecessary. The Acts and Press Release were approved and the assembly concluded in the usual Christian fashion.

Wes Bredenhof  
Vice-chairman of that classis