



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OCTOBER 28, 2023 | ABBOTSFORD, BRITISH COLUMBIA

CCMBC
CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF
MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCHES

CCEFM
CONFÉRENCE CANADIENNE DES
ÉGLISES DES FRÈRES MENNONITES

WELCOME

Welcome, 2023 Delegates and Guests!

Over the past few decades, our National Family has gathered annually to review our progress and work through reports from our leaders and agencies. We refresh our goals, celebrate, pray together, and make important decisions. Due to the challenges of meeting in person over the past few years, we have transitioned to online gatherings. The Executive Board has used this opportunity to reconsider how we meet and make decisions. They propose moving to two national gatherings per year - our June AGM (2 hours online) for audited statements and election of new directors, and our National Assembly at our Equip fall event (4 hours in person) for strategic planning, future direction, by-law changes, Confession of Faith development, and approval of our next year's budget.

Welcome to our National Assembly! We are excited to strengthen our sense of community within our national MB family, especially since we have recently faced challenges meeting in person.

Cam Stuart

Interim CCMBC Executive Board Moderator

DELEGATE QUALIFICATIONS

Each member church shall be entitled to be represented at any convention by delegates. The maximum number of delegates is one (1) pastoral delegate per church and one (1) other delegate for every twenty-five (25) members or fraction thereof of that member church. Executive Board members for the Canadian conference have a vote at convention by virtue of their position as Executive Board members. Each delegate must be:

- 18 years of age or older
- A member in good standing
- Approved as a delegate by the church

AGENDA

Date Saturday, October 28, 2023
Location Northview Community Church
32040 Downes Road, Abbotsford, BC
Time 8:30 am – 12:30 pm Pacific time

1. Meeting called to order – welcome and instructions
2. Consent Motion to appoint parliamentary and minute review committee
3. Consent Motion to approve October 28, 2023 National Assembly agenda and the June 08, 2023 AGM minutes as presented
4. Moderator's Welcome and Report
5. CUSP Leadership Development Presentation
6. CUSP Spiritual Health Report
7. Agency Reports
 - a. Legacy
 - b. MB Seminary
 - c. Multiply
8. Motion to approve the CCMBC 2024 Budget as presented
9. National Director Farewell Address
10. Consent Motion to adjourn

RULES OF ORDER

1. We strive for unity and respect, involving the participation of all assembled, as we deliberate decisions that shape the future of our conference.
2. Delegates should stand to speak at a nearby microphone or indicate you want to speak by using the "raise hand" function in Zoom. Please use the following protocol:
 - a. Wait for acknowledgement by the moderator.
 - b. State your name, church and community you come from.
 - c. Address the moderator. Delegates may not dialogue with each other on the floor.
 - d. Keep remarks to the point. Avoid repeating statements already made by another delegate.
 - e. Take care to confine remarks to the motion or resolution under discussion.
3. A delegate may speak to an issue more than once, unless there are other delegates who wish to address an issue. A delegate should not ask for the floor more than 3 times on one issue. The mover of a motion may answer questions to a motion as often as they are raised.
4. Individuals other than delegates may be permitted to speak, subject to the decision of the moderator. The assembled delegates may, by a simple majority vote, override the decision of the chair.
5. Only delegates are permitted to vote.
6. For online delegates, the "Digital Voting Policy for Conventions of the Conference" will be followed. Additional instructions may be provided by the Moderator regarding any other meeting procedures required by online delegates.
7. In general, Robert's Rules of Order will be followed.

DIGITAL VOTING POLICY

DIGITAL VOTING POLICY FOR CONVENTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

A Digitally Registered Delegate is entitled to participate online and vote using the digital communications technology selected by the staff of the Conference who are responsible for hosting the Convention. This technology will be provided at no cost to each registered delegate.

Registration Procedure

To be enrolled and participate as a Digitally Registered Delegate, the following procedure will be used:

- For each church delegate who is attending online, their name and a unique email address must be provided.
- Each delegate must have their own digital device such as a computer or smartphone that is capable of running the communications software being used by the Conference. For reasons of authentication and vote tabulation, multiple delegates cannot share a single device.
- At least 24 hours prior to the start of the Convention, each Digitally Registered Delegate will receive an email with a password and instructions on how to attend the Convention online. Delegates will have time to load and test any software before the start of the Convention.
- Each delegate will receive a unique identifier (Registration Order Number) that must be used when logging into the online convention so that their identity can be validated. Anyone who does not have an identifier will be disconnected from the online service.

Voting Procedure

When a call for a vote is made by the Moderator, each Digitally Registered Delegate will indicate their vote using a voting or polling feature provided by the online software. The members of the Ballot Team will be responsible for tallying the result of the votes from all delegates.

Call for a Ballot

If a vote by ballot is required, the Moderator will indicate how responses from the Digitally Registered Delegates will be received by using a voting or polling feature provided by the online software.

Motion Discussion Procedure

Prior to voting on a motion, the Moderator may open the floor for questions. The Moderator will be responsible for managing questions from all delegates in person as well as Digitally Registered Delegates. The same rules of order for the Convention, as set by the Conference, will apply to all delegates. The following guidelines apply to Digitally Registered Delegates:

- All microphones of online participants will be muted (It may be required that all video be turned off except for the speakers).
- A Digitally Registered Delegate may use appropriate features of the software as designated by the Moderator to signal their desire to speak to the motion on the floor.
- The Moderator will identify the delegate to speak next and the microphone will be unmuted.
- The Moderator may also ask that the delegate use video, if available when speaking.

Scrutinizing Voting Results

There can be times when technology fails. The Ballot Team will be given the discretion to request that a vote be retaken if they feel that a significant portion of the delegates was somehow prohibited from participating in the vote and would have impacted the results of the vote.

In order for the Ballot Team to evaluate if a vote was impaired, it may be necessary for each Digitally Registered Delegate to indicate a YES, NO, or ABSTAIN response to a vote so that the online results can be validated. For instance, if only 45% of the delegates vote YES and 30% vote NO, it is important to confirm that the remaining 25% abstained as it could change the outcome of the vote.

Note: Members of the Ballot Team will be at the Convention site as well as online to confirm all results.

Restarting the Online Session

In the event that there is a failure in the online technology, the Moderator may discern the need to postpone the meeting temporarily until communication issues are resolved. Email will be used to communicate to all Digitally Registered Delegates. Rules for quorum will still apply once the online meeting is restarted.

2023 MODERATOR REPORT

I HOPE THAT AS WE FINALLY HAVE
A CHANCE TO BE TOGETHER AT OUR
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WE CAN REBUILD
INTERPROVINCIAL RELATIONSHIPS BY
LISTENING TO UNDERSTAND THE UNIQUE
CHALLENGES IN OUR DIFFERENT CONTEXTS

Psalm 27:13,14 encourages us with these words: *“I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”* Waiting is never easy, but it feels necessary in these challenging days. The temptation, I believe, is to try and find quick solutions to complex problems. But the kind of solutions we need are ones that reveal the goodness of the Lord in our specific context. These solutions generally are slow to emerge and require great patience yet will produce the kind of fruit we are ultimately seeking. This is why we need to be strong and take heart in the waiting! So, I think waiting on the Lord will be a primary discipline for us as we move forward as leaders, churches and agencies. I also believe we are seeing some of the fruit of patient attentiveness to God in the good fruit that is emerging within our denomination.

Summary of initiatives

Our primary focus remains the ongoing development of our Collaborative Unified Strategic Plan (CUSP). Our CUSP mission statement is to “cultivate a community and culture of healthy disciple-making churches and ministries, faithfully joining Jesus in his mission.” There are four areas that we will pursue to move this mission forward. They are Leadership Development, Mission, Spiritual Health and Theology and Organizational Health. This year our National Ministry Team (NMT) has done good work on the Leadership Development and Mission areas. You will engage these ideas at the National Assembly.

Collaboration

We all have different needs and different resources. This is what makes the collaborative model so helpful in that we can give and receive on a much larger scale providing more resources and support to one another than left on our own.

But a growing concern emerging over the last few years (Covid induced) is the “silo” effect where instead of leaning in to support and help one another interprovincially we are distant and arm’s length of one another. I hope that as we finally have a chance to be together at our National Assembly, we can rebuild interprovincial relationships by listening to understand the unique challenges in our different contexts, offering to pray, support and where possible resource one another so that together we can see our churches thrive and have the gospel expand to those far from Jesus in an increasingly secular and turbulent culture.

Financial picture

We continue to be grateful for God’s provision and the ongoing support of our provinces and churches. During 2022, we were able to meet all our obligations with a small operating surplus. Despite the budget pressure our constituents continue to face we are thankful for your financial support of our shared ministry objectives. We remain on target to eliminate our related party obligation in 2025 with the ongoing support of Legacy in helping us meet this target. We are thankful for the financial and administrative services Legacy provides our conference and for the servant heart of its staff members.

National agencies

We are very blessed to have the kind and quality of leaders and staff members who overseeing these agencies.

Multiply: We are grateful for the Multiply staff and the leadership they provide our missions initiatives and the addition of Bruce as their leader.

Legacy: We are thankful for the financial and administrative services Legacy provides our conference and for the servant heart of its staff members and led by Jason.

MB Seminary: The Seminary team led by Mark have done good work in bringing Seminary education at their Campus, Online and through the “Teaching Churches partnership program.”

NFLT: The NFLT led by Ken continue to do a great job working on resources that help our churches and leaders think carefully about current issues as well as updating our Confession of Faith.

Honoring Elton:

Elton has done a remarkable job over the last five years. He was tasked with creating a collaborative governance model and has moved us into that reality. He also had several years of Covid restrictions to navigate. Through the many challenges he had to face, he remained faithful and resolute. He provided the necessary groundwork for our Collaborative Model and CUSP development for which we are grateful. We bless him as he transitions to lead ICOMB beginning Jan. 1 2024.

Gratitude for our staff:

I am very grateful to our Executive Board who are mostly volunteers who give of their time to serve our greater constituency. I am also grateful to our staff (Elton, Ken, Jason, Jim, Carson, Kara, Jon, Liam, and Holly (on maternity leave)) who each do a fantastic job in their respective roles we ask them to fill.

Executive Board transitions and additions

I am grateful for all the Executive Board members who give many hours to serving our larger constituency. We are grateful for the years of service that Tim Doerksen, Sharon Simpson and Ron Penner provided. All contributed much to our EB discussions and provided significant leadership in their respective responsibilities.

We also added new Executive Board members. Tim Doerksen rejoined the EB on the FAC, Rob Dyck joined us a MAL, Tom Ens as the Seminary Rep and Matt Ewert as BCMB representative. Wendi Thiessen also joined as the Multiply Rep.

Moving Forward

Obviously our first task is to hire a new Executive Director. Close on the heels of this task is the finding and affirming a new Moderator. What we are most enthusiastic about is the operationalization phase of the CUSP. Elton and the NMT have done a significant amount of foundational work to get us to this phase. Now we are looking forward to resourcing and supporting our provinces and churches in developing healthy disciple making cultures which we pray will see a new movement of new disciples of Jesus Christ within our specific Canadian context.

On behalf of the Executive Board,



Cam Stuart

Interim Moderator

2023 NATIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Dear friends and ministry partners,

This is my last report as your National Director. I begin by expressing my heartfelt gratitude for your trust and confidence in me during the past five years. Numerous challenges and a significant restructuring process have characterized my tenure at CCMBC. As I prepare to step down from this role, I believe it is essential to provide you with an overview of our journey, the accomplishments we have achieved and to inspire you to continue working together for the benefit of those yet to encounter the transformative power of Jesus Christ.

I am aware that some have expressed criticisms and doubts about the value of a National Conference and the impact of CCMBC. Instead of launching new programs or maintaining specific initiatives, we deliberately shifted away from individualized strategies within the National Conference to build a collective, coordinated, and collaborative approach.

I firmly believe that my mission at CCMBC was to restore its health, rebuild trust, and set a collaborative path forward in motion. In this regard, I am confident that, by the grace of God and with the support of many, we have accomplished this mission.

Focus on Health and Healing

Within our National structure, several areas required adjustment or even complete reconstruction. Allow me to highlight a few key areas of our progress:

Financial Health

As outlined in our financial report presented at the Gathering in 2018, our National Conference had depleted its reserves by operating beyond its means. When we restructured “Stewardship Ministries” into the “Legacy Fund,” we discovered a “debt to related party” of \$3.5 million on CCMBC’s side of the ledger. This debt resulted from various factors, including overspending, asset devaluation, and operational losses. Over the past five years, CCMBC and Legacy have worked diligently to repay much of this internal debt, leaving only \$600,000 on our books. CCMBC has also made strides in living within its means and has achieved small surpluses in four of the last five years. In addition, we have begun to build a cash reserve to secure our financial position in the future.

Organizational Health

In the past five years, we have witnessed a remarkable recovery of all our National Agencies. Legacy, Multiply, and MB Seminary have endured significant challenges, but it is evident that our agencies are now experiencing

a season of steady growth and stability.

Structural, Strategic, and Relational Health

The creation of the Collaborative model and the development of the Collaborative Unified Strategic Plan (CUSP) have brought all parts of our organization together to design, build, and operationalize programs and ministries aligned with the mission of the Canadian MB Church. The Collaborative Unified Strategic Plan serves as a roadmap, guiding us in our direction, while the Collaborative Model facilitates coordination and collaboration.

Theological Health

The reorganization of the Board of Faith and Life into the National Faith and Life Team and the appointment of a full-time National Faith and Life Director staff position has enabled us to proactively and collaboratively create resources to clarify and strengthen our theological framework.

Looking Ahead

I would be remiss if I did not emphasize that our work is far from finished. We are now entering a building phase, where we can align ideas and resources to become a missional movement in Canada through our collective efforts. There is an open invitation for full collaboration in designing, building, and operationalizing missional programs that can rejuvenate our denomination in Canada and increase our involvement in global missions.

Thank You

In conclusion, I am again grateful for your care, prayers, and trust. It has been an incredible honour and privilege to serve among you. I also thank the CCMBC executive board, the National Ministry Team, and the National Faith and Life Team for your patience and support throughout my tenure. Finally, I want to acknowledge and thank the dedicated CCMBC and Legacy staff for your unwavering commitment and hard work. I will miss working alongside every one of you.

As I conclude my service as National Director, I offer my prayers for God’s richest blessings upon all of you.

With sincere gratitude and warm regards,



Elton DaSilva

TABLE OFFICERS

CAM STUART

Interim Board Moderator

MICHAEL DICK

Finance and Audit committee Chair/MAL

REG TOEWS

Secretary

PROVINCIAL REPS

RICHARD LOUGHEED

Quebec (AEFMQ)

MICHELLE KNOWLES

Ontario (ONMB)

DAVE ENS

Manitoba (MBCM)

PHI GUNTHER

Saskatchewan (SKMB)

MATT EWRT

British Columbia (BCMB)

MEMBERS AT LARGE

TIM DOERKSEN

JEFF DYCK

ROB DYCK

BONITA EBY

SAM REIMER

Personnel Chair

EX-OFFICIO (NON-VOTING)

ELTON DASILVA

CCMBC National Director

TOM ENNS

MB Seminary Board Representative

WENDI THIESSEN

Multiply Board Representative

BERTHA DYCK (LEGACY BOARD)

CORY REGIER (LEGACY BOARD)

NMT MEMBERS

ROB THIESSEN (BCMB)

RICHARD LOUGHEED (AEFMQ)

PAUL LOEWEN (ABMB)

PHIL GUNTHER (SKMB)

CAM PRIEBE (MBCM)

RYAN JANTZI (ONMB)

JASON KRUEGER (LEGACY)

BRUCE ENNS (MULTIPLY)

MARK WESSNER (MB SEMINARY)

CCMBC STAFF

KEN ESAU

National Faith and Life Director

JIM BELL

Legacy Chief Financial Officer

KARA FRIESEN

Executive Assistant

2023 NATIONAL FAITH & LIFE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mandate

According to the Collaborative Unified Strategic Plan (CUSP), we as a Conference exist “to cultivate a community and culture of healthy disciple-making churches and ministries, faithfully joining Jesus in his mission.” The National Faith and Life Team (NFLT) exists to articulate and safeguard Mennonite Brethren theological convictions, produce theological and pastoral resources, and provide discernment and guidance on current issues. The National Faith and Life Team stewards the Confession of Faith on behalf of the Conference.

Projects and Activities so far in 2023

We have been active in providing a monthly prayer resource entitled “Moments in Prayer” with the theme “**Holy Spirit—Fill Us!**” This resource is sent out via email to subscribers on the first day of each month and published in that month’s *MB Herald Digest*. If you are not receiving these emails, please sign up [here](#). We believe that the future health and mission of our MB family is heavily dependent on prayer and the presence of the Holy Spirit. Please join us in prayer!

We oversaw the **Pastors Credentialing Orientation** (June 6-8, 2023) in Winnipeg with 26 regular participants and 4 “alumni” in attendance. The next PCO is scheduled for May 28-30, 2024 in Abbotsford, BC (and area). Please see our PCO website [here](#) for updates as they become available.

We have been very busy planning for our Equip 2023 conference (October 26-28, 2023) at Northview Community Church (Abbotsford, BC) on “**Fire & Ashes: Why Church? Why MB?**” Our prayer is that this event will bring our MB family together from across the country and build unity as we gather for worship, prayer, shared learning, relationship-building, and renewal around our purpose and mission.

In terms of policy items, we have approved the following:

1. The **Collaborative National Church Affiliation and Review Policy**. This provides guidance for provincial MB leadership and each local MB church about what are the mutual expectations and obligations related to affiliation. Each provincial MB conference will adapt this policy for its own context.

2. The **CCMBC MB Confession of Faith Amendment Procedure Policy**. We have been asked about how Confession of Faith amendments could happen and acceptable reasons for such amendments. That two-part question is what led to our creation of this procedure policy.

We have been busy updating our 1999 Confession of Faith resources and are working diligently on the following:

1. **Article 1: God (Explanatory Notes)**. This has received final approval and available [here](#).
2. **Article 2: Revelation of God (Explanatory Notes)**. This is in process for final approval and available [here](#).
3. **Article 6: Nature of the Church (Explanatory Notes)**.
4. **Article 7: Mission of the Church (Explanatory Notes)**.
5. **MB Confession of Faith Responsive Worship Readings**.

A key project that is nearing completion is a revised “**MB Credentialing Questionnaire (2023)**” which includes increased interaction with our MB Confession of Faith as well as increased interaction with our Code of Personal and Ministry Ethics. We are hoping for implementation of this revised questionnaire in the very near future for all new candidates.

Another key project is defining what a “healthy disciple-making church...faithfully joining Jesus in his mission” actually looks like. We have created a draft document entitled “**Defining a Healthy Church Resource**” hoping that it can spur discussion within and among churches in our family about what it looks like to be a healthy church, what activities could increase the level of health, and finally how the growth of (or the loss of) church health could be measured.

We have received requests for resources related to **Christians and Gender Identity**. We are still in process about whether to create a specific CCMBC resource on these questions or whether we should adopt carefully thought-out and biblically faithful resources that align with our Confession of Faith.

We have the same reflections in response to requests for resources that respond to Canada’s **Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD)** legislation. For those churches

looking for up-to-date resources, the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC), of which we are a member, has been actively engaged with these questions. See Dr. David Guretzki, “Social Awareness. Living Truth.” Available [here](#).

On a more personal level, I have been able to contribute articles for the new *MB Herald Digest* “**Q&R Corner**” that responds to questions that are being asked by individuals within our MB family. The following is a sampling of topics covered so far:

- Scientific Research and Biblical Interpretation. (April 2023)
- Gay Couples and Church Inclusion/Belonging. (May 2023)
- Response to the Study on the Use of the MB Confession of Faith. (June 2023)
- The MB Position on Exorcism. (August 2023)
- MB Definition of “Man” and “Woman” in Article 11. (September 2023)

I am very privileged to work with the fifteen men and women leaders from across Canada who make up the National Faith and Life Team (NFLT). They are a blessing and encouragement to me as I watch them serve faithfully, sacrificially, and prayerfully both where they are as well as on the NFLT. Please continue to pray for and encourage these individuals in their ministries. Most of all, pray that our MB family of churches would embrace our calling to be healthy disciple-making churches, faithfully joining Jesus in his mission!

If you have suggestions, encouragements, or thoughts, feel free to email them to us at listeningwell@mbchurches.ca



Ken Esau

National Faith and Life Director

NATIONAL FAITH AND LIFE TEAM
RICHARD LOUGHEED
AEFMQ Designate
RYAN JANTZI
ONMB Interim Executive Director
KAREN WEST
ONMB Representative
CONNIE MAIER
Member-at-Large, ONMB

JASON DYCK
MBCM Director of Church Ministries
WALTER FAST
MBCM Representative
PHIL GUNTHER
SKMB Director of Ministry
RICK SCHELLENBERG
SKMB Representative
PAUL LOEWEN
ABMB Provincial Director
LAURENCE HIEBERT
ABMB Representative

ROBERT THIESSEN
BCMB Conference Minister
KRISTAL TOEWS
Member-at-Large, BCMB
KEITH REED
MB Seminary Representative
DOUG HEIDEBRECHT
Multiply Representative
ELTON DASILVA
CCMBC National Director



Greetings to the delegates and guests of our National Assembly. We are grateful for the privilege to serve our constituents, faithfully joining Jesus in his mission. As a national ministry partner, we take joy in the collaborative relationship shared with our MB family. Our staff are dedicated to serving you as a trusted financial and administrative resource. We are pleased to share our new mission statement, values, and 5-year strategic plan, approved this spring by our board of directors. We are committed to ensuring the vitality and sustainability of resources and continued service to our MB family. Thank you for your support and may God richly bless each of you. In Christ, Jason Krueger, Legacy CEO

**WE EXIST TO PROVIDE
MINISTRY-FOCUSED FINANCIAL
SERVICES TO FACILITATE
KINGDOM GROWTH.**

Legacy serves as a resource to the conferences, churches, agencies, and employees of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches. We provide payroll and accounting services, administer CCMBC's group benefits plan and pension plan, and offer lending and investment services. Our investors enable churches and pastors to have a presence in the communities they serve.

OUR VALUES



WE OPERATE IN DEPENDENCE ON GOD.
We live in prayerful and obedient attentiveness to God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We seek to glorify His name.



WE SERVE OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS.
We support the charitable objectives of CCMBC as described in our Bylaws and in our Memorandum of Understanding with CCMBC. Our initiatives support and serve our ministry partners.



WE STEWARD RESOURCES ON GOD'S BEHALF.
We exercise care and integrity as we oversee the funds and ministry assets entrusted to us. We demonstrate accountability and transparency in our reporting, policies, and actions.

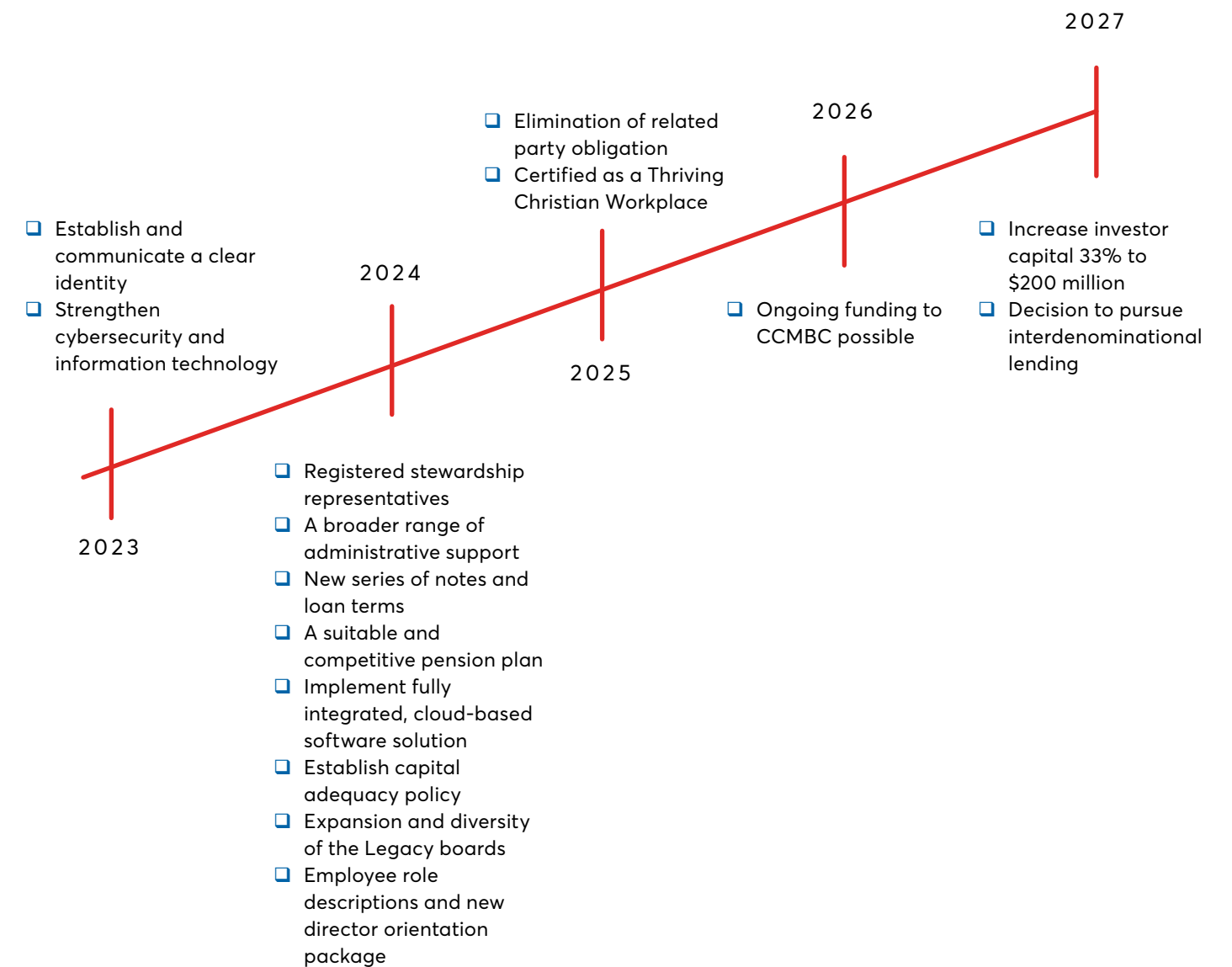


WE PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE.
We serve MB churches, conferences, agencies, employees, and constituents responsibly and competently.



WE VALUE THE WELL-BEING OF OUR EMPLOYEES.
We support a flourishing workplace culture by attracting and retaining outstanding Christian talent. We provide opportunities for staff to learn and grow, give opportunity to leverage skills and spiritual gifts, offer inspirational leadership, provide rewarding compensation, and a team atmosphere to create consensus, direction, and momentum.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES





CCMBC
2024 Draft Budget by Ministry Area

| | Budget 2022 | Actual 2022 | Budget 2023 | YTD Actual (eight months) 2023 | Draft Budget 2024 |
|---|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Revenue | | | | | |
| Church Contributions through Single Stream Funding | | | | | |
| Church Contributions | | \$10,000 | | \$2,500 | |
| Church Contributions - ABMB | 70,000 | 61,105 | 70,000 | 32,949 | 63,000 |
| Church Contributions - AEFMQ | 7,000 | 6,067 | 6,000 | 3,178 | 6,000 |
| Church Contributions - BCMB | 265,000 | 264,484 | 292,000 | 144,308 | 265,000 |
| Church Contributions - MBCM | 236,000 | 217,000 | 220,000 | 121,625 | 220,000 |
| Church Contributions - ONMB | 150,000 | 150,000 | 142,000 | 71,000 | 142,000 |
| Church Contributions - SKMB | 100,000 | 119,765 | 115,000 | 53,815 | 100,000 |
| Church Contributions through Single Stream Funding Total | 828,000 | 828,421 | 845,000 | 429,376 | 796,000 |
| Donations & Grants | 3,200 | 1,258,591 | 3,400 | 162,903 | 7,800 |
| Donations & Grants - Church Planting | 3,000 | 2,363 | 3,200 | 6,359 | 6,200 |
| Sales & Registration | 108,000 | 68,988 | 123,300 | 41,102 | 123,300 |
| Revenue Total | 942,200 | 2,158,363 | 974,900 | 639,740 | 933,300 |
| Expenses | | | | | |
| Spiritual Health & Theology | | | | | |
| NFLT Board | 15,100 | 12,584 | 20,000 | 12,811 | 15,000 |
| NFLT Director | 108,675 | 141,988 | 122,220 | 82,643 | 123,500 |
| Events - AGM | | 440 | | | |
| Events - Equip Study Conference | 52,500 | | 50,000 | 3,175 | 50,000 |
| Events - PCO | 12,000 | 645 | 12,000 | 7,127 | 12,000 |
| Centre for M.B. Studies | 40,000 | 39,002 | 43,796 | 24,991 | 43,500 |
| Kindred Productions | 12,200 | 9,983 | 11,515 | 2,511 | 11,640 |
| M.B. Herald | 7,700 | 6,752 | 27,000 | 3,555 | 10,000 |
| Direction | 1,000 | | 1,000 | | 1,000 |
| Spiritual Health & Theology Total | 249,175 | 211,394 | 287,531 | 136,815 | 266,640 |
| Leadership Development | | | | | |
| Leadership Development - General Programing | | | 10,000 | 1,165 | 10,000 |
| ETEQ | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 13,333 | 20,000 |
| MB Seminary | 165,000 | 165,000 | 165,000 | 110,000 | 165,000 |
| Leadership Development Total | 185,000 | 185,000 | 195,000 | 124,499 | 195,000 |
| Mission | | | | | |
| Operationalizing the CUSP | | | 15,000 | 3,542 | |
| ICOMB | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 20,000 | 30,000 |
| Mennonite World Conference (Subsidy) | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Mission | 3,000 | 2,663 | | 1,774 | |
| Mission - Church Planting | | 2,566 | | | |
| Mission Total | 43,000 | 45,230 | 55,000 | 35,316 | 40,000 |
| Organizational Health | | | | | |
| Executive Board | 27,000 | 55,344 | 45,000 | 32,215 | 35,000 |
| Executive Director | 220,510 | 239,820 | 237,254 | 175,270 | 243,400 |
| Communications Administration | 142,660 | 141,022 | 158,215 | 109,591 | 156,360 |
| Administration | 41,500 | 38,528 | 89,300 | 62,662 | 89,300 |
| Events - Gathering/AGM | 300 | 150 | 10,000 | 76 | 10,000 |
| Plan to Protect | 600 | 878 | 600 | 464 | 600 |
| MB Historical Commission | 13,000 | 13,000 | 13,000 | 8,667 | 13,000 |
| Evangelical Fellowship of Canada | 9,000 | 8,800 | 9,000 | 8,733 | 9,000 |
| Pastor's Transitional Network | | | | 1,050 | |
| Contingency | 10,455 | | | | |
| Organizational Health Total | 465,025 | 497,541 | 562,369 | 398,728 | 556,660 |
| Expenses Total | 942,200 | 939,164 | 1,099,900 | 695,357 | 1,058,300 |
| Surplus (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses | | 1,219,199 | (125,000) | (55,618) | (125,000) |



CCMBC
2024 Draft Budget by Expense Type

| | Budget 2022 | Actual 2022 | Budget 2023 | YTD Actual (eight months) 2023 | Draft Budget 2024 |
|--|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Revenue | | | | | |
| Church Contributions through Single Stream Funding | \$828,000 | \$828,421 | \$845,000 | \$429,376 | \$796,000 |
| Donations & Grants | 3,200 | 1,258,591 | 3,400 | 162,903 | 7,800 |
| Donations & Grants - Church Planting | 3,000 | 2,363 | 3,200 | 6,359 | 6,200 |
| Sales & Registration | 108,000 | 68,988 | 123,300 | 41,102 | 123,300 |
| Revenue Total | 942,200 | 2,158,363 | 974,900 | 639,740 | 933,300 |
| Expenses | | | | | |
| Board Costs | 63,000 | 95,367 | 70,900 | 75,421 | 70,900 |
| Specific Programming Costs | 86,100 | 16,457 | 137,600 | 20,132 | 100,900 |
| Office & Administration Expenses | 50,045 | 50,241 | 94,385 | 59,563 | 89,585 |
| Staff Compensation | 448,100 | 472,066 | 499,900 | 328,542 | 501,950 |
| Staff Travel | 31,500 | 54,144 | 41,315 | 38,135 | 39,315 |
| Staff - Other Expenses | 5,000 | 4,090 | 7,800 | 1,782 | 7,650 |
| Agency/Partnership Support | 248,000 | 246,800 | 248,000 | 171,783 | 248,000 |
| Contingency | 10,455 | | | | |
| Expenses Total | 942,200 | 939,164 | 1,099,900 | 695,357 | 1,058,300 |
| Surplus (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses | | 1,219,199 | (125,000) | (55,618) | (125,000) |

Canadian Conference of M.B. Churches 2024 Draft Budget Notes

- The 2024 Draft Budget document has been presented in the following format;
 - 2022 Budget
 - 2022 Actual financial results
 - 2023 Budget
 - 2023 Actual financial results for the 8 months ending August 31, 2023
 - Draft 2024 Budget
- The 2024 Draft Budget is presented by Ministry Area and by Expense Type.

Revenues

- In preparing the Single Stream Contribution projections for 2024, all of our provincial conferences have been consulted. Each provincial conference has provided their projected contributions for 2024.
- As a result, Single Stream Contributions have been budgeted at \$796,000 for 2024. This is a decrease of \$49,000 from the 2023 amount of \$845,000. The decreases are made up of the following;

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| British Columbia | \$27,000 |
| Saskatchewan | 15,000 |
| Alberta | <u>7,000</u> |
| | \$49,000 |

- All other revenue categories for the 2024 Draft Budget remain relatively consistent with 2023.

2023 NATIONAL REPORT



"I'm grateful for our collaboration with the Seminary and, as a pastor, have appreciated their accessibility and deep love of scripture integrated with practical pastoral insight and real-life church leadership experience."

—Esther Corbett, Pastoral Lead, Cariboo Bethel Church



One of the greatest truths about God is that he is with us. Jesus entered the world as God Immanuel in the most remarkable story that we celebrate every Christmas, and then gave us his Spirit that he would be with us. One of Satan's great strategies is to have us believe that we are alone, and yet the reality is the opposite—God is with you! Our invitation into God's mission is to proclaim this truth to the world together.

God created us for community, with a longing to be together (even us introverts). Paul articulates this to the church in Rome, "For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you—that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine" (Romans 1:11-12, ESV). What a privilege that we can walk in faith together, to send out (and be) multiplying disciples, develop missional leaders, and strengthen global partnerships.

I invite you to read our detailed Global Report at multiply.net/2022report, that you might be encouraged in your faith, as you also encourage others in theirs. Thank you for your partnership in proclaiming and living this life-changing Gospel, so that together the world may know Jesus.



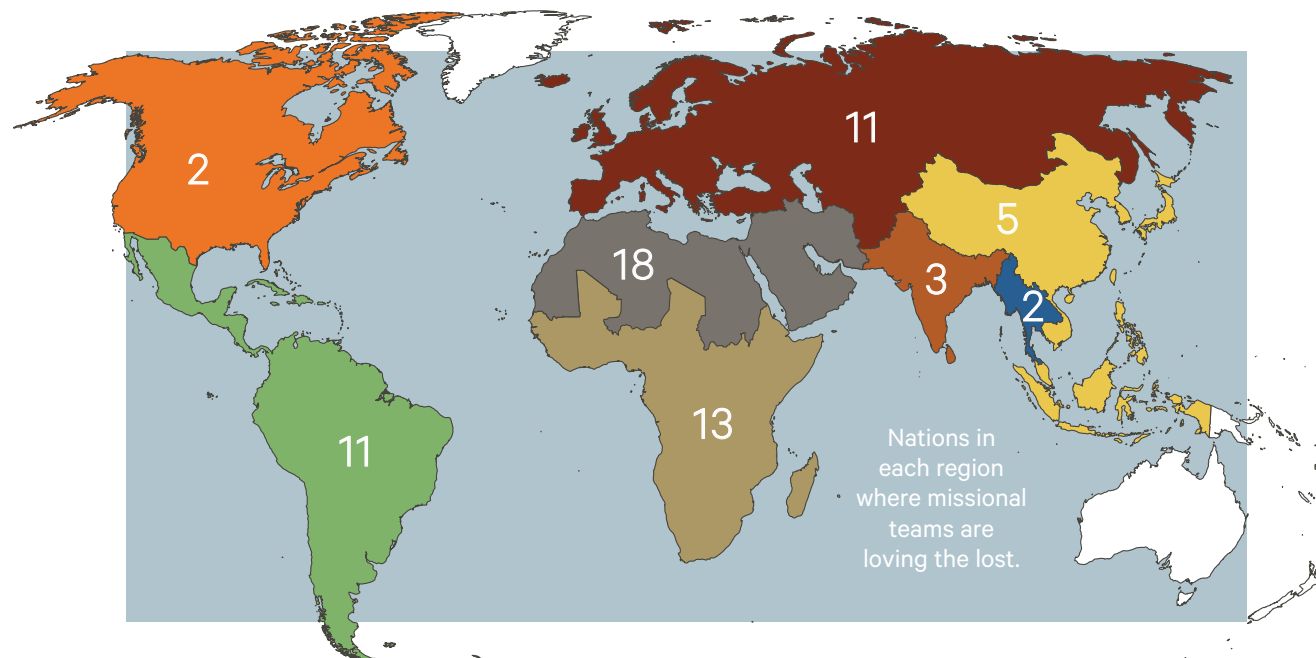

Bruce Enns
GENERAL DIRECTOR

2022 Global Snapshot

65 nations where people are meeting Jesus through our network of **missional teams**, made up of:

- 10,000+ local disciples** making disciples, planting churches and reaching nations
- 81 long-term global workers** sent from North American churches
- 22 long-term global workers** sent from MB conferences in other nations

View full report online:
multiply.net/2022report



and archiving services to MB churches—their institutions and their people.

At its June 2023 meeting, the Commission awarded two research grants and two publication grants.



An Alfred Neufeld \$2,000 USD global church history grant was awarded to **Stephen Kapinde**, a professor at Pwani University in Kifili, Kenya. His project explores the key actors and stakeholders in the Kenyan Mennonite

peacebuilding story. The project title is *Mission as Transformation: A Theo-Historical Reflection of the Mennonite Development and Peacebuilding Mission in Kenya, 1960–2010*.



An MB studies \$2,500 USD project grant was awarded to **Jeremy Rich**, a professor at Marywood University in Scranton, Pennsylvania. His project probes the impacts of agricultural development initiated by Mennonite missionaries in the 20th century. The

project title is *Congolese Perspectives on Mennonite Brethren Missionary Development, 1960–1990*.



The first publication grant—a \$2,000 USD Katie Funk Wiebe women's studies grant—went to Canadian Mennonite University Press to help with the production costs of a forthcoming publication. The CMU Press book features a collection of poetry from award-winning Mennonite poet, **Sarah Klassen**. The title is *Sarah Klassen: New and Selected Poems*, edited by Nathan Dueck.

The second publication grant—a \$2,000 USD MB studies grant—went to CMU Press to help with the production costs of another forthcoming publication. This CMU



Press book features a collection of academic essays by field-defining author, **Hildi Froese Tiessen**, professor emerita, Conrad Grebel University College, Waterloo, Ontario. The title is *On Mennonite/s Writing: Selected*

Essays by Hildi Froese Tiessen, edited by Robert Zacharias.

The Commission also awarded a \$750 USD J.B. Toews college scholarship to Olivia Chittick of Columbia Bible College in Abbotsford, B.C.

For details about the Commission's funding initiatives and application procedures—and the news releases announcing past recipients—see the Commission's website, mbhistory.org.

Please consider submitting a manuscript proposal or a project grant application, perhaps something to mark the upcoming 500th anniversary of the start of the Anabaptist movement in 1525.

Since its formation in 1969, the Commission has helped coordinate the collection, preservation, and interpretation of MB archival records that form and inform MB theology and history (congregational meeting minutes, conference proceedings, personal papers, periodicals, publications, and photographs).

More information about the work of the Commission—a funded ministry of both the U.S. Conference of MB Churches and the Canadian Conference of MB Churches—is available on its website, mbhistory.org.

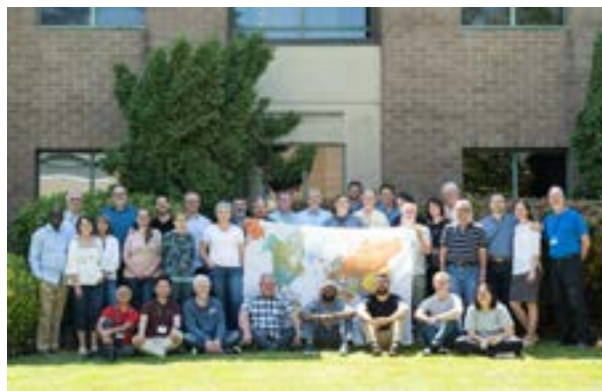
—Jon Isaak, exec. secretary, jon.isaak@mbchurches.ca

Elected Commission members include **Don Isaac**, chair (Hillsboro), **Chris Koop**, vice-chair (St. Catharines), **Valerie Rempel**, recording secretary (Fresno), **Karla Braun** (Winnipeg), **Benny Leung** (Calgary), and **Maricela Chavez** (Fresno). *Archival representation on the Commission includes* **Kevin Enns-Rempel** and **Hannah Keeney** (Fresno), **Peggy Goertzen** (Hillsboro), **Richard Thiessen** (Abbotsford), and **Jon Isaak**, executive secretary (Winnipeg).

2022-2023 ICOMB REPORT

Amidst Ongoing Changes

Over the past year and the current one, we have faced several challenges that have made us reevaluate, rethink, and seek solutions. The pandemic disrupted the regular functioning of our Executive, and we had to operate in an interim mode last year. I also had personal health challenges and took a three-month sabbatical from November to January. As a result, we started this year with delays in organizing our work and preparing for the Summit. During this period, I became increasingly convinced that a new director should take over the leadership of ICOMB in 2024.



Summit 2023

The Summit took place in May and was a significant event. Unfortunately, several delegates from Latin America, Asia, and Africa couldn't attend due to visa issues, which was quite sad. However, during critical decision-making meetings, we tried to conduct hybrid sessions, blending in-person attendance with virtual participation via Zoom. Despite the absence of many delegates, we managed to engage in meaningful discussions and reach some decisions. We discussed several plans and ideas formulated during the previous year or months, focusing on our priorities, organizational structure, and decision-making processes. Our primary focus was on how to serve our member conferences better, establish more intentional relationships with emerging groups, and increase the funds necessary to support these endeavours. In the weeks following the Summit, we began implementing those decisions. Elton DaSilva was officially confirmed as the new Global Director, starting in January 2024.

ICOMB visits, March-June 2023

In March, I had the privilege of attending the Executive Committee meetings in BC. It was a valuable experience for me as I got the chance to meet many dedicated individuals and gain insights into the numerous opportunities for mutual support and collaboration among

our diverse communities. I became aware of the significant presence of the MB population within the MWC constituency. Our voice holds importance in discussions concerning the fundamental values of our Christian faith.

I have had the privilege of attending several Assemblies in recent years, during which I had the opportunity to share about ICOMB. The discussions about the changing role of the church in today's society and its relation to the government and societal values were insightful and highly appreciated. These reflections are of great importance and relevance in several other countries. The exchange of insights on this matter across continents can be immensely valuable. We invited Luke Etelamaki of Saskatchewan to lead a workshop at our Summit.

I had the opportunity to attend an MB Pastors/Leaders meeting and make church visits in the northwest of the United States. Witnessing their genuine enthusiasm for participating in ICOMB and actively engaging in the Global Family was truly inspiring.

In June, I attended a Preachers Conference of over 600 participants in Germany, organized by MB Conference, BeF. I shared the ICOMB's vision and purpose. There was a strong emphasis on preaching the Word with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I also had the privilege of visiting and preaching in various churches. Their commitment to prayer and dedication to being witnesses to their children, connections, and missions beyond Germany was impressive.

The Canadian "ICOMB Society" (ICOMB-Canada) was founded in 2019 and received charitable status in 2020. The Board is currently composed of Victor Wiens (President), Elton DaSilva (Treasurer), and Denis Federau (Secretary), with Rudi Plett (Global Director) and Bob Davis (ICOMB-USA) serving as Members-At-Large. This year's notable advances included a Joint Ministry Agreement with ICOMB-USA, a successful fundraiser in Abbotsford for ICOMB scholarships and non-formal training, and a growing collaboration with other MB partners (CCMBC, Multiply, Legacy).

As a global family, we want to remind each other to «... not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.» Hebrews 13:16. We are committed to creating opportunities for this engagement and request your prayers for God's wisdom and creativity to guide us.

United in Christ,
Rudi Plett



Mennonite World Conference
A Community of Anabaptist related Churches

Mennonite World Conference

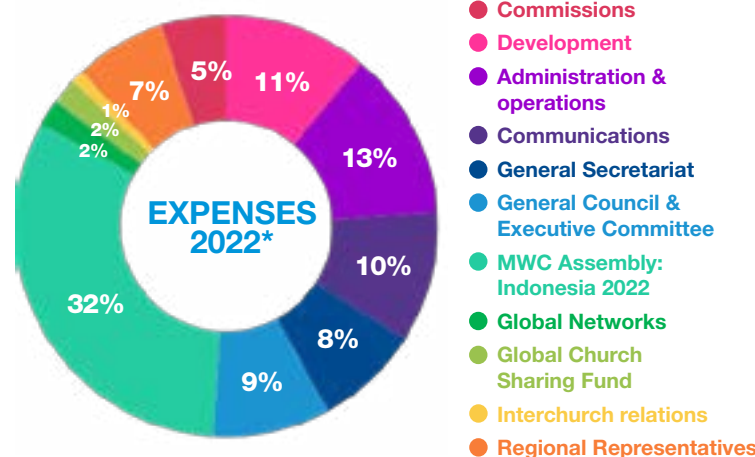
Annual report: 2022

The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. (1 John 4:21)

Thank you! ¡Gracias! Merci ! Terima kasih!

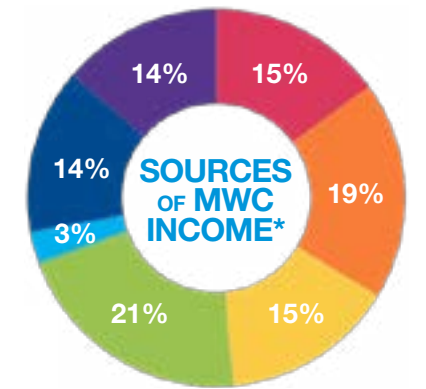
With your faithful support, we followed Jesus together as brothers and sisters across barriers of all kinds in 2022. You supported a successful global Assembly in Indonesia in July. And you supported the core work of the worldwide Anabaptist community of faith through MWC's commissions, networks, and young adults.

Thank you for nourishing the global Anabaptist family through investing in MWC's mission. Your partnership strengthens MWC as it carries out the mission of God in the world!

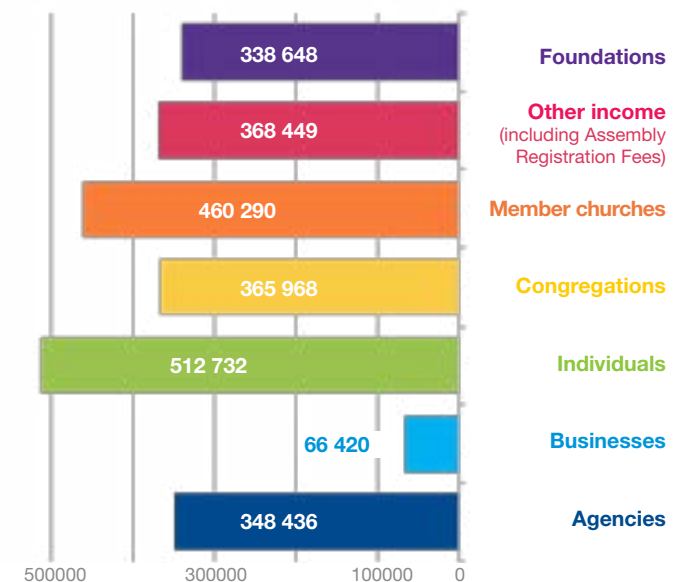


Unrestricted revenue in 2022 was 13% higher than in 2021, but 2% below budget. Revenues and expenses for the 2022 Assembly in Indonesia were essentially break even.

*All amounts in US\$



TOTAL REVENUES
2 460 944



We believe prayer can make a difference

Amos Chin, leader of Bible Missionary Church (an MWC member church) in Myanmar, shared about the violence and persecution his churches are facing. Mennonite World Conference exhorted our global church family to pray for the churches in Myanmar. We have shared stories, prayer requests and pastoral letters. Despite a lower profile in national news, MWC has kept this urgent need in the forefront for the Anabaptist communion and has called us to intercede. "Pray for us," Amos urged us, "We believe prayer can make a difference."

MWC Executive Committee members Paul Phinehas (India, 2015-2022) and Amos Chin (Myanmar, 2022-2028) at MWC Assembly Indonesia 2022.



YOUR CONTRIBUTION

- resources Anabaptist leaders around the world
- encourages Anabaptist congregations and their witness worldwide
- nurtures a thriving global communion through MWC's commissions, networks and gatherings

Visit mwc-cmm.org to give now or send your contribution to:

Mennonite World Conference
PO Box 5364, Lancaster, PA
17606-5364, USA

Mennonite World Conference
50 Kent Avenue, Suite 206,
Kitchener, ON N2G 3R1, Canada

Donate Online: mwc-cmm.org/donate

Mennonite Central Committee 2023 Report to CCMBC

Jesus promises us living water, a gift without cost, a well springing up into eternal life. What an incredible promise!

Over the past year, MCC has held to this verse with hopeful anticipation. We have seen many who are thirsty – thirsty for clean water, for food, for an end to war, for peace and justice, for life. We hold onto Jesus's promise as we serve in his Name.

Giving Thanks

We are grateful for our partnership with CCMBC as we share God's love and compassion with those in need. We give thanks for the many MB staff and board members who serve. We are grateful to our generous supporters and donors, and thousands of faithful volunteers.

This support has allowed us to respond to disasters and conflicts around the globe. Since February 2022, for example, MCC has reached more than 93,000 people and allocated USD \$11.8 million to our **response in Ukraine**.

We also continue to walk alongside **communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo** who are suffering from the consequences of ongoing conflict and violence. MCC is partnering with the Community of MB Churches (CEPMC) in the Kikwit region to provide agricultural support, health and trauma care, school tuition and clean drinking water.

"Peace is a synonym of shalom. When we say shalom in Hebrew, it is the total salvation of mankind," says Antoine Kimbila, general secretary of CEPMC. "What [MCC] brings to us in the community ... when it is married with the word of Christ, that brings peace to humankind."

Looking Ahead

MCC's commitment to peacebuilding will continue to shape the way we care for God's creation and accompany communities harmed by climate change. Want to get involved? Visit climateactionforpeace.com.

And in the coming year, we look forward to settling into our new head office in downtown Winnipeg. We invite you to visit our environmentally friendly space, which gives us another opportunity to be good stewards of God's gifts.

We covet your prayers for the coming year:

- For strength and resiliency of MCC partners, many who are weary and tired after years of crisis
- For God's nourishment and provision in places facing extreme hunger or poverty
- For wisdom for MCC staff and leaders as they shape programs and projects, including our new Seek discipleship program for 18 to 20-year-olds.

In Christ's peace,



RICK COBER BAUMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC CANADA
RICKCOBERBAUMAN@MCCCANADA.CA



A woman* in Ukraine's Kherson region received a small wood stove from an MCC partner, helping her survive the cold winter months without electricity. *The names of people pictured are not provided for security reasons. (Photo courtesy of Uman Help Center)



Channele Kingenzi washes her hands with clean water drawn from a well in DR Congo, built by MCC and partner CEPMC. Clean water has improved the health of thousands of people in the region. It has also reduced the fighting that commonly took place at remote springs where people used to get their water. (MCC/Fairpicture photo/Justin Makangara)

*Check out MCC's
Climate Action for
Peace campaign!*



**"Come, all who are thirsty,
come to the waters...."**

— Isaiah 55:1



Mennonite Disaster Service Canada REPORT

MDS Canada 2022: "We became friends."

2022 was a busy year for MDS Canada. After the inactivity of 2020-21, due to the pandemic, we were busy responding to many needs across the country.

Through Hay West, farmers in Ontario who had good crops supported farmers in Saskatchewan who were threatened with the loss of their herds due to severe drought.

"I want to thank you," said Saskatchewan cattle farmer Curtis Mattson. "I was really up against it. It gave me some optimism to know there are people out there trying to help us."

In August 2021, the White Rock Lake Wildfire in Monte Lake, B.C. ravaged that community near Kamloops. MDS volunteers built four new homes in that community.

"The words don't come for how grateful we feel towards MDS," said Robert Hugh, who received a new home in Monte Lake. "Awesome, fantastic, incredible, that's what comes to mind when I think about what MDS is doing."

Following the devastating November 2021 flood in B.C., volunteers responded in Princeton and the Fraser Valley in B.C. Volunteers repaired 45 homes in both locations.

"I can honestly say we wouldn't be where we are today without your help," said Princeton Mayor Spencer Coyne. "You will never be forgotten. You will always be a part of our community." Added Dian Brooks, who lives with her brother, Danie, in a home that was repaired by volunteers in Princeton: "I don't know a better way to put it, but MDS



Shelley Dueck presents a quilt to Michelle and Ted Swanson

helped with that sense of hope," she said. Said Danie: "We became friends."

In the Fraser Valley, Tom Johnstone not only saw his house badly damaged by flood waters, but also lost his wife to cancer during that time. Help from MDS not only repaired his house—it helped him at a dark time.



Jobin family in front of their house, Barry's Bay

"MDS was there when I needed it the most," he said.

In Barry's Bay, Ontario, MDS volunteers worked with the Roman Catholic Knights of Columbus to help a family with a severely disabled child who needed special accommodation. Prior to building an addition to the farmhouse, the family had been separated so the child could have the controlled environment she needed. With help from MDS volunteers and the Knights, the family was reunited.

"God brought us together in an act of love," said the mother, grateful to be reunited with the rest of her family after living apart with her disabled child for about two years.

MDS volunteers also responded to Hurricane Fiona in Atlantic Canada. 133 volunteers spent ten weeks doing 179 tree clean-up jobs and 28 roof repair or rebuild jobs in Cape Breton. Homeowners were grateful. "It's beautiful what they did," said Edith Ball, a widow, of the volunteers who cleaned up the trees on her yard. Added Johnny Parson, a person living with a disability: "People here appreciate what MDS did."

For MDS Canada, it was privilege to be the hands and feet of Jesus for our neighbours across Canada in 2022. Thanks for your support

—Ross Penner, Director of Canadian Operations



**Mennonite Disaster Service
Canada**

MDS Canada
200-600 Shaftesbury Blvd.
Winnipeg, MB Canada R3P 2J1
204-261-1274 / toll-free 866-261-1274
mdscanada@mds.org
mds.org



École de Théologie Évangélique du Québec

by ETEQ's Seminary President
Jean-Christophe Bieselaar, Ph.D

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT SUPPORTING A FRENCH-SPEAKING SEMINARY IN MONTRÉAL?

THE ANSWER LIES IN TWO WORDS: MISSION AND LEADERSHIP!

“ Less than 2% of Quebecers are Evangelical Christians and ETEQ is training the upcoming generation of Mennonite Brethren workers in Quebec. ”



COLLABORATION

You should care because ETEQ has been collaborating with our denomination to equip the local MB church family with gifted leaders and professors. Some of our lecturers are MB workers and teach classes that are ultimately important in our MB theology. In addition, half of ETEQ's Board are MB leaders and lay people, as per our constitution.



ACCESSIBLE

You should care because ETEQ makes accessible university-level theological education. Tuition fees are particularly low in Quebec. ETEQ scholarships for financial assistance are primarily for students belonging to our denomination. Since the pandemic, all our classes are offered at our campus in Montreal and through Zoom to anyone in Canada or overseas. The tuition fees for Quebec and Canadian students are shown below by program:

| MICROPROGRAMS | CERTIFICATE | BACHELOR'S | MASTER'S | DOCTORATE (Ph.D) |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| + QC \$1,400 + CAN \$3,200 | + QC \$4,500 + CAN \$10,500 | + QC \$13,500 + CAN \$31,300 | + QC \$7,800 + CAN \$16,700 | + QC \$14,900 + CAN \$14,900 |



RESOURCES

You should care because ETEQ provides resources to local churches. ETEQ has been placing interns in local churches and our professors are regularly preaching in MB churches to support their ministries. Furthermore, ETEQ offers training, continuing education, symposium, and valuable tools for churches and lay leaders (such as certification for Prepare-Enrich inventory).



ENGAGED

You should care because ETEQ is engaged in the mission in Quebec. Our budget for 2022-2023 was modest for a seminary offering undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate programs. At the same time, it reflects the hardships of ministry in an unreached mission field.

REVENUES

| | |
|---|------------------|
| SUBSIDY (Alliance, MB) | \$276,900 |
| TUITION | \$210,200 |
| SALES TO STUDENTS (BOOKS, COURSE MANUALS) | \$10,150 |
| DONATIONS | \$233,500 |
| PARTNER REVENUES | \$3,000 |
| ADMINISTRATION REVENUES | \$27,915 |
| OTHER REVENUES | \$1,000 |
| TOTAL | \$762,665 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| TEAM DEVELOPMENT | \$2,500 |
| PUBLIC RELATIONS | \$17,750 |
| PEDAGOGICAL RESOURCES | \$18,500 |
| STUDENT SERVICES AND CONFERENCE | \$5,700 |
| SALARY COSTS | \$503,000 |
| GENERAL ADMINISTRATION COSTS | \$63,065 |
| OCCUPANCY COSTS (RENTAL, ELECTRICITY) | \$152,150 |
| TOTAL | \$762,665 |



CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY

CMU Mission

Canadian Mennonite University is an innovative Christian university, rooted in the Anabaptist faith tradition, moved and transformed by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Through teaching, research, and service CMU inspires and equips for lives of service, leadership and reconciliation, in church and society.

2022-23 Enrolment

60 Mennonite Brethren students

19 Mennonite Brethren churches in CCMBC sending students

32 Mennonite Church Canada churches sending students

8 Other Mennonite/Anabaptist churches sending students

18 Other denominational traditions across Canada and globally sending students

Small university Big opportunities



Why CMU?

Academic excellence

Professors know you

Work experience in every program

Faith and community matter

cmu.ca



Greetings to the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches

Here's a glimpse into CMU classrooms:

Exploring Christian Spirituality | Dr. Andrew Dyck | An introductory survey of various traditions and disciplines of Christian spirituality in the context of their historical development and contemporary expression.

Introduction to Global Health | Dr. Rachel Krause | A survey of global health issues, including infectious and neglected tropical diseases, malnutrition and the nutrition transition, maternal and child health, and environmental health.

Christianity and the Mass Media | David Balzer | This course will investigate the relationship between Christian faith and the mass media through a series of case studies asking, how do the faith convictions of the communicator shape production and how has mainstream media reported and portrayed Christian faith?

Adult Development: Aging and Society | Dr. Heather Campbell-Enns | A comprehensive study of aging in individual and societal contexts. The course will look critically at the physical, cognitive, social, and psychological aspects of aging in society today as well as theories related to aging.

The Psalms | Dr. Pierre Gilbert | Students will explore the art of biblical poetry, the theological and moral vision of the Psalms, and the function of these poems in the context of life and worship, in ancient Israel and today. (winter 2023)

Introduction to Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies | Dr. Wendy Kroeker | This course will enable students to develop an understanding of the roots and nature of conflict, violence, and peace. It examines a variety of models for constructive ways to respond to conflict, violence, and peace.

Resourcing the church

Xplore | A lifelong learning program investigating dimensions of Christian faith, our world, and life. Visit cmu.ca/xplore.

Graduate School of Theology and Ministry | Study part time or full time, in person or online. Full scholarships for full time students available. Visit cmu.ca/gstm.

renew 2024 | Leading with Hope in Anxious Times | A pastor and church leader conference on February 5-6, 2024. Visit cmu.ca/renew.

"Alongside its theological commitments, we also recognize and value the unique approach to academics and pedagogy that CMU embodies. We value its rigorous, dialogical, interdisciplinary, and deeply embodied way of knowing."

– Letter from Hutterite students 2022

Columbia Bible College seeks to equip people for a life of discipleship, ministry, and leadership in service to the church and community.

APPLIED LEADERSHIP PROGRAM ADDITIONS



options of Social Entrepreneurship, Leader Development, or Intercultural Engagement.

We are excited to announce new program elements within the Applied Leadership degree. Built upon a strong biblical foundation, the Applied Leadership program focuses on equipping young men and women to make an impact in the world. The additions to this program will provide a degree option for those interested in pursuing leadership based learning within specific concentrations. These concentrations include

This revised degree offers a unique combination of courses that give students excellent Christian leadership training that is paired with practical business, management and intercultural skills.

“The Applied Leadership degree prepares you to engage your calling and passions. The focus of these concentrations is to grow you as a person - growing in self-awareness, character development, and relational ability.” Program Co-Director, Matt Kaminski



Association des Églises
des frères mennonites du Québec

September 2023

Dear members of the Canadian conference, as you can certainly tell, the message below is in French. I’m hoping it will bring back good memories of elementary school French classes. However, if it does not, we do believe it is worth your time to copy / paste your digital copy of it into an online translation tool to figure out what it says. God is doing some encouraging things in Québec and you can discover it with a few clicks. It might feel a little bit like unlocking a secret code. Thanks for taking the extra time to read our report. We appreciate you!

— Nathan Whatley - moderator AEFMQ

2021-22 ENROLLMENT STATS



194 Residents



149 Commuters



17 Offsite

CURRENT STUDENTS: 360

BE KNOWN. MAKE A DIFFERENCE. COLUMBIA’S NEW TAGLINE

BE KNOWN. Columbia is a community that welcomes in those trying to figure out their place in the world. Many young adults are wrestling with questions of identity, belonging and purpose. We want every student to come to know who they are in Christ Jesus. We want every student to experience a place where they are seen and where they know they belong.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Everyone wants their life to count. For that to happen, they need to develop the relational and leadership skills that will prepare them for whatever God has for them. Most importantly, they need to have a Christ-centered, biblical foundation from which to launch into the future.

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE

With the BC floods of November 2021, families, homes and businesses were left with the overwhelming task for cleaning up the mud and mess that was left behind. In late February, nine CBC students and staff drove up to Princeton, BC, to assist in the restoration process. They were able to connect and encourage families who have been deeply impacted by the floods. Joah, a first-year General Studies student shared this about her experience in Princeton, “The heaviness of Princeton was very evident in everyone we met, **but I also experienced this excitement to be able to show God’s love and character in such a physical way to people who desperately need it.** A few days after we returned I received an email from one of the ladies our team helped. I had never met her, but she expressed so much gratitude. This whole experience has been eye opening to me. Not just about what the extent of flooding can look like, but also how God can work through a random group of people and change lives.” We are so grateful for the generous spirit of our students and staff in such difficult times.

Bonjour,

L’association des églises des frères mennonites de la province de Québec et moi-même vous saluons et vous souhaitons une assemblée annuelle encourageante et productive. Nous aimerions profiter de cette occasion pour vous partager quelques nouvelles.

Dans nos églises cette année, nous remercions le Seigneur pour sa fidélité et sa providence. Nous avons commencé 2023 avec notre assemblée générale virtuelle et une rencontre de prière en personne sous le thème de “Approchons-nous”. Lors de cette rencontre, j’ai trouvé très émouvant quand nous nous sommes dispersés dans la grande salle à Westside Gathering pour prier pour nos 8 églises et nos agences partenaires.

Je crois sincèrement que Dieu a écouté nos prières cette journée-là et qu’il est à l’œuvre pour mener ses plans à fruition. Je vois des preuves partout ! Je le vois dans nos églises anglophones comme City Church qui célèbre ses 10 ans cette année et Westside qui aura 20 ans cet octobre ! Je le vois dans nos églises francophones qui accueillent de plus en plus des membres venant de partout dans le monde ! Je le vois dans à Pénitel, notre camp de vacances qui a eu un été record et qui prévoit accueillir plus de jeunes l’année prochaine. J’entends des histoires de baptêmes, d’entraide et de vies changées. Dieu à l’œuvre parmi son peuple au Québec.

Avons-nous des défis à relever ? Certainement. Nous voyons que l’avenir exigera une nouvelle génération de dirigeants serviteurs. Heureusement, le soutien de la conférence canadienne envers l’ETEQ - notre séminaire - nous aide à développer cette relève. Je continue à croire que la moisson est grande au Québec et nous devons prier pour des ouvriers. Nos ressources pour trouver et former ces ouvriers sont limitées. Par contre, même si nous demeurons une petite association d’églises, nous servons un grand Dieu.

Merci de votre intérêt pour nous, de vos prières et de votre soutien. N’hésitez pas à nous contacter si vous avez des besoins aussi, pour que nous puissions prier pour vous. Malgré la langue qui nous sépare, le Saint-Esprit nous unit.

Bénédiction en lui,
Nathan Whatley
Pour l’AEFMQ



This was our theme as the Ontario Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches gathered for Convention, February 23-24 at Maple View Mennonite Church in Wellesley. We felt this truth deeply throughout 2022-2023.

We have experienced brokenness. Sadly, in the past year the leadership of Ed Willms as Executive Director came to a conclusion after 10 years of blessing our churches. Two churches were also removed from membership with ONMB by a vote of our convention members. As they heard from all our member churches, the ONMB Board recognized the need for clarity in this complex and challenging season, and to guide our churches in life and mission according to the shared convictions of our MB Confession of Faith. An additional church has communicated their departure from ONMB membership, effective at the close of 2023, due to a divergent theological vision. No question, we have been feeling the grief of these losses.

We have also experienced Jesus shining brightly. Through these challenging events, our churches and leaders have rallied together. Despite the transitions and departures, the ONMB Board has observed an emerging sense of increased unity and focus. We see that our churches are eagerly anticipating a greater collective disciple-making focus as we hire a permanent Executive Director and continue to embrace the CUSP. The stories of Jesus shining across our churches and initiatives are plentiful. People are finding new life and freedom in Christ. We are grateful for God's faithfulness.

A key focus for myself (Ryan Jantzi) in 2022-2023 has been strengthening relational trust across our churches and leaders. This has meant much time on the road gathering with our churches for worship and entering into conversations and prayer over coffee or meals. This has been a blessing and has offered a window into how Jesus is shining brightly. Our pastors have also begun regular regional gatherings for prayer.

Spiritual Health and Theology

Throughout 2023 our pastors have engaged in robust conversations based on the book *A Church Called Tov* by McKnight and Barringer. We're actively asking the question, "What does it look like to shepherd our churches in a good way

that gives life?" We also continue to work with our leaders to grow in our capacity to care for and disciple 2SLGBTQ+ persons well, within our commitments to a biblical sexual ethic as expressed in the MB Confession of Faith. Members of our Faith and Life Team are receiving coaching from a believer with same-sex attraction, committed to celibacy within a traditional sexual ethic, through a cohort-based program with Revoice. We're also hosting monthly zoom calls for our leaders to learn from people who are committed to a traditional sexual ethic and also identify as LGBTQ+ or are closely connected to someone who is.

Leadership Development

In November 2022, approx. 40 pastors, leaders and spouses gathered for a Retreat at Muskoka Bible Centre. Following the covid-19 pandemic and ONMB transitions, this became a beautiful space to rest together. Six young adults also participated in our Leaders Collective program, growing together as disciple-makers. We are anxiously anticipating the establishment of an MB Seminary Teaching Church here in Ontario.

Mission

Our latest church plant, Bytown Community Church led by Dan Chook Reid in Ottawa is experiencing steady growth as it matures to become a thriving church. A disciple-making initiative in the trucking industry is also being launched by Darren Milley. ONMB has ongoing partnership with Multiply workers doing cross-cultural disciple-making here in Ontario. Fifteen leaders also participated in Disciple Making Movement (DMM) Training with Derek Parenteau. Sadly, with the shift for myself to the Interim Executive Director role, leadership in this realm has been largely on hold until a permanent Executive Director is hired for Ontario.

Organizational Health

Our dedicated Organizational Health Team, PFLT and Board continue to work with churches and partner ministries as they navigate hiring, church conflict, potential mergers and updating bylaws. ONMB policy work to enable efficiency and focus has also been a focus of the past year.

As the ONMB Board experienced renewed health and joy through the spring of 2023, they have sought God's direction for our Conference, which will lead into the hiring of a permanent Executive Director. This hiring process started in September with November 2023 set as the desired conclusion point. With this hire comes hope and anticipation for what God has in store for our churches in 2024. Would you join us in praying for the leading of the Holy Spirit?

We are grateful for our partnership across CCMBC and for the extra support we've received from national and regional staff through the transitions of the past year. You've all been a gift to ONMB.

With love and hope,

Ryan Jantzi,
Interim Executive Director



Over the past year, there have been numerous reasons for celebration! Simonhouse Bible Camp successfully conducted its first full summer of junior and senior camps since the pandemic disrupted its ministry in 2020. Situated in northern Manitoba, Simonhouse serves an underserved community that was profoundly affected by pandemic-related closures. Thankfully, God showered them with a summer filled with campers and dedicated staff. To learn more about their exciting experiences, you can [watch their windup videos](#).

Many of our churches have joined forces with Multiply Central Canada's programs. SOAR Heartland drew participation from a significant number of our Manitoba MB churches. Additionally, the nine-month FOCUS program has led to an enduring collaboration with Fort Garry MB, primarily through their [Next Door ministry](#).

In June, Manitoba had the honor of hosting this year's Pastors Credentialing Orientation. This enlightening three-day event was held at The Meeting Place and brought together a total of 33 pastors, with 21 hailing from our own province. We are greatly encouraged by the commitment displayed by our pastors in partnering together and building relationships towards our collective mission to follow Jesus.

In other work, the MBCM board and staff have dedicated themselves to the task of finalizing a range of critical policies and templates aimed at serving and resourcing our churches. This fall, we will introduce recently approved Pastoral Staff Employment Policy Template and agreement, a Ministerial Misconduct



Policy, a Confidentiality Agreement Template, and a Code of Ministry and Personal Ethics Policy.

Our provincial Assembly was one of the largest we've had in our collective memory. Friday kicked off the weekend with workshops and time for fellowship together. Saturday began with a time of worship and shared stories curated by conference friend David Balzar. (Listen here). There was much discussion and decision making on the agenda, but one motion, in particular, was foremost on most attendees' hearts and minds.

A special resolution to remove Jubilee Mennonite Church from the Manitoba Conference passed at Assembly 2023. While such decisions are never easy, our intention is to inspire our churches in the life of discipleship, according to the shared convictions of our MB Confession of Faith. We grieve this loss to our Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba.

This report cannot capture the breadth of work that goes on within the conference - work that we continue to do by the grace of God and the ongoing collaboration of our churches.

Thank you.

ABMB is committed to cultivating a community of healthy disciple-making churches and ministries.

Our churches and ministries are “back at it in full swing”! The opportunities and the challenges are exhilarating and also wearying. The apostle’s prayer in Ephesians 3 seems appropriate for this season: “To him who is able to do more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us...” (3:20).

- that encourage ministry partnerships and support. Zero (0) pastoral resignations in the last 15 months.
- 19 Full-member Churches, with additional churches in various stages of joining ABMB.
- 10 – 18% membership and attendance increase
- 3 Congolese congregations are seeking pastoral credentialing (6 pastors) and church membership
- Overall ABMB weekly attendance in churches is up by 18%

ABMB is Focusing on Four Priorities

- Fostering Relationships that encourage ministry partnerships and support.
- Leadership Development of our next generation.
- Missional Opportunities that give opportunity for churches ministry together.
- The development of the Four Ministry Teams: Theological Health (Faith & Life) Team, Leadership Team, Mission Team, Organizational Health Team.

Overall, ABMB has been on a pathway of increasing cohesion in our collective mission. We continue in our commitment to our theological positions as articulated in our Confession, and while those conversations are not always easy, they have also proven to increase our unity. We continue to plan toward increased multiplying discipleship, offering access to a discipling coach. There is an apparent awakening in society for spiritual things, to explore the supernatural; we want to be prepared for a harvest that is surely coming!



A Story

RUKINISHA Nkundabatware, age 52, was a member of Goshen Church (Congolese) and a permanent resident of Canada since 2014. He was married and had 7 children. He was stabbed and killed on Sunday night July 9, 2023, at the Belvedere Train Station in Edmonton while coming home after a prayer visit to a family who had recently arrived in Canada. He was looking for work and his wife recently had surgery and is unable to work.

Goshen Church mobilized the community around them and were able to gather enough funds to cover funeral and burial costs. ABMB churches were also encouraged to provide support, and as a result raised over \$20,000 to assist the family moving forward.

This is what God’s family does in a time of loss and tragedy! We come together to pray for each other and support one another in our time of need. We bear each other’s burdens.

This summer, BC roadside signs noted the severity of drought conditions. Warning words like “acute” and “critical” provide a sober moment for those thinking about watering their lawn or washing the car. What adjectives are appropriate to describe the challenging times facing the body of Christ in Canada?

The Hope of Renewal

In this darkening horizon, the light of the gospel and the hope of God’s people the church is more relevant than ever. Following the trying years of Covid lockdowns, BCMB assessed its ministry. As a direct result of that time of discernment and listening, BCMB, at its April 2023 convention, voted overwhelmingly to refocus its staff and resources on the priority of church renewal. In general, the vision is to see....

- Every BCMB church renewed in prayer to, worship of, and obedient submission to, Christ.
- Every BCMB church bearing witness to the gospel in their community resulting in people experiencing salvation, being baptized and maturing in the faith.
- Every BCMB church impacting their community on mission expressing the life of Christ by bringing healing to the broken, freedom to the addicted and justice to the oppressed.

Our National Partnership

BCMB giving has not been strong in 2023 and this has reduced our ability to forward funds to our partners including CCMBC. Despite this reality, we are excited about the collaborative relationship that has been established across Canada over the past few years and we believe that our new BCMB focus on renewal may be of interest and benefit to other provinces in the coming years, just as we hope to gain insight from the other provinces as they engage strategically in their particular contexts. BCMB believes that the strategic initiative for serving churches in a given province resides with the leadership of that province. We are eager to pursue a national relationship based on an understanding that provincial conferences bring their insights and initiatives to a national table for the benefit of all. We would appreciate further discussion on the details of the CUSP model put forward in 2022. Specifically, the description of the National office as the “Principal” organization with provinces focused on “coordination and distribution” of resources.

BCMB has engaged in the collaborative discussion with the assumption that in the collaborative model provinces will serve and resource their churches

strategically. The national office will convene gatherings of the provinces and agencies, guard our doctrinal integrity around the Confession of Faith and reinforce our common mission to reach the people of Canada and the nations with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have done our best to articulate this perspective over the past few years, but it may be that a clearer or “different” understanding is now emerging. It appears that our BCMB strategic initiative to bring renewal to our churches is ushering us into a new season, and there is work to be done to understand how the CUSP interfaces with that.

Currently BCMB is...

- In a season of prayer for renewal and God’s guidance going forward
- Seeking a new Executive Director with a Renewal Mandate
- Building resources for a cohort network to equip pastors and churches in Renewal principles and practices.

On the administrative front, we are excited to report that Wanda Froese is the new Director of Operations for BCMB. Wanda began her new role in late July. She has been well received by the office staff and is learning the systems that pertain to her role. We are excited to see the new level of excellence and knowledge that Wanda brings to her role.

Signs of God’s Faithfulness

Finally and most importantly we are thrilled to report of God’s faithfulness in the growth and multiplication that we have seen in many of our churches. Last year BC reported on the launch of Praxis church. As of this fall in year two of their existence they have trained over 100 people in personal evangelism and have grown in Sunday attendance to over 600!

We praise God for reports of many coming to faith through over 20 Alpha courses that are presented across BCMB churches. We are deeply grateful for the Camps ministries which reported many hundreds of first-time decisions for Christ. (Over 300 reported at Gardom Lake Camp alone).

Church renewal has been on display at Cedar Park church in Ladner where a small remnant committed to following Christ as outlined in our MB Confession is now thriving and growing with the help of pastors Chris and Rachel Wilson from Church on Five (formerly Richmond Bethel MB). The willingness of healthy congregations to come alongside those who are in decline or crises has been a source of great joy and hope across the province.

In Christ,
Rob Thiessen

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Date Saturday, October 28, 2023
Location Northview Community Church
32040 Downes Road, Abbotsford, BC
Time 8:30 am – 12:30 pm Pacific time

- 1. Consent Motion to appoint a parliamentarian and minute review committee
- 2. Consent Motion to approve the October 28, 2023, National Assembly agenda and the June 08, 2023, AGM minutes as presented
- 3. Motion to approve the CCMBC 2024 Budget as presented
- 4. Consent Motion to adjourn

DETAILED MOTIONS
(AND RELATED DOCUMENTS)

Consent Motion – Parliamentarians, Ballot Team, and Minute Review Committee

- It is moved that the parliamentarians, ballot team, and minute review committee be approved as presented.

Consent Motion – Approval of Agenda and 2023 AGM Minutes

- It is moved that the agenda for the October 28, 2023, National Assembly and the June 8, 2023, AGM minutes be approved as presented.

Related Documents

[2022 Agenda \(page 1\)](#)
[2023 AGM Minutes \(online\)](#)

Motion – CCMBC Budget

- Motion to approve the CCMBC 2024 Budget as presented

Related Documents:

[2024 CCMBC Draft Budget by Ministry Area \(page 10\)](#)
[2024 CCMBC Draft Budget by Expense Type \(page 11\)](#)
[2024 Draft Budget Notes \(page 12\)](#)

Consent Motion – Adjournment

- It is moved the Annual General Meeting be adjourned.



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OCTOBER 28, 2023 | ABBOTSFORD, BRITISH COLUMBIA

