

BOCE Expenses and Income Sources

EXPENSE	2008	2009	2010	INCOME SOURCE
BOCE Operational	\$111,000	\$113,000	\$115,000	Provincial MB Conference
MoveIn	N/A	\$71,000	\$250,000	Individuals, Businesses, Para Church, Churches
Love Ontario/Xpansion ¹	\$280,000	\$238,000	\$425,000	Nat'l MB Conference Local MB Churches, Individuals, Businesses, Para Church
Directed Funds ²	\$120,000	\$210,000	\$240,000	Para Church, Individuals, Businesses, Foundations, Non MB Churches
TOTAL	\$511,000	\$632,000	\$1,030,000	

¹ Funds directed to church plants and extension given through BOCE.
² Estimated donations given directly to church plants, includes value of seconded staff, rental space, outreach materials, etc. NOT given through BOCE.

We need your help to reach Ontario for Christ.



Send your donation to
 Box 66 Virgil, ON L0S 1T0
 and indicate your gift is for
 BOCE/Xpansion.
 Or give online at www.onmb.org

We're thankful for the funds that come from the Canadian Conference of MB Churches, the Ontario Conference, individual MB churches, business owners, foundations, and partner organizations (including SIM, Vision 360, and Frontiers). We also rely on the donations of individuals who are passionate about sharing the gospel in Ontario.

Man Wrestles with God

After a terrible car accident last summer, my cousin Mike* was in the hospital in a coma with only days to live.

I hadn't seen Mike for over twenty-seven years because of his estrangement from our family. At my aunt's request, I visited and prayed for him, believing that God would heal him despite the bleak prognosis.

God did heal Mike and eventually he left the hospital.

Recently when our grandfather died, Mike decided to reunite with the family and to attend the funeral.

I asked our leadership team at The Gathering to pray that God would do something in Mike's life. Mike had been extremely successful in every way that the world says is important, but he was not in a relationship with God.

As we talked at the funeral, Mike said, "You were the person that came into the room and prayed for me when I was in the coma in Hamilton." My brother and parents had great conversations with him that night about what was really important in life. He told them that while he was flat on his back, unable to do anything but blink, he realized that you can have everything this world has to offer and still have nothing.

He agreed to come to church the next day. My sermon was about how doubt can lead you to faith if you pursue God when difficulties hit rather than trying to do it all on your own. Mike leaned in throughout the message. I felt God leading me to include a salvation prayer, but I wanted the desire to pray to come from Mike.

He stood up during Q and Eh, and asked if there was a password he needed to say like "open sesame" to begin this journey with God. He accepted Jesus at that moment. As a congregation, we were privileged to be part of Mike's struggle with God and to witness his first steps into the Kingdom!

Pastor Chris Stevens,
 The Gathering, Ottawa
 *name changed



Ontario Church Extension Team

STAFF

Terry Wiseman
 Director of Church Extension
Nigel Barham
 Apprentice Church Extension Director

ELECTED BOARD

Ed Willms
 Chair (Pastor, Southridge North End, St. Catharines)
Dave Fowler
 Vice-Chair (Pastor, The Durham Church Network, Durham)
Thom Braun
 (Pastor, New Hope Church Niagara, Jordan)
Gord Reimer
 (Farmer, Port Rowan MB Church, Port Rowan)

BOARD APPOINTED OFFICERS

Gerry Dyck
 Treasurer (Businessman, Waterloo MB Church, St. Jacobs)
Rafiqua Masih
 Recording Secretary
 (Co-Pastor, Behta Darya Community Church, Toronto)



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Xpansion

2009 Ontario Church Plant Update BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION



Clear lots of ground for your tents!
 Make your tents large. Spread out! Think big!
 Use plenty of rope, drive the tent pegs deep.

Isaiah 54:2 The Message



Dear MB Friend,

Our methods have changed, but our focus has stayed the same.

In 1932, five churches formed the Ontario Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches in order to better reach their new homeland for Christ. Over the last seventy-eight years, the conference has grown to thirty-three churches with 4500 weekly attendees.

The Board of Church Extension plants churches and supports church extension projects on behalf of the conference. We are currently involved with fifteen projects and have six more potential projects on the go. We envision that by 2014, half of the churches in our conference will be less than ten years old.

Many of the first MB churches were planted in rural communities like Virgil, Vineland, and Leamington. Traditionally, we saw cities as places of evil to be avoided. Now we believe that reaching our urban centres is key to the transformation of our nation and our culture—which will significantly affect even our most rural communities.

In the 1950s, it was a big deal to begin English services in our churches, but we did it because we wanted to reach Canadians for Christ. God is again stretching us as a conference. Not only are most of our services in English, but we also now support churches that are worshipping in the mother tongues of the many immigrants coming to Canada—including Farsi, Indonesian, and Punjabi. We are privileged to partner with church planters who have the cultural and language keys to reach newcomers for Jesus.

Contemporary music, multi-media services, free barbeques, Thanksgiving dinners, camps—we use whatever we can to tell the people of Ontario that Jesus loves them.

In 2010, we are strengthening training and equipping opportunities for our church planters and their leadership teams. We will also identify new church planters who are able to embrace our missional passion to reach Ontario.

Thanks for praying and partnering with us as we share the Good News.

*In Christ,
 Terry Wiseman
 BOCE Director*

P.S. Consider posting the church plant profiles on the back of this report on your church's missionary bulletin board.

Praise God that in 2009...

- 614 St. Jamestown connected with up to 100 people per month through a park outreach in the spring and fall; they also ran 2 weekly groups for people who speak Mandarin, including a Bible study
- Behta Darya baptized 15 people in December
- along with another church, the Durham Church Network served a free Thanksgiving dinner to 90 people from a poor Oshawa neighbourhood where they hope to foster a faith community
- Southridge launched their new site in the north end of St. Catharines with Gateway Christian Fellowship
- people attending The Gathering in Ottawa went deeper with Jesus through home churches and one-on-one discipleship
- 614 Thorncliffe Park coordinated the delivery of 300 Christmas baskets and 50,000 Jesus DVDs to new immigrant families in Toronto neighbourhoods

Praise God that in 2009 BOCE Launched...

- 4 church plants and 3 new multi-site campuses
- the 12:12 Network (1 Cor 12:12), a partnership among three denominations with a focus on church planting
- MoveIn (with the 12:12 Network)
- new partnerships with a variety of para-church organizations to help with planting
- an Indonesian plant in Toronto in partnership with House For All Nations in Vancouver
- the Xcel Church Planter Apprenticeship Program with 4 apprentices
- the Apprentice Church Extension Director and hired Nigel Barham into that position

In 2010 Pray that...

- the marriages of the church planters and other outreach leaders will be protected
- many people will come to Christ through the church plants and extension projects
- plants securing property and buildings will have the necessary resources
- financial support for our planting endeavours will increase significantly
- stronger partnerships would be established with the Ontario Conference MB churches
- a Chinese church plant and planting network will be established in the Greater Toronto area
- 12 apprentices will participate in our Xcel Church Planter Apprenticeship program
- our focus on reaching the nation of Islam, new immigrants, and the urban poor will increase
- a planting strategy targeting every major university campus in Ontario will be developed and implemented
- MoveIn expands into many more neighbourhoods in urban centers across Canada
- a new partnership will develop with our Quebec conference to help them plant non-francophone churches in greater Montreal

BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM THROUGH CHURCH EXTENSION AND PLANTING IN ONTARIO

614 St. Jamestown, Toronto



Church Planters Kevin & Lori Moore

This community of believers is showing love to inhabitants of the high-needs neighbourhood of St. Jamestown, where 25,000 people from 90 nations live in 18 apartment buildings in half a square kilometre! Up to 50 people attend monthly potlucks for fellowship and worship.

Ahmed comes from a Muslim home and is part of our church family. In his own way, he has become an evangelist, giving away over 100 Arabic copies of the Jesus film to people in the community.

www.614stjamestown.com

The Gathering, Ottawa

The Gathering has a vision to start 5 locations in the city of Ottawa: South, West, East, North, and one in the downtown core reaching the inner city. Over the last year, the leadership of the church has grown and more home churches have been started. Many people have come to Christ and been baptized.



One woman came to the church through a colleague. She took an Alpha course in the area, connected with a home church, and after a personal discussion came into a relationship with Christ. She was baptized a couple of months ago.

www.thegatheringottawa.com

Southridge Community Church, St. Catharines/Welland



Pastor Jeff Lockyer

Planted as Fairview Louth MB in 1980, Southridge moved into the city core in 2003. The congregation has grown to more than 1500. They launched a multi-site location (same leadership, budget, vision, and teaching) in Welland in November 2009. In partnership with Gateway Christian Fellowship, a 400 member site will be planted in the North End of St. Catharines in February 2010.

We want to be a restorative force for Christ in the communities where we live.

www.southridge.cc

New Life, Ottawa

New Life (our oldest plant) is a passionate, loving community of about 50 people who collaborate with and help resource other Ottawa churches as they reach lost people for Christ. The group has committed to substantially support The Journey.



The Journey, Ottawa

Clusters of friends meet weekly as "Gospel Communities" throughout the city to grow in their faith and do life together with the goal of impacting their neighbourhoods for Christ. These "cells of Jesus-followers" gather together as a larger group on Sundays.

The church is 1 year old and we are continuing to grow. People far from God are engaging on a journey to discovering who Jesus is. Our kids' church has grown the most—we now have 18 children.

www.thejourneyottawa.ca

Church Planters Dave & Kari Harder



614 Thorncliffe Park, Toronto

A group of believers love their neighbours in the most densely-populated Muslim community in Canada. Giving Christmas baskets containing Christmas cards, candy, a grocery voucher, and the Jesus film has led to invitations into homes, requests for Bibles, and curiosity about Jesus. Some have even decided to follow Christ.

Jesus is the only one that's always been helping me and I'll obey him no matter what he says. I am so thankful for everyone's prayers. My heart is completely broken; I don't know how I can go on unless God helps me.

www.614thorncliffepark.com



Malkutha, Toronto



Started in July 2009, this group of young Christians lives in a largely unreached, high-crime, high-poverty community of about 6,000, with many new immigrants. They pray together weekly and respond to God's prompting as they build relationships. Sometimes that means playing basketball or eating a meal with neighbours; other times it means giving out Tim Horton's gift cards.

We had a housewarming a week ago and 11 neighbours showed up: 2 boys from the Czech Republic, a whole family from Bangladesh, an older lady from Ukraine, a young man from Pakistan, and a few others.

New Hope Niagara, Niagara Region

Since New Hope started 7 years ago, 120 people have been baptized. They hope to double that. In January 2010, they started another church site in St. Catharines at a facility shared with Grace Mennonite Church. On land purchased in St. Catharines, they will build a multi-purpose community centre to house the church, run youth groups, offer community-focused seminars, and be a facility for parties or other events.

www.newhopechurchniagara.com



Behta Darya Community Church, Toronto



Behta Darya reaches out to South East Asians from India and Pakistan who speak Hindi, Urdu, and Punjabi. The group hopes to purchase a building where they will offer daycare, ESL classes, a food bank, computer classes and counselling.

People continue to be healed from arthritis, back aches, migraines and other illnesses. Some of the children have been telling their friends and family about the church. An English choir was started to reach the youth. Church members gather monthly for an all-night prayer meeting.

www.bdcctoronto.com

NEW Xpansion BOCE Projects in 2010



Plant for Urbanites in Toronto's Core

Jon Osmond and his wife, Claudia, will plant a church in or near the core of Toronto to reach and disciple professionals, artists, and other urbanites. With a core group, they will live incarnationally as they serve, give, and build community.



Inner-city Church Plant

In partnership with Urban Promise (UP) and the 12:12 Network, Quincy and Duann Bergman will plant a church in Toronto among inner-city youth and families who have chosen to follow Christ through UP over the past 11 years. Discipleship, through monthly corporate worship and teaching times, as well as weekly home groups, will prepare the believers to reach out.

Move In, Across Canada

Launched in January 2009, this organization helps teams of up to 10 Christians, mostly in their 20s, relocate to marginalized and unreached Canadian communities to pray and work for spiritual, physical, social, and emotional transformation. So far, 75 people have moved into 14 micro-neighbourhoods or patches in Toronto, Ottawa, and Hamilton. 100 new patches will be profiled across Canada in 2010 with the hope that 150 believers will influence 25 more communities for Christ.

As I walked around meeting new people who are ON FIRE for the Lord, it brought tears to my eyes and filled me so full of perfect joy. This is truly the number one joy of being a Christian—reaching out to those who are lost and introducing them to Christ.

www.movein.to



The Spirit of Truth Church, Thornhill



Founded in 2005, this congregation reaches out to the GTA's 200,000 Farsi-speaking people.

Born in a Muslim family, I started practicing Islam when I was nine. I left a horrible marriage, eventually escaping to Canada where I was in a car accident. The Christian driver of the other car helped me fix my car and later sponsored my daughter to come to Canada! I could see that she was connected to a real God. I went to church with her but because my English was poor, I looked for a Persian-speaking church. Now I worship at The Spirit of Truth Church and am proud to be a servant of our Lord Jesus Christ.

www.ruherasti.com



Church Planters Jacob and Sri Nuh

House For All Nations Church, Toronto

Planted in June 2009 in partnership with HFAN in Vancouver, this group of 25-30 Indonesians reaches out to other Indonesians in the GTA. They plan to start an English-speaking service for the next generation, including their children. They recently baptized 4 people.

www.hfantoronto.org

Durham Church Network, Durham Region

Started in 1997, the Durham Church Network has one church in Courtice and one in Oshawa. Their interactive, multi-media services attract people from around the region. To reach people uninterested in church, they plan to build a community centre that will include a daycare and a YMCA early learning centre.



We have a thriving deaf community within our fellowship—about 20 individuals come every week, which for a deaf community is huge. We have translation for them and they enjoy the highly visual nature of our message presentations.