

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN CANADA

QUINQUENNIAL REPORT

2016–2021



PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit."

—1 Cor. 12:12, 13, ESV

What you're about to read and view are quick snapshots of what God has been doing in and through the Adventist community in Canada. As you read the stories, please take a moment to think about the ways in which God brings hope and faith to people in neighbourhoods like yours.

Both God and friends have been present and active in urban centres as well as rural communities, all the way from Newfoundland to British Columbia.

I am encouraged by the lives of faith I've seen in the Arctic, at Burman, on the Prairie. God uses people of many origins and a variety of ages. God uses the very young preschooler and He uses the great-grandparent. He uses a woman or man from Bolivia just as much as He uses a child from a family that has been in Canada for generations.

God has a role for gardeners, for cooks, for mechanics, for students. He has a role for you and a role for me.

As you read the stories and look at the pictures, perhaps you can imagine yourself bringing a blessing to a friend where you live. And in doing that, you can be the hands and feet of Jesus.

This would be a good time to take a little break and give thanks to God for His leading and the opportunities that have been placed before us.

In ancient days, God's people set up monuments to His goodness in the places where His blessing had been seen. What would our nation look like if in every place that God has blessed there was a monument of remembrance, along with an altar of thanksgiving for His mercy?

Shortly, we will engage in an electronic gathering where folks from all across Canada will consider the leadership of God's church and the blessings of the past six years.

Time is short. Soon, we, along with our families and neighbours, will see Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven.

May God help each one of us understand our role in preparing for the great change that will come as He returns! 🙏

—Mark Johnson, president,
Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada



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DELEGATE LIST

North American Division

G. Alexander Bryant

SDACC Board Members

Mark Johnson
Paul Llewellyn
Paul Musafili
Loren Agrey
Charles Aguilar
Anderson Anténor
Kevin Boonstra
Sonja Buchanan
Leo Campbell
Elsie Collie
Ken Corkum
Massiel Davila-Ferrer
Mansfield Edwards
Hugh French
Troy Guderyan
Gary Hodder
Walt Kalkan
Linda King
Ngoy Kyala
Kevin McKay
Dave Miller
Ross Murley
Jennifer Myrie
Joel Nembhard
Joseph Richards
Glyne Thompson
Wesley Torres
Gene Van Dieman
Luis Vicuña

SDACC Bylaws Committee

Kyoshin Ahn
Jakov Bibulovic
Marc Bouzy
Melissa Cooke
Clifford Holm
Bruce Smallwood
Wayne Williams

Board Appointed Delegates

Betty Bayer
Keith Chant
Rose Jacinto
Michael Lemon
Grace Mackintosh
Steve Matthews
Jeremy O'Dell
Campbell Page
Marilyn Pazitka
Evaldo Vicente

Burman University

Noble Donkor

Kingsway College

Lee Richards

Alberta Conference

Alice Achola
George Ali
Jameel Ali
Ben Barboza
Don Corkum
Kenneth Daniel
Vic Fitch Jr.
Jonathan Geraci

David Hamstra
Rayette Hetland
Lorna Joch
Leroy Kydd
Curtis Letniak
Jessica Loxdale
Ginette Makumbe Mangena
Sudhan Muthiah
Elijah O'Sullivan Amaya
Nanette Quines
Keith Richter
Melbourne Turgott
Gail Wilton
Cindy Yaceyko

British Columbia Conference

Kenny Basit
Derek Bil
Phil Brewer
Leezel Shine Deza-Mariano
Meghann Diminyatz
Petar Djakov
Sophia Elson-Maxwell
Beverly Hazzard
Phil Hudema
Reiner Koppers
Dale McCreery
Hector Odiyar
Angela Poch
Robert Rud
Denny Rumambi
Claude Sabot
Marcus Trayer
Alrick Watson
Russell Zapotichny
Harald Zinner



**Manitoba–Saskatchewan
Conference**

Debbie Ashworth
Melvin Bartley
Christine Bergen
Anastacia Del Monte
Sethres Dixon
Sabrina Jacques-Rowe
Hartley Kayumba
Karen Landry
Philip Wright

Maritime Conference

Melissa Atwood
James Frank Kelemen
Daniel LeBlanc
Henrique Silva
Kenisse Trotman

Ontario Conference

Neil Ray Adap
Jassmae Allen
Adriana Alvarez
Juan Alvarez
Akeem Ambrose
Andre Anderson
Alphaeus Andrews
Mae-Lyna Beaubrun-Fleury
Robert Bennett
Ardison Bernardo
Alex Boateng
Reginald Bowman
Andon Boyce
Todd Bruce
Daniel Cho
Pauline Christian

Steven Couto
Nephthaly Dorzilme
Francis Douville
Robert English
Phat Ettienne
Marcos (Jorge) Evora
Jason Felix
Sonja Fraser
Avonae Gentles
Darren Godsoe
Raul Gonzalez
Sherry Grossett
Reynold Hazelwood
Evadne Henry
Moses Henry
Madge Kelly
Scott Kozachenko
Frankie Lazarus
Alvin Lee
Jayson Levy
Smith Louis
Euloge Lutumba-Minza
Sereivudh Ly
Edwin Martin
Virene Meikle
Shelly-Ann Morris
Nerval Myrie
Edgar Nunes
Susan Onyeobia
Damson Oppong
Hyung-Soon Andrew Park
Russell Preddie
Elizabeth Pule
Dexter Reid
Uton Robinson
David Rogers

Jean Luc Rukundo
Ken Schander
Icilda Simpson
Charles Skeete
Enos Stewart
Vitalii Tsilo
Phylis Vallieres
Eddie Wilson
Bob Winsor

**Seventh-day Adventist Church in
Newfoundland and Labrador**

Xenia Capote
Kaitlynn Harushimana
Margaret Moore

Quebec Conference

David Cevallos
Florenda Dassigli
Brunette Dessources
Obed Dorlean
Sylvain Duval
Wilner Jean-Pierre
Jean-Michel Lubin
Orlando Patterson
Esther Paul-Émile
Karine Pierre-Louis
Roslyn Scott
Philip Sirbu
Philippe Starenkyj
Abner Théodore
Sara Therlonge

Note: Delegates listed herein are accurate as of the date of printing. Changes may occur between then and the date of the Session.

STAFF

PHOTO



FRONT ROW:

Marie Corniel, Karen Jacinto-Penney, Rollande Giguère, Donna Swaby, Adrianna Lewis, Girly Quiambao, Cathy Anderson, Colleen Page, Alicia Hernandez, Cindy Bernardo, Aileen Babida, Marilyn Pazitka

MIDDLE ROW:

Rose Jacinto, Elizabete Belz, Betty Bayer, Brandy Perkins, Paul Han, Mark Johnson, Paul Llewellyn, Paul Musafili, Aimee Perez, Tina Keys

BACK ROW:

Grace Mackintosh, Tiffany Smith, Charisma Hodgins, Evaldo Vicente, Keith Chant, Jeremy O'Dell, Shad Lehmann, Campbell Page, Lisa Mercer

SDACC QUINQUENNIAL SESSION

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS



REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cathy Anderson, executive
assistant; Mark Johnson, president



During the last six years, a lot has happened. New lives have been brought into the world, while others are now resting, awaiting the return of Jesus.

Just under three years ago, many of us had never even heard of a coronavirus. Fast-forward to today, and the illness, mandates, and their consequences have touched each one of us and have altered churches, schools, and institutions.

But any time we experience change, whether individually or collectively, is an incredible opportunity to talk about the return of Christ and the peace we can have through Jesus! No matter what is happening in the world today, we are messengers of a kingdom of eternal goodness.

Neighbours, friends, and family members often ask, “What’s next?” During uncertainty and change, Jesus brings comfort. Here’s what He has to say: “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid” (John 14:27, KJV).

At a time of disruption, disease, unrest, war, and economic uncertainties, God remains constant. Around us we see the effect of evil. The return of Jesus is the only solution to the injustice and pain around us.

Every one of us can share hope. Jesus will fix what nobody else can. Eternity will be free of virus, violence, and pain.

Good news! Jesus is coming again!

So now, what about the church? What has happened since we met in Lacombe, Alta.?

1. Adventists in Canada continue to build relationships with those around them. As these friends are

invited to our fellowship, the church continues to grow. Our ultimate aim must continue to be to connect people with Jesus and His saving grace.

2. The SDACC, in collaboration with the NAD, has provided funding to our local conferences and mission to buffer the financial impact of the last two years.
3. Partnership between ADRA Canada and the SDACC has assisted communities touched by disaster and aided local churches and institutions in gardening and many other programmes in communities throughout Canada. This builds more food security and broadens relationships here at home.
4. *It Is Written Canada* has broadened programming on a variety of platforms to reach the increasingly secular Canadian audience.
5. Adventist educators from kindergarten to university have provided online instruction during the difficult days of social distancing.
6. Burman University and the national church have collaborated in a variety of ventures to provide support and resources to those who serve congregations throughout our nation.
7. Youth, Pathfinder, and Camp leaders have used innovative approaches at times when gatherings were restricted. Online activities have provided ways for our younger Adventists to stay connected with friends and faith partners in times of stress and disruption.
8. Adventist leaders have worshipped with congregations across Canada’s time zones without even leaving home! Through videoconferencing platforms and social media, many of their messages are a continuing witness to Jesus, His hope, and



Erica Cabangon was baptized by Pastor Matthew Reyes in the Fraser River in British Columbia.



Mike and René Lemon spoke with Jewel and Nancy about their Bags of Love project.

His return.

- 9. Through online ministry, local congregations have become even more accessible to persons with a variety of physical challenges that had previously limited their involvement in church.
- 10. Members have maintained their connection with neighbours through appropriately distanced interactions. Incredible stories of faith and friendship are common, despite the challenge of life in a time of change. As we converse with people in our communities, we can be living proof that when we know God personally, our peace and happiness are possible even in a time of change.

These and many other adjustments remind us that faith and friendship are part of who we are. Adventist Christians thrive even during times of challenge, just as we do in times of peace and safety.

What of the future?

First, deep faith in God is essential, whether we live in uncertainty or peace. We must focus on Scripture. It reveals Christ. We can live in faith every day of the week. We may be at peace, thoughtful of others, and unsurprised—come what may.

Second, personal faith withers unless shared. Kindly and gently share what you’ve learned with others around you. This is our mission. Let’s not make this unnecessarily complicated.

Third, there is room at Christ’s cross for all. Whoever you are. Whatever your age. Wherever you were born. Woman or man. Christ died so you might live. God has a plan for your life. Please pray to Him. He will reveal to you how you can bless those in your network.

Fourth, Jesus is coming soon. Disruption, disease,

and destruction all point to the end of all things. This is a time to stay connected with Christ. It is a time to invite people to know Jesus.

Even now, all of us can possess heaven’s peace and joy. The mystery of our peace in unsettled times will inspire some to pursue Christ. To learn His ways. To discover the calm that fills us even on difficult days if we know Him.

We must continue to innovate. There will be new challenges. New opportunities for witness. Change is unsettling; God’s message of hope and wholeness will never change.

We need the stability of those who have pursued faith in God for decades. We also need among us the energy of younger minds. We need each other and we need God.

And we need to be praying for one another. Let’s do that frequently, daily. Take time to encourage family, a friend, a pastor, or a teacher. Thank God for each of them. Pray for their strength. Leave a note of encouragement at their door or in their email. Our influence can bring encouragement and hope.

Health issues, conflict, and an unstable economy loom ahead. We will meet them with necessary flexibility. Salvation will not change.

Jesus is coming soon! 🙏

—Mark Johnson, president, SDACC

REPORT FROM SECRETARIAT

Cathy Anderson, executive assistant; Paul Llewellyn, executive secretary/VP for administration; Alicia Hernandez, administrative office secretary/archives



The first role of the secretary is to actively participate in a decision-making process with other elected officers. This responsibility is essential for the proper functioning of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. In this way, the secretary is part of the Officers' Council, meeting on average once per week. At the same time, the SDACC Administrative Committee (ADCOM) gathers about every two weeks, while the SDACC Board brings together the leaders of our Canadian institutions four times a year. Through their different actions, following the established terms of reference, the decisions are made in the best interest of all.

The second aspect of the ministry of the Secretariat is to watch carefully over the proper functioning of the Seventh-day Adventist institutions in Canada, ensuring that they act in harmony with the legislation of the country and with the pre-established rules of the church (Working Policy). The main responsibility in these efforts is to update the SDACC Bylaws regularly, and to join the Bylaws Committees at the conference and institution levels, in order to maintain coherence, effectiveness, and compliance. The Secretariat has participated in the update of the bylaws of all six Canadian conferences and the Newfoundland and Labrador mission field, as well as other institutions, particularly for Burman University, ADRA Canada, and Kingsway College, guiding them in creating and updating governing documents.

The third essential task of the secretary is to organize the decisional work in such a way so that all votes become available electronically in a very

short time. This is how the Department of Archives is operating, while involved in a long process of digitalizing every aspect of our history and preparing the tools for a successful governance and a valuable implementation of required actions. A system for our archives was voted by the SDACC Board and approved by the NAD and the GC Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research (ASTR), creating a retention schedule for all and a model for our action that are making the exchange of information extremely effective.

In addition, the Secretariat was involved in multiple activities, quite significant for our church. One of them is leading the SDACC Compassion Ministries Advisory, developing and increasing the impact of our community services across the country, while harmonizing the efforts of ADRA Canada's national program with local initiatives, supervised at the conference level. Adventist Ministries of Compassion Canada (AMCC) is focused in bringing together various ministries such as health, education, youth, women, Indigenous, Adventist Community Services, prison ministry, and seniors. ADRA Canada is the primary agent in bringing all these ministries together on behalf of the SDACC. The primary focus is to integrate all our churches to have a major impact with their local church communities as we follow Christ's method of evangelism.

The SDACC Secretariat is also integral in establishing a cohesive union between our various ministries that we bring together. This includes the SDACC Youth Advisory, in which each conference and mission youth director works together to focus on events and outreach that brings together all conferences. In the past, this



Kevin Boonstra presented at the Canadian/NAD Human Resources Convention in May 2022.

“The SDACC Secretariat is also integral in establishing a cohesive union between our various ministries that we bring together.”

consisted of having a youth summit in each conference across Canada. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, we have re-visioned to focus on youth and young adult outreach to our First Nations communities and also to youth shelters across Canada.

As we have been learning of the residential school tragedies with our Indigenous Peoples, the SDACC is looking at forming strong relationships within each conference as we serve and glorify the Creator. Our youth and young adults will greatly benefit from forming these relationships with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. Brian Wahl, B.C. Conference youth director, has chaired this advisory as he brings together all our youth directors in a strong working relationship.

Secretariat oversees all the youth camps as we work together to provide safe and spiritual camping experiences. The COVID-19 pandemic has hit our youth camps with heavy implications. The summer of 2022 had all our camps reopening after two years of being closed. This has opened the door to retraining all staff working for our camps this past summer. The SDACC is working with our youth camps to reopen our Blind Camp programs as we reach out to those with vision impairments. Our Blind Camps are generously funded by a special offering and allocations from the SDACC.

In 2021, a Ministerial Advisory was formed bringing together our ministerial directors to work together as

we harmonize our policies and procedures to enhance pastoral ministry throughout Canada. In October 2021, Damson Oppong, ministerial director of the Ontario Conference and chair of the Ministerial Advisory, led out in our first-ever Virtual Ministerial Convention. Pastors, chaplains, and Bible workers across Canada were very appreciative of this convention. Plans are now being laid to have another face-to-face convention in 2023 at Burman University.

The SDACC Secretariat, with the valuable assistance of Dr. Paul Brantley, vice-president of the NAD (retired), co-ordinated the SDACC Strategic Planning Advisory. Their regular meetings represented a good opportunity for the conferences and ministries to invite local leaders and to reach about 10 churches with the important message of implementing strategic thinking at all levels.

It is really a blessed experience for the SDACC Secretariat to be part of the NAD Human Resource Advisory. Through their activities, the Secretariat was able to improve the quality of discussions at the SDACC Secretaries' Council, as well as to represent the Canadian point of view during the North American discussions and to stay connected to the HR personnel in Canada. Also, during one of the annual HR conferences organized in Columbia, Md., the SDACC secretary made a presentation about the indispensable methodology



IGNITE Ontario Campmeeting 2018

“Members in our local churches are very committed and bring to the table their integrity, enthusiasm, and competence, along with their spiritual gifts.”

in a context of permanent changes: “Being a Change Agent: MISSION and PURPOSE.”

Another exciting aspect of NAD HR is that the NAD, in conjunction with the SDACC, initiated the first Canadian/NAD HR Convention on May 9–10, 2022, in Victoria, B.C. All officers of each conference, along with our education superintendents, came together to discuss and learn best practices of Canadian HR.

The Secretariat is also involved in the North American Philanthropic Services for Institutions (PSI) Advisory. This department is assisting Seventh-day Adventist entities in their building projects by improving their financial assets and facilitating contacts with donors. The SDACC field had benefited almost every year from the excellent work co-ordinated by Lilya Wagner, Ed.D., CFRE.

Contributing regularly to the proper functioning of campmeetings across Canada is another function of the SDACC Secretariat. Particularly enjoyed are the presentations that can encourage members with the desire to help them continue in their commitment for God’s cause in all circumstances. It was a true pleasure to address important questions covering so many

different domains, such as meaningful functioning of church boards, doctrinal unity, the 28 fundamental beliefs, last-day events, procedures regarding the new light, authentic worship experiences, Seventh-day Adventist ethics, etc.

Members in our local churches are very committed and bring to the table their integrity, enthusiasm, and competence, along with their spiritual gifts. However, occasionally some problems may arise, and these can create tension and hinder the effective functioning of the church. In these cases, the role of the secretary is to humbly and fairly apply the Conciliation and Dispute Resolution Procedures (CDRP) already developed in the Working Policy. So much has been learned from these sessions where an essential amount of time was set aside for active listening, intercession, and arbitration. It was our conviction that each of the seven cases that have been dealt with since the beginning of 2016 brought new weight to the importance of how we might live together as brothers and sisters for the glory of God’s name. We come from these discussions enriched and persuaded that the problems can only be solved when the Spirit

of God is leading.

The Secretariat has participated actively in the evaluation process of the conference officers and other entities, establishing with the SDACC Education Department the tools adapted to the specific position of each and every one. Our approach is always the redemptive evaluation, trying to build up and not to be perceived as applying the evaluation as a simple punishment. We continue to provide our expertise for this task in close collaboration with the NAD Assessment department.

Several supporting ministries in Canada have requested official SDACC recognition for their activities. The SDACC, with the support of the NAD Secretariat, has clarified supporting-ministry status and established the procedure, requesting from all ministries to have the status of a not-for-profit association. The SDACC Board, upon recommendation from Canadian conferences, has granted status to nine supporting ministries who are fully embracing the Seventh-day Adventist church mission and identify themselves with the essence of our biblical identity. All our decisions regarding the supporting ministries in Canada comply with Chapter K of the Working Policy.

The Office of the SDACC Secretary has worked closely with the Canadian conferences to fulfill all requirements regarding the ordination for the pastoral ministry. After careful study of each case, the pastoral ordination/commission was granted to 60 individuals during the last six years. We are actively working on centralizing the ordination process so that all

documents will be digitally available. This method will harmonize the evaluation process, with candidates to be approved, first, by the local conference and then, finally, by the SDACC. This centralized process will be the first in the NAD to model this procedure. We are glad that the pastoral ministry that is so vital for the prosperity of the church is held by excellent individuals who serve the Lord and the members of their district with fervor and passion.

Through the work of the NAD Secretariat and the NAD IT department, the SDACC Secretariat has contributed regularly to the quality of eAdventist.net and its functioning. This website has facilitated the work of church clerks and represents an excellent tool for the management of our churches and conferences. We want to thank all local church clerks and conference secretaries who maintain this site in the best way possible.

Since 2016, the Secretariat has updated most of the Terms of References for all positions at the SDACC level and helped the administration of conferences and ministries to build their own Terms of References for every position and committee they have in place. It is good to know that currently there is no opening of a new position, or election at any level in Canada, without a clear definition for the nominating body of what is expected from the person who is considered for the job. ✎

—Paul Llewellyn, VP for Administration, SDACC



Damson Oppong, Ontario Conference ministerial secretary, and Paul Llewellyn, SDACC executive secretary, served as program hosts for the SDACC Ministerial Convention in October 2021.

REPORT FROM TREASURY

Front row: Paul Musafli, treasurer/
VP for finance; *back row:* Cindy
Bernardo, junior accountant;
Rose Jacinto, undertreasurer;
Donna Swaby, senior accounting
clerk; Girly Quiambao, senior
accountant



A financial report is always crucial during times of uncertainty. The past two and a half years have shown us how rapidly things can change and how vulnerable we can be. However, at the same time we have realized that we serve an amazing God who always provides abundantly, even during something as significant and unprecedented as the COVID-19 pandemic.

On average, for the past six years (2016–2021) every dollar donated comprised 59 cents for tithe, 34 cents for local church offerings, and 7 cents for other offerings. These proportions changed in 2020 and 2021 because of the decrease in local church offerings, while tithe continued to increase. For example, in 2021, the proportional breakdown was 63 cents for tithe, 29 cents for local church offerings, and 8 cents for other offerings. The main reason for a significant decrease in local church offerings could be tied to the decrease in various in-person activities and programs contingent on church buildings.

Income

In 2016, 51% of SDACC income was from tithe, 37% from subsidies, and 12% from other sources. In 2021, 48% of the total revenue was from net tithe, 27% from subsidies, and 25% from other sources. The main reason for this change was the increased tithe and donations for the Laos project.

Donations via Adventist Giving rose from \$12 million in 2015 to \$56.7 million in 2021. Local church enrolment in this online giving platform went from 48% in 2018 to 89% in 2021. The transaction fees vary from card to card and are absorbed by conferences, the SDACC, and the NAD. Members can reduce the processing fees incurred through these transactions by donating via debit card instead of credit card.

Expenses

The main role of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada is to support conferences and institutions.

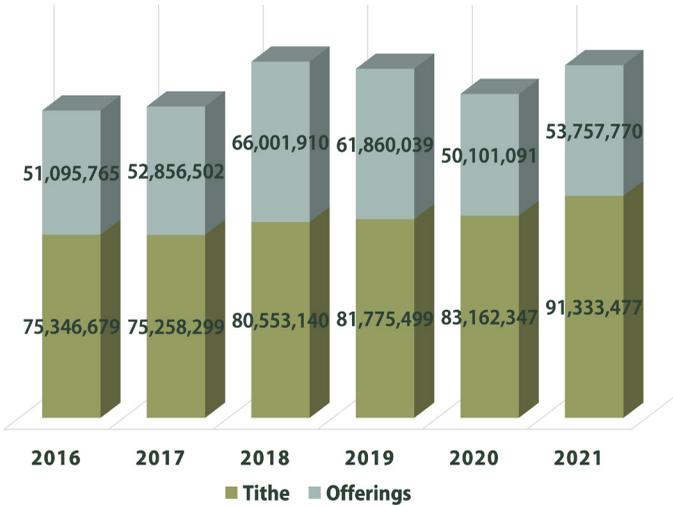
In fact, the subsidies given to conferences and institutions for evangelism and education are in the same line of providing support to the Canadian field entities. As for the revenue, the expenses did not change significantly, except for 2020 when we added \$1 million in addition to the almost half a million dollars from the North American Division to provide a special COVID subsidy to our entities, plus a special donation of \$1.3 million allocated for the Laos church growth project. In 2021, we gave \$940,000 to the Burman library project, \$639,000 (\$489,000 from the NAD) for a COVID Phase II stimulus subsidy, and over \$1.7 million for the Laos project.

The SDACC employs 28 full-time employees serving in the various departments of presidential/secretariat, treasury, information technology, *Canadian Adventist Messenger* magazine and communication, health benefits plan, education, legal/trust services, and retirement. These services benefit all conferences and entities across Canada, ensuring that we comply with Canadian laws and regulations governing charitable organizations, as well as North American Division policies.

We thank and praise the Lord for providing, and we thank all of you for your faithfulness in supporting God's work both locally and globally through your generous donations even during COVID-19. We also thank the workers and volunteers in treasury departments across Canada at local churches, conferences, and the SDACC. Thank you for your faithfulness and the countless hours spent in this ministry. ✍️

—Paul Musafli, VP for Finance, SDACC

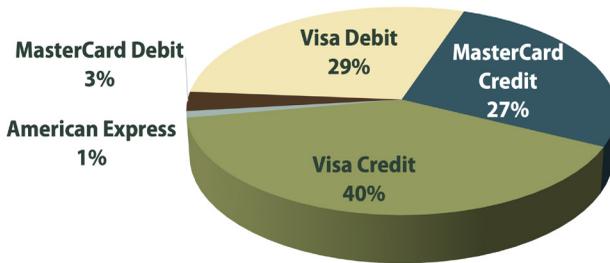
TITHES AND OFFERINGS BY YEAR



INSIGHTS:

- Tithe had a steady increase while offerings remained almost at the same level as in 2016.
- Comparing 2020 versus 2015, tithe increased by 10%; and surprisingly, increased by 10% just over one year later (2021 vs 2020).
- The increase in offerings during 2018 and 2019 was mainly driven by some building project donations.

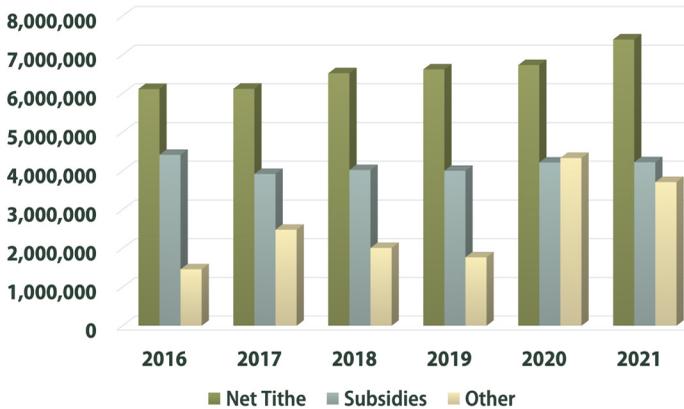
DONATIONS BY CARD TYPE



INSIGHTS:

- Average fees for debit transactions: 0.51%, average fees for credit transactions: 1.88%, overall average: 1.13%
- Donation by debit card started in 2019 and amazingly, the number of transactions grew from 6,158 that same year to 65,942 in 2021, representing 47% of the total number of transactions.
- However, debit donations represented only 33% of all donations, meaning that donations by credit card are more significant per transaction.

INCOME SOURCES BY YEAR



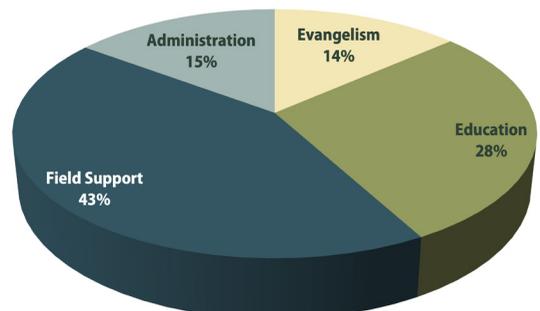
INSIGHTS:

- Besides tithe, all other income sources were stable.
- The other income increase in 2017 was due to the wind up residue from Pacific Press Publishing Association Canada.
- In 2020 and 2021 we received a special donation to fund church growth in Laos, Asia. This project will continue through 2025.

INCOME STATEMENT BY YEAR



DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENSES



SDACC QUINQUENNIAL SESSION

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
IN CANADA
1148 KING ST. EAST



REPORT FROM COMMUNICATION

Adrianna Lewis, administrative secretary; Aimee Perez, graphic designer; Evaldo Vicente, director; Rollande Giguère, *Le Messenger* editorial co-ordinator

The Communication department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada has a large portfolio that includes the distribution of news and information to conferences, educational institutions, church entities, and constituents through our websites, magazines, and social media outlets.

Over the past six years, the Communication team, under the leadership of Stan Jensen, solidified the already successful negotiation with the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) to have the *Hope Channel* allowed to broadcast anywhere in Canada. In addition to that, CRTC approved *Esperanza TV*, our 24-hour Spanish-language network. Both the *Canadian Adventist Messenger* and *Le Messenger* have sustained continued growth. To these two magazines, the Communication team has added two more *Messengers*, one to help us understand our South Asian neighbours, and the *Adventist-Muslim Relations Messenger*, to help us mingle and befriend those with a Muslim background.

We are here to tell the story of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, which is the proclamation of our individual and collective faith, of our conversion and salvation. It is the story of Jesus and His love.

Contemplating the future, we envision the church becoming even more effective in telling this story. And it involves each one of us. Here are a few ideas:

Strategic Publicity

- We will develop strategic publicity for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, to help our communities know what Adventists are all about.

A Network of Adventist News Professionals

- We want to establish a network of Adventist news professionals willing to volunteer to support the media relations work of the church throughout Canada.

Resources for Local Churches

- In partnership with our conferences, we want to make resources available that will help local church communication leaders do their work, especially during crises.

Messenger Family of Magazines

- We will continue to feature what church members are doing in and for their communities.
- We will open even more space for contributions from young people.
- A few articles will be made available in audio format, so you can hear stories on the go.

Media Work

- We are working on producing podcasts on various subjects and Bible study.
- We are also looking to produce resources for outreach around special occasions like Mothers' Day, Canada Day, Thanksgiving, etc.

Hope Channel Canada

- Hope Channel is a reality in Canada, but we need to increase its availability and viewership.
- We want to see more content produced by Canadians for Canadians.
- We look forward to establishing the *Hope Channel* in French, as well.

As we look into the future, our vision can easily get blurred by the unprecedented challenges we face, but we need to focus on what is beyond the haze. The greatest event ever in history will be the second coming of Jesus, who has—time and again—reassured us of what the future really looks like. And by faith I can tell you that the future looks amazing. ✨

—Evaldo Vicente, director, communication

REPORT FROM EDUCATION

Betty Bayer, director; Shad Lehmann, associate director; Brandy Perkins, education specialist/certification registrar



Adventist education in Canada includes over 40 institutions, more than 350 educators, and almost 4,000 students. Though enrolment dipped during the COVID-19 pandemic, current enrolment is higher than pre-pandemic numbers.

During this quinquennium the SDACC lost three small schools, saw Parkview Adventist Academy's ownership and governance transfer from Burman University to the Alberta Conference, witnessed the construction of beautiful buildings at Mamawi Atosketan Native School and Parkview Adventist Academy, and celebrated with Red River Valley Junior Academy (now Prairie Central Adventist Academy) as they expanded to a senior academy (adding Gr. 11 and 12).

The mission for Adventist education in Canada is "to inspire in each student a life of faith, wisdom, and service." The Office of Education supports conferences and schools in pursuing this shared mission.

Faith

In 2017, the SDACC implemented the *Encounter* curriculum, a Bible curriculum that continues to change lives and strengthen relationships with Jesus.

ValueGenesis 4, a longitudinal study of faith and commitment among youth, took place in fall 2021. The results from the study will inform the church's future decisions on how to better meet the evolving needs of our youth.

Adventist education is one of the best forms of evangelism our church has. Schools reported almost 500 baptisms during the past quinquennium.

Wisdom

A total of 243 SDACC educators attended the NAD Teachers' Convention in 2018 and were challenged to "encounter Jesus and experience excellence." Our 2021 SDACC Teachers' Convention was cancelled because of COVID; instead, approximately 350 educators participated in a one-day virtual convention.

Educators across Canada continue to pursue graduate

education with funding provided by the SDACC. In the past five years, 248 educators have enrolled in Burman University courses and 27 have completed master's degrees. Led by Shad Lehmann, the *Education Code* has undergone a complete revision. A standing committee has been established to systematically review the *Code*.

Service

Our leadership team is implementing a data-informed decision-making approach, integrating school reports into a plan for continuous improvement, planning for Canada-wide testing using the Cat5¹ to facilitate union-wide results, and preparing to conduct an annual student perception survey across Canada.

Since 2018 we have partnered with the *Messenger* to give each July issue an Adventist education emphasis. In the past five years, 25 educators have received the Excellence in Education Award. As part of the NAD's partnership with the Guam-Micronesia Mission, we have supported the school in Saipan by raising funds to repair typhoon damage, providing care packages to staff and student missionaries, and preparing to partner with teachers for instructional support.

Perhaps the best example of service can be found in the courage and commitment of our educators during the past three years. In the face of changing provincial mandates, educators adapted to new protocols, staggered schedules, closed facilities, and sudden pivots to online instruction with resilience and flexibility.

Office of Education personnel are committed to seeking first the kingdom of God as we continue to collaborate with and support conferences, schools, and educators across Canada. The implementation of a Teacher Preparation, Recruitment, and Retention Plan to address the growing teacher shortage will be a special focus as we begin the new quinquennium. Together we will work to "inspire in every student a life of faith, wisdom, and service."

—Betty Bayer, director, education

1 Cat5 is the fifth edition of the *Canadian Achievement Test*, a standardized language and mathematics test administered in schools across Canada.



REPORT FROM

HEALTH BENEFITS

Tiffany Smith, secretary; Karen Jacinto-Penney, clerk/archivist; Jeremy O'Dell, director; Marie Corniel, specialist

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada provides coverage for a broad range of health expenses—including medical, optical, and dental expenses—for its employees and their families and for retirees across Canada. Disability insurance, life insurance, accident insurance, and out-of-country travel insurance are also provided. The Health Benefits Administration develops and manages this benefit program and processes the claims for these benefits.

Life insurance, accident insurance, out-of-country travel insurance, and long-term disability insurance are provided through licensed insurance companies, while the remaining benefits are self-insured.

Employers and employees across Canada pool their resources to fund our health benefits program. This pooling of resources results in premium savings and allows our employees to receive the same benefits regardless of where they are employed within Canada. Cost-saving measures such as special authorization requirements for costly medications, dental procedures, and stop loss insurance continue to be utilized.

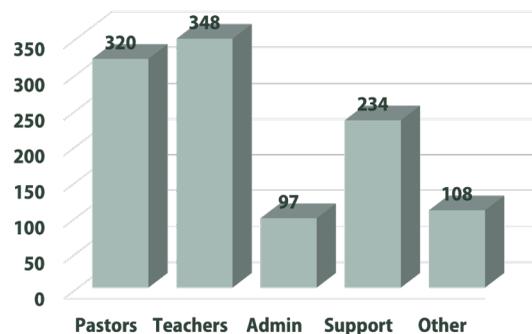
Since implementing new database and billing software as well as our new online claims submission portal, our members have appreciated the streamlined claims submission, processing, billing, and document storage. Our software is designed to receive and process online prescription drug claims from anywhere in Canada, and dental offices can submit e-dental claims through direct billing, resulting in prompt payment. All other health claims are processed in our office. Controls and limits are in place to ensure compliance with our policies.

In 2021, we partnered with LifeWorks to provide an Employee and Family Assistance Program to our members. This service provides a wide range of support, including access to short-term counselling and financial and legal consultations. The platform also provides resources that members can access online or through the LifeWorks app. This service is available to both the employee and their family members free of charge.

We currently provide health benefits for 1,107 active

employees and 577 retirees and their families. The total number of lives insured averages 3,700 individuals. Our members include pastors, teachers, administrators, some health-care providers, and a variety of support staff.

HEALTH BENEFIT MEMBERS BY OCCUPATION



While the day-to-day operation of the Health Benefits department is the responsibility of our office workers, the Health Benefits Plan Committee reviews and votes on recommended policy changes and premium rate changes. Members of this committee include treasurers and representatives from our member entities and conferences across Canada. These changes are then recommended to the SDACC Board of Directors for approval.

Our health benefits plan continues to experience lower costs than other comparable health benefit plans, which speaks to the healthier lifestyles of Seventh-day Adventists in general. The focus on employee wellness benefits continues to emerge as one of the primary ways organizations are using to both improve employees' health and help contain the overall cost of benefits. We continue to look for affordable ways to encourage healthy lifestyles for our members. Our wellness initiatives currently include reimbursement of gym memberships, wellness programs, and weight loss programs. 🌿

—Jeremy O'Dell, director,
health benefits administration



REPORT FROM LEGAL

Grace Mackintosh, legal counsel

This department covers three areas: (1) Legal, (2) Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL), and (3) Planned Giving and Trust Services. As such, the department handles legal matters that arise from national issues; serves the national church and its members on business matters as they relate to public affairs and to religious freedoms; and provides support to our conferences and entities for their Planned Giving and Trust Services endeavours.

Religious Liberty Matters

Religious freedom is a priority in our department.

Since Canadian law protects Sabbath observance in the employment sector, we do not deal with Sabbath accommodation very often. The SDACC typically does, however, deal with labour union matters in Ontario, because there is no legislative protection for employees who want to be exempt from labour union membership due to religious convictions. The SDACC is moving forward with an application for legislative amendment to put much-needed protections in place.

We are grateful that we often work in co-ordination with the Office of General Counsel of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at the world headquarters located in Silver Spring, Md., on all religious liberty matters.

Influencing Canadian Society

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada has a voice in society with respect to social issues and religious liberty. In all these matters, we work in conjunction with the Office of General Counsel of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. There is a conflict in the courts between the authority of the state and individual autonomy with respect to freedom of religion, and the SDACC is committed to advocating on behalf of our members.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has an amazing biblical understanding of human rights based on the principles of the gospel, and we have sought out opportunities to share these principles with thought leaders in Canada. I have exchanged positive emails with the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Canada's deputy prime minister, and hope to meet with her in the near future to follow up with discussions about religious liberty. The government has always been very encouraging in their historical and current exchanges with the SDACC.

Trusts

Tina Keys has been instrumental in Planned Giving and Trust Services. She has worked very hard to bring inspiring and instructive stories to the church through the *Canadian Adventist Messenger*.

One of the final pressures God's faithful children will face is that of finance. We are told that one day we will not be able to buy or sell (Rev. 13:17), and it is critical for us to develop the habit of giving while we still can.

In July 2022, Tina Keys retired. We were sad to see her go but wish her well in her retirement.

What a time to be alive! What a time to be waiting for Jesus' return. We can see that God is holding back the winds of strife so that as many as choose will be saved. We are so privileged to know and understand all that Jesus has done for us. 🙏

—Grace Mackintosh, legal counsel

REPORT FROM RETIREMENT

Front row: Charisma Hodgins, specialist/quality assurance; Marilyn Pazitka, director; *back row:* Aileen Babida, payroll clerk; Elizabete Belz, accountant; Colleen Page, retirement benefits assistant



Established in 1993, the Seventh-day Adventist Church Retirement Plan for Canadian Employees (“the Plan”) is registered under the Income Tax Act with Canada Revenue Agency and with the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario.

Along with government benefits and personal savings, the Plan is designed to provide a source of retirement income to eligible members and their beneficiaries. The Plan is a defined benefit pension plan. The church also offers a Supplemental Plan to provide additional post-retirement benefits to its retirees.

Service to Plan Members

The Retirement department’s focus is to provide professional and courteous service to our Plan members and retirees by providing them with timely and topical information as they plan for, and later live in, retirement.

To help keep members informed, a personalized Annual Statement is provided to every member to explain their current and potential future retirement benefits. Active members of the Plan have access to an online Retirement Planner and a “Planning for Retirement” newsletter.

Upholding Our Fiduciary Responsibilities

To ensure we provide benefits to our retirees and

deliver on the promise of future benefits to our Plan members, a valuation of the Plan is completed by our actuaries on a regular basis to determine the minimum contribution requirements to fund the Plan. Our participating employers make regular contributions to the Plan based on these requirements and the church’s objectives.

The value of the Plan’s assets has grown substantially. From Jan. 1, 2016, to Dec. 31, 2021, the market value of the Plan’s assets increased by approximately \$52.2 million—from \$126 million to \$178.2 million.

Looking to the Future

On June 19, 2019, the Board of Directors voted to approve a Group RRSP program for all regular full-time and part-time employees of the church. It is a supplemental retirement savings plan that works alongside the established defined benefit plan. The program was implemented on March 1, 2022.

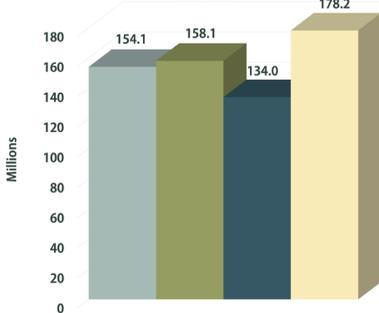
Transitioning to Retirement

Retirement is a major transition in a person’s life. It is our goal to make this transition as stress-free as possible by providing pertinent information and guidance through the process. We share helpful information and tips for retirees through our “Living in Retirement” newsletter. Most importantly, we provide retirement benefits to over 1,400 retirees monthly.

The SDACC recognizes our plan members’ efforts to advance the mission of the church and is thankful for their continued support and dedication. We will continue to provide valuable information about the pension plan along with important news and updates about retirement topics to all current and future members. Ensuring the Plan is in good financial condition and sustainable for the long term is just one way we can thank our members for their commitment to the church. ✍️

—Marilyn Pazitka, director, Canadian Retirement Plans

FISCAL PROGRESSION OF THE REGISTERED RETIREMENT FUND
1993 - 2021



■ Contributions ■ Investment Gains ■ Disbursements ■ Net Assets Available, YTD

SDACC QUINQUENNIAL SESSION

ENTITY REPORTS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
IN CANADA
1148 KING ST. EAST

REPORT FROM ADRA CANADA

Beneficiaries of Project EMBRACE in Rwanda



5,639,473
people experienced
the love and mercy
of God through...



179
Projects



49
Countries



35
Emergency
Projects



14
Development
Projects



The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) seeks to exemplify the character of God through its ministry as the humanitarian arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. ADRA believes that we make known God's just, merciful, and loving character through humanitarian acts. From 2017 to 2021, more than 5.6 million people experienced God's love and mercy through emergency relief and development projects addressing poverty and hunger in 49 countries around the world.

Supported by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, ADRA Canada rose to meet numerous challenges in the last five years thanks to a merciful God, prayerful leadership, and a committed, energized member and volunteer base.

Globally, ADRA Canada continued supporting the health of more than 25,000 mothers, newborns, and children under five in Cambodia and Laos.

We championed agriculture and livelihood activities through membership at the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Agriculture is more than food. It provides economic growth, as well as resources leading to poverty reduction. ADRA works with farmer field schools in Nepal, Indonesia, Mongolia, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique, and others to provide hands-on learning to improve skills and knowledge in each specific context. ADRA also works to lessen the impacts of extreme weather and land degradation. We promote creation care by encouraging practices that reduce the harmful effects of climate change.

The year 2020 saw the closing of the EMBRACE project which had begun in 2016. EMBRACE was our largest government-funded project, designed to improve the health and lives of over 100,000 people,

including 33,000 children in Myanmar, Rwanda, Cambodia, and the Philippines.

Building on the successes and lessons learned from EMBRACE, ADRA Canada has now embarked on TOGETHER, another vital health initiative. For the next six years, ADRA—with partners at SickKids, Salanga, and the ADRA offices in Kenya, Uganda, Cambodia, and the Philippines—will deliver meaningful programming to 120,000 of the most vulnerable people.

The REAP Livelihoods Post-Haiyan project in the Philippines also finished in 2020. Since then, ADRA has provided relief to those affected by typhoons Goni, Ambo, Vinta, and Rai. We provided food during the COVID-19 pandemic and sprang into action after the Mindanao earthquake.

The Bible says, "The whole creation groans" (Rom. 8:22, NKJV), and this is abundantly evident in Sudan and Yemen, where ADRA provides life-saving food, water, medical facilities, and supplies. Women and girls often bear the heaviest burdens of any humanitarian crisis. Ensuring they have clean water, healthy food, and security will lead the way to education that provides pathways out of poverty. ADRA's BRIGHT project is bringing education closer to children so they are not victims of gender-based violence (GBV) or human trafficking in Sudan, Niger, Myanmar, and Cambodia.

Ellen White has said:

Poverty and distress in families will come to our knowledge, and afflicted and suffering ones will have to be relieved. We know very little of the human suffering that exists everywhere about us, but as we have the opportunity, we should be ready to render immediate assistance to those under severe pressure."¹

In Canada and worldwide, ADRA stands ready to respond thanks to our supporters, partners, and volunteers. ✍️

—Steve Matthews, executive director, ADRA Canada

1 Ellen G. White, *Welfare Ministry* (Washington, DC: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1952), 137.



REPORT FROM BURMAN UNIVERSITY

Students on campus

On Dec. 11, 2015, Canadian University College became Burman University. We look back with gratitude to Charles and Leona Burman, who, under the Lord's guidance, founded our institution. Like our founders, we value education, we nurture our students, we strive for excellence, and we believe our feet are on the path to heaven.

In April 2016, the first graduates with Burman University on their diplomas graduated from the hilltop. We recognize and are thankful for the many individuals who work together so Burman can continue to meet its mission.

Strategic Plan

In 2018, Burman University, with input from faculty, staff, students, administration, alumni, and community, created a new plan for 2018–2022. Titled “Students the Focus—Learning the Goal—Christ the Reason,” the plan has five goals: (1) Student Experience: to move Burman to a student-centred campus, emphasizing whole-person education, integrity, and service; (2) Employee Experience: provide employees with a collaborative environment so they can serve and enrich the student experience; (3) Academics: support faith-based transformative teaching and learning along with relevant research; (4) Finance and Assets: ensure prudent management of finances, opportunities, and assets; and (5) Community: collaborate with its communities through improved partnerships, communication, and engagement.

In 2022, a new round of strategic planning is being conducted to help transform the campus into a stronger and more appealing opportunity for student growth.

Enrolment

From 2016 to 2021, the university enrolled an average headcount of 447 students: 2016/17: 456; 2017/18: 453; 2018/19: 454; 2019/20: 466; 2020/21: 408.

Pandemic Response

The year 2020 was an unprecedented one, and the university faced extraordinary challenges. On March 23, 2020, Burman students transitioned from in-person learning to online. The faculty were flexible and willing to adjust approaches when students faced difficulties. Our students succeeded in their studies because members of the faculty were determined, despite a new reality, to teach and advise them with a renewed sense of commitment. For the 2021/22 academic year, we returned to regular classes.

“Shaping the World” Fundraising Campaign

The Shaping the World fundraising campaign goal is \$11 million. The immediate goals of the campaign are to build a new library (\$6 million), to fund student success initiatives (\$3 million), and to support not only faculty development and research but also academic programs (\$2 million). Groundbreaking for the new library took place in May 2021, and the building was available for student use in January 2022.

Acquiring and Disseminating Knowledge

Recently, the university has decided to prioritize research. We have introduced policies and practices to reflect this new emphasis. The Research Colloquium was launched, with the goal to build a research culture on campus. Funds to support research are available from the university and external grants.

God Is Leading

Burman University is grateful for the support of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada and their contribution to the mission and vision of Burman University. With all your help, with our continued determination, and with God's grace, this institution will remain a beacon to the world. ✝

—Loren Agrey, president, Burman University



REPORT FROM IT IS WRITTEN CANADA

The *It Is Written Canada* team: Bailey Muller, René Lemon, Mike Lemon, Michael Dauncey, Sergio Alejandro, Rose Rodrigues

It Is Written Canada is committed to innovation.

Men are needed who pray to God for wisdom, and who under the guidance of God, can put new life into the old methods of labor, and can invent new plans and new methods of awakening the interest of church members and reaching the men and women of the world.¹

In 2018, Chris Holland was called to serve in the United States, and Mike and René Lemon joined the ministry in July 2019.

As the official media arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, *It Is Written Canada* aims to connect Canadians to the abundant life found in Jesus in a way that is personal and relevant. By featuring ordinary Canadians honestly sharing how our heavenly Father has transformed their lives, souls have been touched by the “irresistible power” of their personal testimonies.

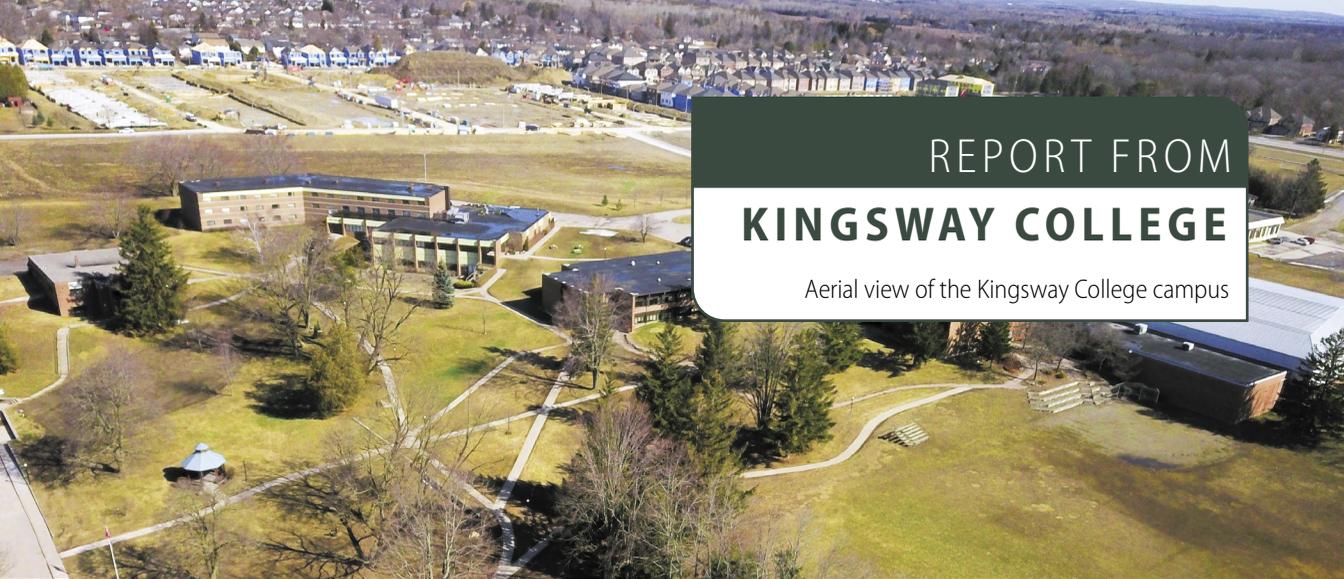
Our confession of His faithfulness is Heaven’s chosen agency for revealing Christ to the world ... that which will be most effectual is the testimony of our own experience. These precious acknowledgments to the praise of the glory of His grace ... have an *irresistible power* that works for the salvation of souls.²

Specific areas where *It Is Written Canada* has made progress in the last five years include the following:

- Airing messages to 4.1 million seekers per year through dozens of television networks both within Canada and throughout the world. For many, *It Is Written Canada* has become their “at home church.”
- Reaching 216,700 online users per year through combined social media initiatives
- Printing and distributing more than 50,000 copies of *The Great Controversy – Canadian Edition*; 150,000 GLOW tracts; and many other inspirational books
- Exploring new initiatives and increasing its online content in the form of exercise videos, cooking demonstrations, and Friday evening Bible studies
- Featuring short, weekly messages on various online platforms over the past three years
- Celebrating a 26 percent increase in new subscribers on YouTube per year over the last three years
- Reaching more than 66,000 souls per year via weekly and monthly inspirational publications sent via email and post mail
- Celebrating the 900+ students who have completed *It Is Written Canada’s* Bible study program over the last five years
- Answering thousands of calls, orders, and prayer requests that have arisen in response to weekly broadcasts
- Conducting in-person evangelism series and numerous virtual outreach programs
- Collaborating with a team of wholistic health-care professionals to help and heal sick and suffering souls, leading them to Jesus—the source of health and wholeness
- Creating content for a younger audience
- Seeing finances move from red to black in the last three years as the ministry improved its efficiency of production. The faithfulness of supporters during these difficult times has been truly inspirational. 🙌
—Mike Lemon, speaker/director, *It Is Written Canada*

¹ Ellen G. White, *Letters and Manuscripts*, Vol. 22 (Ellen G. White Estate, 1907), 117.

² Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages* (Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Publishing Association, 1898), 347. Emphasis added.



REPORT FROM KINGSWAY COLLEGE

Aerial view of the Kingsway College campus

For Kingsway College, the past five years have seen both mountaintop and valley experiences. The good news is that through it all, God has continued to grow our faith and to provide for Kingsway, allowing the school to deliver a strong educational program for the students He has sent our way.

Spiritual Life

Three years ago Pastor Charlee Blabey joined us as campus chaplain. Together, Pastor Blabey, band director, Andrew Brown, and men's head dean, Kevin Magdamo, retooled our Campus Ministries program to effectively minister to our students during the COVID-19 pandemic. When everything had to be online, they led our students virtually and by recording spiritual programming, which kept everyone connected and spiritually nurtured.

Physical Life

One of Kingsway's challenges has been finding consistent opportunities for our students to participate in varsity-level sports. Because Kingsway is a boarding academy and draws students from a geographic region spanning from western Ontario to Newfoundland, entrance to the local high school varsity leagues had been blocked because of jurisdictional issues. Under the leadership of the head of our Physical Education Department, Adam Mohns, that obstacle was finally overcome. Kingsway is now a member of the Lake Ontario Secondary School Athletics association and can participate in sporting events along with area high schools.

Academic Life

Denean Sabot joined us four years ago as vice-president of academics. She has increased course offerings for both students needing a less rigorous academic approach and those on an academic track. She has also improved the stability of our international

student program with the International Student Life committee, which co-ordinates special church services and other social programs for our international students, helping them feel included in our community of faith and social events.

Finances

This past fall, Charmaine Williams Tate joined us as vice-president of finance. Under her leadership, the KC Financial Stability Committee was formed to offer advice to administration in updating investment policies, rental of our commercial spaces, and exploring other options to generate additional income for Kingsway.

Development

Our school alumni have been supportive of recent campus improvement projects. Our Development Department has raised funds for these projects, which resulted in the renovation of washrooms on campus, updates to both dorms lobbies, renovation of the cafeteria dining area, and the replacement of all the kitchen equipment in the cafeteria, including refrigerators and freezers.

While life at Kingsway is not without its challenges, it has been a spiritual journey that allowed us to witness how God, in His infinite wisdom, is able to bring us through those valleys and to the mountaintops once again. We rejoice as we see His hand working in our lives.

It is a privilege to be part of an institution that touches the lives of the high school students of our church. Our prayer continues to be, "Lord, send us the students who need to be here, send us the students who want to be here, and send us the students You want to be here." 🙏

—R. Lee Richards, president, Kingsway College

SDACC QUINQUENNIAL SESSION

CONFERENCE REPORTS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
IN CANADA
1148 KING ST. EAST

REPORT FROM ALBERTA CONFERENCE

Parkview Adventist Academy's new school building

Dear SDACC Constituent,
Thank you so much for taking the time from your busy schedule to review this report from the Alberta Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

As the president of the Alberta Conference, I have asked our team to prepare a special video that follows my written report. We wanted to visually highlight some of the exciting accomplishments witnessed in our field during this term. We hope you enjoy the video and photos included.

Additionally, we prepared a booklet with reports from all our conference officers and departmental leaders that reveal a deeper look at the workings of

our conference over the past term. The booklet is an adaptation of our 2021 Town Hall Meeting Report that we shared with the constituents of Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

Please take the opportunity to read about the encouraging things God has done and is doing in Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and globally through our various churches and ministries.

Please use the QR code on this page to access the video and booklet report.

Thanks again for supporting the Lord's work in Alberta and the Northwest Territories. 🙏

—Gary Hodder, president, Alberta Conference



SCAN ME

Scan this QR code to view the Alberta Conference report online.



PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION

Peace River Seventh-day Adventist Church—rendering of renovated church building



Mamawi Atosketan Native School and Ptarmigan Cree Cultural Centre

REPORT FROM

BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

Mountain View Summer Camp staff in 2018

The B.C. Conference has adopted REACH as its vision for ministry. The goal is to reach every person in our territory with the Christ-centred message of hope and wholeness. The acronym REACH stands for five core values: Revival and transformation, Education for discipleship, Alignment within the church, Community outreach and evangelism, and Healthy leadership and management. We have applied this vision in our churches, schools, conference office, Camp Hope, and our ABC Christian Store to facilitate the fulfillment of the gospel commission in our conference. Through our own visioning sessions, we chose to focus on four prominent areas this quinquennium: spirituality, mission, training, and youth.

Spirituality

The B.C. Conference sees nurturing the spirituality of our members as integral to our mission. For example, our Communication Department has produced monthly videos that are screened at our local congregations. These videos present heart-warming conversion stories, faithful stewardship blessings, motivational approaches for adopting and maintaining a healthy lifestyle, volunteerism, the spiritual involvement of all our congregations and schools in their local communities, etc. Also, the conference provided the *Encounter Bible Curriculum* to all our schools at no cost to them and supported their spiritual initiatives. We see our schools as mission fields!

Mission

The mission of sharing God's love and the salvation in Christ permeates every strategy our conference envisions achieving. We have revised and adapted our Evangelism Funding Policy to our current needs; we directed funds toward the preaching of the gospel through evangelistic series and creative approaches to lead people to Christ. The conference has financially

and logistically supported all evangelism requests. A top-tier Zoom account for ministry purposes was acquired for all our pastors to access during these challenging times. We also maintained our pastors' mileage for creative ministry during the pandemic and allocated over \$610,000 in extra funding for our schools to help them handle the unpredicted costs associated with the health crisis. The conference has promoted and supported local and foreign mission trips during the last five years. Mission is the core of all we do!

Training

The fulfillment of the Great Commission can only happen with the involvement of our members. During this quinquennium the B.C. Conference promoted, sponsored, and supported all sorts of training/equipping of its members for mission. This includes church elders, treasurers, clerks, women's and men's ministries, evangelism, youth, family, local church leaders, as well as financial seminars and planned giving education. These training sessions have inspired and strengthened the commitment of our members for mission and service!

Youth

We value, encourage, and support our youth. Our summer camps are spiritual, vibrant, and blessed with youth-oriented programs and activities. New youth leaders are being trained through mission trips, Pathfinders, and Adventurers Programs. We also hired an assistant youth director to help equip our youth.

Thank you, SDACC, for your leadership and for supporting our conference. Above all, we thank God for His guiding hands at the B.C. Conference! 🙏

—Wesley Torres, president, British Columbia Conference



Manitoba-Saskatchewan pastoral retreat at Camp Whitesand in September 2021

As many will agree, the years following the last session in 2016 have been filled with challenges, blessings, and a great deal of change. We find ourselves living in a time of upheaval, but the Lord is good through it all. At the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference, we celebrate our accomplishments and join our brothers and sisters across Canada as we continue to adjust to the developments of a post-pandemic world.

The conference has seen slow but steady growth. Back in 2016, our conference celebrated a milestone with the addition of our 4,000th member. We have continued to welcome more since. Evangelism has taken place in various cities and towns across our territory. For the most part, these efforts were initiatives of our local churches and yielded somewhat mixed results. No matter what methods we use to engage in evangelistic work, these activities are a critical part of discipling men, women, boys, and girls to follow our Saviour.

The arrival of COVID-19 certainly had an enormous impact on our work and forced us to adapt to different strategies to carry out our mission. We have become more adept at using technology to connect with members and employees across our territory, and many of our churches are learning to use it for evangelism. In an effort to help churches with this goal, our board has voted on the Man-Sask Conference Equipment Assistance Program for Congregations, allocating \$275,000 to assist in the purchasing of required equipment and the training to use the equipment.

Our members have been faithfully giving to the Lord's work, both in finances and time, allowing us to continue moving forward with our mission. Through the help of Committee 101—a group of primarily laypersons in the conference—as well as Maranatha Volunteers International, Camp Whitesand has seen much improvement. We have built a new washroom

REPORT FROM MANITOBA-SASKATCHEWAN CONFERENCE

block as well as a large meeting and craft building called the Gwen Bader Learning Centre; replaced another meeting building; installed a new challenge course; and begun constructing two new four-plex cabins and a pumphouse, currently in progress.

Our schools have also seen much growth. Notably, in 2019, Red River Valley Junior Academy (RRVJA) became our conference's first senior academy. In 2021, its name changed to Prairie Central Adventist Academy, and it celebrated its first high school graduating class of six Grade 12 students. Our schools continue to see growth, and the search for more space has become both a challenge and a blessing!

The Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference has been through many challenges, but we can celebrate many accomplishments too. It is clear to us all that time is short. Jesus is coming again! Each one of us needs to take that seriously, or we run the risk of professing to love this message but being found wanting when the Lord returns. As we look to the future, we as a conference strive to become mission-driven—assessing whether or not every activity, initiative, or program is focused on accomplishing our mission. There is so much we can do if we are willing to surrender ourselves to Jesus and take freely of His Holy Spirit. By God's grace, let's do our part to hasten the return of Jesus! 🙌

—Charles Aguilar, president,
Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference



The prayer chapel at Camp Pugwash

REPORT FROM MARITIME CONFERENCE

Despite all the changes we have experienced, including the COVID-19 pandemic, God has continued to bless the Maritime Conference. Following is a statistical snapshot of our conference:

Spiritual Care

- 28 churches/companies
- 14 full- or part-time pastors
- A membership increase by 130 over the last five years
- Increased tithing since COVID-19

Education

Sandy Lake Academy

- Student enrolment at Sandy Lake Academy is on a steady increase, and we are up by 29 students.
- French is now offered from junior primary to Grade 9.
- Many grounds and building improvements were completed, including:
 - new gym flooring,
 - renovated bathrooms,
 - addition of new math classroom, and
 - new marked trails in the forest.

Precious Jewels Learning Centre

- A new Early Learning Centre has been added in Moncton to meet needs for early childhood education.

Camp Ministries

- 2017–2019: Camp Pugwash was instrumental in leading the attending campers to a closer relationship with Jesus.
- 2020: Due to COVID-19, the campground was closed.
- 2021: Our Camp Pugwash facility was closed. In place of that, we hired a team to help us turn summer camp into a day camp model, which appealed to the larger church districts that were interested in hosting the day camps for the week.

As you can see, God has been blessing our conference. We are looking forward to seeing Him lead us through the next five years. 🙌

—Dave Miller, president, Maritime Conference



Improvements at Camp Woody Acres

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador is pleased to present a report in pictures. 📷

—Ken Corkum, president, Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador

REPORT FROM NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR



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REPORT FROM ONTARIO CONFERENCE



Pastors and organizers from the 2019 Earth Day Summit

Ontario Conference's last six years have been a whirlwind of innovative initiatives, church growth, exciting acquisitions, and a pivot to pandemic ministry.

In 2016, our Strategic Planning Committee (administrators and directors) continued meeting weekly to clarify goals, objectives, and strategic initiatives. The Church Growth and Church Planting Committees also worked diligently.

Highlights included the first anniversary of our church for the blind, conference-wide seniors' clubs via Seniors' Ministry and an expanded Muslim Ministry. Over 100 volunteers were also certified in a collaborative Disaster Response Training with the Salvation Army and other non-profits.

In 2017, we celebrated 500 years of the Protestant Reformation. Additionally, our National Church Development (NCD) survey report reflected gains since 2013 in overall Church Health (46.9 to 50.7) and Passionate Spirituality (a 7-point increase).

The following year a Crisis Care Chaplaincy Training, run jointly with the NAD, certified 36 pastors. In addition, *Impacto Esperanza*, a Toronto-wide Hispanic evangelistic series, led scores to Christ.

Our 2019 strategic emphasis was discipleship. Accordingly, field secretaries were appointed to assist pastors and grow our leadership among pastors. Furthermore, our Ministries Convention equipped 800+ local church leaders for service.

Thousands attended our Earth Day Summit, a collaboration with Andrews, Burman, and Loma Linda Universities, and the Geoscience Research Institute affirming intelligent design. And the 25,000-square-foot Really Living Centre, our first Centre of Influence, uniquely ministering to the community, was dedicated.

In 2020, we underscored discipleship in action through Total Member Involvement. January's virtual

days of prayer and fasting steadied members' faith and commitment to ministry. We later dedicated the Cessna 185 aircraft for our ministry with Adventist World Aviation serving Northwestern Ontario's Indigenous population. Finally, our Board of Directors approved the purchase of a beautiful, 52-acre campmeeting and retreat property from Girl Guides of Canada.

Most significantly, we adapted to ministry in a COVID context. In April 2020, Ontario Conference hosted the Hope and Assurance series online. Support staff began calling and praying with members. A dedicated, toll-free prayer line was also established.

Recognizing our pastors' increased needs, we deployed directors to support them, eventually training directors as coaches. Churches also received funding for equipment to host online services. Finally, we crafted and signed a comprehensive Disaster Response Plan for Ontario with ADRA Canada.

In 2021, we hosted our first Virtual Campmeeting, Connecting Like Jesus, including a Ministries Convention featuring 55 training sessions; this event yielded 102,000 views. We concluded 2021 with a conference-wide worship convention for worship renewal.

I affirm our office team, pastors, teachers, and Bible instructors for their dedication, especially in unusual times. Special thanks to our members for their faithfulness, reflected in a continual tithe increase. Praise God for His blessings in Ontario! 🙌

—Mansfield Edwards, president, Ontario Conference



A small group from the South Stukely Church led three people to baptism: Julie Canuel, Rick Dingman, and Lucie Douville (not pictured). Gisèle Douville (centre) was happy to accompany them.

I would like to thank Kwasi Ansah Adu for his leadership as president of the Quebec Conference for the last five years. I also extend thanks to Abiola Arthur for her services as treasurer. In November 2020, she resigned for health reasons. Meks St-Fleur, the senior accountant, took a medical leave. Sadly, he passed away a few weeks later. A committee was set up to oversee the treasury function while we searched for a new treasurer. We thank the SDACC treasurer, Paul Musafili, for his assistance.

Membership

The conference membership increased from 8,103 in 2016 to 9,080 in 2021, despite the sharp decline in growth in 2020 that most likely occurred due to the pandemic. Many baptisms were put on hold because of the physical distancing restrictions. However, we praise the Lord for the total number of souls added.

Finances

Tithe increased from \$6,334,111 in 2016 to \$7,646,937 in 2021. Though the tithe amount for 2020 was the second-highest during the five-year period, it is the most remarkable. Given the threat the pandemic posed to the Canadian economy, we feared that tithes might drop by 25% by the end of 2020; however, our prediction turned out false. Donations picked up, and to our amazement, a 5.28% increase was recorded instead. We praise the Lord for His blessings.

Healthy Leadership

An annual officers' convention was held each January from 2016 to 2020. We used this time to equip new and existing church officers for effective service.

The conference introduced "Leadership Enrichment Seminars," designed to bring pastors and elders together for equipping team ministry.

Before the pandemic, pastors met once a quarter

REPORT FROM QUEBEC CONFERENCE

for seminars designed to help them develop competencies required for effective service. During the pandemic, we held these types of seminars more frequently to make sure pastors were equipped to meet the challenges introduced by the pandemic.

Outreach—*Il Est Écrit* and Christ's Method

Our church's *Il Est Écrit* (IEE) television programming and digital programs continue to reach many. Since the pandemic began, there has been a spike in the number of viewers and listeners interacting with these programs. To follow up and meet their need for connection and learning, IEE has launched many virtual small groups.

The Warwick church, South Stukely church, Oasis company, Quebec City church, Quebec City company, and Centre Bonne Nouvelle church in Montreal are making progress in their efforts to reach their communities. We commend our churches and companies for following Christ's method¹ to mingle in their communities in their own special way, meet their needs, and win souls for the Lord.

We praise God for new additions to our team—Marc Bouzy as executive secretary and Lucian Stefanescu as treasurer. Please pray for us as we develop strategies to reach everyone in our large territory. ✝

—Ngoy Kyala, president, Quebec Conference



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