


**See your gifts at work
in Alberta.**



2022/2023
Annual Impact Report
ALBERTA



We hope you know how thankful we are that you are part of the MCC community. Together we have been able to do some amazing work. Take some time to read these stories and see the important work that's made possible because of your support.

See your gifts at work in Alberta.

This year we watched prices rise around us, and we all had to make choices about how to adjust. We couldn't be more grateful that through it all you made the choice to keep giving so generously.

Your generosity is bringing more peace and restorative justice programs to families and local communities. It is providing a warm welcome to newcomers seeking a safe place to call home. It is working toward reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

We see the fruit of this work every day, and are so grateful for your support.

Thank you.

THANK YOU

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect upon the previous year's work of MCC Alberta, I want to thank you for your ongoing support for the work of relief, development, and peace we do here and around the world.

Last year was an unprecedented year. With wars in Ukraine and Ethiopia, famine in East Africa, and a major earthquake in Türkiye and Syria, the toll of human suffering is great. Add on over 100 million displaced persons and over 800 million facing food insecurity, the thought of discussing impact seems futile.

And yet, Jesus reminds us that the kingdom of God doesn't work the way we often think it should. The impact of God's kingdom is not revealed through large, grand acts to be viewed by all, but is made known like a mustard seed growing into a tree and yeast working its way through flour.

And so, while the challenges facing the world loom large, your acts of compassion, kindness, and mercy, give us much to celebrate! Thank you for making a kingdom impact in this world, whether through donating to a specific crisis, supporting the general budget, volunteering at one of our thrift stores, or visiting with newcomers or an ex-offender. The impact of your work, the social return on your investment, points to the work of Christ in the world. Thank you!



RYAN SIEMENS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC ALBERTA
RYANSIEMENS@MCCAB.CA



“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

— MATTHEW 13: 31-33 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV)

MCC ALBERTA WORKS IN TREATY TERRITORIES

In the spirit of respect and truth, we acknowledge and honour that our work is done on the lands of Treaties Six, Seven and Eight. These lands are the traditional home of the Cree, Dene, Inuit, Kainai, Metis, Piikani, Salteaux, Siksika, Stoney Nakoda and Tsuut'ina peoples.

We are grateful to be able to live, work and serve God the Creator here. As a Christian organization committed to right relationships and the Truth & Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, we acknowledge the harm done to the Indigenous peoples of these lands. As Treaty people, we strive towards reconciliation in our words and deeds.



Tolulope Babalola
Human Resources Director



Ross Bruinsma
Lethbridge Thrift Shop
Manager



Ala Camerzan
Financial Assistant



Linda Dickinson
Material Resources Coordinator



Joyce Doran
Director of Social Enterprise



Jessica Evans
Marketing and Communications
Coordinator



Sherry Galan
Edmonton Thrift Shop Manager



Ken Grahlman
Circles of Support and
Accountability Coordinator



Linda Guenther
Migration and Resettlement
Associate



Paula Guirguis
HR Generalist (SK/AB)



April Hauck
Calgary Thrift Shop Manager



Alex Heidebrecht
Development Coordinator



Jackie Karau
Migration & Resettlement
Coordinator



Judy Klassen
Services for Newcomers
Administrative Assistant



Susie Klassen
Services for Newcomers
Coordinator



José-Luis Moraga
Program Director



Dani Morrison
Community Engagement
Coordinator



Nettie Peters
Taber Thrift Shop Manager



Alex Scott
Constituency Relations
Associate



Diane Smith
Corporate Services Manager



Renn von Riesen
Director of Finance



Donita Wiebe-Neufeld
Church Engagement Coordinator

MCC ALBERTA 2022/2023 BOARD MEMBERS

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Christina Carpenter
Director

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Director

Timothy Burkholder
Secretary

Gary Friesen
Director

Donor Profile

Ron Esau is part of Wheels of Waterton, a group of cyclists who have been raising funds each year through GO!100. “We are just so happy to participate in GO!100 because it’s so good to mix what we love to do with a good cause. We have such a high regard for MCC, for the work that is raising up Jesus’ name. People know that they are giving to a good cause and it’s making a difference.”

Ron Esau and his team bike 100 km each year to raise funds through GO!100 .
(Photo courtesy of Ron Esau)



DEVELOPMENT



Because of your generosity, we are transforming lives.

“We are extremely excited to be here, and we find it to be really energizing that we are working together with MCC and CFGB and with you the donor on projects that are assisting with world hunger.”

BLAINE GATEZ - GROW HOPE FARMER

Development Highlights:

\$4,855,155

donated to MCC Alberta

8198

donations in Alberta

3360

personal connections with donors

239

first time gifts to MCC Alberta

Photo caption

MCC Alberta staff visit the Grow Hope field at the Gatez farm near Crossfield. (photo/ Dianne Smith)



**Grow
hope.**
Alberta



Connecting urban and rural communities.

Grow Hope is a partnership between MCC, Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Alberta farmers and donors. This program works to alleviate food insecurity for the 783 million people worldwide experiencing hunger.

Through the partnership, 325 acres were sponsored and \$310,911 was raised! Funds raised through the project may be matched up to 4:1 by the Canadian Government, multiplying the impact of every donation! Thank you to the Grow Hope farmers and the donors who partner with them!

A summer tradition of supporting MCC's work.

Once again, we are amazed at the generosity of our donors and their family and friends. This year we saw a total of 14 participants and teams who fenced, biked, read and rode their horse to raise \$111,150, including the \$50,000 match generously provided by the Flaman Foundation.

Thank you to the amazing participants for spending their time doing what they love for relief, development and peace.

INDIGENOUS NEIGHBOURS

Striving for reconciliation and healthier relationships is at the core of our work. Given the history of colonization, abuse, and discrimination against Indigenous Peoples, MCCA has been diligently working on seeking new connections, partnerships, and opportunities to foster respectful and restored relationships between our constituency and local Indigenous communities. Thank you for supporting MCCA reconciliation work!

SERVICES FOR NEWCOMERS

Thanks to translation services 197 individuals were able to access government financial and health care services. Online and in-person job boards were viewed a total of 1,467 times, increasing access to employment. Thank you for supporting those seeking referrals, housing and education for themselves and their families.

Program Highlights:

70

youth and young adults engaged in the work of MCC

132

passport applications through the Services for Newcomers office in Taber

50

individuals who arrived in Canada with the help of MCC

75%

average decreased re-offense rate for those who have a circle through CoSA, compared to those who do not

PROGRAM

Because of your love and support, a family has been reunited.

“I volunteer with CoSA so there are no more victims. After serving their time, offenders eventually become ex-offenders and I am proudly involved in making sure they don’t re-offend.”

TRACEY, COSA VOLUNTEER

Photo caption

Mannal Khashfa (left) and her son Ahmad (centre) welcome her brother Mahmoud (right), with an emotional embrace at the Calgary airport on June 17, 2022, after a long flight from Turkey, with his family. (photo/Sieman Aldib)



MIGRATION & RESETTLEMENT

MCC Alberta's Migration and Resettlement program was honoured to welcome 50 individuals from Afghanistan, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Syria to Calgary and Edmonton. With our donors' and sponsors' support, families were brought together again. Thank you to all of our sponsors for dedicating your time and money towards changing the lives of families fleeing instability and waiting for a fresh start.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Partnerships with educational institutions like Menno Simons, Ambrose University and Kings University continue to be a space for youth and young adult engagement. Over 70 youth were

reached during the 8 events that MCC Alberta participated in. Connections with partnering organizations gave us the opportunity to share about our local programming and international work.

CIRCLES OF SUPPORT & ACCOUNTABILITY

Circle volunteers supported 8 core members seeking to live responsible, productive, healthy lives. We celebrated a graduation and in September, MCC Alberta's CoSA program expanded to Edmonton. Thank you to our volunteers who gave 134 hours and our donors for supporting offenders on their journey to rebuild their lives.

MATERIAL RESOURCES



Your support brings relief in times of crisis.



“It’s a tangible way to help. I’m not good at public speaking, but I can sew quilts, kit bags, and as a bonus, it’s a nice social outing!”

IRENE BAERGEN,
MR VOLUNTEER

Photo caption

14 enthusiastic volunteers from Dalhousie Church fundraised to pack 300 hygiene kits and checked 125 more. (photo/Linda Dickinson)

MCC Alberta is thankful for the hours given to Material Resources from homes and churches across the province. More than 130 donors shared their time, skills, talents, and abilities through their gifts. In the Calgary Material Resources Centre, 124 volunteers gave over 559 hours of their time sorting supplies, packing items, and folding comforters for shipment.

More than 2376 nail clippers, 4390 bars of soap, and 12,069 notebooks made their way across Alberta to the Central Canadian Warehouse in Ontario. From there, these gifts of love were given to people in places like Zambia, Ukraine, and Jordan.

Material resources shipped last year:



656
Relief kits



2256
School kits



46
Infant care kits



1720
Hygiene kits



1712
Comforters

MCC THRIFT



Sharing the generosity of our donors with our local community and the world.

“Those who receive this card are very thankful. They are connected to the store, where they can return to make future affordable purchases.”

CHRISTA SANFORD,
LETHBRIDGE FAMILY SERVICES



The Edmonton Thrift Shop (ETS) and the Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA) have a unique partnership. IFSSA donors are encouraged to donate their used goods to ETS and in return, the shop has created a voucher system for their newcomer clients. The shop also has a dedicated modest fashion section and a donor experience that makes people feel welcome. (Photo courtesy of Sumaira Farooq, IFSSA)



The Lethbridge Thrift Shop works together with Lethbridge Family Services to support newcomers and Ukrainian evacuees. They offer gift cards to the agency who in turn give the cards to those needing to furnish their homes and purchase clothing for their families. We use gift cards to ensure anonymity for the recipients which allows for greater integrity and respect for the clients.

Photo caption

Amy Peters (left) and Darlene Rempel (Right) take a short break sorting through clothing donations at the Taber MCC Thrift Shop. (photo/Eunice Hau)

\$3.5

million in thrift revenue

66,189

volunteer hours

347

active volunteers

CHURCH CONNECTIONS

57 churches and communities working together to bring relief, development, and peace in the name of Christ.



“I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.”

— JOHN 15:5

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV)

Photo caption

People line up for verenyky, sausages and pie at the MCC Alberta Fall Festival. Over 350 attendees enjoyed the event. (photo/Jessica Evans)

PARTNERING WITH CHURCHES

There are 57 churches engaged with MCC Alberta, from High Level in the North, to Pincher Creek in the South. We are blessed to work alongside churches from our member conferences and beyond, who share a desire to follow Christ at home and around the world. MCC is an arm for relief, development, and peace in ways that reflect each congregation.

Our churches are widely engaged with MCC Alberta, donating finances, volunteering time, packing kits and sewing quilts, as well as responding to crisis, sponsoring newcomers and remaining up to date with MCC’s stories and programs.

CONNECTING POINTS

Engaging with our churches has been a joy and one of the highlights was being able to share MCC’s work through 19 speaking engagements in congregations. Other connections include over 169 personal phone calls or emails to church offices and leaders, attendance at 3 denominational AGM’s and 20 personalized reports sent to churches.

We were excited to have 4 in-person events including a Fall Festival at Bergthal Mennonite Church, a pastor’s breakfast event in both Calgary and Edmonton, and a Donor Appreciation event at Foothills Mennonite Church. We are so grateful for the dedication of our supporting churches and their members.

Financial Highlights

MCC Alberta saw its donors' generosity abound this year! Grow Hope more than doubled from last year, with contributions for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank increasing 41% year over year. Our donors responded with empathy to the conflict in Ukraine and instability in Syria raising \$658,463 for relief. We were excited to host the MCC Alberta Fall Festival which raised \$94,074 through an auction and meal. The 2023 fiscal year saw huge investments in Thrift with a renovation to the Taber Shop and the purchase of a second building to serve as a donation centre for our Lethbridge location. Thank you for your ongoing passion and generosity this year for the work of MCC.

TOTAL EXPENSES:
\$8,345,975

\$3,990,664

Forwarded to MCC Canada for International Programs

\$2,186,474

Thrift

\$943,716

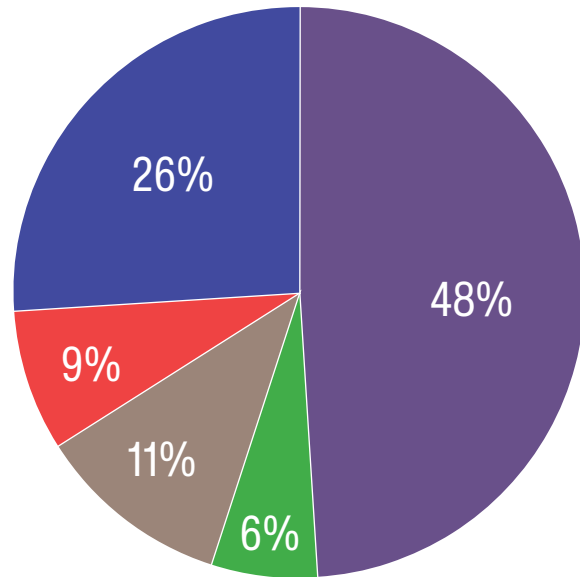
Administration

\$784,473

Development

\$440,648

Local Programs



TOTAL REVENUE:
\$8,706,840

Funding Sources

