



# DIVINE INFUSION

**36<sup>th</sup> EFCC**

**Central District Conference**

**October 3-4, 2019**

**Grace Evangelical Free Church**

**289 Court St N, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 4W4**



**Keynote Speaker**  
**Rev. Bill Taylor**

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Central District c/o 500 Lagimodière Blvd. Winnipeg, MB R2J 4J1

# CONFERENCE MANUAL



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36th EFCC Central District Conference



## WELCOME LETTER



Dear Family of the Churches of the Central District of the EFCC:

The 2019 Annual Conference of the EFCC Central District is at Grace Church in Thunder Bay. The Grace family is pleased that you will be joining in this celebration of our Lord's work across the Central District. This conference is a meeting of Christians from all parts of the Central District of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada. In addition, family from the National Office and National Board will worship and celebrate with us. We welcome each and every one!

On October 3rd and 4th, we desire to be "filled with the Holy Spirit" so that we can "lead by the Spirit". We will have "**Divine Infusion**"! Yes, this is the conference theme.

The conference is a wonderful opportunity to connect, be equipped and be rejuvenated. Infused! We encourage you to join pastors and church leaders from throughout the Evangelical Free Church of Canada Central District at this vital two-day gathering of ministry and encouragement.

At Grace EFC an enthusiastic Chinese Fellowship is forming. They are brothers and sisters who are zealous to learn more about the "I AM" who is our maker and our saviour. Please stay and enjoy the Friday evening banquet when we will worship with food, music and prayer with a bit of Chinese flair.

We look forward to hosting you in Thunder Bay in October 2019. May God bless you in the important work you do for our District!

If you require clarification of any of these details, please contact the Central District at: Email: [central.efcc@gmail.com](mailto:central.efcc@gmail.com).

Warmest regards,

Martin Lord  
Lead Pastor  
Grace Church

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## **BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

**October 4, 2019**

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
2. Meeting organization
  - a. Ratification of Credential Committee
  - b. Credential Committee Report
  - c. Ratification of Appointed Scrutineers
  - d. Privilege to Speak to Issues – Special guest(s)
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Report from Chairman of Central District Board
5. Report from District Superintendent
6. Board Recommendations
  - a. Financial Support for Iranian Church of Richmond Hill
  - b. Potential Church Plant in Newmarket
  - c. Bylaw Amendment re: Ratio of Lay-Persons to Pastor
7. Nominating Committee
  - a. Election of Board Members
  - b. Appointments to Nominating Committee
8. Finance
  - a. Auditors/Financial Report
    - i. Motion to approve the Financial Statements
    - ii. Motion to approve the Accounting Firm for 2019-2020
  - b. Proposed Budget – August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020
    - i. Motion to approve the Budget
  - c. Approval of expenditures – August 1, 2020 to Conference date 2020
9. 2020 District Conference
10. Business Meeting Minutes
  - a. Motion to allow the Board to approve the minutes from this business meeting and distribute them to member churches.
11. Expression of Thanks and Appreciation
12. Motion to Destroy Ballots
13. Other Business
14. Adjournment





# CONFERENCE DISCUSSION PROPOSALS

## Board Member Election

### Recommendation:

That Christopher Chung (English Pastor - Hallelujah Chinese Evangelical Free Church) to serve as a member of the CD Board.

3C's about Christopher Chung: Chinese by birth, Canadian by immigration, Christian by grace. Christopher is a Hakka Chinese born and raised in India. He grew up in a boarding school near the borders of Nepal. After high school, he lived in Taiwan for 6 years where he completed his undergraduate studies and then worked in a tech company. By the providence of God, Christopher had to leave Taiwan and come to Canada because of family immigration. It was during the period of waiting and transition from Taiwan to Canada,

God by His grace and through His Word revealed to Christopher that he is a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior. Since then, God in His grace and mercy, has blessed Christopher to graduate from Tyndale Seminary with a Masters of Divinity in Pastoral and Chinese Ministry, to be a servant in the English Ministry at Hallelujah Chinese Evangelical Free Church, to be a husband to his best friend, Angel, and to be a father to Isaiah, born in September 2018.



## 1000 Day Agenda

This document may be downloaded from [centralefcc.ca](http://centralefcc.ca). This document will provide a ministry plan for the next three years for the Central District.

**CONFERENCE  
DISCUSSION  
PROPOSALS  
CONTINUED ...**

**2019 – 2020 Budget**

The Proposed Budget for the Central District is found in this report book.

**Local Church – Central District Tie**

The EFCC will be presenting material on restructuring. The “big” discussion process and direction is explained in the following:

Next Steps in Formalizing the New EFCC National Structure

In May the EFCC delegates to the National Conference voted to implement a new Structure as an organization. The focus of the change was to link our National and District ministries by creating formal ties between the two organizations. Going forward, District Board Reps will serve on the EFCC National Board and District Superintendents will serve on the EFCC National Ministries Committee which gives direction to ministry across our Canadian context.

The next question is how to formalize the link by bringing clarity to who is responsible for what aspects of our ministry in the EFCC? Looking for answers to this question will be the focus of our time together. Marvin Penner serves as the chairman of the Governance Committee of the EFCC and George Budd is the chairman of the EFCC Board. They are working closely together

to bring clarity concerning the details of the structural change that will be presented for approval at our 2020 National Conference in Edmonton. They will be seeking your input during this time of discussion.

There is another level in the discussion, the relationship between district and local church. The matters are obviously related. The EFC



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discussions centering around autonomy, independence and cooperation have long been voiced. Entering into our EFC National discussion is the discussion that is even closer to home.

At our **Central District level “interdependence”** takes work because it requires an expansion of our local agendas. It does not happen “organically”, but “mechanically”; that is, it requires that we submit our local schedule to yet a larger one. The questions then become in what areas and to what degree we do this.

Currently, little is definitively laid out as to expectation of district to church and vice versa. The result is that our joint results are likewise minimal. Is it our desire to change this? Below are suggested “expectations” of a local church to the Central District.

### Yearly Expectations of a local church to the Central District

- *Attendance of pastors and church chairs at conferences (other delegates are most welcome)*
- *Attendance of Pastors at 2 Pastors’ Days (National or District)*
- *Giving one day of your people’s time to a Central District initiative / presentation (may just be one Sunday)*

The other half of the equation that the Central District leadership needs to hear is what is your local church’s expectation of the Central District. This deals with the question that is voiced, “What good is the district?” or “Why do we support the district.”

The Central District views itself as a connector. It coordinates ministries on behalf of and for the benefit of the local churches. Further, it will

*“Many churches of all persuasions are hiring research agencies to poll neighborhoods, asking what kind of church they prefer.*

*Then the local churches design themselves to fit the desires of the people.*

*True faith in God that demands selflessness is being replaced by trendy religion that serves the selfish. “*

— **Billy Graham**



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## CONFERENCE DISCUSSION PROPOSALS CONTINUED ...

*“The early church was strikingly different from the culture around it in this way – the pagan society was stingy with its money and promiscuous with its body. A pagan gave nobody their money and practically gave everybody their body. And the Christians came along and gave practically nobody their body and they gave practically everybody their money.”*

seek to raise extra monies to fund your local church’s ministries.

It is impossible for the Central District to be district work without physically getting the local churches together. This means time, money, and adjustment. It results in creating an identity bigger than our church. Yes, this sounds like denominationalism. Yes, denominations are going out of vogue. Yes, the polls tell us people do not care about the “big organization”. But it may be that we are following a self-fulfilling prophecy. Our desire is make the family important, and where there is family, good things happen when the Spirit of God moves. It is this that we seek.

Please add your input to the “Interdependence info sheet” at the conference.

### Biennial Conference

Are you in favor of having a full-blown conference once every two years (biennial)? There are three reasons to consider this change:

- Cost
- Time
- Draw in a new group of delegates

The Central District would still have a conference every year. One year would be solely a Central District conference. The next year the Central District would have a session (to do its required business) during the National Conference (which meets biennially).

The conferences could then be scheduled at the same time, yearly. Costs would be reduced every second year. If the conference is held during a more “family” conducive time, then we should have a better chance at drawing in the next generation. This would most likely mean a late June or a summer conference. Our financial year end could be adjusted to the new time frame.





The next couple of years would look like this:

- July 23 – 25, 2020 EFCC National Conference  
- Edmonton (Nisku)
- October, 2020 Central District Conference  
(final yearly conference)
- **New Time**, 2021 Central District Conference
- July, 2022 Central District Conference would occur  
during the National Conference

This proposal may require adjustment that is dependent on the Restructuring Proposal being presented at the 2020 EFC National Conference.

## Bylaw Amendment

Section 3, titled “Officers” (# 5) of the bylaws of the Central District states the following:

5. Three (3) Members without specific office: Members without specific office shall be elected by the Annual Meeting for a term of three years. These individuals shall be members of the Board of Directors and assume office at the adjournment of the Annual Meeting at which their election to office occurred.  
**Member-at-Large shall consist of two (2) lay persons from within Central District churches and one (1) pastor, currently serving a Central District church.**

An amendment is being proposed that will allow freedom on the ratio of lay-persons to pastor.



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*Solemnity is proper in church, but things that are proper in church are not necessarily proper outside, and vice versa. For example, I can say a prayer while washing my teeth, but that does not mean I should wash my teeth in church. — C. S. Lewis*

## Central District Board JOB DESCRIPTION

### Description

Central District Board Member

### Responsible to

The Central District Board

### Time Commitment

Minimum of 4 hours per month

### Meeting Venue

Online

### Position Overview

The Board of Directors is a working board responsible for the fulfillment of the mission and the achievement of the vision of the Central District of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada. The board gives oversight to the District Superintendent (DS), church planting and other ministries and initiatives of the district.

### Qualifications

- A growing relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
- A current regular attender of an Evangelical Free Church in the Central District as well as a supporter of the ministries of that local church. Reviewed annually.
- Known as a dedicated Christian leader, recommended and affirmed by their local church leadership. Reviewed annually.

- Known as a person of discernment, desiring to discover & accomplish God's purposes
- Expressed interest to see the District strong, healthy & effectively fruitful.
- Must have access to a computer with the operating requirements to attend online meetings.

### Responsibilities

- This is a 3 year term and is renewable for a second term.
- Assume office at the adjournment of the Annual Meeting at which the election to office occurred.
- Attend monthly meetings via internet meeting site. The Board normally meets 10 times per year (January to June; September to December) but additional meetings may be required.
- Meet once a year in person at the District Conference unless a special in person meeting is required.
- Any duties assigned by the board.
- Help plan and organize the district conference.
- Interact with local church bodies.

### Specific Duties of Officers

#### Chairman

- Preside over the meetings of the Board of Directors, the Annual Meeting and other specially called meetings of the District.





- Coordinate the functions of the District committees and have general oversight of the work of the District.
- Responsible to prepare the agenda for the Board of Directors meetings and recommend to the Board of Directors an agenda for the Annual Meeting.

### Vice Chairman

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- Shall act on behalf of the chairman in their absence or inability or refusal to serve.

### Secretary

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- Record the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings and the Annual Meeting. Keep records of all officers and committee members as to when their term expires, etc. and report same to the Annual Meeting.
- Be responsible for the publication and distribution of the minutes and, together with the Chairman, announce the time and place of the Annual Meeting and the Board of Directors meetings as well as provide advance agenda for these meetings.
- Keep copies of all official minutes, records and documents. Such records may be examined by any member of a church affiliated with the District.
- Oversee other publications that the board/DS deems beneficial for the District.

### Treasurer

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- Approves expenditures presented to the district and submits them to the book-keeper for payment.
- Reviews the monthly financial statements and presents those statements at the board meeting.
- Presents budget and audited financial statements to the District Conference.
- Liaison between the Board and the book-keeper on issues that may arise.

### Member-at-Large

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- Work responsibly towards the accomplishment of the purpose and objectives of the Central District.
- Administer the affairs of the Central District.
- Member-at-Large shall consist of two (2) lay persons from within Central District churches and one (1) pastor, currently serving a Central District church. As best as can be administered, the terms of each Member-at-Large shall conclude on a rotational basis.

*Most of us spend the first six days of each week sowing wild oats; then we go to church on Sunday and pray for a crop failure.*  
—Fred Allen



## Central District Budget 2019-2020

	Budget 2018-2019	PROPOSED 2019-2020
<b>Non-Received Income</b>		
Church Support	50,000.00	50,000.00
Conference	6,000.00	7,200.00
Admin Fee - Church Plants	2,500.00	-
Interest	475.00	550.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>58,975.00</b>	<b>57,750.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Mercy City Church	12,000.00	0.00
Automated Payroll Fees	500.00	500.00
Board Ministry Expenses - Non-Travel	500.00	500.00
Board Ministry Expenses - Travel	1,000.00	1,200.00
Church Ministry Resources / Training	2,000.00	6,500.00
Conference Expenses	5,500.00	6,500.00
District Superintendent Expenses - Non-Travel	1,600.00	2,500.00
District Superintendent Expenses - Travel	7,000.00	8,000.00
Eriksdale Property Expenses	3,500.00	3,500.00
Insurance	850.00	950.00
Interest & Bank Charges	100.00	100.00
Office Supplies/Postage/Filing Fees	600.00	300.00
Professional Fees	1,000.00	1,000.00
Qualified Donee Subsidies (Iranian Church)	4,500.00	6,000.00
Salary	23,608.00	24,232.00
Staff Benefits, Sirius, Employer CPP & EI	5,300.00	5,500.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>69,558.00</b>	<b>67,282.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-10,583.00</b>	<b>-9,532.00</b>





## 2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Central District of EFCC

### **GULENCHYN VERITY**

**Chartered Professional Accountants**  
62 Lindmere Drive Winnipeg, Manitoba R3P 2P7

#### Notice To Reader

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the balance sheet for the Central District of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada as at July 31, 2019 and the statement of operating activities and changes in fund balances for the year then ended.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

*Gulenchyn Verity*

Gulenchyn Verity  
Chartered Professional Accountants

Winnipeg, Canada  
September 4, 2019



**Central District of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As at July 31  
 (Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	2019	2018
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 81,064</b>	<b>\$ 92,628</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	581	543
GST receivable	81,645	93,171
<b>Capital Assets</b>	<b>47,563</b>	<b>47,563</b>
Land and building	\$ 129,208	\$ 140,734
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 657</b>	<b>\$ 648</b>
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	657	648
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Internally restricted	22,000	22,000
Church Planting	40,355	44,012
Ericksdale property	4,474	-
Youth Conference	-	12,328
Externally restricted	-	-
Mercy City Church	-	-
<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>61,722</b>	<b>61,746</b>
	128,551	140,086
	<b>\$ 129,208</b>	<b>\$ 140,734</b>





**Central District of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada**  
**Statement of Operating Activities and Changes in Fund Balances**  
 For the year ended July 31  
 (Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	General Fund	Church Planting	Mercy City Church	Youth Conference	Eriksdale Property	Total 2019	2018
<b>REVENUE</b>							
Undesignated contributions	\$ 60,623	\$ -	\$ 49,864	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 120,487	\$ 119,623
Designated contributions	6,331	-	-	-	-	6,331	-
Conference registrations	5,300	-	-	2,280	-	7,580	-
Administration fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,244
Interest	537	-	-	-	-	537	404
Other income	-	-	4,682	-	-	4,682	3,570
	72,791	-	54,546	12,280	-	139,617	125,841
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>							
Administration fees	481	-	763	-	-	1,244	2,709
Board expenses	1,329	-	-	-	-	1,329	381
Book initiative	6,331	-	-	-	-	6,331	-
Conference expenses	3,931	-	-	6,006	-	9,936	-
District superintendent expenses	1,449	-	-	-	-	1,449	-
Insurance	904	-	1,957	-	1,237	4,098	3,926
Interest & bank charges	60	-	-	-	-	60	443
Qualified donee	4,500	-	4,870	1,800	-	11,170	500
Office expense	480	-	-	-	-	480	540
Professional fees	672	-	-	-	-	672	729
Program expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,904
Property tax	-	-	-	-	82	82	-
Salaries & benefits	26,297	-	38,914	-	-	65,212	43,400
Rent	-	-	31,824	-	-	31,824	31,824
Travel - Board	589	-	-	-	-	589	4,064
Travel	7,278	-	-	-	-	7,278	2,725
Utilities	514	-	6,546	-	2,338	9,398	8,728
	54,815	-	84,874	7,806	3,657	151,152	101,873
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	17,976	-	(30,328)	4,474	(3,657)	(11,535)	23,968
Fund balances, beginning of year	61,746	22,000	12,328	-	44,012	140,086	116,118
Interfund transfers	(18,000)	-	18,000	-	-	-	-
<b>Fund balance, end of year</b>	\$ 61,722	\$ 22,000	\$ -	\$ 4,474	\$ 40,355	\$ 128,551	\$ 140,086
Unrestricted Funds	61,722	-	-	-	(7,208)	54,514	58,195
Restricted Funds	-	22,000	-	4,474	47,563	74,037	81,891
<b>Net Assets</b>	\$ 61,722	\$ 22,000	\$ -	\$ 4,474	\$ 40,355	\$ 128,551	\$ 140,086

## DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT



Rev. Ron Koleba  
District Superintendent

**T**he Central District theme, **DIVINE INFUSION**, highlights the well-known truth of the work of God in the Person of the Holy Spirit. Unless God builds we labor in vain. A preacher of another generation put it this way:

*"A church in the land without the Spirit is rather a curse than a blessing. If you have not the Spirit of God, Christian worker, remember that you stand in somebody else's way; you are a fruitless tree standing where a fruitful tree might grow."*

*-- Charles H. Spurgeon*

Yet, where the Holy Spirit moves life spills over our containment. The Spirit of God is alive, moving, working, redeeming and doing much. The promised third Person of the Trinity is present and, as usual, refuses to compromise His character or plans. He desires and does deliver life. To whom? Repeatedly, the answer is given in the opening chapters of the Bible's final book, "He who

has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

*The desire of this conference is to use our ears to hear what the Spirit says to the Central District churches.*

Just over one full year has passed since I have been privileged (sincerely) with serving in this position. Eva and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you, the members of our churches. Thank you for inviting us in, sharing a meal with us and allowing us to become a part of your church family. The learning curve has been steep. The experiences unique and good. We have travelled to places unknown to Goggle (or maybe it just feels that way). By the time this report becomes public, I will have personally connected with every church or one of its leaders.

May I reiterate, doing the work entailed in





this position has been very enjoyable. Please pray that God would give wisdom to do it well, humility in service, fresh insightfulness into His Word and the gracious boldness to speak the truth in love.

## Website

One of the steepest learning curves has been that of technology. Adapting to the cell-phone has had its moments. But the most challenging area of technology has been in our website development.

We are very grateful to Betty Dearth (Winnipeg) who developed our new website, freely giving her time to this task. The website may be accessed at [centralefcc.ca](http://centralefcc.ca). The Central District office (a one horse operation) is slowly learning the ropes of WordPress and is attempting to provide “the latest” of district events. There are still many features that are waiting to be mastered on this site, waiting until the administrator finds out how they work.

The website is our primary way of informing our churches of what is taking place in the Central District. Please forward us your local church happenings. God is accomplishing much through His people, but the good news needs to be shared.

## Book Initiative

The Central District has made a copy of the book, *THE ENEMY WITHIN* (Kris Lundgaard) available to almost each household. This is a fulfillment of the promise made last year that inviting churches would receive

this book. A copy should now be on most of your bookshelves.

## Intensive Church Follow Through

The Central District initiated the Intensive Church seminar in two locations this past year, Toronto (May 11) and Winnipeg (April 27). The targeted age group was 23-39. There were approximately 40 in each location. The presenters were Kirk Durston (Power of Change), Dan Nicholson (Leadership Catalyst EFCC) and the Central District superintendent. Each participant was given a seminar workbook, plus 3 extra published titles. This was made possible by a generous gift from an individual. (The promised email follow-up to Intensive Church has struggled.)

## Pastoral Care

An area that I will need to put more time into will be organized pastoral care. I have not had many “pastors’ days” or training sessions, though we have had get-togethers. These gatherings were adapted to location and time. We gathered with Pastor and Board Chairs in February in Toronto. Richard and Anita Leung did much of the ground work for that event. We were privileged to have the trio, “Three to One” sing (the group was made up of CD Chair, Dwight Martens, Bruce Christian, Chuck Peters and sound tech, Dennis Decker). Manitoba’s gathering took place in August at our home. Both gatherings had some 30 people in attendance.

Note that a varied format of “pastoral encouragement” is being suggested in the 1000 Day Agenda.

## Central District Board

Thanks to each of the members of our Board who have faithfully served. They have given of themselves monthly to interact with the matters of the agenda. Their input is valued. Thanks to Alicia White who has served as our treasurer. She has moved with her family to Kentucky where her husband is pursuing further graduate studies. A special thanks to our chairman who has exercised an open-door policy, provided excellent feedback as well as emergency assistance to an individual who “excels” in technological gadgetry. A further thanks to Winnipeg EFC which provides the Central District with the benefit of free photocopying as well as significant assistance in financial bookkeeping via David Cornish. These are valued gifts.

## Central District Conference

Thank you Grace EFC for your hosting of our 36th conference. Jim Taylor has served well in being our middle man for this event. To you, the workers at Grace EFC, we thank you for your willingness to adapt, serve and minister to our Central District delegates. Thanks to Joseph Yu (Hosanna) who has again put together this conference report.

## Mercy City Church

The Central District delegates were informed at our last conference of changes in our relationship with Mercy City Church in Toronto. Mercy City Church, under the leadership of Pastor Chris Yu, has moved from being a ministry of the Central District to that of the National. This should provide Mercy City

with increased exposure to our denomination as it seeks to move to being a training center as well as increase its support base.

## Pastoral Vacancies

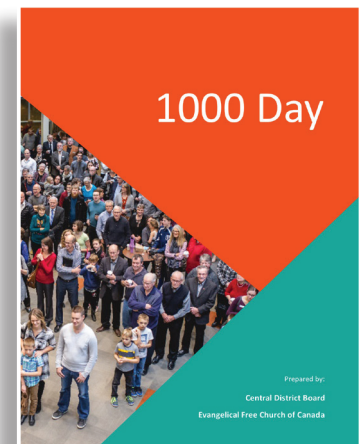
At the time of composing this report the CD has some 9 vacancies in pastoral positions. These vacancies occur in multi-staff as well as single staffed churches. There is an urgent need for pastoral leadership. A number of these spots will require a bi-vocational pastor. Please let us know of any potential pastors who may be willing to take on one of these ministries.

## Finances

Thank you for your generous support of the Central District. Again, we trust that your monies do not merely “pay the bills”, but bring added value to your church’s ministries.

## 1000 Day Agenda

This report is supplemented by another document called 1000 Day Agenda. This 3 year plan has been approved by the Central District Board. It lays out a path to future ministries between your local church and the district for 2019 - 2022.



*“The way to preserve the peace of the church is to preserve its purity.”* — Matthew Henry





**EFCC  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR  
REPORT**

**CENTRAL DISTRICT  
CONFERENCE  
2019**



**Bill Taylor**  
EFCC Executive Director

**G**reetings friends! We live in fascinating times. We have the privilege of following Jesus in a day when our neighbours do not share any of our assumptions about moral issues or truth. Cultural “Christendom” is dying and we may soon find ourselves in a situation much like the early church – where our beliefs put us at odds with some of what our culture embraces.

Lest I sound like I am complaining, please understand: *I believe that these are the best days to be the Church of Jesus Christ!* His Kingdom is still far more beautiful than anything this world offers us. Our enemy would love us to be discouraged or angry at recent developments, such as the Supreme Court decision on TWU’s proposed law school. Yet *I*

*am encouraged* as I read the Word that our God is Lord, He reigns and He promises that the gates of hell will not stand against the advance of His church. Our Lord still uses the weak and foolish things of this world to confound the wise. He is working in our country and around the world as we carry out our mission together.

I recently read *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory* by Todd Bolsinger. Bolsinger uses the experiences of Lewis and Clark as a metaphor for where the North American church currently finds itself.

Their mission was to find a water passage from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean. It was uncharted territory – off the map. They had no idea that half-way to their destination they would run into the Rocky Mountains. They could not canoe across the Rockies – they had to abandon old paradigms, tools and methods in order to complete their mission.

We find ourselves in a similar situation: the terrain before us is unlike the terrain behind. Leaders in this movement have been prayerfully considering how we can return to being an effective gospel-sharing, disciple-multiplying people. One thing is certain: doubling down on old ways of “doing church” will not be very mission-effective. I trust that we will become a people who pray more and who rely less on

what we think we know. As we move forward in recruiting, mobilizing, and equipping individuals and churches

for disciple-making, we will need the Holy Spirit to lead us.

*I am including reports from Dan Nicholson (EFCC Leadership Catalyst), Dwight Johnson (EFCC Stewardship Catalyst), Brad Jarvis (EFCC Communication Catalyst), Neil Bassingthwaight (National Mission Director), and Dave Penner (EFCCM Director) as part of my larger report.*

*Dave Penner is working on carrying out our mission internationally. His EFCCM report follows, and it includes our plans to organize in new ways to better support our missionaries to do gospel work on our behalf:*

### EFCCM DIRECTOR REPORT

*It is hard to believe that I have celebrated my sixth anniversary as the Director of the EFCCM. I know that the years go by faster as we get older – but in so many ways, I feel like I am only just getting to know all that is involved in leading this wonderful mission and the global efforts of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada to impact our nation and our world. The more I get to know, the more I realize that this will always be a growing challenge. We live in a world that is changing so rapidly we can hardly keep up.*

I visited our missionaries in Bolivia recently, in my role as the Transitional South America Area Director. As we sat in a Starbucks in a modern mall and watched the foot traffic going by we reflected on how a few years ago, one of our missionary friends told us that a good thing we could do for our missionaries was to send them a Sears

Catalogue just before Home Assignment, so they could get caught up on the changes in clothing styles in North America since they were last home. Except for the fact that every person walking past us was speaking Spanish, we might as well have been sitting in a Starbucks in Vancouver. Just the fact that we were in Starbucks,



and the styles of the clothing we saw made us realize how small the world has become. Truthfully, in Vancouver, we might not have heard much English either.

*As the world has changed, the mandate of the church has not.*

It might be more challenging, and in many ways more complicated, but ***the Great Commission and Great Commandment still stand.***

The job the Lord gave us is not yet done. There are still people who need to hear the Gospel so they can believe. They will not hear if we don't go and tell them.

The EFCCM is committed to serving our churches across Canada as they seek to be Great Commission churches. We want to recruit, mobilize, encourage and equip our people to be involved in impacting our world with the life transforming message of the Gospel.

I look back at the history of the EFCCM and thank God for every Director, the Director Team, the support staff in the office, and every

missionary who has served in the past. I believe the Lord has done great things through us for which He gets all the glory.

*As we move into the future we look forward to Him doing greater things.*

The past months have been marked by a lot of discussion about restructuring how the mission is led.

There will now be three managers working with me to set vision and to provide support for our front line workers. They will be a Manager of Recruitment & Mobilization, a Manager of Missionary Care, and a Manager of Personnel & Projects.

We are excited that Rich Peachey is returning to Home Office to be the Manager of Recruitment & Mobilization. He will be more intentional about building relationships with potential missionaries and recruiting to specific needs in the fields where we are currently serving, and looking for new opportunities to build our

team.

Lisa Beiderwieden continues in her role as Manager of Care, and is continuing to raise the bar on how we care for missionaries and their families, from deployment to retirement. It's a job that she cannot do alone, but in partnership with sending churches and drawing on all of resources, she has a heart to make sure everyone is cared for.

I am excited to announce Ike Agawin has accepted the position of Manager of Personnel & Projects for the EFCCM, beginning to serve in this capacity September 1.

Ike has had a full career in missionary service since 1985 serving with Operation Mobilization, Action International, and WEC. He has a well-rounded experience in many dimensions of missionary service, leadership and training.

He recently graduated from ACTS with a DMin. Ike and Trudy are committed to raising a portion of the cost of this position by building a support team. We are trusting the Lord for churches



and individuals to step forward to become part of their support team.

In each geographical region we will have Regional Ministry Facilitators who will be there to serve as coaches and mentors, as they encourage the missionaries on the ground to support each other and to have the greatest joy and success in the work to which God has called them.

We trust that these changes will give people at every level a greater sense of support and freedom to give themselves fully to the ministries they are involved with. We are anticipating that each of the former Area Directors will continue to serve their region in this new role.

*We are excited about the opportunities we have to be intentional about Evangelism and Discipleship.*

The **GOES initiative** continues to be one way to be involved. I'd be happy to talk to you and your church about how you could get involved.

We continue to see fruit from a GOES trip to Rwanda this past January, and look forward to trips to Uganda, Liberia and Rwanda, and possibly the Philippines in 2020. *If you would like to be part of such a trip please contact me directly.*

We are excited about the partnerships we enjoy in places where we don't currently have missionaries, like Cuba, Lebanon, and Rwanda. These afford great opportunities for churches to partner with others as they do the work of sharing the Gospel. *We would be happy to talk to you about how you could participate.*

I thank God for our front-line missionaries, many who have sacrificed much and taken risks to be in the places they serve.

One of our recent new missionaries described their decision as "empty-nesters" to go and serve with these words, *"From a human perspective this makes no sense at all – but from a Kingdom perspective, this makes all the sense in the world."* I would add, *"And in the world to come."*

I thank God for a very efficient and talented staff in the home office that take care of the "behind the scenes stuff" so the front-line workers can do their work. Together we can and are making the difference in the world for the Glory of God and the souls of men and women, and boys and girls.

The enemy continues to try to divide, distract, and discourage those who are truly committed to being Great Commission people.

*We know that ultimately the victory is ours in Christ.*

And to that end we will continue to pray for workers to join the harvest, even if it doesn't make sense. We will continue to share the challenge in our churches across Canada. Please invite me to come and share in your church. It is one of my greatest joys.

And we will continue to provide loving care and support to all of our missionaries, so they can pour out their lives in the service of Christ and His Church.



Please join us. Read the Annual Report and rejoice in what God is doing. Get to know our missionaries by reviewing the combined International & National Missionary Directory. Pray for our missionaries.

Write them letters of encouragement. Support our many projects financially. And *ask the Lord how you can be-*

*come more engaged* in the great task of joining God in what He is doing around the world.

I would be honored to come and serve you and your church as you continue to grow in your impact locally and globally in this great task of taking the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

prayer, etc.

More recently Steve Sharpe, the Missionary of Church Planting Development from the LPD, and I have developed *Revitalize Training*. We have taken this training on the road to places like Thunder Bay, Chilliwack, Vancouver, and Wembley, Alberta.

*This training really helps churches grapple through the disciple-making process for themselves.*

**A**s I noted earlier, Canada is a challenging mission field. Neil Bassingthwaighe mobilizes and coordinates our church planters, chaplains, and National Mission Team. Steve Sharpe and Neil have revised our Revitalize training, focusing it on disciple-making. I include Neil's report below:

## **EFCC NATIONAL MISSION DIRECTOR REPORT**

**W**hen people ask what national mission is, I reply, "We are the mission arm of the EFCC that works with EFCC districts and churches to assist them in evangelism, church planting, and developing new ministry opportunities in Canada". So where exactly has that led us lately?

*Revitalize* continues to be a key theme. We have rallied around this theme for several years now. Yet it continues to move us forward. The heart-beat of Revitalize has always been to grow as a gospel-sharing people. We have talk-

ed about ways that Revitalize becomes practical: personal renewal, more intentionality in our witness, deeper awareness of the Holy Spirit's work of providing opportunities for us to share, deeper dependence on God through

On the horizon next is the idea of story-telling. Repeatedly now we have heard that one of the key pieces that the EFCC can help in serving our churches is to help tell stories of what God is doing. We are trying to find ways that we can communicate well in doing this, and then help catalyze even more story telling across the EFCC.

*Church planting* efforts continue to be on going in Richmond, Burnaby, New Westminster, Williams Lake, Wembley, Winnipeg, and the

Toronto area. One of the big changes this past year has been a collaborative effort with the Central District, the EFCC, and Mercy City Church, to shift Mercy City from being a Central District church plant to being an EFCC mission project.

We believe this will help open up more opportunities for Mercy City in terms of fundraising and ministry opportunities. We also continue to see mission advance in other areas of Canada. Quebec has been on my radar for quite some time.

François Bergeron, a chalk art evangelist is a missionary working with us there. The EFCC Board of Directors has also voted to accept two Haitian churches in Montreal as new EFCC churches (this still needs to be ratified by conference). I continue to try to develop stronger ties with the ReachGlobal (EFCA) missionaries who form the Montreal team as well.

Currently I am working toward new ministry opportunities in Ottawa and Toronto. These ministry opportunities would be in partnership with

other evangelical organizations.

Working out the logistical details of these partnerships is a little complex at times. Please pray for wisdom and God's direction as we seek to influence our country with the Good News of Jesus.

Speaking of prayer, I am now the Interim Prayer and Spiritual Life Catalyst as well. Dave Acree very ably filled this position for a number of years. He fervently attempted to move us deeper towards

God's heart through efforts like Neighbour-Nudging Prayer. *Look Up Reach Out* continues to be a key prayer

initiative calling us to pray for our neighbours, and to become the people who will reach out to them. As we desire to enhance prayer across the EFCC family, one of the key questions we have asked is how well are we communicating prayer concerns? Are there better ways to inform people of the things that concern us? We do not have the answers to those kind of questions yet, but do thank you for some of the feedback that you have given us toward that end. We hope that it will lead us to be better at serving in you this area of prayer.

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**O**ur Statement of Faith starts by reminding us that the Evangelical Free Church of Canada is “an association of autonomous churches united in a common commitment to God’s evangel”. *We value autonomy, but we are also a voluntary “association”. We voluntarily collaborate in mission and in living out our shared identity/ethos. Growing this sense of family is a challenging part of what EFCC Home office does as we serve our missionaries, churches and pastors.*

I include Brad Jarvis’ Communication Catalyst report below:







## EFCC COMMUNICATIONS CATALYST REPORT

*In this season, EFCC Communications is a little more behind the scenes than usual. I want to explain that. But first...*

*I want to say that we are immensely grateful for the help of Dilan Bandara while Robin Lesser was on maternity leave – he did an especially great job adding unique production quality to the videos we made, and he kept us on track in other publications and media, too! And we’re also grateful that Robin has returned!*

Pretty much everywhere I look right now throughout the EFCC, there are important, strategic changes being implemented.

- Structure
- Building
- Education

It’s a little intimidating and even overwhelming trying to make sense of it all here, let alone figuring out how and when to share what information. This is a big part of the reason communications is behind the scenes. Home Office is currently working to make sure that our changes are sufficiently coordinated that presenting them makes sense, and that the changes are reflected accurately in all the supporting documentation, job descriptions and

manuals. With such a drastic level of change, there is a lot of dust to try to settle.

### Structure

In his report, Dave mentions the structure and staff changes that are being implemented currently in the EFCCM. Communications is supporting this, by seeking to ensure harmony between all the supporting documents, and to assist in making the changes as clear and well-coordinated as they can be. The angle that we’re particularly excited about as Communications is the story-telling angle. We look forward to working closely with the Manager of Missionary Care, the Manager of Personnel & Projects and the Manager of Recruitment & Mobilization

to get good stories of God’s love at work around the world.

We are also tracking with the structure discussions that are happening within the EFCC itself. Initiated at our Theology Conference, the EFCC as a whole is starting to talk about what changes we need to make nationally to be better suited to each carry out our ministry callings, wherever those take us.

The EFCC’s structure discussions will culminate in a proposal and vote at EFCC Conference 2020.

### Building

As Dwight touches upon in his report, Home Office has outgrown its physical capacity. Truthfully, we did that quite a while ago – our current count is 17 people hosted in 9 offices. It has become more obvious recently. We need a sufficient facility to support the various ministries of Home Office.

Building an addition onto the Fosmark Centre that Home Office currently occupies is both strategic and cost-effective. Our department is

supporting the building campaign with quality promotional material that explains our needs and opportunities, and also facilitate pledges and donations being given towards it.

## Education

Communication is also assisting with the new Lay Leader Training that is being coordinated by Home Office. This initiative addresses a need that has come to us

directly from people in the pew. They are asking for help in understanding what the Evangelical Free Church is all about, and where they fit into it. Communications is supporting this training project with promotional efforts, a clear registration process and a high-quality, consistent look to the presentations that will be made during its various sessions.

And if these big changes aren't enough, we're still

maintaining a bunch of the things that you're likely quite familiar with, like the World of Hope campaign and producing the EFCC's Annual Report you can read right after you're don't this one.

I continue to count it a privilege to serve you together with passionate, trusting and hopeful collaborators, eager to see what God has in store for all of us.



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*This year I read an old book by Henri Nouwen - In the Name of Jesus. Wow! Written in the 1980s, Nouwen prophetically exposed the temptations that Christian leaders encounter. It really is a must-read for every Christian - the call of our enemy for leaders to seek power, relevance, and a celebrity following is insidious. If we are to grow as a gospel-sharing, church-planting movement then we will need humble, Spirit-filled servant leaders - both lay leaders and pastors. This is why we are launching a new lay leader training initiative this fall. We will not succeed in our mission unless "all hands are on deck!"*

*Dan Nicholson is working with our District Superintendents and EFCCM leaders to develop servant leaders and healthy leadership teams. Dan is wrapping up his ministry with the EFCC at the end of December. However, I am excited that we are moving forward in an aggressive lay leader training initiative. Stay tuned for details! Additionally, Dan, Neil, myself, and the District Superintendents are meeting in September to coordinate how we coach and mentor new pastors, church planters and lay leaders across the movement. I include Dan's Leadership Catalyst report below:*



## EFCC LEADERSHIP CATALYST REPORT

*At the end of this year, I will complete 5 years of ministry as the EFCC Leadership Catalyst and I want to express my gratitude! My contact with our district superintendents, pastors and churches has been a stretching and an encouraging relationship. Thank you! June and I are unsure what the next chapter of our lives will be but we eagerly anticipate it.*

I recently watched a movie entitled *The Red Sea Diving Resort*. Mossad is part of the intelligence community of Israel and back in the early 1980s they acquired an abandoned diving resort in

Sudan. Their purpose was to provide a way of escape for Ethiopian Jews who wanted to get to Jerusalem. Thousands of these refugees were spirited out of Sudan using Israeli air and naval assets.

These were unknown people to the agents who organized and implemented the escape, but they were driven by a sense of loyalty to them as fellow Jews. As the story unfolded for me, I couldn't help but hope that this sense of loyalty and connectedness would grow among us in the Evangelical Free Church of Canada. That will be my ongoing prayer as I leave this position of leadership!



*Dwight Johnson often says that it takes two things for an organization to carry out God's vision: passionate leaders and resources. Thank you for partnering with us as we seek to grow churches, leaders and the family! We do not take your partnership for granted! In 2018, EFCC Home Office supported 85 missionary units and 150 churches and church plants, and processed over \$5,000,000 for mission. We have a fabulous Home Office Team that loves to serve our pastors, missionaries and churches.*

*Please pray for us! We are short of space in our Home Office suite. Three of our accounting staff sit at desks in the hallway. Two of our Catalysts share another desk in the hallway. Many of us are working one day per week at home so others can use our space. Please pray for our team and the Board of Directors as we secure the facilities we need to serve and support our churches and missionaries in their gospel sharing mission.*

*Dwight works hard in helping us connect to individuals and churches with giving. His report is below:*





## EFCC STEWARDSHIP CATALYST REPORT

**We continue to be thankful for the steady support of our churches. Over 75% support the ministries of the EFCC thru regular budget giving. And we're also grateful for the steady and growing support from individuals thru both *Partners in Ministry* and *Friends in Ministry*.**

Partners in Ministry contribute \$1000 or more yearly and Friends in Ministry contribute from \$1 to 999 a year. This support enables the work of the catalysts to move forward and also helps to fund the initiatives under the Growing 3: Growing Family, Growing Leaders and Growing Churches. We encourage each of you to consider partnering with us, which will help us even more towards fulfilling this mandate.

We also continue to be grateful for our partnership with *Abundance Canada*. They want to and look forward to helping everyone in our churches in the strategic areas of gift and estate planning. They have been well received and appreciated in each church who have utilized their services. Please take advantage of this tremendous opportunity available free of charge to all our

churches. Learn more at their website: [www.abundance.ca](http://www.abundance.ca).

I also want to remind you of another great opportunity, and that is the Albert J Bergsma Legacy Fund. This is an endowment fund, and it will help fund the assessment, training and coaching of church planters. Gifts may be made to this fund at any time, and it is also a great consideration to include in your will.

A new project which will take a major part of our time this fall is meeting with specific individuals regarding funding a new EFCC office addition to the Fosmark Centre, located on the TWU campus. Current office space is extremely limited. More space is urgently needed to effectively carry out all the duties of running the national office. I ask you to pray for Bill Taylor and me in this very important task ahead of us.

Thank you for your support, encouragement and prayers. We exist to serve you.

*It is such a privilege to visit you and your churches. It is also a blessing to have our office on the campus of Trinity Western University. This has been an exciting and challenging year to serve on the TWU Board of Governors, as Vice Chair on the ACTS Board, and as member of the Trinity Western Seminary Board. Enrollment is at an all-time high at TWU. TWU built another new five-story dorm – it is already full of students! In 2020, there are plans for a new School of Business and Economics. All of this is happening in the context of the recent Supreme Court decision against TWU!*

*Bob Kubn ably led Trinity Western University and has now*



*moved on to his next stage of ministry. Please pray for our new president Dr. Mark Husbands and his team as they lead TWU in fulfilling its mission of making godly Christian leaders for the marketplaces of life. Guy Saffold has ably led ACTS for the past few years. He also retired this spring. Ryan Klassen is the new Executive Director of ACTS. Please pray for Ryan as he leads ACTS forward in equipping kingdom workers for our Lord.*

*It is a great time to be the church of Jesus Christ, to spread His light and love! Please pray that we grow as a Spirit-led people who share the gospel, see Him transform lives, and plant churches for His glory.*

*Serving with you,*

*Bill Taylor*



## **CONFERENCE NOTES**

Lined area for taking notes, featuring a spiral binding on the left side.



## CONFERENCE NOTES

Lined area for taking notes, featuring horizontal blue lines and a vertical spiral binding on the left side.

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**2018-2019  
CENTRAL  
DISTRICTS  
BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS**



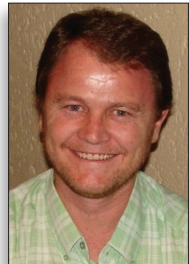
Chairman  
**Dwight Martens**



Member-at-large  
**Edgar Mirador**



Secretary  
**Natasha Friesen**



Member-at-large  
**Martin Lord**



Treasurer  
**Alicia Whyte**



Member-at-large  
**Jim Taylor**

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY (October 3)	
9:00 am	<b>Registration</b>
9:15 am	<b>Bible Session – Divine Infusion</b> <i>The Spirit and Passionate Witness</i>
10:45 am	<b>1000 Day Agenda Presentation</b>
11:45 am	<b>Introductions and EFCC National Report</b>
12:30 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:30 pm	<b>EFCC Structural Change Proposal</b>
3:15 pm	<b>Biennial Conference Proposal</b>
5:30 pm	<b>SUPPER &amp; EVENING GATHERING</b>
FRIDAY (October 4)	
9:00 am	<b>Bible Session – Divine Infusion</b> <i>The Spirit and Power-full living</i>
10:15 am	<b>Church Updates</b>
11:00 am	<b>Business Session</b>
12:00 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:00 pm	<b>Business Session</b>
2:00 pm	<b>Seminars</b>
3:00 pm	<b>Seminars</b>
4:15 pm	<b>Church Updates &amp; Prayer Session</b>
5:30 pm	<b>BANQUET</b>