



Community of Christ in Canada

Canada Corporation Board Update

March 2025

The Board of Directors of the Canada Corporation of Community of Christ met on March 18, 2025, with a spirit of collaboration and shared purpose. Our discussions reflected both the care and dedication of those who serve on the Board and the deep commitment to strengthening the church's presence and mission in Canada.

Board members, including world church leaders and Canadian volunteers, gathered with guests Ron Rowbottom and Shannon McAdam.

Key Highlights from Our Meeting

Strategic Planning & Mission Centre Development

The Board received updates on our strategic plan, focusing on aligning staff with our priorities. We are working with a human resources consultant to develop position descriptions as we prepare to hire a Camping and Campgrounds Director, followed by a Leadership Development and Congregation Support Director. Other roles will be refined to better support our strategic plan.

Vonda DenBoer and Shannon McAdam reported on the progress of the All Canada Mission Centre Design Team, highlighting the significant number of volunteers from across Canada participating in the process. They shared that the work is being shaped by a spirit of curiosity and collaboration. Subcommittees are engaging deeply with different aspects of the transition, with initial recommendations expected in April and a draft proposal anticipated by June.

Financial Stewardship & Global Support

Scott Murphy presented fourth-quarter 2024 reports on our financial support of church efforts in Zambia and the Philippines, which the Board reviewed and accepted.

One key development was the approval of an amendment to the 2025 Worldwide Mission Budget, reallocating some funding from translation work to support mission initiatives within Canada. This shift ensures that resources are directed toward vital mission opportunities.

Strengthening Operations & Services

Sam Smalldon, Executive Director of the Corporation, also highlighted key activities, including preparations for the 2024 audit, updates to banking and investment authorities, and support for mission-aligned partners.

A particularly joyful moment was the approval of a grant to World Accord to assist in their strategic planning efforts. The Board expressed gratitude for the opportunity to support this work, which will strengthen World Accord's ability to serve communities in need.

The Board also acknowledged our support for sustainability reviews for campgrounds, which are deeply valued by many Canadians. Sam emphasized that Community of Christ in Canada is ready to provide additional support to congregations with clear and compelling mission plans.

Business Services & Bylaws Review

The Business Services Committee, led by Ron Rowbottom, continues to make strong progress, having completed 60% of identified action items. Key updates included insurance negotiations, ongoing challenges in securing liability and abuse coverage, and the formation of a committee to expand the Certified Youth Worker program in Canada. This expansion aims to align more fully with Canadian best practices for those serving the entire vulnerable persons sector.

Recognizing the evolving needs of the church, the Board also established a Bylaw Review Committee to ensure our governance structures remain effective and aligned with our mission.

Looking Ahead

With a strong focus on governance, sustainability, and mission, the Board remains committed to ensuring the necessary support for all those working to foster a vibrant and faithful presence for Community of Christ in Canada.

We look forward to gathering again on May 20, 2025, as we continue this important work together.

Thank you for your prayers and support as we move forward in faith and community.