

## Board of Management Report

We are truly thankful to God for His goodness to our Conference during the past year. Despite a year of continued financial difficulty for the agricultural sector of our constituency, we were able to end the year with a surplus of \$8500. Although total contributions from churches did not reach the income targeted last March, our total Conference expenses were also lower than predicted, allowing for the surplus.

This past year has also seen a number of changes.

- First, we saw long time chairman, Ross Hardy, step aside after 7 years of dedicated service. Thank you Ross for your wisdom and leadership. Carl Redekop has also completed his maximum term on the Board. Thanks to Carl for his participation.
- Second, we saw Prairie Winds Church take over more responsibility for their day to day administration. It has been a blessing to observe the growth and maturity of this newly planted congregation in Moose Jaw.
- Third, we experienced a loss when the Warman Mennonite Brethren Church congregation made the decision to cease meeting together as of December 19. This is a time of grieving for the Conference and a time for property wind-down for the Board of Management. The Warman building has been leased to a Pentecostal group who are interested in purchasing in the future.
- Fourth, the Board has designed a new funding method for major Conference initiatives such as Church Planting and Leadership Development. The new funding method helps to flatten out budget spikes from year to year as well as put our reserve funds to better use.
- Fifth, the Board of Management was asked to join the task force set up to launch the latest West Portal church plant. The SK MB Conference is again partnering financially with West Portal to see this project through to completion.

As reported over the past several years, the Board of Management is continuing its investigation into obtaining blanket general and liability insurance for all Conference churches and Bible Camps. This project is still ongoing. We have been working with Forest Grove Church and West Portal Church to draw up and enact a Safe Church Policy that would be available to all churches within the Conference. Since the last convention, two draft policy documents have been reviewed by a lawyer and will soon be ready to be put before a broker for preparation of an insurance proposal. The end is getting nearer for this project.

The upcoming year will undoubtedly hold many trials and blessings as we work through the plans that have already been put in motion. We solicit your prayers for guidance and wisdom as we continue with our duties. We also solicit your continued financial support of the budget we are proposing for 2005. *You will note that the levy has been lowered to \$55 per member in response to a lower target income requirement to support lower overall budget expenditures. This levy is not inflated to account for any groups not participating fully. It is an actual representation of the per member participation needed to fulfill our goals this coming year.*

Personally I want to thank my Board members for their support, advice and sometimes correction where actions should have been different. My thanks go also to Pat Dergousoff for his dedicated service as our Secretary Treasurer. Pat has been very busy this past year taking care of the financial reporting not only for the Conference but also for Prairie Winds Church.

Board of Management Recommendations:

1. To accept the Financial Statements for 2004
2. To accept the Auditors Report for 2004
3. To accept the 2005 Budget as presented
4. To accept the suggested Conference norm of \$55.00 for 2005
5. To accept the proposed Funding Formula

Humbly Submitted as His Servant

Maurice van Nes, Chairman

Members: Bob Beesely, Carl Redekop, Ross Hardy, Todd Hardy, Albert Klassen,  
Derek Oatway