

CANADIAN MENNONITE BRETHREN CONFERENCE — REACHING OUT

To impact the lost in Canada and beyond by ongoing church planting efforts
To help churches reach their redemptive potential

History of Church Planting for Mennonite Brethren in Canada

Prior to 1950
Church Planting by colonization

1950—1970
Home Missions through Sunday school and Inner City Missions

1970—1990
Church Planting in all provinces with special emphasis in Quebec and Atlantic Canada.

1990—2000
A substantial increase in church planting, especially in BC with about 40 churches being planted.

The launch of the national Key Cities Initiative

The “science” of church planting matures throughout Canada and the USA

2000—2010
A vision to increase the number of churches by 5% annually through churches planting churches and the Key Cities Initiative

THE VISION

The Key Cities Initiative (KCI) is intended to help launch a church planting movement in locations where Mennonite Brethren have a fewer number of churches. The intent is that it “kick-start” a movement and is not seen as a project with an end in mind. For example “Mission Calgary” has graduated to “Mission Alberta” and continues beyond 2003.

A ten-year strategic plan has been implemented to focus the resources of churches across Canada through church planting on one Key City / Province in each two-year period (1998 – 2008).

KCI reflects a commitment to rally the resources of churches and individuals across Canada in “national sized” church planting ventures.

THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- A joint national-provincial initiative
- Reaching the unchurched in our cities
- Planting reproducing churches
- Focusing the resources of churches across Canada
- Cooperating with other denominations

Nothing refreshes a denomination or changes the DNA of a denomination like church planting.

THE PLAN (10 year)

- Mission Calgary** (1998—2003)
- a vision to “plant 10 churches in 5 years”
 - currently 8 new churches planted.
- Love Toronto** (2000—2005)
- a vision to “plant 5 reproducing churches in 5 years”
 - currently 5 church plants in process
- Rendez-vous Montreal** (2002—2007)
- a “new vision for church planting for Quebec”
 - three church plants underway, plus two church planting interns

“Ignite Vancouver” (2004—2009)

- a vision to “go back to the city”
- one church planter approved, four projects under consideration

KEY CITY #5 (2006—2011)

- exploring a dual focus in Saskatchewan and Manitoba

Note: A new KCI is begun when a provincial conference invites the Canadian Conference into a partnership.

BEYOND 2006

A vision to mobilize churches to multiply through:

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|-------------------|---------------------|
| daughter churches | additional services |
| satellite sites | new outreaches |
| organic church | etc. |