

**MCC Saskatchewan Report to the  
Saskatchewan Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches  
March 2007**



**(A Christian Resource For Meeting Human Need)**

- 1. MCC Saskatchewan Annual General Meeting** - The November 2006 MCCA AGM was held in Forest Grove Community Church, Saskatoon. Don Peters very ably represented the international work of MCC as well as the activity of MCC Canada. Highlights were the Stoney Knoll, Chalo and Kids Club presentations. 11 Delegate/Board workshops enabled the Board to hear directly from constituents on a variety of issues: Interfaith Bridgebuilding, Human Resources, the MCC Centre in Saskatoon, and future direction setting concerns. Programme workshops were also well attended. John Elias was re-elected for a second term as MCCA Board Chairperson! Strong affirmation was expressed for the leadership he has given in the past years.
- 2. 2005/2006 Finances** - MCCA was able to meet its financial commitments in the past fiscal year. In the process it drew down its reserves from a 6 month to a 4 month operating level in line with the new Red River Accord guidelines. In the past several years the Board has encouraged a 10-15% increase in revenue projections. While we have not always been able to fully meet those expectations, overall revenue generation has increased. We are projecting a 15% increase in the 2006/2007 fiscal year and developing a strategic plan to meet those ends. We invite you as churches to continue making this local & global ministry possible.
- 3. Interfaith Bridgebuilding** - We are engaging in a year long discussion of this key initiative with our supporting constituency. Conversations have been held with conference leadership, the focus of an October 2006 Pastors workshop (35) and the annual Pastors and Church Leaders Workshops (35) in conjunction with the AGM. These have provided good interaction/discussion. In general we are sensing a lot of support for this initiative. For more information contact MCCA and/or the MCC website [www.mcc.org](http://www.mcc.org)
- 4. Strategic Planning** - In the coming year MCCA will be engaging in a new annual strategic planning process. Staff/Constellation & Programme assessments will be done Feb-March. The results of this exercise will feed into the planning process. A Board & Staff Consultation will be held in March to focus on programme plans for the 2007/2008 fiscal year. By June both revenue and expenditure budgets will essentially be in place based on the previous set of discussions. The MCC's in Canada 'Collaborative Planning Framework' (for copies of this contact the MCCA office) will be the basis for the planning exercises.

**7. MCC Centre** - The MCC Centre continues to be fully utilized. It has been exciting to see how the broader community has come into our space and engaged with the work and vision of MCC. In addition to Ten Thousand Villages, renters include: Bethany College, Mennonite Foundation, Saskatoon Community Chaplaincy, Prairie Centre for Ecumenism, Made Just For You (food services), and Heifer International (Canada). The Wednesday lunches continue to draw 50-85 people on a regular basis.

**8. Youth and Young Adult Initiatives** - There is a lot of activity in this sector. Chalo (an urban plunge event), Kids Club (Appleby Drive, S'toon), Bethany College Internships, Interactions with students from Rosthern Junior College and Bethany College, Church and School groups and other engagement with youth fill the MCC Centre and engage a lot of programme work. We can no longer say that youth are not significantly engaged in the work of MCC.

**9. Robb Davis Resignation** - The unexpected resignation of our Bi-national Executive Director not only sent shock waves throughout our system; it highlighted the interconnectedness of all parts of MCC and caused us to name clearly what our expectations were from one another. In January of this year representation from all sectors of the organization met in Akron, PA to account for the issues that lead to the resignation, to identify the key challenges facing the organization, to build commitment to address those challenges and begin to strategize a way forward. Bert Lobe, with good Saskatchewan roots, has been named as MCC Bi-national Interim Director for the next year.

**10. Support invited** – More than ever MCC needs your prayer, volunteer and financial support. The global HIV/AIDS crisis, Humanitarian needs in Darfur, Sudan, Relief supplies in many emergency situations, to name just a few realities, cause untold suffering and pain. Compassion and resource sharing are called for to address these situations and to help others find hope. Refugee settlement, Aboriginal Neighbours and Restorative Justice issues in our own backyards are opportunity for the church to engage its vision of healing, hope and restoration and rebuild relationships that have been broken.

Submitted by B. W. Baerg  
MCCS Executive Director