

In the loop...

Highlights from the Sept 29 - Oct 1, 2014 DEXCOM meetings held in Calgary

Scripture and Prayer

A significant time was spent in scripture and prayer, centering around the voice of the shepherd described in John, and considering the question, "What is the voice of the Shepherd saying to us as a DEXCOM, and to our District?"

On site visits

A good portion of our meeting time was mobile as we visited ministry sites, heard stories of how God is working, and prayed with our staff at the following locations.

Monday evening:

At Encompass Partnerships... We enjoyed a tour and supper at the newly opened facility of Encompass Partnerships. Harvey Matchullis shared the vision of Encompass, and we heard from pastors of three of the four intercultural churches that now use the facility for their weekend services.

El Encuentro — Pastor Manuel Morales (and Amparo), Youth Pastor Rachel Schroeder-Tabah
Calgary Punjabi Alliance Church — Pastor Balwant Bedi (and Harmandeep)
New Covenant Alliance — Pastor Angelo Rino

Tuesday afternoon:

- *Southview Alliance building location in South Calgary:*
Senior Leader, Stan Wiens shared the journey of the congregation in finding a suitable location for new facilities. As we met, they were awaiting to be placed on the City agenda for the meeting that would give them the green light to start their construction. The day following our meetings we were delighted to hear they had been granted a place on the agenda. Praise God for answered prayer!
- *Langdon Alliance:*
Pastor Chris Haggith told us about the development of this church plant, and we viewed a few potential building location.
- *North Point Community:*
Pastor Ric Strangway shared about the development of the congregation, and we viewed land they owned that may in the future be used for a building location.
- *Footlhills Alliance:*
Rick & Patty Love gave us a very informative update on the intercultural ministries they direct under the banner "Love New Canadians." Over the past eight years they have developed settlement, transitional, and spiritual programming for New Canadians, and the fruit of their ministry is seen in that over the past eight years the visible minority attendees at weekend services has grown from 11% to 24%
- *Rockpointe Bearspaw Site:*
Wayne Heth and Brent Trask described the development of this ministry location and background land donation for a community firehall.
- *Capstone Church:*
Pastor Kyle Harnett shared about this church plant in the Westbrook region of Calgary, which meets in the facilities of Jubilation Dinner Theatre.

Tuesday Evening:

Ambrose University - We had supper at Ambrose University, with President Gordon Smith, who updated us on the plans, numerical growth, and spiritual development at Ambrose.

Highlights

In short, we are on mission, experiencing good to strong movement on our vision and the individual chosen action plans to get us there!

- We continue to monitor the statistical trends and are pleased to report that weekend attendance and baptisms are on the rise across our district.
- We affirmed our strategic plan and that the current focus areas are those we should continue to pursue over the next two years.
- We look forward to a significant time of encouragement and spiritual renewal for our workers at Prayer Retreat, taking place at Lake Louise November 3 – 6.
- We are extremely grateful that General Assembly 2014 was rich with a sense of God's presence. It is our desire that more official workers and lay delegates participate in this significant family gathering. FYI - Assembly 2016 is May 31 - June 5, 2016 in Vancouver.
- We remind our workers that subsidy is available to enable our official workers to connect with our International Workers on site. You can find the "[Missions Experience Subsidy Application](#)" on the District website under Resources.
- DEXCOM received the report of a stakeholder 360^o evaluation of the District Superintendent over his first three years of service. We affirm the findings that commend Brent on his excellent leadership, and are grateful that he is allowing his name to stand for re-election next spring. The results of this review will also be given to the nominating committee for District Conference 2015.
- District Conference in 2015 will be held in a decentralized format, with five locations between April 27th and May 9th. The locations, format and pricing are intended to encourage greater lay participation.
- We heartily embrace the efforts of re-engaging both licensed workers and lay leaders with deeper life/Holy Spirit experiences, and the developing strategy that will increase Holy Spirit emphasis at existing district events, and the new provision Holy Spirit Encounter retreats.

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