

In the loop...

Highlights from the April 7-9, 2014 DEXCOM meetings held in Fort McMurray

Nehemiah Experience

Nehemiah walked the walls and toured the gates of Jerusalem as he pondered the work God wanted to do in that city. In preparation for our meetings in Fort McMurray, Dexcom members read through the account of Nehemiah 1 & 2; then we too toured the walls and gates of a great city.

- *The prosperity gate:* Suncor, one of the oil sands production plants, provided us with an extensive tour of their operation. And as we travelled, there was construction everywhere!
- *The population gate:* Pastor Doug Doyle led us on a tour of the city and surrounding area including Fort McKay first nations settlement, the extensive McDonald Island recreational facility, and Athabasca Lodge, a camp which houses 2,000 of the 40,000 non-resident workers in the area.
- *The prophetic gate:* Our meetings were hosted by two of our works in the area, Fort McMurray Alliance Church, and Native Christian Fellowship. While at those facilities we were able to visit with lay leaders, and hear Pastor Doug Doyle and Pastor Clay Hilton share their heart for their community and congregation. It was our privilege to hear their vision and to uphold them in prayer.

Dexcom met in Fort McMurray to understand what God may be up to in this city, and to foster a heart of prayer for this significant population that has such an impact on all the communities in our province. We came away with a fresh appreciation for our congregations and workers there, and with a greater burden for the challenges and opportunities of this populous area.

The tour took a significant portion of our time together, but even with the compressed schedule we were able to review the ongoing business of the District.

Reviewed Strategic Plan and Vision Focus Areas

Affirmed the progress being made in the 10 Key Focus areas of the District Strategic Plan.

National Integrated Renewal Process

Dexcom is encouraged by Brent's report that the season of spiritual, relational and structural renewal is gaining operational traction through regular meetings of all levels of the Global Leadership team. They have crafted a Legacy statement, identified four major outcome areas, and have appointed teams to lead each area. Brent Trask has been appointed as Chair of the team bringing focus to the outcome area of Alliance Ethos and Health.

Transformational Learning Communities

This equipping experience for pastor and lay leaders will be held in five locations around the province from May 21 to May 29, focusing on the theme *Seek and Save*.

District Staff Reports

Dexcom reviewed the reports of district staff on Church Multiplication, Leadership development, and Global Ministries.

General Assembly 2014

Registration is now open, and you can register [here](#). Dexcom wants you to be aware that, in keeping with our desire to elevate the participation of lay leadership in our governance, the district is providing funding to assist churches in sending Elders to Assembly. Also, be aware a few months before assembly the *Commission on Unity in the Context of Theological Diversity* will be distributing a proposal for Assembly to consider.

Prayer Retreat,

Our move upstream to Chateau Lake Louise was well received; we enjoyed the improved capacity and meeting space, and had a record high attendance of 577.

District Conference Decentralization

Decentralizing District conference in 2013 allowed far greater participation of lay leadership. Dexcom approved a motion that District Conference 2015 be held in multiple locations, and a process whereby election can take place in a decentralized conference.

Approvals of Building Projects and Church Bylaw Changes.

Dexcom reviewed matters that had been approved, by email ballots, officers, or committees since our last meeting.

Serving on your behalf,

DEXCOM MEMBERS:

Calvin Andringa, Senior Pastor, Tofield Alliance Church, calvin.tofalliance@telus.net

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The WCD presents a 5-location TLC Tour:

SEEK + SAVE = RETHINKING EVANGELISM

Register Online: BIT.LY/TLC2014 Revised Dates

Edmonton	Innisfail	Grande Prairie	Vermilion	Calgary
May 21	May 22	May 27	May 28	May 29

