



Youth for Christ
Youth Unlimited™

2020

ANNUAL REPORT

YOUTH FOR CHRIST CANADA

Celebrating 75 Years



LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Youth for Christ,

Thank you for your continued support and partnership over the past year. Because of your faithful support, Youth for Christ Canada has recently celebrated 75 years of ministry!

As I reflect on 2020, I think about the moments of hope in the midst of a year of uncertainty. Like so many of you, our staff have had to refocus and shift our interactions to include physical distancing and online meetings. I am incredibly thankful for the resiliency and creativity of our staff as they continue to reach out to young people in your communities in safe ways to meet their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU
WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS
YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU
MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY
THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

ROMANS 15:13 NIV

2020 was a year of transition as we shared our new branding, focused on our Core Ministries, and canceled many of our in-person gatherings as we moved to physical distancing and virtual meetings. In these moments we are full of hope that God is still working in the hearts of Canadian youth.

Together, we see the hope and potential in every young person! YFC | Youth Unlimited has six Core Ministries that categorize the hundreds of programs that meet the specific needs of youth in each unique community across Canada:

Innovative Centres: pursuing shared interests in inspiring environments

Critical Care: supporting youth experiencing systemic vulnerability

Community Outreach: connecting through team and mentoring relationships

Trips, Camps & Events: sharing experiences, adventure & social impact

Leadership Development: growing & discovering God's purpose for life

Marketplace Initiatives: developing employment skills & entrepreneurship

To find out more about our Core Ministries, please visit our website yfc.ca.

We are grateful for your continued support as we engage and equip youth to know and follow Jesus.

Grace and peace,

Tim Coles

National Director



EVERY YOUNG PERSON
LIVING FULLY IN CHRIST

74,692
CHILDREN / YOUTH

37
CHAPTERS / AFFILIATES

3,517
VOLUNTEERS

853
STAFF

Our Chapters

Altona	London	Saskatoon
Brandon	Montreal	SE Saskatchewan
Calgary	Morden	Steinbach
Central Alberta	Morris	SW Ontario
Comox Valley	Nipissing	Timmins
Eastern Counties	Northumberland	Toronto
Edmonton	Okanagan	Upper Canada
Halifax	Peace Country	Vancouver
Highlands	Peace Hills	Victoria
Honeymoon Bay	Portage la Prairie	Westlock
Kawartha	Prince George	Winnipeg
Kingston	Quinte	
Landmark	Regina	

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN CANADA

DEC 30, 1944

First YFC Rally at Massey Hall in Toronto

Mid 1950s

-Mid 1960s

YFC refined focus on teenagers – organized Bible Clubs, Lifeline, ran teen talent contests, Bible quizzes, and sent teen teams overseas

1980s-2000s

Community-specific programming to grow and adapt to reach youth

1940-1950s

Billy Graham hired as first full-time staff, famous YFC rallies took place, YFC grew rapidly and spun off several other organizations including World Vision and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

1970s

Focus on developing excellence in leadership and TV Specials

2020

Refocus and shift interactions to include physical distancing and online meetings

The aftermath of World War II became the fertile ground in which a small group of passionate pioneers set out to meet the desperation of youth with the eternal hope of Jesus. On December 30, 1944, the first Youth for Christ rally was held at Massey Hall in Toronto.

In the wake of our most devastating global moment, seeds of hope were planted in the ashes of war. Widespread despair gave birth to a movement that for over 75 years has confronted fear with love, darkness with light, suffering with compassion, and death with life. Youth for Christ was born out of this moment, and for every moment since has dedicated itself to bringing the love of Jesus to youth in Canada. YFC's motto has been "Geared to the Times, Anchored to the Rock," and as such, we have realized the importance of remaining current to the needs of today's youth while staying focused on Christ as the centre. For over 75 years we've worked tirelessly to meet the needs of Canada's youth, in whatever moment they find themselves, with the hope of the Gospel. Together we create moments where youth can encounter the overwhelming presence of Christ and be transformed by His love.

75 years after the first rally at Massey Hall, YFC continues to impact the lives of young people across Canada in almost every setting imaginable, including youth centres, concert venues, skateboard parks, schools, camps, and coffee shops, from Vancouver Island in the west to Halifax in the east. YFC imparts God's love, truth, and hope to young people from all walks of life regardless of race, faith, economic status, or cultural background.

As we celebrate 75 years of impact and transformation, we eagerly look towards the next 75 years and will continue to do what we've always done, bringing eternity to this moment, meeting youth in their moments and struggles, and nudging them gently towards hope and life in Jesus.



2019

WORLDWIDE IMPACT

YOUNG PEOPLE IN FOLLOW-UP AND DISCIPLESHIP

Africa - 11,894
Americas - 16,529
Asia Pacific - 56,085
EMENA - 11,730

TOTAL = 96,263



YOUTH IMPACTED BY DIRECT MINISTRY WORLDWIDE

Africa - 424,276
Americas - 968,849
Asia Pacific - 2,324,046
EMENA - 390,158

TOTAL = 4,097,764



PARTNER CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD TOTAL = 16,426



YOUTH REACHED BY MEDIA MINISTRY WORLDWIDE

Africa - 365,379
Americas - 308,955
Asia Pacific - 584,965
EMENA - 2,178,461

TOTAL = 4,265,760



1.1 BILLION*

WORLD YOUTH POPULATION

*2018 Population Reference Bureau



YOUNG PEOPLE WHO RESPONDED TO THE GOSPEL

Africa - 27,757
Americas - 62,631
Asia Pacific - 66,851
EMENA - 16,511

TOTAL = 173,750

Information provided by Youth for Christ International.
At the time of printing, 2020 statistics were unavailable.
To view 2020 statistics, please visit yfc.org.

*EMENA - Europe, Middle East, and North Africa

OUR MISSION

Every young person
living fully in Christ

WHAT WE DO

Engage and equip youth
to know and follow Jesus

“At one point I tried ending my life. I told God that if I had to live, then I needed a friend. He gave me Youth Unlimited who invested into me. Now I’m a mother and a Christian youth leader in my community.”

- Youth, Calgary

CANADIAN NATIONAL OFFICE
NON-CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Year Ended December 31,	2020	2019
REVENUE		
Contributions	\$ 4,458,534	\$ 4,234,819
Contributions for YFC Int'l Special Projects & COVID Relief	2,900,000	-
Registration, Administration Fees & Other	179,857	354,042
Association Dues	125,600	139,740
	\$ 7,663,991	\$ 4,728,601
EXPENSES		
Global Engagement & International Ministries	\$ 4,504,331	\$ 1,770,553
National Operations	1,474,692	1,621,701
National Programs & Events	216,164	371,397
People Development	392,871	422,169
Chapter Development	219,172	263,617
Affiliate Ministries	380,309	472,293
Canadian Charter Chapter Support	61,822	188,726
	\$ 7,249,361	\$ 5,110,456
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses for the year	\$ 414,630	\$ (381,855)

2020 CANADIAN OPERATIONS
INCLUDING ALL CHAPTERS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020	
Income for National Office & all Local Programs	\$ 47,559,628
Expenditures for National Office & all Local Programs	\$ 42,555,150
Amount of Surplus between Income and Expenses	\$ 5,004,478



74,692
YOUNG PEOPLE
Connected through YFC ministries



3,517
Volunteers



3,148
Total youth in
discipleship



1,537
Responded to the
opportunity to be a
follower of Jesus



1,040
Churches partnering
with YFC in Canada



9,365
Ministry partners praying
for youth in Canada



SERVING YOUTH IN 322 COMMUNITIES

Your support has made it possible to serve 322 communities through 6 Core Ministry categories



Innovative Centres

Pursuing shared interests in inspiring environments



Community Outreach

Connecting through team and mentoring relationships



Trips, Camps & Events

Sharing experiences, adventure & social impact



Critical Care

Supporting youth experiencing systemic vulnerability



Leadership Development

Growing & discovering God's purpose for life



Marketplace Initiatives

Developing employment skills & entrepreneurship



"Sarah [YFC Staff] definitely helped me with my relationship with God and she was always there for me when I needed help. I want to graduate from high school and then I want to go to Bible college. I want to go because no one in my family has made it that far and my siblings could look up to me. I want to become a youth worker."

- Youth, Central Alberta

"I believe you are making a real impact in a lot of lives in this hard time."

- Parent, London



"I was alone and had nobody. I texted one of the staff one night and I didn't even know them. I just knew this was a Christian program and so I figured they maybe wouldn't judge me for being pregnant so young. I often feel like a loner but now they are my main source of encouragement and friendship. I finally feel like I belong."

- Youth, Calgary



Visit yfc.ca for more information on our Core Ministries

BRODY'S STORY



Sometimes, it doesn't look like anything is happening. Our youth workers love, guide, support; and yet sometimes there is no visible change in the life of a youth who desperately needs it. But we know God is always at work and no loving investment is ever in vain.

Brody was the crazy class clown, always making people laugh but seemingly never listening. A dynamic duo with his best friend Ben, the pair would constantly detract attention away from anything else and onto them.

At that time a YFC | Youth Unlimited youth worker in Mission, BC, Dave Wiebe, tried to help Brody. *"Dave had a huge impact on me during my time with Youth Unlimited. He would get pretty fed up with me because I'd just be goofing around with my friend, but he was always patient and persevered. He*

never thought I was listening, because it sure didn't look like it, but I was."

Brody first got involved with YFC | Youth Unlimited in the early 2000s through a partnership with a local church. His Grandma was the church's collectively adopted "Grandma Donna," and was a faithful volunteer who consistently brought a full van of excitable youth to the group.

In Grade 11, Brody was expelled for never turning up to class, which led to the end of his quarterback position on the local football team. Brody drifted from God and down a path of alcohol and drugs.

"Because of the seeds [Youth Unlimited] and my Grandma had planted, I knew what I was doing was wrong - which is something I can't say for my peers at the time, who never had those influences,"

says Brody. *"God was always there in the back of my mind, and I would think of him in the darkest moments."*

At the age of 17, Brody became a father. It was the wake-up call he needed.

"I knew it was time to change," he says. *"I became fed up with what I was doing, and I remember crying in my room one night and calling out to God for help."* A week later, Brody met his now wife, Florence.

"We had the same beliefs and values, and we brought each other closer to God. Before we connected, neither of us were attending church or were part of the community; yet as our relationship grew, the shared faith within our hearts began to rekindle our relationships with the Lord." It was then that Brody was ready to make a faith commitment. The

fruit of the seeds planted over 10 years prior had begun to visibly mark his path.

Now happily married, Brody and Florence continue their journey together with two further additions: a spritely four-year-old boy and a one-year-old baby girl. *"I feel that God brought kids into my life to teach me to be more selfless. I am so grateful for how they've helped me grow."*

Brody and Florence are actively building into their community and church, extending the lessons learned to their children and planting the seeds that Brody says YFC | Youth Unlimited sowed in him. *"[These] lessons have impacted my journey so much throughout my life. If it weren't for the youth group I attended as a kid, I don't think I would have turned to God like I did in those harder times."*



HEALTHY & RESILIENT STAFF

VIRTUAL GUIDED RETREATS

For the past several years, YFC Canada has promoted 'healthy and resilient staff' as a core value, and living into this value has included providing spiritual development opportunities for our staff on a regular basis.

Since the summer of 2020, we have been providing half-day Virtual Guided Spiritual Retreats every month to any staff across Canada in need of a place to slow down to spend time with God and attend to their own soul. The retreats generally consist of a gathering prayer, a guided prayer exercise, some time in solitude, and a debrief space to share how we have experienced the presence of God during the retreat. A simple framework, but one that seems consistent in its ability to bring us into a meaningful space that rejuvenates us

and reconnects us with the one Voice that really matters.

On more than one occasion, staff have shared during the debrief that they hadn't realized how long it had been since they had rested in the presence of God or how much they needed the word of encouragement that God offered them during the retreat - through scripture, through their time of solitude, or through the voices of others on the call. We are grateful for the technology that allows us the ability to invite YFC | Youth Unlimited missionaries to these kinds of moments.

In addition to these half-day spiritual retreats, the People Development team also discerned a deep need to care for the mental health of YFC | Youth Unlimited staff as 2020 drew to a close. In response, we hosted a three-hour-

long mental & spiritual health retreat that was entitled Nevertheless. Isaiah 9 - the familiar prophecy that speaks of the coming Messiah - begins with this word, 'nevertheless,' and promises that the time of darkness and despair will not go on forever. Centring around this theme, staff were offered several sessions focused on building resiliency, processing pain, and practicing lament - all skills that are essential to the moment in which we find ourselves. Over 200 staff participated in the retreat, and many expressed their gratitude for the content, for the encouragement, and for the opportunity to feel part of the larger YFC | Youth Unlimited family.

YFC | Youth Unlimited's youth missionaries across the country are continuing to walk alongside some

of Canada's most vulnerable youth, and doing so requires that they stay adaptable by reinventing their programs and adjusting their modes of connecting meaningfully with youth as the response

"THE TIME OF DARKNESS AND
DESPAIR WILL NOT GO ON
FOREVER."

to Covid-19 changes. Please continue praying for the health and resilience of our frontline staff, admin staff, and volunteers as we lean on God and as we continue to find ways to support one another across the distance!



GLOBAL FOCUS: YFC LEBANON

At YFC Canada, we partner with other YFC nations worldwide to share resources and support one another. One of our partner countries is Lebanon. 2020 was an eventful year for the world, and perhaps even more so for Lebanon as they experienced political turmoil, economic collapse, a pandemic, and an explosion. In spite of all of this, God was present and did wonderful things through the YFC Lebanon team.

YFC Lebanon runs a centre called *Manara Youth Center*. As with many youth centres, their programs were affected by the pandemic. Staff were creative with their programming by conducting sessions online through social media platforms. Many of the

young people who attend programs at the youth centre are refugees who were already dealing with many difficult circumstances, and the explosion only added more to this. God uses the staff to share His love, provision, and healing with the youth and their families.

In addition to the *Manara Youth Center*, staff also minister to Syrian refugee youth living in tent communities in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Because of the pandemic, they could not gather for the usual sports and arts programs, so staff had to get creative and engage the youth online as well as with occasional tent visits to families.

After the explosion in August, YFC Lebanon had to repair some of their ministry facilities and staff homes. They also helped 100 families repair their homes that were damaged by the blast. Additionally, they distributed food vouchers to 100 Lebanese and Syrian refugee families.

Overall, it was a challenging year,

but also a fruitful one. The staff have reflected on Paul's exhortation in Galatians 6:9 to not give up in doing good, for in due season, we will reap a harvest!

YFC Canada is privileged to partner with YFC Lebanon in their important mission efforts.



NATIONAL PROGRAMS FROM COAST TO COAST



WakeUp Deborah
wakeupdeborah.net



Keep it Real
ikeepitreal.ca



Launch
321launch.ca



The Compassion Series
compassionseries.com



Lifeteams
lifeteams.ca



Mike Gordon Ministries
mike-gordon.ca



CoachNet
coachnet.org



**Honeymoon Bay Lodge
and Retreat Centre**
honeymoonbayretreat.com



ENGAGE
yfcengage.org



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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YLAB Representative

Ashley Reimer

YLAB Representative

Larry Williams

YFCI Representative





OUR NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Tim Coles
National Director

Brett Andrews
Director of People Development

Mark Beattie
Director of Finance

Maureen Pryce
Director of Operations

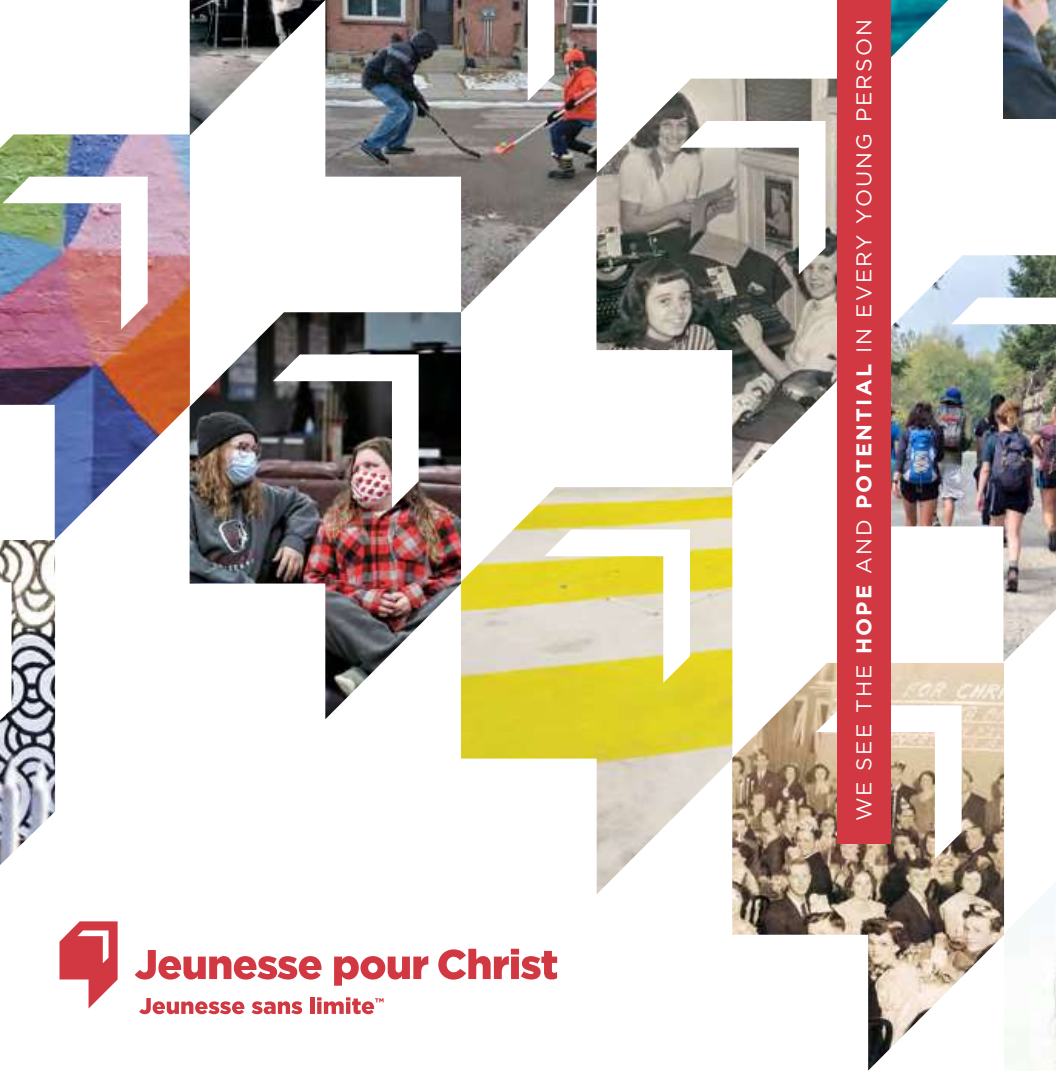
Jake Schellenberg
Director of Chapter Development

Daryl Stogryn
Director of Global Engagement



Thank you for your support over the past year!

We could not have done it without you.



WE SEE THE **HOPE** AND **POTENTIAL** IN EVERY YOUNG PERSON



Jeunesse pour Christ

Jeunesse sans limite™

Youth for Christ Canada

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A chartered nation of
Youth for Christ International



**Canadian Centre for
Christian Charities**

Supporting ministries in a complex world