



### LETTER FROM

### THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR



#### **Dear Friends of Youth for Christ,**

Thank you for your faithful support and partnership with Youth for Christ Canada as we work towards seeing every young person living fully in Christ. We believe that we are all created in God's image. Each youth, with whom our staff and volunteers interact, is full of intrinsic value and worth and, therefore, worthy of God's love.

As I reflect on 2021 and the challenges many of us experienced this past year, I am reminded of Paul's encouragement in Galatians 6:9 which reads:

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (NIV)

YFC has always been committed to building relationships with young people for the long term, recognizing that sometimes the seeds we plant will not bear fruit for many years. Through our Core Ministries, we holistically strive with the Lord's help to meet the needs of young people in our communities.

Your partnership enables us to reach youth through Community Outreach, Critical Care, Innovative Centres, Marketplace Initiatives, Leadership Development, and Trips, Camps & Events. We pray that in every interaction they feel their Creator's overwhelming love. Through our time together, we want to engage and equip youth to know and follow Jesus.

In this time of continued uncertainty, I trust these stories of hope and potential shared in this Annual Report will be of encouragement to you.

Thank you again for your continued support of Youth for Christ Canada. We appreciate your prayers and partnership every day as we work with youth across the country.

Grace and peace,

Tim Coles

National Director

### **Our Chapters**

Altona Montréal Saskatoon

Calgary Moncton SE Saskatchewan

Central Alberta Morden Steinbach

Comox Valley Morris SW Ontario

Eastern Counties Nipissing Timmins

Edmonton Northumberland Toronto

Halifax Okanagan Upper Canada

Highlands Peace Country Vancouver

Honeymoon Bay Peace Hills Victoria

Kawartha Portage la Prairie Westlock

Kingston Prince George Westman

Landmark Quinte Winnipeg

London Regina

# EVERY YOUNG PERSON LIVING FULLY IN CHRIST

1,006

**CORE MINISTRY PROGRAMS** 

48,581

CHILDREN / YOUTH

38

**CHAPTERS / AFFILIATES** 

2,967

**VOLUNTEERS** 

930

**STAFF** 





Youth for Christ Canada is a chartered nation of Youth for Christ International (YFCI), a worldwide Christian movement working with young people around the globe. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we share the good news of God with young people.

The vision of YFCI is:

"As part of the body of Christ, to see that every young person in every people group in every nation has the opportunity to make an informed decision to be a follower of Jesus Christ and become a part of a local church."

We believe that all people are created in God's image according to His likeness. We further understand that when all people of different ethnic and racial backgrounds are together, we see a more complete image of God.

As Christians, God has given us a wonderful message and ministry of reconciliation:

"All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

2 Corinthians 5:18 - 20 (ESV)

As Christians, our work of reconciliation starts with being reconciled to Christ but doesn't end there. We are co-labourers in God's work of reconciliation with all of God's creation.

We recognize that Canada is a diverse, multicultural country, and our staff does not always accurately represent the youth we serve. To address this, we have formed round table discussion groups to identify potential barriers that may prevent us from diversifying our staff and provide recommendations on how to overcome them. These groups discussed Diversity and Inclusion as it relates to race and ethnicity, Women in Ministry, and Indigenous-Settler Relations.

From these discussion groups, and their recommendations, we are starting to overcome some barriers and intentionally seek staff who more accurately reflect our diverse culture as Canadians.

Indigenous young people are a people group in Canada who have not historically been served well by members of the Christian community. We recognize our responsibility to be

people of reconciliation. We have put together a team of Indigenous and settler people from across the YFC community to find ways to partner and collaborate. We have created a series of workshops as an introduction to Indigenous-Settler Relations with the goal of introducing staff in Canada to a deeper understanding of how healthy Indigenous-Settler conversations can lead towards reconciliation.

In 2021, together with the help of our generous partners, we created a Diversity Fund with the purpose of helping to fund 10 new staff positions across the country for Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour applicants who may struggle with our traditional support-raising model. This fund will support and help launch 10 staff in Chapters across the country into their role with YFC | Youth Unlimited.

For more information on these initiatives, please visit yfc.ca/diversity



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# **2020 WORLDWIDE IMPACT**



1,275,251

Young people impacted by direct ministry



**POPULATION** 

\*2018 Population Reference Bureau



**WORLD YOUTH** 



79,739

Young people who responded to the Gospel





4,275,310

Young people impacted by media ministry





15,681

**Partner Churches** 

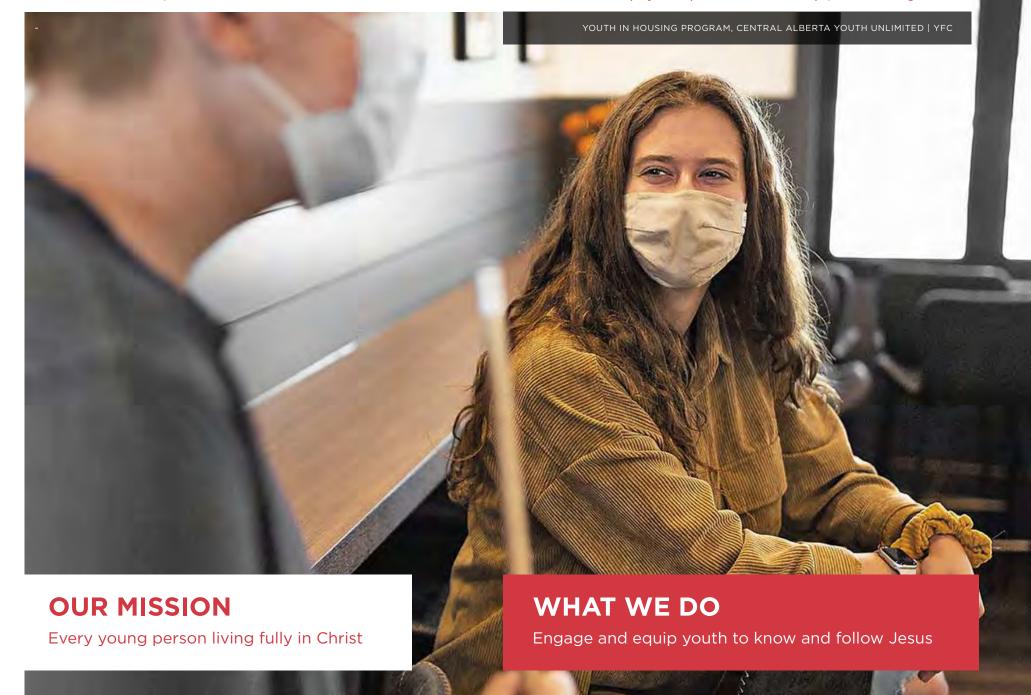
around the world

36,897

Young people in follow-up and discipleship



I've learned how to pray. I accepted Jesus. Without hope, there's nothing in life."



#### **CANADIAN NATIONAL OFFICE**

NON-CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Year Ended December 31,	2021	2020
REVENUE		
Contributions	\$ 5,774,127	\$ 7,358,534
Registration, Administration Fees & Other	354,519	179,857
Association Dues	140,250	125,600
	\$ 6,268,896	\$ 7,663,991
EXPENSES		
Global Engagement & International Ministries	\$ 2,590,023	\$ 4,504,331
National Operations	1,302,450	1,154,757
National Programs & Events	787,139	488,811
Affiliate Ministries	537,402	379,643
People Development	523,990	440,825
Chapter Development	241,350	219,172
Canadian Charter Chapter Support	64,613	61,822
	\$ 6,046,967	\$ 7,249,361
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses for the year	\$ 221,929	\$ 414,630

#### **2021 CANADIAN OPERATIONS**

INCLUDING ALL CHAPTERS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021	
Income for National Office & all Local Programs	\$ 52,526,373
Expenditures for National Office & all Local Programs	\$ 47,613,405
Amount of Surplus between Income and Expenses	\$ 4,912,968

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1,006

Core Ministry Programs reaching every young person



636

**Permanent Staff** 



294

Seasonal / Youth Employment Opportunities



**2,967**Volunteers



1,164

Responded to the opportunity to be a follower of Jesus



1,766

Total youth in discipleship



1,865

Churches partnering with YFC in Canada



10,169

Ministry partners praying for youth in Canada

# SERVING YOUTH IN 369 COMMUNITIES

Your support has made it possible to serve 369 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

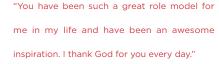
Developing employment skills & entrepreneurship

Visit vfc.ca for more information on our Core Ministries



"You've helped so many youth in our community in so many ways. Whether it be having a talk with them to let them vent or release steam or opening up youth group at The 92 so that kids can just have fun when they need it. You've introduced so many kids to prayer and even just knowing that no matter where you are, someone is always there to listen is something that a lot of kids need."

- YOUTH, MACKENZIE, PRINCE GEORGE YFC



- YOUTH, YOUTH UNLIMITED YFC NORTH PERTH





"I was in an incredibly dark time when I got pregnant. Options swooped in and helped equip me with everything I needed to be a GREAT parent. From help with baby items, parenting classes and workshops, and most of all, moral support, I have never felt alone. I have been able to thrive when circumstances were not ideal. I can honestly say that I think Options saved my life."

- YOUNG MOM, MONTRÉAL YOUTH UNLIMITED



Youth for Christ creates intentional relationships with our youth by equipping leaders who mentor and minister to them in whatever situation they may find themselves. One young person who has had a lasting relationship with Youth for Christ | Youth Unlimited is Olympian, Sarah Bonikowsky. Sarah's journey with Youth for Christ started when she was in grade 8 and continued throughout university. She attended camps, went on trips, and became involved in different ministries. Her first summer job was working for

YFC Highlands, in Ontario, where she served in administration and ran their skateboarding program.

Sarah credits Youth for Christ for the transformational impact on her spiritual foundation:

"My life journey took me across the country to BC for school, and it's there that I fell in love with the sport of rowing. Much to my coaches' chagrin, every summer I would come back to Orangeville, and I would run the skate camps for kids. And I think one of the

big things YFC taught me, and what they live out, is this verse: 1 Corinthians 9:22, where Paul says, 'I've learned to become all things to all people so that by any means I might save some.'

When my life became totally consumed by sports in my Olympic pursuit, it was a book called 'The Pursuit of God' which one of my YFC mentors had given me that really was critical in bringing me back to my faith. After my second Olympic bid, I came back, I had coffee with that same person, and said, 'I think God is calling me into sports ministry,' and she just looked at me and said, 'I'm not surprised at all.' In every stage I've gone through, I think YFC has taught me to find common ground with people that I might not have anything in common with. And I really think I owe that spiritual foundation to Youth for Christ."

When Sarah first started attending programs at YFC Highlands, Ann McCallum was the Executive Director and was able to journey with her throughout much of her youth:

"There is a sense of overwhelming gratitude to God for allowing me the privilege of walking alongside Sarah from her teen years to mature adulthood and see her grow, thrive in, and reproduce her faith."

Your generous support allows our staff and volunteers to continue showing the love of Jesus to youth across Canada. Your continued partnership allows us to build long-lasting relationships with young people who, in turn, can be a positive influence in the lives of their family, their friends, and the neighbours in their communities.

To watch more of Sarah's story, visit yfc.ca/sarah



### **CHANGE** CONFERENCE

In 2020, YFC heard the news that the Canadian Youth Network was closing its doors and their Change Conference Ministry would need to find a new home. Historically, Change Conference held an annual conference in Toronto to share the Gospel message with thousands of youth. After months of prayer and discernment, the decision was made that Change Conference would come under the umbrella of Youth for Christ Canada.

We are thrilled to announce that in October 2021, Change Conference hosted an online event that reached over 15,000 students and youth leaders as people watched from every time zone in Canada. The 2021 lineup included a welcome message from Carrie Underwood and Mike Fisher and presenters including Laura Bronson,

Mike Miller, Wande, KB, Brooke Nicholls, and Andy Mineo.

As part of this event, we partnered with Alpha Canada and put together a curriculum for the youth, and over 9,000 young people engaged with the material.

At the Conference, we challenged students to share a video of the gospel message on their social media and we could not have been more amazed at their boldness. So many youth shared the video that it resulted in 31,000 views! That means 31,000 people across Canada heard the message of Jesus because of the faith of our youth! At Youth for Christ Canada, we believe He has called students to lives of courageous, genuine faith.

Our youth have the power to change lives in the name of Jesus. While educators, parents, and youth leaders concern themselves with how to get back to normal and lessen the impact of the pandemic, students across Canada are rising up in faith. They're taking the reins and are doing what God has called them to do. We have heard stories of young believers across Canada taking the lead in their communities, spreading the Gospel, and initiating acts of service.

Change Conference is a ministry that runs amazing, high-energy, engaging events. We make the presentation of the Gospel a priority. We encourage these bold students to dive deeper in their faith and make roots that will last a lifetime. For some, the teaching will motivate their hearts to accept Jesus for the first time. For others, this event might be where their faith gains momentum to be shared. Regardless of the result, we know that when the Gospel is presented, hearts are changed.

For more information on Change Conference, please visit changeconference.com



"Really well done and produced tonight! So impressed with the flow, quality of speakers, unity in the message, connection to videos and production quality. Your [work] impacted thousands - thank you for your faithful leadership."

CHANGE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT (2021)

"Change Conference had such a big impact on me. I will be forever grateful!"

- CHANGE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT (2021)



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# HOW DO WE RE-INTRODUCE JESUS TO A CULTURE?

The words "Jesus" and "Christianity" have been a big part of Ecuador's pop culture since the very beginning. Images of Jesus as a baby dressed in pink gowns known as "Divino Niño" and the images of the sacred heart of Jesus (a picture of a man with a floating heart in front of his chest) are found everywhere from universities to banks, businesses to buses. Ecuador has been a Christian nation since its birth as a Republic in the 1800s, and this was a factor in government decision-making processes until the 1900s when Ecuador became a secular state and the division between church and state was declared. Still, in 2014, 92% of the population associated themselves with Christian beliefs. But in this nation where Jesus is proclaimed to be known and revered, corruption is rampant and many kinds of violence are heavily present and prevalent in many aspects of daily life of Ecuadorian culture. How can this be true in a self-proclaimed deep-rooted "Christian culture" nation?

Reaching kids for Christ in Ecuador, therefore, involves a re-introduction of the true Jesus. The identity of "Christian" has become tied to presumptions and expectations that in most cases are contrary to the teachings of Jesus and the culture which Christians should have according to the Bible. In Ecuadorian culture, where for over 200 years Jesus and the church have been portrayed in many confusing ways, and where His self-proclaimed followers have not been good examples of the gospel message, the narrative needs to be rewritten.

Roller blading, Tae Kwon Do, a leather workshop and online programs like "Escuela de Vida," (School of Life, a program originated by YFC Brazil), are some of the ways that YFC Ecuador is re-introducing Ecuadorian kids to Jesus. We have also partnered with Miguel Olvera from Singular, (previously known as SonLife), using their materials to teach about Jesus, His life, His importance in history and in our own lives. We also teach about what it means to know Him personally and why He is worth following, and about the church - its challenges and the importance of belonging to a greater community of Jesus followers. In addition, most of the kids we work with come from challenging socio-economic backgrounds, so we are working toward providing safe spaces where they can develop meaningful relationships with YFC volunteers, many of whom are also deepening their understanding of living life with Jesus.

Through the years, YFC Canada has been a major ally in the development of YFC Ecuador, and many people have provided intentional investment in the lives and ministry of Ecuadorian volunteers and board members. YFC Ecuador has also partnered with YFC Victoria, who, through the hardest times of the pandemic, assisted in raising funds to help with immediate needs of the community connected to YFC Ecuador. The involvement of YFC Canada in the development of a healthy ministry in Ecuador has been crucial. bringing years of experience, resources, and a real and meaningful camaraderie and sense of community that can only be provided by true followers of Christ.

If you would like to know more about the work of YFC in Ecuador, please contact Abner at abner.hernandez@yfc.ca.

"Before I used to feel lonely, but the YFC Taekwondo training school has become my home." - JHONNY CUME, YFC ECUADOR YOUTH



# NATIONAL PROGRAMS FROM COAST TO COAST



WakeUp Deborah

wakeupdeborah.net



**Change Conference** 

changeconference.com



**The Compassion Series** 

compassionseries.com



Launch

321launch.ca



**ENGAGE** 

yfc.ca/engage



**Honeymoon Bay Lodge** and Retreat Centre

honeymoonbayretreat.com



Lifeteams

lifeteams.ca



Keep it Real

ikeepitreal.ca



**Resource Zone** 

resourcezone.com.au







### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **Mark Fletcher**

**Board Chair** 

#### **Phil Sifft**

Vice-Chair

#### **Brian Girvan**

Treasurer

#### **Erin Dupuis**

Central Region Board Member

#### **Rebecca Stymiest**

Eastern Region Board Member

#### **Bernie Hayhoe**

Member at Large

#### **Suzy Symes**

Member at Large

#### **Dwayne Dyck**

Central Region Executive Director

#### **Allan Heron**

Eastern Region Executive Director

#### **Mark Koop**

Western Region Executive Director

#### **David Annesley**

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



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