# Explore your local impact in Eastern Canada.



2021/2022 Annual Impact Report EASTERN CANADA

It has been a difficult year for many of us, at home and around the world. But that didn't stop you from choosing compassion. It didn't stop you from choosing kindness and generosity. We want you to be able to take some time to celebrate. To pause and reflect on the work that you've made possible.

# **Explore your local impact in Eastern Canada.**

By choosing generosity you have chosen to provide welcome to refugees looking for safety. You have chosen to work toward restorative justice and healing in our communities. You have chosen to listen to, and amplify the voices of Indigenous neighbours.

You made the choice to work for a better world.

Thank you.

#### MCC CANADA STAFF

#### **Ruth Plett**

Co-Director of MCC Canada's Peace & Justice Office (Oversees program in Eastern Canada)

\* MCC Eastern Canada includes Quebec and the Atlantic provinces.

"We thank you for your continued prayers and encouragement as we strive to live out Jesus' love for all..." **RUTH PLETT** 



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#### **MESSAGE FROM** THE CO-DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE & JUSTICE OFFICE, **MCC CANADA**

When I look back on the year 2021-2022, in Eastern Canada, I notice that this was a year we were striving to live into Paul's words from 1 Thessalonians, a year in which we were working to care for each other by building each other up.

What does it mean, exactly, to build each other up? A quick internet search indicates things like listening with intent, sharing knowledge, offering support and encouraging each other are all ways we can do this.

In Quebec, I see this happening through the responsive engagement in churches through ongoing sermon series, which offer both spaces for sharing knowledge and listening with intent. In Atlantic Canada, I see this taking place through creative Summerbridge placements and material resources workdays, opportunities to offer support to our communities here and beyond our borders. Our regional reps are interacting with supporters on the phone, in person and through email, encouraging generosity and understanding.

We thank you for your continued prayers and encouragement as we strive to live out Jesus' love for all, in word and in action.

RUTH PLETT **CO-DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE & JUSTICE OFFICE.** MCC CANADA



"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing."

-1 THESSALONIANS 5:11 (NRSV)

#### **ATLANTIC CANADA**

#### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Sandra Bunnett** Havelock, N.B.

**Dave Drinkwalter** St. John's. N.L.

**Stephanie Perry** Moncton, N.B.

**Barry Smith** Dartmouth, N.S.

SUMMERBRIDGE

**Josephine Krauss** 

PARTICIPANTS

Dartmouth, N.S.

**Aaron Raymond** 

Dartmouth, N.S.

#### QUEBEC

#### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Véronique Beaudin Sainte-Thérèse, Quebec

**Réal Bonneville** Cowansville. Quebec

**Dora-Marie Goulet** Montreal, Quebec

**Annie Labelle** Oka, Quebec

**Richard Lougheed** Montreal, Quebec

Lyne Renaud Montreal, Quebec

Material resources collected in FYE 2022 (April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022)



kits

165

School

kits

12 Infant

care kits

#### ATLANTIC CANADA STAFF

**Dianne Climenhage** Atlantic Canada Regional Representative

QUEBEC STAFF

**Daniel Genest Regional Representative** 

Zacharie Leclair Research Associate and **Communication Assistant** 

This report was written to reflect the 2021/2022 fiscal year, which ended March 31. 2022.

30 Relief kits

### Your support brings relief in times of crisis.

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## MCC ATLANTIC CANADA

Since February 2022, when the conflict in Ukraine escalated, the world has wondered how to respond. What can be done by individuals in Canada to support those affected? Karen Chase, owner of Sugar Free Quilts in Dartmouth, N.S., did what she knows best. She created a pattern to honour people from Ukraine. The pattern, a pixelated sunflower in beautiful blues and yellows, was shared through a Nova Scotia Quilters Facebook page free of charge. Chase shared the pattern so quilters, who did not know how else to help, would have something tangible to do.

Some of these quilts have been given directly to Ukrainian families landing in Canada as a welcome gift, others have been auctioned off and the funds donated to Ukraine relief efforts. Karen Breakspear-Purdy, an avid quilter from South Berwick, N.S., saw Chase's pattern and realized this was a way she could be involved. Karen chose to donate her quilt to MCC for shipping internationally with other material resources.

Material resources are one way we can connect people globally. It's a way to encourage others and meet the basic needs of our fellow humans, even when we will likely never meet them.

# Your donations help provide hope and meet urgent needs.

"I am very happy that I could help in a small way."

QUILTER KAREN BREAKSPEAR-PURDY



Karen Breakspear-Purdy with her quilt donation for MCC material resources. (MCC photo)

St. Stephen's University, St. Stephen, N.B. (Photo courtesy of St Stephen's University)



#### Partner profile

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This year, St. Stephen's University in St. Stephen, N.B., worked to plan the Education for Reconciliation certificate program, which will explore genuine relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. The program is set to begin this fall. MCC has partnered with St. Stephen's University to partially fund development and implementation costs for the program.

The idea came from board vice-chair Judith Moses (Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples). "Reconciliation doesn't just happen," she says. "It needs bridges — people with new skills, insights and attitudes. This includes a dec commitment to help transform the relationship with the People of the Land and Waters."

In her work she observed that many people did not bring a background of knowledge, experien and awareness to the complicated and sensitive issues around reconciling relationships.

"Judith believed that [St. Stephen's] was well situated for this because of our history

	in supporting and working with local Peskotomuhkati leadership as well as previous
ep	courses and a symposium," says Walter Thiessen,
	who is project lead and Professor of Psychology
	and Religious Studies as well as a former MCC
	Canada board member and former member of
	the advisory committee for MCC Atlantic
nce	Canada. "While we have prioritized consultations
	with Wabanaki peoples to honour St. Stephen's
	place in the Maritimes, we are engaged in
	consultation with Indigenous leaders and
	educators across the country."



Former MCC staff Marty Climenhage, Irma Penner and Peter Penner participate in the Walking in the Spirit of Reconciliation event. (MCC photo)

#### **STAYING CONNECTED**

The MCC Atlantic Canada reading group continued in 2021-2022 with a book focused on living in right relationship with Indigenous peoples. We read Living Treaties: Narrating Mi'kmaw Treaty Relations, edited by Marie Battiste. Battiste brought together writers from throughout Mi'kma'ki to share their experience with treaty and what it means to live well on this land. Even though the content was specific to Eastern Canada, the principles are transferrable anywhere on Turtle Island, the name given to North America by some Indigenous peoples. Group participants included non-Indigenous professors and clergy from the three Maritime provinces, struggling to live out our treaty responsibilities together.



Wrapping material resource skids for shipping. Carolyn Bunnett, Murray Bunnett and Marty Climenhage were great organizers! (MCC photo)

#### WALKING IN THE SPIRIT OF RECONCILIATION

Since the closing of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in 2015, MCC B.C. along with Mennonite Church B.C., has organized the Walk in the Spirit of Reconciliation event. This is aimed at raising awareness about the TRC and specifically the Calls to Action directed at churches and church organizations. In 2021, MCC Atlantic Canada began an annual solidarity walk with the group in B.C. This has become a way to mark the anniversary of the TRC and not lose sight of our responsibility in reconciliation. We plan to do this every May in Moncton, N.B., and will support solidarity walks in other Atlantic provinces as well. Watch https://www.reconciliationwalk.com/ for opportunities near you next May, or start your own solidarity walk where you are.



Dianne Climenhage catches up in person with advisory committee representative Dave Drinkwalter in St. John's, N.L., following a conference. (MCC photo)

#### PARTNERSHIPS IN ATLANTIC CANADA

MCC Atlantic Canada continues to prioritize relationships with Indigenous grassroots organizations. We partnered with the Tatamagouche Centre in Tatamagouche, N.S., to support the Peace and Friendship Gathering, which encourages treaty dialogue and youth education by elders. Although it has looked different in the last couple of years, they continued to meet online to stay connected to traditional teachings and encourage each other.

"MCC Atlantic Canada encourages the struggle to live authentic relationships throughout Eastern Canada in all we do."

DIANNE CLIMENHAGE ATLANTIC CANADA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE



Labrador Elders Elisabeth Penashue (Innu, L) and Sarah Ponniuk (Inuit, R) reunite in New Brunswick continuing to build relationships between Innu and Inuit communities. (MCC photo)

In August of 2022, there was an in-person gathering to build a longhouse on the grounds of the centre. We also partnered with Women of the First Light, supporting Clan Mothers as they led healing ceremony in communities in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to respond to the re-traumatization following the discovery of the graves of children on the grounds of former residential schools. We were humbled to walk alongside Clan Mothers as they address the ongoing needs in their communities.

## MCC QUEBEC

# MESSAGE FROM MCC QUEBEC REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

A second year of COVID-19 limited certain programs and projects. Nevertheless, MCC Quebec continues to offer service opportunities to churches and its partners.

Through the relief kits and many donations received, we witnessed the compassion of churches and donors as they responded to armed conflict and environmental disasters. I would also like to highlight that the Quebec Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches (AEFMQ) and the majority of local churches included a contribution to MCC in their annual budgets. This support is truly a demonstration of their solidarity with the world's vulnerable populations and a display of trust in the work accomplished by MCC.

Another solid success this year has been the improvement of the Bible teaching offered to churches. There has also been a notable emphasis on advocacy and a commitment to peace and justice issues, such as the situation in Palestine and Israel and the reality of our relationships with Indigenous peoples.

MCC Quebec would also like to thank its partners who work in the field.

In Restorative Justice: the Circles of Support and Accountability of Quebec and the Centre for Services in Restorative Justice.

In Peacebuilding and Community Relations: the House of Friendship, Camp Péniel, the École de théologie évangélique du Québec (ETEQ) and the Centre d'étude en service, paix et reconciliation (Study Center for Service, Peace and Reconciliation), the Mennonite Church of Eastern Canada, the AEFMQ, and the Mennonite Historical Society of Quebec.

I would like to close by encouraging you to be compassionate with your leaders and with yourselves. Two years of societal upheaval has produced emotional fatigue that is palpable everywhere and charities are particularly affected. Let's adopt the compassion Jesus offers: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you (John 14:27). Through the relief kits and the many donations received, we witnessed the compassion of churches and donors as they responded to armed conflict and environmental disasters.

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Daniel Genest (Photo courtesy of the Genest family)

# INTERVIEW WITH **ANNIE LABELLE** MEMBER OF SAINT-EUSTACHE CHURCH AND MCC KITS PASSIONARIA

Annie, your church has been participating in the preparation of MCC relief kits for a long time and many former MCC staff attend this church. When did your interest in making kits begin?

I constantly follow international news on Radio-Canada (CBC). I like to keep myself informed about what's going on, injustices, etc. But when my father died in April 2020, I started gathering material for kits at home. The pandemic also gave me more free time! I regularly visit the MCC website, although it's only in English, and I enjoy seeing what MCC is doing around the world. Besides, I'm pretty good at online shopping. I like hunting down the best deals for the kit items.

# How does this kit project resonate with your personal faith?

It is an opportunity for me to put my faith into practice!

# Do you ever imagine one of your kits being received by a person who really needed it?

All the time! I always identify with the person who will open and use the kit. That's why I work hard to select beautiful fabrics for the bags and to decorate the quilts I make as nicely as I would for myself. It fills me with joy thinking that I bring more than material resources; I bring a gesture of love and dignity.

# Do you see the impact of your initiative on the church life?

Yes, I think it connects people with what's happening around the world while educating them on the credibility and impact of MCC.

# Have you been able to inspire other people with your passion for kit making?

Yes, quite naturally without pushing too much. My mom and my daughter take part in the project with me. We need to recruit the next generation as a response to their faith in God. And it's even more important to do it through an organization that belongs to our churches!



Annie Labelle with her husband Stéphane Rhéaume and their daughter Emma in their MCC kits room. (MCC photo/Zacharie Leclair)

# INTERVIEW WITH **LUKE MARTIN**, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE HOUSE OF FRIENDSHIP, JUNE 2022

Luke Martin is the son of Tilman Martin, a pioneer of the Mennonite churches in Quebec. The Maison de l'amitié [House of Friendship] was founded in 1973 by the Mennonite Church. Through its community service, it embodies an important aspect of MCC's ministry in Plateau Mont-Royal. Luke has just retired after 29 years at the House of Friendship (HF).

#### You have spent 29 years at the House of Friendship, 22 as director. What part of your job did you enjoy the most and why?

While studying, I was introduced to community involvement from an Anabaptist theological perspective. It's an approach that emphasizes neighbourhood transformation through the practice of justice and peace. When I first became involved with the House of Friendship, the Chilean crisis was bringing many Latin American immigrants to the neighbourhood. That led us to start a daycare for newcomer children, then a sponsorship service for refugees. The needs of the area dictated my priorities. For example, I got involved with the Duluth Street Merchants Network, of which I was president and treasurer of the board of directors. The network's focus was on sprucing up the streets. Volunteer-run language classes for newcomers, another service that we offer, has become a hallmark of our organization, as has the organic and fair-trade farmer's market that offers local products and provides a space for friendly interaction.

The relationships I have built are my personal high points, my personal fulfillment. For me, my quality of life is built on relationships that become mutually transformative. I think about the vulnerable people we have served, the multitude of volunteers who have passed through here, the inspiring partners, the staff, the visitors from abroad. The House of Friendship has truly been an instrument for promoting peace in Plateau Mont-Royal.

#### Tell me about the partnership between the HF and MCC Quebec. What wider social effects have been generated by this partnership?

One of the earliest examples was the link created between MCC's refugee program and former HF director John Docherty who began to think about how to provide more extensive assistance to refugees with severe trauma, the aftermath of torture, etc. It was from this joint reflection that the HF organized a conference which spawned the Réseau d'Intervention auprès des personnes ayant subi la Violence Organisée [intervention network for people who have experienced organized violence] (RIVO) which has now been operating for 20 years.

There is also the Peace Festival, funded by MCC and launched in 2003. Now called Collectif 21, this festival marks the UN Day of Peace every September 21. Let me also mention the project with the First Nations community to promote cross-cultural awareness in the French-speaking elementary schools of the area, which is particularly close to my heart and that I hope to see flourish. MCC translated the material into French.

#### As you step down, how would you like to see HF's relationship with MCC Quebec evolve?

My wish is that the next generation will continue to nurture the relationship with MCC Quebec with a view to promote peace among the people of the neighbourhood!

MCC WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU, LUKE, FOR YOUR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND FOR YOUR COLLABORATION WITH MCC QUEBEC! HAPPY RETIREMENT!

# Your support helps build peace and transformative relationships.

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"The House of Friendship has truly been an instrument for promoting peace in Plateau Mont-Royal."

LUKE MARTIN FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE HOUSE OF FRIENDSHIP



Menno in Quebec: A history of the French Mission Activity of Four Anabaptist Groups in Quebec, 1956–2021.



Luke Martin (Photo courtesy of House of Friendship)

#### **Research project into Mennonites in Quebec**

What began with an MCC Quebec Summerbridge project to study Mennonite groups in Quebec expanded into a study of other Anabaptist groups and the early history of the Mennonite Brethren in the province. That study is now out as the book, *Menno au Québec* by author Richard Lougheed. Lougheed, founder and former president of the Société d'histoire du protestantisme francoquébécois (SHPFQ), is an expert on French-speaking Protestants in the province and has also written about Charles Chiniquy and the Revival in Quebec. The project was funded by MCC Quebec and developed with significant support from members of the Société d'histoire mennonite du Québec (SHMQ)

- Zacharie Leclair, Lucille Marr and Luke Martin



2021/2022 Annual Impact Report

We just want to say thank you. Last year, in times of conflict and unrest, you made the choice to reach out and help your global neighbours.

We invite you to take a moment and reflect on the difference you've made. Take a look back at the stories made possible with your support.

# **Explore your global impact.**

You brought relief to people facing war and disaster. You gave the gift of clean water to create healthier communities. You provided education and training to help people improve their own futures. You helped build peace.

We couldn't be more grateful.



Nicolás Yucra Gómez is part of MCC partner PRODII's technical team. He is using soil conservation and irrigation techniques promoted by PRODII on his land in Kisi Kisi, Bolivia, where he produces staple crops and experiments with new crops and growing techniques. As climate change is affecting farming around the world, PRODII is helping local farmers find new and renewed ways to cultivate the land. (MCC photo/Annalee Giesbrecht)

#### **MCC** envisions communities worldwide in right relationship

with God, one another and creation. In our second century of service, we reaffirm our Christ-led commitment to serve and learn from vulnerable people around the world.

The MCC Canada and MCC U.S. boards identified these four strategic directions to guide our work from 2021-2025:

- **1.** Increasing the capacity of our partners to help uprooted and vulnerable people
- 2. Improving communication with churches and constituents
- 3. Increasing peacebuilding and justice work
- 4. Caring for God's creation and supporting communities harmed by climate change.

# A THANK YOU FROM OUR **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Brutal wars, unrelenting COVID-19, and the worst global hunger crisis in decades.

One could easily draw parallels to three of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse riding together across the globe.

But, for MCC, these crises don't signal the end. In fact, we choose to embrace this moment as yet another opportunity to share God's love with others. As we continue to abide in Christ, we choose hope over despair. We choose action over alarm. It is much like our response has been for more than a century. We work with local partners to find the best ways to respond to basic human needs in the name of Christ:

- provide food baskets and shelter for families fleeing violence — from Ukraine to Syria to the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
- advocate for just and equitable global access to COVID-19 vaccines;
- help increase food security when food is hard to access.

More than any year in recent memory, the challenges we have faced as a global community have been immense, multiple and overlapping. Of course, we all grow weary at times. And yet, a deep hope springs from a shared, communal response to loss and suffering. The Jesus message is not only to individuals, but to communities who live his love into a hurting world.

You have lived that love again this year through MCC, and we are deeply grateful.

RICK COBER BAUMAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC CANADA



"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."

To read an online version of this report visit mcccanada.ca/annual-impact-report-2022

- JOHN 15:5 (NRSV)

#### MCC CANADA 2021/2022 **BOARD MEMBERS**

**Ron Ratzlaff** Chair. CCAL\*

**Catherine Enns** Vice-Chair, Member-at-large

Oscar Cardozo Treasurer, Member-at-large

**Cindy Klassen** Secretary, CCAL\*

**Eleanor Andres** Member-at-large

**Jacquie Block** MCC Saskatchewan

Sandra Bunnett Eastern Canada

**Ernie Engbrecht** MCC Alberta

Selena Friesen CCAL\*

Laura Hanna CCAL\*

Laurence Fontaine Member-at-large

**Janet Plenert** MCC Manitoba

Lynn Rempel MCC Ontario

**Peter Wolfe** MCC British Columbia

\*Appointed by Canadian Council of Anabaptist eaders (CCAL), which includes Mennonite Church Canada, Be in Christ Canada, Canadiar Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, Evangelical Mennonite Conference, and the Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference.



Without the food baskets Farah\* and her siblings receive through an MCC partner in Syria, they wouldn't have enough food to survive.

The price of fuel and the fluctuating global economy are causing food prices in Syria to climb even more dangerously out of reach for so many.

Farah's parents had to flee Al Raqqa because of the dangers of the ongoing conflict in Syria. Her father tries to bring in money for the family by collecting cardboard boxes and selling them to a factory for recycling. Her mother is trying to raise and care for all her siblings and some of their cousins who live with them. She tends a small garden to grow a few vegetables for the family to eat. But what she can produce is far from enough food for so many hungry stomachs.

If not for your generous gifts, Farah\* and her family would have almost no chance.

But with your support, and funding through MCC's account at Canadian Foodgrains Bank, an MCC partner in Syria distributes monthly food baskets to thousands of families like Farah's every month. A basket for one family costs \$65 per month. Your support helps families like Farah's every day.

\*Names have been changed or omitted for security purposes.

Because of your generosity, Farah\* and her family have food to eat.

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"Knowing that a food parcel is always delivered makes such a difference in our lives."

A RECIPIENT OF FOOD IN SYRIA



Farah\* and her siblings receive food through an MCC partner working in Syria. (MCC photo)

Vivian Warkentin has been donating through MCC's Share Your Table program since March 2020. (Photo courtesy of Vivian Warkentin)



# **Donor profile**

When Vivian Warkentin heard about Share Your Table, MCC's monthly giving program, she knew right away it sounded like how she wanted to help. "It really appealed to me as a way to give immediate, sustained help when people are most in need of emergency care. I am most fortunate in living in a place where food is something that is readily available ... that should be everyone's reality!"

# Food program highlights:

43,253

people trained in improved agriculture and animal production methods **32,820** people received agricultural supplies, including seeds and tools



# 96.5%

of women who participated in a food security project in Nepal now have functional kitchen gardens

# 74%

average increase in income for participants in a Palestine rabbit raising project The sun was barely in the sky when Pierre Hérorol felt the earth shake beneath his feet. The 7.2 magnitude earthquake devastated much of southern Haiti and was the deadliest disaster on the planet in 2021. Thousands were killed, injured or left without safe shelter. They lost their means to earn money to buy food or medicine. But thanks to you, Pierre's story didn't end there.

Your support meant MCC partners in Haiti could distribute canned turkey meat and relief kits to Pierre and other vulnerable people, pregnant women, people with disabilities or those whose homes had been destroyed. One can of turkey costs around \$6.50 and contains about half the minimum daily calorie requirement for someone in an emergency situation. With damaged roads and widespread flooding, that turkey was the only substantial food many survivors could find for days.

At a time when every moment mattered, you ensured that MCC responded quickly with life-saving relief.

# Your gifts fed vulnerable Haitians after a devastating earthquake.

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"Thank you for not leaving us alone. We've felt very alone these last days... hoping someone would not forget us."

A WOMAN WHO RECEIVED EMERGENCY FOOD IN HAITI



Pierre Hérorol stands in front of his badly damaged home that he shares with five other people. He received emergency food and supplies distributed by an MCC partner in Saint-Jean-du-Sud, Haiti, after the August 2021 earthquake. (MCC photo/Paul Shetler Fast)

MCC staff Anna Prokash made this pot of borscht while on kitchen duty at a refugee shelter set up by a local Evangelical Baptist church in western Ukraine with support from MCC. The flowers she holds were a handmade gift from her youngest daughter. (Photo courtesy of Anna Prokash)



# Staff profile

Anna Proshak is a staff member of MCC in Ukraine. Before the fighting escalated, she helped support people displaced by conflict. But in February, she and her family were also displaced. Within days, she'd found safety and began to help others by providing shelter and meals. "Now I can invite them to the table to sit...and to eat this warm meal," she says.

# Relief program highlights:169,603117,200

people received emergency food assistance globally people received locally purchased relief items, including clothing, kitchen items and bedding

\*Numbers on this page reflect the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022 and only include the first month of the Ukraine response.

# RELIEF 📚

**1,255** households received home repairs or reconstruction

# 2,555

people received financial support or rent assistance Tchana Atiaribou has a lot of factors working against her dream of being a teacher. Burkina Faso has some of the lowest rates of female students on the planet. She was only in Grade 1 when her mother died. And she lives far from her school with no way to easily and safely travel the long distance to get there.

But your kindness is helping her overcome those challenges. Thanks to your support, an MCC partner in Burkina Faso provides Tchana and many other students like her the resources they need to access a good education. Your donations fund enrollment in school or work apprenticeships, medical checkups, food, hygiene items and counselling. And thanks to the bikes they loan, Tchana doesn't have to walk the total 30 km route every day.

Tchana says she wants to be a teacher, a reality that would be impossible without the help she's receiving because of you. One bike costs \$112 and that investment will carry many students to and from school.

Thanks to your kindness, Tchana and her classmates can access the education they deserve.

"Because my school is paid for, I have school supplies and a school outfit. I have fewer problems, my teacher encourages me often, she is a second mother to me."

**ROUAMBA NOELIE.** A STUDENT SUPPORTED BY SONG KIBSÉ IN BURKINA FASO



Tchana Atiaribou arrives home on the bicycle provided by MCC partner Song Kibsé, which she uses to travel the long distance to and from school in south-central Burkina Faso. (MCC photo/John Clarke)

Through MCC partner P4T, children and youth have a safe place to go each day, where they are experiencing non-violent. kind caregivers. (MCC photo/Matthew Lester)



# Partner profile

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Daniel Ameny came to Uganda as a Congolese refugee. Much of his childhood was spent trying to figure out how to survive on his own and get an education. He eventually started P4T (Planning for Tomorrow), an MCC partner in Uganda that supports education and child development. "Doing something to serve those who seem to be helpless makes me satisfied with my life."

# Education program highlights:

children and youth participated in K-12 education supported by MCC

# 28,981

children and youth received education supplies, including MCC school kits and locally purchased items





# 97%

of vulnerable children advanced to their next grade in a South Sudan school support project

# 87%

of children in an afterschool learning program in Guatemala passed all their courses – up from 51% at the beginning of the project Farming in Potosí, Bolivia, at 12,000 ft of elevation, isn't easy. But it at least used to be consistent. Farmers there knew when to expect rain and when it would be dry. Now, due to the disruptions of climate change, the once consistent precipitation has become unreliable. Where light rain once fell daily, farmers experience weeks of drought interrupted by the kind of driving rain that can scatter seedlings.

The thousands who make their homes high in the mountains rely on their crops to survive. But this way of life is in danger as they can no longer rely on the weather. Thanks to your donations, they now have the necessary tools to adapt.

MCC partner PRODII is working in places like Potosí to find creative and effective solutions to collect and maintain their water supply in the challenging mountain environments. Using a system of reservoirs and water collection, farmers in Potosí are ensuring their water supply remains more constant.

Because of your generosity, the farmers of Potosí are equipped to adapt to their changing climate.

# Because of you, Teofilo's crops can survive even when no rain falls.

"This used to be only rocks, but with the knowledge I've acquired, I've turned it into a garden. Before this, nothing grew, but we've turned rocky land into cultivable land."

TEOFILO COLQUE, A COMMUNITY LEADER IN POTOSÍ, BOLIVIA



Teofilo Colque is a leader in the community of Chucarasi, Bolivia. Together with the rest of the community, he has been able to diversify crops through irrigation and soil conservation techniques promoted by MCC partner PRODII. (MCC photo/Annalee Giesbrecht)

Sheilagh Henry is continuing her legacy of generosity with a gift in her will to MCC. (Photo courtesy of Sheilagh Henry)



# **Donor profile**

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Sheilagh Henry has been giving to MCC faithfully for more than 23 years; that's how she felt she could really make a difference. Sheilagh recently decided to include a legacy gift for MCC in her will so that work can continue after she's gone. "I don't have children or a spouse to leave money to. But it just seemed that I could do a lot more good by giving a legacy gift."

# Water program highlights:

21,081

people now have

access to a new or

improved latrine or

sanitation facility

68,680

people now have access to an improved water source w st

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743 water harvest structures for irrigation constructed or repaired

# 83

drinking water systems built and repaired In Nepal's Dhading District, many villages have very limited access to safe water and clean bathroom facilities. Every year more than 800,000 people, including children, die from diarrhea caused by dirty water or unsafe hygiene practices. Nirmala did what she could to keep her family safe, but she was limited without additional resources and education.

But now, your support has given her the tools and training she needs. **Providing water to a home like Nirmala's costs around \$390.** Your gifts helped MCC's local partner build essential infrastructure like handwashing stations, latrines and taps for clean drinking water. They also provide training for people like Nirmala so they can keep their families healthy. The checklist she now has on her wall reminds her how to purify water correctly and has other tips like handwashing techniques.

Since the project began, the rates of diarrhea in the area for children under five have decreased by 50%. That amazing result is because of your support.

"The partner's local knowledge, combined with strong technical capacity for infrastructure construction, has led to a very effective project and significantly healthier communities," says Luke Jantzi, MCC representative for Nepal.

# Your donations are keeping Nirmala's family healthy.

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"The impact of this project on the lives of children and their families is incredible to witness. Simple interventions like access to clean water, handwashing facilities and latrines can have enormous impacts."

PAUL FAST, MCC HEALTH COORDINATOR



Nirmala Tamang, a participant in an MCC project in Nepal, stands beside a Clean and Healthy Village checklist hanging outside her home. (MCC photo/Luke Jantzi)

"I walk an hour each way to school and knowing that there is water here, a place to change and clean toilets is a relief." —Ruth Kakimwa (MCC photo/Matthew Lester)



# **Participant profile**

Ruth Kakimwa, 19, is a student in Kasese, Uganda, who is part of the health club at her school, supported by MCC's partner YAPI-SRD. "To me, I have also seen the stigma against girls and menstruation go down. If I need a pad, I know we have them at the school, and I know I can make my own too."

# Health program highlights:

41,979

people received direct clinical care

people received hygiene items, including menstrual supplies

143,844



51%

fewer incidents of fever and diarrhea in children under five as a result of a project in Kenya

# 90%

of all new mothers in a region in Haiti are screened for pre- and postnatal mental health needs and referred as appropriate

When the first vaccines were announced during the COVID-19 pandemic, it quickly became clear that the wealthiest countries were the ones with priority access to the life-saving technology. But because of your generosity, MCC has been a powerful leader in advocating for Canada's government to pursue global vaccine equity.

MCC's Peace & Justice office recognized that globally we have enough vaccines and vaccine manufacturing capacity to ensure that everyone can be vaccinated. What was missing was coordinated global political will. While some countries, including Canada, have committed to dose sharing and increasing global health funding, there is still no resourced global vaccination plan.

The Peace & Justice Office has also lent its advocacy expertise to Love My Neighbour, a multifaith organization dedicated to ensuring everyone has access to vaccines, regardless of wealth.

Your support means moving everyday Canadians and our government's highest powers to recognize how vital it is to ensure that vaccines are available to everyone everywhere.

Your donations are working to give everyone access to vaccines.

*"Making sure people"* have access to vaccines everywhere, no matter their citizenship, is exactly the kind of thing we want to lend our experience and voice to support."

**ANNA VOGT CO-DIRECTOR OF MCC CANADA'S PEACE & JUSTICE OFFICE** 



Margaret Amuai leads a women's health group in Mathare informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya. She received training from CPN, one of MCC's health partners that will be able to distribute vaccines as they are available. (MCC photo/Matthew Lester)

"I love this work because it presents an opportunity to build bridges of understanding with the goal of strengthening systems and structures that support refugees." (MCC photo/Brenda Burkholder)



# Staff profile

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Kaylee Perez is a migration and resettlement associate for MCC. She regularly meets with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada staff and speaks for sponsorship agreement holders like MCC. Kaylee is passionate about leading communities to be involved in this important ministry. "This program facilitates a powerful and transformational government and civil society partnership," says Kaylee.

# Peace & justice program highlights:

1,538

peace clubs

were active

last year

29,365

people trained in conflict transformation, peacebuilding or mediation

16,237

people participated in peace clubs or other peace education



people attended the online roundtable event on research findings around MCC's historical entanglements with National Socialism. mcccanada.ca/NSresponse

When Reanna Teske started chatting online with Khalil al Hamadi, she had no idea how they would change each other's lives.

Khalil was living with his wife, Nadeen al Zoubi, and their children in the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan. They'd fled their home in Syria during the war. Some 80,000 refugees call Zaatari home today, despite the incredibly tough conditions. Emergency food, water and medical care barely sustain the people who live there.

But Reanna happened to see Khalil talking about his experience on Facebook and struck up a conversation. They chatted every day for nearly two years and forged a friendship that led Reanna to form a group to sponsor the family for resettlement in Canada.

Because of your gifts, MCC could provide Reanna and her group the support they needed to navigate the logistics of the sponsorship process. But perhaps more importantly, it meant that Khalil and his family landed in a new country with a loving community already waiting for them.

To this day, Reanna, Khalil and their families remain close. "I think that's been one of the biggest surprises, these fast friendships and these really close friendships that have become like family," says Reanna.

**Because you** gave to MCC, Khalil and his family have safety and security.

"Thank you to MCC for giving my whole life hope again. And then to give me and my kids and my family and Nadeen a new life in Canada."

**KHALIL AL HAMADI** 



Khalil al Hamadi, Nadeen al Zoubi and their children fled their home in Syria and were living in the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan before they were sponsored to come to Canada through MCC's refugee sponsorship program. (Photo courtesy of Khalil al Hamadi)

Karen Perez plays at the park with Ramadan\*. one of the children of an Ethiopian family that she helped sponsor to move to Oakville, Ont. (Photo/ Charlotte Ducsharm)

\*Names have been changed or omitted for security purposes.



# **Volunteer profile**

When Karen Perez heard about an opportunity to sponsor Ramadan's\* family to resettle in Canada from Ethiopia, she jumped at the chance. "I really wanted something that my kids could be part of. We didn't know anyone and had no idea what this involved, but we are so grateful we said yes!" Her family has since gone on to sponsor the rest of Ramadan's\* family who has been separated for five years.

# Migration program highlights:

refugees came to Canada Eritrea 43 last year through MCC's 18 Irag sponsorship program from: Ethiopia 17 Pakistan 15

# MIGRATION

Other countries include Afghanistan, DR Congo, Myanmar (Burma), Somalia, South Sudan and more.

#### GLOBAL SERVICE LEARNING

YOUNG ADULTS VOLUNTEERING IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

GSL

Sarah Janzen, from Winnipeg, Man., spent her SALT term as an emergency response assistant based in Beirut, Lebanon. (MCC photo)

You are providing young adults opportunities for growth and service.



"I hope that the variety of work and experiences from this year will continue to remind me that my actions make a difference."

SARAH JANZEN, 2021/2022 SALT PARTICIPANT



International Volunteer Exchange Program



SOOP



Sarah Janzen knew that spending a year in a new country and context would be full of the unexpected. But, with MCC's Serving and Learning Together program (SALT), she was able to practice adapting to the situation when she went from her home in Winnipeg, Man., to Beirut, Lebanon — a city in the middle of multiple crises.

"This year has often required changing my expectations: about the availability of resources, the electricity schedule, government involvement and what I'll do or learn or experience," she says. "I'm also learning that no matter how much you change your expectations, there is always a place for hope."

The SALT program celebrated its 40th anniversary last year. Since 1981, more than 1,300 SALTers have served in 58 countries. They have walked alongside local communities, and have learned about themselves and the world around them.

After SALT, Sarah wants to continue working in the non-profit world. "I hope that the variety of work and experiences from this year will continue to remind me that my actions make a difference and that I can tackle whatever comes my way."



# WHAT WILL YOUR **LEGACY** BE?

With a gift in your will, you can provide a brighter future for people around the world people like **Hawa Bouba**, who dreams of having clean water for her entire community.

To learn more, visit: mcccanada.ca/legacy-giving



#### A GRASSROOTS LEGACY

In 1972, in Altona, Man., Susan Giesbrecht, Linie Friesen, Selma Loewen and Sara Stoesz opened up the very first MCC Thrift shop. None of them thought the shop would even last the year. "It grew much beyond what I, or any of the four of us, thought it would grow into," says Giesbrecht, now 93 years old.

Before the shop opened, MCC used to ship secondhand clothes all over the world. Eventually, leadership determined the money spent on shipping would be better spent buying supplies locally. That's when the enterprising women came up with the idea to turn used clothing into money.

#### **HELPING PEOPLE**

From the humble, grassroots beginnings, MCC Thrift has grown into a thriving network of 86 shops across Canada and the U.S. Since 1972, these shops have donated more than \$305 million to the work of MCC.

Proceeds from the shops support MCC projects internationally and here at home. When you purchase dishes at your local MCC Thrift shop, you also help provide emergency food for people fleeing conflict in places like Ukraine. When you donate books to an MCC Thrift shop, you're helping to provide reading material to students in places like Rwanda. And when you pick up gently used furniture, you're helping provide support to newcomers in Canada. Each time you shop, donate or volunteer with MCC Thrift, you help make the world a better place. **EXAMPLE** 

Celebrating 50 years of supporting MCC's work in relief, development and peace.

1972-2022

#### **HELPING THE PLANET**

Shopping at MCC Thrift also helps the planet by keeping gently used items out of landfills and reducing the amount of materials used to create new things. As much as possible, MCC Thrift shops work to resell, recycle or upcycle items to reduce waste. In 2020, 1,908 people took the Thrift First pledge and committed to try and shop for secondhand clothes before buying any new items. If each person who signed up bought even three items secondhand instead of new, that would have kept more than 5,700 pieces of clothing out of the landfill!

Together with our volunteers, communities and customers, we are working to create a more sustainable future. "Thrift volunteers and staff are making significant contributions in their communities and in the lives of people around the world. This anniversary is an opportunity to celebrate and thank them for all that they do."

SCOTT D. CAMPBELL, MCC CANADA DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT



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Linie Friesen, Selma Loewen, Susan Giesbrecht and Sara Stoesz founded the first MCC Thrift shop in Altona, Man., in 1972. (MCC photo)



John Funk removes copper from electronics donated to the Kildonan MCC Thrift Shop in Winnipeg, Man. (MCC photo/Matthew Sawatzky)



Alecia Weber sorts footwear in the warehouse at Thrift on Kent in Kitchener, Ont. (MCC photo/Ken Ogasawara)

Mary Thiessen at the MCC Sales Store in Clearbrook, B.C. in November 1975. (MCC photo)

#### MATERIAL RESOURCES

Clara Rodríguez holds two cans of MCC canned meat that she received through an MCC relief distribution in Cuba. (BIC Church of Cuba photo/ Ramon Guisa)

Your support brings relief in times of crisis.

#### Material resources shipped last year:











Relief kits

Sewing kits





5,371 Dignity kits

38,148

Comforters



"We give thanks to God... that this blessing [of boxes of canned meat] could arrive in our hands to bless so many families."

PASTOR JESUS GABRIEL ACOSTA, CUBA

"We are preparing food every day — you have given to our hands something that we can provide to other people." **PAVEL\*. DIRECTOR OF KECB** 

The situation in Cuba was incredibly dire when a shipment of MCC relief kits and canned food arrived. The ongoing pandemic and U.S. trade embargo created a period of immense scarcity. Store shelves were sitting empty in much of the country and people were unable to get the resources they needed.

"People had told me they haven't had an egg or any kind of meat for six months," says Bonnie Klassen, MCC area director for South America, Mexico and Cuba. "They were out of toothpaste, so they were brushing their teeth with soap."

But your caring support meant that people like Clara Rodríguez got the food and hygiene items they desperately needed. Nearly 20,000 kg of supplies including relief kits, hygiene kits and canned chicken - collected and packed by MCC volunteers were distributed by MCC partners in Cuba.



Nurses Olena,\* Tetiana and Tetiana help at the medical station set up by MCC partner St. Clement Centre. The centre has expanded its services to provide emergency humanitarian assistance, including food, hygiene supplies and medical treatment. A doctor, pharmacist and nurses work as part of the team. (Photo courtesy of St. Clement Centre)



Svetlykh\*, 70 years old, lives alone on a small pension in a village\* in the Nikopol district. MCC's partner, New Life Charitable Fund, has a team of 30 volunteers and about seven staff who distribute food packages to Svetlykh and others. New Life is helping internally displaced and transient people who plan to travel further and seek safety in western Ukraine. (Photo courtesy of New Life)

#### UKRAINE **CRISIS – FIRST RESPONSE**

A woman and her grandson at a child-care centre in Ukraine which was turned into a shelter by MCC partner KECB when the conflict escalated in February. The shelter also provides food and other resources like medical care and hygiene products. (Photo courtesy of KECB)

In the midst of war, your support provided emergency food and shelter to people in need.



Staff and volunteers of MCC partner Charitable Foundation Uman Help Center prepare food for vulnerable and internally displaced people. Uman provides MCC hygiene kits and relief kits as well as food and housing assistance to vulnerable residents in the Uman Cherkasy region. They also provide humanitarian supplies and ready-to-eat meals to people evacuated from other locations. (Photo courtesy of Uman)



# **FINANCES**

The financial information on these pages presents the combined operations in Canadian dollars of the MCCs in Canada and the U.S. for the year ended March 31, 2022. More detailed financial and program reporting, as well as complete audited financial statements are available at mcccanada.ca/annual-report.

\*For a detailed list of funding sources see the electronic annual impact report appendix online at mcccanada.ca/annual-report.

#### **TOTAL EXPENSES:** \$93,537,000



Direct program expenses (outer ring) \$74,283,000 79.41%

> Other sources\* Government grants Material resources Non-government grants

### **TOTAL REVENUE:** \$138,036,000

#### Funding sources







496 projects	1,034 workers		
participants in Global Service Learning programs as of July 31, 2021:			
YAMEN	20		
IVEP	15		
SALT	17		
Seed	14		
SOOP	10		
Summerbridge	7		



\$78,987,000