

International Missions

REPORT BY MURRAY CORNELIUS, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT



“The mission of God is being fulfilled today by an army of workers going from every nation to every nation. We are committed to partnerships with multiple indigenous movements around the world. The empowering and release of national workers remains a priority.”

The last two years have afforded me the opportunity to see God reaping His harvest in unique and miraculous ways. Early last year, my friend from Zambia, Harrison Sakala, made the observation that “*you can count the seed, but you can never measure the fruit*”—and it was as if God wanted me to see that truth time after time.

- In 1977, a PAOC global worker preached in a remote village of Bangladesh, and a 14-year-old boy was saved. In 1989, that young man started a ministry that has now planted over 2,000 churches, started over 130 schools, and empowers thousands of women in micro-enterprise. All this is happening in a primarily Muslim nation where the Christian population is less than one per cent. Paul says that one plants, another waters, but it is *God who gives the increase*.
- In the same year, 1977, the PAOC Missions director travelled to Cuba at a time when the church there was completely isolated from the outside world. Only a remnant had survived the severe persecution that came with the Communist Revolution. Leaders will tell you that they were greatly encouraged that a Canadian would make such an effort to visit and encourage them. Since that first visit, God has built a partnership between Canadians and Cubans on multiple fronts and we have had the chance to see God at work in amazing ways. A small seed of friendship and encouragement opened a door to a multifaceted relationship that continues to grow. Today there are 6,000 churches in Cuba and we have had a small part to play in that revival. Over 1,500 pastors are now studying through Global University. *God has given the increase*.
- Thirty-two years ago, the first PAOC global workers arrived in Israel. Today we not only have a world-renowned congregation in the heart of Jerusalem (King of Kings), but there is the fully indigenous Israel College of the Bible with a superb facility, excellent faculty and over 150 students. It is the largest Bible college in the Middle East and is a true testimony to the truth that the dividing wall between Jew and Gentile was taken down by Jesus. Nearly 30 per cent of the students are Arab background believers, studying God’s Word in Hebrew alongside Jewish background believers. *God makes unity real in the body of Christ*.
- Following the terrible droughts and wars of the 1980s, PAOC appointed our first global workers to Ethiopia. Today, we are part of an incredible university student movement with thousands of students at multiple universities impacting the nation. We are in partnership with a movement (People of the Gospel) where many Muslim background believers have come to faith and are being discipled to follow Christ. The church continues to reap an incredible harvest and the revival and miraculous interventions of God continue. Over 1,000 church planters are currently in the field, empowered and released by your global workers. *God does immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine*.

These are just a few of the incredible stories of fruit that cannot be measured. Across Africa, thousands of churches have been planted. In India, there are church planting movements making incredible inroads in the northern,

more difficult states of the nation. In Southeast Asia, the church is growing at an unprecedented rate. The Word of God does not go out in vain; it accomplishes the purpose for which it is sent.

"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."
(Isaiah 55:10-11, NIV)

The whole church taking the whole gospel to the whole world

Forty years ago, in 1974, leaders from around the world met in Lausanne, Switzerland. They made a commitment to world evangelization called *The Lausanne Covenant*. This commitment to holistic, integral mission reflects the philosophy and guiding values of PAOC International Missions. They recognized that world evangelization would require "*The whole church taking the whole gospel to the whole world.*" Forty years later there remain many unreached people groups, and poverty and injustice are prevalent in ever increasing ways. The task is not completed and the PAOC must continue to increase its efforts to help fulfil this commitment.

Our Vision by 2020:

In keeping with the Lausanne Covenant, we hope to increase our impact and:

- Deploy over 420 global workers into kingdom ministry
- Increase our total financial investment internationally from \$28M to \$40M
- Increase our nations of engagement from 74 to 85, with a primary focus on those places where the gospel has not been heard.
- Increase the number of our international partners in kingdom expansion from 101 to 125.

A. The Whole Church

The mission of God is being fulfilled today by an army of workers going from every nation to every nation. We are committed to partnerships with multiple indigenous movements around the world. The empowering and release of national workers remains a priority. We are also committed to partnering with every PAOC church in Canada in their international mission expression as they fulfil God's mission.

We are committed to provide Pentecostal Canadians, who value personal involvement in international missions and humanitarian work, with a Christian **mobilization agency** that

allows those who participate to *realize greater personal impact* as God transforms people who need Jesus.

In the last two years, over 800 PAOC churches collaborated with many individuals to invest over \$28M in the PAOC family of mission agencies. This resulted in over 300 global workers active on the field, thousands of churches planted, tens of thousands of leaders trained and hundreds of thousands of people assisted in the midst of crisis and disaster. The seed we plant is multiplied exponentially.

Shared Funding in Action:

In January 2012, Nishanthe (Nish) and Kristin applied to PAOC International Missions to go to Sri Lanka as global workers. Sri Lanka was where Nish had been a slave, accepted Jesus and developed as a youth leader. Kristin's family (Canadians) had been in ministry in Sri Lanka for some years, and it was there that she met Nish. They have been living and working in Cold Lake, Alberta, with a deep longing to return to Sri Lanka, build a community centre and begin ministering to the next generation.

They began the appointment process with little relationship to our PAOC family apart from their connection to their home church in Cold Lake. This meant that raising support was difficult and very stressful. During that time, Darcy McAlister (director of personnel and family life with International Missions) worked with Dallas Siggelkow, our Alberta District Missions Representative, to get them into a few churches. Their coach, Mark Running, gave them advice on how to connect with pastors.

The turning point was when Dallas facilitated a commissioning at the Alberta District Conference

in 2013. Something spiritual happened and churches began to connect with them. That was followed up by a connection with Sylvan Lake Camp and another Alberta family camp. They became part of the Alberta PAOC family. In their last few weeks in Canada, they still needed finances for a vehicle. In August 2013, they spoke in Bonnyville, AB. The church there took an offering of \$14,000 for them. Then on their last Sunday in Canada, September 2013, their church in Cold Lake commissioned them. At the end of the first service, Pastor Lance Steeves invited them up so he could pray over them. He told them that the church had heard that they needed help to get a vehicle. He then presented them with a cheque for \$15,000. Cold Lake has two Sunday morning services, so Lance took the cheque back and said they would have to do the presentation again at the end of the second service. At the end of the second service he presented them with the cheque for \$15,000, but paused for a moment. He told them that the church wanted to be sure that they had enough for a good vehicle and enough for their account to be 100 per cent funded. He then presented them with a second cheque for \$15,000. Needless to say, Kristin and Nish were overwhelmed beyond words!

We are thankful to our local churches and our district leadership for the collaborative way in which shared funding has been happening for many of our global workers. In the case of Nish and Kristin, the local church came up big with huge support, and the district leadership promoted this couple at district conferences and camps. Together, the church in Alberta raised the necessary support. Alberta put the *sharing* into Shared Funding.

PAOC Global Worker Report

Regional Director	Region	Global Workers 2006	Countries 2006	Global Workers 2013	Countries 2013
David & Lena Boyd	Eurasia	29	8	42	14
Anonymous	RAN	29	2	53	7
James & Colleen Guskjolen	Latin America & the Caribbean	19	5	51	12
Stephen & Heather Chaloner	Africa	78	12	84	16
Peter & Sandra McIntosh	Southeast Asia	14	4	68	9
	Other			3	
	World Total	169	31	301	58

PAOC International Missions Family of Mission Agencies – Financial Report

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
PAOC International Missions	15,423,000	15,520,000	16,015,000	15,527,000	16,207,000
ERDO	7,341,000	7,939,000	6,918,000	6,722,000	7,975,000
RAN	1,124,000	1,498,000	1,975,000	1,925,000	2,047,000
Mission Link	1,347,000	486,000	615,000	608,000	797,000
Village of Hope	633,000	1,090,000	1,160,000	950,000	1,393,000
RPEC International					42,000
TOTAL	25,868,000	26,533,000	26,683,000	25,732,000	28,461,000

B. The Whole Gospel

When we speak of mission, we must think of all that God is doing in His great purpose for the whole of creation and its redemption. Our mission is to collaborate with His mission. We **reach** lost people with a message of heart transformation. We bring a message of unity and reconciliation, **planting** communities of Jesus followers as the people of God are formed into a new humanity and are built in His image. We **equip** leaders from any nation and any people who are called by God to works of service. We **care** for people in crisis. We remain committed to a holistic expression of the gospel that is concerned for the whole person.

Global Summit: Freedom 2013

In the fall of 2013, we hosted our second Global Summit that featured just a few of the choice men and women of God from around the world that partner with us and our global workers. It was your opportunity to engage with international leaders from the frontlines of the mission of God and to engage with select, dynamic leaders who live and work in the midst of the neediest people of our world. We offered this summit in five locations across the country and our guests ministered in numerous churches. The offerings (\$18,000) from the event were shared with three international ministries, and significant other resources were raised in churches to support these men and women from various nations.

C. The Whole World

In the last two years we have continued to expand the impact of the PAOC and now have residential global workers in **58** countries while we are engaged actively in **74** countries. New countries of activity in the last two years include South Sudan, Malaysia, Germany, Lithuania, and Burundi. In addition, we are exploring opportunities in collaboration with our national partners to bring the gospel to North Africa and the Middle East, Central Asia and difficult nations like Laos and Bhutan.

The focus of our work over the last 10 years has increasingly shifted towards least reached people groups and we find most of them in Southeast Asia, the Middle East and North Africa. Therefore, we continue to look for new ways to engage this part of the world. Consider Northern India alone. It represents 800 million predominantly religious people, and 99 per cent do not have any relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Operational Developments

1. Financial Growth

We are thankful to our churches and many generous donors that have enabled us to increase our finances over the last two years by 7 per cent. While 2012 was a difficult year, 2013 was a year of significant blessing for which we are grateful. We are happy to report that for the first time in 10 years we are debt free. Over the last eight years we have slowly addressed operational debt, and in 2013 this has been completely eliminated.

At the end of the year, we were able to share over \$500,000 where it was most needed, including global workers and projects. I want to thank all of those who have helped with the promotion of International Missions, particularly my fellow officers, David Wells and David Hazzard, and for their efforts to raise significant funding.

I also note the steady growth in our RAN (Restricted Access Nation) work, the Villages of Hope, and ERDO, ensuring that all of our charitable entities are enjoying a significant measure of fruitfulness.

2. Report from GlobalED

The PAOC continues to partner with 34 pastoral training ministries in 27 countries around the world. Empowering and releasing leaders to their own nations and to neighbours with similar culture and language remains a priority.

Dr. Irving Whitt has given great leadership to this ministry, consulting with many of our colleges as well as developing a scholarship Initiative, The Timothy Fund, which has helped many students to complete their education.

Dr. Whitt has brought his service as the director of GlobalED to a conclusion, but will continue to offer consultation on a contract basis as his health allows. In the interim, **David Boyd** has taken leadership for the balance of 2014.

We express sincere thanks to Irving and Ruth Whitt for the years of very dedicated service to International Missions and for their contributions to our theology of mission, our understanding of cross-cultural communication and our holistic strategies.

3. Pre-field Training for all Global Workers

All new global workers are now given live, online training in a learning community. This includes training in over 12 different courses such as theology of missions, cross-cultural communications, fundraising, world religions, and other appropriate topics. In addition, we have developed SEGUE, an annual 10-day training and fellowship retreat for all new global workers and current workers on home assignment. It is a time where family values are communicated and lifelong relationships with peers are encouraged.

4. ZOE Projects

In order to support the many initiatives that focus on women's issues around the world, we have developed a ministry called ZOE Projects. In partnership with the Women's Ministry Network, we are encouraging the women's ministries in our churches to partner with the initiatives of our global workers and national partners as they seek to empower and encourage women in a variety of nations.

5. RPEC International

In order to make donations from friends and supporters in the U.S. available to our global workers, we have established RPEC (Reaching, Planting, Equipping, Caring) International. This registered charity can facilitate all donations made either online or by cheque and provides U.S. donors with a U.S. tax receipt. If there are any donors in your churches who desire to donate to ministries overseas or in Canada through the U.S., we can utilize this charity for those purposes.

Address:

RPEC International
26861 Trabuco Rd. Ste E #63
Mission Viejo, CA, 92691

www.rpecinternational.com

6. Web Development and Online Giving

We have worked hard to make online giving to the many projects and global workers much more efficient. To that end, the PAOC website has been updated and redesigned to facilitate user-friendly navigation. The new platform interfaces with Facebook and other social media tools to keep information available in real time. All donors will also be able to manage their own accounts and track all donations through the PAOC.

"The mission of God is being fulfilled today by an army of workers going from every nation to every nation."

Thank you to the following global workers who transitioned back to Canada:

- The Hermelinks (Charles and Connie) are now working with Mission Canada after seven years of service.
- The Heymans (Rob and Carol-Lee) returned from Thailand to pastoral ministry in Canada after 12 years on the field.
- The Halliwells (Glen and Kerry) returned from Malawi to pastoral ministry in Canada after 19 years on the field.
- The Schells (Gary and Marvelyn) returned from South Africa to pastoral ministry after 11 years on the field.
- The Radfords (Will and Sharon) returned from Senegal to education in Canada after eight years on the field.
- The Reimers (Joel and Brandi) returned from India to lay ministry after three years on the field.
- The Mittelstaedts (Len and Marilyn) returned from Tanzania to Canada after a 10-year term of service.
- The Mittelstaedts (Rich and Carli) returned from Tanzania to Canada after four years on the field.
- The Middlebrooks (Mike and Sheila) returned from Kenya to pastoral ministry in Canada after a seven-year term of service.
- Marg Foreman retired after a nine-year term of service.
- The Mittelstaedts (Marty and Margit) returned after four years on the field.
- The Prices (Matt and Amber) returned after seven years on the field.
- The Verges (Carl and Marion) returned after 13 years of service.
- The Werners (George and Eileen) returned after two years of service.

We also note with sadness that we lost **Cathy Martin** early last year after a brave 20-year battle with cancer. Her final years of service in Turkey were very fruitful and we miss her huge contributions to our missions family. We pray for God's blessing and peace on **Mike** and the family.

Personnel Changes

I would like to thank **Rick Tozer** who served as the director of global operations and development for nine years. He played a significant role in the recent years of growth and in developing an International Missions culture of care and excellence. He is greatly missed. We are happy to introduce **Keith Waara** as our new director of development and strategic Initiatives. In addition, we have promoted **Victoria Ninaber**, who has served International Missions for over 10 years, to be our director of global operations and communications.

Please take a moment to carefully read each of our regional directors' (RD) reports on the following pages. I thank the Lord for these exceptional couples who provide leadership around the world. There is also an excellent report from David Adcock on the work of ERDO. I would also like to thank our Eurasia regional director, David Boyd, and his wife, who will conclude their service there at the end of 2014. After 10 years of serving the Eurasia region, they

will continue to be a part of our International Missions family, giving full attention to Business as Mission, focusing on bringing the good news to the marketplace.

I thank **Darcy McAlister** and **Victoria Ninaber** for the senior leadership they provide to the International Missions home team and I appreciate all those they lead.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for your support and encouragement as Cindy and I give leadership to the International Missions focus of the PAOC. These last eight years have been a joy for us. We are proud of our global workers, we are inspired by our national partners around the world, and we are humbled by the confidence you have placed in us.

Above all, we thank the Lord for taking His seed and making it immeasurably fruitful.

Murray and Cindy Cornelius

IM Leadership Team



Murray & Cindy Cornelius



Keith & Andrea Waara



Darcy & Leanne McAlister



Victoria & Jonathan Ninaber