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Missionary Opportunity With Mission Canada

POSITION: Children's Worker(s) (city-wide)
City of Iqaluit, Nunavut Territory

ROLE STRUCTURE: Full time missionary appointment
4 year term
Shared funded
Facilitated by Mission Canada and the Eastern Ontario District of the PAOC

LOCAL PARTNERS: Iqaluit Pentecostal Church, Pastors Wayne and Linda Moore

MISSION ENVIRONMENT

WHERE: Iqaluit, Nunavut is a Canadian Eastern Arctic Community located on Baffin Island. The capital of Nunavut, Canada's newest territory, it is a remote, fly-in community, just below the Arctic Circle, 1500 miles north of Ottawa with a population of 7,500. The population, infrastructure, and government services have grown at an amazing rate. Iqaluit has an international airport, modern hospital, many conveniences and more recreational activities than most southern towns of similar size. There is an abundance of cultural experiences and outdoor adventures and a wealth of natural attractions. Located at the head of Frobisher Bay and steps from the picturesque Sylvia Grinnell River, you will find Thule archaeological sites, a variety of Arctic plants and wildlife and the best fishing and hiking in North America.

WHO: The Inuit represent approximately 85 per cent of Iqaluit's population with Inuktitut spoken in 60 per cent of the Inuit homes. Iqaluit has had a high rate of population growth over the past decade resulting in the youngest population in Canada. Approximately 60 per cent of the population is under 25 years of age (92 per cent of whom are Inuit) and 41 per cent of the population is under 16 years. Unlike most of Canada, a very large segment of the population is quite young. There are eight daycares, three elementary schools, a middle school, high school and community college. Sadly, there are also high rates of teenage pregnancy, school dropouts, substance abuse and suicide.

WHAT: Reaching children is the first priority. The need is for a mission team (ideally, a husband-wife team) whose focus is school age children from Kindergarten to grade 8. Secondary focuses may include pre-school age children and equipping parents as they raise the next generation. With the town's huge child and teenage population, Iqaluit has been dubbed the "Fountain of Youth". But the reality is that far too many young people find themselves struggling by the time they reach high school. A mission team with a focus on children can have a great impact in this community as they teach values, standards for living, self-esteem, confidence, morals based on Christian principles, and then can direct them to a hope for life through personal salvation.

THE MISSION TEAM – CORE NEEDS

The team should consist of at least two people, ideally a husband and wife. Core needs for the team:

- a) **Culturally sensitive.** The work will be in English, however Iqaluit is an Inuit community, thus most work and ministry will be to the Inuit people. A knowledge and understanding of Inuit life is necessary. Ability to gain trust and respect in a new community.

- b) ***Flexible and open-minded.*** More than elsewhere, the worker(s) will be subject to influences of weather, facilities, resources, costs, etc.
- c) ***Enterprising and Resourceful.*** Ministry will be built right from scratch, including the development of contacts and networks. Ability to listen, learn, strategize, collaborate and follow through on the recognized needs of youth in the community.
- d) ***Focused and Self-Motivated.*** The opportunity is located in the far north, without any road connections. The ability to live and work in an isolated community with harsh winters is an absolute must.
- e) ***Skilled in Children's Ministry.*** Each team member will have either strong training or extensive experience in Children's Ministry.
- f) ***Accountable in all areas.*** Because this is a collaborative initiative, the team must be able to work with multiple accountabilities to the partners and stakeholders.
- g) ***Fundraising ability.*** The team must have a demonstrated ability or a willingness to learn to raise an approved budget each year.
- h) ***PAOC Credential.*** Ideally the candidate(s) will possess a PAOC credential. In lieu of that, there must be willingness and ability to gain one.

PRELIMINARY MISSION TASKS:

1. Establish relationships with school authorities, principals and teachers, with the goal of reaching children in the public school system (Grades K to 8). Programs such as children's character building and leadership based programs might be offered during school hours.
2. Develop and run children's afterschool and week-end programs that focus on skills, achievements and building relationships with Christian values (ie. sports, crafts, BG Club, block parties, movie nights).
3. Organize and run seasonal and annual events that can impact the lives of children spiritually and otherwise (ie. Camps, VBS, rallies).
4. Work with local teachers, counselors, coaches and guides.

INQUIRIES / INTEREST:

For further information, or to express an interest in this Mission Canada Missionary Opportunity, please email missioncanada@paoc.org or call Mission Canada at (905) 542-7400.

Date: October 29, 2010.



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