



# IMPACT REPORT

2020





## MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Ministry Partner,

During this year of 2020, it has been difficult to keep our focus on Christ and not on the Covid-19 pandemic. However, when I think of Christmas, I am reminded that Christmas is about a **Promise**. In Genesis 3:15, the Father promised a Seed that would overcome sin and Satan. I am reminded of the **Proclamation** in Luke 2 given by the angels about good news and great joy for all people. That heavenly announcement was about a **Person**, who is Jesus Christ the Lord, the Saviour of the world. With that great news of salvation through faith in Christ, my heart begins to **Praise** my heavenly Father for the indescribable gift. Again, this year, many young people have come to faith in Christ through the ministry of Word of Life Canada. Our two Bible Institutes are moulding and shaping young hearts and minds to show Jesus Christ to the world. Thank you for partnering with us in prayer and finances to reach Canada's youth with the Gospel. Together, we can **Proclaim** that **Promise** about the **Person** of Christ to the **Praise** of our heavenly Father.

Peter H. Verkaik, Executive Director  
Word of Life Canada  
Acts 20:24

# ABOUT WORD OF LIFE



Since the very first Word of Life youth club started in 1964, our desire has always been to see revival in Canada, starting with our youth. Understanding the challenge it is to reach every young person in Canada, we focus on three main avenues of ministry:



## BIBLE & LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Raising up leaders and equipping them to live a life that glorifies God.



## SUMMER & WINTER CAMPS

Providing a safe and fun environment for kids and teens to learn about God.



## LOCAL CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS

Supporting youth ministries in the church and providing teaching resources and special events.

### *Our commitment*

*By staying true to the Word of God while offering programs that are relevant in today's culture, we believe that God will continue to bless our ministry!*



# BIBLE SCHOOLS

"I think the most influential part of my year at WOLBI was the importance put on sharing my faith and what I learned. I can grow all I want but I also need to share that with others around me and help them grow. And being given opportunities to do that both at home and at school was absolutely amazing and also helped me to grow in my faith as well." - Bible Student



At the start of the school year, I had very little joy for getting into God's Word, especially for myself. But now that I understand more about Who God is and what His Word really says - having the keys to be able to understand it better and now getting into the application section in Hermeneutics - I am making progress, and most importantly I AM ENJOYING MY TIME WITH GOD instead of that time being out of a sense of duty! That has been a major transformation for me!

- Bible Student



*Students at our Bible Institutes desire to deepen their faith, grow in community and lay a foundation of truth that will carry them for the rest of their lives. From the classroom to the dorms, one year at the Word of Life Bible Institute changes how students view God, themselves, and their world.*

## *Bible Training*

Since 1994 over 1,500 students have attended the Word of Life Bible Institutes in Canada. The year spent studying the Bible under the instruction of gifted and knowledgeable teachers from across North America and doing life together with students from all over Canada has had a significant impact in their spiritual growth. Opportunities to develop a heart for ministry and the skills to be effective in a variety of ministry settings including in the local church, in camps, and on the streets are an added benefit to this amazing year. The combination of study, ministry and discipleship in the program makes it one of the most unique programs in the country.



# SUMMER & WINTER CAMPS

We had very successful winter camps in 2020 with over 900 young people attending our camps and over 400 of them making life changing decisions. Talking about their experience at winter camp some campers said:



"I thought this weekend was great because everyone was kind here and we can get to know each other better. The activities were fun too and I also got to learn more about God!"

-Winter Camper



## *Camping ministry*

For over 35 years Word of Life has provided summer and winter camping experiences that focus on social, spiritual and physical needs of children, teens and families. As part of a larger, worldwide camping ministry that has operated in many countries around the world for over 70 years, we know how needed and effective camps are in the lives of young people. In a world drowning in the noise and intensity of life, Word of Life camps provide the perfect setting to unplug and grow closer to God and others.

"As every year, the camp was high in energy and centered on the gospel. It is a good tool that makes youth leaders connect with their youth and also for young people to take time to question themselves outside of their daily lives. The young people really liked the slides, the entertainment, the challenges, the staff and the poutine. They can't wait to go back!"

- Youth Leader



*The pandemic of 2020 meant that we were not able to hold our summer camps this year. There was an obvious financial impact from this, but more importantly, we were not able to share the gospel with over 500 children and teens on our properties. Because the campuses were empty, we were able to spend time upgrading the dorm facilities on both properties this summer, which will make the experience better for future students and campers.*



## LOCAL CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS AND EVENTS

For nearly 60 years in Canada, Word of Life has been partnering with the local church to provide high quality resources to assist churches in reaching and discipling young people. Evangelistic events like the Folies Lunaires in Montreal have been effective tools for sharing the gospel with hundreds of youth every year in an environment filled with fun and activity. 850 teens and leaders attended the event in 2019, with 20 teens making salvation decisions and 30 more making dedication decisions. We praise the Lord for His work in the lives of these young people.



"We praise God for the ministry of Parole de Vie, Quebec. Last winter, after denied visas to France, we were scrambling and wondering if we really would be able to learn French and make it to West Africa for medical ministry. Through the Lord's providence in so many different ways, the staff at Parole de Vie welcomed us with open arms, despite being 2 weeks late to start their winter semester. Despite the changes and adjustment that COVID brought to all of our lives, the staff at Parole de Vie has been relentless in helping and equipping us for French language learning and ministry in the francophone world."

- Language Student



## FRENCH LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Since 1950 a desire to equip missionaries going to serve in francophone countries has allowed Parole de Vie to be involved in sending out over 1,550 missionaries and other individuals able to use their French training in missions and professional capacities around the francophone world.

## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Word of Life Canada is focused on seeing young people's lives changed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Many prospective students lack the funds to be able to attend the Bible Institute and/or our camps. Our Scholarship Fund helps provide for these campers and students and we need your help!



## CAMPER SCHOLARSHIPS

We believe that every youth should have an opportunity to go to camp. Our scholarship fund is designed to help those who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford it.

Your donation to the camper scholarship fund will help send a child or teen to camp and provide them with a week in a safe and fun environment where God's Word is clearly presented.



## BIBLE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Many students have a desire to come and study God's Word at our Bible Institutes, but do not have the financial resources to pay the costs for the year at Word of Life.

Donating to the Bible School Scholarship Fund will enable a young person to spend a year learning and growing in their knowledge of the Word and their relationship with the Lord.

Find out more  
and give online:  
[WOL.CA/DONATE](http://WOL.CA/DONATE)

# OUR YEAR **in NUMBERS**

**4425**  
EVENT  
ATTENDANCE

**930**  
WINTER  
CAMPERS

**0**  
SUMMER  
CAMPERS

**15**  
BIBLE CLUBS

**154**  
SALVATION  
DECISIONS

**45**  
BIBLE & LANGUAGE  
SCHOOL STUDENTS

**249**  
DEDICATIONS

# FINANCIAL REPORT

*thank  
you!*

for partnering with us at Word of Life Canada through prayer and finances, which enables us to impact thousands of young people across Canada.

## 2020 REVENUE

59% Contributions & Support  
22% Program Revenues  
19% Other



## 2020 EXPENSES

46% Personnel  
15% Programs  
15% Insurance, taxes, utilities  
23% other



## 2019 REVENUE

61% Contributions & Support  
30% Program Revenues  
8% Other



## 2019 EXPENSES

43% Personnel  
32% Programs  
10% Insurance, taxes, utilities  
15% other





# Word of Life

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