# Interserve Newsletter



#### **Moving Forward with Thanksgiving**

Sheila McKelvie

Stepping in as your interim National Director I have 'big shoes to fill.' I am thankful to Richard Piet for the firm foundation he has built in our office for the past 4 years as National Director.

I am thankful for the way God has provided for Interserve through our staff, partners and supporters. We can say with the Psalmist, 'we are filled with good things of your house..." (Psalm 65: 4b).

The board is accepting applications and continuing the search for a new National Director. In the interim, I, along with the rest of the staff, move forward building on this foundation.

We covet your prayers for our team, this transition, this search, and for the good work that Interserve continues to be part of.



## **Building our Country Team in Canada**

While Interserve has numerous 'Country Teams' throughout Asia and the Arab World, where we have been serving for over 167 years, forming Country Teams in the northern minority countries is still relatively new. Our concepts of sending and receiving have been blurred as God stirs up teams within our own borders to serve Asian and Arabic peoples living here amongst us.

When the Interserve Canada board approved the formation of a "Canada Country Team" in May 2017, it was with full acknowledgement that this is a response to God's plan - we are a people called by God to devote ourselves

to the Gospel of Jesus. The Canada Country Team is distinguished from our National Office staff, who serve our partners all over the world – this team is a group of people from all over the world, who have been called to wholistic ministry amongst the unreached Asian and Arabic peoples living within our borders here in Canada.

We currently have five Partners based in Southern Ontario. We would love to see more join the country team to work with people from Asia and the Arab World in other cities. Please join us in prayer as we support together a thriving, fledgling, and growing Canada Country Team. These are a group of the Lord's servants: humble, faithful, and wholly committed to the Good News of Jesus for all nations!



### Gathering of Partners and friends of Interserve Canada

The Interserve Canada team held their annual retreat earlier this year, May 3 – 5, 2019, at Crieff Hills in Ontario. We were 27 folks, including our International Regional Director, a few board members; some national office team members; and our Ministry Team who are working in Canada. It was a refreshing time of worship, ministry updates, prayer, nurturing, some business, and walks in the beautiful lands. We praise God for the gift of this time serving each other through food, music, prayer, and fellowship.



Jen Oates is currently raising support and hoping for deployment to Thailand. She is preparing for a season of language and culture learning and plans to teach ESL. Jen will be partnering with a local Thai church, and her focus will be with the children and youth ministry.

Anie Hjir is currently raising support. Her ministry is in Toronto, Canada, with Arabic-speaking newcomers as mentioned in 'The Sojourners Among Us' newsletter.

Please consider partnering with us and supporting Jen and Anie through prayer as they continue to raise financial support.



#### Interserve Canada

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