

The Canada Country Team

Interserve Newsletter
October 2017



A Letter from Richard Piet National Director

Interserve has responded to God's work here in Canada by creating the Canada Country Team; a team based in Canada reaching out to unbelievers.

It seems like everywhere you look in the world today, there is conflict. This is affecting the missions community as countries are closing their doors to outsiders. Though this may seem discouraging, God is opening some new and exciting doors.

God is bringing the harvest to us! As countries are closing, Canada is open to refugees, immigrants and newcomers. People are coming to Canada from countries where North Americans are unable to live and

work, and share the Gospel. Our Partners reach out to new Canadians, build friendships and share the Good News. This is an amazing opportunity for the Church to participate in God's work here in Canada.

Furthermore, as the internet becomes more readily available to people worldwide, we are seeing an opportunity to reach out to Asia and the Arab World through the internet. Our Partners can be based in Canada and use the internet to reach others, disciple new Christians and support the persecuted Church. We are then able to travel to Asia and the Arab World to build on the relationships we have formed digitally.

Beyond our Muslim ministries, God has opened other doors in Canada. We are working to combat human trafficking, and advocate on behalf of the vulnerable. We are ready to train and equip the Church to reach out more effectively in their communities. The Interserve Canada Country Team works with the Church to share the Good News here in Canada and throughout Asia and the Arab world. Together, we bear witness to the Gospel in all aspects of life. We foster deep relationships with newcomers to Canada, advocate on behalf of those who do not have a voice, disciple new believers and respond to God's leading. We are ordinary Christians using our diverse, God-given skills to teach and build up the communities where we live and work.

Canada's Open Door Policy

“From 2016 - January 2017,
Canada admitted the largest number of refugees in a
single year in nearly four decades.”

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

46,700 refugees were admitted
into Canada.

Approximately,
60% were government assisted and
40% were privately sponsored.



The top 5 countries
of origin:

Syria: **33,266**

Eritrea: **3,934**

Iraq: **1,650**

Congo: **1,644**

Afghanistan: **1,354**

300,000 new permanent residents
arrived in Canada

Canada Country Team

Our Canada team continues to evolve and grow, and we are excited about who God is adding to our numbers. Let me introduce you to a few of our Patners based in Canada.

Aiden

Aiden is working with Adam House, a home for refugees located in Toronto. Aiden shares the Word of God with newcomers to Canada, particularly from the Muslim world, by sharing his life with them, supporting them as they settle into Canada and encouraging them along the way. Even after the newcomers have left Adam House, Aiden encourages them to contact him for continued support. Aiden's work is varied, involving direct contact with refugees and providing bridges of communication between the newcomers and the local churches or groups who want to get involved in this important ministry.

Margaret and Joel

Until recently, Margaret and Joel have lived in Central Asia teaching English with a passion to share the Good News of Jesus. They built deep friendships with their students and neighbours while displaying Christ through their interactions. Now, Joel and Margaret are based in Canada and continue to build friendships with New Canadians.

Joel and Margaret are working with Pamir Productions, a media-ministry focused on Afghanistan. They produce materials for Afghans everywhere, disciple Afghan believers, and train and motivate them to disciple others.

Tony and Linda*

Tony and Linda, live in Canada reaching out to the Backward Castes of India. In 2009, they started a monthly magazine published and distributed in India, to give India's silenced majority a voice and a unique perspective on social issues. The magazine educates readers with the biblical worldview that all men and women have equal value and dignity. It also gives advice to youth and offers articles on family issues like marriage and parenting, thus bringing the light of Christ's teachings to a culture where these issues are not typically addressed and where they are much needed. The magazine has gained much popularity and continues to be rated among the top five read Hindi magazines. Tony and Linda are also equipping a church in Canada to reach out locally and globally more effectively.

*For security reasons, names have been changed.

If you would like more information on the Canada Country Team please email connect@interservecanada.org or call 416.499.7511.

What's New

Interserve Welcomes New Partners!

Sarah Wong

Sarah is passionate about walking with people in their life's journey so that they can know the full life that Jesus brings. With a background in social work, Sarah went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 2014 – 2016 as an On Tracker with InterServe. While there she supported local social workers within an anti-human trafficking organization, Daughters of Cambodia. As the field of social work continues to grow in Cambodia, Sarah is returning as a Partner to engage in building and equipping the local social workers.



Weng and Tan

Weng and Tan are a wise and culturally-aware couple that use their professional skills to help those in need living in South Asia and Southeast Asia. Weng is an architect and project engineer who, among other things, oversaw the design and construction of power plants. Tan was CFO at Chosen People Ministries and has now taken on counselling ministries.

After an earthquake struck South Asia in 2015, Weng and Tan both sensed the Lord was pushing them to use their skills in areas of need. Weng and Tan are committed to heading to Asia for 3 – 6 months per year to oversee construction projects. For now, their main project will be providing better-designed housing in a village that collapsed in the earthquake that hit South Asia. This work is done in conjunction with a local church.