



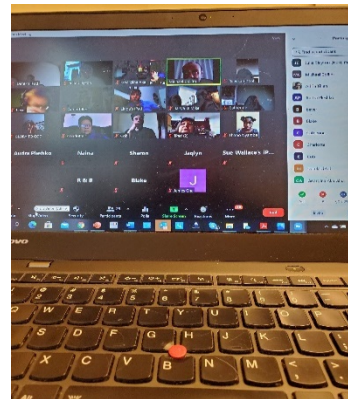
February 13, 2021

Greetings Members of Cross Culture:

### **Cross Culture Annual Report - 2020**

This past year, we started off focused on what it would look like to be a church that had a 20/20 Vision. What would it look like to see Jesus more clearly, know Jesus and sharpen our focus to do his work in the world? In our history as a Church, could there have been a year marked by more unknown and unpredictability? If we process this year only through the world's eyes, we will see great stress and despair. If we look with eyes of faith, we can see that God indeed has been doing a new thing among us – calling us out of the routine and predictability of what we once knew, pressing us deeper to Himself and closer to each other. COVID-19 has not diminished the Church's power to move *in the Spirit* and *with the Spirit* as a new path has been set before us. This year's highlights include:

1. **Continued Connection & Caring Ministries:** Aligning with the Provincial Guidelines given and updated since March, we have developed our comfort and familiarity with on-line zoom meetings. Our connections have grown through this and have become an evangelistic platform to invite others. We have grown in international flavour, and our fellowship has extended beyond the walls of our physical meeting place.



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## 2. Growth in Outdoor Ministry:



*Tree Tree Tree* Queen's Park has become a familiar location for us to meet and connect within COVID guidelines. First, in multiple places in groups less than ten and then no more than 50 people at the park and now conducting important Celebrate Recovery Meetings. Who would have known this is how God would lead us in 2020? We serve a God of surprises!



## 3. New Partnerships & Community Connections:

- a) **Missionary Support - Downtown Eastside** - This year, through the faithful ministry of our brother Aaron White, we have become partners with his work in the Downtown Eastside. This has included support for Jacob's Well, which Aaron runs as a community gathering place and 24/7 Prayer Ministries. Over 150 prayer rooms were registered across Canada in this past year and connected over 300 churches with training, support and resources in the area of prayer, mission and justice.



b) **Little Warriors** – Our work with LW has strengthened in this



last year, with the offering of \$20,000 total toward the awareness,

little.  
warriors

prevention and treatment of Child Sexual Abuse. Glori Meldrum (Founder & CEO) was a recent speaker at our Wednesday night “This is My Story” Our work together will continue in this next year.

c) **Extension Work-** We continue to link our prayers and practical resources toward the work of Dr.’s Blake and Jenny MacKay as they work to deliver healing and hope to isolated communities in Northern Ontario. We have also supported the study of our sister Thabo Nyambe in India. Our connection with Thabo came through Dr. Sue Wallace’s work in Africa. How creative is God in his plan for our lives.



Sandy Lake Pandemic Response 2020 is sharing a COVID-19 Update. 23h · 🌐

Second video of Doctors Jenny and Blake MacKay getting the covid vaccine. Welcome to Sandy Lake and thanks for joining our team! Meegwech for doing your part protecting our community from COVID-19.



d) **To Africa with Love**



Cross Culture has again shown its generosity by financially supporting the impoverished and most needy residents of Zimba, Zambia Africa in 2020. This community is where Dr. Sue Wallace has volunteered at an Eye Hospital since 2006. Through Cross Cultures financial gifts we have made a difference in the lives of many impoverished families. Micro loans are used to set up small business ventures and have allowed women to be able to feed their families and provide the opportunity for their children to attend school. Thabo

who is currently attending school in India and has been a part of the Zoom service on Sundays is from Zimba and her father Passwell has been instrumental in identifying those individuals most in need of assistance. Since COVID 19 the economy in Zambia has been hit hard and there are no government assistance programs available so our financial help has been a blessing to many.



- e) **Key West Ford-** In September 2020, we were the recipients of a 15 seater passenger van to assist in the transport of volunteers and food to the



Downtown Eastside. We are so grateful to the generosity of Adam Isfeld and the team at Key West Ford – everyone should buy a vehicle there!

- f) **Burnaby Fellowship-** Our friends at Burnaby Fellowship are deeply valued community partners as we care about the same things and desire to see people’s lives change for good. Thank you BFC for maintaining a space for meetings when it has been possible and for partnering with us in our first 2020 Christmas Toy Drive.
- g) **Agriculture Canada** – a good portion of the year was spent grant writing and conversing with our friends at Agriculture Canada who have subsequently provided us with a substantial grant that will be used to purchase a full food truck. Special thanks to Richard Willie, Dr. Sue Wallace and Jeff Webster, who have provided helpful guidance in navigating this purchase. We hope to finalize this within the next month or so.
- h) **BCIT Website Development** – We are excited to report our connection with a team of website design students at BCIT who are assisting us in developing our own Cross Culture Website. We hope to launch in short order. Teresa Szymborscy has agreed to serve as our points person for this.

#### 4. Continuing Community Work

a) **Street Ministry -Downtown East Side**



COVID 19 has now forced Street Ministry to adjust to current regulations to protect our volunteers and the people we serve in the Downtown East side. As we are no longer allowed to serve food directly from the food truck, we have adapted to making individual bagged meals, which include hot soup, sandwiches, sweets and fruit. These changes have also made more bread and buns available for donation. We have a group of volunteers that cut and bag the extra bread and bring it to several food

banks and schools in New Westminster and Burnaby. COVID 19 also means that the number of volunteers allowed in the kitchen for food preparation has been limited, but we hope to again welcome back the high school student volunteers. Another blow early on in the pandemic was the loss of the use of the Salvation Army food truck. Fortunately, we were blessed by a generous donation of a 15 passenger vehicle from Key West Ford in New Westminister which has allowed us to continue with this much needed ministry. We are a ministry of volunteers who believe passionately in helping the poor and food insecure both locally in our community, and in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.

b) **Christmas 2020**



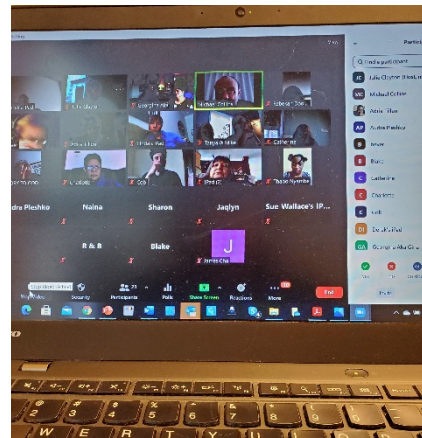
This year Cross Culture Ministries supported over 30 families with toys and food for Christmas. Hampers were prepared and delivered throughout the city and for those alone on Christmas Day, a team of volunteers prepared Christmas dinner and gifts. These were delivered with a personal visit on Christmas Day. Special thanks to a fine team that assisted in this effort including, Tanya & Mike Mahnke, Linda Kozak, Dr. Sue Wallace,



Barb Fullerton, Catherine Miles, and all who contributed Christmas baking & goodies.

## 5. Continuing Discipleship Ministries

- a) **Mid Week Meetings** – through COVID we have maintained and sustained two mid-week bible study fellowship groups. Special thanks to Jules McLeod for leadership of the Wednesday morning Starbucks crew. Wednesday evening zoom meetings will continue for mid-week worship and teaching.



## 6. Increased Membership & Baptisms



We are a Church that has grown through COVID-19, adding new members to our fellowship, expanding our Board. We also celebrated seven baptisms. How awesome is this!

## 7. Board Membership

Special thanks to all who have served this year on our Board including:  
President – Dr. Julie Clayton      Vice President- Gareth Wagner  
Secretary/Treasurer – Catherine Miles  
Members at Large:  
Michael Collins, Jim Armstrong, Richard Willie, Dr. Sue Wallace

Current Board members are willing to continue serving.

### **Recommendation:**

Teresa Szymborscy – Secretary  
Jules McLeod – Member at Large

Respectfully submitted.

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