

# SUCCESSION CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**DECEMBER 2022** 

# **OUR MISSION**

For over 70 years, FEBC's mission has always been to use technology, beginning with radio broadcasting, to bring the Gospel to hard-to-reach people groups in their own languages.

Unreached people groups are defined as any ethnic group with less than 2% evangelical Christians, the threshold needed for them to reach their own people.

In the year 1900, nearly 900 million people had little to no Gospel access. In the 117 years since, that number has grown to 2.1 billion people (or 29% of the world's population). By 2050, researchers project that this number will continue to grow to 2.7 billion. Tragically, only about 3% of global missionaries serve this 29%.

FEBCanada's ministry focuses on supplementing global missionary efforts. We partner with churches and individuals across Canada as their missional extension to reach people with limited Gospel access.

Every generation will find the mission field dynamic and evolving as the world is constantly shaped by external forces due to geo-political, religious, and economic challenges: Russian invasion of Ukraine, China's aggressive restriction on religious freedom, and economic aftermath of a COVID-19 pandemic.

# SUCCESSION

The definition of a "Movement" in the church-planting context is when a number of the initial churches have reproduced fourth generation (great-grandchildren or later) churches. When this ongoing reproduction happens in multiple 'family-tree branches', critical mass and ability to reproduce is achieved. This does not seem to be the case if the reproduction stops at only second-generation (children) or third-generation (grandchildren) churches.

If FEBCanda's ministry as a para-church is reaching our fourth-generation of board leadership, are we primed and ready to see our ministry thrive to take on a "life of its own"?

The past two years of serving as Board Chair has marked the beginning of a board and executive leadership succession and has culminated to the appointment of the first externally-hired Executive Director in decades. This has only been made possible by the humble service of two to three generations of faithful directors before us, some dedicating their entire prime years while others their golden years serving the ministry. We are thankful to God for their exemplary faith and witness.

The Board is especially grateful for Stenly Yuen, our former Board Chair who concludes his role as Executive Director (volunteer) over the past four years. He is the forerunner with the vision to align and prepare

the organization for the incoming of a permanent senior executive leader. Stenly's lifelong dedication to FEBCanada is a living embodiment of self-sacrifice, stewardship, and succession.

As the Board commits to transitioning from a working board to a governing and policy-making board, working in partnership with Evert Van Steenbergen, Executive Director, we continue to honour the tradition and values forged by the directors before us. We continue to pray for wisdom and for the Lord to raise up new leaders who will serve him faithfully at FEBCanada.

# **OPPORTUNITIES**

The future belongs to God. As we begin to cast our vision forward to the next season of FEBCanada's ministry, there are two areas in which I believe our current missional landscape needs our focus;

# **DIASPORA**

Human migration has begun since the Biblical times of Abraham, and an evolving world worsened by climate change is accelerating this phenomenon. Today, about one in every 110 people on Earth has been forced to flee. Another way of thinking about this is that every two seconds someone is forced to leave their home.

Reaching unreached people groups is no longer an exercise limited by geographic concentration, which traditional terrestrial broadcasting technology is designed for. We must leverage online and digital technologies to allow us to meet the needs of geographically distributed ethnicities unreached by the Gospel.

#### **CREATIVITY**

The Gospel presents God's Kingdom as a new reality. The life of radio ministry is in the storytelling of this Kingdom reality through creative means in the greatest creative expressions: music, drama, poetry, stories and more. We must continue to formulate and cultivate a creative organization that thrives for this generation of the mission field.

I pray that all levels of leadership at FEBCanada - Board, executive and staff - will find joy in our pursuit of serving Jesus creatively.

May we continue to remain teachable and serve humbly in service to Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith.

In His Service,

Brian Ho

### References:

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