

Andrew Lamme, Regional Director

As I look back over the past few months, I am deeply grateful for the privilege of serving alongside such a dedicated team at every level of this organization. With the transition into the fall season, we are eager for all that lies ahead, both in terms of the momentum of church planting activity and the continued progress in strengthening our systems.

The first week of September, I participated in the CNBC Team Leaders Meeting, where we discussed what Canada will look like in five and ten years. A pivotal piece that has begun to make that picture happen is our training/facilitating of churches to become strong residency churches. It's my prayer and hope that in five years we will have a number of strong Beachhead (Residency) churches in each region of Canada. At the heart of this work is a simple truth we all know: only churches can plant churches.

A significant development we are witnessing is the growing synergy between our churches, plants and Send Relief. Mission teams that visit are often struck by how seamlessly everyone works together, a quality that may not be common in other regions. This partnership is reshaping how we engage our cities and opening new doors for disciple-making, sometimes in the most unexpected ways. One example involves a man who regularly observed a church serving with Send Relief by simply picking up garbage in a local park. At first, he was baffled. Why would anyone spend their time doing something so ordinary? Yet that simple act of presence stirred his curiosity. Today, he attends the church regularly, even while openly professing that he is still an atheist. He explains his attendance by saying, "Something strange is happening here, and I need to understand what it is." To God be the glory for the ways He uses even the simplest acts of service to draw people closer to Him.

Looking ahead to the final part of the year, I am confident that we will meet our goals for church plants this year. While the number may not be a record this year, I am pleased to report that the intentional process and systems we are implementing are leading to stronger and deeper theological church plants, which are founded on the conviction of the BFM 2000 and Send Network values. In the long run, these new processes should lead to what we hope for. Strong, healthy churches planting churches across our nation.

Once again, thank you, CNBC family. Please continue to pray for the work here, as prayer is the foundation which we build upon.

Blessings,
Andrew Lamme

CANADA REGIONAL UPDATES

Calgary: Johnny Thiessen, jtheissen@namb.net

City Summary:

This summer was nothing short of incredible! We witnessed God at work as churches partnered with us in the vision of reaching every man, woman, boy, and girl in Calgary with the life-changing Gospel. The mission teams that came didn't just serve; they poured themselves out with passion and purpose, walking alongside our church planters and their congregations in meaningful ministry. We've also seen God answer some very specific prayers. Both Knox Baptist and Champion Generation have secured permanent facilities, creating space for growth, deeper roots, and greater momentum. Looking ahead, our church planter assessment process is filled with excitement, with up to three candidates preparing to step into this vital calling this fall. Even more encouraging are the stories we continue to hear of people coming to faith, lives being transformed, and communities being impacted by the hope of Christ.

We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support of NAMB, whose partnership and resources help us press forward in reaching this great city with the Gospel. Truly, the harvest is plentiful in Calgary, and we are seeing God's Kingdom advance!

Church Plant Spotlight:

Two and a half years ago, **Nino and Leticia Marques De Sá**, along with their children, followed God's call to leave Winnipeg for Calgary to plant a church. Twenty faithful friends joined them, leaving everything behind to build something new. Today, by God's grace, **Knox Baptist Church** is thriving and celebrating its second anniversary.



What God is doing at Knox:

- Conversions & Growth – 8 baptisms, new members, and more preparing for baptism.
- Raising Leaders – 5 men in training, including 2 preparing for pastoral ordination.
- Growing Gatherings – Weekly attendance of 50–70, soon moving into a historic Lutheran building in the very neighborhood they've been praying for.
- God's Provision – Members give faithfully, with generous support from partner churches.
- A Healthy Body – Members serve joyfully in music, tech, and finance, freeing pastors to pray, teach, and shepherd.

- Evangelism & Outreach – Friends, families, and coworkers are hearing the gospel, and unbelieving visitors come regularly.
- Teaching & Formation – Monthly “Knox School” theological seminars plus strong men’s and women’s groups.
- Digital Ministry – Sermons, blogs, and podcasts reaching far beyond Calgary.

This is a powerful reminder that God is building His church in Calgary—one soul, one family, one gathering at a time.

Highlights:

- Aspen Network – Over 125 volunteers from nine churches formed 12 teams, hosting events for more than 1,500 participants! From Stampede breakfasts to VBS, soccer, and hockey camps, children and families encountered the love of Christ.
- Community Life Network – 120 volunteers from 15 churches hosted camps, sports events, and even served at a camp for underprivileged kids.
- Gen Send – Calgary was the only Canadian city with a Gen Send team this summer! Eight incredible students partnered with Grace City Church and Church for the City, helping with evangelism, prayer walking, and even running a mobile coffee truck in the park.

Prayer Requests:

- Residency Builder Launch – Pray for the Sept. 10–11 event as churches prepare plans for planting residencies.
- Growth – Please pray for spiritual, and evangelistic growth. Pray that God moves the only way he can.
- Energy for our Planters - Please pray for refreshment for many of our planters. Summer has been a busy time for most all of our planters, so pray that they will have sustained energy as they begin the fall season.
- A van for Pastor Samuel Ghidey – Praise God for their new building location; pray for provision of a van to transport immigrants.
- Grace City South Mission – Pray for favor as they pursue the Common Union Thrift Shop initiative and the right leader to run it.
- A new Care Champion – Pray for God to raise up someone to step into this vital role after Tom Daumler stepped down to care for his father.

Vision Tour Dates:

Oct. 6-7 – Montana partners

Edmonton: Nate Vedoya, nvedoya@namb.net

City Summary:

Edmonton is a city on the rise—vibrant, growing, and full of opportunity. Over the past months, it has experienced record-breaking construction, as more and more people are moving to Edmonton in search of jobs, affordable housing and a better quality of life for their family. Edmonton summers boast of a flourishing cultural scene marked by world-class festivals, innovative public art, and thriving entertainment districts. With a strong population surge, Edmonton is truly the epicenter of a dynamic future rooted in creativity, diversity, and resilience. Not only is this a pivotal moment for businesses, community leaders, and residents to collaborate and align with city initiatives but we also see the urgent need and opportunity for Kingdom-Gospel-Movements across Edmonton. As new neighborhoods emerge and diverse communities take root, unprecedented

opportunities arise for church planting, disciple-making, and gospel movements that bring hope, unity, and transformation across the city, fulfilling the vision of Acts 1:8: that the good news of Jesus would go out to “Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Church Plant Spotlight:

Planted just a year ago, **People of God International Ministry Edmonton**, has already become a powerful beacon of faith and resilience. Earlier this year, the church endured a profound tragedy when **Pastor Rolando Jorquia’s** son-in-law, Pastor Andey Esponilla, was killed in a car accident following one of our church planting training session. That evening, as we reflected on Philippians 1:21, “For me to live is Christ and to die is gain,” Pastor Andey had enthusiastically expressed his deep desire to fully dedicate his life to serving the Lord, even knowing the cost. That same night, he went home to be with Jesus. Andey leaves behind his wife, April, and their children, Matthew (13) and Zoe (9). Pastor Andey and April were scheduled to be a part of our Fall church planting assessment.



At the funeral, Pastor Andey’s son, Matthew, courageously sang his father’s favorite song, “Goodness of God,” as a declaration and reminder that God’s faithfulness continues to shine. Romans 8:28 has been a comforting reminder, “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Out of pain and tragedy, God is bringing life, blessing, and new opportunities for gospel impact.

We invite your prayers for strength and healing for the Jorquia and Esponilla family, for God to provide for them spiritually, emotionally, and financially. Pray for wisdom in leadership and guidance transitions, for the many students that have come to faith since the accident and the potential new church plant. POGIME stands as a living testimony that even through hardship, God is multiplying His work and using this ministry as a beacon of hope for Edmonton and beyond.

Highlights:

- Three Churches planted thus far with three more anticipated by 2026
- Praising God for an amazing summer and for the seeds that were planted throughout the numerous VBS, Church Camps, Youth Camps, Outreach and Community events.



- Grateful for the Partners that have come alongside to serve from Oklahoma, California, and other parts of Canada.
- Send Edmonton Churches continue to have global impact as they send and support missions all around the world.
- God continues to expand our reach beyond Edmonton, as we engage rural communities in Northern Alberta and our neighboring province, Saskatchewan

Prayer Requests:

- Praise God for our new Alberta Regional Ministry Leader, Shane Spannagel. Pray for us as we partner for Kingdom impact.
- Need for an Edmonton Campus Ministry Leader for 2025 MacEwan University and University of AB
- For the souls of students
- For Partners to come alongside SEND Edmonton Churches. Over 95 % of our Church planters are Bivocational/Covocational and need partners who would pray, participate and provide
- Pray that our Pastors would “not grow weary in doing good”
- Pray for field staff - CPC - Tim Miller and SCM - Nate Vedoya
- Pray for a contextualized and fresh vision to reach 1% of Send Edmonton over the next 10 years.
- Pray for more laborers to join us in planting churches that would engage our community.
- Join us in praying for the “peace of our city.” Edmonton, like any growing city, is full of tension and apprehension which leads to polarity and division.
- Pray that our Gospel unity as churches would be the apologetic to our neighbors

Vision Tour Dates:

February and Spring 2026

Montreal: Jacques Avakian, javakian@namb.net

City Summary:

In Montreal, momentum is building. The city team held its first meeting of the quarter, and there is strong enthusiasm about moving forward together in ministry. Ruth Alraei has recently joined the team as our Administrative Assistant. She is gradually settling into her role as the team learns the ins and outs of working effectively together. The team is encouraged and unified as they look ahead to the opportunities this season brings. Significant developments are also taking place in church planting efforts. Four new church plants are expected to be registered by the end of this year. Additionally, two new church planters were assessed this quarter, and we are excited to be moving forward with them in the church planting process.



Church Plant Spotlight:

A unique and impactful story comes from an Arabic church led by **Daoud Souleiman** and his wife Sabah. Their ministry is focused on reaching the local Muslim community through meal sharing and intentional gospel conversations. This relational approach has opened doors within the community. While growth has been slow, interest continues to build, and the church is seeing steady progress.



Highlights:

There is much to celebrate this quarter. New potential church planters are entering our pipeline, and many existing churches are expressing a desire to multiply. This growing passion has resulted in several of them beginning to function as sending churches. We also saw increased enthusiasm for evangelism in churches outreach efforts this summer. A major highlight was the Oasis Retreat, designed for church planters/pastors and their wives. This retreat provided a meaningful time of rest, encouragement, and fellowship. Attendees left feeling refreshed and energized by what God is doing through them and in their city. Since January, we have seen six new church plants launched across Quebec. Furthermore, two affiliated churches have begun multiplying and are transitioning into sending churches—an exciting sign of growth and sustainability in the movement.

Prayer Requests:

- Wisdom for our planters and pastors in reaching their communities in Quebec.
- That God may provide for financial and location needs of many churches struggling with paying rent or finding a meeting place. This is still difficult since last year.
- That those who are in the process of being assessed will persevere in the calling God has put on their heart. May our Lord guide their steps and protect them from the grip of the enemy.
- New laws concerning schools not being allowed to rent to church.
- God will bring more partnerships

Vision Tour Dates:

TBD

Toronto: Brett Porter, bporter@namb.net

City Summary:

We saw a great shift beginning to happen across Ontario this summer. Churches were engaging the city with much deeper impact than ever before. Churches are starting to make the shift from just doing a sports camp, a back-yard Bible-club, etc. for sake of doing an event and are moving towards doing things that push forward the long-term passion of deeper engagement. Some churches shifted to much more on-going rhythms of engaging people all summer long instead of one big event. Other churches used a big event (like a camp) to be the

doorway for strategic on-going weekly engagement times the rest of the summer. Overall, seeing churches be more strategic with city engagement was a big encouragement. Churches also enjoyed the summer with family camps and retreats. This is a highlight for many of our churches that are so deeply embedded in relationships. Summer is incredibly important for them and the vitality of their community as one.

Church Plant Spotlight:

Good News Church is a new CNBC church in Leamington, Ontario, and they are experiencing some exciting times. Just launching a few months ago, God has encouraged them by allowing them to see His activity in their midst.

In July, the church celebrated 13 baptisms and in August they celebrated nine baptisms. Coming from mainly Mennonite backgrounds, these are significant decisions that result in some strong reactions from their families and heritage. We are so grateful to the Lord for expanding the Kingdom of God here in Leamington and encouraging Pastors **Joe Penner & Jonah Chitty**.



Celebrate with Good News Church and join us in praying God continues to help them engage the community, make disciples, and see a healthy church flourish in this region of Ontario.

Highlights:

- Praising the Lord for baptisms this summer, specifically at Life Church in Leamington, The Sanctuary at Kerr Village, The Hamilton Fellowships, and Seneca Disciples Church (just to name a few).
- We have started our second Send Network Training co-hort in SW Ontario. This is exciting as God continues to birth churches all across this region.
- God continues to grow our leadership team across the region. He is bringing the right people to lead as developers and facilitators. Excited about how God is working to grow our team.
- This month we are starting two new residencies in the city with five potential planters for the pipeline. God continues to grow our pipeline, and we are praising Him as we aim for another 8-10 candidates for the upcoming November church planter assessment retreat.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray that God keeps us focused on our vision of seeing 150,000 people come to faith by 2035. Pray especially as we are busy with activities that lead to people discovering Jesus.
- Please pray for the health of our leaders. Specifically, please pray (a) identity is not found in the result of the ministry, but found in being sons and daughters adopted into the family of God and (b) to begin to learn

how to live a better rhythm of rest/sabbath so we are all able to stay driven for the full 10 years ahead in this vision.

Vision Tour Dates:

We have several dates planned for churches that are visiting for partnership development

Our next Partnership Summit will be held in the Spring of 2026

We are preparing to host the MissionsMetro conference in Toronto in January 2026

Vancouver: Paul Wicki, pwicki@namb.net

City Summary:

God is moving and people are turning to Christ. In Greater Vancouver we are seeing an openness to the gospel as people continue to move here from around the world. This summer, it was so exciting to hear of our church plants and existing established churches baptize people in lakes, rivers, the ocean and baby wading pools. God is reminding us that the “harvest is plentiful,” and He is doing this amazing work in this city. We are working hard to help existing churches to think about multiplication and church planting as the means to reach the city. This fall we are inviting pastors and leaders to the Residency Builder in Calgary and then the Sending Lab in October. We are anticipating growth and inspiration as pastors are equipped and spur one another on towards multiplication and planting.

Church Plant Spotlight:

Afghan Evangelical Fellowship of Canada is the church that **Qadir Anwari** moved to Langley, BC, to plant amongst Afghan people in September 2024. Qadir, his wife, Najilla, and two boys are fully committed to seeing a church start as they proclaim the name of Jesus to Afghan believers who are looking for a church to join, as well as Muslim refugees who are now living in Greater Vancouver. This church is the only Dari speaking Afghan church of any denomination in all of Greater Vancouver. What a blessing to start offering this people group an opportunity to worship in their heart language.

Praise God:



- The church went on a camp retreat in late June to an island and enjoyed a remarkable time of fellowship, praising God and getting to know one another. Through this weekend, one lady, who is Iranian, and an Afghan man wanted to follow Jesus!

- The church recently heard they can use some rooms in a large Mennonite Brethren church building for their church service for free! This is a huge answer to prayer as many church buildings are already used by multiple churches and space is very expensive to rent.

Pray:

- NAMB sent 72 backpacks which were filled with school supplies and distributed on August 26 to Afghan families. Pray that God may help these families realize and celebrate the love that Jesus has for them through this practical gift.



- Pray for the church as they start their weekly services on Saturday, September 6. May Jesus be glorified and many people come to follow Christ as they gather together.
- Pray for protection for the pastor and other believers as there are extreme Muslims who are not in favor of Christians who are sharing the hope of Christ.

Highlights:

- Making Disciples – Redeemer Community Church in Burnaby (Pastor Luke Watson) are intentional in going out into city parks to put on events for kids. From these events they are seeing people curious people from many ethnicities (Iranian, Korean, Chinese) who are starting attend the Sunday service and their midweek small group. God is calling the nations to Himself.
- Planting churches – Praise God for Canvas Church (Pastor Ashley Austin) in Victoria, that is supporting Cam Moore in Nanaimo. They have shared resources, summer interns and prayed to see more workers join Cam and Christa in Nanaimo. We are excited to see the larger vision that Ashley has to see more churches planted all over Vancouver Island.
- Partners invested – We continue to see the vision and joy of Christ as teams come to British Columbia to partner with our churches and church plants. Two stories from summer as Missions Pastor, Jay Conner, from Concord Baptist in South Carolina came with some passionate young adults to serve alongside Pastor Shahid Kamal of South Asian Church in Surrey, B.C. for their block party. The joy of Christ and continued relationships from the year before were such a huge blessing to both groups. Praise God!
- A group from Cave Spring Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia came to help an established church, Gateway Baptist Church. This church has one of our few church buildings in the Greater Vancouver area, and this team came to provide a refresh of paint in the entire interior of the church building over the course of four days.

Praise God as Pastor Mark felt supported and other members of the church showed up to serve alongside this missions team.

Prayer Requests:

- Praise God for two new planters assessed in April and now formally starting their church plants
- Pray for three planter couples preparing for a fall assessment.
- Pray for Oleksandr Sokolov, a planter in Kelowna, who had knee replacement surgery and is slowly recovering. Pray also for his extended family who are still back in Ukraine trying to stay safe.
- Praise God for the many churches that have come to partner with our church plants this summer and the encouragement these teams are to the planters.
- Pray for more established churches to intentionally start raising up leaders to send them out to plant churches.

Vision Tour Dates:

October – potential Vision Tour