

FEBRUARY 6, 2017 – DAY 1: INTRO TO SEA TO SEA



Sea to Sea is a declaration that Canada should be a missional focus of the church. We've dedicated hands and feet to that desire, setting a goal to see every Christian and Missionary Alliance church multiply in at least one way every five years.

The ways churches can multiply are seemingly endless. Some examples include churches that reach new Canadians, missional communities that go beyond traditional brick and mortar churches and informal congregations that naturally develop the potential to become a full church.

These communities have been forming across the country already. And each one is unique ... From the Beverly Sudanese congregation in Edmonton, where they meet weekly for a service in the Nuer language, to a fledgling faith community for Vietnamese speaking immigrants who moved to Langley, BC to work on area mushroom farms, to a northern church plant in Red Lake, Ontario (population 5000) where almost everyone is connected to the local gold mine.

Sea to Sea will be successful if local church leaders passionately embrace it as core to their church and mission. A national team continues to develop resources, tools, and other means of supporting churches in that mission, and is composed of representatives from each of the six Canadian districts and the National Ministry Centre.

Prayer Requests:

- That the church would continue to expand and multiply in our local communities
- That God would continue raising up leaders within Sea to Sea to develop missional communities

To read more stories or learn about our Sea to Sea workers, visit cmacan.org/sea-to-sea. Read about new church plants in our Sea to Sea region at newventurescanada.com.

FEBRUARY 7, 2017 – DAY 2: BRAD YOUNG & CALEB DELAMONT, THE EXCHANGE CHURCH

Dillon's Story: "When I was sixteen my life changed forever. I had just found Christ and my world was flipped upside down. I knew

there had to be more beyond my first prayer asking Jesus to be my Lord and Saviour but I had no idea what. That's when I met Chris. He volunteered at my high school and handed out coffee every Friday morning in the café. After a little while I learned that he was a

**FEBRUARY 8, 2017 – DAY 3:
HARV MATCHULLIS, ENCOMPASS
PARTNERSHIPS**

Christian and I flooded him with questions about God and my newly formed faith. He welcomed it. He invited me to youth, took me for coffee and just invested in my life. This was my first experience of being disciplined.

It was through my friendship with Chris that I learned about the person of Jesus Christ. Ever since then I have had a passion for youth and discipling them much in the same way I was disciplined. Over the years I have gotten to see boys grow into men of God and that is one of the greatest gifts I have ever been given.

That's why I want to be a part of The Exchange Church – a church that wants to send others to plant more churches. Because it is through going into another person's world and building relationship that we can share the gospel in a life-changing way. One day I hope to be sent by The Exchange Church to plant a new church so that another community may be reached.

Right now I feel the call to go to Cranston with The Exchange Church and reach the people there. That's why I want to move there – so that I can be fully a part of the community. Much like Chris when he came to my school to hand out coffee."

Prayer Requests: 

- That God would raise up more and more disciples who make disciples
- That God would give us favour in the communities in and around Seton and draw people to Himself
- That God would raise up leaders and future church planters so we can multiply the work of the gospel in Calgary and beyond



"Encompass Partnerships is a mission hub for groups committed to sharing Jesus' gospel to the least-reached of Calgary.

Our partners come alongside anyone who is treated as 'other' by the church or society. Every week throughout Calgary our partners connect with wanderers, immigrants, marginalized youth, people vulnerable to sexual exploitation, Aboriginals, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs and many more who live at the edge of Calgary's society. Some of them come to our facility to learn English, receive Bibles (3000 + in 2015), learn to cook or exercise, receive training/coaching in healthy lifestyles, or simply have affirming conversations over coffee and tea. They are being shown the Jesus Way to true abundance. Many have responded to this gospel, and sometimes at some risk to themselves.

In the late 1990's one person began sharing the gospel with her family. Now over 100 Punjabi speaking people worship at Encompass and just in the past 2 years, 15 have come to Christ. Great news, but the road is not all easy. Recently an elderly Punjabi man was baptized at Encompass, but at great cost. His blood family rejected him while his new Christ-family opened their arms. We persevere with the marginalized because that's the Jesus Way. One of our partners mentors Aboriginal youth, who face abuse, rejection and discrimination on a daily basis. Yet by choosing to show up in the

lives of young people, a cadre of youth on surrounding reserves have been growing in their Christ-identity. They are discovering hope for their personal and community future.”

Prayer Requests: 

- Prayer & financial partners to keep this mission-hub operating
- That we will humbly and apologetically declare Christ as the core of the gospel of restoration
- Courage for our mission-partners – there are many roadblocks and strongholds we face when bringing God’s truth and love into the darkness
- That we will have a strong voice to the church and society, that they never forget the ‘least of these’

FEBRUARY 9, 2017 – DAY 4: KYLE HARNETT, CAPSTONE CHURCH



“When we started Capstone Church in the fall of 2014, we were a young church, full of energy, with a great drive

to see people meet Christ. It was an exciting season. Over the next 18 months, we had baptized 18 people and were thrilled with what God was doing, but there was a critical problem ... We as a church planting team were exhausted. In our excitement to reach people for Christ, we had forgotten to press into the deeper life that Jesus desires for all believers, and we had run out of steam. Over the past 6 months, we have made it our mission to “Deepen Our Roots” and experience the fullness of life that God has

for us. Over the past six months, we have seen many people in our church dramatically filled with the Holy Spirit and we’ve seen multiple physical healings. One quick story: A 30-year-old physiotherapist joined our church about 8 months ago, and one Sunday we noticed that she had a wrist brace on. In fact, she’d had a work-related injury and it wasn’t healing, and she was in need of surgery. We decided before she opted for surgery that we would ask the Great Physician to heal her, and to our surprise she was healed fully after 10 minutes of prayer. She even had her wrist x-rayed to verify the healing, and the report came back from the specialist that her wrist was ‘extremely healthy for a woman her age.’ As a result of this increased activity of the Spirit, we’ve seen multiple people come to faith over the past few months, but we are longing for more: more of Jesus and more people to meet Him.”

Prayer Requests: 

- That we would meet Jesus in more deep and powerful ways, both individually and as a church – we need more of His Presence
- That we would reach many people for Christ; that God would open up a door of effective evangelism for our church in the Westbrook area of Calgary
- That God will send us great leaders, and those who are to become great leaders, so we might commission them for Kingdom work, and be a training and sending church

**FEBRUARY 10, 2017 – DAY 5:
DOM RUSO, THE 180**



"Despite its nominally Christian majority, Montreal and the larger province of Quebec are among the least-

reached regions of North America. A 2008 Léger poll found that only 6% of Quebec's 6 million Catholics attended weekly mass, down from 90 percent in the 1960s. About 7% of Quebecers are Protestants, and less than 1% identify as evangelical.

This is not a mission field for the faint of heart.

During the summer of 2015, Dom, Bev and their three boys made their way back to Quebec with an undeniable sense of God's calling to plant a new church. After a time of discernment they found God confirming that they were to provide leadership to a new church family in the city of Laval, in the greater Montreal area.

Dom writes: 'Knowing that God is already helping us connect and reconnect with people who are processing faith questions excites me about the season we are in. Also, to see our burden and passion to re-articulate the message of Jesus in Quebec slowly coming together is a real joy. We are so blessed to have a great team emerging to help us love our communities and neighbors.' The 180 has leased a warehouse building which will serve as their place of worship and a place from which to serve and love the community.

They officially launched on September 18, 2016."

Prayer Request:



- That The 180 will flourish as a healthy church, re-engaging people with Jesus as He invites us into a new way of life

**FEBRUARY 11, 2017 – DAY 6:
SCOTT STREET, CHILLIWACK
HOUSE CHURCH INITIATIVE**



"Why should we keep going? Is it even worth it? I ask myself these questions from time to time, and maybe you do

as well. We are almost eight years into our church journey – from the first leadership meeting where we prayed and asked God if we should even pursue a new church with no idea what it would look like, to today, where we are a network of four house churches working to be faithful to God.

There are days I wonder about what we are doing and why we are doing it. But I can't shake the feeling that we are slowly and methodically pursuing God, and that failure to stay on this course would be unfaithful to what we have been called to do. I look at our network and I see a group that is intentionally working to bring God's Kingdom to earth as it is in heaven. I see people intentionally engaged in relationships in the community and in conversations that build the Kingdom. I also see fruit.

Some who did not follow Jesus now do. Some who never considered it now do. Some who have never heard

are now hearing. But in most cases, it is slow and requires a deep and trusting relationship.

At this time we are seeing some victories; we are also seeing some struggles. One of our house churches is exploring what victory looks like and grappling with difficult questions about healing and why we don't see more of it. One is having a bit of trouble firing on all cylinders, trying to figure out how to integrate into our network and what discipleship and being the Body looks like. We are excited and thankful, hopeful, and sometimes fearful."

Prayer Requests: 

- That we will be faithful to God, and listen and respond to what He is doing in us and around us
- That we will continue to put ourselves out there, beyond our comfort zone, we will continue to grow, and our actions will be used by God for His purposes

**FEBRUARY 12, 2017 – DAY 7:
OAKVILLE CHINESE ALLIANCE
CHURCH**

"Exciting things are happening at Oakville Chinese Alliance Church in Oakville, ON! As one of our New Ventures supported by the Central District of the C&MA as well as the Canadian Chinese Alliance Churches Association, Oakville Chinese Alliance Church began worshipping together on October 18, 2015.

Praise our Lord, we held our first baptism ceremony and Sunday worship on September 4, 2016! After worship, we enjoyed fellowship and lunch for everyone!

In less than one year, there have been a total of five people baptized and more than 20 new members; eight people have committed to Jesus Christ just since June. Moreover, God keeps leading newcomers to the church – 100 new families or individuals had visited our church by the end of August. This confirms the great need of the Chinese community in Oakville, and also strengthens our faith and calling from God to plant a new church in this city!

Currently, the numbers of Sunday service congregation members have steadily risen to around 70 people. Our church prayer meetings, Sunday School, Sunday worship, and fellowship group are also growing steadily. We also recently started discipleship training in our prayer meeting on Thursday nights and there have been about fifteen brothers and sisters participating in the study and prayer meeting in the last two weeks. Not only are we offering our sincere prayers to our Lord, but also building a solid foundation for the development of our church!

Reviewing what we have gone through in our first year, we see how the church has experienced God's amazing grace and might all the way! We are very grateful! May this story inspire you who are in the early years of church-planting to depend on the Lord!"

Prayer Requests: 

- For the city of Oakville as a gospel field – that God would lead and use the brothers and sisters in our church to share the gospel and witness to the

grace of our Lord

- For a pastor to shepherd and lead the congregation members, and for an intern or co-worker to lead our youth ministry
- For the evangelistic activities, fellowship groups, prayer meetings, and children's and adult Sunday school teachers – may our Lord motivate and lead more brothers and sisters to serve Him and serve one another


