

# Native Bible Centre

## Project Evaluation

August, 2011

### Overview

Native Bible Centre exists to assist local Native churches by providing biblical resources that can be used to learn the Word of God. The T.R.I.B.E. program (Training Resources for Indigenous Bible Education) is designed to give general Bible knowledge along with practical ministry skills for the Native believer. Students have the option of taking courses for credit towards Certificates (upon completion of five and ten courses) or a Diploma (upon completion of 15 courses).

InterAct began this ministry over 20 years ago as a Bible training extension program when InterAct's residential Bible training program, Native Institute of Canada, was closed. The office of NBC has been located in Kamloops since it began. During the first years Area Bible Schools were taught on week-ends across western Canada as a complement to the extension courses. In 2003 Ed and Glenna Houston took over the leadership and administration of NBC with a vision to rebuild the ministry of NBC. Since that time new courses have been added and others have been revised.

In May of 2010, the production of the study books for Native Bible Center was moved to the Canada Field office. Since that time the NBC budget has operated in the black as course sales and donation income have covered NBC expenses. Starting in May 1, 2010 the sales and books produced were recorded in order to gain a better understanding of what is being produced and sold through this ministry.

The chart below outlines an evaluation of this ministry. The outputs and outcomes columns report on what has been accomplished while the impacts are forward looking to project where this ministry heading in the next 3-5 years. The total number of books sold and distributed for the year starting May 1, 2010 were 240. These were comprised mainly of six courses out of the 32 courses in current production. Five other courses sold approximately ten copies of each.

The ministry of Native Bible Center has contributed to the bigger picture of church development. More energy needs to be put into developing a comprehensive and culturally relevant leadership training process. At this stage of Native church development this cannot be done by a single agency or cultural group. InterAct, and NBC, need to be part of a bigger picture of partnership and facilitation among the Native believers and ministry agencies spread across Canada. This level of partnership will require intentional relationships and a willingness to let others take control of resources, like NBC, if that is seen as best for the bigger picture.

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	FUTURE IMPACTS
Statement of the overall purpose of the project	Specific statements of what the project sets out to accomplish	Specific tasks to complete through implementation of the project	Immediate results (direct products of project activities for the past year)	Intermediate results (direct products of project over past 1-3 years)	Long-term results (desired results in next 3-5 years)
To assist local Native churches by providing biblical resources that can be used to learn the Word of God.	<p><b>Pre-evangelism</b></p> <p>N/A</p> <p><i>(NBC's focus is on discipleship and leadership development. )</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• n/a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• n/a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• n/a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• n/a</li> </ul>

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To assist local Native churches by providing biblical resources that can be used to learn the Word of God.	<p><b>Evangelism</b></p> <p>Although evangelism is not NBC's focus there is one course that has been primarily used as an evangelistic tool.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide Bible study material that challenges animistic worldview assumptions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 <u>Which Way</u> study books were sold last year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of <u>Which Way</u> books used over the past 3 years is not known.</li> <li>• The <u>Which Way</u> study has been used in study groups over the years and has caused people to evaluate their beliefs.</li> <li>• The study book has been an evangelism training tool for believers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The study book will continue to be a tool for evangelism and evangelism training.</li> </ul>

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<p>To assist local Native churches by providing biblical resources that can be used to learn the Word of God.</p>	<p><b>Discipleship</b></p> <p>Provide Native believers basic and culturally relevant Bible study resources that will build a foundation for understanding and applying the truth of Scripture in all areas of life.</p> <p>Provide culturally relevant Bible study resources which ministry workers can use in discipleship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide Bible study material that is useful to people with a limited vocabulary such as those to whom English is a second language.</li> <li>• Provide Bible study material that builds a chronological understanding of the whole Scripture.</li> <li>• Provide Bible study material which challenges non-Biblical worldview assumptions.</li> <li>• Develop new courses that are will further the disciple's knowledge of Scripture.</li> <li>• Offer a graded, certificate program to encourage keen students to complete the entire study program.</li> <li>• Provide Bible study resources for InterAct missionaries (and other Christian leaders) to use as they disciple growing believers.</li> <li>• Provide Bible study materials in an online format making the material more accessible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and missionaries alike comment on the usefulness of the courses with limited vocabulary students.</li> <li>• If all the courses are utilized the student will gain a good grasp of the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation.</li> <li>• Studies are specifically geared to challenge Animistic worldview assumptions.</li> <li>• Courses are being revised and new courses are planned but are limited by lack of course writers.</li> <li>• No certificates were handed out this year. Much of the exam grading is done on-site</li> <li>• 240 books were sold last year. Most were used in discipleship. About 50% were sold within InterAct's North Pacific Crescent and almost all were used in an identifiable Native ministry context.</li> <li>• NBC staff have been working towards completing this task.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since 2003, 3 individuals have completed the entire 15 book program.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These materials will be utilized in other cultures beyond First Nation.</li> <li>• New courses will continue to be developed.</li> <li>• Certificates may be phased out. Material is being used more for group studies.</li> <li>• Within 2 years all courses will be available online.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage and assist individuals who are studying on their own.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NBC staff are regularly encouraging about 6-8 individual students and working to contact another dozen who are not following through an expressed desire to keep studying.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This will be a growing focus as potentially less time is spent on producing hard copy materials.</li> </ul>
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<p>To assist local Native churches by providing biblical resources that can be used to learn the Word of God.</p>	<p><b>Leadership Development</b></p> <p>As discipleship happens potential leaders will be cultivated and encouraged to take on responsibility teaching others and passing it on.</p> <p>The NBC staff has developed a relational focus with every student they can keep in touch with. A shift is happening from individual users to group studies. NBC staff are focusing on encouraging and resourcing the leaders of these groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide courses that will enhance Biblical leadership skills</li> <li>• Ongoing email, phone and face to face contact with leaders of study groups</li> <li>• NBC partners with other ministry organizations to offer their resources as an available resource – both within and without the North Pacific Crescent.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While only a few leadership development courses were sold feedback has been that those courses were very helpful. A new course has been developed to train those who teach children.</li> <li>• NBC staff are in regular contact with 9 group leaders to encourage and resource them. They are both Native and non-native. 5 of those leaders are within the NPC boundaries.</li> <li>• NBC staff are pursuing relationships with other organizations and have presented their material at organizational functions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 4 courses have been developed with are specifically geared to equip leaders.</li> <li>• Some of these leaders have developed deep relationship with NBC staff and look to them for guidance in several areas of life.</li> <li>• NBC material is being used in training 35 pastors in Kenya. A request has also come from India. <u>How to Study the Bible</u> translated into Greenlandic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NBC will continue to provide resources to local leaders.</li> <li>• NBC staff will expand the resources they have and focus on their relational strength to build up emerging leaders.</li> <li>• Without sacrificing primary energy spent within the North Pacific Crescent, NBC resources are made available to others around the world via internet.</li> </ul>

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<p>To assist local Native churches by providing biblical resources that can be used to learn the Word of God.</p>	<p><b>Establishing &amp; Developing Churches</b></p> <p>A strong foundation of Bible knowledge, correct interpretation, and accurate application in the lives of believers is essential to the formation of healthy churches. To the extent that other culturally relevant and academic level appropriate Bible study material is not available NBC will continue to fill a void in providing tools that lead to maturing believers, effective leaders, and growing churches.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide courses that lay out solid Biblical doctrines for the church and the functions of the church.</li> <li>• NBC staff encourages leaders in the development of the local church. They are a resource toward this end through their relationships with leaders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Breaking Trail (Acts)</u> is a primary study addressing church development. 9 copies were sold last year.</li> <li>• Of the 9 leaders NBC staff have been in relationship with this past year at least 4 are involved in church development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 3 courses specifically address the functions of the church and Biblical relations within the church family.</li> <li>• NBC has been a resource used in at least 4 InterAct church planting ministries, as well as other non-InterAct church development ministries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next generation of Native believers is spiritually strong and committed to the Lord and His church.</li> <li>• NBC expand their capacity to be a source of encouragement and help to leaders, particularly isolated ones, who want to see local church developed.</li> </ul>

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<p>To assist local Native churches by providing biblical resources that can be used to learn the Word of God.</p>	<p><b>Communities Being Changed</b></p> <p>NBC does not have a primary goal of producing resources that will directly impact community change. As believers mature and some become leaders in the Christian community this will have a ripple effect of change within the community.</p>				