

Kamloops Church Plant

Project Evaluation - August, 2016

Overview

Kamloops is a community set in the British Columbia interior, at the confluence of two arms of the Thompson River. Kamloops has a population of 83,000, of which approximately 10% identify as First Nations, Inuit or Metis. The people group that is most readily identified in this area is the Shuswap or Secwepemc people. This tribal group is spread out over seventeen different reserves.

InterAct has had ministry involvement in this area since the early 1980's. Wally and Alice Bays, Jess and Alta Tanis, Mike and Kathleen Matthews, Ed and Glenna Houston all have served in various capacities over the years. The Native Bible Centre moved to Kamloops after the campus closed in Quesnel. NAIM has also had ministry involvement in this area and still has missionary staff in Merritt, Chase and Salmon Arm. More recently Valen and Carol Straley, along with Dottie Kasten and Byron and Danielle Sayer have been serving in a First Nations fellowship based in the urban area of Kamloops. Since late spring, the Sayer family has had an employment change and moved back to Calgary. This leaves a large hole in the youth ministry that has developed and grown substantially since Sayers moved to Vernon area about five years ago.

The First Nations Fellowship meets in the building of the Kamloops Evangelical Free Church and is being led by Valen Straley. T_____ is taking on some leadership in the fellowship. There are many fingers of ministry that flow out of this body. Dottie and Carol have a beading/crafts night. Byron and Danielle have been serving the youth and have partnered with others in BC to develop a Waymaker youth weekend that mirrors the Native Youth Conference held Alberta. Volunteer church groups from the USA have been a part of hosting a VBS in this community and continuing to develop partnerships. Also, in the last four years Kamloops has been the host community for the BC Native Christian Conference. This continues to grow and expand as folks from Alberta and Saskatchewan are beginning to attend.

The chart below outlines summary of the Kamloops ministry to date. The outputs and outcomes columns report on what has been accomplished while the impacts are forward looking to project where this ministry is heading in the next 3-5 years.

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	FUTURE IMPACTS
	<p>Establishing Relationships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missionaries serving people in the FN community. • Vacation Bible Schools (in partnership with local and/or supporting churches). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have been served and 'given a cup of water' in the name of the Lord. • New connections with a number of families outside the church. • A few of the new connections are starting to attend church. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missionary has many connections with people throughout the community • Some of the new connections have been initiated and are being followed up by church members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of these 'service' opportunities will open doors for sharing the Gospel and discipleship. • These connections will result in reproducing disciples and a growing church.

<p>Vision: To see a Biblically based indigenous church among the First Nations people in Kamloops.</p>	<p>EVANGELISM Presenting the Gospel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believers in the fellowship sharing the Gospel with people they know. • Vacation Bible Schools (in partnership with local and/or supporting churches). • Annual BC Native Christian Gathering hosted by Kamloops fellowship. • Way-Maker youth conference (annual). • Funerals officiated by the missionary where majority attending are non-believers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believers witnessing to family members • Children who confess faith in Christ • Believers have invited unsaved family members to the meetings. • Over • Gospel message is clearly given as part of the funeral service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing burden to share Christ with family. • Children who are disciplined via ongoing relationship and regular Sunday School program • Children are a testimony to their family. • The gathering becomes known throughout BC and attendance increases. • Some people from the community express appreciation for the service and message. Others are opposed to the Christian message. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the evangelism is coming from church members. • Strong disciplers and leaders emerging out of core families. Leaders who give a clear Gospel presentation and make reproducing disciples. • The gathering will become partially focused on evangelism. • The Christians in the Native community will be encouraged and empowered. Others will come to faith in Christ as a result of the Gospel message.
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<p>Vision: To see a Biblically based indigenous church among the First Nations people in Kamloops.</p>	<p>DISCIPLESHIP Developing Reproducing Believers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly church service • Regular Bible studies – Group, Men’s, Ladies • Bi-weekly youth program • Ministry of helps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular teaching of Word, worship, and fellowship. • Regular interactive study of the Word and encouragement to life application. Regular prayer for needs. Regular community life. • Growing disciples among the teens. Youth who serve at church functions. • Love of Christ is lived out through practical helps. • Needs of low income families are met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued spiritual growth in regular attenders • A strong sense of community exists in the church body. • Believers continue to grow in their Bible knowledge. • Several baptisms and increasing attendance and involvement in youth program • Increase in youth graduating high school. • Name of Christ is honored. • Christianity is seen as positive influence in community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reproducing disciples and stable families. • Reproducing disciples, stable families, growing church. • Church is recognized as influencer in larger Native community. • God providing more youth workers so that youth ministry can continue. • Youth evangelizing and discipling • Youth transitioning to participation and leadership in the adult gathering. • Believers grow in sacrificing to honour Christ. • Believers grow in serving each other and loving their neighbour.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting-Counselling • Daily Vacation Bible Schools (in partnership with local and/or supporting churches). • Annual BC Native Christian Gathering hosted by Kamloops fellowship. • WayMaker youth conference • Ladies discipleship – crafts, quilting, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpersonal relationships are strengthened. • Family relationships are strengthened and some crisis averted. • Adults and youth are assisting with putting on program. • Majority of church attending entire conference. • Strong participation among church members to get youth to conference • Partnering with local Christian quilting group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased stability in some home • Decreasing crisis? • Increasing commitment to seeing program happen. • Growing excitement and ownership of the conference. • Fundraisers and other support raising to send youth. • Spiritual and emotional growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other believers in the church are equipped and wanting to give Biblical counsel. • Church members are working with partnering churches to put on program. • Many church members involved putting in the conference. • Church members planning, serving, and facilitating the conference. • Ladies using craft skills as opportunity for outreach and discipleship.
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<p>Vision: To see a Biblically based indigenous church among the First Nations people in Kamloops.</p>	<p>LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT Developing the church</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared leadership with a few believers. • Consensus decision making with church members when feasible. • Discipleship/mentoring time with T____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared leadership with T____ at some events and services • Some leadership being shared by church members. Some advances, some setbacks with leadership development. Moral issues are an ongoing concern. • Taking Biblical counselling training together with T_____. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T____ is becoming recognized as a leader among members of the fellowship. • Members anticipate having a voice in church decisions. They are growing in understanding qualifications for leadership. • T____ seems to be working through issues, becoming more stable, and using addictions less to cope with life's stresses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T____ and others taking on increasing leadership responsibilities. • Multiple stable and mature leaders who serve their community in a shared leadership model. • T_____ is giving leadership in the church and mentoring other potential leaders.
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<p>Vision: To see a Biblically based indigenous church among the First Nations people in Kamloops.</p>	<p>ESTABLISHING AND DEVELOPING CHURCHES The multiplying Church.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not happening at this point. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maturing disciples in the church have greater vision for church reproduction.