



Impact Report 2016

 Word of Life
Canada

A LETTER FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Thank you for being a friend to Word of Life Canada. That means that you have, with us, made an *eternal investment in the lives of young Canadians*. Scripture tells us to “go and make disciples of all nations...” That is why we here at Word of Life Canada exist. We bear witness to the Saviour Jesus Christ and train the next generation of Canada’s youth to live successful, godly lives guided by biblical principles.

Our Saviour stated in John 18:37 “...For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into this world – to bear witness to the truth...” In the world in which we live today, truth seems to be in short supply. Therefore, it is increasingly more important that we *hold forth the word of life*.

Your sacrificial giving has resulted in so many changed lives. Glory to God for what He has done and for your partnership in the Gospel.

This past year we had the opportunity to minister to approximately 8,800 young people. We were blessed to witness 128 decisions to trust Christ as their Saviour. There were also 307 young people who dedicated their lives to serve the Lord wholeheartedly. What a potential impact on our nation and the world for the cause of Christ.

Thank you again for “*standing in the gap*” with us. We look forward to many more years of partnership with you as we seek to bring revival to Canada beginning with our youth.

Peter H.Verkaik
Executive Director
Word of Life Canada
Acts 20:24



Since the very first Word of Life youth club started in 1964, our desire has always been to see revival in Canada, starting with our youth. Understanding the enormous challenge it is to reach every young person in Canada, we focus on three main avenues of ministry:

1. Summer and Winter Camps – providing a safe and fun environment for kids and teens to learn about God.
2. Bible Institutes and Language Training – raising up leaders and equipping them to live a life that glorifies God.
3. Local Church Partnerships – supporting youth ministries in the church and providing teaching resources and special events.

By staying true to the Word of God while offering programs that continue to be relevant in today's youth culture, we believe that God will continue to bless our ministry across the country!



SUMMER
AND WINTER
**YOUTH
CAMPS**



Come to camp!

Word of Life has had a Christian camping ministry for over 70 years. That experience has allowed us to realize that if there was ever a point in time where camps are needed, it is today! In a world that is drowning in the noise and intensity of life, WOL camps provide the perfect opportunity to unplug and grow closer to God and each other. Our amazing counsellors are graduates of our Bible Institutes, and have a great desire to see teens and kids impacted for Jesus. Whether it be summer or winter, our camps are the place to be!

"I came to Word of Life Youth Camp when I was eight and it changed my life. I had always been a shy kid, but because of the caring and outgoing staff, I came out of my shell and made some really great friends, whom I still keep in contact with to this day.

It was at camp that I recognized the staff had this excitement for Jesus that I didn't have, but I wanted. I grew up in a Christian family, going

to church and kids' programs, so I had heard the good news of the Gospel many times before. I believed it, but it didn't change me. I would always try to save myself from sin and make myself worthy of getting in to heaven, but all my attempts failed. At camp I learned what grace and mercy means. I learned that I am hopeless without it. I tried to save myself, when only Jesus could do it for me. From that message, I believed and knew not only in my

head, but in my heart that Jesus paid the total price for my sin.

I enjoyed my time at camp so much that I returned for many summers after. Every time I came I was challenged and encouraged to grow in my relationship with God through reading my Bible, praying, or serving in my church. When I was in high school I spent my summers as junior staff at camp. At that time, I was greatly challenged by my discipleship

times with my mentor. Although it was uncomfortable at times, I knew discipleship was what I needed. I also grew a desire to read and learn from the Bible, and to serve God.

God has done so much to shape and grow me through the help of camp ministry. Never did I think that he would lead me to a place where I could impact others as previous staff had impacted me, and I am so grateful for that!"

— Laura, summer camper
London, ON



BIBLE INSTITUTES

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH



One year that could change everything

Our Bible Institutes provide a unique opportunity for students from all over Canada to grow in their faith. One year at the BI means doing life in community with young people from different backgrounds and life experiences, serving alongside fellow students in exceptional ministry opportunities (local ministries, camps, open air evangelism and countless others) all while spending 500 hours in class learning from incredibly gifted teachers from all over the continent! Top that off with 30 credits towards a university degree and you get the experience of a lifetime!

"Just over a year ago I was on the streets begging to support an expensive substance abuse habit and living from couch to couch. Disowned by family and friends and finally at the end of myself, I checked into a detox center in Owen Sound, Ontario. During that time a Christian gave me a copy of the book, "Stranger on the Road to Emmaus" (one of the WOLBI textbooks). God's Spirit captivated me throughout the book as I came face to face with the gospel for the very first time in over 30 years. A WOL staff member overheard a conversation at a local

Tim Horton's and began to disciple me weekly. I went from detox to serving at summer camp and am now in student leadership at the Bible Institute! The biggest lesson I am learning here at WOLBI is that God's Word can be applied to any problem in my life. God's Word has answers. God can redeem all the messes I have made for His glory! I want to serve God full time and use my testimony to rescue others and bring glory to Him. Who could have imagined what God could do from the streets to studying the Scriptures?!"

– Scott, WOLBI student
Owen Sound, ON

"Before coming to Parole de Vie, our family prayed carefully over where to attend language school. Staying in North America was the deciding factor for us, but looking back at our time here I can see so many reasons why God led us here. The small class sizes gave us the flexibility we needed and the freedom to ask questions as we learned the language. Our kids interacted with the French Bible Institute students on campus and were impacted by seeing them live out their faith. We are so thankful God led us to Parole de Vie!"

– Nikki, missionary
Niger, West Africa



FRENCH LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Learn French

Word of Life Quebec's French Language School was founded in 1950 from a desire to equip missionaries wanting to serve in francophone countries. As one of the only Christian French Language training centres in North America, the language school teaches French grammar and phonetics but also offers Bible study classes and integration into the Bible Institute which runs on the same campus. Since its creation over 65 years ago, the school has sent out 1,540 missionaries and individuals who are able to use their French training professionally and in missions around the francophone world.



What is Local Church Ministries?

Local Church Ministries was created to serve the local church in two ways. First, we seek to equip the church by providing the best materials for youth ministry and offering training for youth leaders as they seek to engage the ever-changing youth culture with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Second, we host an awesome all-night youth event in Montreal called Folies Lunaires for the purpose of sharing the Gospel and encouraging believers. Together these aspects of LCM make one great ministry designed to see young people launch and grow their faith!

LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES



"I am a youth leader in Montreal. The Folies Lunaires event was incredible! We played all kinds of sports, met new people, had a great meal and had fun... this is a movement unlike any other! This was my first time at Folies Lunaires, and I regret missing past

years. So for all those who have never been... come next year! You'll have so much fun, God will be there, you'll meet some awesome people – see you next year!"

– Jonathan, youth leader
Montreal, QC

Building for the future

For over 50 years Word of Life has been ministering to Canadian young people. To improve our reach, we need to continue to upgrade our two properties. Our desire is to put forward an atmosphere of excellence, which reflects the nature of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Give to the Scholarship Fund

Word of Life Canada is primarily focused on young people and seeing their lives changed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Many prospective students lack the funds to be able to attend the Bible Institute and/or our camps. We have a Scholarship Fund to help provide for these needy campers and students. Your generous financial gift could be a vehicle of life-change for some young person next year. This will all be possible with your financial involvement.

FIND OUT MORE
AND GIVE ONLINE:
WOL.CA/DONATE



**OVER
50 YEARS**
OF LIFE CHANGE

THANK YOU!

Thank you for partnering with us at Word of Life Canada through prayer and finances, which enables us to impact thousands of young people across Canada.

8,706
MINISTERED TO

641
SUMMER
CAMPERS

1,147
SNOW
CAMPERS

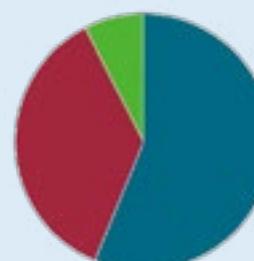
307
DEDICATIONS

120
SALVATION
DECISIONS

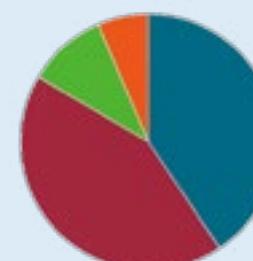
62
BIBLE & LANGUAGE
SCHOOL STUDENTS

800
EVENT
ATTENDANCE

2015-2016
FINANCIAL
REPORT



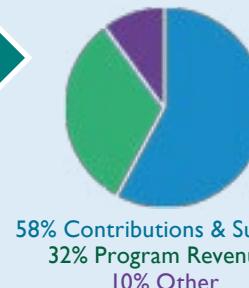
**2016
REVENUE**
56% Contributions & Support
36% Program Revenues
8% Other



**2016
EXPENSES**
41% Personnel
43% Programs
10% Insurance,
taxes, utilities
6% other

**OUR
YEAR**
IN NUMBERS

**2015
REVENUE**



58% Contributions & Support
32% Program Revenues
10% Other

**2015
EXPENSES**



47% Personnel
36% Programs
9% Insurance, taxes, utilities
8% other



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