

Native New Life Training Centre

Tyendinaga (Deseronto)

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Journal Reflections

Our journeys to Northern Quebec and other areas over the last few months have left us with a clearer appreciation of the needs of both the people of the region and the Churches there. The relative youthfulness of the Native communities and the overall desire of younger people to advance both personally and as a community are striking.

For instance, there are plans in place to put a Native Community College in place in Val d'Or, Quebec. What an opportunity this presents to launch a First Nations Church and to initiate further training efforts that will serve communities in both Ontario and Quebec!

At the same time, all of the wonderful opportunities that we saw require prepared leadership with a balanced view of life and their own place in the Church. That's why we have emphasized the four key pillars of the Native Leadership Training Centers. We are concerned first with character development, then with Bible knowledge, followed by leadership skills and crowned by a deep understanding of the person and work of the Holy Spirit.



The opportunity to prepare community leaders during the summer of 2005 to use both the "Seedlings" material for children and the "First Things First" discipleship program from Seeds International was grasped immediately by Native leaders during



our meetings. At the same time, there was an enthusiastic response to the idea of taking the various courses in small groups of pastors located in key areas. It now looks as if there will be sufficient interest to begin the pastoral training component of our new program during the Spring of 2005.

The key response, from our perspective, was the willingness to host Howard and Margaret Ellis for their intensive five day personal reconciliation and spiritual growth seminar early in 2005. The cornerstone of the new model of training and leadership enhancement for Native communities across North America is character development. Please pray with us that a suitable venue can be located that will meet both the needs of the participants and our budget.

The shape of the present Native Church means that we will

need to train the current leadership "in place." Responsibilities in both their communities and families mean that current Church Leaders simply don't have the luxury of leaving their communities for two or three years of training on campus. Further, the amount of support that is forthcoming from government educational grants is simply not enough to allow the relocation of whole families for study.

We can now see that the leading of the Holy Spirit has brought us to the edge of a new era of training and meeting the needs of Native communities in a novel way. The delightful reality of this approach is that we are able to meet a variety of needs of people from various age groups and educational backgrounds. At the same time, we will be seeing teams of non-Native people participating in training and outreach activities that will change both their own lives and the lives of everyone that they come in contact with.

- Mike Hart

January, 2005

Dear Friend & Partner:

Here we are... through God's faithfulness we have come to a brand New Year... 2005! Happy New Year to you! I trust that you had a wonderful Christmas celebration with your family and friends!

In the last few days we have been overwhelmed with reports from the many countries of the world that are so drastically affected by the recent tsunami. Our hearts are heavy as we view the terrible toll it has taken on families, especially the children. All of us want to do our best to help in time of need.

There are so many needs around the world and Canada is no exception. This country has been blessed beyond measure materially speaking. Yet there remains a deep spiritual need which becomes more challenging each day. One of the top priorities is First Nations people. Did you know that in the city of Toronto (east) there are more than 70,000 Aboriginal people? Amongst those tens of thousands, there is not even one evangelical church. We are currently investigating the possibility of establishing a new Church Plant in this area. Please pray with us that this will be accomplished.



Airlifting Clothing

As you can see from Mike Hart's journal reflections, we have been very busy with ministry since last fall. This ministry included providing clothing for the needy and toys for the children in northern Quebec. Another mercy trip is planned soon as we reach out in tangible ways to build relationships with our Native brothers and sisters.

In addition to this, it is our goal to provide quality leadership training to First Nations Pastors and Leaders. We have an excellent course of studies and we can currently provide this on site in Deseronto, through distance education or week long intensives in various locations.

Your investment in Native Leadership Training is invaluable. Your prayerful support is desperately needed. Continue to hold us up in prayer for safety as we travel, for adequate provisions to bless the disadvantaged and the anointing of the Holy Spirit as we teach and preach the Word of God!



The Ministry Team

No doubt you are inundated these days with requests for financial help. In the midst of all the legitimate cries, would you please remember *Native New Life Leadership Training Centre* in your giving? Would you consider a special financial gift at this time? Many thanks for your continued support. It is appreciated more than we can describe.

Thank you for being a friend and partner of this ministry. Your prayerful and financial support is a lifeline. Gathering the harvest is hard work but soon it will be over... at the return of Christ! Let's do our best!

Blessings in Christ!

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Cal Anthony
Board Chair