



MARITIME **MESSENGER**

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MCC's Purpose and Our Vision for The Future

by Richard Jones
Chief Operating Officer



Of all the articles I've written during the past three years for The Messenger, this edition is one I have been anticipating for a while. That's because I am going to share with you the dream the staff, our Board of Directors, and I have for Maritime Christian College in the coming decade.

This is not something we put together in a 3-hour workshop so we could hang an inspiring slogan on a conference room wall. We have been working on this for the past three years, and in fact we've had it documented since March – we've been praying over it and adjusting it since then, before finally releasing it now.

MCC's purpose is this: we exist to Biblically educate and equip people to become disciples of Jesus who make disciples. So with our purpose statement as the starting point, here is our dream for what will have happened at Maritime Christian College as it prepares for the fall 2032 semester, a decade in the future.

Fall 2022 Students

Maritime Christian College's fall semester started September 6 with 24 online students registered in the following programs:

- Disciple Maker Certificate
- Disciple Making Church Leadership Certificate
- Youth Disciple Making Ministry Certificate
- Bachelor of Bible & Ministry

Twelve of the students who registered are taking a class at MCC for the first time. MCC's online learning approach allowed students from 7 different provinces in Canada, 2 states in the USA, and 2 students from Nigeria to take classes together!

THE DREAM

MCC is producing high quality, impactful, and accredited online courses for Masters, Bachelor, and Certificate-level programs and is known around the world for its focus on disciple making

MCC is known around the world for its higher education curriculum focused on disciple making and MCC ranks in the top 10% of Christian universities offering this discipline.

MCC has continued to maintain and evolve a unique "style" to its online asynchronous courses that strikes a balance between knowledge transfer and practical application of that knowledge, while engaging students with a highly qualified instructor and online cohorts of 6-12 students to help guide them on their learning journey.

MCC has attracted many of the world's most widely-recognized disciple makers to develop its courses, as well as having a base of highly-qualified instructors to deliver the courses

Our asynchronous online format makes it feasible for these highly sought-after disciple makers to develop higher education courses that can be taken by hundreds of different students in the same semester, and will attract the most motivated students to MCC course offerings.

MCC has developed a growing group of highly motivated and qualified instructors to deliver its online courses, and this allows an optimum ratio of between 6-12 students per instructor.

MCC has accreditation for its Masters and Bachelors Programs

The accreditation has not only increased the attractiveness of our online courses to students, but it has allowed MCC to build and execute efficient internal administrative processes for developing and delivering online courses.

Funding comes from a growing donor base and from generous Legacy Fund gifts

MCC is receiving twice the amount of direct giving from individual donors and churches that it received in 2022.

Through strategically aligning its asset base to focus on online disciple making programs, MCC's Legacy Fund is generating significant investment income that MCC is using to fund special projects and bursaries relating to global disciple making.

Every MCC student is able to receive a bursary that covers at least 50% of tuition costs, due to the generosity of MCC financial supporters, and students can finish their degree with little to no debt.

MCC students are having a global impact on disciple making

Hundreds of MCC students are taking online courses in the 2032/2033 academic year.

Many of the students live outside Canada and many are from other denominations outside the Restoration Movement.

MCC graduates are involved in disciple making movements around the world, where the Gospel is being taught, disciples are being made, and multiplication is happening through radical dependency on the Holy Spirit exhibited in the lives of disciple makers.

MCC has developed a deeply collaborative Church Partnering Network where MCC and the churches have launched hundreds of new disciple making ministries around the world

MCC provides higher education training and equipping of disciple makers that catalyze and sustain disciple making efforts with partnering churches, and in turn, these churches direct students to MCC.

MCC provides support for partnering churches through consultation services for starting and financing new ministries, special training events for church leaders, and disciple making resources for pastors.

MCC is regarded by other organizations around the world as a highly sought-after partner that delivers on its commitments and adds high value to every collaborative effort, including direct financial support for new ministries.

MCC is part of a Canada-wide disciple making movement with other organizations

In addition to its Church Partnering Network, MCC is a contributing partner in a consortium of organizations that work together to start new disciple making ministries in cities across Canada.

MCC online courses provide core support to help these disciple making ministry leaders with some of the "heavy lifting" of starting a new church, such as developing healthy leadership teams, youth leaders, and teaching sound Biblical doctrine.

So there it is – our dream for Maritime Christian College in the coming decade. Hopefully you will now understand why I am excited about sharing this! The reason I have been hesitant to share it with you, though, is that I know it is imperfect. I can't predict the future with any accuracy, and I certainly know that the path ahead for MCC won't follow exactly how we've laid it out here. To me, what is more important than the final destination is the journey MCC takes on the path over the next decade. I am very grateful for the encouragement MCC has received in the past three years from our financial supporters, students, staff, and Board Members to get started on the journey. We all need to continue to pray and fast for the Holy Spirit's direction and guidance on our next decade – and celebrate all the successes along the way!

Meeting the Challenge Campaign

I am hopeful that as you have read through the vision for MCC in the coming decade, you will see how our "Meeting The Challenge" Campaign aligns with the dream we have for MCC.



Our goal is to increase the income received from supporters (individuals and churches) by \$333,000 per year. The increased funding will be directed into three main areas: delivering and expanding our online programming, student bursaries, and church partnerships.

The Board of Directors and the staff at MCC understand this is a very challenging goal and that individual donors may wonder "Will my contributions really make a difference towards this giving target?" I want to answer that question with an emphatic "Yes!" Here's a different way to break down what your individual contributions support:

- A \$1,080 annual donation towards student bursaries – which works out to \$90 per month if you use our FRIENDS monthly giving program – allows four students to receive a bursary that will cover 50% of the tuition cost for one undergraduate course.
- A \$2,400 annual donation – or \$200 per month under the FRIENDS program - will cover approximately 60% of the direct costs to develop a new online course by some of the most-recognized disciple makers in North America.
- A \$4,800 annual donation – which is \$400 per month under the FRIENDS program - will allow MCC to pay 75% of the direct costs of running one online course with 12 students. That class could have disciple making students from your church studying and learning together with other students from around the world.

MCC's Strategic Move: Master's Degree in Disciple Making and Ministry Leadership

In January 2023, Maritime Christian College will kick off the Disciple Making and Ministry Leadership Master's Degree, addressing: job related needs for higher education, the church's need for innovation in a complex world, and ABHE accreditation.

Job Related Needs

Statistics Canada reported about higher education in Canada in its 2016 census, "22.4% of the Canadian population aged 25 to 64 had a college diploma as the highest educational qualification, compared with an estimated 8% among OECD countries overall."* The good news is Canada leads other countries in educating its young people. The troubling news for those entering the job market is the need for an advanced degree to compete for jobs but also to relate with the average church goer. For example, the leadership of Halifax Christian Church (HCC), NS estimates about 65% of all attendees have a university degree. There are about 28 different nationalities attending HCC as well.

Graduate education offers students opportunity to reflect and consider the why and how about their field of study after learning the basics in undergrad. "Completing my master's degree through MCC helped me to think more deeply about theological truths and how they apply to life and ministry," said James Stevenson,

Associate Pastor at HCC. "My professors and the subject matter exposed me to some new ideas and ways of thinking. Completing that degree has also provided me with tools to better lead in the local church. Through what I gained during my studies, I feel that I am a better equipped leader."

Church's Need for Innovation

"For too long the church has assumed the culture will conform to what it believes, but that has not happened," said Tom Marshall, Academic Dean. "Each generation must present the gospel within the context of a changing culture hostile to the church." This is not new, God sent Saul (Paul) of Tarsus to the Gentiles within the major city centres of the Roman Empire to make disciples by casting light on the current culture by sharing the gospel. For example, Paul spoke about an "unknown god" after he saw the multitude of idols on the streets in Athens and shared with the Areopagus thinkers the living God who sent Jesus (Acts 17:16-34).

Today's culture is riddled with tough questions, but is the church addressing them? Has the church become irrelevant?

It's time Christians become creative and start innovating new ways to address these tough questions. The Disciple Making

and Ministry Leadership Master's Degree prepares students how to create open dialogue by building real relationships with the people within our sphere of influence. People have needs, and relationships are the best means to meet their needs. The following outcomes of MCC's Master's Degree tackle this need for innovation:

- How to engage cultural issues facing the church in these precarious times.
- How to use the message and methods of Jesus to learn and apply Jesus' model of intentional leadership in your own life as a disciple maker.

The Capstone Project is tailored for each individual student's circumstances, allowing them to formulate an approach appropriate for their situation, including coaching from experts.

The heart of disciple making is developing a real relationship with someone as you live a life for Jesus. It is one-on-one relationships which encourage and edify others to draw closer to God. Sermons from pulpits are nice but a believer caring for a non-believer will trump the best sermon. Innovation begins when church leaders empower members to make disciples rather than Sunday morning participants.

ABHE Accreditation

Part of MCC's innovation is the pursuit of ABHE accreditation. The ABHE.org website** (<https://www.abhe.org/accreditation/faqs/>) suggests that an accredited institution is one that:

- Has a clear and distinctive purpose widely understood and embraced throughout the institution;
- Has ascertainable goals deriving from the purpose;
- Has resources (students, faculty, learning resources, facilities, technology, finances) adequate to assure that goals may continue to be achieved;

- Employs processes which ensure integrity and efficiency;
- Engages in continuous assessment, planning, and intentional resource allocation toward improvement;
- Substantially meets accrediting standards

Accreditation adds value through the self-assessment process and accountability. Intrinsic value is added because the College can measure its strengths and weaknesses, as well as plan for ongoing College improvement. MCC's clear purpose is to create an institution focussed upon disciple making within the Canadian context.

*Statistics Canada, "Education in Canada: Key results from the 2016 Census" (Nov. 29, 2017). OECD - Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

**Kells, H. R. Self-Study Processes: A Guide to Self-Evaluation in Higher Education. Phoenix: Oryx Press, 1995.



Lifetime Earnings by Level of Education

Michael T. Nietzel, president emeritus of Missouri State University, highlighted lifetime earnings in the Oct. 11, 2021 Forbes article, "New Study: College Degree Carries Big Earnings Premium, But Other Factors Matter Too."

Here are the median lifetime earnings of full-time workers by level of education:

- less than high school - \$1.2 million
- high school diploma - \$1.6 million
- some college, but no degree - \$1.9 million, equal to about \$47,500 annually
- associate's degree - \$2 million, or about \$50,000 per year
- bachelor's degree - \$2.8 million, the equivalent of \$70,000 annually
- master's degree - \$3.2 million, or \$80,000 annually
- doctoral degree - \$4 million, equal to \$100,000 per year
- professional degree - \$4.7 million, or an average of \$117,500 annually.

Master of Arts in Disciple Making & Ministry Leadership

Beginning January 2023



APPLY
by December 15



Hurricane Fiona Slams into the College



Hurricane Fiona ripped across Prince Edward Island, toppling trees around Maritime Christian College (MCC), September 23-24, 2022. MCC fared well considering all the damage across the Island.

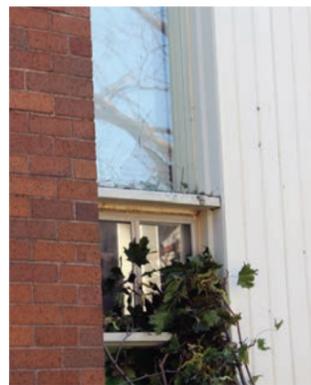
Over 80,000 customers were without power with over 260 crews working to repair lines and at least 488 damaged poles. MCC's power was restored after 3 days but phone and internet access was not restored until 7 days after the storm. Some Island residents waited at least 3 weeks to have their power restored.

Tom Marshall, Academic Dean, described his drive to MCC from home a few days after Fiona hit. *"Gas stations along the Trans Canada leading into Charlottetown remained closed, several power poles were snapped like twigs along the roadside, and businesses were closed."*



MCC suffered a couple of cracked windows, some water damage, and several trees knocked

down in the front and back yards including the old apple tree on the south end of the parking lot which fell into the exit. The white fence on both sides of the building along with the retaining wall cap on the south side were destroyed, and a piece of siding over the entryway was stripped off. Penny Ching and Ellen Arsenault assessed the damage for insurance purposes. The insurance adjuster arrived a week later to verify the damage and process the claim so we can begin to get the damage fixed.



There are 22 UPEI and Collège de l'Île residents living at MCC. While they had no power the residents made the best of it and cooked over the firepit in the back yard!



In Loving Memory

June 11 - October 21, 2022

- HATTIE ARMSTRONG – Burt's Corner, NB.....Heather Jones
 NINA BEYEA – Hampton, NB.....Wayne & Carolyn Lambert
 GLADYS CASEY – Calgary, AB.....Audrey Dodge; Nauwigewauk Christian Church
 GEOFFREY CONLEY – Leonardville, NB.....Darrel Stewart
 BURTIS CROUSE – Burt's Corner, NB.....Hollis & Donna Grant
 SHARON HARTFORD – Deer Island, NB.....Mary Hickox
 HAZEN HEIGHT – Weymouth, NS.....Bruce & Debbie Hankinson
 DONALD HICKOX – Charlottetown, PE.....Louise Rooney
 DICK HOLLIS – Dallas, GAFredericton Christian Church; Bob & Janis Walker
 JAMES MCDORMAND – Westport, NS.....Crystal McDormand
 GARTH PUGH – Burt's Corner, NBHollis & Donna Grant
 BALFOUR & SHIRLEY READ – Summerside, PEBob & Janis Walker
 ALLAN STEVENSON – Meadowbank, PE.....Donald & Sharon Stevenson
 MILLER & FRANCES STEVENSON – Charlottetown, PE.....Donald & Sharon Stevenson
 CHERYL STEWART – Fredericton, NBDarrel Stewart
 GERALD STEWART – Fredericton, NB.....Darrel Stewart
 LORETTA STEWART – Fredericton, NBDarrel Stewart
 MERLE ZIMMERMAN – Weymouth, NS.....Donald & Sharon Stevenson

Please Note:

Memorial gift donations will be published in the Maritime Messenger and a card sent to the next of kin if the name and address are included with your donation.

In Honour of donations will be recognized with a card sent to the honouree if the name and address are included with your donation.



MARITIME
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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www.mccpei.com/usa-donations

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Alumni News



It's a Boy
Peter ('16) and Emily Doiron
 welcomed
Micah William Doiron
 July 9, 2022
 7lbs 8oz



Canadian Centre for Christian Charities

ACCREDITED MEMBER

Stewardship Policy:

"Spending of funds is confined to board approved programs and projects. Each restricted contribution designated towards a board approved program or project will be used as designated, with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the board, the remaining restricted contributions designated for a program or project will be used where needed most."

Check out our latest MCC Blog



The Christian higher education landscape has been undergoing significant foundational changes for the past twenty years. The changes were slow to see at first. I relate it to the root system of a tree - when the root structure undergoes stress and loses its health, all parts of the tree eventually show this lack of health. What type of roots have been revealed?

<https://www.mccpei.com/post/canada-christian-college-courses>

Enroll for January 2023

Disciple Making Certificate



Raise your game as a mature believer who makes disciples who make disciples

Disciple Making Church Leadership Certificate



Enhance your leadership team with a single-minded focus on making disciple makers

Bachelor of Bible & Ministry Degree



Leverage your existing university degree to train for a leadership role in a disciple making ministry

Courses run January 9 - April 16

All courses are online



Apply by
December 15

www.mccpei.com/apply-online



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