



**Canadian Conference**  
of Mennonite Brethren Churches

**Video Update – September 2017**

**Steve Berg, CCMBC Interim Executive Director**

The story of Mennonites in Canada over the last 150 years is quite a remarkable one. We came with very little in hand, and through the blessing of God, we have received much. About 50 years ago, the stewardship of those resources began to be a very practical conversation that we had with each other, and pooling of those resources enabled us to begin to provide mortgages to churches and to pastors and their families.

I'm standing in front of Northview Community Church here in Abbotsford. And this has been one of the churches that, over the years, has been benefitting from the kind of resources that the Canadian conference has...to help and assist them in their mission. You'll also note that there's a partnership here with MB Mission, another one of our key partners that we work together with. Here at Northview, there is this great collaboration between this local church and this global mission that we're all a part of.

Well one of the things that's been changing, obviously, is regulations in Canada, and we've had to make some adjustments in the way that we go about the pooling of these resources, the deposit funds that are registered and are provided for the funding of mortgages for churches and pastors. In order to do that, we've had to create something that we've called CCMBC Legacy Fund Inc. Now starting in 2018, after two years of planning and preparing for this, we're ready to begin to make that transition. So those kind of changes are part of our communication to our depositors and to our whole constituency this fall.

One of the points of impact is that, in the 2018 budget that will be approved here at Northview in November, there is no plan for any cash transfers to take place between Legacy and CCMBC. In that sense, CCMBC has reordered its expenditures and priorities in order to be totally and completely dependent upon the gifts and contributions of our churches and individuals towards this mission and ministry.

But in the meantime, it's really about the mission because we believe that God continues to call us to multiply Christ-centred churches that will see the transformation of people in Canada by the gospel of Jesus Christ – we share that. So, as a result of some of these changes that have taken place, it's called us again to partner with each other.

This coming November, the EQUIP Study Conference will be held right here at Northview, and it's a conversation about discipleship because it's really what we're about; it's really what we want to accomplish. And so, as we gather here for both the [SGM and Study Conference], we will talk about some of the business issues. But in terms of the mission and ministry, we want to talk about the continued discipleship of people, and we hope that you will choose to come and be a part of both of

those conversations at the Special General Meeting as well as at the Study Conference we will be hosting.

Everything is changing, but in a positive way, there are new opportunities for us. We thank you for your continued participation with us as Mennonite Brethren across Canada, churches who are committed to multiply so that the gospel of Jesus Christ will see the transformation of our communities. Thank you for your involvement, your support and your commitment with us as we serve Christ.