



CCRDA

CANADIAN CHRISTIAN RELIEF
& DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION



RELIEF · DEVELOPMENT · JUSTICE

ANNUAL REPORT
2019 – 2020



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Compassion Canada

OVERVIEW OF CCRDA

The Canadian Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA) is comprised of organizations that are committed to integrated, transformative development. CCRDA was previously known as the Relief and Development Group (R&D Group) of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC). The group formed in 1984, and since that time it has provided a forum for members to encourage one another, cooperate, share expertise, respond to changes in their field, and speak with one voice on social and policy issues. CCRDA was officially incorporated in June 2006 and received charitable status in May 2007.

MISSION: Promoting unity and excellence among all Canadian Christian relief and development organizations.

VISION: Together, seeking God’s kingdom purposes for flourishing lives and communities internationally.

VALUE PROPOSITION: We explore the relationship of Christian principles to international relief and development, facilitate collaboration, and promote the sharing of information, experience and expertise.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

This annual report speaks for itself. The Canadian Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA) has experienced a tremendous year of growth. So much credit goes to the amazing staff we have, being led by Executive Director, Laura Solberg and Director of Operations and Programs, Joella Reitsma. They are a dynamic team, passionate to serve our members.

Our mission as an association is: to promote unity and excellence among all Canadian Christian relief and development organizations. We do this so we can attain our vision of, together, seeking God's kingdom purposes for flourishing lives and communities internationally. This report gives you a detailed look into how we are delivering on this mission and vision in more innovative and impactful ways than ever before. From affinity groups to webinars to events to email updates, our goal is to support Canadian charities in the best way possible so that together we impact this world for Jesus Christ.

As I write this, we're in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic that is wreaking havoc with our world. The implications of this crisis on the majority world remains uncertain. This event proves to me again just how much we need each other.

On behalf of the Board, thank you to our members for choosing to be a part of the Canadian Christian Relief and Development Association. You're doing important work.

Let's, together, keep our eyes focused on Jesus, the one who is renewing and redeeming all things.

All the best,

Hank de Jong

CCRDA Board Chair



MEMBER IMPACT STORIES:

*“The webinar that really was an eye-opener for me was the one titled **Online Fundraising**. The content was challenging and made me ask a lot of questions about why and how I was communicating my ministry’s needs to sponsors and donors. It was an amazing resource that provided ideas for weeks and months after I first watched it. It covered important elements and gave me great practical suggestions for my emails, social media, electronic newsletters and donation pages. The best thing is that the webinar is available whenever I want to listen to it again – and I have discovered that I always gain new insights.”*

Jose Prem

ChildCare International

“The availability of training, networking and other resources that the CCRDA is now making available is a great encouragement. Increasingly, membership in the CCRDA offers significant benefits for organizations like IJM Canada. It’s becoming essential to us and we are so thankful for the diligence and expertise demonstrated by you and your staff, as well as for all you are doing to represent us to a wider audience.”

Kevin Dixon

VP of Programs and Operations for IJM Canada

“The CCRDA member organizations are an amazing collection of ministries- bringing them together and discerning what to do with us must be like herding cats! I want to commend the CCRDA for putting up with us and finding ways to be relevant and appropriate in supporting each ministry. I have found the CCRDA to be approachable, adaptable, innovative and a joy to work with. The world is changing fast around us; we need a network like the CCRDA to bring us together for fellowship and mutual Kingdom benefit.”

John Clayton

Samaritan’s Purse Canada

“The CCDRA has provided our agency with the resources and ideas to grow in our roles in the office. The seminars are not just full of information, they are also very practical in nature. The CCDRA is just not “another organization” it is an organization that not only advocates for you but also wants to see every organization successful in achieving their mission. The sense of encouragement I receive simply by sitting down with other like minded people and learning through the seminars and webinars is worth its weight in gold.”

Brad Wilson

Missionary Ventures Canada



“Here at iTeams Canada one of our goals for 2019-2020 was to “Ask Better, Thank Better”. With emphasis on pursuing excellence in fundraising and stewardship, we set intentions to better equip our front-line program advocates and fundraisers, called our Program Champions, to grow their respective monthly giving programs.

When the CCRDA announced that the topic for October’s workshop would be Strategy Development with Chris Bosch, we jumped at the opportunity to bring our Impact Zambia Program Champion, who was struggling to identify and communicate the core objectives and vision of her program to donors. Here’s the email we received from her the day after the workshop:

Good morning Adam, Sheila and Greg,

I just want to sincerely thank you for yesterday’s opportunity and that you invested your time to help me figure out how to better Impact Zambia’s communication and direction...It was very very helpful to understand that instead of communicating activities we do, we ALWAYS need to tie it to the WHY and the vision..It was a day worthwhile!

We’re happy to say that thanks to a matching campaign for monthly donors in November and the hard work of our empowered and encouraged program champion, Impact Zambia has since doubled its monthly donations. We’re so grateful to be a part of a network that connects us with resources to help us reach our goals and develop our volunteers.

Thank you, CCRDA!”

Adam Faber

International Teams Canada



Food for the Hungry

“Collaboration is at the heart of what we believe and do at Food for the Hungry and being a member of the CCRDA has furthered this goal. We have had the privilege of working closely with Laura and Joella in planning events and through this gotten to know other member organizations more deeply.

Perhaps the greatest benefit, however, is seeing how non-profits are setting aside differences and looking for places of alignment. The CCRDA is facilitating ways for all of us to join together and be Kingdom workers rather than siloed individuals. We are grateful for the leadership and anticipate great things for the coming year.”

Shelaine Strom and Melanie Olfert

Food for the Hungry



LIST OF CURRENT MEMBERS:

ADRA	Hear Africa
Arms of Jesus Children's Mission	Hope & Healing International
Asian Outreach International	Hope Story
Bridges of Hope	Hungry for Life International
Canadian Baptist Ministries	International Justice Mission
CAUSE Canada	International Teams Canada
Childcare International Society	Loving Arms Charitable Corporation
Children Believe	Maranatha Evangelistic Association
Christian Horizons Global	Missionary Ventures Canada
Christian Mission Aid	Nazarene Compassionate Ministries
Come Over and Help (COAH)	North Okanagan Valley Gleaners Society
Compassion Canada	Ontario Christian Gleaners
Crossroads Christian Communications Inc.	Operation Mobilization
Dalit Freedom Network	Partner's Relief & Development Canada
EduDeo Ministries	Partners WorldWide Canada
Emmanuel International Canada	Plateau Perspectives
Engineering Ministries International	Samaritan's Purse Canada
Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches	SIM Canada
FIDA Foundation for International Assistance	The Salvation Army Canada
Food for the Hungry	The Wellspring Foundation for Education
Food for the Poor	Word & Deed Ministries
Global Aid Network (GAIN)	World Hope Canada
Greater Vancouver Youth Unlimited	World Renew
Health Partners International	World Vision Canada
<i>Members to be Voted on at 2020 AGM:</i>	
ACTS	Medical Ministry International
Mission Partners International	Prairie Gleaners Society
Thrive for Good	



CCRDA ACTIVITIES DURING 2019-2020

ANNUAL EVENTS

Each year, the CCRDA hosts 3 annual events. Our Annual Forum, in May, is a two-day event that includes our Annual General Meeting, and alternates between a location in Ontario and Alberta/BC. In the fall, we host our Annual Regional Workshops. These are one-day events that take place both at a location in Ontario and Alberta/BC.

In 2019, the CCRDA hosted Dr. Brian Fikkert at our Annual Forum at Power to Change in Langley, BC. He spoke on “Faithfully Improvising God’s Theory of Change”. We had 65 people attend this event.

In October, our Annual Workshops focused on Strategy Development with Chris Bosch in London, and Developing Healthy & Effective Teams with Rick Franklin in Calgary. 45 people took part in the London Workshop and 20 people took part in the Calgary Workshop.

WEBINARS

At the CCRDA, we believe it is important to learn from each other regularly as we are a community of Christ-centred organizations who desire to share skills, knowledge and support one another. In order to facilitate this mutual learning relationship, in May 2017, we introduced our first series of monthly webinars which feature one of our members or an expert in a relevant field on a topic of their expertise.

Since May 2019, we have featured the following topics in our webinar series:

- *Journeys into the Unknown: How working overseas and dealing with pandemics both take us into the unknown* with Hazel Mayhew, Beracah Counseling
- *Leading through Volatility and Uncertainty* with Rick Franklin, Arrow Leadership Ministries
- *Traveling with Youth on International Trips* with Melodie Bissell, Plan to Protect
- *Better Together: How Women and Men Can Heal the Divide and Work Together to Transform the Future* with Danielle Strickland, Author & Speaker
- *Growing Organizational Influence* with Phil Tanner, Epic Consultancy
- *Special Webinar with the Chalmers Center and Brian Fikkert*
- *Rooting for Rivals: How Collaboration and Generosity can Increase Impact* with Chris Horst, HOPE International
- *Development and the Environment: Incorporating the Environment in our Work* with Jennifer Fernandes, Private Consultant
- *Strategies to Improve your Digital Fundraising Campaign* with Graeme Watt, Anthem Creative
- *Why the Opposite of Poverty is Not the American Dream* with Brian Fikkert, Chalmers Center
- *Developing Rhythms for Greater Health & Impact* with Steve Brown, Arrow Leadership Ministries

PARTNERSHIPS

In 2019, the CCRDA continued to partner with The Charis Foundation and the Falle Foundation who each generously provided a grant of \$5,000. The Maranatha Foundation also generously provided a grant of \$2,000.

We have initiated and continued partnerships with a variety of organizations, institutions and companies that serve the relief and development sector, including training discount partnerships with Plan to Protect, NextAfter, Anthem Creative and Arrow Leadership Ministries. In Fall 2019, we formed an official partnership with the Chalmers Center at Covenant College which ensures that our CCRDA members have a free license to access the Chalmers Online Learning Platform. We also formed a partnership with Wheaton College of Graduate Studies to offer our members tuition discounts on their M.A. in Humanitarian and Disaster Leadership Program.

“The CCRDA has allowed the Chalmers Center to share our ideas and with dozens of like-minded Christian ministries and help equip them for holistic ministry with people living in poverty. It would have taken us years to accomplish the same reach and impact that we’ve achieved in just a few months of partnering together.”

Adam Duguay

VP of Marketing, The Chalmers Center for Economic Development

NEWSLETTER

CCRDA’s newsletter, Excellence @ Work, is distributed to members quarterly (with the Annual Report comprising the spring’s quarter) via email and on the website. For each issue, member agencies are invited to write about a specific theme in addition to submitting general news and announcements. This publication is meant to act as a forum where members can keep each other informed, share their knowledge, and learn from others’ best practices. Since last summer, the newsletter has focused on the following themes: Youth and International Development, Teamwork in International Development, and Highlights of 2019 and Plans for 2020.

AFFINITY GROUPS

In Spring 2019, we initiated Affinity Groups for members to share experiences and challenges, learn from one another, and make connections with a network of like-minded individuals. In June, the Fundraising Affinity Group began to meet quarterly on Zoom and has discussed the following topics: Face-to-Face Asks, Email Appeals, Donor Impact Reporting, and Major Gift Prospecting.

In September, the Disaster Response Affinity Group began to meet quarterly on Zoom and has discussed the following topics: Public Health in Emergencies, Emergency Needs Assessments, and Disaster Risk Reduction.

In September 2019, the Spiritual Care Book Club began to meet monthly to discuss Ruth Hailey Barton’s book, Sacred Rhythms.

“The CCRDA’s Spiritual Care Book Club has been a true bright moment this year.... I’m so grateful for the fellowship that has come out of this experience and am excited to continue diving deeper!”

Sarah Harrington

Wellspring Foundation for Education

“The Fundraising affinity group has been a helpful tool for adjusting our fundraising strategy. Furthermore, the CCRDA provides helpful resources for staff training.”







Chris Hege

Greater Vancouver Youth Unlimited



BOARD, STAFF, AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

BOARD MEMBERS

 <p>CHAIRPERSON HANK DE JONG EduDeo Ministries</p>	 <p>DIRECTOR ALLISON ALLEY Compassion Canada</p>	 <p>DIRECTOR CAROLE LEACOCK World Vision Canada</p>
 <p>TREASURER AARON ROGERS Global Aid Network (GAIN) Canada</p>	 <p>DIRECTOR GREG READER International Teams Canada</p>	 <p>INCOMING DIRECTOR GINA JACKLIN Hope Story</p>

STAFF



In November 2019, **Joella Reitsma** was promoted from CCRDA Coordinator to Director of Operations and Programs. Having served faithfully in the Coordinator role with the CCRDA for 9 years, Joella's role has evolved and grown to the point where much of our operations and programs rely on her knowledge, work and expertise. Joella has an MA in Development Studies and a passion for encouraging collaboration among CCRDA members to enhance relief and development activities.



Laura Solberg joined the CCRDA staff as Executive Director in September 2018. After being on the board of the CCRDA since 2013 and serving as chair for two years, Laura was excited to make the transition to Executive Director. Under Laura's diligent leadership and expertise, the CCRDA has increased its professional excellence.

MEMBERSHIPS

CANADIAN COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The CCRDA is a member of the Canadian Council of International Cooperation (CCIC) and throughout the year, we have endeavoured to share information and networking opportunities that have been circulated by CCIC and its various working groups. Members are kept up to date on CCIC activities through our newsletter and Executive Director, Laura Solberg, participates in the Faith-Inspired Members subcommittee, as well as other events and groups.

CANADIAN COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

The CCRDA is a member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC) and throughout the year, we have endeavoured to share information and networking opportunities that have been circulated by CCCC. The board of directors seeks to remain in alignment with the CCCC, and regularly look for ways to collaborate with the CCCC to the benefit of our membership.

In April 2020, CCCC set up an online community forum in The Green to address questions and concerns related to COVID-19 which CCRDA members can access for their ministries. The CCRDA is currently exploring utilizing The Green as an online membership discussion forum and Executive Director, Laura Solberg, meets regularly with the leadership of the CCCC to explore other collaboration opportunities.

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The CCRDA Executive Director, Laura Solberg, is an individual member of the British Columbia Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC) and throughout the year, we have endeavoured to share information and networking opportunities that have been circulated by BCCIC.

ONTARIO COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The CCRDA is a member of the Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) and throughout the year, we have endeavoured to share information and networking opportunities that have been circulated by OCIC.

JOINT LEARNING INITIATIVE

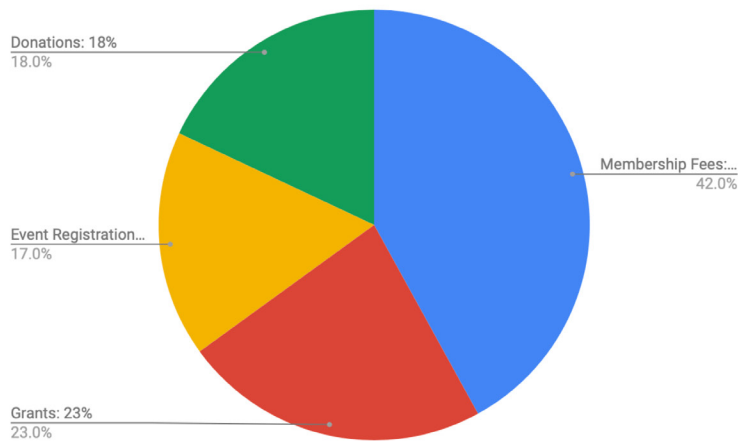
The CCRDA is a member of the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities, “an international collaboration of evidence for faith groups’ activities, contribution and challenges to health and wellbeing.” The membership allows the CCRDA to access evidence-based reports, webinars, and learning hubs on topics like Anti-Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery; Ending Violence Against Children; Gender-based Violence; Mobilization of Local Faith Communities, and; Refugees and Forced Migration.



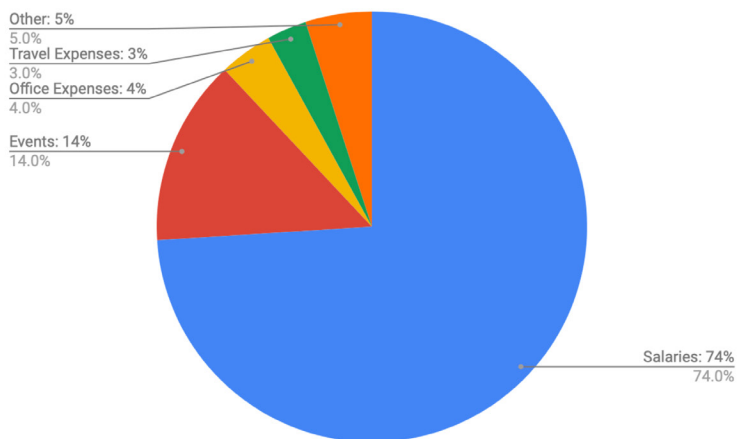
FINANCES

In early 2020, CCRDA had an external audit of the 2019 fiscal year by Norton McMullen LLP. The financial statements have been approved by the Board and sent to the membership for review at the AGM on May 5, 2020. The 2019 audited financial statements are on our website.

INCOME, JANUARY 2019-DECEMBER 2019



EXPENSES, JANUARY 2019-DECEMBER 2019





CLOSING

What an amazing year it's been, working alongside and supporting the inspiring work that our members take part in globally. Seeing the results of our membership's work as they grow in unity and excellence, is such a blessing. It truly is a privilege and an honour to support them as they tackle the injustices that so many around the world face. Whether it's organizing in-person events, (or thinking creatively to shift those events to virtual!), hosting webinars, facilitating Affinity conversations or collecting, collating and distributing resources and information in the day-to-day and in times of crisis- everything we do is motivated by our vision.

Pursuing God's kingdom purposes for flourishing lives and communities internationally. This is the vision that brings us together. And this is the vision that we carry forward into a new year together. In spite of challenging times, we know that God has provided ALL that is necessary to accomplish His will. And His will is for flourishing!

By God's grace, may we flourish together and spur each other on as we continue to pursue God and all He has for us.

Laura Solberg

Executive Director



CCRDA

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