

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR REPORT 2016

To my Canada Central District family,

Six years ago I started on a journey with you to reevaluate Children's Ministry (CM) on our district and to discover what our vision and mission were. In October 2010, we met with professionals from *Commitment Ministries* to have a discussion on what local churches needed in regard to their children's ministry and what they'd like to see us achieve in a 3-year time period. The final mission statement for 2010 for CM was:

*By 2013, Canada Central District's (CCD) Children's Ministries will be a connected (communication), integrated (working together) community that will: share resources, intentionally develop partners together and continue to equip leaders and workers so that every church has a viable and sustainable way of reaching children with Christ's message.*

It was so exciting to have a purpose going forward in as I took on the role of CM Director for our district. There was great support from the S.D.M.I. board and through people who contacted me to be a part of a small CM committee: Wendy Rampold and Lisa Potter. Together, we created a website to communicate and provide resources to our local churches, as well as a Facebook page, and zone events to try and get churches integrated and networking with one another. Three years later, in 2013, the CM committee felt it was time to sit down together to reassess our mission statement. We felt strongly that this be our mission for CM on CCD:

*Our mission is to carry out the **Great Commission** to children and their families, and to train, encourage, and equip Christian leaders who minister to children on our district.*

*We will seek to fulfill this mission through encouraging spiritual growth, providing quality training and resourcing, networking, and district communication.*

We implemented several different initiatives: seasonal CM newsletters, CM leader book club, Pinterest boards, and training at district events like GROW and G.M.T.

It has been exciting to see God give us a vision for this district. It has been encouraging to see the number of CM workers that take the time to attend training days. It is pleasing to receive emails from CM workers looking for training, resources, and/or information. That is what we are here for. That is what keeps us connected. That is what keeps us from being lukewarm.

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God has used me these past six years and I am humbled and honoured to have served in this role. It is my time now, however, to pass the torch. I am being directed to serve in other ways on this district and more specifically in my local church. I would like to thank you for allowing me to be your CM Director. Thank you, Wendy and Lisa, for the hours you've spent collaborating and working to fulfill our mission. Thank you, S.D.M.I. board for believing in CM and for fully supporting us on this journey. Finally, thank you to every single one of this district's CM workers – you are essential!

May God continue to inspire you, challenge you, direct you, and give you wisdom. May you keep running the race and keep the faith.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerby Stavropoulos