

# MCS News

Foundation Ltd.

SPRING 2017

For 11 years, MCS Foundation has supported the Grade 9 mission trip. Back in 2006 when Mr. Regehr first brought up the idea with the Foundation, the trip was endorsed because the Foundation believes it intentionally and enthusiastically supports the MCS Community Christian Education Program (CCEP) by

promoting the mission of Learning, Living, Leading and Loving.

When asked for a list of mission trip activities and accomplishments, the Foundation discovered that Mr. Regehr has kept very good records.

**11 YEARS**

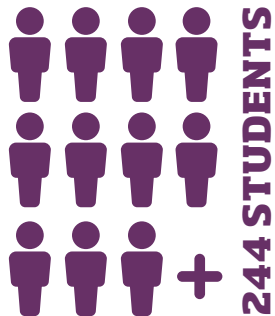
**3 MEXICO, 1 EL PASO,  
4 FABENS, 3 BELIZE**



**3 AIRPLANE TRIPS**

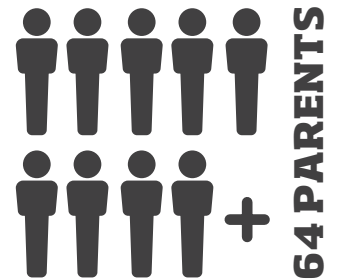


**41,328 KMS BY BUS**



**75  
WORSHIP  
SERVICES**

**50 COCKROACHES  
23 SCORPIONS  
12 BLACK WIDOW  
SPIDERS  
08 TARANTULAS**



**5 FOUNDATION MEMBERS/SPOUSES  
18 'OTHER' ADULT VOLUNTEERS  
1 TRIP ALUMNI**

**30+ SOCCER GAMES  
.....ONE WIN (2017)**



**3 SPIDER MONKEYS FED,  
MULTIPLE HOWLER MONKEYS**

**3 DIFFERENT PAINT  
JOBS ON THE BUS**



**ASSISTED IN COMPLETING  
OVER \$200,000  
WORTH OF DENTISTRY**

**65  
TREES  
IRRIGATED**

**JOBS** aquaponics project, radio broadcasts, puppet shows, built a 400 x 200 x 400 chain link fence for Chan Pine Ridge school, built fence for Compassion school, painted 3 Belize government schools, led worship, read to students, built 2nd floor of hacienda and bunk beds, irrigated trees, sheds, brick work, stucco work, shelving, painted 3 orphanages, fixed vehicles, tiled floors, laminated floors, lino'd floors, tiled bathroom, poured cement floors, cleaned yards for orphanages and a church, taught English at base and at school, babysat at homes and daycares, spent time in classrooms at 7 different schools, fed over 600 kids at various programs, helped out men in rehab, helped out the ladies refugee center, renovated the hacienda, put up doors, took down sheds, put up walls in 3 churches, trenched and installed weeping tile, 5 free dental clinics, ran Christian events (for Chiou), prayed for countless numbers of people, worshipped with the Talamahari, witnessed miracles and worshipped in more places than anyone can remember.

**OVER \$740,000 RAISED**

and financially helped over 29 different Christian organizations in Mexico, El Paso, Fabens, Orange Walk, Yo Creek, Chan Pine Ridge and Santa Cruz

# School fees. Program fees. Is there a difference?

**Y**ou may have heard the Alberta Government announcement that Bill 1 will remove fees previously charged by public school authorities for certain supplies or materials, and fees for eligible students travelling to their designated school.

For families this may be good news but it can also be a bit confusing. The school fees that are being removed are *school-administered fees*. Included in this category would be fees for such things as textbooks, workbooks, photocopying, printing, etc. These fees are sometimes referred to as instructional fees or materials.

The fees mentioned in Bill 1 do not include alternative program fees.

The fees you pay directly to MCS Foundation Ltd. are for the alternative faith-based program – the Community Christian Education Program (CCEP) delivered at Meadowlark Christian School. The program is overseen and administered by the Foundation, who collects the fees for the program and manages the finances according to a budget.

There is no connection between the school-administered fees as discussed in Bill 1 and the program fees for the Christian program.

Have concerns or questions about the fees?

Please call the Foundation's executive director, Trudy Callaghan: 780.953.6448



MCS Foundation Ltd. is the entity that works in partnership with Edmonton Public Schools to deliver the Community Christian Education Program (CCEP), the alternative program offered at MCS.

## A COMMON MISCONCEPTION

The Foundation and the School or Parent Council are NOT the same thing but we do collaborate on some initiatives.

# 2016 - 2017 MCS Foundation Board Members

Foundation Members were asked why they serve on the MCS Foundation. Here's what they said:



**Brett Whittington, Chair**

*I have a deep respect for those who have gone before us to further Christian education and I believe there is a bright future for those who follow. I have been connected to MCS for over 21 years and have served on the Foundation since 2005. During this time there have been many changes; however, our partnership with EPSB has allowed us to advance Christian education as an alternative program within a public system, setting an example for other districts to follow.*



**Ron Laird, Vice Chair**

*I support Christian schools in the public system. I initially got involved with the Foundation when my own children attended MCS. I remain involved because I see the positive impact MCS has on the spiritual lives of the students and their families. It's a blessing to serve.*



**Phil Nelson, Secretary**

*I have seen and experienced how the Foundation works alongside the school to provide a richer environment for the children, their parents and staff. I felt honoured when asked to join the Foundation and as my children attend MCS, I felt it was a great opportunity for me to give back.*



**Elaine Reimer, Treasurer**

*I serve on the board because I love MCS and our school community. Serving on the board enables me to use my skills to benefit our school.*



**Angela Wood, Board Member**

*I love children and Christian education. Four of my children attend(ed) this school and we consider MCS to be the 'jewel' of EPSB. Serving on the Foundation allows me to use my own education and business experience to support Christian education.*



**Elizabeth Bain, Board Member**

*I love God and want to honour Him in everything I do. I serve on the Foundation because I am deeply passionate about facilitating an environment where children can grow in the giftings that God has given them, so they are prepared to lead in the world. Also, I want to use the gifts that He has given me to serve others.*



**Reg Nordstrom, Board Member**

*It's truly an honour to serve and work with a tremendous group of people on the MCS Foundation Board. While the teaching and administrative staff are front line educators, my role helps support and enable MCS staff to be successful.*

*We frequently deal with a variety of challenges such as: facility updates, mission trips, budgets, maintenance/utility concerns, technology, policy development, etc. It's rewarding to see how this enables MCS in developing outstanding students in both sports and academic achievements... but more importantly in character development and spiritual growth.*

## Here are a few things the Foundation has initiated, funded, managed or participated in since last summer:

- 1** Installation and related upgrades to a second set of furnaces
- 2** MCS Family BBQ and Parent Election Night, welcome back breakfast for staff
- 3** 2016/17 Founders' Awards honouring Marg MacDonald and Ruby Torstensen
  - a** Honourable Mention:  
Ava Boitchenko for The Salvation Army
  - b** Marg MacDonald Award:  
Rachel Moore for Compassion Canada
  - c** Ruby Torstensen Award:  
Jamieson Galloway for Emmanuel Foundation
- 4** Fee Assistance Program
- 5** Dialogue with Infrastructure and Planning at EPSB regarding capacity issues in our building and EPSB's Space for Students public consultation
- 6** Principal selection –  
**Welcome Mr. Markine!**
- 7** Mission trip to Belize and Bibles for Grade 9s

The Foundation is planning some exciting changes on the school grounds this summer!

### The Foundation needs Parent Directors

electd by the parent body to ensure that parents have input into important decisions that affect Meadowlark Christian School. The Foundation meets about 10 times per year in the evening and once during the year at a "retreat" (think office boardroom, not Hawaii) that occurs over a Friday evening and Saturday.

If you want to be part of the group that guides and directs the mission and vision of the school, have a look at the nomination form attached. This is also an excellent way to get board experience and to give back to the Christian education community.



Exective Director, Trudy Callaghan, oversees the day to day business of the Foundation. She attends Foundation meetings but does not vote on any board decisions. She is in regular contact with Mr. Markine to ensure good communication between the Foundation and the school's administration.

Have a question? Here's Trudy's cell: **780.953.6448**

Updates and forms available: [k-9christian.com](http://k-9christian.com)



**Save the Date:**  
MCS Family BBQ  
& Meet the Teacher



**LEARNING** through academics



**LIVING** in Christ



**LEADING** by serving others



**LOVING** with strength of character

# PARENTS!

## Do you want to help guide the future of Meadowlark Christian School?

Nominations REQUIRED for Parent Directors 2017-2018

"By joining the Foundation you'll be joining a group of parents and others who are excited about Christian education and what God is doing right here in our school and in the lives of our students."

Elaine Reimer,  
Parent Director

### The Nomination Process

Any parent or legal guardian of an MCS student is eligible to serve on the MCS Foundation Advisory Council as a Parent Director. Candidates must be nominated by three other eligible parents/guardians (excluding family members). Nominations will be accepted in the school office until 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 7, 2017. All nominees will be contacted to confirm that they want to stand for nomination.

Nominees will complete forms in an interview package and be asked to prayerfully consider their commitment to being a director.

Names of nominees will be posted on the parent board at MCS on September 11, 2017. If the nominees outnumber the positions available, a general election open to all parents/guardians will be held at a parent meeting on the evening of the barbecue, September 12th.

For more information, please contact:  
Nominating Committee Chair, Ron Laird  
780.914.9432 or ronl@tronia.com

### NOMINATIONS DEADLINE

3:30pm on Thursday, September 7, 2017



### ELECTION

September 12, 2017  
at the MCS BBQ



## NOMINATION PROCESS BEGINS NOW!



_____	is nominated to serve as Parent Director on MCS Foundation Advisory Council.
Name of Nominee	
Nominated by: 1. _____	_____
Name	Signature
Nominated by: 2. _____	_____
Name	Signature
Nominated by: 3. _____	_____
Name	Signature

Please hand form into school office no later than **3:30pm on Thursday, September 7, 2017**