

# Alberta Conference Adventist News

A window of information for Seventh-day Adventists in Alberta

*Don't Play It Safe*

## Take Risks

**G**et out of the rut! Do things differently! Be bold! The New Testament says that Peter and his friends turned the world upside down. Some thought they were drunk. That reputation didn't come from wearing both suspenders and a belt—they took risks.

There always will be plenty of people telling you why something can't be done. There always will be people telling you to play it safe. But I say, "Go for it!"

What about planting a new church in your town? Some will say, "It can't be done!" But why not ask God if He would like to have it done? Maybe He is looking to increase His market share over the devil and would like to do it with another church in your city.

You have never conducted an evangelistic meeting? Well, you can't start any younger! Do it in your church or at a local motel or in your own home. Hundreds of young people have run hundreds of Revelation seminars. That worked too, and hundreds of people have been baptized as a result. Those young people didn't have enough experience to know that it couldn't be done. They followed the simple directions outlined in the director's kit, and God blessed.

You've never been outside the [country]? Why not join a Maranatha trip and help build a new church in the Dominican Republic, for instance? Link up with fellow church members or get community members to join you. Now . . . how do you know they won't go? Several friends of Adventists have already gone. Some non-Seventh-day Adventist Christians have been thrilled to have a part in building a church.

Let's press ourselves to go beyond our usual boundaries. Let's ask more people to accept Jesus. I too have been afraid of offending people, so at times I've not witnessed as openly as I wish I had. It's time to take greater risks. The chances of offending someone with our witness is not as great a possibility as being too quiet in our witness. When I think about how many people I've offended by asking them to accept Jesus, I realize that the list is not nearly as long as the list of those I've never asked at all.

One pastor I know regularly asks people, "What would it take for you to accept Jesus? No one gets mad. Nobody dies of a heart attack. This pastor leads more people to Jesus than almost anyone I know. I want to be more bold too.

Time is short. Radio and TV move from one commercial to another in 15 or 30 seconds. A long commercial is one minute. And a really long infomercial is a half hour. Subjects change often. Why do I think I must wait for just the right time to say something for Jesus?

I think I'll take more risks for God, attempt bigger things for Him. My new prayer will be "Lord, forgive me for my timid ways, my small plans, my fears. Cover my mistakes in the future, and help me to be fearless for You. Let me do more for You. Help me to do even things that I've never done before. And help me to mean it when I say to You, 'You are looking for someone? Well, here I am. You can send me!'"

*Don C. Schneider, North American Division President  
One Heart Rejoicing - The Difference Jesus Makes  
Available at the ABC, call 1-800-661-8131 or (403) 782-4416 to order*



SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST  
CHURCH

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## Mamawi Atosketan Native School Project

The Offer to Purchase land for the Mamawi Atosketan Native School Constituency Building Project was signed on Wednesday, January 2, 2002, with a possession date of January 21, 2002. The Building Committee met in January to proceed with building plans for this spring, 2002.

With these developments, it is time to complete the fund raising for the new school. The December 31, 2001, unaudited conference financial reports indicate that \$95,094 in Cash and \$7,910 in Pledges needs to be fund raised now to begin construction this spring, according to North American Division policy. Construction will only begin after the Executive Committee has given financial approval according to policy.

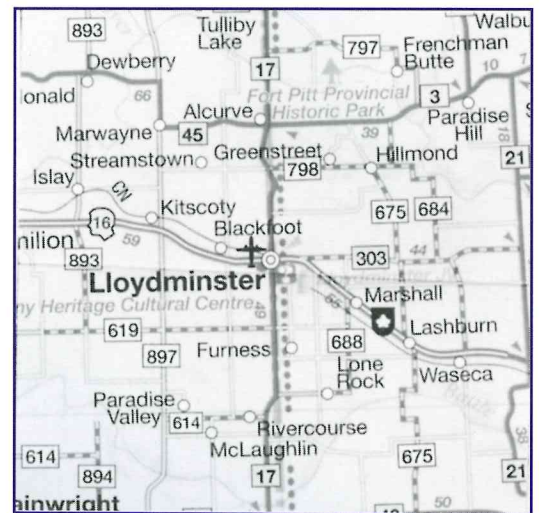
An update confirming the land purchase will be given in the next Alberta Conference Newsletter. With that update it is hoped that donors who have been waiting for the final word will come forward to give a big financial push so that construction can begin this spring.

This new school building for our First Nations children is receiving excellent support, from both within and outside the conference. Maranatha International is still interested, as soon as construction dates can be supplied to them. And one-half of the 2002 NAD Sabbath School Investment Offering will come to this project.

Please consider making a generous gift now to enable the school to be ready for September 2002. It is a privilege to have so many students receive a Christian Education within our conference who otherwise may not hear that Jesus loves them. Thank you for making this home mission project a priority.

## Lloydminster: Target Project

The Alberta Conference Evangelism Committee has chosen the city of Lloydminster as its Target Project for 2002. In a city of nearly 25,000 population on the border of Alberta and Saskatchewan, the Lloydminster congregation of thirty members desire to reach their community for Christ. Their pastor, Darrell Beaudoin, also has the responsibility of three other church bodies: Bonnyville, Boyle and Lac La Biche. In addition to supplying an evangelist for meetings in Lloydminster this fall, the Evangelism Committee is requesting that the conference give special consideration to this project as well as asking churches across Alberta to consider ways that they might assist in the Lloydminster endeavor. Alberta's Ministerial Director, John Adams, will be coordinating the project with the local pastor and congregation. If you or your church would like to assist in the Lloydminster Project, please contact him at 403-342-5044 ext. 211.



## Marriage Encounter Weekend

The next Marriage Encounter Weekend is April 5-7, 2002. Register now to assure yourself a place. Registration forms are available in your local church or call Doug and Gayle at 403-947-2081 or Dennis and Eileen at 403-556-2289.





## Two Hundred Plus Attend IIW Workshop

More than two hundred Alberta members attended a four-day "Re-Igniting the Flame" It Is Written Soul-Winning Workshop held at the Red Deer Church, January 10-13. The key note address was presented by Henry Feyerabend accompanied by Newton and Jose Fezer, active soul-winners from Brazil. Other presenters included Shawn Boonstra, Glenn Aufderhar, Don Stoyanowski, Cindy Tutsch from the White Estates, Dr. Willard Register, and Kurt Johnson.

The power of the Holy Spirit, Intercessory Prayer and the Word of God were presented as the foundation for successfully sharing God's last-day message. Effective methods for finding interests, giving Bible studies, answering objectives and obtaining decisions were also presented. Thirty-seven Bible studies were requested in Red Deer as participants of the workshop and volunteer students from CUC visited homes in the area on Sabbath afternoon.

It Is Written is holding "Re-Igniting the Flame" Soul-Winning Workshops in each conference across Canada in preparation for its Ignite Canada satellite crusade this fall. All churches in Alberta are invited to downlink this crusade in their churches October 18-November 16. Now is the time to update or order your ACN (Adventist Communication Network) Satellite Equipment and sow the seeds of the gospel in your community for a rich harvest this fall.

## Calgary Garden Road Grand-Opening

You are cordially invited to the Grand-Opening of the new Calgary Garden Road Church to praise God for what He has done! Sabbath, March 9: 10 a.m. Sabbath School and Worship; 2:00 p.m. Banquet; 4:00 p.m. Music and Memories; 7:00 p.m. Concert. Sunday, March 10: 2:00 p.m. Ribbon Cutting and Open House.

Directions: From Highway 2, go east on 16<sup>th</sup> Ave to Garden Road; then south 1 km.

*John Bullock, Pastor*

Foothills Camp – May 10-12, 2002

## Annual Family Health Workshop

### Guest Speakers:

**Dr. Neil Nedley, M.D.**, a full-time practicing physician in Internal Medicine with emphasis in Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Critical Care, and Preventive Medicine. A graduate of Loma Linda University, he has lectured extensively in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Russia on nutrition, lifestyle, and health. He is author of: *Proof Positive* and *DEPRESSION: the Way Out*. Seminar Topic: "Principles of Optimal Health".

**Cameron Johnston, MSPH, MDiv**, president of WellChoices Consulting Inc., is an employee wellness consultant. He has a Masters of Science in Public Health Degree from Loma Linda University and a Master of Divinity Degree from Andrews University. Author of the book: *Don't Eat the Soup as Hot as They Cook It!*

**Health Workshop Weekend: Come enjoy a weekend of knowledge, fun and relaxation!** Friday evening-Sunday noon. Other events will include nature walks, campfire, hayride, and more! Healthy meals for the weekend will be served as well as Special Children Activities (children will learn how to keep their bodies healthy, "hands-on" cooking, crafts, singing and more!)

**Health Workshop Weekend Fee:** \$85/person; \$150/couple with children under 5; children 6-12, \$20 each; children 13-18, \$45 each. (Fee includes room, meals, and all workshop materials).

**Additional Option: Arrive a day early (Thursday evening) for a full day session on Friday.** Experience hands-on vegetarian cuisine meal preparation and nutritional information. **Darlene Blaney, RHN, RNCP**, a Nutritional Consulting Practitioner, Cooking Instructor, Nutrition Speaker/Teacher, and Author, will teach how to prepare low fat, balanced nutritious meals.

**Additional Option Fee:** \$85/person; \$150 couple. (Fee includes Thursday evening room, meals on Friday (breakfast and lunch), Friday classes, and Darlene Blaney's cookbook "Vegetarian for Life" or **her newly-released book**).

Registration Deadline is April 28, 2002

Registration Forms will be coming to your church soon.

Make cheques payable to the "Alberta Conference of SDA Church". Mail cheque and registration form to: Darlene Blaney, 6359 - 31 Ave. N.W., Calgary, Alberta T3B 1J9

For information or pre-registration contact Darlene Blaney (403) 288-9293.

*Sponsored by the Alberta Conference Health Department*

**Pathfinder Winter Retreat** is planned for March 8-10 at Foothills Camp. For more information, contact Carol Morton, Alberta Pathfinder Coordinator, at 403-782-4438.





## From Women's Ministries . . .

### THE GOSPEL SPREADS THROUGH WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

**J**esus focused His ministry on the Jews, but we all know that He loves everyone. He knew that someday the Jews would spread the message to the entire world.

Women's Ministries (WM) is somewhat like that! It ministers to the entire church while focusing on women. In the book *Evangelism* page 93, it says "In many respects a woman can impart knowledge to her sisters that a man cannot." WM is committed to helping the church grow emotionally, spiritually and relationally and plans different events such as retreats, prayer breakfasts, Bible studies, etc. to obtain this.

WM has a firm commitment to evangelism. This is evident in this year's "Heart Call" Project (see your pastor for more details) which is attempting to reach non-attending members (women) and their families. WM believes in mentoring and encouraging everyone to have a personal walk with Christ.

Women who attend women retreats return home better wives, mothers, daughters, sisters, friends, and Christians. Here are a few of the many testimonies after last year's retreat

- "I was thoroughly blessed by the events of the weekend and the experience will certainly make me a better person." "The blessings received I will take with me and they will give me strength for days ahead and some will last a life time."

- "To be in the presence of Christian, God-loving women was simply wonderful!"



*Nicole welcomes first-time attendees*

- "Awesome, Wonderful, Spiritually fulfilling and uplifting!"
- "The retreat helped me to refocus my eyes on the Lord."
- "Great for women across Alberta to get together in God's love and one faith."
- "I love God again."
- "This weekend has been a much needed breath of fresh air for me."
- "It was a very good stress releaser to be able to be yourself."

You are invited to attend this year's Women's Retreat at the **Black Knight Inn on March 22-24, 2002**. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Andrea Luxton. Registration forms are available in your local church or call Women's Ministries Coordinator Nicole Paradis-Sydenham at 403-782-1440.

## From Men's Ministries . . .

### IT'S OK TO HAVE NEEDS; IT'S NOT A SIGN OF WEAKNESS

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit (the needy), for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."* Matthew 5:4

**U**nfortunately, in our society we establish a mentality that says, "If you're 'mature' (or in the case of the male ego, if you're 'tough'), then you won't have needs, or at least you won't admit to having them."

If you need comforting, there's something wrong with you.

If you need appreciation, you're insecure.

If you need support, you're weak.

If you need security, you lack faith.

If you need acceptance, you have a poor self-image.

But to admit that we have needs is not an admission of weakness, it's a confession of our humanity. We all have needs. . . . That's the way God made us. . . . and to admit that we have needs

is not only truthful, it's beneficial. We often succumb to a subtle but erroneous teaching that the more 'mature' we become in Christ, the fewer needs we have and the less we need each other.

The truth is, God has created us with needs so that we might constantly look to Him, allowing Him to minister to us through others, and so we will devote ourselves to unselfishly meeting the needs of other people. This truth will produce a dependent, humble, unselfish, pleasant, spiritual brother, whose heart is full of grace and gratitude for the fact that God, often through others, is meeting his needs and whose focus is on lovingly meeting the needs of his family and friends.

—taken from *Top Ten Intimacy Needs*, Drs. David Ferguson and Don McMinn

**Alberta Men's Ministry Convention** will be held March 1-3, 2002 at Foothills Camp in Bowden, Alberta. Keynote speaker will be: Carl Ashlock from North Carolina. Registration forms are available in your local church or call Men's Ministries Coordinator Brian Townsend at 403-782-4070.



## Youth News

**Newly Elected Youth Director** Richard Williams, an educator from Sandy Lake Academy (Bedford, Nova Scotia) and Youth Ministries Coordinator for the Maritime Conference, underwent additional surgery on January 17 as he recovers from a broken leg. He is expected in the Conference in early March. He and his wife, Heidi, look forward to ministry here.

**Foothills Summer Camp Applicants** are being interviewed by Pattie Reasor at three locations in the conference: CUC, Edmonton and Calgary. If you are a youth and interested in working at camp this summer, contact Penny for an application (403-342-5044 ext. 201) or call Pattie at 403-202-1877.

A **Great Summer Youth Camp** is being planned for this summer at Foothills Camp! Applications should arrive in the churches about the first of May. Plan now to attend!

June 30-July 7	Blind Camp
July 7-11	Teen Waterski / Horsemanship Camp
July 21-28	Adventurer/Sherwood Forest I Camps
August 4-11	Junior I / Sherwood II Camps
August 11-18	Junior II / Sherwood III Camps
August 18-25	Teen Camp

## Evangelism in Calgary

Pastor/Evangelist Randy Barber began a Prophecy 2002 Seminar in Calgary on January 21.

## Sedgewick Honors Pastor's 25<sup>TH</sup>

The Sedgewick Church honored Pastor Robert Pohle and his wife, Gabriela, on their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



2002  
CAMP MEETING  
July 12 - 20

## Evangelism in Peace River

Pastor/Evangelist Justis St. Hilaire began a series of evangelistic meetings in Peace River on January 11. The meetings will conclude mid-February.



## Unaudited Year End Tithe and Offering Report

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

God's blessings on the Alberta Conference membership are reflected in a 2001 Tithe increase of 8.22%. Total 2001 Tithe reported for the year ending December 31, 2001 amounted to \$7,317,819. The Alberta Advance offering increased by 6.18%, to \$251,635, and a large ADRA Annual Appeal increase of 42.5% resulted in an offering of \$163,250. However, Mission Offerings decreased by 2.06% to \$381,886.

These tithe and offering figures also demonstrate the faithfulness of each member of the Alberta Conference in giving their best to the Master to finish His mission in Alberta and the World. Conference Officers are grateful for the financial support that enables the pursuit of the Gospel Commission:

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:19 & 20

Amounts reported in this article are not yet audited. The process for auditing tithe and offerings includes the auditing of 2001 conference financial statements by the General Conference Auditing Service, the church's internal auditors, and then by Ernst & Young Chartered Accountants, the church's external auditors. The Ernst & Young Audited Financial Statements for 2001 will then be studied by the Alberta Conference Financial and Statistical Review Committee. Following the Financial and Statistical Review Committee, an annual Registered Charity Information Return and the Ernst & Young Audited Financial Statements are sent to the Charities Division of the Federal Government's Canada Customs and Revenue Agency.

Church members who have questions of a general financial nature may direct them to the Conference Treasurer; however, confidential donor information can never be disclosed. May God bless each one who sanctifies tithes and offerings for His use.



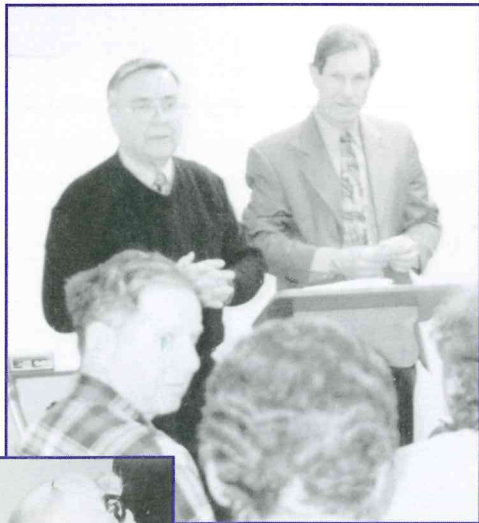


## Dateline

- Feb 23 Calgary Leadership Seminar, Central Church, 3 pm  
26 Edmonton RMT, Central Church, 7 pm
- March 1-3 Men's Convention, Foothills Camp  
8-10 Pathfinder Winter Retreat, Foothills Camp  
9-10 Calgary Garden Road Church Opening  
9 Central Leadership Seminar, Lacombe Community Church, 3 pm  
12 Calgary RMT, Central Church, 7 pm  
13 NE RMT, Vegreville Church, 7 pm  
22-24 Women's Retreat, Black Knight Inn, Red Deer  
26 Central RMT, College Heights Church, 7 pm
- April 1 Easter Monday  
5-7 Marriage Encounter  
19-21 CUC Graduation  
23 Edmonton RMT, Central Church, 7 pm

## Vegreville Offers Health Programs

The Vegreville Church has found sequential Health Programs to be a successful way of reaching their community. The church has offered a Vegetarian Cooking School, The Healthy Eating Club, and an annual Health



Seminar. Following the Cooking School, attendees are invited to become participants in The Healthy Eating Club which is a monthly evening meeting consisting of a vegetarian pot-luck, the sharing of recipes, and a video of interest on a health topic. Assisting with the Health Seminars have been Dr. Joseph Uniat and Mike Casey.



## Government Contact in Fort McMurray

On January 7, 2002 Pastor Alan Delotavo and his wife, Grace, made a courtesy call on Hon. Guy Boutillier, Minister of Municipal Affairs of the Government of Alberta. Delotavo, pastor of the Fort McMurray Church, presented



*Pastor & Mrs. Alan Delotavo of Fort McMurray church & Hon. Guy Boutillier*

to the Minister a proposal for value transformation and explored possible linkage between ADRA's Disaster and Relief Program and the Province's Disaster Services. In December the Delotavos presented to Doug Faulkner, Mayor of the Municipal-

ity of Wood Buffalo, a proposal for conducting a Prayer Breakfast for the purpose of spiritual revival among the leaders in the city of Fort McMurray.

## Does Your Church Need a Doctor?

The mission of the Alberta Conference is to growth healthy churches. Eight characteristics of healthy churches have been identified. How does your church measure?

### Empowering Leadership

Do the lay leaders in your church feel "empowered" in their service to the church?

### Gift-Oriented Ministry

Does your Nominating Committee operate on the basis of spiritual gifts, gut feelings, "whoever will," or the drawing of lots?

### Passionate Spirituality

Is your church passionate about prayer?

Do you sense deep spirituality within your congregation?

### Functional Structures

Do the services and committees of your church serve their intended purpose?

### Inspiring Worship

Is it a "joy" to worship in your church?

Do the members of your church leave with the feeling that they have met with God?

### Wholistic Small Groups

Has your church discovered the benefits of small group fellowships?

Are small groups meeting during the week?

### Need-Oriented Evangelism

Does your church wrestle with the question of "relevancy" as it attempts to spread the Gospel?

### Loving Relationships

What has your congregation done recently to encourage loving relationships within its own ranks?