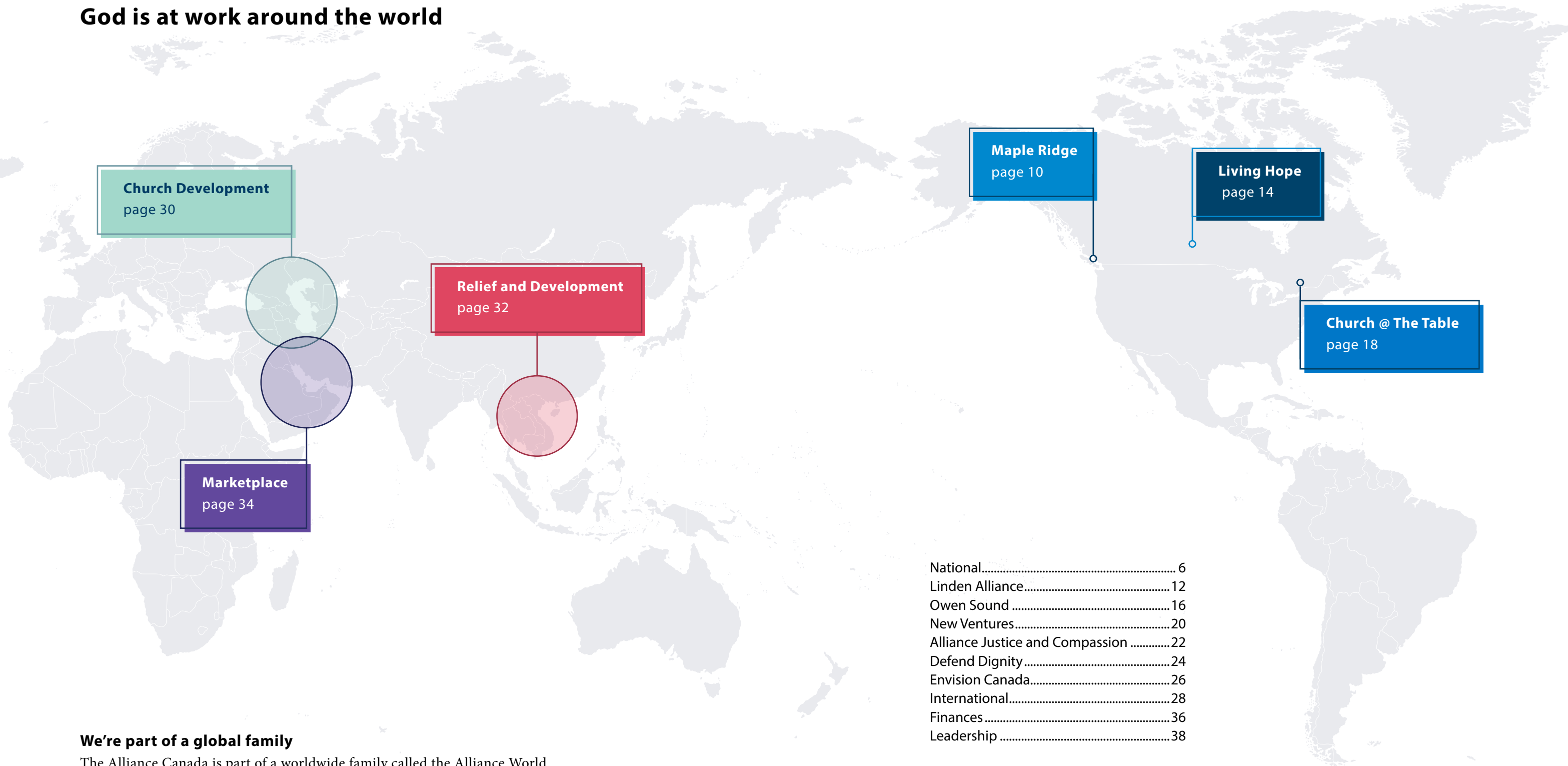


# *2022 Annual Report*



# God is at work around the world



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## We're part of a global family

The Alliance Canada is part of a worldwide family called the Alliance World Fellowship—made up 22,000 churches in 88+ countries and more than 6.2 million members. Find out more at <http://awf.world/>

## Letter from the President

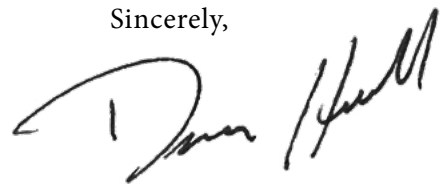
I always wonder how people approach an annual report. Do you skip straight to the financials? Maybe you skim through and only read the one section that interests you. But an annual report is so much more than a list of facts and figures. This year, I challenge you to read our 2022 Annual Report with this question in mind: “Is The Alliance Canada making Jesus famous?” I am confident that by the end of this report, you will answer with a resounding, “Yes, Lord, but oh, how we long to make you even more famous each day!”

We serve a God who can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20)! And we have asked, “*Oh God, with all our hearts, we long for you. Come, transform us to be Christ-centred, Spirit-empowered, Mission-focused people, multiplying disciples everywhere.*” This report contains stories and accounts of God answering our vision prayer, going far beyond what we have asked, and doing more.

Was 2022 a year of ongoing challenges and significant change? Yes. It was also a year of new and remarkable things—establishing new partnerships, fresh and unexpected opportunities for our international workers, raising new leaders, planting new churches, and establishing new ventures. The previous president, Keith Taylor, ended his letter in the 2021 Annual Report with, “Look at the new thing I am going to do. It is already happening. Don’t you see it? (Isaiah 43:19b).” Here is our opportunity to celebrate all God has done in and through The Alliance in 2022, nationally and globally.

Join me as we dive into this report and explore God’s love for His Church and this world. It is His Church. To Him alone be glory.

Sincerely,



Rev. Darren Herbold  
President, The Alliance Canada



## Letter from the Chair of the Board

My family’s recent move made me think a lot about transitions. I would say that the word “transition” captures the Board and its work in 2022: a new president, new board members, new agendas, and new conversations. Even our new president is managing new staffing scenarios, something he’s doing well. In this report, you will note the standard fare that occupies the Board’s time and more complicated discussions. Sometimes it may seem slow, yet many of these conversations cannot be rushed but rather prayed over, debated, and prayed over again. I invite you to pray with us as we seek to know the Father’s heart for the Bride of Christ.

I want to thank our board members, new and past. They are a brilliant group of people who do their best to hear our constituency and take direction from the gifted staff at the National Ministry Centre (NMC) as we deliberate on the diverse subject matter. I also want to thank the NMC staff, who enhance the Board’s work—they arrange our material and provide appropriate content to keep us moving, and we routinely acknowledge their skill.

Sometimes a document like this is passed over as merely business material. Still, I would suggest it represents the work of the NMC, the Board, and many people who serve on committees designed to bless our movement. Thank you to them, and you for your efforts to truly see us become a Christ-Centered, Spirit-Empowered, Mission-Focused movement in our day.

Sincerely,



Rev. Jeff Sensenstein





## Multiply Disciples Everywhere

Our vision prayer talks a lot about who we want to be,

*“O God, with all our hearts, we long for you. Come, transform us to be Christ-centred, Spirit-empowered, Mission-focused people, multiplying disciples everywhere.”*

The last line of the prayer is all about what we do as a movement. The Alliance’s DNA is, and always has been, to make disciples who make disciples where Jesus isn’t yet known. The stories in this report highlight some of the areas where God is at work in our denomination, multiplying disciples everywhere.

## National

Ryan Graham, Vice President

The National team is working to bring alignment to all the activity happening on the national level in The Alliance Canada. The dream is to focus our attention on next-generation engagement leader development, church multiplication, and land stewardship. The national team is comprised of ministry teams based out of the NMC and national networks and associations from across the country.

**113**

Newly licensed workers

**426**

Alliance churches

**1654**

Official workers

**3**

New churches

Four key strategies for National

# Leader Development

# Church Multiplication

# Next-gen Engagement

# Land Stewardship

## National teams include:

**Districts** help churches grow, provide for regional relationships, and oversee their official workers' licensing, ordination, and ministries. The six regional districts, Alliance churches, and official workers are united in fellowship and service to promote unity of faith and facilitate the spreading of the Gospel in their local contexts.

**New Ventures** desires to see new leaders in new places, leading new churches across Canada to reach new people with the Gospel.

**Defend Dignity** exists to end all forms of sexual exploitation in Canada through awareness, aid, and advocacy.

**National Cultural Associations** and districts take care of our family of churches. The National Cultural Associations include: CCACA (Chinese), FNACC (Indigenous), AVAC (Vietnamese), CFAM (Pilipino), ASAP (Spanish), Arab Network, and Persian.

**Justice and Compassion** brings wholeness and well-being to people who are made vulnerable by poverty, disaster, and injustice.

**Envision Canada** helps identify, equip, and launch future missional leaders who will innovate, establish, and strengthen communities of faith in Canada and worldwide. Envision connects young adults to unique experiences that prepare them for global careers, church leadership, and deeper intimacy with Jesus.

**Digital Strategy** finds ways to enhance technology resources to enhance the effectiveness of various ministries across the organization.

**Our National Networks:** National Youth, National Children, The Women in Leadership Collective, Power team, and Chaplain's Network.

The following section will highlight some stories from these teams.

## Canadian Pacific District

British Columbia and the Yukon

### Maple Ridge

Maple Ridge Good News, a New Venture, started in the Fall of 2022 through the vision of Pastor Paul Chui and the leadership of Pastor Wai Fong, both from Westwood Alliance Church in Coquitlam. As the two leaders tracked emerging demographic trends, they noticed that a new wave of Chinese immigrants was moving into Maple Ridge—a predominantly Caucasian city without a Chinese-speaking congregation.

Pastor Tom Blackaby approached Pastor Tom with the idea of partnership. Soon the two communities, Westwood and Maple Ridge Alliance Church, mapped a plan to reach and serve the new Chinese immigrants. As Maple Ridge opened their doors and ministry programs, Pastor Fong and Westwood Alliance provided the teams and vision.

Maple Ridge Good News is a unique and hopeful partnership between Maple Ridge Alliance church—an established and predominantly Caucasian congregation—and Westwood Alliance church with Cantonese, Mandarin and English congregations. The partnership also includes the CCACA—our Association of Chinese Alliance Churches—and the Canadian Pacific District.

The New Venture is still young, but it already demonstrates the opportunities in Canada to serve and reach our new Canadians and what can happen when churches from different cultural backgrounds serve together.



Scan to watch the story



## Western Canadian District

Alberta and Northwest Territories

### Linden Alliance

Linden Alliance is a small community of about 900 people, surrounded by small communities, and situated about an hour northwest of Calgary.

The community has a significant historical Mennonite presence, and there's a large influx of people from around the world, including Mexico, India, and Korea.

While the community is small, the church is growing weekly—with more and more people coming to faith. What began as a small church is now a consistent community of approximately 150 people.

Many people in the community navigating mental health and addiction issues appreciate the church's humble posture. The lead pastor, Jorge Santana, says they're not a perfect church, "but we just try and help people see Jesus."

Lives are changing; Nicole saw an online sermon and prayed for the first time. Since then, she's stopped dealing drugs, was baptized, and brought her friends and family to church. An Alcoholics Anonymous group started in the church, and everyone in the program came to her baptism.

The church isn't only reaching people in Linden. While nations are coming to Linden, the livestream reaches people in India, Australia, New Zealand, and the USA. Linden Alliance has helped over ten local churches with live streaming and using new technology to reach those who do not know Christ.

Pastor Jorge says, "It's a fresh wind" for their church, and the Spirit is evidently guiding this church to serve its community.

## Canadian Midwest District

Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nunavut,  
and northwestern Ontario

### Living Hope Alliance, Arabic Church

Waddah is a Syrian gentleman who started visiting the Arabic Church of Regina regularly in 2020. He lived in the same apartment as Fadl, a leader in the Arabic Church, and the two became friends.

Fadl invited Waddah to church, who would sit alone and vanish as soon as church ended.

One day in 2022, during a visit with church members, Waddah shared that Islam has 32 denominations, and his branch of Islam believes that Jesus is the son of God. They kept visiting, he kept attending church, and Waddah visited Fadl in his home.

In March 2022, Waddah accepted Christ as his Saviour. While reading the Bible, Waddah realized that Jesus would forgive him for the terrible things he had done, unlike Islam, where he would have to perform an abundance of good deeds to tip the scale in his favour.

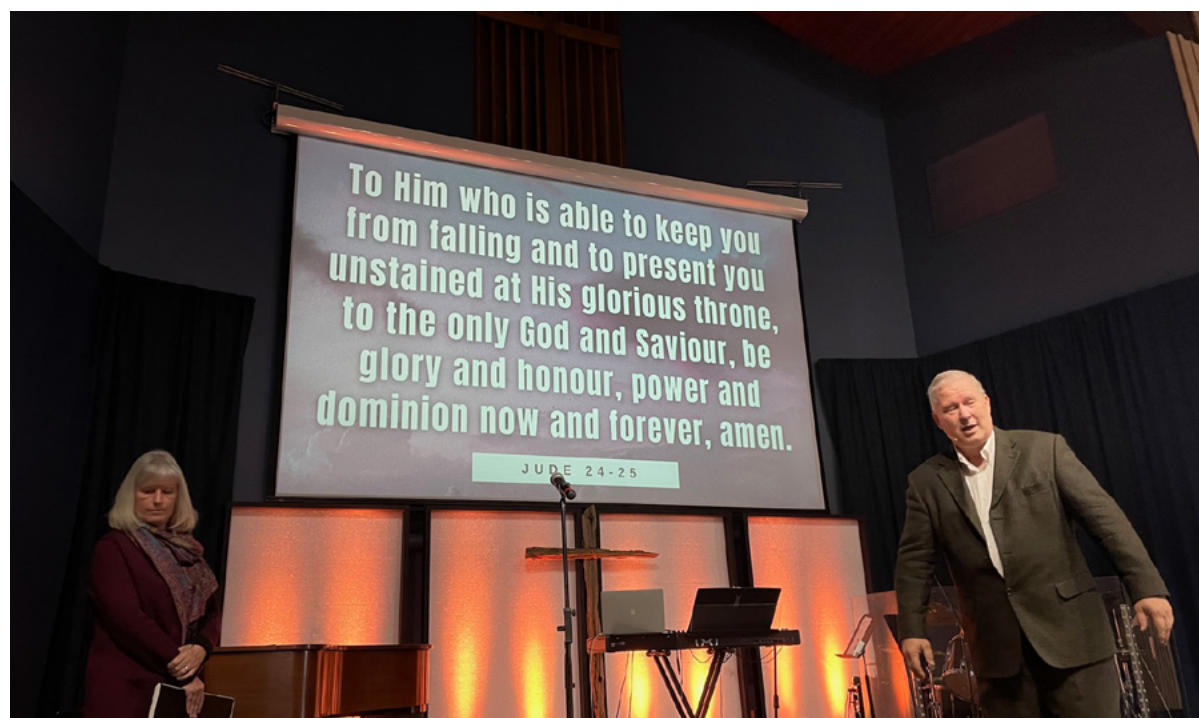
Waddah woke up at 4 a.m. each morning to read his Bible and read it three times, cover to cover, within one year. In September 2022, he asked to be baptized. The church leaders were unsure if he knew what he was asking for, but after reading Scripture with Waddah in his apartment, they agreed that he was ready to be baptized.

In October 2022, Waddah was baptized at Living Hope Alliance Church. Waddah is hungry for the Word and is discipled by Fadl regularly.

Ten months after realizing his sins are forgiven through trusting in Jesus, on January 29, 2023, Waddah preached a sermon titled Looking for the Lord's Return.







## Central Canadian District

Western and northern Ontario

### Owen Sound

“... I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me” 2 Cor. 12:9.

Jeff Sensentein started his tenure as lead pastor of Owen Sound Alliance Church in 2013. His priority has always been the well-being of the church. Like any good pastor, Jeff wanted to lead well and did just that throughout his decade in Owen Sound.

In 2017, Ryan Tudor joined the OSAC staff and began serving as youth pastor.

Some time later, Jeff felt a prompting from the Lord. If the church’s well-being was the priority, what would it look like for Jeff to end his time at Owen Sound well?

Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Jeff began a period of discernment in what good succession could look like. And so, after a unanimous decision by the board of elders and Ryan’s agreement, Jeff began transitioning out of the senior pastor role as Ryan stepped into it.

Ryan officially became the senior pastor in March of 2022 through a two-year process. After being mentored by Jeff, carried along by the elders, and celebrated by the congregation, what began in April of 2020, came to fruition.

Owen Sound Alliance passed the baton of leadership, helped Jeff end well, and welcomed Ryan into his new role leading the church without losing too much momentum.

Jeff started succession planning, not out of concern for his career or because he felt he wasn’t leading Owen Sound Alliance as best as he could. But by following the Spirit, Jeff could discern that it was necessary for the church to continue to grow and serve the community.

Succession planning doesn’t have to be scary; it can be an essential part of church planning, regardless of whether the senior pastor ends their time at the church in 12 months or 12 years.

## Eastern Canadian District

Eastern Ontario and the Atlantic Provinces

### Renfrew Church @ The Table

Bryan and Susan Levert served as international workers in Thailand through a different organization. As they were finishing their ministry there and heading back to Canada, they were discerning and praying about where to go next, and they heard the Lord saying, “Renfrew.”

Just 45 minutes north of Ottawa, Renfrew is a small town of 7000. While the Leverts didn’t know where the town was, they sensed God leading them there, and so in early 2020 moved. They felt they were to gather people around their dinner table, show hospitality, and invite them to journey in life together.

God guided them to The Alliance in a period of discerning who to partner with and what denomination would be a good fit for a ministry like this. They connected to Jay Williamson, who was previously involved in New Ventures.

After connecting with Jay, it was apparent that God was guiding this ministry.

During COVID, unable to invite people into their homes, they rented a building from the town. People showed up simply by word of mouth, inviting those who didn’t have a spiritual home.

In the first meeting, one lady said as soon as she walked in, she felt the love of God, never really feeling it before.

The Leverts are seeing an openness to different expressions of the church. People are coming who wouldn’t enter a traditional church. By breaking bread with neighbours, the name of Jesus is shared, and people are coming to know Him.



Scan to watch the story



## New Ventures

David Enns, National New Venture Developer

In 2022, we saw the start of 14 New Ventures, 5 Discerning Communities, and 7 Apprenticeships. That's 26 agreements—one every two weeks!—each reminding us that Jesus is doing something new.

We express our gratitude for this pace, for continued engagement, for surrendered outcomes, for a willingness to start new things, and for your prayers. Will you join us in celebrating all the ways God is at work?

14

New Ventures started

5

Discerning Communities

7

Apprenticeships



Visit the New Ventures website





## Alliance Justice and Compassion

Joanne Beach, Director

We are so grateful for the response from our Alliance family in 2022 that has enabled us to provide financial resources for our partners in Poland to respond to the needs of Ukrainians who have had to flee their country because of the war.

We partnered with the Church of Christ in Poland and the local Christian relief organization, Dobro Czynic, which translates to “Good Works Mission.” Food assistance, clothing, shelter, trauma counselling, thirteen child centres for education and recreation, translation equipment for churches, and media outreach programming have all served to minister to Ukrainians in Poland. More recently, tons of food, winter clothing, and generators were purchased and transported to churches in Ukraine to allow them to serve those still in Ukraine experiencing displacement, lack of power, hunger, and many other needs. Of course, our partners are committed to bringing material aid and taking outreach opportunities—introducing thousands of Ukrainians to the living hope that only Christ can provide.

We praise God that we still have plenty of funds in the Global Emergency Response Fund that will allow us to continue to support the ongoing needs as this war continues. We invite you to regularly pray for the war to end and that God would sustain our partners as they tirelessly care for their Ukrainian guests and neighbours.

You can find a few Ukraine updates on [thealliancecanada.ca/updates](https://thealliancecanada.ca/updates)



## Defend Dignity

Glendyne Gerrard, Director

Have you ever experienced a holy moment? Something like a hush that descends on everyone in the room, where you all know that God, by His Spirit, is in the same space as you?

On April 23, 2022, Glendyne Gerrard, Director of Defend Dignity, Brock Tyler, the Communications Coordinator for Defend Dignity, and the video crew for Boldfish video creations had a holy moment as Karen and Tobi Jolly shared their passions and expertise about the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada.

It was a cold and stormy day, and the group was filming the small group video series, Walk With Us, in a private home on the banks of the Assiniboine River in Winnipeg, MB. It was the perfect setting for the series, as so many missing Indigenous women and girls are found in the rivers of Winnipeg.

The video series culminated two years of study and preparation to create a resource for churches. While the truth of this crisis is hard to absorb, the church must listen to the truth and work to bring the love and hope of Jesus to bear.

That day, everyone in that space sensed God's presence—His tears mingling with theirs and His affirmation that these stories must be told.

Learn more about Walk With Us at <https://defenddignity.ca/walk-with-us/>





## Envision Canada

Kris Corbin, Envision Coordinator

For the past seven years, Envision Canada has helped identify, equip, and launch future missional leaders who innovate, establish, and strengthen communities of faith in Canada and worldwide.

We've done this by connecting young adults to unique experiences that prepare them for global careers, church leadership, and a deeper life with Jesus.

This past year, we relaunched several international initiatives—including short-term trips and internships. One of the highlights was our Justice Semester 2022 in Phuket, Thailand.

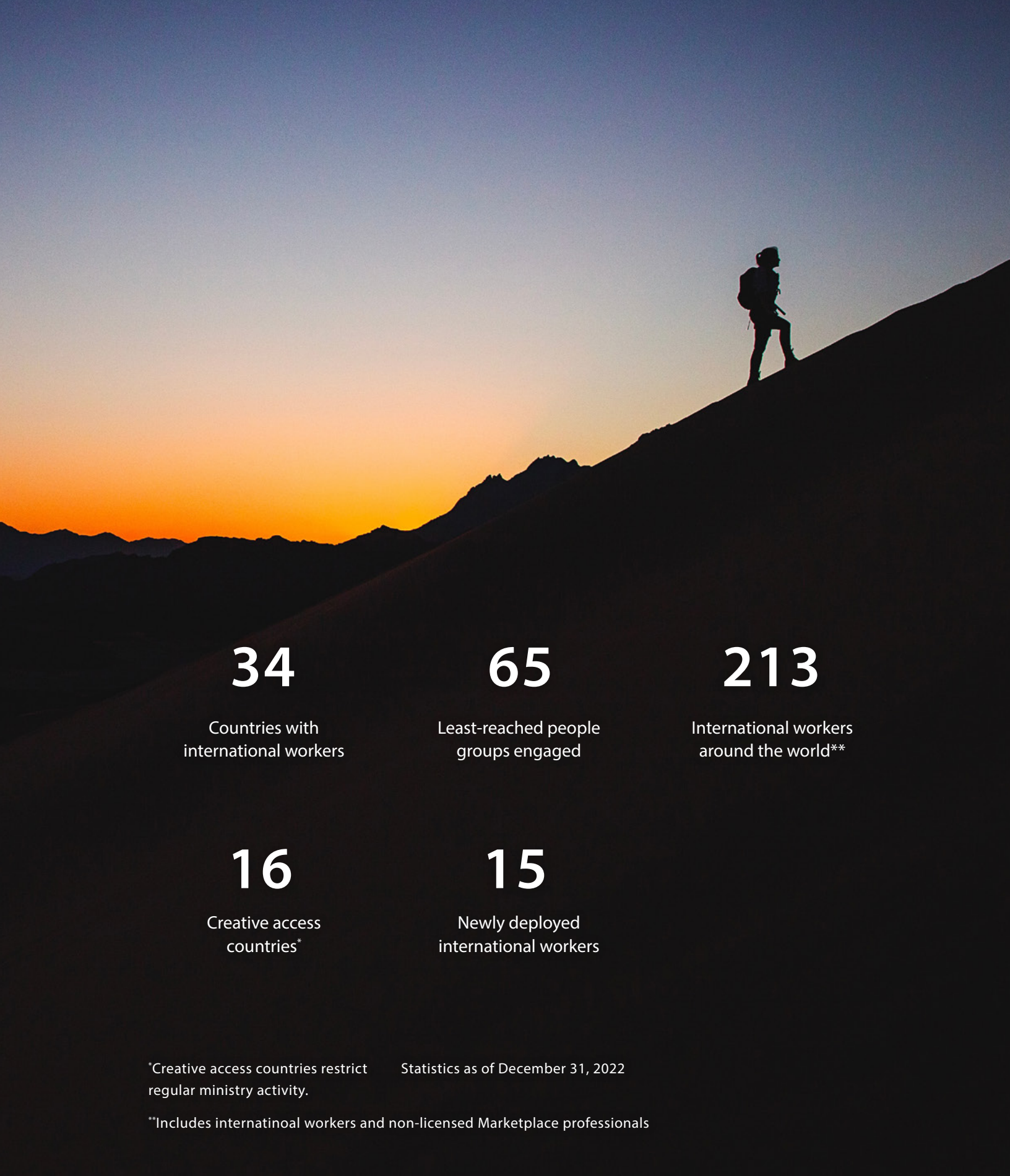
Five Canadian students joined the For Freedom International ministry team for twelve weeks of intensive learning and living in Thailand. While receiving solid biblical instruction, making new friends, and learning how to adventure deeper with Jesus, these students had the opportunity to discover the heart of God for a broken world.

This is what a couple of our JSEM students had to say about their experience:

“I grew a lot in my faith, not just in understanding or spiritual closeness but also in thirst to understand what the Bible says...Being confronted with some of the justice and compassion ministries issues softened my heart towards heeding God's call in my life. I am thankful for the impact that this time will have on the decisions I make in the future and the way that I listen to and follow God.” (Female 19 – Calgary, AB)

“I feel like I've gained a lot of knowledge from living in this Christian community and being exposed to this culture. I feel like I've grown spiritually and in my compassion toward others. I've grown to see Jesus in a dark spiritual place and believe I've grown closer to Him.” (Female 18 – Cold Lake, AB)

If you are 18–25 and interested in a discipleship deep dive with Jesus in a cross-cultural environment, join us in September 2023 for the next Justice Semester Cohort. You'll explore culture, faith, mission, and calling, and come home transformed and ready for the next adventure.



34

Countries with international workers

65

Least-reached people groups engaged

213

International workers around the world\*\*

16

Creative access countries\*

15

Newly deployed international workers

\*Creative access countries restrict regular ministry activity.

Statistics as of December 31, 2022

\*\*Includes international workers and non-licensed Marketplace professionals

## International

Damien Lee, Vice President

Global Ministries identifies, develops, and deploys international workers to multiply followers of Christ into movements of faith communities. Everything we do is because we are committed to multiplying disciples everywhere—especially in places where the population has yet to encounter Jesus. In the following pages, we’ve highlight a few of our strategies to reach the world with the Gospel.

## International Strategies



### Church Development

Establish, grow, and strengthen reproducing faith communities among those with little or no access to the message of Jesus.



### Business for Transformation

Engage with missional entrepreneurs and investors to facilitate Kingdom impact businesses in vulnerable sectors.



### Relief & Development

Participate in God’s mission of holistic transformation, proclaim and demonstrate the Gospel as we walk with the poor and vulnerable, and address short-term crises and long-term needs.



### International Church

Lead pastorally in international churches to reach multicultural diaspora communities with the Good News.



### Mobilization & Partnership

Develop worldwide partnerships, mobilize local believers, and support the Global South in fulfilling the Great Commission.



### Marketplace

Engage people with your vocational skills as ambassadors of Christ in cross-cultural contexts and receive care, community, and coaching from Alliance teams.

## Church Development

Donna and Raul, Strategic Developers

This year, we visited Central Asia to assess a partnership with a training facility that specializes in hosting and training believers from Muslim backgrounds from both the Arabian Peninsula and the Persian and Turkic belt. The believers who attend receive intensive discipleship and training, so that when they return to their home countries, they feel equipped to reach their own people with the Gospel and create multiplying faith communities.

Many of the surrounding countries are closed to traditional missions, and have anti-conversion laws in place, making it difficult for Muslim background believers to gather and be trained. Their governments actively arrest and jail those who renounce Islam until they recant their new-found faith. In many of these countries, believers are martyred for turning to Jesus—often by their own families.

The Central Asian country provides a safe, neutral space for them to meet. It isn't uncommon for believers to meet—for the first time—other Christians from their own country; the risk of being found out by their families, their communities, and the government prevented them from sharing openly. Meeting other believers just like them helps them develop trusting relationships they can rely on for support when they return to their home country.

Training centres and partners like this allows The Alliance Canada to contribute to the strengthening, growth, and multiplication of local churches among people groups who, for many years, have had little to no access to Jesus.





## Relief and Development

Mark, Strategic Director

Over the last few years, the a safe-house in South Asia has expanded to also include a café, hair salon, jewelry store, and an organic farm. These sustainable businesses aren't just providing vocational training, but are helping the community experience the love, healing, and transforming power of Christ.

Today, this project focuses on providing opportunities for safe training, work, and education for the many who have been exploited or are at risk of exploitation. This vocational training centre provides hands-on training, provides workers with financial security, and changes lives through an opportunity to grow within a Christian community and experience the Gospel.

This project has impacted many families. This year, a family with two children and another on the way were rescued from an unsafe and difficult situation. The organic farm had housing and a job, allowing the dad to work and provide for his family. Staff from the project consistently checked-in on the mom to support her pregnancy. Because the steady employment and housing, the two children from the family are no longer at risk of being exploited and can attend school and play without concern.

God is using this project to change lives in South Asia!



## Marketplace

Harvey, Strategic Director

Marketplace international workers are people with professional employment who live as faithful ambassadors of Christ in their international workplace and community. Canadian Alliance churches and our international teams provide care, community, and coaching in their disciple-making efforts. Currently, 16 Alliance people are part of this pathway.

G and N have worked in a significant Gulf region hospital since 2019. N has been working to establish a speech therapy clinic that serves the local community. The therapist team she has developed and nurtured has experienced the way of Jesus. However, her professionalism and character, which has, in turn, influenced their way of serving the community. G has used his sports therapy skills outside of his hospital work to build connections and bring the presence of Christ to the regional and international sporting community. G and N also help coach and support other Alliance Marketplace people in the region.

Arun works in South Asia with a Canadian Oil company. After navigating the social and business challenges of COVID, he and his wife Anna were finally able to open their home and lives in the neighbourhood. Many conversations and meals later, they started an Alpha course.

After the second Alpha session, at a separate social gathering, they received strong encouragement from a non-attendee who mentioned how special the first two sessions had been for his wife. Arun and Anna invited him to attend in the future, and he was very enthusiastic and planned to attend! Other couples are hearing about the good things happening for those in the Alpha group. Plans are underway to launch an Alpha specifically for couples.

Whether in Canada or around the world, we are all disciple-makers. To 'go overseas,' you don't have to become someone or something else to bring Christ to the nations. Go with your profession. Be Christ in your workplace and community. To promote this pathway in your church or for more information, contact us at: [marketplace@cmacan.org](mailto:marketplace@cmacan.org) or visit our website at: <https://thealliancecanada.ca/go/#marketplace>





## Finances

Ken Pelissero, Director

We view all our resources and possessions as God-owned and we use them with integrity, accountability, and maximum effectiveness. Email [communications@cmacan.org](mailto:communications@cmacan.org) to request a copy of our audited financial statements.

Global Advance Fund (GAF)	2022	2021
<b>Revenue</b>		
General contributions	12,948,646	13,372,170
Estates and legacies	818,640	876,402
District contributions	281,622	314,772
Government Assistance	-	499,109
Investments and other	163,141	492,289
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,502,646</b>	<b>\$15,554,742</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
International	10,593,744	9,700,960
National	6,049,526	5,199,052
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,643,270</b>	<b>\$14,900,012</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency)</b>	<b>(2,140,624)</b>	<b>654,730</b>
<b>Approved Specials \$ (Non-GAF)</b>		
Total Designated Funds Allocated	<b>\$6,604,172</b>	<b>\$4,083,878</b>

## Board of Directors

The board of directors is comprised of 12 elected members. They are responsible for overseeing the operations of the Alliance and ensuring that the decisions made at General Assembly are executed properly.

**Hérault Alphonse**

**Jon Carlzon**

**Matthew Chiu**

**Mardi Dolfo-Smith**, Vice-Chair

**Mandy Ralph**, Secretary

**Darren Herbold**

**Cheryl Smith-Debanné**

**Stan Man**

**John Quigg**, Treasurer

**Tony Sammut**

**Jeff Sensenstein**, Chair

**Chris Throness**

To learn more about the board of directors, visit [thealliancecanada.ca/leadership](https://thealliancecanada.ca/leadership)

## Executive Leadership

The president provides strategic vision for the Alliance, is elected at General Assembly, and serves four-year terms.

**Darren Herbold**

President

**Ryan Graham**

Vice President, National

**Doug Gerrard**

Executive Vice President

**Damien Lee**

Vice President, International

## District Superintendents

District Superintendents are elected by their districts to oversee the licensing and ordination of the workers and ministries of the churches located in their region.

**Mark Peters**

Canadian Pacific District

**Ian Trigg**

Central Canadian District

**Brent Trask**

Western Canadian District

**Mabiala Justin-Robert Kenzo**

Saint Lawrence District

**Bernie Van De Walle**

Canadian Midwest District

**Curtis Peters**

Eastern Canadian District

To learn more about District Superintendents, visit [thealliancecanada.ca/districts-associations](https://thealliancecanada.ca/districts-associations)

All leadership positions are of those serving active terms as of December 31, 2022.



# *Thank you*

Your financial and prayerful support enables our Christ-centred, Spirit-empowered, mission-focused movement to make Jesus known.

Visit **[thealliancecanada.ca](http://thealliancecanada.ca)** to read updates and stories about the work we're doing.



**The Alliance  
Canada**

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