



Mennonite
Church
Canada

Witness

600 Shaftesbury Blvd
Winnipeg MB R3P 0M4
Toll free: 1-866-888-6785
T: 204-888-6781
E: witness@mennonitechurch.ca
W: www.mennonitechurch.ca

Mission Action Profile (MAP) in Native Ministry (Canada)

- Native population (First Nations / Inuit / Metis) in Canada is over 956,000
- It is estimated that the number of Native peoples in Canada who attend a church throughout the year is 1.5% - 2% of the total Native population
- The Native population growth rate in the last six years has increased by 22.2% compared to the non-aboriginal growth rate of 3.4%
- Urban areas see a rise in Native population with 50% of Native peoples now living in an urban setting
- Native children make up 1/3 of the Native population and of these 147,000 are in childcare services.

Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS is involved in:

- Connecting Area Conference churches with Native church communities and networking with various Native and non-Native organizations.
- Helping to facilitate congregational partnerships between Native and non-Native churches.
- Heightening awareness of Native Issues throughout area conferences
- Editing and distributing the magazine "Intotemak" (Ojibwe for 'My Friends'). (Contact MC Canada Witness to subscribe.)
- Actively seeking interested parties for involvement in providing children's programs to reserve children.
- Developing and facilitating the Native Anabaptist Missional Education (N.A.M.E.) program which provides leadership training and formation to Native church leaders. N.A.M.E. training sessions cost approximately \$800 each.

Mennonite Church Canada Witness staff members Walter Franz and Donovan Jacobs provide leadership to this ministry. **Mennonite Church Canada Witness has committed \$101,000 to supporting the work of Witness involvements.** Your support facilitates Native ministry throughout Canada and abroad concerning cultural and church relationships between Native and non-Native peoples.

You are invited to send your contributions to Mennonite Church Canada Witness, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R3P 0M4. Please note "Native Ministry" with your donation cheque.



Mennonite
Church
Canada

Witness

600 Shaftesbury Blvd
Winnipeg MB R3P 0M4
Toll free: 1-866-888-6785
T: 204-888-6781
E: witness@mennonitechurch.ca
W: www.mennonitechurch.ca

Mission Action Profile (MAP) in Niedergoersdorf, Germany

- Niedergoersdorf – Flugplatz is a military airbase re-developed into housing for immigrants of German background from the former Soviet Union and other countries.
- Many of these "Aussiedler" (immigrants) seek new spiritual life and Christian Community as they struggle to adapt to a new culture and re-establish their livelihood.

Mennonite Church Canada involvement

- Since 1994, Walter and Anni Thielmann, John and Marian Friesen, and James and Henriette Schellenberg have worked with a congregation relating to the immigrants settling here. They have helped the Aussiedler bridge many of the cultural and theological gaps between the immigrants and German society.
- Today the "Evangelische Glaubensgemeinschaft" congregation includes immigrants with various denominational backgrounds. It conducts weekly worship services, children's clubs, and Bible studies. It hosts community services for men and women, children and youth.
- The spiritual and social ministries in Niedergoersdorf are supported by a partnership of several Mennonite congregations, conferences, and relief agencies in Germany and the Netherlands as well as by the municipal government and regional Lutheran church. These partners have provided housing, local transportation, a building, program costs, and volunteers. In 2004 our German Mennonite partner churches will also cover half the salary for our workers.
- Witness workers Jake and Dorothy Unrau will continue this ministry beginning in fall of 2003. They have previously been Witness workers in Ukraine. Before that, Jake pastored at Rosemary Mennonite Church, Alberta.

Mennonite Church Canada Witness has committed \$30,000 to supporting the Unraus' work, in partnership with others. Your support helps this community with spiritual leadership and coordination of social services.

You are invited to send your contributions to Mennonite Church Canada Witness, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R3P 0M4. Please note "Germany" with your donation cheque.