



Dear Praying Partners,

Greetings during these days when we are longing for winter to turn to spring. Change is in the wind—in seasons and in the seasons of life....



Interserve National Office Transitions

The **Leader's Consultation 2026**, which will be held in November, is a key event in the life of our missions organization. Every four years the leadership prayerfully gathers from all over the world to look back, reflect on the present and plan/strategize to build for a strong future (3-5 year planning) in order to respond to His calling in obedience. It is a time to seek the Lord and discern His purposes and plans for us as a community that desires to reach and disciple the peoples of Asia and the Arab world. The last **LC** event was held in November 2022 in Albania during the lingering impact of the pandemic. This time, **LC** will be held in Malaysia. The Canadian National Office will be sending an entirely new group to **LC26**, making 2026 a year of organizational transitions.

We started the new year with a transition in the *Director of Personnel* role as our previous *DP*, along with her husband, is responding to God's call to engage people in the Arab world (May departure). Next month, our *Canada Country Team Leader* will be stepping down from that key role into retirement. We are thankful that a present member of the *Canada Ministry Team*, who has extensive experience in reaching newcomers, has stepped up to take on that leadership role.

And, after much thought and prayer, it is now being announced that I will be stepping out of my role as *National Director* before the end of this calendar year. I sense that it is time to make way for a new generation of leaders to build the *National Office Team* and contribute to, and be influenced by, the gathering of the **Leader's Consultation 2026**. The past seven years in this present role have been very satisfying, challenging and stretching. There are always things to learn and experience as a disciple of Jesus no matter how we age. Ministry alongside the *National Office Team* and the *Canadian Board* have been wonderful and will be sorely missed.

The search for a new *ND* is in the preliminary stages. The *Leadership Team* and the *Canadian Board* are working together to see who the Lord will bring forward for the next paradigm of ministry within *Interserve Canada*. <><

Prayer Requests

- Please **pray** for the planning for *Leaders's Consultation 2026*. **Pray** for committee members such as Alessandra and Ian as they persevere through the tasks.
- Please **pray** for the *ND Search Committee* as they seek God's choice for a new *ND*. **Pray** for Richard to finish his role well and the *National Office Team* to adapt as change happens.
- **Praise** Him for the four new career *Partners* and four new two-year *OnTrackers* who will be deployed this year. **Pray** for the numerous inquirers that we continue to mentor and journey alongside. **Pray** for Him to raise up more workers to serve among the peoples of Asia and the Arab world.

Family Happenings.... a family on the move....



- This weekend Jonathan and Katia are moving to Chicago for employment reasons. They have been talking about and planning this move for quite a while, but it unfolded so quickly that our heads are still spinning. Fortunately, they are young and enthusiastic and are handling the transition well.
- Kathryn & Colby, Oliver and Wren, are finalizing their moving plans for the transition to Colorado Springs. The end of April will find them house hunting and hopefully the end of June will find them in place.
- With me stepping down from the ND role, Kathy and I are relocating to Elliot Lake, Ontario, on June 22nd as we take steps to plan for stability in the retirement years. The *Interserve Canada* Board has graciously allowed Richard to facilitate the role as ND from a remote location from July until he steps down (approx six hours drive from the Office) with three days in the city/National Office each month. The Elliot Lake location, history and story is quite a remarkable one. Housing and services for Seniors are well defined.
- Laurie remains stable in Miami Beach—good for us as we need a warm spot to visit each February.



Canada Ministry Team / MK / Board Retreat

Each February the *Canada Ministry Team* (workers [& children] reaching people from Asia & the Arab world here in Canada), *National Office Staff* and our *Canadian Board* meet together for a three day retreat in Niagara Falls. We worship together, fellowship together, pray together, eat together and we accomplish much. Each of the three tracks (CMT, Board, MKs) has its own training/governance/activity sessions, but we come together to tell and hear stories of how God has been at work in and through us as a community. The time is defined by Paul's prayer for the Thessalonian community, ***May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word*** (2 Thess 2:16-17). We need to stay faithful to ***Our Calling*** (Purpose, Vision, Approach & Values).



This year, as we met in Niagara Falls, we were reduced in number because in 2026 we opted to facilitate two Retreats—a Central/East retreat in Niagara Falls (22 people) and a West Retreat in White Rock, BC (23 people, March 27-29). The team has grown! One of the most satisfying aspects of the time together is that it puts Board members and personnel in direct contact with one another which goes a long way to build healthy organizational dynamics. ***Praise Him for the ways in which these retreats and the strong relationships, build us up in Christ and cast vision for the shared ongoing task!*** <><

Praising HIM, in all transitions in life and ministry,
Richard & Kathy Konieczny



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