

MCEC Finance Update

December 2024

Growing into the Future:
We Need Your Help

MCEC

201-50 Kent Ave.

Kitchener, ON N2G 3R1



**Mennonite
Church**
Eastern Canada

IDENTITY

MCEC is a diverse community

- **Transformed** by the love of God
- **Inspired** by the hope we find in Jesus
- **Called** to action by the power of the Holy Spirit

PURPOSE

We come together as a regional church to:

- **Energize Congregations**
in worship, discipleship and mission
- **Encourage Leaders**
of hope, vision and transformation
- **Embody God's reconciling ministry**
for all creation

Spending Plan 2024 -25



2024-25 APPROVED SPENDING PLAN	
EXPENSES	
<i>includes program, partner and salary expenses</i>	
Total Operating Fund Expenses	\$ 2,862,325
REVENUES	
<i>Individual and Estate Donations MCEC</i>	\$ 125,000
<i>Individual Donations (MC Canada)</i>	\$ 25,000
<i>Church Giving</i>	\$ 1,535,000
<i>Relational Witness Giving</i>	\$ 200,000
<i>Interest</i>	\$ 170,000
Gross (external) revenue	\$ 2,055,000
other income*	\$ 168,564
fund transfers**	\$ 244,500
Other (internal) Revenue	\$ 413,064
Total Revenues into Operating Fund	\$ 2,468,064
Deficit	-\$ 394,261

Approved by Delegates April 2024

Deficit covered by monthly draws from Faithful Steward Fund

Expenses

Operating expenses are for the daily work of MCEC staff with our congregations, leaders and partners: crisis care, supportive conversation and guidance, preaching, teaching, coming alongside to help with discernment, engaging in credentialing processes, installations, ordinations, resourcing, intercultural engagement, church plant support, annual church gathering work, ongoing communication, and collaborating with MC Canada.

Revenue

Operating Revenues are what is used to pay for the work of MCEC staff with our congregations and leaders. This money allows us to carry out the purpose of the Regional Church.

Annual Church Gathering delegates agreed in Leamington this past April that \$2,055,000 would be raised or donated for this fiscal year's activities. MCEC also planned to generate \$413,064 internally from *program fees, salary secondments and **transfers from Restricted Funds by policy or prior agreement.

- Fund transfers: annual transfer from Mission Donation Bequest Fund, final transfers from Legacy Initiatives Fund (Quebec staff and Connect City support)



Actual YTD numbers



- MCEC is on track to meet our expense targets this year.
- MCEC is significantly behind in revenue targets for this year.
- Church giving is MCEC's largest source of operating revenue. Church giving held steady compared to last year until July, after which it declined significantly. Currently, church giving is 12% less than it was at this time last year.
- To meet the approved spending plan target for church giving by the end of January 31, 2025, we still need to raise \$603,650. Last year, MCEC churches gave \$379,017 in December and January.

ACTUALS Year-to-date 24-25 SPENDING PLAN

EXPENSES

includes program, partner and salary expenses

Total Operating Fund Expenses

REVENUES

Individual and Estate Donations MCEC

Individual Donations (MC Canada)

Church Giving

Relational Witness Giving

Interest

Gross (external) revenue

other income

fund transfers

Other (internal) Revenue

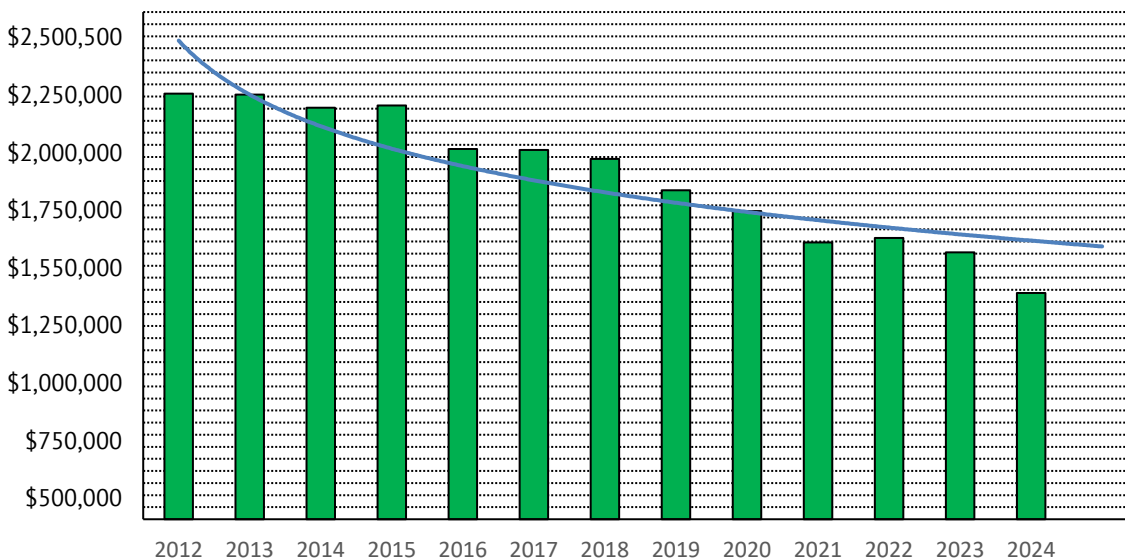
Total Operating Fund Revenues

Deficit

	2024-25 BUDGET	2024-25 NOV 30, 2024
Total Operating Fund Expenses	\$ 2,862,325	\$ 2,383,682
<i>Individual and Estate Donations MCEC</i>	\$ 125,000	\$ 60,618
<i>Individual Donations (MC Canada)</i>	\$ 25,000	\$ 11,465
<i>Church Giving</i>	\$ 1,535,000	\$ 931,350
<i>Relational Witness Giving</i>	\$ 200,000	\$ 219,966
<i>Interest</i>	\$ 170,000	\$ 79,027
Gross (external) revenue	\$ 2,055,000	\$ 1,302,426
<i>other income</i>	\$ 168,564	\$ 208,895
<i>fund transfers</i>	\$ 244,500	\$ 192,083
Other (internal) Revenue	\$ 413,064	\$ 400,978
Total Operating Fund Revenues	\$ 2,468,064	\$ 1,703,404
Deficit	-\$ 394,261	-\$ 680,278

We recognize and deeply appreciate churches' efforts to support MCEC.

MCEC Church Giving



Last year, churches gave \$379,017 in December and January. This year, due to a significant drop in church giving July to November, we need \$603,650 during the same period to meet the approved spending plan.

A Year of Doing Differently 2025 - 2026



Significant Decrease in Overall Spending

Executive Council and staff have prioritized MCEC's finances as we have started to plan for 2025-2026.

We have considered ways to work differently, making strategic decisions that help us to fulfill our purpose in a fiscally responsible way. We have:

- Created a multi-year reduction plan
- Downsized MCEC's operational costs for the upcoming fiscal year
- Downsized MCEC's organizational structure, reducing our staff complement by five people

These decisions are reflected in the numbers below. MCEC has reduced its overall spending for the upcoming year by over \$300,000. We will say goodbye to dear colleagues. We will be working differently.

25-26 SPENDING PLAN work to date		program
expenses and salaries		
2024-25 BUDGET	2025-26 PRELIMINARY	<i>difference</i>
\$ 1,779,543	\$ 1,458,129	-\$ 321,414

Program Costs
Reduction of \$100K

Salary Costs
Reduction of \$200K

Growing into the Future: We Need Your Help



MCEC is experiencing a financial challenge. We deeply appreciate the ongoing efforts of congregations to provide financial support—thank you. However, with a significant decline in church giving, **we need \$603,650 in contributions by January 31, 2024**, to meet our budget. Your support is critical.

Take Action Now: Help Secure MCEC's Future:

In Your Congregation:

- **Act Now:** Urge your congregation to fulfill giving targets set at the Annual Church Gathering in April.
- **Raise Awareness:** Notify your church council of MCEC's urgent need for support due to a significant revenue shortfall. To meet the approved spending plan, we urgently need contributions from both congregations and individuals by January 31, 2025.

Individually:

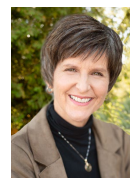
- **Give Generously:** Please give generously to the appeal letter being distributed. [Visit the donation page here.](#)
- **Spread the Need:** Inform others in your congregation about this critical situation and encourage their support.

Your prompt action can make a significant difference. Together, we can bridge this critical gap and ensure the continued work of MCEC. Thank you for standing with us.

Questions?
Contact Ben Cassels at moderator@mcec.ca, or Laurie Castello at lcastello@mcec.ca.



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