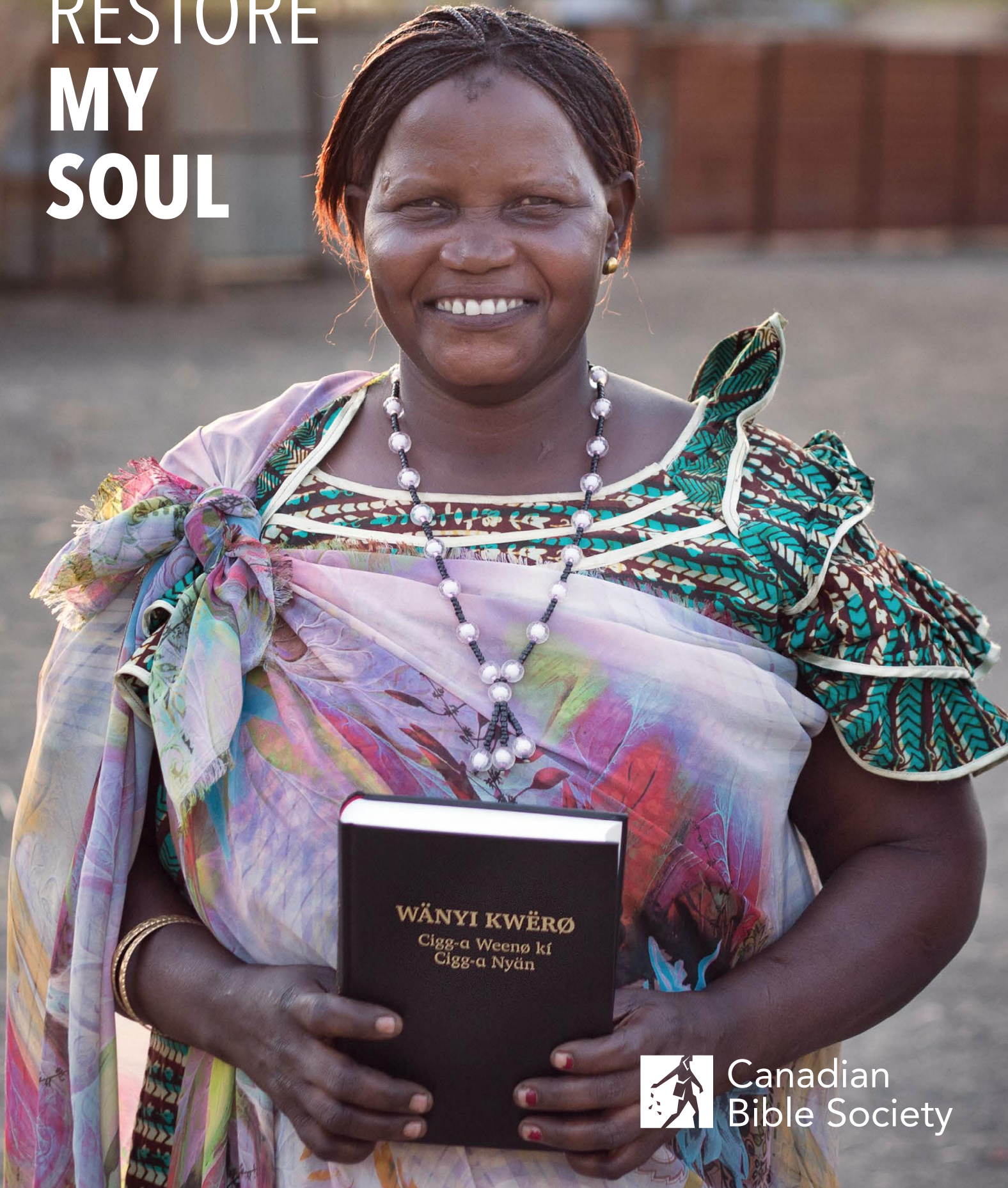


RESTORE MY SOUL





“The Lord is my shepherd.

I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul.” – Psalm 23:1-3

WHERE PEOPLE ARE

AT RISK,

when faith is under siege

among millions craving hope and relief,

for youth being pursued by fear

and the elderly crushed by isolation,

for those on the margins of life

pushed further and further out,

and those who grieve deep loss,

of loved ones, family, and friends,

of dreams and opportunity

of an entire way of living,

We turn our faces to you O Lord.

And in our hearts,

in all the languages of the world,

with all that is spoken and unspoken,

our cry rises to you,

**“O LORD,
RESTORE
MY SOUL.”**

WE CAN PERSEVERE BECAUSE WE ARE NOT ALONE

*“Even though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear
no evil, for You are with me, Your rod and
Your staff, they comfort me.” – Psalm 23:4*

HOW WEARY ARE YOU?

More than a year of restrictions, lockdowns, anxiety, and fear have worn us down. Even the vaccine rollouts, greeted with great hope by some, became fraught with uncertainty and confusion.

And most of us are deeply weary.

So, I am struck by Jeremiah. During an era of war, destruction, and death, he was able to declare that, “The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” (Lam. 3:22-23)

But how can people experience that mercy and love?

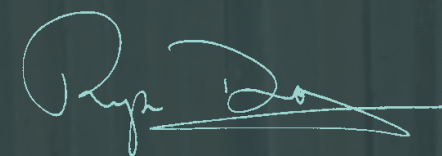
Quickly providing God’s comfort to struggling people became a driving force for the Canadian Bible Society (CBS) this past year. We introduced a new program for people in long-term care, made new resources freely available, and expanded our use of digital media to reach more people more quickly. Further, CBS helped many Bible Societies across the world to stay open during the COVID onslaught.

As well, just as in your life, CBS staff struggled with health issues of family members and the challenges of working remotely. This report is also a humble declaration of thanks and praise to God for his grace, not only to ministries, but towards individuals and families.

Collectively, we freshly understand God’s promise that, as we walk through the darkest valley, He is with us (Psalm 23).

This report highlights God’s work in the world through His Word, and the impact made possible by our donors. Thank you for your amazing perseverance. You live out God’s assurance that we are not alone.

We hope and pray that you know with deep confidence that God is with you in this valley. We can persevere because we are not alone.



– Rev. Dr. Rupen Das, Executive Director



"THANK YOU" TO OUR supporters, partners, and friends!

Here's part of what you made possible in 2020-2021

Although our work in 2020-2021 was somewhat curtailed by COVID-19 and pandemic restrictions, your impact was profound.

Some international partners suffered major setbacks from COVID in their countries. Ministry partners in Canada were also affected such as camps and churches offering classes for newcomers, and other partners whose outreach is built on face-to-face encounters.

But despite the obstacles, your support still provided God's Word to tens of thousands of people in more than 30 countries.

Meanwhile, our digital reach exploded during this pandemic year (see pages 12-13).



343,613 Bibles, Testaments and Scripture selections were distributed by CBS in Canada (including 95,000 Bibles).



The Word of God was made available in **more than 71 languages** here in Canada, through a variety of ministries, churches, and organizations.



The **top 10 languages of Scriptures** distributed in Canada (apart from English and French) were:

1. Haitian Creole
2. Inuktitut-Eastern Arctic
3. Plautdietsch
4. Italian
5. Swahili
6. Chinese
7. Tagalog
8. Punjabi
9. Cree-Western or Plains
10. Persian (Farsi)



37,915 donors across Canada contributed toward our revenue of \$13.2 M.



Directly supported 57 projects in 36 countries outside of Canada.



Countries and regions we served in 2020-2021

- Albania
- Arab-Israel
- Armenia
- Cameroon
- Chile
- China
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Dom. Rep
- Egypt
- Ghana
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Honduras
- India
- Iran
- Iraq
- Israel
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kyrgyzstan
- Lebanon
- Lithuania
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Palestine
- Peru
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Syria
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- Uzbekistan

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS PEOPLE HEAR GOD SPEAK

3 BARRIERS PREVENT PEOPLE FROM HEARING GOD SPEAK

Bible Poverty: Lack of access

Bible Literacy: Difficulty understanding

Bible Relevance: Difficulty in applying to life

4 PILLARS OF CBS WORK TO REMOVE THE BARRIERS

Translate: Scriptures in the languages people need

Publish: Scriptures in the forms people need

Distribute: Scriptures in peoples' hands

Engage: Scriptures taking hold

5 PRIORITIES GUIDE WHO WE SERVE FIRST

- > Lives are at risk
- > Faith is suppressed
- > Trauma is profound
- > Youth need hope
- > The Church seeks help



In 2020, we completely overhauled our CBS website, making it easier to navigate and find the information and resources you need. Visit biblesociety.ca to see many new features, and many more stories of God at work through your support.



Canadian Bible Society

Say hello to our old friend, sporting a new look.

In 2020 the CBS Board authorized a refresh of the organizational logo. This is the result, with updated colour and fonts and a square shape for a strong presence. The goal was to modernize the logo to better connect with our diverse audiences. We designed to support contemporary print layouts but also strong digital communications, where we are increasingly active.

What has not changed is the heart of the icon. The Sower and the seeds are not simply familiar, they are symbolic of an important conviction in CBS life – that the Word of God is powerful in its own right.

If we translate, produce, and distribute the Scriptures, and help people engage with the Word – the four pillars of CBS strategy represented by the four seeds – God's Spirit will do the work of transformation.

We hope you welcome our refreshed logo, a visual ambassador for the ministry you make possible.

STEPPING UP DURING A PANDEMIC CRISIS

Emergency support to people and partners in Canada and around the world

We all suffered pandemic pain. But CBS supporters looked past their own circumstances and continued to support people who needed to hear God speak in 2020. That generosity allowed CBS to support a wide variety of ministries and people in unusual ways in 2020.

Offering the hope of Christ

During this crisis, many Canadians felt frightened and alone. CBS has focused on giving hope and comfort through God's Word by:

- Providing Scriptures to first responders, healthcare workers, staff and residents of long-term care homes, guests at homeless shelters, and others.
- Expanding our online Scripture resources, including Words of Comfort and the Psalms video series to help people overcome the challenges of social distancing, quarantine, and self-isolation.
- Providing audio Scriptures to people in long-term care (see pages 14-15).
- Launching intensive Bible-based Trauma Healing training across Canada (see page 30).

Showing up for Church Pastors and Priests

CBS delivered Solidarity and Goodwill Packages to more than 1,200 pastors, priests, and other CBS partners across the country. Included in the English package was a copy of the book, *Survival Guide for the Soul: How to Flourish Spiritually in a World that Pressures Us to Achieve* by Ken Shigematsu.

Supporting our international family

During the pandemic, the United Bible Societies identified 35 countries in which Bible Society work might disappear if no help was made available. CBS joined in the effort to fund emergency support for Bible work around the world.

The cause of the Bible will continue

"When news of the Fund came, it renewed my strength and that of the team," wrote Mayra Ugalde, General Secretary of the Bible Society of Costa Rica, one of the first Bible Societies to receive help. Thanks to the support, Mayra and her team have been able to continue running their ministry projects and exploring new opportunities online. Videos from a social media campaign during lockdown attracted thousands of views, an exciting result for the team. "In the midst of so much uncertainty, the cause of the Bible will continue," said Mayra.



Lifting up healthcare workers

Many digital copies of Words of Comfort were and continue to be distributed to healthcare workers across the country and internationally. They were also made available on the USA website *Christian Connections for International Health*.

Help for Canadian partners to reach out to people in need

CBS partnered with faith-based organizations across Canada to help people in need, such as those affected by homelessness, families in poverty-stricken situations, and men and women in need of addiction recovery support.

During the pandemic we provided small one-time cash grants and Scripture-based resources to these agencies to help meet spiritual and other necessities, such as food and shelter during these difficult times.



“News of the Bibles we were handing out – provided to us by CBS – went viral in the community. And because of the high demand coming from people asking for Bibles, we had to designate a specific day and time for Bible distribution to the public.”

– Stacy Otting, Open Arms Mission



God’s comfort in the face of crushing grief

For people in Nova Scotia, the pandemic intensified the horror and grief caused by one of the worst crimes in Canadian history.

To support Nova Scotia churches whose parishioners were affected by the tragic shootings, CBS packages filled with spiritual care material were sent to six churches. The packages included print copies of Words of Comfort and Fear Not, a graphic novel for youth.

\$46K+

in cash grants issued

20+

faith-based organizations helped

10,669

Scripture resources distributed to Christian agencies

“The COVID-19 pandemic has hit the most vulnerable people hard, and the overdose crisis continues on. The Bibles and Scripture resources provided by CBS, and made available by Mission Possible, will enhance the comprehensive spiritual care available to the whole person.” – Matt Smedley, CEO Mission Possible

“Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”

– Psalm 23:6

GOD'S WORD, FREELY GIVEN, EAGERLY RECEIVED

Our digital ministry touched people under pressure

As soon as the world recognized we were in a pandemic, CBS began making available digital resources that many turned to for comfort, strength, and direction.

The speed with which people began downloading and using these Bible resources greatly surprised us.

We thank our donors for making this possible, and we thank God for reports of the impact they made on people who were able to hear God's voice in a very fresh and accessible way.

"I just wanted to say thank you. I'm going through a tough time at the moment and reading today's passage and notes brought me great encouragement."



NOW AVAILABLE

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT RACE

This free study (with video) helps people hear the truth of Scripture on race and challenges readers and viewers to live more justly towards all people.

WORDS OF COMFORT

A selection of 52 Scripture passages that provide essential wisdom and guidance from our Creator, and speak to our fear, our hurt, and our hunger for hope. Launched **only 2 weeks** after COVID-19 was declared a pandemic, it has been downloaded almost **16,000** times.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

A follow-up to Words of Comfort, the Words of Encouragement selection was released in March this year and was downloaded **700** times that month alone.

DAILY MANNA

This monthly collection of carefully selected Bible verses provides daily inspiration and reaches as many as **47,000 people each month**.

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

312,498 Daily Bible Reading guides were distributed in 2020, in both print and digital formats. They were produced in English, French, Inuktitut, Naskapi, and in other local languages for sister Bible Societies.

THE WORD FOR FAMILIES

The Word for Families is a series of fun story booklets that help children, youth and families engage with the Scriptures together. These booklets are free to download and can be printed at home. In just two months – February and March of this year – they were downloaded more than 1,400 times.

CHRISTMAS AND LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

Seasonal devotionals and writings by a variety of authors, augmented with videos, were offered to as many as 11,000 households.

VIDEOS

We released **22 new videos** in 2020, for a variety of ages. Three videos of people proclaiming the Psalms were especially popular – the reading of Psalm 91 (in English or French) was watched more than **205,000** times.

"UNCHANGED"

CBS campaigns on social media and TV using video and a compelling message drew more than **144,000 views**, pointing readers and viewers to a selection of free resources.



CARE FOR THE SOULS OF THE ELDERLY

God's Word delivered by audio player

Many elderly people wrestle with a range of debilitating developments and emotions as they live out the last chapters of their lives.

As their bodies begin to impose significant limitations on strength and movement, their spirits also come under siege. Yet almost no one is truly beyond reach.

Audio Scripture passages, familiar Christian music, and beloved hymns can add greatly to the spiritual and emotional well-being of vulnerable people.

In 2020, CBS launched a national program aimed at providing support to individuals in long-term care homes, presented in ways accessible to a range of frail elderly. The support came in the form of audio Scriptures and music delivered through specialized audio devices and selected print materials.

THANK YOU DONORS!

People gave generously to fund the pilot phase of the project, allowing CBS to expand the program well beyond its initial goals.

- > **200 nursing and care** homes were interviewed for the pilot phase, both Christian and municipal/government organizations.
- > 50 homes were selected to receive the **initial supply of 1,000 devices**.
- > By the end of February 2021, devices were in use in **31 homes, with the remaining 19 starting their engagement in June**.
- > Powered by donor gifts, the project moved into Phase 2. By mid-summer, 200 homes and facilities should be enrolled, with **2,000 devices available to them**.
- > Chaplains and activity directors gave feedback on helping the elderly use the MegaVoice players that quickly helped us **improve the program**.

What we have heard from residents and caregivers in homes:

"I love it. With my vision issues I don't have to use a magnifier, I can just press the buttons." – Calgary, AB

"If I am upset or depressed, I can just put it on, put my head back and listen. I am honoured that I was chosen to have it." – Elmira, ON

One chaplain said: "I have been praying for 10 years for something like this – an audio Bible in an easy-to-use device."

A resident who wanted to read the Bible struggled with limited vision and concentration. He described the audio Scriptures as "fantastic – I'm hungry to listen more. It's the best thing I've ever been given." – London, ON

"I have a resident who is 100 years old. She is mostly blind and deaf, but the earbuds work great for her where she can hear the Bible being read to her. She told her daughter how excited she was to finally be able to hear the Bible." – Chaplain Elizabeth Guillaume-Koene, Bowmanville, ON

PICKING UP THE PACE IN TRANSLATION

God gave us reasons to celebrate Bible translation in a dismal year

Here's some of what you have helped make possible (as of spring of 2021)

- > In the last five years, Bible Societies around the world have completed Scripture translation in over **270 languages used by 1.7 billion people.**
- > The number of the world's 7,000+ languages with the full Bible topped **700 for the first time.**
- > Around 80% of the world's population (just over 5.7 billion people) now have the **whole Bible in their mother tongue.**
- > The New Testament was available in **1571 "heart languages"** used by 825 million people.
- > Some Scripture portions were made available in an additional **1,160 languages used by 450 million people.**

70% of the world's full Bibles have been translated by Bible Societies

Powered by donors, partnerships, and technology

The pace of translation is accelerating, due to partnerships and technology, all powered by visionary donors.

Today we are collaborating more widely than ever, working with other translation agencies as part of Every Tribe Every Nation Collective Impact Alliance (ETEN).

Meanwhile, growing momentum in Bible translation is also due to developments in translation software, and digital library technology, all of which is shared by everyone involved in Scripture translation.

FOLLOWING THE BIBLE TRANSLATION ROADMAP

This generation has the greatest opportunity ever seen in translation – to bring the Scriptures to hundreds of millions of people in their heart language at a pace never seen.

To reduce Bible poverty, CBS joins the worldwide network of Bible Societies in continuing to push forward with the Bible Translation Roadmap, a 20-year vision unveiled in 2018, aiming to

- > complete 1,200 translations and revisions by 2038
- > give to over 600 million more people, first-time access to the Scriptures in their own language.

By 2033, CBS, other Bible Societies, the ETEN Alliance and numerous other translation agencies envision all people having some access to the Word of God in their own language:

95%

will have access to a full Bible

99.96%

will have access to a New Testament

100%

will have access to some portion of Scripture





AT ALL TIMES CBS IS INVOLVED IN **10+** TRANSLATION PROJECTS IN CANADA AND AROUND THE WORLD

Our translation priorities in Canada

- > Serving Indigenous communities (see pages 22-23)
- > Serving the Diaspora Church

Our international translation priorities

- > Projects that open God's Word to severely marginalized or neglected groups
- > First-time translations that can't be completed without extra support
- > Translation revisions with impact in multiple locations, or strategic for reaching young people

We also support the capacity of United Bible Societies (UBS) to facilitate member projects with training, technical input, digital tools, and translation project management.

How we use your gifts to advance Bible Translation

- 45% CBS Canadian support to UBS for all global translation efforts
- 11% Commitments to selected projects by sister Bible Societies
- 11% Canadian translation leadership team providing resources globally
- 34% Canadian translation projects



Digital Bible Library adds Braille Scriptures

CBS provides support each year to the Digital Bible Library, which makes translated Bible texts available to the translation world. In 2020, new Braille transcription software allowed the addition of the first Braille Scripture files to the Library, making it much faster for Bible Societies to produce Braille Scripture.

At the start of 2021, the Library contained:

- > **2,696 texts in 1,721 languages** used by six billion people.
- > **53 Braille files in 41 languages**, including 33 full Bibles in 27 languages.
- > **Audio Scriptures** in the languages of 5.6 billion people.
- > **Video Scriptures in 13 sign languages** used by 1.8 million people.

Greater access through new and revised translations

Languages evolve over time, and it can be difficult for younger generations to understand outdated Scripture translations. Last year, Bible Societies published new or revised translations, including nine full Bibles, in **21 languages** used by **694 million people**.

WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE THE CBS LONG-RANGE COMMITMENT

As we have funding:

- > We will be energetically engaged in first-language translation, pursuing the Roadmap shared by UBS and other collaborating agencies around the world.
- > We will also support those who are severely disadvantaged or neglected, with Scripture presented in formats they can use.
- > And we will support important revisions or fresh translations, especially where a revision is strategic to reaching younger people.

RENEWING INDIGENOUS HEARTS THROUGH THE WORD

When God's Word speaks in a people's heart language, lives are changed

"I want to say thank you to everyone who worked in getting the Cree Bible to us, [the Bible] that was printed. Our people are really enjoying it." – Bishop Lydia Mamakwa

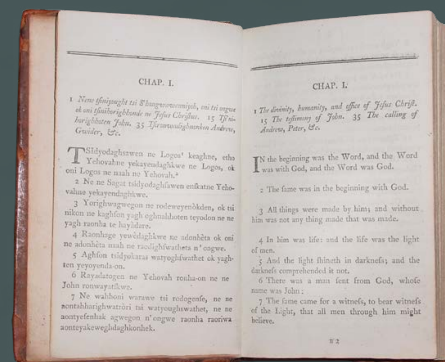
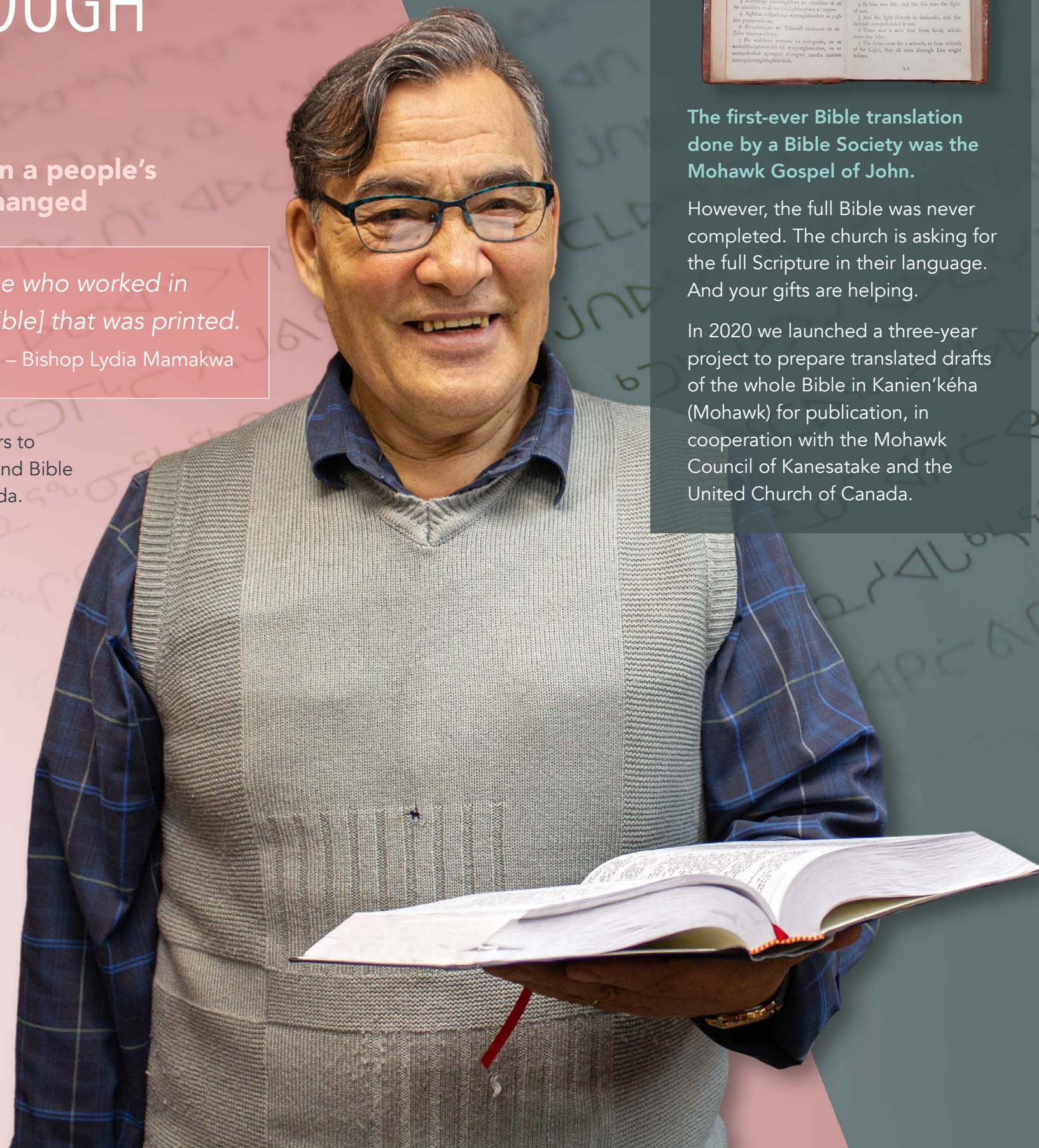
The Canadian Bible Society works with partners to translate and revise Bibles, New Testaments, and Bible portions in the Indigenous languages of Canada.

Our partners include communities that speak the various languages, local organizations, and local and national churches.

Here's some of what you've been supporting in translations for Indigenous Canadian communities.

IN 2020-2021 YOU HELPED TO:

- > Publish a new edition of the Western Cree Bible.
- > Complete the revision of the Eastern Arctic Inuktitut New Testament. The translation team is now revising the Old Testament.
- > Complete and publish the Inuinnaqtun translation of the American Bible Society's Mission: Literacy series of Bible-based storybooks.



The first-ever Bible translation done by a Bible Society was the Mohawk Gospel of John.

However, the full Bible was never completed. The church is asking for the full Scripture in their language. And your gifts are helping.

In 2020 we launched a three-year project to prepare translated drafts of the whole Bible in Kanien'kéha (Mohawk) for publication, in cooperation with the Mohawk Council of Kanesatake and the United Church of Canada.

A FORCE FOR REVITALIZING LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Among the broad findings of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission that reported to the Canadian public in 2015, the impact on Indigenous language is a major theme.

Colonial power structures greatly reduced the use of Indigenous languages in Canada, with grave implications for the well-being of Indigenous people and communities.

In many Indigenous communities, the translation of and engagement with the Scriptures is seen as strategic and valuable for the revitalization of language and culture.

CBS is eager to collaborate and welcomes all requests to engage in translation, publication, distribution, and engagement in Scripture for Canada's Indigenous communities.

ONGOING WORK MISSION: LITERACY

Some of our products, such as the Mission: Literacy series of Bible storybooks, can be a resource for Indigenous language classes in schools and churches.

Mission: Literacy is a multi-cultural literacy curriculum proven to raise children's reading skills as they learn 30 Bible stories. CBS helps partner communities translate the stories into their own language and make them available to children.

In 2019 we published the Mission: Literacy books in Plains Cree. In 2020-2021 we began preparing versions for Woods Cree, Inuktitut, and Inuinnaqtun, and helping a partner organization with versions in additional Canadian Indigenous languages.

SUPPORTING ISOLATED FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES

For remote Indigenous communities, COVID has added many difficulties and new layers of isolation.



CBS partnered with Crossroads First Peoples Voices (FPV) to provide Bibles and Scripture resources to families and children in 99 isolated communities across Canada including the Arctic.

Each community received a shipment with 10 or more of several items for sharing: Bibles for youth and children, Bibles in Indigenous languages, Bible portions and Scripture Selections, children's Bible engagement resources, and other items for home study. The shipments included items as Christmas presents, to support children and families.

Pikangikum First Nation is an Ojibwe First Nation in northwestern Ontario. Colleen Estes, a missionary in Pikangikum for 23 years, says she has never seen such a hunger for the gospel.

YOUR IMPACT BEYOND OUR BORDERS



Helping people hear, around the world.

Despite a global pandemic – or perhaps accentuated by it – reports of transformed lives came to us from around the globe this year. Thank you for your faithfulness during very difficult times.

COSTA RICA: BRAILLE AND LARGE-PRINT, FOR MOTHER AND DAUGHTER

By age two, Lorena was blind from a congenital illness, the central fact in her childhood in Costa Rica, also marked by extreme poverty, hunger and sexual abuse. At the tender age of 14, Lorena became pregnant and gave birth to Tania. Tragically, Tania inherited the same eye disease and is now losing her sight.

Lorena began seeking God, and today both she and Tania are Christians. Despite the obstacles they face daily, they now live with the conviction that they are secure and loved in Jesus' hands.

Lorena asked the Bible Society if she could receive a Bible in Braille so that she could take refuge in the Word of God and not have to wait for someone else to read it to her. Tania asked if she could have a large-print Bible so she could join her mother.

Lorena could not believe the news that the Bibles were coming! **How could it be possible that even though she lived in such a remote area, somebody had thought about her?** This kindness gave her increased hope and the courage to continue fighting, knowing that God had heard her prayer.

FAITHFUL AND COMMITTED IN ANY LANGUAGE

Translating the Bible is complex in 'normal' times, and collaboration can be challenging at the best of times. COVID-19 brought more complications, and some teams were stalled or delayed due to lack of access to trained specialists or simply because they were unable to collaborate.

But many Bible Society translation teams across the world pressed on to make God's Word available to their communities.

SURINAME: Forbidden from travelling to town to buy essentials – and with no government assistance – food was soon in short supply. Villagers had to rely on the produce from their gardens. To help the translators maintain their work in two languages, the Suriname Bible Society, which runs the project, sent food hampers.

With that support, translators toiled on. When restrictions eased in October, the translators traveled to Georgetown, the capital, to access the internet, upload their work and meet online with their Global Translation Advisor. As a result, they were able to finalize a small portion – Genesis 12-15 – which has been published and shared with the communities for feedback.



CAMEROON: In Cameroon's Far North Region, the Parkwa translation team suffered the devastating loss of two colleagues who worked as literacy facilitators, killed in two separate attacks by militant Islamist group Boko Haram.

Despite this trauma, and amidst the pandemic and ongoing attacks on their village, the team made significant progress in 2020, even meeting online with their Global Translation Advisor to check their work.

"This project continues to progress normally due to the dynamism and commitment of the Parkwa translators," reports the Bible Society. "In 2020, we have gone from 84% to 92% of overall progress." Meanwhile, the Bible Society is moving the translation team from their village and into the city of Maroua, where there is more security.

ANGOLA: Translators must interact with communities to ensure that the translation is understandable by ordinary people and meets their needs. Yet lockdowns in most countries made it difficult or impossible for people to meet for much of the year.

In Angola, the Umbangala team launched an innovative use of social media to engage people with the translation, even during the lockdown. The virtual campaign gave the team strong momentum to make good progress until restrictions eased and in-person meetings with community reviewers resumed. The new revision will be used in the New Testament due in 2021 and the full Bible due in 2025.

CUBA: A BIBLE FOR EVERY CUBAN

Thanks to donors like you, one million Bibles were placed in the hands of Cuban believers in the past decade. This gave 9% of Cubans access to the Word of God.

The number of Christians continues to grow, and the local church says there are never enough Bibles. More than 60 denominations in the country have asked to help eradicate Bible poverty by providing, for the first time ever, Bibles to their congregations.

Your support will help us to provide 1 million bibles to youth, children, churches, prisons, pastors and leaders. This will impact another 9% of Cubans with God's Word.



CHINA: IMPACT FOR GENERATIONS

Madam Niu's father preached the gospel in China for over fifty years, from age 18, until the Cultural Revolution in 1966 saw him publicly punished, humiliated, and tortured.

Once, he was paraded in the streets wearing a placard identifying him as a Christian. He had to lower his head and bend over, as if confessing to a great crime. To ensure he was bending properly, bricks were hung around his neck.

The violence spilled over to his children. People began to mock Madam Niu for following a foreign religion and lashed out in hatred. She echoed the plea of Bartimaeus, the blind beggar who cried out to Jesus: "Son of David, have mercy on me!"



The Bible became increasingly precious. "They burned seven of my Bibles," she said. To preserve copies of the Scriptures, believers tore Bibles into sections, for easier hiding and so that each person could be strengthened by the Word. When she first received a 'whole' Bible again, she remembers that she just leapt for joy.

Today she is in her nineties and is blessed with five generations of her family living under her roof. Many of them serve the Lord and a great-grandson recently completed Bible school training.

MIDDLE EAST: GUNFIRE IN THE DARK

Hannah will never forget the night her family awoke to shouts and gunfire engulfing their town. "While all the gunmen were screaming and running out of the building, all in one direction, we were silently praying for God's guidance to help us escape," she remembers.

Thankfully, they were able to escape. But like so many refugees from the Middle East, they were left with nothing as they fled the ongoing violence and danger. "The Bible Society of Jordan came to the church in a van filled with Bibles, New Testaments, children's Bibles, and other biblical material," she said. "We had never seen such treasures before! God's Word brought so much comfort to our troubled souls."

"I feel like someone is speaking from deep inside my heart when I read the Bible in my language," she explained through her tears. "I can't believe the peace I feel. God really cares for me and my people. His Word has really touched my heart."

TRAUMA HEALING

When people hear God speak, wounded hearts are healed, and disrupted lives are restored

Deeply distressing and disturbing events are a common part of human experience. Some people can cope, but others are overwhelmed and begin to suffer from debilitating feelings of helplessness and intense fear.

Bible-based Trauma Healing turns down the noise, unlocks the prison of helpless isolation, and provides a path that enables people to embrace a new era of living in God's love.

CBS is investing in training and resourcing people who will lead trauma healing groups. Especially important, we are training people who can train others, thereby multiplying the knowledge and skills further into the community and across the country.

BIBLE-BASED TRAUMA HEALING GROUPS ARE

- > made up of 8 to 10 people,
- > seeking healing together in God's Word,
- > with a trained facilitator and tested resources,
- > for as many as 15 sessions, depending on the needs of the group.

In 2020 we focused on revising the curriculum, planning, budgeting, and setting up the program management, and piloted our recruitment and training process.

We emerged with 50 Apprentice Trainers ready to help others find relief from trauma, despite COVID restrictions and limited staff.

We are continuing to recruit and train Bible-based Trauma Healing Facilitators across Canada. In addition, we are canvassing existing and potential partners to find those who are committed to trauma healing.

This will ensure that Bible-based Trauma Healing Groups are being held for people who need them, year in and year out.

BIKE FOR BIBLES

Volunteers step up for mental health support of members of Canadian Forces

The efforts and commitments of volunteers are vital to the ministry of helping people hear God speak through Scripture.

We knew that, with the pandemic restrictions, it was no small ask to invite our extended community to ride, walk or run to help raise funds to provide Scriptures to men and women serving in the Canadian Forces, in order to support their mental and spiritual health.

Heavy rainfall didn't deter the passionate participants in *The North Bay Ontario Ride* on August 29, 2020! Thank you, North Bay Riders for your commitment to riding over 25 km for the cause!

Distance was no deterrent for the 23 participants in the *Bike for Bibles Rocky Mountain Ride*. Riders from age 14 to 75 spanned 450 kms over four days, with no major injuries or COVID issues.

Want to be inspired? Watch the video at tinyurl.com/bike4bibles.

As well, while we grieve that we could not gather as usual, we were thankful for continuous engagement by many volunteers and other supporters.

Such initiatives as the Virtual Challenge in May and Rocky Mountain Virtual Challenge in September saw people pursuing a favourite physical activity in their neighbourhood, on a local trail or even at home, raising support for Bible ministry.





GENERATIONS UNDER SIEGE

A tragic number of young people feel crushed by powerful social and economic forces, leaving them hopeless and in despair. What, they ask, is the basis for hope? And who will help?

There are over 7 million youth and young adults across Canada – 15 to 29 year olds often referred to as Gen Z and Millennials. They are extremely diverse – socially, ethnically, economically, and culturally.

What they have in common is a set of experiences, perspectives, and questions that render our traditional ways of engaging people with Scripture largely ineffective. Even those with a background in Christian faith do not naturally align with CBS.

There are notable and inspiring exceptions. But the challenge is inescapable – we must have new products, new ways to engage and new relationships if we are to have an impact among the next generations of Canadians.

In 2020 we took a fundamental first step: we created a strategy for extensive consultation with NextGen youth and leaders, rather than guessing what will be credible and beneficial.

We also laid the foundation for an immediate emergency intervention to provide the resources we already have to ministries and agencies engaged with youth at risk. Early contacts showed numerous youth agencies eager for spiritual resources and help to engage young people.

As we entered 2021, we were energetically mapping which youth ministries and agencies across the country would be aligned, interested and capable as partners with CBS. The focus of the coming year will be exploring how we can best support them now and build a strong and effective program for the future.

The Canadian Bible Society has a presence across Canada with five Regions:

- > British Columbia and Yukon
- > Prairies and Northwest Territories
- > Ontario and Nunavut
- > Quebec
- > Atlantic

These Regions exist to support the following districts:

- > Newfoundland and Labrador
- > Nova Scotia
- > New Brunswick
- > Prince Edward Island
- > Quebec
- > Northern Ontario
- > Central Ontario
- > Southwestern Ontario
- > Greater Alberta
- > British Columbia

Members of the Board of Governors

- Capt. Noel Asirvatham
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- Rev. Robert Graham
- Rev. Dr. Francis J. Guinta, Jr.
- Rev. Brian Lise
- Mathew Maniate
- Darryl Rachul
- Alana Walker Carpenter
- Guest: Mrs. Beverly Daniels
President of the Bermuda Bible Society

FINANCES

**Canadian Bible Society
Summary Statement of Operations**
(000s)

Year ended February 28

	2021	2020
Revenue		
Contributions	\$ 7,247	\$ 6,302
Contributions – Government funding	1,398	–
Legacies	2,484	2,306
Bible sales	1,332	1,803
Investment income	749	1,017
Rental and other income	17	104
	13,227	11,532
Expenses		
National ministries	5,582	5,779
World ministries	1,874	2,088
Fund development	1,380	1,264
Administration	2,146	2,140
Amortization of capital assets	234	254
	11,216	11,525
Excess of revenue over expenses before undernoted items	2,011	7
Other income (expenses)		
Gain on sale of capital assets	1,699	–
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	1,396	(451)
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	\$ 5,106	\$ (444)

**All excess funds are designated to support the ongoing work of CBS.
Audited financial statements are available online at www.biblesociety.ca*

“Today I am very happy because I never had any literature in Umbundu. My favourite verse is Matthew 11:28, ‘Come to me, all you who are weary and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.’ This passage is very wonderful, I find rest in it because I often felt tired and without hope to live.” – Maria, in Angola.





NATIONAL OFFICE:

10 Carnforth Road, Toronto, ON M4A 2S4
1.416.757.4171 | 1.800.465.2425
info@biblesociety.ca | www.biblesociety.ca



Canadian
Bible Society



We are a member of the Canadian Centre for Christian Charities. This means that we adhere to high ethical and operational standards. The CCCC accredited member logo is evidence that we are committed to integrity and excellence in ministry.