



October 2018

We encourage you to forward this update to faculty, staff, board members, or other interested parties.

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From the Director—Philip Hills

Helping Our Students Achieve True Prosperity

Though the Bible clearly teaches that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil, it encourages us to seek to be prosperous. The Caveat, though, is that the prosperity the Bible tells us to pursue is quantifiably different than the prosperity the world seeks. Surprisingly, it is about wanting much, much more than the prosperity levels the world clamors toward. That might have been an unexpected statement for some of you. We sometimes think Scripture teaches that we should define prosperity along the lines of a thankful heart despite very little material goods. In other words, it is not about having a lot but learning to be content with what little you have.

I absolutely disagree with that definition. I recognize that godliness with contentment is great gain. I also recognize that having a lot of stuff and an overabundance of ways to meet your needs can do more harm than good. But I believe that God wants His children to have their needs met in spectacular ways, and He desires an existence for them, free from deprecation or meagre portions. In fact, He wants us to have wonderful food, beautiful homes, the best of everything all the time.

**...GOD IN HIS GREAT WISDOM
WILL NOT GIVE HIS CHILDREN SO
MUCH THAT THEY FORGET HIM
AND SO LITTLE THAT THEY ARE
EMBITTERED TO HIM.**

Before you write me off as a believer in the prosperity gospel, allow me to moderate these statements with this one – “When prosperity becomes the ends and not the means to a greater end, then prosperity becomes a corrupting reality that eventually leads to eternal poverty”. In other words, God wants to make us prosperous, so we can enjoy Him more. It is the giver of the gifts that should elicit the greatest delight in our hearts, not the gifts themselves.

The problem with prosperity on this side of the veil is that it easily becomes good enough for us. Instead of driving us into greater states of joy in Jesus, it leads us to fixate on prosperity’s passing pleasures to the detriment of our relationship to God. The main problem with the health and wealth gospel is not that God doesn't want that for us (Jesus died to make us co-heirs with Him and to give us perfect indestructible bodies), but that it defines wealth in far too modest a way and falsely teaches that we get our full inheritance before someone's death (our own, of course).

In this world, Jesus says, we will have trouble. He tells stories about wealthy people who lose their souls because of how their present life comfort numbs their souls to the One who made their wealth possible. So, God in His great wisdom will not give His children so much that they forget Him and so little that they are embittered to Him. He gives all of us just enough (and never the same either because of our differing levels of spiritual maturity) on this side of eternity.

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This Thanksgiving let’s be thankful for our current and promised abundance. We have enough right now to increase our delight in God. And when we pass into our resurrected bodies we will have more than the richest people on earth who are alive today. That eternal prosperity will not pollute us because we will have the visible Jesus to thank and worship forever.

Let us ask God to help us to lead our students to believe God’s incredible promise of eternal prosperity and abundance, as they choose to endure deprivation on this side of the New Jerusalem, and as they wait in faith for the moment when they will inherit the universe with Christ. Let's help them to say no to the idolatrous prosperity of this world and yes to the unending prosperity in the world to come.

Our Father knows what they need and will supply all those needs wisely until He can pour out unending blessings in a place where their only want will be to know and cherish God more deeply and completely with every passing moment.

New This Year

ACSI Community

Connexus has been replaced with Community. Your new easy-to-use Community opens the door to ideation, collaboration, and innovation with your peers around the world making us all Stronger Together. Take a moment to check out the [new site](#). Please note that you will have to log in and reset your password.

ACSI Canada Bookroom

This year ACSI has moved away from printing a paper Purposeful Design catalogue and is providing an online version only. Please visit our [Google site](#) to download the order form, catalogue, and samplers of new product. You can also visit our [website](#) to order online.

The Bookroom hours are Monday and Wednesday: 8:30–4:00 PST and Friday: 8:30–3:00 PST. If you need assistance outside of these times, please call the BC Office—604.851.6983.

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Events

Find information and register for events on our [website](#). The ACSI Events Calendar for 2018/2019 is posted on our Home page.

Administrator/Board National Conference

It is with great pleasure that we announce the first ever Canada-wide ACSI Administrator Board Conference, November 23–24 at the Banff Park Lodge in Banff, AB.

Each year leaders from Western Canada have gathered in the Rockies to learn about excellent leadership practices for Christian schools. This year we look forward to colleagues from Eastern Canada joining us in Banff.

If ever Canadian students needed a clear and compassionate presentation of the biblical worldview, this is that time. Students are growing up in a fragmented and increasingly angry age. Christian schools offer Shalom, the promise of a fully harmonious world in which every element interacts without friction. We want to equip our students to live the Shalom lifestyle, bringing redemptive hope wherever God chooses to use them. Our conference will focus on this Shalom worldview.

[Check our website](#) for online registration and conference information. Watch for brochures being mailed to your schools.

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Annual Meeting

This is official notification that the ACSIWC Annual Meeting will be held Friday, November 23, 2018, during the Administrator/Board National Conference in Banff, AB. All member schools of ACSI Western Canada are invited to send representatives to this meeting.

District Meetings

District Meetings are designed to connect, inform, and inspire. Each meeting features time for leaders to share the current realities of their schools. In addition, the latest information about educational trends is provided. This includes political, cultural, spiritual, economic, and legal data that is relevant to Christian schools. Guest speakers are also brought in to make presentations on current Christian educational practices. Administrators are encouraged to continually improve their schools for the blessing of their students and the glory of God.

The **BC meeting** will be held October 4 at Cornerstone Christian School, Abbotsford.

The **MB meeting** will be held October 12 at Linden Christian School, Winnipeg.

The **AB meeting** will be held October 18 at Glenmore Christian Academy, Calgary.

Agendas will be sent to member schools approximately one month before the scheduled meeting. Updated information is available on our [website](#).

Professional Development

In keeping with our mission to enable Christian educators to effectively prepare students for life, ACSI offers professional development specifically designed to benefit teachers and administrators within our member schools. It is also a good opportunity to meet with colleagues and continue to build a support network for your school. Watch for details about our PD days coming up in February in Comox and Quesnel.

Student Activities

We want our students to find peace with God, peace with each other, and peace with themselves. For this to happen, they need to understand the Bible's Shalom worldview. At this year's Student Leadership Conferences, will consider what this Shalom worldview is and how we can live it out in all aspects of life. Brochures have been sent to your schools.

- SK: October 10–12, Dallas Valley Camp | [SK Student Leadership Info](#)
- MB: October 10–12, Cedarwood Camp | [MB Student Leadership Info](#)
- BC: October 22–23, Summit Pacific College | [BC Student Leadership Info](#)

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Teacher Conventions

The prophet Isaiah looks to a future ruled by One, the Prince of Shalom, who will bring harmony between all elements of creation. How do we prepare our students for this world? As Christian teachers we must embrace the idea that perfect peace and an end to all conflict is possible.

The theme for this year's conventions will be *Shalom* (Isaiah 9:6). We will consider what the Shalom worldview is and how we can reveal it to our students in all areas of school activity. We are excited at the prospect of being able to help our students see the real glorious future God will soon bring upon the earth and how they can prepare that world through their faith, gifts and works.

Brochures for all conventions will be sent to your schools. Check our [website](#) for more information or to register online.

ACSI members, join the ACSI [Community](#) for discussion and information.

- BC: October 5, Cornerstone Christian School, Abbotsford | [BC Teacher Convention Info](#)
- AB and SK: October 18–19, Glenmore Christian Academy, Calgary | [AB Teacher Convention Info](#)
- MB: February 15, Linden Christian School, Winnipeg | [MB Teacher Convention Info](#)

College Corner

If any of our member colleges have an upcoming open house or other event that would be of interest to our students, please let our office know so that we can include the information in upcoming issues of the Communicator. The deadline for submissions for the November Communicator is October 19.

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Peace River Bible Institute

Freshmen \$3000—PRBI's donor and friends strongly believe in investing in young people and want to support their desire to attend PRBI by giving them \$3000 towards their tuition. We have removed some of the financial barriers so that anyone can attend the 2019 school year! For more information go to our website prbi.edu or call 780.568.3962.

October 12/18 PreView Day—Come spend a day at PRBI exploring what our college offers for programs, community, student opportunities, and fun! It is a full day of experiencing what it is like to be a college student and meeting our students. For more information go to our website prbi.edu.

March 8–10/19 eView College TakeOver—Come experience more of PRBI by moving in for a few days! Come enjoy dorm life, classes, the college night life, and our annual Friday Night Live. More information to come!

School News

Hearing about what other member schools are doing helps us feel connected as an association. We encourage you to [email](#) newsworthy information about your school to be included in this section of the monthly Communicator and on our Facebook page. The deadline for submissions for the November Communicator is October 19.

Global Outreach

School Global Outreach News

One of the reasons our schools are so strong is because of their passionate concern for exalting Jesus among the nations. We highlight your stories to encourage one another. Please [email](#) stories and pictures to our office from recent mission trips and/or mission projects to share what your school is doing in support of reaching the world for Christ.

School Mission Trips

Many of our schools will be sending student groups on mission trips this year. Please send us your school name and the dates and destination of your trip so we can pray for you as you travel and spread God's love around the world.

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2018–19 ACSI Western Canada Project

Each year ACSI Western Canada chooses an education-based service project to support.

Last school year students and teachers of ACSIWC schools raised over \$17,500 for Classrooms for Africa's Dust to Desk Project. This provided furniture for 900 students in needy Christian schools in Uganda. We thank all who participated—you have made a big difference!

For the 2018–19 school year ACSIWC will continue to support the Dust to Desk Project. The goal is to raise \$20,000 which will provide seating for over 1000 students. For example, the cost of a four-student desk is approximately \$80.

The donations collected at the ACSI Teacher Conventions will go toward this goal. More information will be available at the conventions.

To donate online go to <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/6391>. Under the Funds option choose "Classrooms for Africa Desks".

A promotional PowerPoint and a video are available for schools and teachers to use for their students and school communities. For more information please [email](#) or check out the C4A [website](#).

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We Want to Serve You

Technology in Education

Technology in education is here to stay whether we like it or not. As Christians, we may view technology as a panacea, or we may view technology as being nefarious at best. I believe there is a case for both views. The world has done a great job of shaping how we and our students view and use technology; and a lot of what is out there is not great.

Therefore, it is *imperative* that we as Christian leaders seek an understanding of the biblical view of technology in education and work with detailed intention to bring this understanding to our schools, our staff, our students, and our community at large. By creating a biblically-based technology vision, setting strategic plans of implementation, and providing needed support at all institutional levels, Christian schools can be at the forefront of not only innovation but also revolutionizing how technology is viewed and used.

How can your school use digital tools to inspire students to take action to further the Kingdom of God? Do you believe that digital tools can be leveraged to further the Kingdom of God? If so, what do you need to do to model that belief?

Sandra Paetkau had eighteen years in the classroom as an educator before becoming a Digital and Instructional Coach, Technology Integration Specialist, and now Independent Consultant.

Sandra can facilitate the generating of a customised technology vision for schools, collaborate with administration and lead teams in developing and executing a strategic implementation road map, and offer inservice training and coaching.

Please visit Sandra's website: thetotaltechover.com.



Keep Us Informed

Please notify us ASAP of administrative changes (principals, heads of school, email addresses, addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers) in your school. This is very important in helping us keep in contact with you.

Your Feedback is Important to Us! We welcome your feedback concerning this newsletter or any of the information in this newsletter. Please contact us with questions, comments, or suggestions by sending an email to phil_hills@acsi.org.

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