

January 2019

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

From the Director—Philip Hills

Greater Security For You This New Year

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From the Director—Philip Hills

Greater Security For You This New Year



I want to give you a great gift for this upcoming year—a greater confidence in your security. We all need it right now. There is much activity around us to shake our confidence in a secure future. Based on the levels of anxiety and depression that our students are facing, they need to be taught about how to find real security more than ever. So how can I help you become more confident about this foundational life enhancing reality?

Let me be personal. I am not inclined to feel secure. I am always striving to achieve a deeper sense of security in a number of ways. We live in the lower mainland of BC in a large family home. When most of the family moved out, my wife and I decided it was the perfect time to downsize. In addition to getting into a house better scaled for two people, we were dreaming about the financial windfall that would come our way. As you may know, BC has experienced an exceptional unprecedented rise in property values. When we listed our house, it was put on the market for almost four times what we had paid for it when we built it 17 years ago. I really believed a sale would give us financial security for my eventual retirement. [Return to top of page](#)

But the dream was not realized. We came into the market just as it began to plunge. Though houses in our region are still not reasonably affordable, our house is worth considerably below what we could have pocketed at the market's peak. We eventually gave up (due to a total lack of buyers in our category) and decided that the opportunity had passed us, and we needed to hunker down and wait for some market recovery (in three or more years).

I was feeling frustrated about this turn of events the other day, when the root reason for my frustration was revealed to me by the Spirit—my desire for security. I had accepted the idea that once our house sold, I would feel genuinely secure about our financial future. I am ashamed to admit that I am very much driven by the same values as my unredeemed neighbors.

But I needed to really question this line of reasoning. Super wealthy people, when asked “How much is enough?”, half seriously tend to reply, “more!” I am convinced that whatever sum I have in my retirement fund, I will never really feel secure. My mother, who has more than enough to live on, (even if she lives to 120), is always concerned about potentially running out of money if she is not extremely frugal. She is a godly woman but has not found a sense of security from her retirement fund.

She is secure though and the reason for that security is the gift I offer you this year. At 86 she has enjoyed good health all her life but recently developed some heart issues. This was discovered during some tests to determine why she was so often short of breath. My wife had to take her to an appointment and the receptionist told my wife how important it was for my wife, Karen, to be a part of the consultation. The receptionist said, “At your mom's age people become more afraid of death so when they hear a potentially fatal diagnosis they tend to shut down in fear and not hear the rest.”

To this my wife truthfully declared, to the surprise of the receptionist, “Oh no, she is not at all afraid of death. She just can't accurately remember details of a complicated diagnosis.” It is true; my mother has no fear of death, because she knows her Redeemer lives. She knows her future is secure.

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By now you should be thinking, “I believe this too”. So, let me ask you the question that I have had to ask myself, “Why does it not undermine my fear? Why do I wake up at 3 in the morning in a state of panic about my immediate future?”

I don't want to be over simplistic about this, but for me the problem lies in the way that I think. I spent a lot of time thinking about security through a healthy bank balance lately, but outside of Easter and times when I bump into the idea in my reading, think little of the resurrection.

I need to cultivate a thought habit of contemplating the resurrection and the absolute security I have in Christ every day when I wake and when I go to sleep. It needs to be a habit.

And here is why it matters so much beyond reducing my anxiety—it will increase my boldness in Christ. The more secure I feel, the more I will trust and obey. Fearful people are not kingdom builders. But courageous people bring healing, hope, and abundance through their fearless embrace of loss for the sake of the eternal reward of Jesus.

Our students need this holy boldness, and it will become more evident in them as we display it through our lives.

So, this year you can have more genuine Shalom and you can believe in the reality of your total security if you make it a habit to think of Jesus and the resurrection every single day. Commit to this, pray over this, thank God for it and see if it does not increase your joy and enhance your courage. Believe that nothing can actually separate you from the love of God and you will not be consumed by the worries of this world. I intend to practice this so that whatever house we end up living in becomes a place for kingdom building not a weak foundation for a temporary sense of security.

Be blessed this year as you more fully comprehend how totally secure you are in Christ. May God give us all that wonderful gift.

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THE MORE SECURE I
FEEL, THE MORE I WILL
TRUST AND OBEY....
COURAGEOUS PEOPLE
BRING HEALING, HOPE,
AND ABUNDANCE...



Events

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

Event Resources

Looking for the resources from ACSIWC events? Send a request to the ACSIWC office by email to acsiwc@acsi.org.

Administrator/Board National Conference

This year's **MB Administrator/Board Conference** will be February 14, 2019, at Linden Christian School in Winnipeg, MB. Check [here](#) for online registration and updated information.

District Meetings

The **MB meeting** will be held February 14, 2019, at Linden Christian School, Winnipeg.

The **BC meeting** will be held March 1, 2019, at Cornerstone Christian School, Abbotsford.

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.

The **Island PD Day** will be on February 15, 2019, at Phil and Jennie Gaglardi Academy in Comox, BC. The **PD North Day** will be on February 22, 2019, at North Cariboo Christian School in Quesnel, BC.

Go to our [website](#) for online registration and more information.

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Student Activities

We want our students to find peace with God, peace with each other, and peace with themselves. We want to equip our students to live the Shalom lifestyle, bringing redemptive hope wherever God chooses to use them.

The Spring Musicale, May 2–3 at Prairie College in Three Hills, is an opportunity to motivate your Junior and Senior High band or choir. Brochures have been sent to your school or check the ACSIWC [website](#) for information.

Teacher Conventions

The theme for this year's conventions is *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.

- MB: February 15, Linden Christian School, Winnipeg | [MB Teacher Convention Info](#)

Brochures 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.

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 February Communicator is January 25.

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Ambrose University

Education Information Evening—January 30, 2019 at 6:00 PM, future Education students are invited to learn about the BEd program and hear from faculty, current students and alumni.

Ambrose University Winter Open House—February 13, 2019 at 4:00 PM, come and visit the Ambrose University campus, experience our community, and see for yourself what the city of Calgary and area has to offer! Activities for the day include: faculty meet and greet, applying for free, applying for scholarships and residence, and so much more.

Your First Class—March 2, 2019 at 9:00 AM, Ambrose University will host a Seminary Brunch for those interested in exploring our Seminary.

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.

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 February Communicator is January 25.

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Global Outreach

2018–19 ACSI Western Canada Project



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

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](#).

ACSI Global Day of Prayer

On Tuesday, February 12, 2019, thousands of school leaders, teachers and students from around the world will join together to pray for one another, their schools, their communities and the nations. This year we are praying for our students to be “rooted and established in love, [having] power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge...” (Ephesians 3:17–18, NIV).

In early January, ACSI will have several tools available to help you participate in the Day of Prayer. Until then, [click here](#) frequently for updates, to learn more about the event and view highlights from earlier this year.

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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.

Teacher for Teachers

Teachers for Teachers is an initiative of ACSIWC to partner Canadian teachers with teachers in Uganda who are enrolled in the Transformational Teacher Training Program—a certificate program offered by ACSI.

The goal of the initiative is to transform, inspire, equip, and mentor teachers.

Educating, equipping, and supporting Ugandan teachers is the best development investment we can make. It generates and inspires transformation in both the teachers and their students.

Ugandan Christian teachers need tools to know how to integrate biblical truth within their rigid curriculum. This program introduces them to a new mindset, but they need encouragement and support to continue growing in their understanding of Christian education.

Your sponsorship enables development of teachers who will begin to teach and mentor other teachers.

Students can't receive quality Christian education instruction without well trained and motivated teachers. The importance of investing in these teachers' education is a critical step in Christian education in Uganda.

For more information please [contact our office](#).

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We Want to Serve You

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.

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.

National House of Prayer

If your school would like to participate in praying for our Nation, the National House of Prayer is a great opportunity to get involved. Check out their [website](#) for more information.

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 philip_hills@acsi.org.

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