

May 4, 2017

**Baptist Beats**  
**THE HEART BEAT**  
**of the BGCC**

**Interesting Reads**

**BGCC National Board Meeting**  
**June 22, 2017**

**National Celebration**  
**Camp Nakamun, AB**  
**June 22-24, 2017**

**Donations**



Have you heard about our 360 Strategy? [BGC360.CA](http://BGC360.CA)



**Kevin Schular, Executive Director**

Hello from Edmonton! I trust you are encouraged in your ministry this week! I am praying for you as you live and labor for the Lord in your place of service.

April was a busy and fruitful month for us in the national office. I was thankful to have opportunity for ministry in Toronto, Vancouver, Manitoba and Alberta this past month. Some highlights:

- School of Orientation in Edmonton. We had the joy of hosting 20 pastoral staff and 6 spouses who are in new ministries within the BGC. Our District Ministers and National Staff all contributed to a good two and half days of welcoming these people to our BGC team. Please pray for these leaders in this first leg of their ministry within our Conference.
- Annual meeting for BGC-CC in Teulon, Manitoba. Great meeting with Lorne Meisner and pastors/delegates from 15 churches in the district. I love their emphasis on being disciple-making churches. It was good to meet pastors and people from Manitoba and Northern Ontario and catch up with those I already knew.
- Denominational leaders meeting north of Toronto. We met for prayer and discussion on the current issues facing evangelical churches in Canada. The

consensus around the table is that the Lordship of Jesus Christ is the central issue facing our churches. Not Jesus as Saviour but Jesus as Lord. When He is truly Lord then many other matters sort themselves out

- We continue to seek the right candidate for our front desk. This is a vital role in our national office. I want to build a strong team in the national office and we have great staff here already – Laurel Steeves, Diane Wiebe and Christa Eisenbrenner. Sue Sorensen has served here in the past and i asked her to pinch hit until Celebration next month. Pray for discernment as we add a new member to our staff team.

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### Interesting Reads

1. 10 Warning Signs of Leadership Crash (and how to fix them) - written from a secular perspective but very applicable to ministry as well. [Building a Story Brand](#)
2. How is your church doing with missions and fulfilling the Great Commission? Read the report from the EFC and evaluate your own church. Page 3-4 has the highlight summary but there is 84 pages of research to browse. [Canadian Evangelicals and Mission Priorities](#)

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### National Celebration

Make plans to be with the Conference family at our Annual Celebration June 22-24 Camp Nakamun, Alberta. It won't be as special if someone from your church is not with us!

[Celebration Registration](#)

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Church planting couple at Cornerstone, Olong & Beth Francisco



Cornerstone Church - BGC church plant in Montreal



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## Is Your Church Poised for Renewal?

One of our sessions at Celebration next month at Camp Nakamun is on the question of Church Revitalization. As I travel across our Conference I meet many pastors and churches seeking the Lord for next steps in their congregation. Recent statistics say that of Churches that are 20+ years old: 60% choose to do nothing to change, 20% might try something, 20% will make effort and half of those will see transformation. What kind of church is ready to go on a spiritual journey that could lead to sustainable transformation?

### **5 factors a church needs to have for revitalization journey**

1. The Pastor is key. They need to be ready, able, willing and leading. They have to know their gifting, talents and shortcomings. They need to be the initiating force.
2. A group of positive lay people who “get it” and who are willing to participate
3. The belief/conviction that God is truly up to something to in the church.
4. They have adequate resources or practical support at their disposal to help them make forward progress.
5. A sense of God’s timing. They need to recognize when doors are open, and when doors are closed.

The desire of my heart is to see our churches fulfilling all God has for them. If you want to pursue revitalization please contact us for information on how to intentionally engage in this process.

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## Seven Essentials of the BGC

Our motto and mission: "A Network of Churches that make disciples who live and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their Communities, throughout Canada, and out to the Nations." Together, we have identified seven essential areas where God is at work among our church families. These seven areas are also critical to the future growth and health of our churches.

<http://bgc.ca/about-us/7-essentials>

We will highlight one Essential in each issue of Baptist Beats:

### **Creative Community Engagement:**

BGCC church find ways to effectively engage their community, nation and world.

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Movie clip on Faith for sermon illustration

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WisdLk99Ao>

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