

**MCC Manitoba**  
**Report to Churches – Fall 2019**  
Darryl Loewen, Exec. Dir.

For nearly 100 years Mennonites around the world have turned toward a common goal – to build each other up. First, by sending humanitarian assistance in the form of food, clothing and money to our brothers and sisters in war-torn Russia in the 1920s. Then by sending a team of relief workers from North America to help those suffering the consequences of war rebuild their lives and regain long-term sustainability.

It was these first moments that formed Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) as we know it today. Now on the eve of MCC's Centennial year in 2020, the Apostle Paul's words still ring true.

***“Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.” - 1 Thessalonians 5:11***

I am grateful for the good you bring about as members and supporters of MCC. As friends who pray, volunteer, donate, thrift, serve on the MCCM board, and share stories you carry our shared ministry of relief, development and peace in the name of Christ. This happens in your own communities. It happens in 55+ countries around the world as well.

It is difficult to describe the fervor with which partners around the world joyfully express Spirit-filled fellowship with Christians in Manitoba by this work. In February, 15 Manitobans visited MCC Zimbabwe. The group spent two weeks with MCC staff, visiting project partners in agriculture, education, health, and peace-making. In large part, the projects are carried out in the local church, especially Brethren in Christ.

***“We were blessed and encouraged by your visit. Thank them (Manitoba churches) on our behalf for supporting the work of MCC, which is Christ's mission for the church.” - Gopar Tapkida, MCC Zimbabwe Director***

In Manitoba you have welcomed new neighbours fleeing as refugees to Canada, you've attended workshops meant to build relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous folks, or to help heal trauma caused by interpersonal violence, and advocated for justice in Canadian society. I acknowledge and appreciate the trust you put in MCC to help bring about our shared vision of a peaceful and just world.

Thank you for your kindness, generosity and compassion. May it take us into the next 100 years of relief, development and peace in the name of Christ.