

# MCCM update 2021 | MBCM Assembly

How does one convey MCC's 100th year in 2020? With a smile, maybe a tear, with prayer... and great thanks!

MCC's centennial year began with great fanfare! The Great Winter Warm-up was the first centennial celebration event. Thousands of volunteers and staff on three continents, on the same day in January doing some of our best stuff – making 9,400+ comforters. More than 3,000 of those made here in Manitoba. How wonderful! And how sad that we have not gathered in large groups since then?

We have found other ways to celebrate and support vulnerable people in Manitoba and around the world. GO! 100 was an activity-based celebration this summer. Folks cycled, hiked, read, did crosswords, delivered art and other activities they love. Friends were encouraged to donate. Almost \$50,000 was raised this way in Manitoba. Thank you!

With you in the church, MCC Manitoba is finding ways to carry on ministries remotely and in small, safe, in-person activities. Together, we are supporting newcomer families, and congregations and victim-survivors of intimate partner abuse, we're creating healing, learning and relationship building spaces with Indigenous peoples like the Healing Forest in Winnipeg and supporting the Indigenous Fellowship Centre in Kenora, we're providing employment training for youth and young adults at Sam's Place and partnering with Manitoba faith and community organizations in advocacy for safe and sustainable neighbourhoods.

Like you in the church, COVID-19 has had dramatic effect on MCC. The pandemic has forced restructuring of budgets in the current year. International program is reduced by 25%, some administrative offices and country programs have been consolidated as in Africa and Latin America. Some country programs have closed completely, as in Vietnam.

MCC Manitoba has sustained most of its programs, though International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP) is paused. Provincially, expenses are reduced by 38% in Manitoba, achieved by generous support of churches and individuals, as well as pauses to expenses like travel and professional development. Staff gave up as much as 20% of their salary for a portion of the year, while federal wage subsidy covered a portion as well.

Enormous thanks are due to MCC Thrift in Manitoba for perseverance in this local-global ministry! The pandemic closed thrift shops last spring and again in fall, though are now open with reduced hours and volunteer force. Throughout it all, they continue to care for neighbourhoods in the goods sold, and for volunteers and shoppers in how they operate, and for vulnerable people around the world in the funds provided for international programs.

Thanks be to God to you in the church for your care and compassion for local and global neighbours.



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Volunteers with MCC Manitoba sewed handmade masks for newcomer families who were sponsored by church and community groups through MCC. They were distributed by staff at a safe distance last spring. (MCC photo/Maysoun Darweesh)



From left, Susie Harder, Mary Martens, Alvie Martens, Elenore Dyck and Lois Janzen stand in front of rows and rows of comforters they completed as part of The Great Winter Warm-up last January. Together, area churches in Steinbach completed 435 blankets in one day, contributing to more than 3,000 total collected in Manitoba. The Great Winter Warm-up kicked off centennial celebrations for MCC last year. (Photo provided by Lois Janzen)

Read the full report online at  
[mccmb.ca/annual-impact-report-2020](https://mccmb.ca/annual-impact-report-2020)  
or request a print copy by contacting  
[SimoneThiessen@mccmb.ca](mailto:SimoneThiessen@mccmb.ca).



**Mennonite  
Central  
Committee**

**2020**

**MANITOBA**

# YEAR GLANCE

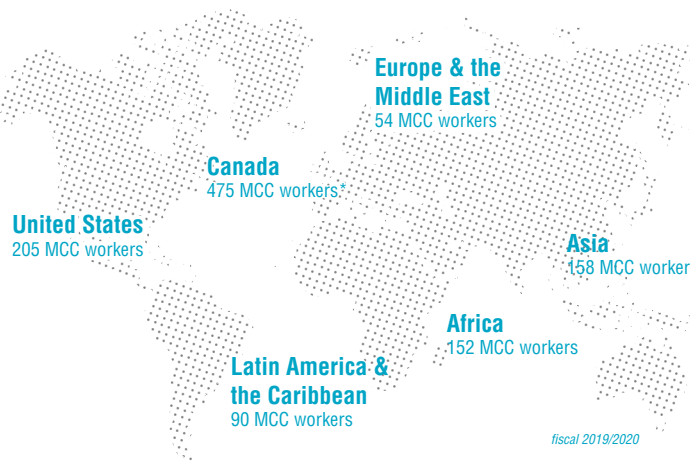
AT A

## INTERNATIONAL

**51** countries  
**511** partners  
**619** projects  
**1,134** workers

Global Service and Learning participants

YAMEN	33
IVEP	24
SALT	39
Seed	13
Summerbridge	14
SOOP	45



## COVID-19 RESPONSE



1,899 individual health staff and volunteers provided with personal protective equipment for COVID-19 prevention

109,849 people received emergency food assistance

11,400 people in Chad received hygiene supplies and access to safe drinking water in efforts to cushion the spread of COVID-19

200 Syrian and Palestinian child refugees received psychosocial support in Lebanon

## MANITOBA PROGRAMS



### MATERIAL RESOURCES

Relief aid shipped from our Manitoba Material Resources Centres included:

5,598 comforters  
430 relief kits  
440 hygiene kits  
2,540 school kits

### MIGRATION & RESETTLEMENT

124 refugees sponsored

### ABUSE RESPONSE AND PREVENTION

2 new domestic abuse support groups were formed, including a Low German speaking support group

### PEACE AND ADVOCACY

12 peacebuilding and advocacy presentations and engagement events, including Palestine Land Exercises

### INDIGENOUS NEIGHBOURS

In response to the pandemic, MCC provided grants to North Point Douglas Women's Centre for a Family Tree Parenting program

Another grant was provided to the Indigenous Fellowship Centre in Kenora for a healthy grieving initiative.



### THREADS

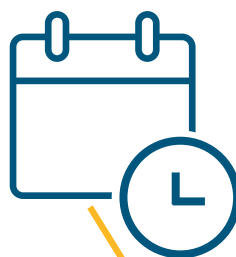
12 episodes of our radio show linking the work of MCC with the stories of people in Manitoba were published online at [mccmb.ca/Threads](https://mccmb.ca/Threads)

## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

**IN A YEAR**  
MCC Thrift shops in Manitoba logged more than

**365,000**  
volunteer hours!

That's the same as...



**42 years!**

## EVENTS



Spring Fest, Cycle Clear Lake, the MCC Golf Tournament and the Brandon MCC Relief Sale were cancelled for 2020. Instead, GO! 100 was introduced.



People from across Manitoba came up with fun challenges they could do 100 of -running, biking, sewing, climbing- in support of MCC's centennial! Together, they raised more than \$50,000.