



ALBERTA BIBLE COLLEGE

June 18, 2020

Greetings from the Board of Trustees!

Alberta Bible College is well into the summer schedule, programming, and consequences of the COVID-19 protocols, problems, and possibilities. Like almost everywhere else, COVID-19 has forced us to consider how to operate effectively and meet our ministry calling and deliver quality Christian education with a view to eternal impacts. This letter is a quick update as we work our way through July and August preparing for the fall.

STAFFING. **Jean Myers will be retiring at the end of July.** It is with obvious mixed emotions of great well wishes, incredible thanks, and a sense of loss as Jean leaves the school after just over 20 years of commitment, sacrifice, and gracious service. We will miss her voice, her smile, her efficiencies, her heart, her cooking, and the amazing ways that she has helped the school through some very stormy times. She has been a tremendous help to get us on our current road of increased impact in the lives of so many! Quite likely, there is little, if any places, where her influence has not made a difference in the operations of the school and the lives of all the students that she assisted in one way or another.

The **current full-time staff team of 6 and 2 part-time** have made significant adaptations and cultivated creative initiatives to continue delivering the finest educational experiences possible. They have continued and maximized videoconferencing as a delivery system to our PACE students. They were ready when COVID-19 arrived because of the recent upgrade to technology and expansion of our videoconferencing course delivery. ***For the fall semester, the staff has decided to use the video conferencing format for course delivery.*** Much of this decision is based on the mandated stringent COVID-19 protocols placed on schools choosing to offer ‘in-class’ instruction.

FACILITIES. In accessing the COVID-19 operational requirements for building use, it was decided to **continue restricting access to the building for only essential activities.** Most faculty will continue teaching and working from home and only a few staff will regularly be in the building. There will be no classes or rental events taking place in the building until there is a significant easing of the protocol requirements that can be effectively managed. This is an on-going assessment process that follows decisions being made by the various provincial government agencies.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT. The **PACE program** continues to be a source of excitement for spring, summer, and potential fall sessions. The spring/summer session is expected to host over 80 students.

There is an enrollment likelihood for the fall **College program** to be at least as many as last year, which was 29. The shift from in-class instruction to video conferencing is quite different than is anticipated for recent high school grads. This may affect their decisions to enrol. The staff are working to address these concerns and will be reaching out to students to discuss options, priorities, and preferences as to their decisions about attending in September.

FINANCES. ABC has incredible supporters whose generosity is an amazing encouragement to the Board and all those committed to equipping people for Kingdom service through ABC! This year (Aug - May) **personal and church donations have increased significantly.** This has come through generous one-time gifts from estates and churches. **Tuition revenue is also up by \$56,000** over last year meaning more students are attending more classes.

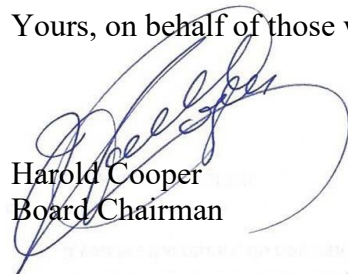
Our expenses are down by just short of \$20,000 for that same period. This is a direct reflection of the staff's intentionality to ensure the resources available have been used in the most effective way toward transformational investments in our students. However, we estimated a loss of income to be about \$25,000 from our rentals which we had to discontinue because of Covid-19 restrictions and precautions.

The Board anticipates seeing **the fiscal year (July 31) end in a significant positive position** which will give us the opportunity to make clear, conscientious, and credible decisions about the coming 3 – 5 years. That will only be possible as supporters continue their prayerful commitments and faithful financial investments.

It is exciting to see our student body growing, and the kingdom impact increasing. Growth means we need more of God's people to give generously of their time, talent, and treasure to ensure that ABC's mission to equip people for faithful service and witness for Christ is fulfilled in this generation and the next. As God is our provider, we serve as stewards to further advance God's Kingdom and see more and more people equipped for effective service to the Glory of God!

Thanks for all that you have done and continue to make possible!

Yours, on behalf of those we serve.



Harold Cooper
Board Chairman