In this issue—June 2017

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

From the Director—Philip Hills

Rediscovering Love to Counter a Revolutionary Redefinition

Events

Administrator/Board Conference
Professional Development
Student Activities
Teacher Conventions

College Corner

Peace River Bible Institute Events
Prairie College Events
Vanguard College Preview Days or Personal Visits
Rosebud School of the Arts
The King’s University Events

School News

Fort Saskatchewan Christian School Students Take Trip to Our Nation’s Capitol

Global Outreach

School Global Outreach News
School Mission Trips
2016–17 Classrooms for Africa Project

We Want to Serve You

ACSI Canada Bookroom—It’s Time to Order!
ACSI Canada Bookroom & ACSI BC Office
Master of Science in Education with an Outdoor Emphasis
ACSI Event Calendar
NILD Educational Therapy
Serve as a Teacher with Mission Aviation Fellowship of Canada
Keep Us Informed

Contact Us

From the Director—Philip Hills

Rediscovering Love to Counter a Revolutionary Redefinition

What the enemies of the gospel intend to be obstacles, God can turn into opportunities. I was reminded of this when discussing a conference with a potential speaker the other day. It was a great rebuke for me, as I naturally gravitate to an obstacle view of trouble. But I have good examples from this year of God using obstacles for the purpose of creating opportunities.
Let me consider the most pressing obstacle of the year. As I have written and spoken about frequently, we are in the midst of a revolutionary movement (one that is barely recognized or understood, but one that is reshaping the world as decisively as any past revolutions). It is not ultimately about technology or politics as much as a radical redefinition of love.

Prior to the revolution, love was either a religious reality or a familial one. Affection and sexual attraction outside of these boundaries was called lust. Lust was viewed as a negative force, one that destroyed those who were ensnared by it. Love, on the other hand, was considered a creative force which bonded the faithful together to adore someone greater than themselves and which also held families together and produced children. Though emotion was important, this view of love also encompassed commitment, perseverance, patience and faithfulness. Of course, the church was largely responsible for promoting and sustaining this definition.

But as the influence of the church waned in the West, to be replaced with a secular humanistic worldview, love and lust lost their distinction and love was redefined as a fickle emotion that could not be trusted to produce faithfulness and self-sacrifice.

So we arrive at our day where more and more laws are being written in support of this new definition of love. The predictable result is that families can no longer be considered lifelong realities. More and more people live alone. Children grow up with greater levels of depression and fear as they face a world without confidence in finding or developing relationships that are binding and fulfilling in a lifelong way.

So what opportunity does this afford Christian educators? Actually, there are many opportunities. When I was young, practically everyone I knew held Christian convictions about marriage and love. All of my friends had intact families. In my public school we read Scripture every day and had a chapel on Friday where Christian love was elevated and, on occasion, lust was derided. Though there was great hypocrisy about the actual practice of love, people would generally support this idea.

This idea is not even understood by many in our times, which provides us a great opportunity to contrast Christ's love and its sweet fruit with the world's view of love which increasingly breeds despair. We are becoming counter-culture in the same way that the early church was and this is a very good thing. Christianity is always at its best when the world around it is at its worst. The greatest opportunity given us by our era is increased chances to love people in a way that will leave them open to questioning their prejudices against us and the gospel.

Last month I wrote about the way Coptic Christians in Egypt are revealing the glory of Christ through their forgiving Spirit (a few weeks ago another 23 Christians were martyred for their faith in Egypt).

Let me share a local story this month of the impact of Christ-saturated loving engagement. As many of you know, Elaine Ballie from Fort Saskatchewan has led students in Alberta to pray for their leaders throughout the year. Each February she invites students from the province to go to the Legislature to pray for those leading Alberta. In addition, students throughout the province are called to pray (over 4000 did this year). Cards of appreciation for the service of the MLAs are also sent.

Unexpectedly, Premier Rachel Notley sent a letter to Elaine and her students thanking them for their efforts. It was terrific to have her express appreciation for what our students did. Many of us pray for our provincial and federal leaders daily (by the way, the new leader of the federal Conservative party, Andrew Scheer, sends his children to an ACSIWC school). It is the first time the Premier's office has specifically acknowledged Christian school students and their support for the Provincial government. The last two Conservative Premiers did not respond in any way to the yearly prayer day.

Christ's love is what compels our students to pray for their leaders, whether their parents voted for them or not! When we demonstrate God's love by seeking the best for those who inadvertently or deliberately are not on "our side", it reveals the glory of God. Our good deeds earn the praise of those who do not understand us and that praise ultimately glorifies God. Let's continue to resist the redefinition of love. Let's uphold the Biblical description of love. It is actually the most powerful force in the Universe for it is the essence of the nature of God. And it is giving Canadian Christians the same opportunities that global Christians have had for years—the opportunity to demonstrate its supreme power through self-sacrificing lives.
ACSI Christian schools in Western Canada are fiercely committed to raising up the most loving citizens of Canada. And they are doing this by helping students understand how love has been redefined in our era, why they should reject this inferior definition, and how they can love as disciples of the God who calls himself Love.

Events
Find information and register for events on our website. The ACSI Events Calendar for 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 are posted on our Home page.

Administrator/Board Conference
This year’s Administrator /Board Conference will be November 24–25 in Canmore, AB. Check here for online registration and updated information.

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.

Student Activities
The foundation of a good life is both an understanding of God’s Word and a commitment to live in a way that reflects His character. The most important thing we can do is to equip our students, then give them a life-applicable understanding of the Word.

This year’s Fall Student Leadership Conferences dates, locations and keynote speakers are as follows:

AB: September 21–22, Camp Caroline | [AB Student Leadership Info]
SK: October 11–13, Dallas Valley Camp | [SK Student Leadership Info]
MB: October 11–13, Cedarwood Camp | [MB Student Leadership Info]
BC: October 24–25, Summit Pacific College | [BC Student Leadership Info]

Watch for brochures and registration information being sent to your schools. ACSI members, go to my.acsi.org to join the Student Activities group on ConNEXUS for discussion and information about the Student Leadership Conferences.

Teacher Conventions
Our Teacher Conventions are focused on ways to continually improve as Christian schools. Brochures for all conventions will be sent to your schools. Check our website for more information or to register online.

ACSI members go to my.acsi.org to join the Teacher Convention group on ConNEXUS for discussion and information.

BC: October 5–6, Pacific Academy, Surrey | [BC & InspirED Joint Educator Convention]
AB & SK: October 19–20, First Alliance Church, Calgary | [AB / SK & PCCE Joint Teacher Convention]
MB: February 15–16, Linden Christian School, Winnipeg | [MB Teacher Convention]

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.

Peace River Bible Institute Events
REACH Travel Program—Want to REACH out and live your faith in different cultures? Expand your understanding of the impact Jesus is having around the world? The REACH certificate is designed to lead you into a deeper faith through study as well as practical hands-on experience. Come join our 2018 REACH team as they plan to go to the Philippians. The REACH
Certificate is designed to lead you into a deeper faith through study as well as practical hands-on experience. Visit our [website](#) or call 1.780.568.3962 for more information.

---

**PreView Day** – On Nov 10 come experience PRBI for a day! Join our students in classes, dorm life and chapel—build meaningful relationships through our community! Come see for yourself what PRBI is all about before you decide! It is from 8:30am–3:30pm and totally FREE! For more information contact Anne Laursen 780.933.4144 or sign up today on our [website](#).

**PRBI Campus Visits** - Plan a campus visit that compliments your schedule and get a full experience of our campus life! To arrange a campus visit, please [email](#) us or call Anne Laursen at 780-933-4144.

**eView** - Come get a SNEAK PEEK into college life at PRBI! Experience Friday Night LIVE, Coffee House, Gym Activities, Dessert Social, the Classroom and much more! An absolutely FREE youth event on March 8–10, 2018 for Grade 10+. We offer a $500 eView bursary to ALL that attend! [Contact us](#) for more information.

**Prairie College Events**

**Prairie College Personalized Visits**—we will personalize your very own FREE [campus visit](#) and create a customized experience that will meet your needs. Our Admissions Office is open Monday–Friday from 9:00am–5:00pm all year round to serve you. For more information or to arrange a visit [email](#) us or call 1.800.661.2425.

**Vanguard College Preview Days or Personal Visits**

If you are interested in experiencing a day in the life of a Vanguard student, you can come and have a personalized visit anytime during the school year; it is free to attend and travel assistance is available. Please contact Enrolment Services at 1.866.222.0808 or check out our [website](#).

**The King's University Events**

**Personal Visits**—We can arrange for you to meet one-on-one with an Admissions Counsellor. Personal visits can be scheduled Monday–Friday between 9:00am and 4:00pm. Please contact Admissions at 780.465.8334 or by [email](#) to book an appointment.

**Rosebud School of the Arts**

Rosebud School of the Arts is accepting applications for September 2017. The application form is on our [website](#). You can [email](#) us to book your scout week!

Bring your family to Rosebud this summer for ROSEBUD FAMILY ARTS CAMP August 4-6, 2017. [Email](#) us for more information.

**Rosebud Theatre** presents, **THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH** March 31 – June 3, **THE SPITFIRE GRILL** June 16 – September 2 & AN **ALMOST HOLY PICTURE** June 29 – September 2. Tickets are available on our [website](#), or 1.800.267.7553.

Be sure to like Rosebud Theatre & Rosebud School of the Arts on Facebook to keep in touch!

---

**School News**

We would like to encourage you to [email](#) newsworthy information about your school to be included in this section of the monthly Communicator.

**Fort Saskatchewan Christian School Students Take Trip to Our Nation’s Capitol**

Seven Grade 7 students (all girls) headed to Ottawa on May 15 for a five day fieldtrip, staying at the National House of Prayer. The purpose of their trip was to participate in prayer for government, raise the level of understanding of government, be exposed to the parliamentary process, meet Members of Parliament and take educational tours. While touring, students sat through ‘Question Period’, toured the House of Commons, sat in the Senate and visited the Supreme Court, participating in a mock trial. The team met their Member of Parliament, Garnett Genuis, had dinner with him and while visiting the senate, interviewed Senator Betty Unger. On May 18 the students, along with Phil Hills, attended the National Prayer Breakfast. They were privileged to meet Hon. Rona Ambrose and had individual photos with her, met the Minister of Health Jane Philpott and Fr. Guy Chapdelaine, Chaplain General of the Canadian Military. The highlight of the trip was having a private audience
with His Excellency Hon. David Johnston, Governor General of Canada. He shook hands with each one of the girls and easily engaged them in conversation telling them that he has five daughters of his own. After a speech given by one of the team, a gift presentation was made to His Excellency from the staff and students of their school. His Excellency asked the girls’ permission to hang their gift in his house, ‘Rideau Hall’, to which they responded with a resounding yes. We look forward to viewing it the next time we visit. All in all, it was an amazing trip and it is our prayer that all our leaders would be aware of God’s guiding presence and wisdom in their leadership. Elaine Baillie, Chaplain

Global Outreach

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 will be highlighting your stories in the Communicator to encourage each other with how our schools are doing this. Please forward stories to our office from recent mission trips and/or mission projects if you would like 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.

2016–17 Classrooms for Africa Project

Each year ACSI Western Canada selects a project to support. For the 2016–17 school year ACSI Western Canada has decided to focus on raising funds for the Dust to Desk Project. This year’s goal is to provide 2,000 students with desks. The cost is $80 per desk (each desk seats 4–5 students) or $800 per classroom. The donations collected at the ACSI Teacher Conventions will go toward this goal. More information on this will be available at the conventions. To donate online go to www.classroomsforafrica.org/take-action. A promotional PowerPoint and a video are available for schools and teachers to use for their students and school communities. Please email us or check out our website for more information.

We Want to Serve You

ACSI Canada Bookroom—It’s Time to Order!

It’s that time of year again! Please be sure to get your orders in early to guarantee timely delivery of your Fall Curriculum.

There are several ways to place your order:

Email: acsicanadabooks@gmail.com
Phone: 604.851.6983
Fax: 604.357.5255
Online: www.acsicanadabooks.com

For more information or to get a review copy, please visit our website, contact us via email or call 604.851.6983.

ACSI Canada Bookroom & ACSI BC Office

ACSI Canada Bookroom
PO Box #211 Stn Matsqui
Abbotsford, BC, V4X 3R2
Ph: 604.851.6983 Fx: 604.357.5255

ACSI BC Office
PO Box #211 Stn Matsqui
Abbotsford, BC, V4X 3R2
Ph: 604.851.6983 Fx: 604.357.5255
Master of Science in Education with an Outdoor Emphasis

If you are interested in a Master of Science in Education with an Outdoor Emphasis, Southern Adventist University in Tennessee has agreed to offer this Master’s Program in Seattle, Washington to accommodate Canadian teachers. The degree will be completed in 3 summers 2017-2019. Furthermore, they are offering a 25% discount for tuition. However, this will only be given if 10 degree-seeking students enroll this summer. This degree is designed to equip teachers for success in a nature setting—learning to use nature as a teaching tool across the curriculum. More importantly, the degree gives teachers field experience in using nature to introduce their students to the Creator. The learning is rigorous yet hands-on and experiential. During the summer of 2017 an intensive will be conducted in the Seattle Area July 23-August 4 with an emphasis in Forest Schools and Forest Kindergartens. More information is available online or by texting, calling 423.443.6453, or emailing Dr. Douglas Tilstra, Director of Outdoor Education. If you are interested and would like advice from someone that has gone through the process, please don’t hesitate to contact Michele Jackson, Kelowna Christian School, ph. 250.230.4103.

ACSI Event Calendar

Student artwork from each ACSI region is showcased each year in the ACSI Event Calendar. Pieces selected to represent each region are selected by each regional office, and usually are chosen from among ACSI Art Festival winners. Please follow this link for more information on how to submit your artwork.

NILD Educational Therapy

NILD Canada is pleased to offer a graduate level training course for educators to become trained in a specific method of Educational Therapy, using the Socratic Method of questioning and mediation along with components of Orton Gillingham and other neurodevelopmental techniques. NILD Educational Therapy is a cognitive therapy that addresses students’ specific areas of difficulty and works to improve their overall ability to think, reason and process information. Our training methods are research-based, effective and are accredited by the International Dyslexia Association and The Feuerstein Institute.

Part 1: Online: July 12 - August 9, 2017 | Part 2: Residency: Tyndale Western University, August 14-19, 2017

For more information, check out the website: nildcanada.org.

Serve as a Teacher with Mission Aviation Fellowship of Canada

Teachers are needed to provide an education for the school-aged children of MAF families and those of our ministry partners overseas. As a qualified teacher, you can play an essential role as part of a team seeking to share the love of Jesus Christ in remote areas. MAF teachers provide quality instruction for the children of MAF missionaries, enabling families to serve in strategic locations where quality education is not otherwise available. What’s more, many of our teachers also have an opportunity to provide Christian witness to the children of parents serving with non-Christian development agencies overseas and to the local people. MAF places teachers in a number of school settings all around the world, ranging from small one-room, multi-grade classrooms to larger, traditional accredited international schools. Teacher needs vary from year to year. If you have a Canadian Provincial or ACSI (Association of Christian Schools Int’l) teacher certification, you can qualify for a short or long-term role; the minimum commitment is one school year. Find out more at: https://www.mafc.org/recruiting/teachers

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 acsiwcexdi@gmail.com.
Contact Us

ACSIWC Office
44 Willow Brook Drive NW, Airdrie, AB T4B 2J5
Phone: 403.948.2332 Fax: 403.948.2395
info@acsiwc.org acsiwc.org acsiglobal.org
Executive Director—Phil Hills acsiwcexdi@gmail.com

ACSI BC Office
PO Box #211 Stn Matsqui, Abbotsford, BC V4X 3R2
Phone: 604.851.6983 Fax: 604.357.5255
bcoffice@acsiwc.org

ACSI Canada Bookroom
PO Box #211 Stn Matsqui, Abbotsford, BC V4X 3R2
Phone: 604.851.6983 Fax: 604.357.5255
acsicanadabooks@gmail.com acsicanadabooks.com
Assistant Executive Director—Cheryl Miller millerajc@gmail.com

Unsubscribe—We hope that this newsletter is a valuable source of information for you and your school; however, if you would like to be removed from the email list, please send a request to info@acsiwc.org.

[Return to top of page]