

SEEKING REFUGE.

FINDING HOPE.



Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support

ANNUAL REPORT

2015 – 2016

Client Quote: "I GOT A YES!"

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INTRODUCTION TO MCRS

Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support (MCRS) was founded in 1987 to address the gaps that existed in the support network within the Region of Waterloo for those who were refugee claimants – people who were seeking refuge in Canada but did not yet have refugee status.

Supported by First Mennonite Church, Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church, Breslau Mennonite Church, and Olive Branch Mennonite Church as well as MCC, this coalition began with three part-time staff and a budget of \$25,000. Everyone worked hard to meet the needs of refugee claimants arriving from Central America.

In 1989, a significant partnership formed with the Working Centre and MCRS was provided much needed office space and support. Then, in 2004, MCRS gained non-profit status and in 2007 MCRS became fully incorporated.

By 2015-2016, a combination of full-time and part-time staff, along with student interns from our local universities, colleges and high schools, volunteers, and almost six hundred donors and partner agencies including individuals, churches, businesses and foundations, worked together. With a budget of just over \$300,000, we met the needs of refugee claimants who came from 31 different countries and from every major region of the world.

Our Mission

Our mission is to welcome and support refugee claimants in our community by:

- Providing assistance with the refugee claim process
- Accessing a network of settlement support
- Building communities of mutual support
- Advocating for a fair and just environment for refugees in Canada

Our Vision

Our vision is that refugees in Waterloo Region experience welcome, compassion, inclusion, and justice.

Our Values and Principles

Values and principles that guide our work with claimants, staff, volunteers, and supporters: Empathy, Compassion, Respect, Equality, Inclusion, Empowerment, Community, Dignity, Fairness, Security, Love, and Peace.

Strategic Plan 2015-2019

MCRS “Five Goals for Five Years”

Goal 1: Strengthen claim process support for refugee claimants and outsource settlement support.

Goal 2: Develop more long-term, stable funding.

Goal 3: Strengthen organizational effectiveness (staff, board, volunteers).

Goal 4: Refresh MCRS’s branding to clearly communicate our mandate.

Goal 5: Change the perceptions about refugees in the community.

Lifting Our Voices Together

Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support (MCRS)

29th Annual General Meeting Agenda
Saturday, January 21, 2017

Schlegel Room, Conrad Grebel University College

Part One 9:30am – 10:30am

1. Welcome - Chair
2. Approval of Minutes of 28th Annual General Meeting January 16, 2016.
3. Reports: - From the Board Chair
 - From the Director
4. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Audited Financial Statements
5. Appointment of Auditors
6. Acceptance of New Members to Corporation
7. Motion to Adjourn Business Portion of the Meeting

Part Two 10:30am – 11:30am

1. Special Announcements
2. Guest Speaker
3. Motion to Adjourn

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES 28TH AGM

Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support – MCRS

Annual General Meeting for 2015

Saturday, January 16, 2016, 9:30 a.m.

Conrad Grebel University College

Present:

Board Members: Bert Lobe (chair), Andrea Charette (treasurer), Marlene Epp, Mike Strathdee, Ray Brubacher, Steve Tulloch, Rod Friesen, Dan Brown

Regrets: Nan Cressman (secretary)

Staff: Eunice Valenzuela, Jacqui Terry, Tony Van Giessen, Leikun Araya

Approximately 60 guests in attendance at MCRS's first public AGM.

1. Opening: Welcome from Board Chair Bert Lobe, who talked about current community work with three categories of refugees. Bert acknowledged special guests in attendance who brought greetings and words of support: Waterloo City Mayor Dave Jaworsky, and Kitchener-Waterloo MPP Catherine Fife.
2. Presentation by Crossing Borders youth group led by Lynn Schulze and Kaylee Perez.
3. Approval of Minutes of 2014 AGM, held January 21, 2015.
4. Report from Board Chair. Bert Lobe offered reflections on the year past. Caseworker Tony offered the story of a refugee claimant from Pakistan. Bert offered thanks to staff for all their work in the previous year.
5. Report from MCRS director. Eunice Valenzuela outlined the dilemmas confronting refugee claimants including long wait times for work permits; deportation issues; lower age of dependency; family reunification problems; short timelines; limited staff resources. She told some stories of recent MCRS cases and noted that family reunification was presently the biggest priority. Eunice introduced staff and interns.
6. Thanks for their work were offered to MCRS staff and outgoing board member Marlene Epp. Moved Dan Brown/ Seconded Ray Brubacher. Carried.
7. Approval of Audited Financial Statement for 2015. Presented by Treasurer Andrea Charette. She noted an increase in staff salaries and the efforts to increase the MCRS reserve. Moved Ray Brubacher/ Seconded Dan Brown. Carried.

8. Approval of the auditor, Ed Simon, for 2016. It was noted that the cost of the auditor is \$2400 annually. Moved Mike Strathdee / Seconded Steve Tulloch. Carried.
9. The Board chair acknowledged the arrival of Kitchener-Waterloo MP Bardish Chaggar who brought greetings. The word she offered was Hope.
10. Election of Board. Moved Andrea Charette/ Seconded Steve Tulloch to approve the slate for the Board of Directors for 2016: Bert Lobe, Andrea Charette, Nan Cressman, Ray Brubacher, Steve Tulloch, Mike Strathdee, Dan Brown, Rod Friesen.
11. Guest Speaker, Joe Mancini, director of the Working Centre. Theme: "Transition to Common Work." Joe reflected on the long-term partnership between MCRS and the Working Centre on many projects and initiatives. These included: house on Lancaster St. for Latin American refugees; job search and housing; Speak English Café; Green Door store.
12. Board Chair Bert Lobe offered closing comments with reference to the MCRS Strategic Plan of 2015-20.
13. Adjournment of AGM at 11:15 a.m. Moved Mike Strathdee/ Seconded Dan Brown. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Marlene Epp

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

Purpose of the Board

To advise, govern, oversee policy and budget, and assist with the leadership and promotion of MCRC so as to support the organization's mission and needs.

Structure of the Board

The affairs of the Corporation are managed by a board of 8 Directors who are elected at each Annual General Meeting. The Directors are members of the Corporation. The Board must elect from the Directors the following officers: Chair (President), Secretary and Treasurer. The Officers of the Board are elected for 2-year terms, and are eligible to hold office for two consecutive terms. The Board may fill any Director vacancy that arises during the year.

Major Responsibilities of the Board

- Organizational leadership and advisement
- Organization of the Board of Directors, officers, and committees
- Formulation and oversight of policies and procedures
- Financial management, including adoption and oversight of the annual budget
- Operate within the limits defined by relevant statutes and the organization's Bylaws
- Define the essential deliverable services of the organization
- Review of organizational and program reports
- Promotion of the organization
- Hiring and annual evaluation of the Director of MCRC
- Plan for its own succession at each Annual General Meeting

Directors 2015-2016

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date Appointed</i>	<i>Status</i>
Albert Lobe Chair	January 2015	To be reappointed for first year of second, two-year term
Nan Cressman Secretary	January 2013	To be reappointed for first year of third, two-year term
Andrea Charette Treasurer	June 2015	To be reappointed for first year of second, two-year term
Mike Strathdee	August 2014	To be reappointed for first year of second, two-year term
Dan Brown	December 2015	Continuing first term

Directors 2015-2016 (cont'd)

Alicia Batten	February 2016	Continuing first term
Ray Brubacher	August 2012	Completing 4 ½ years
Steve Tulloch	September 2012	Completing 4 ½ years

Standing Committees of Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support

Executive Committee

Objective: Administrative support and decision-making
Responsibility: Financial and administrative consultation
Interest: Administration
Meeting Frequency: as needed
Size: Board officers – Chair, Treasurer, Secretary
Staff representation: Director

Personnel Committee

Objective: Overseeing/supporting personnel
Responsibility: hiring staff, performance reviews, job descriptions, employee policy development and updating.
Interest: Human resources
Meeting Frequency: as needed or by email
Size: Board member as chair, 2-3 other members
Staff representation: Director

Finance/Fundraising Committee

Objective: Raising funds
Responsibility: Long-term fundraising plan, finding new sources of funds
Interests: Finances, Budget, Reporting, community networking
Meeting Frequency: 4 times per year, or as needed by email
Size: Board member as chair, 2-3 other members.
Staff representation: Director, Resource Development, Accountant

Advocacy and Education Committee

Objective: To raise awareness of refugee issues, to advocate for refugees
Responsibility: Organizing campaigns (letters, etc.), connecting with officials, church/ community group/other presentations, representing MCRS at community events
Interests: Community networking, outreach
Meeting Frequency: 4 times per year, or as needed by email
Size: Board member as chair, 2-3 other members
Staff representation: Director, Manager of Community Engagement and Advocacy

Fred Redekop Brief Biographical Material

Fred has been a pastor for almost thirty years. The last 25 have been at Floradale Mennonite here in Ontario. The church has been a strong supporter of the work at MCRS. During his time at Floradale, they have sponsored one Palestinian/Iraqi family. They have also set up a \$60,000 fund to help sponsor the recent influx of Syrian refugees.

In the early 1980's he and his wife, Shirley, worked with Mennonite Central Committee in Thailand. For three years, they helped prepare Indochinese refugees for their new lives in Canada. They also facilitated some more difficult medical cases to be sponsored by Mennonite churches here in Canada.

Fred's education includes a B.A. in History and English from Trent University. He also has a Master of Divinity degree from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

His recent Board experience includes MCEC Peace Committee, MCC Peace Committee, Woolwich Counseling Center and Conrad Grebel University College. He chaired the College Board for two years.

" Sun sets in brilliance
Ending the day's reckonings
Sun rise, returns the light."

-- Monika Landoni

Aleya Hassan Brief Biographical Material

Originally from Syria, Aleya brings broad and extensive experience to MCRS. She has a Bachelor of Science in Environment Engineering and she has had numerous positions in this field. She also has been a Special Education Teacher, Quality Management Systems and Hygiene Trainer, Youth Camp Program Manager and SEED Facilitator - Supportive Environments and Experiences for Development; a program for parents of children from birth to three years of age.

Aleya is also a certified LEED AP, and has further certifications in Critical Thinking, Creative Writing, Writing for Children and Enhanced Language Training for Engineering Professionals. Aleya also does freelance translation.

Presently, she is the Volunteer Coordinator for ShamRose for Syrian Culture, a registered not-for-profit serving the Syrian and larger Arab-speaking community in Waterloo Region and currently co-located with MCRS. Both organizations have enjoyed collaborating by drawing on the varied strengths and expertise that staff and volunteers from each organization have in order to meet the needs of refugees in our community.

REPORT FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

*“Hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what she sees?
But, if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.”*

Canada offers **refugee** protection to people in **Canada** who face persecution in their home country or the country where they normally live, or who would face persecution if they returned to that country. Folks fleeing their home country and arriving by land, sea or air can claim **Refugee** status within **Canada**. Refugee claimants “wait with patience” for welcome and warm embrace and we in Canada have, over the decades, embraced many strangers; this embrace of strangers has made us all “better”. C. S. Lewis suggests that out of all human events, “it is tragedy that brings people out of their own petty desires and into an awareness of other humans’ suffering.” That is our experience in the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge region!

The Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support (MCRS) was born in 1987 and will celebrate its 30th birthday in April. MCRS focuses its efforts on refugee claimants, those appearing at our borders seeking refuge and hope. To date we have listened to, told the stories of and advocated for more than 10,000 such persons. This past year alone, we opened 122 new files representing more than 800 men, women and children.

MCRS is one of three local NGO’s whose primary mandate is committed to respond to the needs of refugees: Reception House welcomes Government Assisted Refugees; the Mennonite Central Committee and other groups serve as Private Sponsors, drawing on their own internal networks and resources. Together, these three streams are out front, providing hospitality, respect and support for a host of new Canadians.

This past year the MCRS Board met nine times. Working within the priorities established in our 2015-19 Strategic Plan, we welcomed two new members to the Board, increased donor support, worked through a significant leadership change, strengthened our commitment to advocacy and community education, and made concerted efforts to collaborate more deliberately with sister agencies.

Significant challenges surfaced during the past year. Given an increasing number of refugee claimants arriving at our door, we addressed work load concerns and the need for more functional office space. We recognized that more concerted effort is required to build our financial support base within the region.

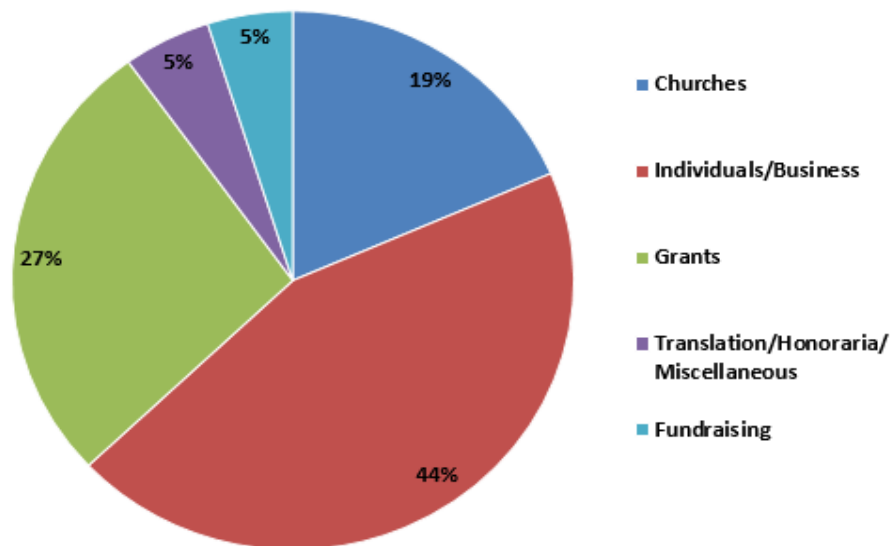
Please accept our profound appreciation for your support of this important work. We are deeply grateful for the work of our staff, who understands that welcoming strangers and exiles requires a soft and intuitive posture. They embody the best of the Canadian welcome of strangers in search of both refuge and hope.

Albert C. Lobe
MCRS Board Chair
January 2017

FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUES	2016	2015
Donations	179,925	136,402
Grants	77,447	84,923
Fundraising	13,996	13,738
Translation Fees	13,289	6,306
Honoraria and Miscellaneous	<u>1,145</u>	<u>1,332</u>
Total Revenues	285,802	242,701
EXPENSES		
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	217,740	180,833
Administration	28,405	30,632
Fundraising	6,911	10,740
Programs	<u>6,407</u>	<u>5,455</u>
Total Expenses	259,463	227,660
EXCESS (DEFICIT)	26,339	15,041

**2015-2016
Revenue Sources**



REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR

In September of 2015, the photo of the body of a small boy washed up on a Turkish beach shocked the world and awakened the collective consciousness of Canada to the plight of millions of people on the move and seeking refuge wherever they could find it. The movement continued throughout the next year. Within the masses are individuals with family, friends and dreams. They seek to escape from unimaginable danger with their lives, *maybe* a few belongings, and *maybe* some of their family. They travel a dangerous trek until some of them finally land at the Canadian border seeking refuge here.

Over this past year, we continued to work at what we have been doing since 1987, responding to the ebbs and flows of refugee crisis while focusing our work on the steady stream of Refugee Claimants who come from all over the world. We have done this with a focus on our 5 Point Strategic Plan and guided by our values:

Strengthen claim process support for refugee claimants and outsource settlement support.

Our caseworkers combined for 4,600 hours and over 8,000 phone calls as they worked with ongoing and new files. Staff, interns and volunteers had opportunity to attend various consultations, forums, working groups and training sessions to strengthen their understanding of the issues surrounding refugee claimants, to network with peers, and to develop their skills.

After various meetings with our key settlement support partners we established a part-time housing liaison role to strengthen the coordination with our housing partners. We continue to be so thankful for Welcome Home, Open Homes, Hospitality House, Lutherwood, and the YMCA for their partnership with us. Without them, refugee claimants have few available supports for housing as they work through the beginning stages of the claims process.

Develop more long-term, stable funding.

With the arrival of refugees from Syria into the Region this past year, donors became aware of the need to provide support to various organizations to meet the increased needs. MCRS benefited from that increased attention and we are grateful for the donations that supported our work. Most of our donations came from Churches, Businesses and Individuals; gifts ranging from \$10 per month to \$20,000 a year. Each gift received makes a difference! THANK YOU!

We also identified the need to clarify our development focus as resources through Grants and Foundations became increasingly difficult to access for work with refugee claimants, with many Grant organizations turning their attention to the settlement needs of Government Assisted and Privately Sponsored Refugees. Thus, we want to particularly thank Laidlaw Foundation, Law Foundation of Ontario, MCCO, MSCU (now Kindred), Mysynergy Foundation, Ontario Library Association, Shantz Mennonite Church, The Meeting House, The Working Centre and Trillium Foundation for their generous support.

Finally, we evaluated our fundraising efforts through events and decided to put our efforts into fewer and more strategic events, including the always successful Ride for Refuge.

Strengthen organizational effectiveness (staff, board, volunteers)

The strength of MCRS is in the people who tirelessly work together to respond to the needs of our clients. Over the past year, we had many changes in staff members and roles with new people starting, and old “friends” leaving and yet staying in touch. As we closed out the year, we were just beginning to explore and develop the new role of Community Engagement and Advocacy. We had numerous interns who learned much and contributed greatly as we refined our internship and co-op student program for excellence and meaningful engagement.

We also rebuilt our foundation for volunteer engagement, aligning our program with the full Volunteer Management Cycle, providing stronger orientation and training and clarified roles and opportunities for development. We continue to focus recruitment on translators and interpreters who provide critical support to our clients as they work through the claims process.

We are deeply grateful for the volunteers who maintain our partnership with the Working Centre for the Speak English Café. We are also thankful for the dozens of volunteers through partner churches who support our Client Celebrations at Christmas and at the Summer Picnic.

Refresh MCRS’s branding to clearly communicate our mandate

Recognizing that the question of our branding needs more attention we committed ourselves to that endeavour for the coming years. This past year, we emphasized our distinctive work with refugee claimants while reinforcing our collaboration with others in response to all refugees. We also committed to ongoing training and community engagement to ensure that MCRS is a safe, inclusive and positive space of welcome for all who walk through our doors.

Change the perceptions about refugees in the community

Through World Refugee Day, the Walk for Refugees, our involvement with CCORIC and other advocacy groups, our interactions with local political leaders, and participation in various consultations hosted by the new Federal government, we worked hard to keep the needs of refugee claimants in the spotlight alongside the needs of all refugees.

We strengthened our partnership with Waterloo Collegiate Institute and the Crossing Borders program designed to communicate the journey of refugees and the need to truly welcome them in our schools, homes, places of work, faith communities, and community events.

In summary, it is both humbling and a privilege to work with such an amazing group of people at MCRS and our partners for the welcome of the “foreigner, the vulnerable, and the stranger”; to be on the front lines responding to those who are *seeking refuge* and *finding hope*!

Shelley Campagnola
MCRS Director
January 2017

CASEWORKER HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past year at MCRS we opened 122 new cases representing people from 31 countries all over the world. We worked with claimants who were fleeing persecution due to their religion, sexual orientation or political beliefs and many who were victims of extortion or abuse and whose governments could not protect them.

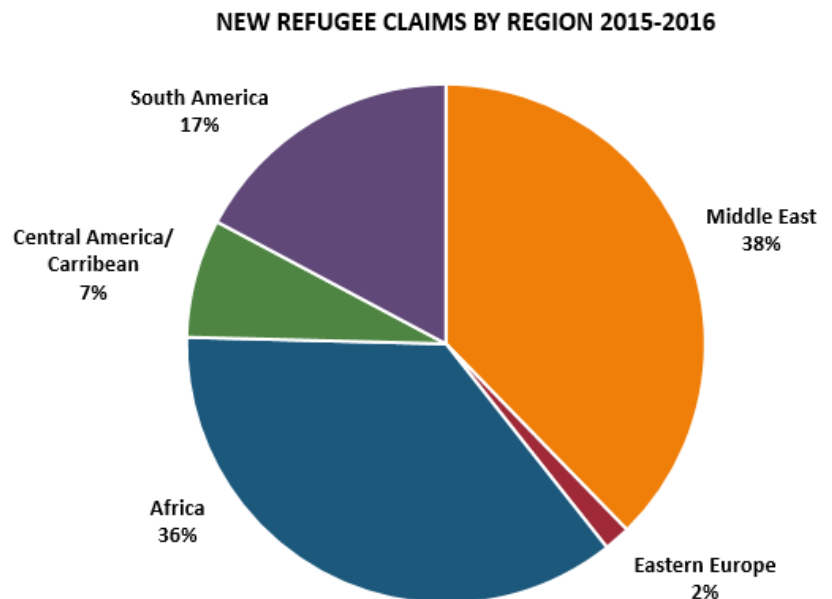
We have worked with our clients through the hard conversations: deportations (9), negative decisions (16), and the pain of being far away from loved ones. Many wait years through no fault of their own for the chance to have a hearing and to determine their future here in Canada. We have 13 active files still waiting since 2012 and earlier to have a hearing! We had clients who left voluntarily this year because they'd rather die with their families than be here without a certain future.

Even after a positive hearing many of our clients struggle with the slowness of the permanent residence process. We worked with 127 different Permanent Residence applications this year and saw the reunification of only a handful of families. Of those hundred plus who are waiting for their permanent residence to be completed 57 have families overseas; children and spouses that some wait years to be reunited with.

This year we saw a woman from Afghanistan reunited with her children after waiting 8 years. MCRS had assisted her in filling out the same applications many times, advocating to different Members of Parliament and to overseas processing offices. There were times when she felt like she may never see her children again. We walked alongside her, encouraging her to hang on.

Gladly, there are many more conversations that are positive. This year we celebrated 37 positive decisions. Many came into our office with a big smile on their face to share their news: "I got a yes!" The claimants we work with are strong, courageous and brave and it is a privilege to walk alongside them into a brighter future. Celebrating positive decisions is the highlight of our work!

We wouldn't be able to do such wonderful work without the support from our volunteers and community partners. We have volunteers in our office, all day from Monday to Friday, working on translations, supporting caseworkers with interpretations, and acting as receptionists. This year we saw strong commitments from Welcome Home Refugee House and Open Homes, both of which are essential in providing housing to those who would otherwise be homeless. Twenty



clients were placed with hosts in the Open Homes network who gladly opened their homes and hearts to complete strangers and the results were wonderful! Since reopening its doors in September 2016 Welcome Home has provided housing to 13 clients from MCRS.

We look forward to continuing to do our best to walk alongside claimants this next year and working to make the hope of a life free from persecution and danger a reality for the brave and courageous people who walk through our doors every day.

MCRS Caseworkers
Tony Van Giessen
Amrita C. Shrestha
Amanda Botelho

CROSSING BORDERS

Through the generous support of the Laidlaw Foundation, and the Kitchener-Waterloo Community Foundation, MCRS has been able to continue a partnership with Crossing Borders. This program is comprised of a group of newcomer and Canadian-born students and alumni of Waterloo Collegiate Institute who raise awareness about newcomer issues and break down barriers between people. The team tours a multi-media performance in which youth share their stories using slides, spoken word, film, drama, documentary, dance and music. Over the past year, they also began to explore expanding into other ESL high schools in Kitchener-Waterloo as well as to find creative ways to share the work of MCRS.

Many of the students in Crossing Borders aren't who you would typically see on a stage. Some are newcomers who have joined only weeks after arriving to Canada. Yet, getting involved and being valued helped them gain confidence and to get involved further in other activities.

One team member, Adnan, is a good example of this. Adnan is originally from Damascus, Syria, and came to Canada as an asylum seeker. He fled to Turkey at the age of 16 by himself, and later travelled to Canada to reunite with his older brother. In Canada, he declared refugee status and is now a permanent resident thanks to the help of MCRS.

A month after arriving, Adnan had very minimal English. Lynn Schulze, an ESL teacher at WCI, encouraged him to attend a Crossing Borders presentation. At the presentation, he stood on the stage and said two sentences: "Hello my name is Adnan. I am from Syria". With time, these two lines turned into five minutes as his English skills and confidence grew. Now, Adnan shares his story of coming to Canada as a refugee and how we, as Canadians, can help other newcomers.

Crossing Borders and Lynn Schulze encouraged Adnan to get involved at his high school and with other activities in the community. In his first year in Canada, he got involved with Fast for

Freedom, Relay for Life, Ride for Refuge and raising money for MCRS, being a peer leader at the Newcomer Orientation Week, Impact Theatre Festival, Cultural Mosaic club and the Multicultural show at WCI, and so much more. After only being at WCI for 9 months, Adnan made a speech in front of the whole school to run for student council and was elected for the position of public relations controller. Adnan was also nominated for the “I am Waterloo Region” campaign led by Immigration Partnership. This poster campaign aims to feature the diversity of our region. Adnan was chosen to be the face of the campaign for its launch.

Adnan shares that this would have not been possible without the support and skills he received from Crossing Borders. Adnan is just one of many students whose high school experience was transformed by Crossing Borders. Many other students have similar experiences and feel further empowered and included at school.

MCRS Refugee Youth Workers
Katia Myers
Huda Al-Obaidi

**MENNONITE COALITION FOR
REFUGEE SUPPORT
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Directors of Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support, which comprise the statement of financial position as at September 30, 2016, the statement of operations and change in net assets, and the statement of cash flows, for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-profit Organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis of Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support derives a portion of its revenues from the general public in the form of donations and fundraising the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of revenues from these sources was limited to accounting for the amounts recorded in the records of the organization and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to income, excess of income over expenses and net assets.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis of Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support as at September 30, 2016, and its results of operations, change in net assets and cash flows, for the year then ended, in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-profit Organizations.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Licensed Public Accountants

January 10, 2017

Kitchener, ON

***Charly Winters & Simon* LLP**

Chartered Professional Accountants

Suite 103 – 630 Riverbend Drive, Kitchener, ON N2K 3S2

Tel (519) 744-4030 Fax (519) 579-7576 www.cwsca.ca

MENNONITE COALITION FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

(with comparative figures as at September 30, 2015)

(the accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements)

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	107,400	59,986
HST receivable	937	1,831
	<hr/> \$108,337	<hr/> \$61,817
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable	2,400	2,400
Deferred revenue (note 3)	42,290	22,109
	<hr/> 44,690	<hr/> 24,509
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	63,647	37,308
	<hr/> \$108,337	<hr/> \$61,817

**MENNONITE COALITION FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

(with comparative figures for the year ended September 30, 2015)

(the accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements)

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
REVENUES		
Donations	179,925	136,402
Grants	77,447	84,923
Fundraising	13,996	13,738
Translation fees	13,289	6,306
Honoraria and miscellaneous	1,145	1,332
	<hr/> 285,802	<hr/> 242,701
EXPENSES		
Salaries, wages and benefits	217,740	180,833
Administration	28,405	30,632
Fundraising	6,911	10,740
Programs	6,407	5,455
	<hr/> 259,463	<hr/> 227,660
EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	26,339	15,041
NET ASSETS - beginning of the year	37,308	22,267
NET ASSETS - end of the year	<hr/> \$63,647	<hr/> \$37,308

MENNONITE COALITION FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016
(with comparative figures for the year ended September 30, 2015)
(the accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements)

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Sources (uses) of funds:		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess (deficit) of revenue over expenses	26,339	15,041
Change in non-cash current assets and liabilities:		
HST receivable	894	25,200
Deferred revenue (note 3)	20,181	(43,225)
	<u>47,414</u>	<u>(2,984)</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES	0	0
FINANCING ACTIVITIES	0	0
CHANGE IN CASH FOR THE YEAR	47,414	(2,984)
CASH ON HAND - beginning of the year	59,986	62,970
CASH ON HAND - end of the year	<u>\$107,400</u>	<u>\$59,986</u>

MENNONITE COALITION FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

NATURE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support (MCRS) was incorporated under the Ontario Business Corporations Act and is a charity registered with Canada Revenue Agency, and as such does not pay income tax. Its purpose is to provide assistance to refugees and refugee claimants without regard for their faith, ethnic origin, social class or world view. Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support also has the mandate to provide education, counseling and other support services to refugees and refugee claimants, as well as to educate and increase public awareness of the issues facing refugees and refugee claimants.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

These financial statements have been prepared using Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-profit Organizations.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

MCRS uses the deferral method for recognizing revenues, whereby revenue which is received or receivable for a restricted purpose is reflected as deferred revenue (see note 3 below) until expended as designated, whereupon both the revenue and the expenses are reflected on the statement of operations and change in net assets. Unrestricted revenue is recognized as revenue on the statement of operations and change in net assets when received or receivable provided amounts can be reasonably determined and collection is reasonably assured.

MCRS receives significant donations of time from volunteers. Because valuation of such contributions is impractical, no monetary value has been reflected in these financial statements.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

A financial instrument is a contract that creates a financial asset for one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another. MCRS initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value, except for non-arm's length transactions, if any. Subsequently all financial assets and financial liabilities are measured at amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments with quoted fair values in an active market, if any, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in net income. Financial assets measured at cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of any write-down is recognized on the statement of operations and change in net assets. Any previously recognized impairment losses may be reversed and reflected in income to the extent of improvement, provided they are no greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. MCRS recognizes its transaction costs in net income in the period incurred. However, financial instruments that will not be subsequently measured at fair value are adjusted by the transaction costs that are directly attributable to their origination, issuance or assumption. Unless indicated otherwise in these financial statements, management believes it does not face any significant credit, currency, interest rate, liquidity or market risk with respect to any of its financial instruments.

2. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Financial assets measured at amortized cost	107,400	59,986

There are no financial assets which are equity instruments and which would be adjusted to fair value annually, nor any equity instruments measured at cost less a reduction for impairment.

MENNONITE COALITION FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

3. DEFERRED REVENUE

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Grants:		
KW Community Foundation	35,000	0
Ontario Trillium Foundation	2,184	7,716
Ontario Library Association	2,013	0
Kindred Credit Union	436	2,344
Industry Canada Youth Internship Program	1,216	0
Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade - Summer Jobs	1,441	0
Laidlaw Foundation	0	4,549
Law Foundation of Ontario	0	7,500
	<hr/> \$42,290	<hr/> \$22,109

SEEKING REFUGE.

FINDING HOPE.



MENNONITE COALITION FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT

www.mcrs.ca

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Charitable Registration #: 838270015RR0001