



"Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."
Jeremiah 29:7



Open the Door Fundraising Campaign Report

March 1, 2015

A congregational meeting was held February 22 with a financial report on the *Open the Door* fundraising campaign followed by questions and discussion.

The initial *Open The Door* fundraising effort is completed, but the campaign is not over. Funding pledges received to the end of the calendar year totaled \$1,982,000 comprised of one-time gifts, three-year pledges and in-kind gifts. Cash gifts are at about \$250,000. To date, we have received a total of 122 pledges representing about 50 % of the potential 244 giving units.

The campaign continues with newsletter updates, pledger follow up, and a community outreach campaign where we hope to attract other Christians in the area and community organizations to join with our local pledgers.

The Building Committee's preliminary building estimate was \$5.2 million. Additional interest charges, temporary accommodation and other costs could bring the total cost of the program to \$5.6 to \$5.8 million.

The Alliance Western Canadian District had suggested that Cochrane Alliance Church ought to have cash on hand of at least \$1 million before starting construction. The Board also previously decided that a longer-term mortgage is not to exceed \$1.5 million. On this basis, the *Open The Door* campaign had hoped to raise cash and pledges of \$4.1 to \$4.3 million.

At this stage, we are approximately \$2 million short of our target. As the campaign continues, the committee estimates that we might raise an additional \$400,000 to \$700,000. If this occurs, our shortfall would reduce to \$1.3 to \$1.6 million.

Based upon the response so far, the committee has concluded that the congregation does not have the financial capacity or commitment to support the full cost of the original indicative design.

Our committee discussed whether we ought to consider building on a new site but discovered it does not represent a lower capital commitment and were not convinced that this is the time. Other options such as delaying the start of construction, phasing construction and a second campaign were also considered.

After assessing the options, the Board of Elders has decided to continue the *Open the Door* campaign, ask the Building Committee to work with the architects to come up with revised construction plan costing \$4 million, and retain as much of the original program goals as feasible. Emphasis will be on children's programming and community outreach.

The Board expects to bring back a revised program to the congregation once it is developed. In the meantime, people are encouraged to bring ideas or suggestions to Bill Popplewell and the Building Committee.

***We will continue the
Open the Door
Campaign
with a revised
construction plan
of \$4 million.***

Tim Heavenor
Fundraising Campaign Chair



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Long Name ... Simple Plan

One of the next steps in the *Open the Door* campaign is to form a team called **Community Wide Communication and Philanthropy**. This is a mouthful, but the idea is simple.

Now that everyone at Cochrane Alliance has had an opportunity to support the project, we want to widen the invitation. We plan to reach out to other like-minded people and organizations and invite them to make an investment in Cochrane by supporting *Open the Door*.

We look forward to approaching several individuals and organizations in the area this spring and summer. If you have suggestions for whom to approach, I'd love to hear from you.

Mike Poettcker
Associate Pastor—Missional Discipleship

One of the benefits of the campaign has been the development of new relationships and commitment to the mission of Cochrane Alliance Church.

Commitment cards can continue to be dropped off at the office or placed in the offering. They can also be emailed to yolanda@cochranealliance.com. Commitment cards and other Open the Door information can be accessed on our website: cochranealliance.com/open-the-door

Children Are Giving Too

We want to remember our kids can also be part of giving and building the Church as the body of Christ. At the All Church Event November 23, 2014, the kids received Saving and Giving jars and were encouraged to start making a habit of doing both with their own money. Starting the beginning of March, our kids will be working together to build their own church in the foyer made of stickers. The goal they are being encouraged to reach is \$500 by the end of June 20. We look forward to seeing what they can do, all the while teaching them that they are an important part of this church too!



Melanie Shaw
Pastor of
Children's Ministry

Building Committee Update

The building committee met February 24th with the Architects to see if we could revamp the plan to meet the needs of the Church and stay within the \$4 million budget.

Some great ideas evolved and the Architects have gone back to draw up a plan that we believe will supply the space we need to meet the vision of the Church. We left excited about the new plan we will be bringing forward soon..

Ken Morris & Bill Popplewell

Cochrane Alliance Church

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8am - 4:30pm (Closed 12-1pm) Friday 8am-1pm