EXTENDING OUR **IMPACT**

Building Renovation Project

ROSS ROAD
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Revised January 2022

This project is not only about bringing our building up to standard – it is about asking God to give us a vision for how He sees our facilities enabling us to be more effective in our community. As a result of much prayer, many meetings with various stakeholders and staff, and public explanations of concepts being considered, the Elder team is ready to move ahead with the plan.

In essence, we believe that God is asking us to

EXTEND our **IMPACT**, by extending

...our welcome
...our lobby for encounters
...our connect wing for events
...our youth room for mentorship
...our kids space for instruction
...accessibility to all

We desire for the facility to be welcoming to guests and useful to the ministries of our church body for impacting individuals and families.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR CRAIG

Sometimes I consider the legacy of the brothers and sisters who went before us at Ross Road Community Church.

I don't know many of them.

But I do see evidence of their legacy through the spiritual foundation that they built and the physical building they left behind. This is an important time for us to build on what has been started, to see how God will use us moving forward as He Extends Our Impact.

As you'll see in this brochure, the project solves many of the challenges we have with our building and opens up exciting possibilities.

- Children and adults with physical limitations can get upstairs via an elevator.
- Our youth will feel like they have a physical home in our building.
- Our Satellite Food Bank will be able to serve our guests more effectively.
- Guests will feel welcomed in a spacious lobby with a coffee bar.
- Our washrooms will be up to code and fresh.

This project exceeds anything we've done before in scope and cost. That said, taking inflation into account, this project is roughly on par with the sacrifices made by our church members to build our current sanctuary in 1980. And, the benefits to ministry will last for decades and serve our present church ministry and ministry to our children and their children and their children.

Here's some quick history:

- 1947 - The first step of faith from our founders was borrowing $10,000 to build the first building at 3160 Ross Road at a total cost of $13,000.
- 1969 - An education wing (the current Fireside wing) was added for approximately $22,000.
- 1977 - A multi-purpose wing with a kitchen (the current gymnasium and rooms on the east and west side) was added for $150,000.
- 1980 - The current sanctuary was built at a cost of $991,000.
- 1991 - The current kitchen and rooms north of the gym were added at the cost of $170,000.

Each time, God provided what was needed for the construction to be completed.

Ross Road Community Church has experienced God's faithfulness in many ways over the past 75 years. Our building has been one of the ways we've experienced God, and we are excited to see how the building will bless the next generation.

With anticipation,
Craig

PURPOSE OF A CHURCH BUILDING

The death of Jesus Christ tore the curtain of the temple and removed the separation between us and God. No longer did God require his people to have a building for him to dwell amongst them; instead, he chose to reside inside his people.

So why does Ross Road Community Church and many other churches choose to still have and maintain a building? A building helps serve a useful function in many ways and is a tool to use in our work to accomplish the mission of Jesus.

Helping People Find and Follow Jesus

A common place to worship: A building can be a useful tool because it gives us a common place to worship corporately; human connection is important.

A place to gather for discipleship: As we meet and learn together it helps us to remain united in doctrine and organization (two values the New Testament promotes in the church).

A location for ministry: Food Bank, Awana for 50+ kids, youth groups, adult ministry events, seminars to equip individuals and families, concerts, The Passion of Jesus, a Satellite Food Bank and other ministry events are all aided by having a physical space to use. The more efficient our space is, the more time we can spend interacting with people!

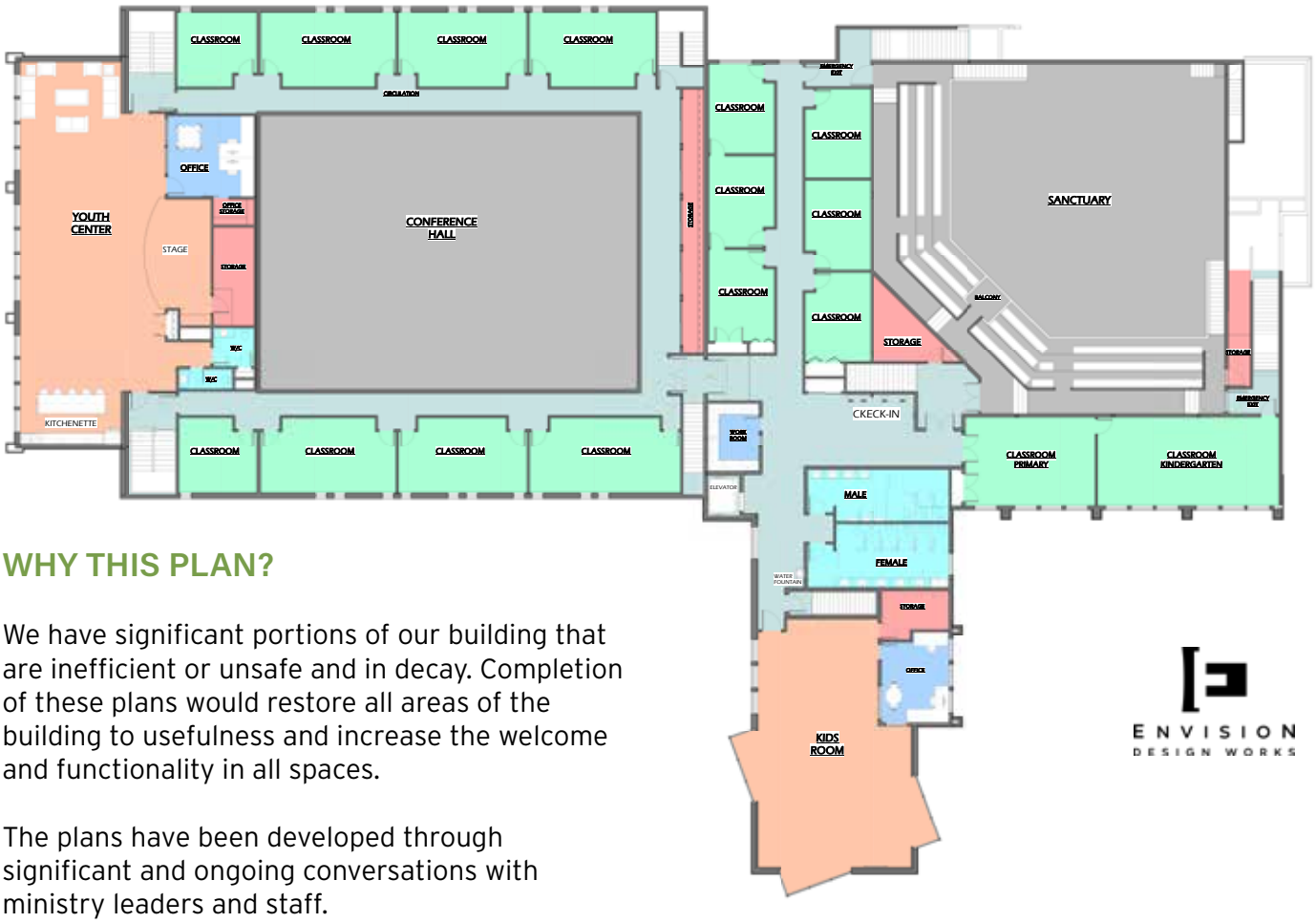
> **"Our vision to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community that glorifies God by impacting individuals and families near and far is aided by having a physical building."**

WHY A RENOVATION?

The impetus for this initiative came out of a Facility Needs Assessment undertaken during 2016 which identified areas of the building needing attention.

As the Property Committee was working its way through the various elements of the updates, they reached a point in the spring of 2018 when it became apparent that further work was no longer possible without undertaking significant structural upgrades. Consequently, the Committee came back to the Elders and suggested a more extensive renovation.

- **Welcome:** If we believe as a congregation that God is calling us to open our doors to those who don't yet know Jesus, we want to make sure our "house" is ready for company.
- **Stewardship:** A renovation is more affordable than a new building and allows us to be good stewards of what we already have.
- **Blessing:** A renovation blesses our ministry leaders and staff as we work to remove facility lack, deterioration and inefficiencies that can be a hindrance to their work.
- **Mission:** While Ross Road church does not need a building to serve God, He has provided one for us through many who trusted God and built in faith, we want to continue in that legacy so that our building may serve our mission, not detract from it.
- **Bringing God Glory:** As Christians we know outward appearance without faithfulness of the heart does not bring God pleasure, but we also know that he wants our outward behaviour to bring him glory. Care for our building to make it useful for ministry is a tangible outward behaviour that shows the world we value worshiping God together, living in community and inviting others to join with us.



ENVISION
DESIGN WORKS

WHY THIS PLAN?

We have significant portions of our building that are inefficient or unsafe and in decay. Completion of these plans would restore all areas of the building to usefulness and increase the welcome and functionality in all spaces.

The plans have been developed through significant and ongoing conversations with ministry leaders and staff.

The proposed updates and additions address all the major facility needs while making the best use of what we already have. The plans address needs identified by the full spectrum of ministries, and positively impacts all areas of ministry in some way. Throughout the planning process, the Building Committee witnessed consistency and agreement in needs and vision between various staff members and leaders over several years. **These plans strategically and creatively address on-going needs.**

> The church is the people not the building. We see ourselves as sent ones wherever we go, being the church in the world. **A building is a tool, and when used properly, one that aids the work of ministry and advances the vision.** - Pastor Craig Thiessen

I know this is a small church and I should know where I am going. But which way do I go again? -RRCC Guest

EXTEND OUR LOBBY FOR ENCOUNTERS

- By removing barriers between the entrances and the lobby.
- By creating space for visits without people blocking high traffic areas.
- By including large signage in lobby to help direct newcomers.
- By opening access to the gymnasium, which not only helps with traffic flow, but makes it less intimidating for a new person to find and join in on Common Grounds
- By including a Bistro for CONNECT ministry, Worship and the Arts events, adult ministries and more.
- By alligning the East entrance to the auditorium with the aisle and to increase accessibility and seating space.
- By reorganizing the lobby layout allows the library to have a bigger space.

"An expanded lobby with **natural light** entering from both sides of the building will create a more open and inviting atmosphere. A more spacious appealing environment encourages people to stay longer, connect more, and fulfill our vision of being a welcoming church family." - CONNECT

EXTEND OUR CONNECT WING FOR EVENTS

Currently the CONNECT wing is in disrepair and the upstairs cannot be used for mid-sized events due to safety concerns. The plans to rebuild this wing will increase the size of the meeting space downstairs, and make it an open, warm and welcoming room that can be used by a variety of ministries in the church. It will be equipped with a small kitchen for use in mid-sized events and will continue to serve as our staff lunchroom during the week.

> **"One of my friends has joined me at various RRCC ministry events. Her heart has been touched each time. I am excited to continue to invest in our facility for future ministry opportunities."**
> - RRCC Member

EXTEND OUR ACCESSIBILITY

We don't want there to be any physical barriers in our facility that restrict anyone from fully participating in the ministry of Ross Road.

- We will add an elevator so that those facing mobility issues can still participate in youth and kids ministries whether that is as a participant or a leader.
- Our washrooms will meet current code for accessibility.
- We will grade the East parking lot so that the East entrances to the building are level with the parking lot.

EXTEND OUR YOUTH ROOM FOR MENTORSHIP

A small extension to the North side of our building will create a long-awaited youth space, finally replacing the space our youth ministry lost 10+ years ago.

The benefits of this new space dedicated to youth include the following:

- A **comfortable place to grow relationships** with fellow youth and youth mentors.
- A **stage** with storage for instruments and sound equipment.
- **Spacious** enough for a large group, yet designed with **cozy** places for small group meetings, bible study and Sunday morning classes.
- A **kitchenette** for baking snacks together and other events.
- **Washrooms** attached to the youth room.
- An **office for the Pastor of Youth Ministries**, with enough room for an Intern to share the office.
- **Easy access to the gymnasium** for large group games.
- The ability to lock off access to the rest of the church, to **increase safety** and ensure everyone stays together.
- Youth staff and volunteers can **spend more time interacting** with students than having to set-up and take-down multiple times a week.
- Instead of other church ministries being unable to use the building on youth nights, **multiple events could run at once.**

A space dedicated to our youth gives consistency, creates freedom for them, a place to call home, and allows them the opportunity to connect in meaningful relationships in a safe and comfortable space.

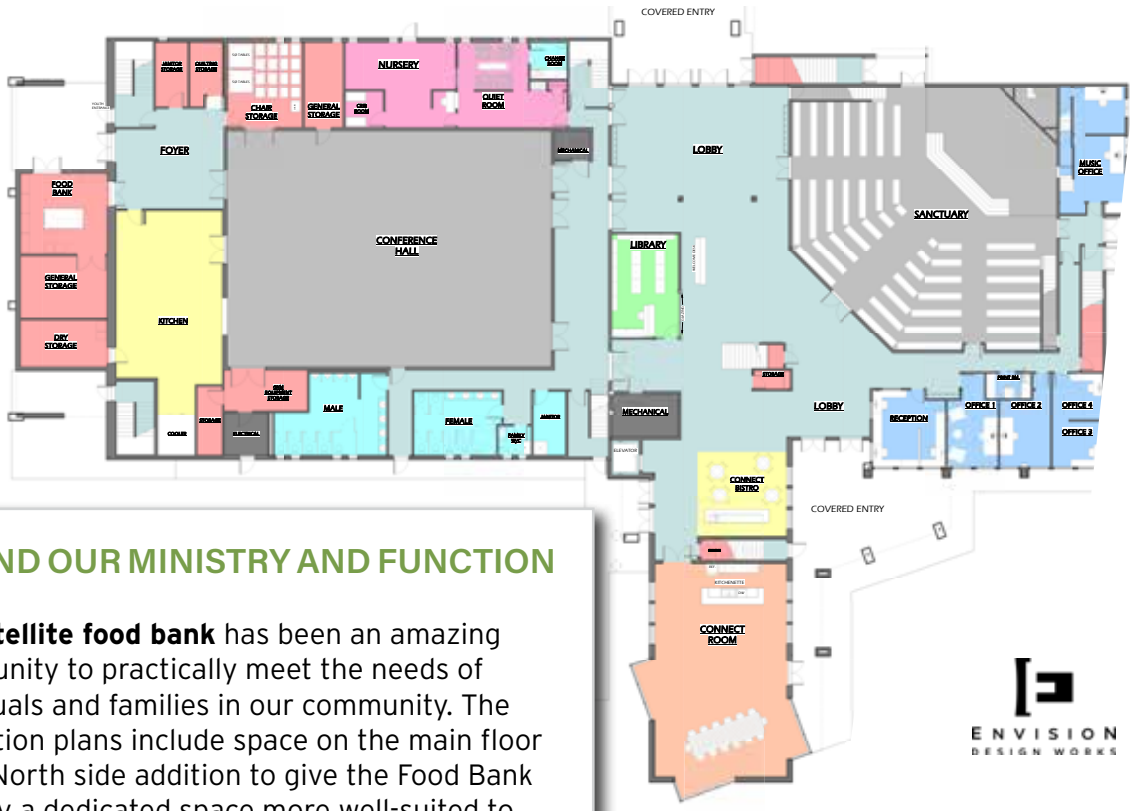
EXTEND OUR ROSS ROAD KIDS SPACE FOR INSTRUCTION

Rebuilding the CONNECT wing will make it seismically sound and allow us to use the upstairs to:

- **Provide additional washrooms** for our kids and leaders - not only Sunday mornings, but mid-week events such as Awana.
- **Create a larger and better equipped room** for large group teaching and worship with kids (the old big room with a small addition will be converted into a space for the youth).
- Have space to create a proper single entrance to the Ross Road Kids wing with a **check-in desk for increased security.**
- Provide a **work room for Kid's Ministry leaders**, for storage of materials and preparation for lessons.

Additional renovations upstairs will

- include **proper HVAC** for a constant welcoming temperature and to help eliminate the smells in old classrooms,
- **widen hallways and doorways** so that two people can pass through to remove bottle necks and allow families to visit without feeling in the way,
- **frame in the concrete walls** in the classrooms to make them warmer, more inviting and comfortable for kids, and
- **replace old, smelly and fraying carpet.**



EXTEND OUR MINISTRY AND FUNCTION

The **satellite food bank** has been an amazing opportunity to practically meet the needs of individuals and families in our community. The renovation plans include space on the main floor of the North side addition to give the Food Bank ministry a dedicated space more well-suited to the needs of the ministry.

Washrooms will meet code and no longer cause a smell that permeates the building. An accessible washroom will also be created to service those with disabilities or families.

Office and administration space will be expanded and reconfigured to allow our admin staff proper space and storage to do their work efficiently.

Kitchen storage, including space for freezers, would be increased due to a reconfiguration that is required to create a necessary fire-escape route from upstairs.

The rooms around the perimeter of the gymnasium will be rearranged and repurposed to maximize effectiveness and increase centralized **storage**.

The new **Nursery** is designed to meet the needs of our youngest attendees and give parents a place to care for their child and meet and interact with other parents in a similar stage.

We believe that God has great things in store for us as we prayerfully depend on God and His Word, obediently submit to His Spirit, and sacrificially follow the example of Jesus.

NEXT STEPS

What's next? How can you be involved in the Extending our Impact Project? How will things go from here?

1. Pledge Your Support

Visit our website, rossroadcc.ca/EOI, for more info on the project and to fill out a pledge form!

2. Permits and Construction

Our Building Committee has already begun the work of pursuing permits for eventual construction, which will begin when we have raised in funds and pledges 50% of the estimated total cost.

3. Extend Our Impact

Experience how God will work through us as we pursue our vision, supported by our renewed facilities.

Visit our website, rossroadcc.ca/EOI, for more information!