

April 2023 COE Report

The Council of Elders met on the last Tuesday of April, with all members in attendance.

As usual, we began with a meal together, and then prayer with members of the congregation, and among ourselves for our church. This is always a time of great blessing. If you or someone you know could use some encouraging prayer, please contact us at cklassen@northview.org.

As I'm sure you know, on April 4th at a Special General Meeting, the membership passed the motion which follows with 92% approval:

Preamble: The cost of the new Worship Centre building and existing building renovation is estimated to be \$30 million. This value includes a reasonable contingency that hopefully will not be needed. Our goal for fundraising is to raise the entire value over the coming years through a large scale ongoing capital campaign. Construction will only begin when the combined total of the internal allocations and pledges toward the new Worship Centre reaches \$20 million. Of that \$20 million target, we have already received or internally allocated \$15 million as of March 2023.

Motion: The Council of Elders is authorized to begin construction of the Worship Centre based on the current estimate and parameters described in the Preamble.

We are thankful for the overwhelming support for the new worship centre, and ask for your continued prayers as details are being finalized.

We are also thankful for the many conversations, meetings, and Zoom calls in which the elders and staff have been able to connect with members of the congregation. Over the next few weeks, many conversations will continue, as we seek to know the level of financial support. We want to be "All-In" on this. Our website contains an "All-In" where you have the opportunity, near the bottom, to make your pledge. When we get to \$20 million, in donations and pledges, we'll be ready to roll, and we already have \$15 million, so we're very thankful.

The Development Committee is continuing to work with designers to see how access can be improved from the front parking lot, through the foyer, and what is now the Atrium, to the new Worship Centre.

Attendances at our Good Friday and Easter weekend services were overwhelming and record breaking. Thanks to all who served, and made it possible for Northview to impact our communities in incredible ways. Our attendance topped 6,300 on the weekend.



The BC Mennonite Brethren Conference Convention was hosted at our Mission Campus this past weekend, and there were some important recommendations that were being considered. As always, we want to be sure that we speak with one voice. The intent is that delegates represent their churches, and not themselves, for all BCMB meetings.

You may or may not know that about 15 years ago, when Cyrus Centre was in need of facilities for a youth emergency centre, Northview was able to purchase a building for them, and lease it to them for \$1.00 per year. Mark actually mentioned this in his most recent message, the weekend of Apr. 22-23. Now, Cyrus Centre has 4 locations between Chilliwack and Abbotsford, and the facility on Ware St. is no longer sufficient to meet the need. We are now beginning discussions to determine how we can best serve the community through them.

Phil Routly