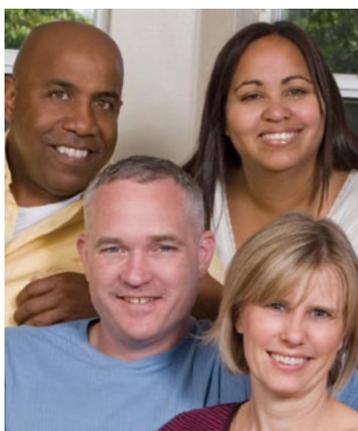




*Together*  
FOR IMPACT

# CanadaWatch

*"...the CRCE will continue to examine the impact of the recession on evangelical church finances..."*



## CRCE Database Helps Affiliates

A database created by the [Centre for Research on Canadian Evangelicalism's](#) (CRCE) is providing financial trend information to EFC affiliates.

The Canadian Evangelical Churches and Ministry Organizations Database (CECMOD), which uses Charitable Information Return data, provided delegates to the March 2009 StreetLevel IV Conference with financial data profiling their contribution to poverty and homelessness ministry in Canada. "This kind of data is invaluable to organizations. It helps them see the big picture and their own role in that very clearly," says Rick Hiemstra, director of the CRCE.



The CRCE also provided EFC denominational affiliates with 2004-2007 congregational financial trend data. In 2009, the CRCE will continue to examine the impact of the recession on evangelical church finances, as well as research the financial contribution of Canadian Christian international relief and development work.

## EFC Research to Impact Canadian Churches

A survey, funded by the EFC's [Centre for Research on Canadian Evangelicalism](#) (CRCE), will examine how Canadian congregations interact with their communities, church priorities, worship content, pastor-church relations and more. The Canadian Evangelical Congregations Survey of 600 pastors from five major evangelical denominations is to be led by investigators Sam Reimer of Atlantic Baptist University, Michael Wilkinson of Trinity Western University and Andrew Grenville of Angus Reid Strategies.



Have you ever wondered how Evangelicals vote?  
Did you know that how census religious affiliation data is disseminated can potentially obscure the strength of the evangelical movement?

Check out [Church & Faith Trends](#) to find out more.

## EFC in the Global Picture

**T**he EFC plays a leadership role on the global stage with its active membership in the [World Evangelical Alliance \(WEA\)](#). Here are a few of the initiatives the EFC is involved with through the WEA:

- A new global HIV initiative designed to mobilize and equip churches to respond to this pandemic.
- A renewed focus on religious liberty issues, particularly in India, Vietnam and Iran.
- The launch of Evangelicals in Politics to assist Evangelicals to develop best practices in their own country's context.
- The formation of a Human Trafficking task force to help develop resources to assist churches in responding to this growing issue around the world.

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Check out the [EFC's](#) and [WEA's](#) online resources to assist Evangelicals to more effectively engage society.

## Hill Watch

Thank you for your prayers and support for the EFC, which greatly encourages us. Here is a summary of what the EFC has been working on.

- An EFC team was in the Supreme Court in April, in regard to the Assisted Human Reproduction Act. You can read the [EFC's presentation](#). We await the decision of the court.
- The EFC wrote all MPs and Senators in May requesting they not give further consideration to a private members' bill ([C-384](#)) that proposes the legalization of physician assisted suicide and euthanasia. The EFC resource study, available to the public and called [In the Shadow of Death: A Christian Perspective on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide](#) was included.
- The EFC's Religious Liberty Commission recently released "[Religious Freedom in Egypt: The Case of the Christian Minority](#)" and "[Faith and Freedom Collide in India: A Report on the Rise of Recent Violence Against Christians in Orissa and Other Indian States.](#)"
- The EFC and The Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) co-sponsored a roundtable discussion on "Faith and Sustainable Economy" with MPs from all four political parties in May.
- The EFC released a report in April called [Human Trafficking: A Report on Modern Day Slavery in Canada](#). It recommends action that may be taken by the Canadian, British Columbia and Vancouver governments in preparation for the 2010 Olympic Games and beyond.
- The EFC continues to be involved in the Christian Horizons case. We have filed [written legal arguments](#) as part of our intervention and are waiting for the case to be heard beginning in December.



## From the President

In these changing times it is critical that we understand the dynamics of our society so we can more effectively respond and proclaim the good news in word and deed and in ways that make sense in contemporary Canada. Our new Centre for Research on Canadian Evangelicalism is tracking church and faith trends so we can better understand the

context of ministry in Canada.

Issues continue to emerge in Canada, on Parliament Hill and our courts that require a thoughtful and credible Christian response. Through our partnerships we are developing resources and strategies that will make a difference. And globally, through the World Evangelical Alliance, Evangelicals are taking our place at the table of debates on issues that affect us all.

Check out our [website](#) for updates and information about our activities and projects. And watch for the soon to be released on line version of our award-winning [Faith Today](#).

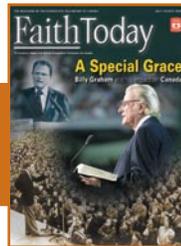
Together for Influence, Impact and Identity; this is your EFC.



## EFC Partners on Healing Journey

The EFC's [Aboriginal Ministries Council](#) (AMC) met with Chuck Strahl, Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, to affirm the apology from the Prime Minister as a positive step towards a new relationship between native and non-native people. The EFC council offered Mr. Strahl the opportunity to dialogue further about the next step for the continuation of reconciliation and hope. The AMC noted a willingness in Parliamentarians to work with the AMC to help combat the high suicide rates facing Aboriginal peoples — the highest in any Canadian population.

The AMC's "[Through the Pain](#)" DVD provides guidance on how to assist those exhibiting suicidal thoughts and behaviours and how to intervene in a suicide situation, no matter the culture. The DVD is available through the EFC's resource department. Call 1-866-302-3362.



## EFC Magazine Wins Awards and Goes Online

*Faith Today*, the EFC's magazine to connect, equip and inform evangelical Christians in Canada, won eight awards for journalistic excellence at the recent Canadian Church Press Awards held in Winnipeg. "These awards are a wonderful acknowledgment of the hard work we put into every issue of our magazine, but also an important indicator of the power of the stories in the evangelical community, just waiting to be told," says Gail Reid, director of communications for the EFC. *Faith Today*, which is in its 25th year, is conducting an [online reader survey](#) to ensure an even stronger publication. This summer *Faith Today* is launching a digital, searchable replica of the magazine for subscribers. Non-subscribers will also be able to sample complete issues online for a limited time.

## EFC Reaches Canadian Christian Leaders

The EFC's [Christian Leaders Connection](#) (CLC) one-day seminars provide opportunity for pastors, Christian leaders and individual and business supporters of the EFC to learn together, network and strengthen each other. "These days are really an opportunity to discover Canadian and faith trends in the company of a diverse group of ministry practitioners. They are one of the most important front-line ways the EFC serves the Canadian Church," says Bruce J. Clemenger, president of the EFC. [Check for CLC dates](#) and locations near you. [Email us](#) or phone 1-866-302-3362 x239 if you would like to host a CLC.

## Welcome New EFC Affiliates

The EFC welcomes its growing number of affiliate congregations, denominations, ministry organizations and Christian higher education institutions resulting in more effective ministry in Canada. Here are our most recent new affiliates:

- Evangel Pentecostal Church, Brantford, Ont.
- Forward Baptist Church, Toronto, Ont.
- Summit Community Church, Richmond Hill, Ont.
- Glad Tidings Community Church, Blenheim, Ont.
- Place of Grace, Winnipeg, Man.
- Northern Light Ministries, Whitehorse, YT
- Faith Evangelical Missionary Church, Kitchener, Ont.
- Newmarket Community Church, Newmarket, Ont.
- Open Door Christian Fellowship, London, Ont.
- Eglemont Christian Church, Beaumont, Alta.
- Pineland Baptist Church, Burlington, Ont.
- The Salvation Army: Peterborough Corps, Peterborough, Ont.
- Edson Alliance Church, Edson, Alta.
- The Harbour, North Bay, Ont.



## EFC Supporters Rise to the Occasion

The EFC is grateful to a small group of generous Foundation and individual donors who, because of their concern that the EFC's work remain strong and effective, contributed \$65,000 for the EFC to use as a matching donations fund. They provided the opportunity for donors to give to the EFC, knowing that their gift would go even further.

And it has.

Donors from across the country recognized this great opportunity and gave generously. The initial donation has almost tripled. Thank you so very much to everyone who contributed to this appeal. Your gift was matched in amount and multiplied in impact.



The Evangelical Fellowship  
of Canada

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*The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada is the national association of Evangelicals, gathered together for influence, impact and identity in ministry and public witness. Since 1964 the EFC has provided a national forum for Evangelicals and a constructive voice for biblical principles in life and society.*

### Donor Endorsement

*"We live in a multi-cultural, multi-faith society and the responsibility to hold high the traditional Christian faith we embrace falls to us. We are blessed to have the EFC team. We appreciate the articulate manner in which they address contemporary issues, without passing judgment on those with whom we differ. They are sought out and respected by members of the media and politicians alike. The EFC sees the subtle implications of the decisions that are being made by the courts and by governments. They are a unifying force in the evangelical community in Canada."*

### Link: a state or means of connection



Follow this [link](#) to the EFC weekly Update, the weekly electronic news from the EFC.

Read the [latest appeal](#) from the EFC.

Visit [Christianity.ca](#), the EFC's virtual web community for Canada, full of the latest articles of interest to Evangelicals.



**Your gift helps the EFC gather Evangelicals for influence, impact and identity in ministry and public witness. Thank you.**

Please use my enclosed donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ where it is most needed.

**YES!** Email me information about how I can be a *Partner in Faith* with the EFC.

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