



En esto hemos conocido el amor, en que él puso su vida por nosotros; también nosotros debemos poner nuestras vidas por los hermanos.

This is how we know what love is: because Christ laid down his life for us. And we must lay down our lives for our brothers.

그가 우리를 위하여 목숨을 버리셨으니 우리가 이로써 사랑을 알고 우리도 형제들을 위하여 목숨을 버리는 것이 미땅하리라

主何爲爲我愛

*Na tumeiujua upendo kwa sababu Kristo alitoa maisha yake kwa ajili yetu. Na sisi tunapaswa kuyatoa maisha yetu kwa ajili wa ndugu zetu.*

Любовь познали мы в том, что Он за нас

我們也當爲從弟兄此就捨命知道

*This is how we know what love is: because Christ laid down his life for us. And we must lay down our lives for our brothers.*

и мы должны положить свои жизни за братьев наших

**Passages:**  
The History of  
Wycliffe Bible  
Translators of  
Canada

## Born on a Dining Room Table

Today's vibrant Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada had its roots in small beginnings.

The Bible shows us that God often did big things that started in small, seemingly insignificant ways. Most significantly, God sent His Son to be Lord and Saviour for all people throughout the world. And it started when a tiny *baby* was born in a *lowly* stable to a seemingly *insignificant* couple.

Today, God is still doing big things with small beginnings. A good example is the growth of Wycliffe Bible Translators around the world, including right here in Canada.

Canadians have long been involved in the Bible translation movement (see timeline, pg. 5). That started before Wycliffe Canada's *organizational* beginnings 60 years ago when it opened an office, started to form a staff and began to build a Canadian identity.

In 1942, George Cowan was the first Canadian to take linguistic training in the U.S. offered by Wycliffe's predecessor organization, the Summer Institute of Linguistics.

Cowan, along with Herb and Hilda Whealy, were the first Canadians to join the U.S.-based Wycliffe Bible Translators. Linguistic training programs started in Canada as early as 1944 with 43 students (under the direction of George Cowan) in Briercrest, Sask. These SIL programs continued there until 1957.



Staff at the 1945 Canadian SIL training program pose at Briercrest, Sask.

### Humble Beginnings

In 1951, George and another Wycliffe leader came to Moose Jaw, Sask., to ask Al and Genevieve Blager to consider opening a national Wycliffe office. The Blagers agreed and thus began Wycliffe operations in Canada—on a corner on their dining room table, with a used three-drawer filing cabinet and an old Remington typewriter.

In 1962, Wycliffe workers Jim and Gladys Dean needed financial support, so a prayer group was started in the Cunningham family home in Wil- lowdale, Ontario. It was the first official Wycliffe prayer group in the nation.

Today, nearly 4,400 Canadians have committed themselves to officially pray for the work around the world. Several thousand Canadians are also involved in Wycliffe's Bibleless Peoples Prayer Project. They each have promised to pray for a particular language group until it receives a translation of God's Word.



Group of students at the Canadian SIL training program in Saskatchewan, circa 1950.

### Building Up

During the summer of 1962, Canadian Wycliffe members Howard and Beatrice Klassen came home from serving in Mexico. Due to the pressure of other business, the Blagers asked Howard to take over Wycliffe in Canada. Later in 1962, Howard felt led to move the Wycliffe office to Calgary. Howard's basement served as the first office until 1968.

In 1968, Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada was incorporated with the federal government of Canada as a non-profit charity. Wycliffe Canada's first meeting of incorporation was held on May 11 of that year.

By 1975, Wycliffe Canada was looking for a larger facility, after having moved twice since 1968. A warehouse was purchased that year in north-east Calgary, with a gorgeous view of the Rocky Mountains. Initially, two of the three bays were rented to a meat cutter and steel fabrication plant. In the third bay, Wycliffe Associates (Wycliffe's volunteer ministry arm) played a big role in constructing the new offices of Wycliffe Canada.

The work has gradually expanded. Currently, this national headquarters building is totally occupied by Wycliffe Canada. A total part-time and full-time staff of more than 65 (equal to a full-time equivalent workforce of 46) serves there.



Office space in the new Wycliffe Canada headquarters in Calgary, 1976.

Other facilities—in Etobicoke, Ont., on the campus of Trinity Western University in Langley, B.C., and on Nova's Scotia's north shore—provide Wycliffe physical office presences in Central Canada, the West Coast and the Atlantic areas.

### Mobilizing Canadians

Wycliffe Canada's home-based team, including regional representatives across the country, promotes and publicizes the field work in language research, literacy, community development and, of course, Bible translation. This dedicated team aims to mobilize Canadians; often challenging them at churches, schools and conferences, before helping them with necessary orientation and training.

Wycliffe's workforce of Canadians has been multiplied many times over. By 1963, 83 Canadians were serving in 11 countries. A decade later, staff increased to 200. Today, about 575 staff work with Wycliffe Canada at home and around the world.

During most of Wycliffe Canada's history, virtually all personnel were supported financially by churches and individual Christians. In recent years, however, staff who are unpaid volunteers have become increasingly important. In fact, about 190 Wycliffe Canada workers serving somewhere on the globe are unpaid volunteers, with several employees as well.

Whatever the type of worker, someone has to guide them. God has graciously provided servant-hearted leadership for Wycliffe Canada's staff over the decades. Executive directors have included Howard Klassen, Ray Nicholson, Len Newell, Jim Dean, Jack Newton, Jack Popjes, Roger Gilstrap and Dave Ohlson. Currently, the position (now called president) is held by Don Hekman.

### New Blood

While the average age of Wycliffe Canada's personnel (50 years) is a concern, exciting efforts are being made to recruit new blood and they are proving successful.

NextGen Ministries, for example, is seeking new ways of engaging young people in the Bible translation movement. Its highly popular *Race to 2025* adventure competitions in the Rockies has already given hundreds of young adults the chance to raise several hundred thousand dollars for language projects overseas—and share the Bible translation cause with many others in the process. Some racers are also moving towards service with Wycliffe.

New blood—whether staff, pray-ers or financial donors—is crucial if Wycliffe Canada is to contribute its share toward fulfilling Vision 2025. Adopted by Wycliffe International in 1999, it is a goal to see a Bible translation started for every language needing it by the year 2025.

### Canuck Contribution

Canadians have played major roles in actual Bible translation projects for more than six decades. The first New Testament involving Canadians was for speakers of the Mazatec Highland speakers of Mexico. George and Florence Cowan worked on that project, completed in 1960.

Since that time, Canadians have helped translate a healthy portion of the 735 completed New Testaments and 25 whole Bibles in which Wycliffe personnel from around the world have participated.

Canucks have been directly involved in completing 69 translations—New Testaments into 68 languages and one whole Bible into one language. (Several Canadian individuals or couples have even worked on multiple translations.) These projects have included 15 in Papua New Guinea, 14 in Mexico, nine in the Philippines, five in Brazil and four in Guatemala.

The 69 languages are spoken by an combined population of about 34 million-plus people, living in more than 25 countries. These language groups vary widely in size. Most range from just a few hundred people to a half million. Whatever size, they represent individuals who now have access to God's life-changing Word in a language that speaks to their hearts—their own!



Wycliffe Canada board meeting in 1975 (left to right): Peter Fast, Hans Stadtlander, Don Robertson, Dale Houser, Peter Warkentin, Herb Phinnemore, Len Newell, Bert Swift, Herb Whealy, Fred Thiessen.



Mark Staples cleans the printing press at Wycliffe Canada's Calgary office, 1988.



Garland & Mavis Hoel and Brenda & Jerry Long in front of the Wycliffe Canada Eastern Region office in Etobicoke, Ont.



(Above, left) Dora Pauls interacts with an applicant in the personnel department, while Bill Cameron (above, right) does some technical work in the computer department.

Training linguists to do Bible translation is a crucial part of getting the job done. After an absence of 20 years, Wycliffe Canada leadership resurrected SIL training in Canada for prospective Bible translation personnel. Canada SIL at Trinity Western University opened its doors in 1985.

Now called the Canada Institute of Linguistics (CanIL), it continues as the main training program for Wycliffe Canada. CanIL has equipped an estimated 400 language personnel to serve with Wycliffe over the years. Wycliffe Canada also supports a new linguistics and translation training program in Toronto through a partnership began in 2009 with Tyndale University College.

Front-line Bible translation is not the whole story, though. Hundreds of Canadian personnel have worked behind the scenes in other important language and support roles, as well, in the cause of Wycliffe's various language-related ministries.



Marilyn Gorsline (left) and Dianne Van der Wal process donations in the receipts department, 1993.

### Financial Growth

Wycliffe Canada has processed tens of millions of dollars in donations from tens of thousands of committed individuals and churches across our nation. These gifts are Wycliffe Canada's only financial means of support for all home and overseas personnel (except volunteers), and for specific projects.

God has substantially grown Wycliffe Canada's budgets these past six decades. In 1968, for example, the entire budget was only \$7,500. It rose to \$87,000 by 1974 and \$6.7 million by 1993. Today, the budget stands at \$15.9 million.

Through its International Development and Literacy, Education and Development department, Wycliffe Canada was on the forefront of sponsoring literacy, bilingual education and community development projects, which totalled 21 in 1992-93. Many were supported with the help of millions of dollars in federal and provincial government grants. Wycliffe Canada initiated its *Partners with Nationals* program in 1991, to provide financial support directly to dozens of local Bible translators serving their own people overseas.



In 2007, much of this project/local translator funding was taken over by Global PartnerLink (GPL), which was spun off from Wycliffe Canada as a separate partner organization two years later. Today, GPL sponsors national partners in more than 80 Bible translation/language projects, funded by generous Canadians.

### Not Finished Yet

Wycliffe Canada has grown indeed . . . from the corner of a dining room table to a large office building; from a handful of Canadians to nearly 600 workers; from a tiny budget of \$7,500 to one which is several thousand times larger.

God started something in Canada from tiny beginnings, and He has since done much bigger things. For that we can be thankful.

But we can also be excited, because our Lord isn't yet finished with Wycliffe Canada. As the Bible translation movement pushes on to bring His Word to the 2,000-plus language groups that still need it, Canadians can continue to play a significant role one way or another.

They will build on an impressive 60-year legacy that started very small. 🍁

Wycliffe representative Nick Pauls (above, left) and Wycliffe CEO Roger Gilstrap (above, right) at the construction site of the new CanIL building, opened in 2004.



Incoming Wycliffe President Don Hekman (right) gives a gift to Rev. ChangSun Choi of the Calgary Korean Presbyterian Church, at a partnership memorandum signing between Wycliffe and the church in 2009.

# Through the Years: A Wycliffe Canada timeline

**Note:** Regarding Scripture completions indicated in the timeline, some couples mentioned include a non-Canadian spouse. Person(s) listed were the main—or one of several main—Wycliffe personnel involved in actual Scripture translation. In all cases, local speakers of the language, too numerous to mention, played key roles in the

project. Most dates indicate when the translated Scriptures were published; others, when finished or dedicated. Some languages have alternate names/spellings. Details for several translation completions could not be listed due to political or religious sensitivity.



**1942**  
George Cowan (left), and Herb & Hilda Whealy are first Canadians to join Wycliffe (based in the U.S.)

**1943**  
After taking linguistics training at Oklahoma SIL, George Cowan returns as its dean of men.

**1944**  
Due to wartime restrictions on Canadians taking Oklahoma SIL training, an SIL program, led by George Cowan, starts with 43 students at Briercrest, Sask. (below).



**1946**  
SIL for Canadians (averaging 40+ students/year) is relocated to former air force base at Caronport, Sask.



**1950**  
Eighteen Canadians are Wycliffe members.

**1951**  
Al & Genevieve Blager are asked to open and run a national Wycliffe office in Moose Jaw, Sask.

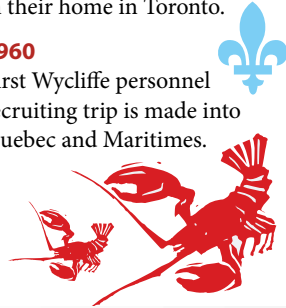
**1954**  
A Toronto Wycliffe committee is recognized by U.S.-based Wycliffe.



**1958**  
Canada SIL is closed due to declining student numbers; Canadian recruits must again take linguistics training in the U.S.

**1959**  
Herb & Hilda Whealy set up a small Wycliffe Eastern office in their home in Toronto.

**1960**  
First Wycliffe personnel recruiting trip is made into Quebec and Maritimes.



**1961**  
Returning from Mexico, Howard & Beatrice Klassen (below) become administrative officers after the Blagers.



The first official Wycliffe prayer group starts in Willowdale, Ont.



George (right, on left) & Florence Cowan are first Canadians to participate in a completed New Testament (NT), for Huautla de Jimenez Mazatec speakers of Mexico.

**1962**  
The Klassens move the Wycliffe office from Moose Jaw to Calgary.



Wycliffe Canada becomes an official "division," with 83 members serving in 11 nations.



**1966**  
Wycliffe receives large amount of money from a Canadian couple's estate.

**1967**  
First Canadian Wycliffe council/board, chaired by Nelson Weston, is formed and meets in Toronto.

126 Canadians are serving in 16 countries.

Roy & Margaret Harrison complete Capainala Zoque NT in Mexico (below, on left).



**1968**  
Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada is incorporated as a non-profit charitable organization in Canada, with a \$7,500 budget.

Director Howard Klassen resists idea of moving the national office to Ontario.

Don & Thelma Webster: Northern Alaskan Inupiat NT-U.S.

**1970**  
Director Howard Klassen (above, fourth from right) submits report to the board, with the goal: "Every Tribe by '85."

**1971**  
Wycliffe Associates (Wycliffe's volunteer organization) starts in Canada.



Eastern office rented from The People's Church in Toronto.

Don & Isabel Sinclair: Mezquital Otomi NT-Mexico.

**Harry & Lucille McArthur:**  
Aguacateco NT-Guatemala.

**1972**  
Ray Nicholson (left) becomes director.

Personnel grows to 200.

Wycliffe Associates (WA) runs chapters in five cities.

**Richard & Ruth Anderson:**  
Teutila Cuicateco NT-Mexico.

**1973**  
Wycliffe Canada begins sending Wycliffe U.S.' *Translation* magazine to the Canadian constituency.

**1974**  
Len Newell (left) becomes director of Wycliffe Canada, with its \$87,000 organizational budget.

**Viola Reimer:** Eastern Otomi NT-Mexico.

**Raymond & Ruth Nicholson:**  
Fore NT-Papua New Guinea (PNG).

**1975**  
Warehouse (below) in Calgary purchased for the national Wycliffe office.



Eastern office relocated from Toronto to a rented building in Scarborough.

**Marion Cowan (left)** (George's sister): Huixtan Tzotzil NT-Mexico.

**1976**  
Jim Dean (below) becomes director.



**1977**  
**John & Elizabeth Banker:**  
Bahnar NT-Vietnam.

**Tom & Pat MacLeod:** Umiray Dumaget Agta NT-Philippines.

**Len & Doreen Newell:** Batad Ifugao NT-Philippines.

**1978**  
**Bruce & Joyce Hooley:** Central Buang NT-PNG.

**Olive Shell:** Cashibo-Cacataibo NT-Peru (top, right).

**Aileen Reid:** Northern Totonaco NT-Mexico (right).

**Peter & Mary Fast:** Amuesha NT-Peru (100th NT with Wycliffe involvement globally).

**1979**  
Wycliffe Canada starts to process Canadians applying to be on staff around the world.

**1980**  
**Howard & Bea Klassen:** Western Jamiltepec Mixteco NT-Mexico.

**Velma Foreman:** Yessan-Mayo NT-PNG.

**Joy McCarthy:**  
Kanite NT-PNG.

**1981**  
Wycliffe Canada becomes autonomous Wycliffe organization.

In-house computer system established.

Income increases by 20%.

**Marion Cowan:** Chenalho Tzotzil NT-Mexico (her 2nd).

**Shirley Abbott:** Amganad Ifugao NT-Philippines.



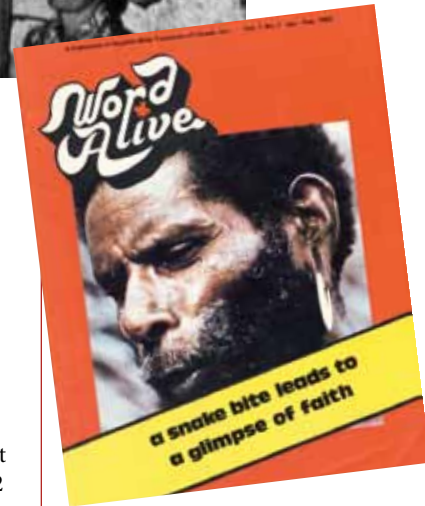
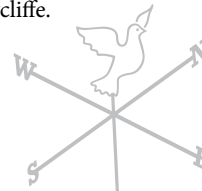
**1982**  
Wycliffe and WA offices closed in Eastern Canada.

**Colin & Alfa Dalgaty, and Marion Cowan (her 3rd):** San Andres Tzotzil NT-Mexico.

**1983**  
Wycliffe Canada launches *Word Alive* magazine (right) for its supporting constituency.

Wycliffe International's President Emeritus George Cowan does 12 weeks of speaking tours in Western Canada.

**1984**  
Quest program introduced as part of the approval process for Canadian applicants to serve with Wycliffe.



Federal/provincial governments contribute millions of dollars to Wycliffe Canada-sponsored literacy projects overseas.

Wycliffe Canada receives CCCC's financial accountability approval seal.



**Jim & Marion Miller:**  
Desano NT-Colombia (below).



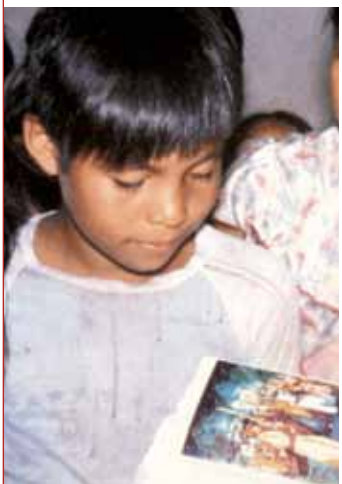


**1985**

Canada SIL (later CanIL), led by George Cowan, begins at Trinity Western University (TWU) in Langley, B.C., again providing linguistics training for Canadians.

Vision Builders is launched to educate/challenge churches about missions.

Dennis & Erna Newton: Guarayu NT-Bolivia (below).



**1986**

The Christian Reformed Church recommends Wycliffe Canada to its congregations as an agency for financial support.

Ed & Sally Koehn: Apalai NT-Brazil.



Jean Smith: Mian NT-PNG.

**1987**

Wycliffe Canada embarks on its first strategic planning effort, guided by Manitoba Institute of Management.



**Marion Cowan:** Zinacantec Tzotzil NT (above)-Mexico (her 4th).

**Herbert & Hilda Whealy:** Central Nahuatl NT-Mexico.

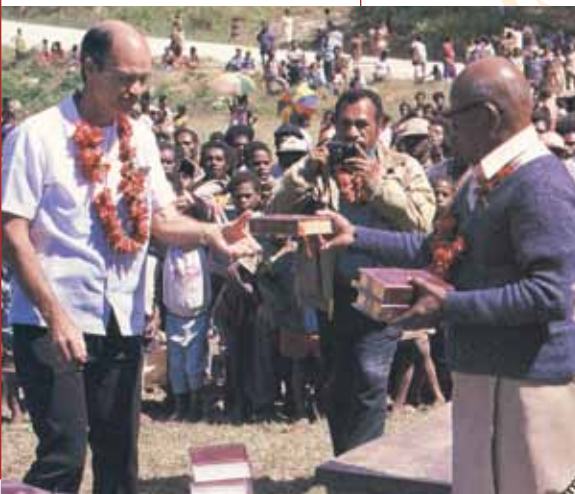
**James & Kay Kakumasu:** Urubu-Kaapor NT- Brazil (below).



**Peter Fast and Viola Reimer:** Plautdietsch NT (above)-Americas (her 2nd).



**Ken (below) & Noreen Mcelhanon:** Selepét NT- PNG.



**1988**

Jack Newton (pictured at right, with his wife Jeannette) becomes executive director.

**Isabel Kerr:** Cuiba NT-Colombia (left).



## Coincidence or Godcidence?

Mike Walrod (below) was having an identity crisis. It was 1983, and the Wycliffe linguist from Canada was wrapping up his PhD dissertation in Dallas and preparing to return to the Philippines to complete the Ga'dang translation project.



"One evening I felt a sense of panic as I realized two major projects were coming to an end," Walrod recalls. "I asked myself, What am I going to do next? Then I thought, If there is ever an SIL training program in Canada, I want to be a part of it."

With that, Mike relaxed and went to bed.



The very next day, Walrod's good friend David Bendor-Samuel of SIL International (Wycliffe's partner organization) invited him to have a cup of tea. During their conversation, Bendor-Samuel told Walrod that he and Wycliffe Canada Director Jim Dean had been talking about the need for a Canadian SIL program. Dean wanted Walrod to head it up.

"David assured me this was not a nationalistic, flag-waving exercise. There were good solid academic, political, and financial reasons for developing a program in Canada."

Walrod accepted the invitation, but since he still needed a year or two to finish the Ga'dang program, he suggested they ask George Cowan to start the program.

The foundation for the Canadian Institute of Linguistics was being laid.





Karl (below, on right) & Winnie Grebe: Nso Lam NT-Cameroon.



Carol Stanley (below, in middle): Tikar NT-Cameroon.



**1993**  
Wycliffe Canada—with 400 workers worldwide, 50 office staff and a \$6.7 million budget—celebrates its 25th anniversary as a charitable organization.

Joy McCarthy (left): Inoke NT-PNG.



**1994**  
Jack Popjes (left) becomes executive director/CEO.

WA Canada's office in Ontario is rebuilt after fire damage.

**1989**  
Ross & Ellen Errington (above): Cotabato Manobo NT-Philippines (300th NT by Wycliffe personnel globally).

Keith & Ruth Snider: Chumburung NT-Ghana.

Hazel Wrigglesworth: Ilianen Manobo NT-Philippines (below).



**1991**  
Wycliffe Canada-sponsored literacy work in Ghana (below) receives UNESCO award.



John & June Austing (below): Omie NT-PNG.

**1990**  
A partnership agreement is signed with the Evangelical Mennonite Conference Board of Missions.

Jack & Jo Popjes (below): Canela NT (plus OT stories)-Brazil.



**1992**  
Wycliffe Canada, through its LEAD department, sponsors 21 literacy, education and community-development projects.

Karl Grebe starts *Partners with Nationals* program.



Peter & Chris Green: Tagbanwa NT-Philippines.

Rosemary Thomson: Yami NT (right)-Asia.



Tom & Penny Phinnemore (above): Ono NT-PNG.

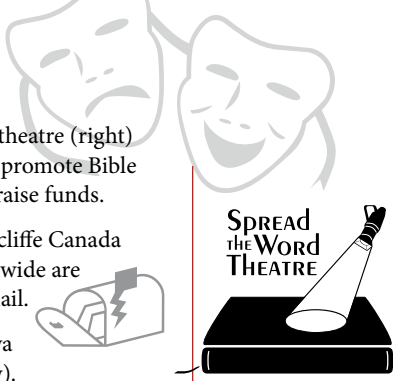


1995

Wycliffe dinner theatre (right) is introduced to promote Bible translation and raise funds.

Over half of Wycliffe Canada personnel worldwide are accessible by email.

Pat Lillie: Girawa NT-PNG (below).



Velma Foreman (below, on right): Yawu NT-PNG.



Rick & Carol McArthur: Western Cakchiquel (left) NT-Guatemala.

Ruth Thomson: Kayapo NT-Brazil.

1997

Wycliffe Canada home-based staff stands at 50, plus 30 part-time volunteers. 2,500 Canadians are involved in Wycliffe's Bibleless Peoples Prayer Project.

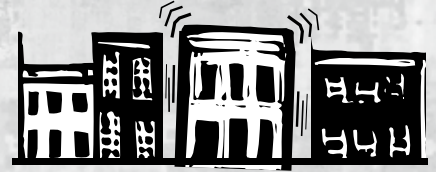
Orland & Phyllis (below) Rowan: Parecis NT-Brazil.



### Whole Lot of Shakin' Going On

In the 1970s, Wycliffe Canada rented a second-floor office in Calgary's Bowness area as its national headquarters.

The main floor of the building was occupied by a dry cleaning and laundry business.



Whenever the drying spinners were slightly overloaded, the machinery would shake the building.

Things sometimes tumbled off shelves in the Wycliffe office. The sudden shaking often startled those staff with overseas field experience, who were used to living in an earthquake zone. When the trembling happened during a prayer meeting, participants' thoughts often turned to the story in Acts 4:31: "After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. . . ."

In 1976, it was pure joy for Wycliffe Canada to move into the warehouse building-turned-office at 4316-10 St. N.E., without the place shaking and the toxic smells wafting up through the vents.

### Journey to the Centre of Christ's Heart

From the mid-1980s to the early 2000s, *The Journey to the Centre of Christ's Heart* outreach program impacted entire churches with an interactive simulation of what it means to become a missionary. The program was popular because it met a need for information, it was fun, and the congregation themselves staffed the program.

Although it required many props, much preparation, and specially printed materials, the number of Wycliffe staff to orient participants and run it was minimal. A \$250 fee paid by the church covered the cost.

*The Journey* usually had between 80 to 150 participants made up of adults and young people, as well as parents with children. The program ran for up to six hours on a Saturday and was flexible enough to fit any kind of church facility or size of group.

A typical *Journey* program had 15 components, each 20 minutes long. The modules included a passport application, language learning and cultural anthropology, travel, customs/immigration, and a visit to a country staffed by visible minority ethnics. As one group of 10 to 20 participants completed a module, the next group would arrive to start their session.

*The Journey* was originally developed by Wycliffe U.S., brought to Wycliffe Canada by John King, and used in outreach in our country by him, Bill Groot, and Dave Mannings.

1996

An Eastern regional office is opened in Etobicoke, Ont.

Wycliffe Canada launches a website.

Rundell (below) & Judi Maree: Ibatan NT-Philippines.



Keith (above, on right) & Wilma Forster: San Blas Kuna NT-Panama.

H.H.: L-K K NT-Southeast Asia (right).





Helen Pease (left):  
Kagwahiva NT-Brazil.

**1998**  
Ruth Spielmann  
(right, in middle):  
Algonquin NT  
in Canada.

### Jack, the Gun Runner

Jack Newton enjoyed helping to run *The Journey to the Centre of Christ's Heart*, a full-day simulation that gave participants a taste of the missionary experience (see pg. 9).

But in the early 1990s, Newton nearly sabotaged one held in Calgary during a

Missions Fest at the First Alliance Church.

Wycliffe's Bill Groot, *The Journey* organizer, had asked Newton to bring a gun for the border guard to hold, lending authenticity at the immigration and customs part of the simulation.



When Newton arrived in the parking lot, he took his old .303 calibre war surplus hunting rifle out of the trunk and carried it to the church.

"Part way there," recalls Newton, "I tried to hide it under my long coat, thinking someone might get the wrong idea. Too late—someone had already seen me, and not only got the wrong idea, but dialled 911."

The police reacted instantaneously, blocking off traffic on a nearby major thoroughfare and locking down the church building.

They were already on high alert since the main speaker at the Missions Fest was a man who had been captured by guerrillas in Colombia, and they knew of threats to his life.

"The pastor found me and said, 'The police are looking for you, Jack, better go and talk to them.'"

Newton identified himself to the plain-clothes police monitoring the situation. They peppered him with questions: "Did you carry a firearm into the church?" "Where is it now?" "What was the purpose of having it here?"

Newton's answers finally satisfied the cops, who then gave the order to unlock the doors.

"The news media got wind of the situation and I was fortunate that the reporter sent to cover the story was a Wycliffe missionary kid," says Newton.

"He was kind enough to leave out the fact that it was the foolishness of Executive Director Jack Newton that had caused the kaffuffle!"



Richard & Sandy Reimer: Todos Santos Mam NT-Guatemala.

Dennis & Jean Stratmeyer  
(below, in rear): Eastern Jacalteco NT-Guatemala.



**1999**  
Wycliffe Canada is challenged with Wycliffe International's Vision 2025: to see Bible translation started in every language needing it by the year 2025.

A partnership agreement is signed with Mennonite Brethren Mission and Service Int.

Watson & Marilyn (right) Williams: Micmac NT-Canada.

Roger (below, in centre) & Marilyn Reeck: San Juan Mixtepec Zapotec NT- Mexico.



Lesley (below, on left) & Marianne Fast: Tungag NT-PNG.



**2000**  
Roger Gilstrap (left) becomes executive director/CEO.

Wycliffe Canada is one of the fastest-growing major Wycliffe organizations on the globe.

Wycliffe Canada has a budget of nearly \$13 million.

Partnership agreement signed with Baptist General Conference of Canada Global Ministries.

Aileen Reid (below, on left): Patla/Chiconitla Totonac NT-Mexico (her 2nd).



Ed & Linda Speyers (below):  
Javanese NT-Suriname.

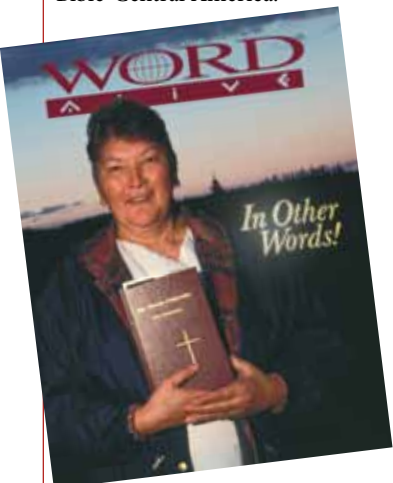


**2001**

Twelve Canadians are among 150 Wycliffe staff relocated from Asia and Eurasia after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and military response.

**Rod & Lieselotte Bartlett:** James Bay Cree (below) NT-Canada.

**Roger & Marilyn Reeck:** Garifuna Bible-Central America.



**Shirley Abbott:** Ata Manobo NT-Philippines.

**2002**

**Norbert & Karin Rennert:** Sranan Tongo NT-Suriname



**2004**

Dave Ohlson (left) becomes executive director.

CanIL, providing training for Wycliffe Canada linguists, moves into

its own new \$3.7-million facility (below) at TWU.



**Hart & Ginny Wiens:** Limos Kalinga NT-Philippines.

**2005**

**Vinton & Audrey Goff:** Wuvulu NT-PNG.

**Don & Thelma Webster:** Abidji NT-Cote d'Ivoire (their 2nd).

**2006**

Pat Lillie: Kein NT (below)-PNG (her 2nd).



Jackie Hainaut (below, on left): Kera NT-Chad.



**2007**

Much of Wycliffe Canada's overseas project funding activities absorbed into Global PartnerLink, which becomes a separate organization.



NextGen Ministries launches *Race to 2025* adventure events, mobilizing young adults to raise funds for overseas language work.



**2008**

Wycliffe Canada receives donated property at Pugwash, N.S. where it opens an Atlantic Wycliffe centre.

Wycliffe Canada and the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC) sign a partnership agreement.

**Neil & Ruth Wiebe:** Chachi (right) NT-Ecuador.

**2009**

Wycliffe Canada and Tyndale University College & Seminary agree to establish linguistics program.

Wycliffe Canada signs a formal working agreement with Christian Reformed World Missions.



Don Hekman (left) becomes president of Wycliffe Canada.

Partnership agreements are signed with Evangelical Free Church of Canada Mission, Heritage College and Seminary, and Rocky Mountain College.

**2010**

Wycliffe Canada earns an "A" in Canada's first financial grading system of the largest 100 charities by *MoneySense* magazine.



**Wes & Katie Peacock:** Nkonya NT (below)-Ghana.

**Liz & Mim:** M NT: South Asia.



**2011**

Wycliffe Canada celebrates the 60th anniversary of its organizational beginnings. It currently has 575 staff serving at home and worldwide, and a \$15-million annual budget.



Roy Eyre (left) becomes president of Wycliffe Canada.



**Pay Master and Lockbox**

Getting financial donations to Wycliffe personnel serving around the world has always been a big job for Wycliffe Canada. But the challenge took on a new twist in the 1970s—the decade of the postal strikes in Canada.

Supporters were as anxious to give as Wycliffe workers were to receive, but the pipeline was often plugged by frequent and prolonged work stoppages at Canada Post. Automatic bank transfer donations were still uncommon at that time, and donors had a hard time mailing their regular monthly support cheques to the Calgary office.



Wycliffe workers' incomes fluctuated wildly depending on the strikes. Whatever support funds arrived in the office were easily distributed to staff working in the office, and through bank transfers to those on the fields. But those on furlough in Canada suffered long periods of financial drought.

Jack and Jo Popjes were furloughing in Kelowna, B.C. in the mid-1970s. They remember being surprised one day, when an unexpected visitor appeared at their door during a months-long strike.

It was Nelson Weston, founder of Wycliffe Associates, the volunteer ministry agency of Wycliffe Canada.

"I have some support funds for you," he told Jack and Jo.

"We accompanied him to his car, where he opened a lockbox in the trunk," recalls Jack. "He handed us an envelope of cash—support funds from our donors in southern Alberta and the Okanagan valley. He had personally collected the money."

En esto hemos conocido el amor, en que él puso su vida por nosotros; también nosotros debemos poner nuestras vidas por los hermanos.

This is how we know what love is: because Christ laid down his life for us. And we must lay down our lives for our brothers.

그가 우리를 위하여 목숨을 버리셨으니 우리가 이로써 사랑을 알고 우리도 형제들을 위하여 목숨을 버리는 것이 마땅합니다.

主何為愛  
Na tumenijua upendo kwa sababu Kristo alitoa maisha yake kwa ajili yetu. Na sisi, tunapaswa kuyatoa maisha yetu kwa ajili ya watu wengine.

我們也愛  
εν τούτοις ήμας ήμεν γνωρίσαμεν την αγάπην, ότι ο υιός του θεού ήρθε εν σαρκί και ήνεκα ημών ήθελε θέσει την ψυχήν αυτου ήνεκα ημών. και ημεν ήμεν υποχρεωμένοι ήναίμεν έτοιμοι να θέσουμε την ψυχήν ημεν ήνεκα των αδελφών ημών.

This is how we know what

هو ما ان يدركنا ان الله قد يحبنا  
اننا نعرف اننا نعرف ان الله قد يحبنا  
اننا نعرف اننا نعرف ان الله قد يحبنا

اننا نعرف اننا نعرف ان الله قد يحبنا  
اننا نعرف اننا نعرف ان الله قد يحبنا  
اننا نعرف اننا نعرف ان الله قد يحبنا

любовта, че Той даде живота си за нас. Така и ние сме длъжни да дадем живота си за братята,

Pravou lasku nam ukázal Kristus tím, že se obtoval život za nás. Také my musíme dát život za bratry.

Researched, compiled and written by Dwayne Janke, Jack Popjes & Onalee Oakes



Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada  
4316 10 St NE • Calgary AB T2E 6K3  
1-800-463-1143 • info@wycliffe.ca  
wycliffe.ca