

mind

Transforming Lives

body

Language-related
Ministries Change
Mind, Body And Spirit

spirit

God's Better Makeover Plan



The world ^{has gone} makeover crazy.

Plastic surgeons dish up the promise that they can create the physical beauty of the Hollywood superstar for any of us! This idea has become so popular it has even generated North American television programs like *The Swan* and *Nip/Tuck*. It's heady stuff, but more than a little disturbing, such makeovers are painful and expensive. And what does it really transform? For how long?

God's got a better makeover plan. It's free, available to all, and more than skin deep—it's complete transformation. Consider II Corinthians 5:17 (NIV): "... if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

When spiritual transformation comes first, nothing stays the same! Families, communities and even nations change as they humble themselves and walk in obedience to God's Word. Cynicism is replaced by faith. Depression and anxiety make way for hope. Love and justice push self aside. Truly, Bible translation and other language-related ministries are life giving because they result in spiritual, personal and social growth.

This year, ^{Dave Ohlson will} oversee Wycliffe Canada's life-giving ministries as our new executive director. Dave and his wife Joan bring a wealth of experience in Bible translation and administration, primarily in Asia. Prior to serving as Wycliffe International's Asia-Pacific area director, Dave oversaw SIL's work in the Philippines for six years. He also served as a translator on the Eastern Bontoc (now called Finallig) Language Project in the same country. I can't help believing that when people spend their lives that way, they believe in transformation—not the fleeting kind offered by *The Swan*, but the lasting kind offered by The Lamb.

Sheila Rowe
Chair
Wycliffe Canada Board of Directors



Wycliffe Canada Board of Directors

Ruth Behnke, *Vice chair*

A college mathematics professor from Burnaby, B.C., Ruth is also active in ministry to Christian women from many denominations.

Nate Hekman, *Secretary*

Nate is a software developer and Internet administrator in Calgary, Alta. A “missionary kid” (MK) who lived in Africa, Nate enjoys mentoring and encouraging other MKs.

Joseph Kok

An Ontario pastor for more than 12 years, Joe first became involved with Wycliffe in Hong Kong. He has also worked as a computer systems specialist.

Don Kroeker

As an agribusiness owner and operator in Winkler, Man., Don seeks to honour God by “meeting people’s needs through innovative agriculture.”

Gaetan Morency

A Montreal-area businessman, Gaetan helps raise awareness of Wycliffe’s ministries among his fellow Québécois. He is active in church ministry, politics and public service.

Don Robertson

Since 1981, Don has served three terms on Wycliffe Canada’s board. The Ottawa-based chartered accountant has also served on boards of Wycliffe Associates Canada and Wycliffe International.

Sheila Rowe, *Chair*

A Calgary journalist, seminar leader and homemaker, Sheila chaired Wycliffe Canada’s board in 2004. She has worked in radio and television with the CBC.

Bernhard Sleumer

A retired petroleum geologist, Bernhard has served in Calgary since 1993 as a volunteer project officer for LEAD, Wycliffe Canada’s department for literacy, education and international development.



Wycliffe Canada’s Vision and Mission

In partnership with the administration, our board of directors has reviewed and recast Wycliffe Canada’s vision and mission statements. The process included much thought, discussion and prayer, with the aim of clarifying our purpose as an organization and our dreams for the people we serve. Wycliffe Canada formally adopted the revised statements, below, in 2004.

Our Vision: A world where translated Scriptures lead to transformed lives among people of all languages.

Our Mission: To empower indigenous peoples worldwide for spiritual, personal and social growth through Bible translation and other language-related ministries.

Since giving a donation to Wycliffe, my wife and I have been blessed far more than we would have expected. Knowing that the Word is alive and has an effect on everyone who reads it, we are very excited to be involved in this ministry. What a great blessing to see that the Lord has used us to further His kingdom!

Tim Harkema
Network Innovations Inc.
Calgary, Alta.



Opened to a Wider World

In Ghana, West Africa, Laari Kombat operates a successful tailoring business (above). His achievements could be considered a small miracle, considering the obstacles he faced early in life.

As a young man, Laari became the main provider for his family because his father was blind. Responsible for his parents, nine brothers and one sister, Laari's desire to attend school seemed nothing more than a dream.

Then in 1972, the Bimoba Literacy Project started up, allowing him to attend evening classes. After he learned how to read, Laari became a volunteer literacy teacher in the village and later progressed to become the supervisor of literacy programs encompassing six villages.

Laari's ability to read, take measurements and keep records gave him the opportunity to work as a tailor. He could also read the Scriptures that had been translated into his own language. As he read in the book of Exodus how God provided for Joseph and his family, he realized God could also

care for his family (below, bottom). He surrendered his life to Christ, and later became a Sunday school teacher and deacon in his local church.

Today, Laari oversees the work of seven apprentices in his shop (below), which he calls "God's Gift Tailoring Shop." He has also helped



three of his younger brothers to complete high school. He is currently the treasurer of the Bimoba Bible Project.

Brimming with thankfulness, Laari counts himself blessed by God. "Literacy truly opens up a wider world," he says.



A Dying Man's Last Plea



In 1999, team members from the Mandali Community Literacy Project in South Asia began visiting villages that had been plagued by strife between Hindus and Christians. Previous generations had lived peaceably together, until religious leaders from one Hindu movement grew increasingly hostile towards their Christian neighbours. Believers had been persecuted and even forced to flee from their homes.

Despite the tensions, Mandali team members began reaching out to the Hindu villagers, gradually gaining their trust and friendship.

In 2000, the team worked with elders in one village to set up a model school. But as the school was set to open, a respected Hindu leader, or *bhagat*, unexpectedly opposed the project because of

his fear that students would be forced to become Christians.

The Mandali team leader assured the *bhagat* that students would not be forced to convert and that literacy would ultimately benefit his village. Reluctantly, the *bhagat* gave his consent.

Today, two mother tongue and two primary schools in the area are equipping nearly 100 students with vital literacy skills. Literate villagers are sewing, raising goats and making candles to generate income. They have become accepting of Christians and the gospel.

The *bhagat* has since died, but not before he witnessed the benefits of literacy and education in his village. On his deathbed, he told his sons, "Whether I live or die, do not let this school stop."



Your Turn Wycliffe Canada sponsors the Ghana Literacy and Development program and the Mandali Community Literacy program. You can help transform lives through your financial gifts for these projects (see reply form).

Literacy Saves Lives



Water: without it, life would not exist. But paradoxically, it also kills.

John Galole (above, right) knows this first hand. In developing countries such as Kenya, his homeland, water is a major source of disease and death. More than half of Kenya's population suffers from ailments related to contaminated water.

John's home town is no exception.

As leader of the Wycliffe Canada-sponsored *Partners with Nationals* Bible translation and literacy project among the Pokomo people, John decided to do something about it. While teaching a basic mother tongue literacy class in Vumbwe village in 2003, he incorporated a practical lesson on protecting the community from waterborne health enemies, like cholera, typhoid and parasites.

By the end of the lesson, the class had learned that boiling their drinking water could keep them free from these diseases. Because they heard a solution to this problem in their mother tongue, they could

understand what to do. The class participants soon decided to boil their water before using it in their homes.

Other villagers not in the class also began to boil their drinking water. They said they appreciated what the Pokomo teacher was doing. They had not heard this kind of information anywhere else and planned to attend classes until the whole village changed its health standards.

"We thank God that as the result of that one lesson more people have joined the class," writes John Galole. "Most of the villagers are now avoiding waterborne diseases."

Water is bringing life to the Pokomo people, both physically and spiritually, as they seek "living water" from the Christ in God's Word, and as they drink cleaner water in their homes.



Their faces eager with anticipation, six women concentrate as they write words on their slates. They work hard to follow the instructor at the blackboard. Several have babies on their backs, while a young child plays at her mother's feet. The two older women in the class have been teased that school is for children, but they say, "We want to learn too."

Going to school is difficult work, a sacrifice for these Joola Kaasa women of Senegal (below) because they already do hard physical labour in their gardens the rest of the day. But the ability to read and write in their own language is important

Women Gain Respect, Men Gain Honour



to them. It means they can communicate in their own language with their children living in another town. They can read directions and signs at the market. They can understand instructions for using medicine, and notes from their children's school teachers.

Others in their village look up to them when they can read and write—even their husbands. Such respect for women is unusual in this African culture.

"We have evaluated the literacy classes and one thing, in particular, encouraged us," says Jean Jacques Sambou, the Joola Kaasa literacy project leader in Senegal. "In the village of Haër, the husbands of the women who took the classes

were very proud of them. Each man felt honoured by the success of his wife."

This helped marriage relationships. Women in Joola Kaasa culture are not typically honoured, so this indicates a shift in the outlook of men toward their wives.

"You see, when you speak of a woman, she is always 'the wife of X,'" explains Sambou.

Learning to read and write in their own language has paid off for these Joola Kaasa women. The time invested was well worth it.

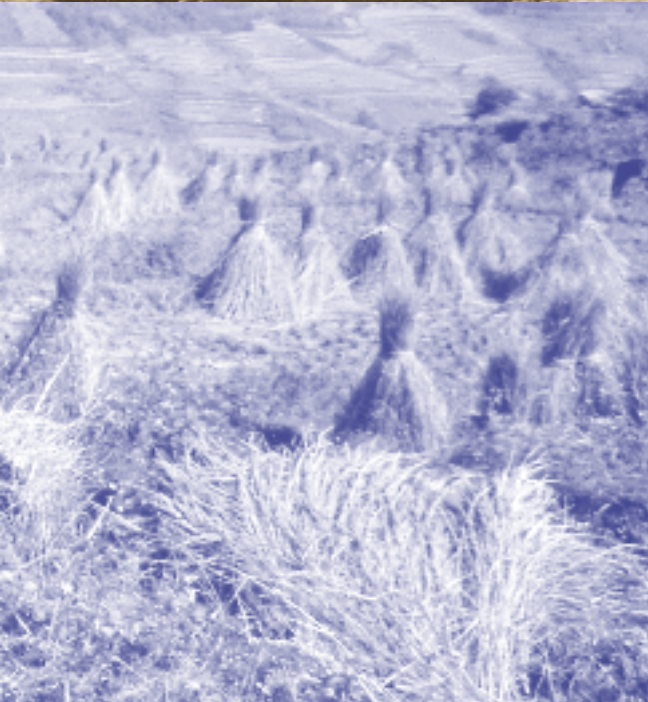


Sweet and Heart Oiling

Her eyes welling up with tears, a 60-year-old woman exclaims in Sabaoth, "Praise the name of our Lord God! Our language is so sweet and oils my heart."

As she tells her story at the monthly congregational meeting of a church in Kenya, everyone listens intently. And the congregation answers, "Amen."

What she meant was that the message of the Scriptures in her own language was so clear, natural and well expressed that she understood what the pastor said. She explained that John 14:1-6 read in Sabaoth "entered her ears so gently" that she found herself feeling happier than she had ever experienced before. (In that passage, Jesus tells His disciples not to be afraid and





describes heaven to them.) She found peace when this message of hope was preached. Her fear was gone.

"I believe in the living God who knows even my own mother tongue," she shouted to the congregation.

As a result of her testimony, those in the church who did not yet have a copy of the Sabaot New Testament wanted to get their own.

That kind of response is music to the ears of Kiboki Kigai (above), a senior translator in the Sabaot project.

"It is encouraging to have people believe in our Lord Jesus when the message is well communicated in their language," he says. "God is with us because He is our Lord and God no matter what culture we come from."



Your Turn Wycliffe Canada sponsors the Pokomo, Joola Kaasa and Sabaot projects. Use the enclosed reply form to get more information or donate to these life-changing programs.

Summary of Financial Information

(Thousands of Dollars)

These figures show financial activity for Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada Inc. for the fiscal year ending Sept. 20, 2004. Complete audited statements are available upon request.

Assets

	2004 Sept.	2003 Sept.
	Current	
Cash and short term investments	1,682	1,357
Accounts receivable	93	19
Inventories and prepaids	122	126
	1,897	1,502
Long-term receivables	—	60
Investments (Market value—\$217; 2003—\$201)	225	223
Charitable remainder trusts	84	79
Capital assets, net	781	784
	2,987	2,648

Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	595	694
Investment trust agreements	246	243
Long-term Liabilities	30	44
	871	981

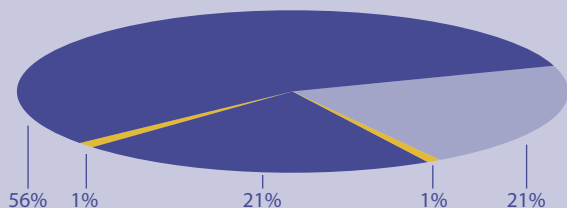
Fund Balances

Invested in capital assets	647	611
Restricted – Designated funds	1,270	605
General operating funds	199	451
	2,116	1,667
	2,987	2,648

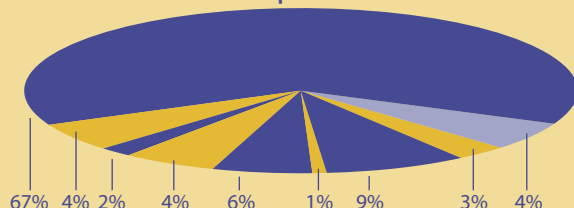
Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances

	2004 Sept.	2003 Sept.
Revenues		
Donations from Canadian public	8,321 56%	8,176
Donations from foreign sources	3,101 21%	2,943
Donations from other charities (churches, etc.)	3,041 21%	2,867
Government grants	180 1%	352
Investment and other	165 1%	189
	14,808	14,527
Expenses		
Administration	1,272 9%	1,347
Amortization	83 1%	87
Communication	655 4%	849
Field Programs - Missionary support	9,585 67%	8,933
Field Programs - Project expenses	567 4%	1,014
Fund raising	454 3%	478
Public relations	642 4%	586
Theatre ministry	262 2%	510
Training	839 6%	832
	14,359	14,636
Excess of revenues over expenses	449	(109)
Fund balances at beginning of year	1,667	1,776
Fund balances at end of year	2,116	1,667

Revenues



Expenses



Field Project Opportunities for 2005

Partners with Nationals:

The goal of these 13 projects is to translate Scriptures into the local languages and teach a critical mass of people to read so that Scriptures will be used in churches and homes. Highly trained and motivated national workers staff these projects, located in Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Senegal and South Asia.

Forecast 2004 \$360,000

Actual 2004 \$322,000

Forecast 2005 \$380,000

National Involvement & Training:

This fund assists literacy projects in South America, Africa and Asia. A goal in each project is to equip national colleagues to carry on the literacy and development work so that people will become fully literate in their own language. It is vital for each group to develop a core of readers for the translated Scriptures to be fully used.

Forecast 2004 \$208,800

Actual 2004 \$127,000

Forecast 2005 \$106,000

Kenya Children's Literacy:

Wycliffe's partner agency in Kenya is rapidly expanding the training program for teachers in public schools to reach children from the Sabaoth and Tharaka language communities. This mother tongue literacy program will impact more than 80,000 children. Giving the children a good start in their own language enables them to stay in school and move on to the national language for further education. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is co-funding this project.

Forecast 2004 \$126,500

Actual 2004 \$54,000

Forecast 2005 \$93,500

India Literacy-based Development:

Wycliffe Canada's sponsorship of this project will be completed in 2005, and the Adivasi Oriya people of central India have now assumed management of their own literacy and development work. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has provided significant funding for this project.

Forecast 2004 \$133,600

Actual 2004 \$142,288

Forecast 2005 \$48,000

Ghana Literacy and Development:

More than 32,000 adults in 22 language communities of northern Ghana will receive instruction from about 2,000 volunteer teachers. (The 2004 forecast included figures assuming CIDA would continue co-sponsorship. This project is now funded only from private donations.)

Forecast 2004 \$136,500

Actual 2004 \$30,000

Forecast 2005 \$76,000

Mandali Community Literacy:

This isolated group in South Asia is using an innovative approach that not only provides a basic education for their children, but also generates enough income to maintain a school building and provide books for both children and adults. Wycliffe Canada is partnering with a local community organization to train teachers, initiate income generation, and mobilize the communities in support of education in five related languages. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is co-funding this project.

Actual 2004 \$48,000

Forecast 2005 \$97,000

You can give to these projects now. Use the enclosed reply form and envelope. Or, give online at www.wycliffe.ca/partner.



Canadian International Development Agency

Agence canadienne de développement international

Wycliffe Canada:

*Impacting indigenous peoples
through the power of the Word.*

We serve indigenous peoples worldwide through language-related ministries—like Bible translation and literacy—unleashing the power of the Word. Our goal is to impact the whole person and promote personal, social and spiritual transformation. Wycliffe Canada seeks prayer, personnel and funding for this work from like-minded Canadians. More than 2,700 minority language groups still wait for the power of the Word.



Partners in Bible Translation

Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada Inc.

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E-mail: development@wycliffe.ca

Web: www.wycliffe.ca



Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada Inc. is a charter member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC).

Spending of funds is confined to approved programs and projects within

policies and guidelines set by the Wycliffe Canada board of directors. Designated gifts to an approved program or project will be used as designated with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed, the remaining restricted contributions designated for such programs or projects will be used where needed most. Regular donors to such programs or projects will be informed. The total costs of all programs and projects include direct costs, costs imposed by governments, as well as administrative costs. Gifts will be acknowledged and receipted with an official receipt for income tax purposes. For more information, please see the brochure, Financial Principles & Practices of Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada Inc.

Revenue Canada Charitable

Registration #10822 3371 RR0001

Our family foundation is committed to giving to Christian agencies that steward resources effectively for maximum possible impact—both now and for eternity. I have had the opportunity to visit Wycliffe teams in Colombia and the Philippines, and have been amazed at the dedication and single-minded focus each team has. They present the gospel to isolated communities around the world, in a way that is relevant to them in their culture and language. Often this takes years, but my experience with Wycliffe is that they stick to the job until it is done.

Mark Petersen
Bridgeway Foundation
Toronto, Ont.