



**2019-2020**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

TRANSLATING SCRIPTURE  
TRANSFORMING LIVES

  
Wycliffe

# A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT



This has certainly not been the year that anyone anticipated. Do you recall how the year 2020 was portrayed over the past 5-10 years? The year of big visions, or at least clear vision. Go back far enough, and it was the year we would get flying cars and jet packs.

I think it's safe to say that everyone was wrong. Rather than setting bold visions, it's been more about holding on. From lockdowns to grocery sanitization, homeschooling to Zoom fatigue, and re-opening to the "maskne" face rash, it's been quite a year!

## Impact on Wycliffe

What has 2020 looked like for Bible translation? In the early days of the pandemic, I was participating in 2 a.m. teleconferences with partners in isolated locations as we weighed risks. We agonized over whether to cancel international trips and conferences, when in hindsight the choice looks obvious. Instead of travelling 30 out of 50 days in early spring, I slept in my own bed and spent many hours on Zoom instead of a plane.

Field work goes on, but it looks different. While literacy and Scripture-based trauma healing workshops can't take place, many translators are working faster because there are fewer distractions. Meanwhile, God has provided for Wycliffe Canada in amazing ways. We had our best year for recruitment since 2015, and one of our strongest financial years. What a faith-building opportunity as we watched God provide, sometimes through our best efforts, but often in surprising ways.

## Looking ahead

What does the future look like for Wycliffe? First, virtual tools have removed geographic barriers, meaning that leaders on other continents are just as accessible as colleagues in our own office. We've enjoyed having speakers from around the globe speak to participants from every part of Canada at virtual prayer meetings and fundraising events.

We also anticipate that, by the time the dust settles, the percentage of staff working remotely while living in Canada will have increased fivefold in the past 15 years. What does "sending" missionaries look like if the majority of our staff are now working from Canada?

For years, I've been frustrated when attempts to think disruptively about our current ways of working are consistently put off because of urgent day-to-day tasks. The events of 2020 show that, more than ever, we need to think differently, so I freed up some capacity to develop a new innovation unit. We'll launch the new unit in January and begin pursuing experimentation on a number of pilot projects designed to accelerate our work on the field as well as reimagine some of our processes at home. I'm excited about this new venture to explore new ways of accomplishing our vision, while also benefiting the global Bible translation movement.

## The Year of the Bible

For some, 2020 isn't defined by COVID. Last year, a group of organizational leaders, artists and politicians collectively declared in faith that 2020 would be a year to focus on the Bible. This year the 700th language received the "whole counsel of God"—a translation of the entire Bible. By the end of this year, the number of languages awaiting the first verse of the Bible to be translated should fall below 2,000.

If we ever needed something solid we could depend on, if we ever needed a source for strength and encouragement, it's this year. In spite of all the turmoil of this year, 2020 was the Year of the Bible.

Pressing on,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy Eyre".

Roy Eyre  
President, Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada







*Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.  
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*



—Hymn lyrics by Thomas O. Chisholm

## DEVELOPMENT REPORT

DANIEL GENEST / VICE PRESIDENT, DEVELOPMENT

*How great is the Lord's faithfulness, today and always!*



For countless people around the world, 2020 has been a difficult—even tragic—year. Yet, in the midst of trying circumstances comes an opportunity to reflect on God's goodness and faithfulness towards His children. At Wycliffe, we are deeply grateful for you.

This year, we were amazed by your resilience and sacrificial support. In the midst of a global pandemic, you and many others stood with communities around the world to ensure that the hope that only comes from the Gospel of Jesus Christ, would continue to be shared.

While many delays were inevitable around the world, we've seen Bible translation workers show incredible perseverance. In the midst of cancelled language surveys, literacy classes, and Bible-related workshops, many found ways to continue their ministries. Though translation slowed and some Wycliffe members had to fly home, Bible translation is still going strong in many regions of the world.

**Because of your support, we have seen amazing progress in translation projects worldwide through the work of our field partners:**

- In the midst of violent conflicts and the pandemic, the Ndot Cluster translation team in Northwest Cameroon has accelerated their work in nine related languages

because of their close proximity and continued support of one another in their translation efforts.

- In a sensitive area of West Asia, literacy teachers delivered homeschooling packages containing Scripture resources, literacy workbooks, writing materials, a COVID informational booklet and a bar of soap. Hundreds of families benefited. Extra teachers were also hired to check in on the families and work with students one-on-one.
- In the Kinsha region of Southeast Asia, a COVID-19 prevention booklet was translated into 15 languages and shared on social media, with much positive feedback. This literacy team has also helped train COVID volunteers using these prevention materials, and arranged for food to be distributed to 254 households in need of relief due to the pandemic.
- In response to COVID-19, supporters like you gave generously to our Emergency Fund. This helped, and will continue to help, many Wycliffe members with travel, health or financial issues related to the pandemic.
- Translation partners in Peru's Andes Mountains have adapted their translation efforts to the pandemic, working mostly online together. And being unable to attend church hasn't stopped Quechua believers from worshiping! Pastor Oscar's church members, for example, haven't had access to smartphones or the

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Internet, so Oscar calls a few brothers who gather their households around the phone to hear Scripture readings in their language. The pastor holds several two-hour services a day this way.

- In West Asia, the Taqt people watched helplessly as their government closed schools and businesses because of COVID-19. We worried that the school’s literacy program would lose momentum or students would scatter, but teachers have maintained regular contact with the community and devised a creative program for remote learning. The children’s assignments are sent to parents on their smartphones, keeping students engaged and motivated. Their commitment to education is remarkable, when you consider that most people in the village where the school is located don’t even have access to clean water or electricity. To keep smartphones

charged, the “haves” must share with the “have-nots.” They lack resources like Google Classroom and Zoom, yet these teachers and students have found a way to keep on learning.

The events of this past year have been a sober reminder of what we’ve always known: the world needs Jesus. We praise God for the way you have generously invested in communities around the globe this year, so that people can gain access to His Word and encounter His Son.



Daniel Genest  
Vice-President of Development,  
Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada

**As the following Eastern Apurímac Quechua hymn says, we long for the day when people in all communities around the world will hear Jesus call them “my son” and “my daughter” in their language.**

//Imaynallaraq rikuykullayman  
Jesucristollayta Tayta Diosnillayta,  
Sumaq ponchollayoq,  
Sumaq ch’ullullayoq,  
Quechua rimayllapi  
“Wawalláy niwaqtin”.//

How I would like to see  
Jesus Christ my LORD  
with his Quechua poncho  
with his Quechua hat  
talk to me in my language  
saying “My son.”



**NDOP CAMEROON**  
**BIBLE TRANSLATION**





**AIDIA PERU**

**ENGAGEMENT WITH SCRIPTURE**

## INTRODUCING LOIS ANDERSON

### DIRECTOR OF MOBILIZATION

#### *Helping people find their “fit”*



If you’ve ever attended a local or regional missions conference, you’ve probably strolled past dozens of mission agency booths—perhaps even Wycliffe Canada’s. You may even have talked with a mission rep to learn more about their organization, or picked up a brochure or magazine to take home.

For decades, such events have proved helpful for thousands of people who are pondering how their skills and interests might fit in missions. But for some, the sheer number of agencies represented, coupled with the staggering number of service options around the world, can be overwhelming.

That’s why Wycliffe Canada’s new director of mobilization, Lois Anderson, and her cross-Canada team of mission coaches are exploring how to better connect with people who are considering short-term service or a career in missions. That means moving beyond a single conversation at an event, by walking alongside interested people over time in a “journey of discernment.”

“We’re here to walk with inquirers, their family and their church through the process of discerning God’s call,” says Lois.

#### **Addressing the Need**

Mindful that more than 2,000 language groups still need Scripture in the language they know best, Lois is passionate

about helping people channel their skills and experience for the sake of Bible translation.

“Discovering God’s call can be overwhelming, risky, costly and frightening,” Lois says, “but no one has to do it alone.

“We help people identify and take the next step.”

Lois is also motivated to provide resources for Wycliffe’s partner organizations around the world—resources that include skilled personnel. For that part of her role, she brings an insider’s perspective.

An MK, or “missionary kid” who grew up in Papua New Guinea, she served in Cameroon for 20 years as a teacher and administrator at Rain Forest International School.

“I was director of the school and I had to find people to fill a variety of positions. That’s a problem all over—there’s just never enough people in any position.”

#### **Discovering Together**

Lois admits that helping someone discern how and where they can find a good fit for their particular skill set can be challenging. In fact, after weeks or months of corresponding by email, chatting on Zoom and praying together, an inquirer may feel that Wycliffe isn’t a good fit for them after all—and that’s OK.

That’s because Lois and her teammates work closely with other mission agencies and networks. The collaborative

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approach and spirit of generosity that unites the agencies helps ease the fears of prospective candidates, while exposing them to a broad variety of opportunities.

Relationships are also being forged with campus ministries like Power to Change and Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship.

**Opportunity to Innovate**

Despite these and other encouraging links with like-minded organizations, Lois admits the pandemic has complicated her team’s commitment to walking with individuals on a journey of discovery. Even so, they are finding ways to connect with people through online events.

In October, an online event called “Beyond Your Back Yard” drew 43 participants. Nearly a third of them requested follow-up with a mission coach, to explore how their skills might be used in missions.

Additionally, those interested in linguistics can join in online chapels held by Wycliffe Canada’s training partner, the Canada Institute of Linguistics (CanIL) in B.C. and Ontario. And although Wycliffe’s adventure fundraiser, “Race to 2025” is on hold, past race co-ordinator Sam Wuermli is working to maintain relationships with Christian schools and colleges across Western Canada through their online programs.

**Not Just Students**

While school campuses and conferences like Urbana are popular venues to meet young people with a heart for missions, the mobilization team is also keen to connect with “restless professionals”—people from 20 to 35 who already have a profession but feel they want to be more involved in missions.

“Figuring out what works best for them, and how we communicate best with them, is probably the most challenging part of my job right now,” says Lois.

Even as she works to help people find a fit for their skills in missions, Lois is pleased that her role with Wycliffe allows room for her to teach—through an online Bible class she leads for Rain Forest International School.

“That brings me a lot of joy,” she says. “In terms of my work in mobilization, I would say anything that involves talking to people, presenting, being able to share translation and personnel needs in person—that’s what gets me fired up.”



CREE INITIATIVE CANADA  
CAPACITY BUILDING



SENSITIVE PROJECT ASIA  
BIBLE TRANSLATION



NDOP CLUSTER CAMEROON  
LITERACY



AIDIA PERU  
LITERACY

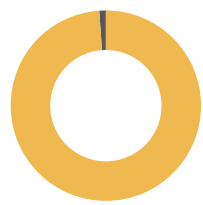


# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

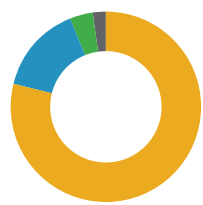
These figures show financial activity for Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada Inc. for the fiscal year ending August 20, 2020. Complete audited statements are available at [statements.wycliffe.ca](https://statements.wycliffe.ca).

Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances (thousands of dollars) over 12 months.

	Aug. 2020	Aug. 2019
<b>Income</b>		
Contributions income	17,258	16,817
Other income	220	222
Gain (Loss) on sale of assets	0	2
<b>Expenses</b>		
Wycliffe approved programs	13,865	13,468
Administration	2,684	2,609
Fundraising		
- Member Projects	501	684
- Organizational fundraising	330	289
<b>Net Excess (Deficiency) of operations</b>	98	(10)
Fund balances at beginning of year	3,795	3,805
<b>Fund balances at end of year</b>	3,893	3,795



**INCOME:**  
 99% Contributions  
 1% Other



**EXPENSES:**  
 80% Programs  
 15% Administration  
 3% Member Projects  
 2% Organizational fundraising



TRAUMA HEALING DRC  
 ENGAGEMENT WITH SCRIPTURE



ISLAND ADVANCE SOUTHEAST ASIA  
 BIBLE TRANSLATION

214  
 MILLION  
 People impacted by  
 Wycliffe Canada projects

237  
 Language groups served by  
 translation, literacy or other  
 language-related work

41  
 Countries served

499  
 Wycliffe Canada staff  
 worldwide, including  
 volunteers and interns



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