



**2021**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

TRANSLATING SCRIPTURE  
TRANSFORMING LIVES



# A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

## What will disrupt Wycliffe?



Dear Friends,

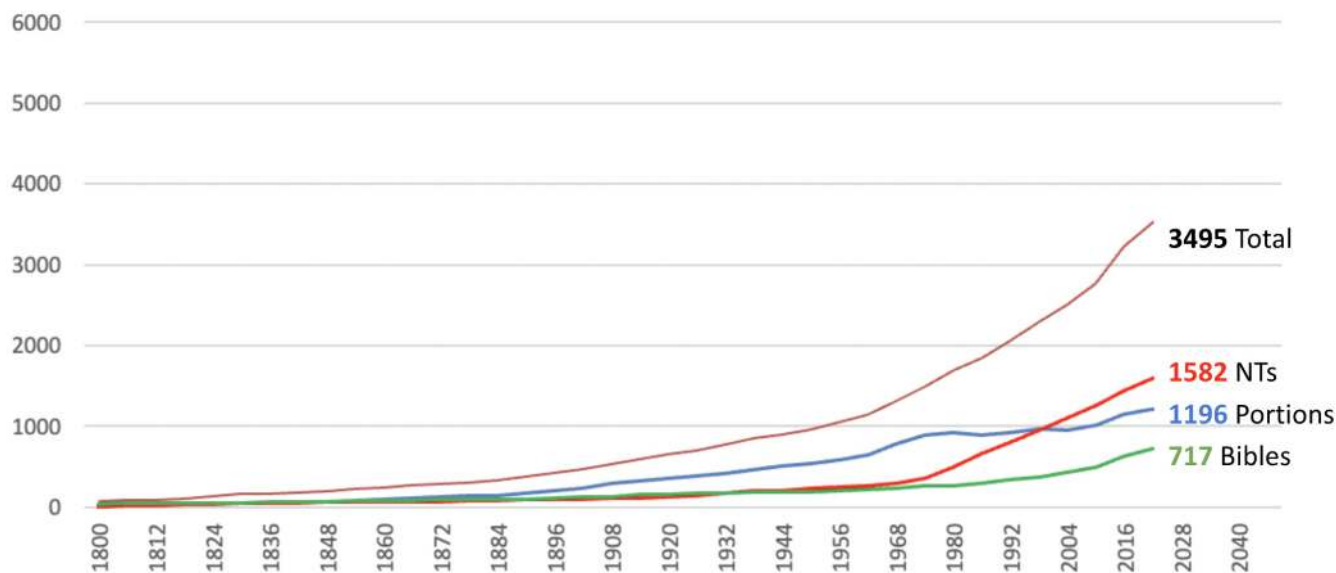
A friend and counterpart leading another missions organization posed this question over coffee. His follow up questions brought more focus to his question: how is Wycliffe thinking about technology, and are we preparing for its disruption (a technology or process that challenges the established way of doing things and ultimately becomes the preferred option).

It's a good question. We are celebrating the exponential growth in the number of languages with translation in progress.

Such growth curves are made up of two things:

- Cumulative momentum in the fundamentals – more translations in progress.
- Inflection points – catalytic moments that increase the angle of growth.

## LANGUAGES WITH SOME SCRIPTURE FROM 1800-2050



The first: We are absolutely committed to the fundamentals. Canadians are involved in about 10 per cent of the 2,800 active language projects around the world through Bible translation, engagement with translated Scripture, language development, literacy, and capacity building. It's work that requires passion, commitment, and oftentimes incarnational investment. We're not going to move away from that. In fact, we're committed to building on the five-fold increase in project funding we've sent to the field over the past decade. And we're building a mobilization effort that will send out at least 15 Canadians per year to serve around the world.

The second: To keep our momentum going, we need to reach for the next inflection point we believe is just around the corner. What might that breakthrough be? There is real momentum and energy going into computer-assisted translation. The best way to be part of that inflection point is both to engage existing players and join in ourselves. We continue to support our partner SIL International as they engage with global institutions and companies like Google, Microsoft, and Intel to offer valuable expertise to help them advance this field and ensure that they are contributing to a supportive environment for the use of local languages.

At the same time, we are also investing deeply in the development of our own natural language generation software. Along with 11 other partners, we are developing and testing The Bible Translator's Assistant (or TBTA) as a tool for drafting Scripture. Early pilot programs in three countries show that it creates natural-sounding translation and maintains accuracy through the process, while shaving 40 per cent off the average translation time.

### *Disruption*

So, what will disrupt Wycliffe? I don't believe technology will actually disrupt us; if a tool helps accomplish our mission and ensures quality translation, we are usually pretty open to leveraging it. But I do believe our work has a point of vulnerability.

We cannot be complacent about the Church in Canada. We need to pray for church leaders and invest in our local congregations. We need to partner with those organizations whose mission is to promote Bible engagement in Canada. And we need to tell stories of life change that take place when people engage with Scripture in their languages—in Canada and around the world.

As an organization and as individuals, we have a role to play here as we seek a strong Church in Canada that doesn't drift from its foundation or its mission. Without a Bible-believing Church, we won't have the funds, the people, or the prayer power necessary to fuel Canada's engagement in seeing God's Word used and bringing transformation around the world.

Pressing on,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy Eyre", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Roy Eyre  
President, Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada



# HOW LIVES & COMMUNITIES ARE TRANSFORMED

## The Four Pillars of Holistic Bible Translation



### BIBLE TRANSLATION

*In 2021, you may have noticed more references to our four “pillars”: **Bible Translation, Engagement with Scripture, Literacy, and Capacity Building**. They have long been key elements of our Bible translation work. Bringing them to the forefront of our general messaging is about creating breadth and depth in our communication and partnership with the Church in Canada. Bible translation is more than just Scripture in other languages—it’s about the transformation of lives and communities when they have Scripture in the language and form that best serves them.*

God has spoken, and continues to speak, through His Word—the Bible. The Scriptures point to Jesus, the source of life, restoration and salvation. But 1 in 5 people around the world still have no access to God’s message in a language and form they clearly understand.

Bible translation allows people everywhere to meaningfully engage with God’s Word, which he uses to transform lives in every culture, whether it’s shared in written form, sign language, oral Bible storytelling, audio, or videos.

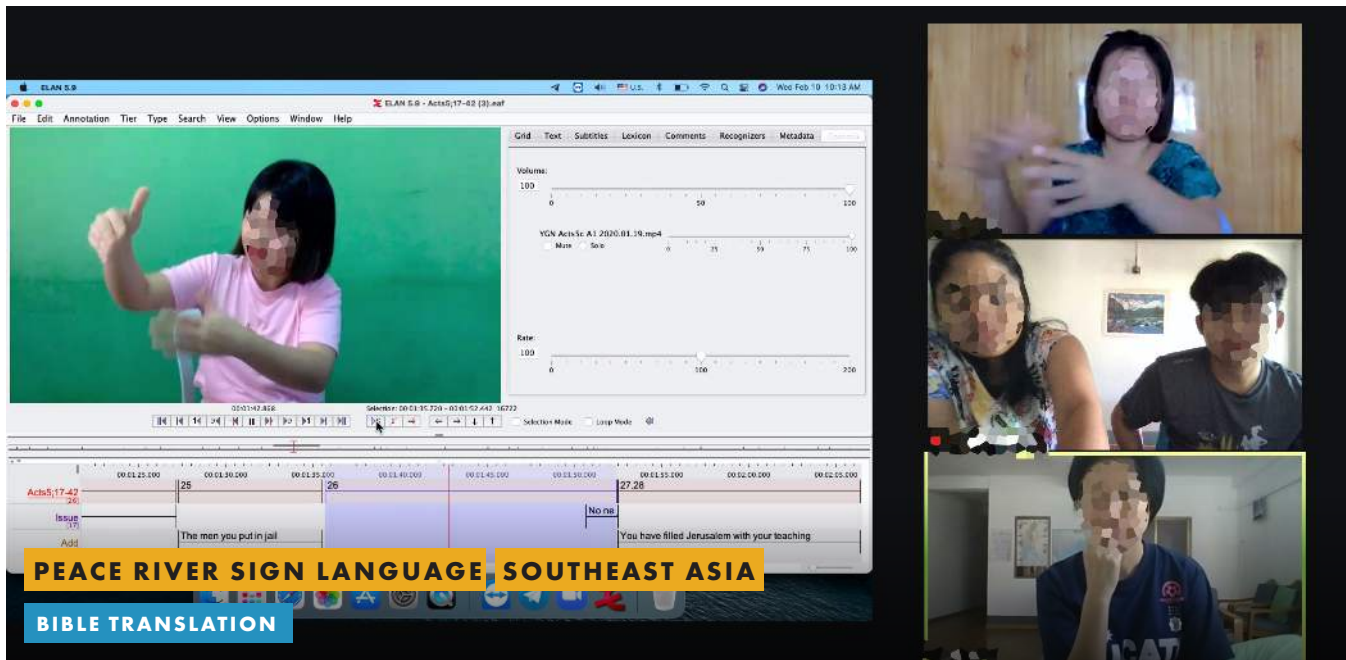
As a member of the Wycliffe Global Alliance, Wycliffe Canada partners with more than 100 organizations in the global work of Bible translation. The past 70 years have seen remarkable progress. Much work remains—but it’s now possible to finish Scripture translation for those who still need it, in this generation.



***"This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God’s wonderful grace.***

- Colossians 1:6 NLT







## ENGAGEMENT WITH SCRIPTURE

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God's Word is eternal and unchanging, transforming lives wherever it goes. While the truth of God's Word remains the same, people around the world relate to God through Scripture in vastly different ways—because people, communities and cultures differ.

Bible translation doesn't stop with the completion of printed, audio or visual Scripture. Learning how to engage with Scripture is where the transformation of lives and communities begin. Together with partner churches and organizations worldwide, Wycliffe develops creative methods to help people everywhere understand the Word, interact with it and integrate it into their daily lives.

People and communities find dignity, hope and meaning as they engage deeply through Scripture with the God who loves them. Churches grow, thrive and make disciples. God's Kingdom expands.



*The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.*

- Isaiah 55:10-11





**KINSHA ASIA**

**ENGAGEMENT WITH SCRIPTURE**



**WYCLIFFE THAI FOUNDATION SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**ENGAGEMENT WITH SCRIPTURE**



## LITERACY

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When people can read scripture in a language they clearly understand, they can better interact with it and integrate it into their lives. That's why literacy programs often go hand in hand with Bible translation. And then they gain access to other translated resources like Bible studies and devotional materials, local churches thrive spiritually.

Literacy also benefits the broader community. It can preserve previously unwritten languages and help record traditional forms of oral history and storytelling. Literacy is also an important part of life-saving health and hygiene promotion and helps subsistence farmers grow more productively and sustainably. In a rapidly changing world, literacy opens doors to education, economic empowerment and a better life for the next generation.



*But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'*

- Matthew 4:4







**AIDIA** **SOUTH AMERICA**

**LITERACY**



**KINSHA** **ASIA**

**LITERACY**



## CAPACITY BUILDING

As the global church embraces the opportunity to translate Scripture into every living language, Wycliffe seeks to help eliminate bottlenecks. This means more training for more people in more places. It means local, sustainable ownership of the work. And it means translating the whole Bible, God's full counsel—not just the New Testament.

Capacity building means strengthening the global church's ability—today and tomorrow—to carry out Jesus' Great Commission. Ultimately it means transformed lives giving glory to God.



*You have heard me teach things  
that have been confirmed by many  
reliable witnesses. Now teach  
these truths to other trustworthy  
people who will be able to pass  
them on to others.*

- 2 Timothy 2:2



CREE INITIATIVE NORTH AMERICA

CAPACITY BUILDING





**EASTERN LAWA | SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**



**DRC TRAUMA HEALING | AFRICA**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

These figures show financial activity for Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada Inc. for the fiscal year ending August 20, 2021. Not shown here but available online is a 41-day period statement for August 21 to September 30, 2021 due to a new fiscal year end date.

Both audited statements are available at [www.wycliffe.ca/about/legal-financial](http://www.wycliffe.ca/about/legal-financial).

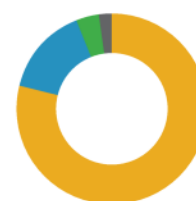
Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances (thousands of dollars) over 12 months.

|  | Aug. 2021    | Aug. 2020    |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Income</b>                                |              |              |
| Contributions income                         | 17,478       | 17,258       |
| Other income                                 | 382          | 220          |
| <b>Expenses</b>                              |              |              |
| Wycliffe approved programs                   | 13,497       | 13,865       |
| Administration                               | 2,695        | 2,684        |
| Fundraising - Member projects                | 615          | 501          |
| Fundraising - Organizational fundraising     | 390          | 330          |
| <b>Net Excess (Deficiency) of operations</b> | <b>663</b>   | <b>98</b>    |
| Fund balances at beginning of year           | 3,893        | 3,795        |
| <b>Fund balances at end of year</b>          | <b>4,556</b> | <b>3,893</b> |



## INCOME:

98% Contributions  
2% Other



## EXPENSES:

78% Programs  
16% Administration  
4% Fundraising  
- Member Projects  
2% Fundraising  
- Organizational fundraising





**336  
MILLION**

People potentially impacted  
by Wycliffe Canada projects

.....

**235**

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

.....

**38**

Countries served throughout  
Africa, the Americas, Asia,  
Europe, and the Pacific

.....

**434**

Wycliffe Canada staff  
worldwide, including  
volunteers and interns



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