



It's here! Announcing the launch of our redesigned website.

ACSI Western Canada is pleased to announce the launch of our newly redesigned website, acsiwc.org. Featuring a new look, our goal was to make the site easier to navigate and help you find what you're looking for quickly and efficiently.

We hope you like the changes; remember to update your bookmarks with the new link. If you'd like to stay connected on social media, follow our Executive Director, Phil Hills on [Twitter](#), and ACSIWC on [Facebook](#).

March 2019

We encourage you to forward this update to faculty, staff, board members, or other interested parties.

From the Director—Philip Hills

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From the Director—Philip Hills

What Does Not Kill You Will Make You...



In my family of four children, my youngest daughter, Rachel, was the one who was most sensitive as a child. She had a softer personality and was much more fearful than the rest of the family. Though this sensitivity made her much less able to deal with conflict or difficulty, it also gave her much more empathy for the disempowered and vulnerable around her. She was always kind and caring to her uncle with Down syndrome, Bob, who lived with us.

That sensitivity was on display yesterday when we picked her up from the airport. As we sat down for lunch together, she wept about having just left Haiti and desperately wanted to go back as soon as she could. She was in Haiti helping a medical team and had to leave early as a result of political unrest in the country. During the time the

team had been in the country, roads had been blocked as people were protesting the current government. Though Rachel and the team were connected with a local organization and did not feel endangered throughout their trip, the airline cancelled their flight later in the week. Due to this, the team had to leave early.

In fact, her frequent trips to Haiti and her time in Tanzania, as well as other parts of the world, had taught her to trust God, stay calm and carry on. She has been deathly ill, put in very difficult assignments much greater than her training, and has been far from her home and family, but despite all this, she keeps on going back. In fact, at lunch yesterday Rachel shared that this trip confirmed that her life call was to serve and love people wherever God calls her. She hopes to go to support children and adults with special needs when God opens the right doors for her to walk through.

How did our most vulnerable child become such a courageous, gospel-driven caregiver? Clearly God's work in her is the primary reason. But what did He specifically do to bring this about? He surrounded her with incredible people who love God and have experienced His power and faithfulness in very difficult circumstances. He also gave her opportunities to go on missions trips and protected her in powerful ways while she was away. He allowed her to be mentored by some excellent Christian teachers over the years who nurtured her faith and her passion to fulfill the Great Commission. He directed her spiritual formation through sound biblical teaching and Spirit-led obedience to what He was revealing to her.

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In a book I recently read, *The Coddling of the American Mind*, the authors stated that our children are being raised on reversals of traditional wisdom. The first unfortunate reversal is 'what does not kill you will make you weaker'. This is making our children much less resilient and much more anxious. They are being taught to avoid any situation that makes them stressed or even uncomfortable because they are falsely taught that these events will traumatize and diminish them. While there is no doubt that some events cause profound trauma, these children are being conditioned to think that having someone question their worldview is an act of violence that should not be tolerated. Parents and some educators are falsely believing that their role is to protect children from even the mildest experiences of discomfort.

But stress is not always bad. In fact, it can be a profoundly effective setting for building resilience, character and a true knowledge of God. That is what Rachel has experienced. As she has walked by faith into very difficult and often dangerous situations, she has become stronger and more aware of her gifts and calling. More than this, she has learned that in Christ she is indestructible. I am not suggesting that no harm will befall her, as plenty has already, but I am saying that she has learned that God will finish what He has started in her. He will give her the protection and resources she needs to complete the purposes for which she is called. She does not need to fear anything and can go anywhere God is calling her, which is where she wants to be.

I am amazed at how my timid and fearful youngest daughter has matured into a courageous and compassionate adult who wants to bring hope and healing to places in the world that need it most. She does not want to run from trouble—she wants to confront it in the name of Jesus and extend the boundaries of His kingdom one heart at a time.

Let us redefine how we keep children safe. The world says by keeping them from all stress, we will protect our children. But the Bible teaches by helping them embrace and live out God's will wherever He leads our children, they will become increasingly strong and fearless Good News Messengers. Rachel lives that way, and her life has been extraordinary. If God can take my daughter, who was terrified to ride the Snow White ride at Disneyland, into some of the world's most adventurous places to fearlessly love whomever she encounters, He can do the same for all of our children.

Events

Find information and register for events on our [website](#). The ACSI Events Calendar for 2018/2019 is posted on our Home page.

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Event Resources

Looking for the resources from ACSIWC events? Send a request to the ACSIWC office by email to acsiwc@acsi.org.

Exhibitor Opportunities

Reach educators in Western Canada! ACSIWC invites exhibitors to participate at our conferences and conventions.

Why exhibit at an ACSI event? Exhibiting provides a unique opportunity to reach more than 500 individual educators and 80 schools. You can generate sales leads, enhance your image and visibility, demonstrate your product, and personally meet your customers.

ACSI member colleges and universities have an exclusive invitation to exhibit at Student Leadership Conferences. This gives your institution the opportunity to meet with high school students and answer questions they might have about what is offered at your college or university.

We encourage you to take advantage of the exhibitor opportunities while they last as we have a limited number of spaces and they will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. To secure your space, please register through our [website](#) as soon as registration opens.

Professional Development

In keeping with our mission to enable Christian educators to effectively prepare students for life, ACSI offers professional development specifically designed to benefit teachers and administrators within our member schools. It is also a good opportunity to meet with colleagues and continue to build a support network for your school.

Our **Summer Institute** for educators will be July 2–5, 2019. Watch the [website](#) for details.

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Student Activities

We want our students to find peace with God, peace with each other, and peace with themselves. We want to equip our students to live the Shalom lifestyle, bringing redemptive hope wherever God chooses to use them.

The Spring Musicale, May 2–3 at Prairie College in Three Hills, is an opportunity to motivate your Junior and Senior High band or choir. Check the ACSIWC [website](#) for information.

College Corner

If any of our member colleges have an upcoming open house or other event that would be of interest to our students, please let our office know so that we can include the information in upcoming issues of the Communicator. The deadline for submissions for the April Communicator is March 22.

Peace River Bible Institute

Freshmen \$3000—PRBI's donor and friends strongly believe in investing in young people and want to support their desire to attend PRBI by giving them \$3000 towards their tuition. We have removed some of the financial barriers so that anyone can attend the 2019 school year! For more information go to our website prbi.edu or call 780.568.3962.

School News



Hearing about what other member schools are doing helps us feel connected as an association. We encourage you to [email](#) newsworthy information about your school to be included in this section of the monthly Communicator and on our Facebook page. The deadline for submissions for the April Communicator is March 22.

Linden Christian School Middle and Senior Years students enjoyed sessions with Jojo Ruba from Faith Beyond Belief last month. A Coke-Pepsi taste test set the stage for a discussion on "Who is the real Jesus and what is truth?"

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Global Outreach

Day of Hope

Each school year ACSIWC selects a specific “Classrooms for Africa” project to promote and support. The various member school communities raise funds for the project throughout the year. Ninety-five percent of the money raised goes towards that specific project. Five percent is used for administration costs. The current project involves providing much needed desks for classrooms.



The goal is to raise a total of \$20,000 through offerings at teacher conventions and through individuals and schools fund-raising efforts during the 2018–19 school year. This will equip 25 classrooms with desks and seats for 1,000 students. The cost of seating one student is \$20.

So far, from the convention offerings, we have raised \$10,000 for the project, sufficient to provide desks for 500 students leaving \$10,000 to go to reach the target by June 2019.

If you, your class or school need more information please email info@classroomsforafrica.org. A video is available for streaming and a downloadable

brochure and PowerPoint at: www.classroomsforafrica.org/desks

School Global Outreach News

One of the reasons our schools are so strong is because of their passionate concern for exalting Jesus among the nations. We highlight your stories to encourage one another. Please [email](#) stories and pictures to our office from recent mission trips and/or mission projects to share what your school is doing in support of reaching the world for Christ.

Lions Gate Christian Academy Grade 11s were in Guatemala from February 12–22. They were working with children at a couple of different schools and an orphanage, and with a group of single moms who are being empowered in the local economy.



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School Mission Trips

Many of our schools will be sending student groups on mission trips this year. Please send us your school name and the dates and destination of your trip so we can pray for you as you travel and spread God’s love around the world.

Kootenay Christian Academy has sent a team of Grade 8/9 students, along with two teachers, on a mission trip to Ensenada, Mexico, March 2–9. They are building a house there with YUGO.

Also pray for:

- **Pacific Academy**, ongoing—Nightshift Ministries, Surrey; March—Albania, India, Mexico, Lillooet, BC (First Nations), Philippines, South Africa, and Uganda
- **Fort Saskatchewan Christian School**, April 29—National House of Prayer, Ottawa

Teachers for Teachers

Teachers for Teachers is an initiative of ACSIWC to partner Canadian teachers with teachers in Uganda who are enrolled in the Transformational Teacher Training Program—a certificate program offered by ACSI. The goal of the initiative is to transform, inspire, equip, and mentor teachers.

Educating, equipping, and supporting Ugandan teachers is the best development investment we can make. It generates and inspires transformation in both the teachers and their students.

Ugandan Christian teachers need tools to know how to integrate biblical truth within their rigid curriculum. This program introduces them to a new mindset, but they need encouragement and support to continue growing in their understanding of Christian education.

Your sponsorship enables development of teachers who will begin to teach and mentor other teachers.

Students can't receive quality Christian education instruction without well trained and motivated teachers. The importance of investing in these teachers' education is a critical step in Christian education in Uganda.

For more information please [contact our office](#).

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We Want to Serve You

ACSI Canada Bookroom

Purposeful Design Publications has released its new Spelling Series! This series will be replacing the current Spelling 1–6 program. The former program will only be available while supplies last.

Spelling Plus Grades 1–6

A revision (and retitling) of PDP Elementary Spelling to more accurately reflect that this series is far more than just a spelling textbook. Spelling Plus will easily integrate with any language arts series while providing in-depth and research-based instruction.

Student: \$24.30 | Teacher: \$120.30

Contact the ACSI Canada Bookroom for more info or to preview a sample.

P. 604.851.6983 | E. acsicanadabooks@gmail.com | W. www.acsicanadabooks.com



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ACSI Community

Connexus has been replaced with Community. Your new easy-to-use Community opens the door to ideation, collaboration, and innovation with your peers around the world making us all Stronger Together. Take a moment to check out the [new site](#). Please note that you will have to log in and reset your password.

Keep Us Informed

Please notify us ASAP of administrative changes (principals, heads of school, email addresses, addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers) in your school. This is very important in helping us keep in contact with you.

Your Feedback is Important to Us! We welcome your feedback concerning this newsletter or any of the information in this newsletter. Please contact us with questions, comments, or suggestions by sending an email to philip_hills@acsi.org.

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Contact Us



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