



Information Session

APRIL 10, 2022



Introduction

We have gone through, and are still feeling the effects of, a very difficult period, not just for RDLUC, but also for many other churches, other volunteer organizations as well as many businesses



What is our current status?

- ➔ Simply put we do not yet know, as we are still recovering from the effects of the pandemic and are uncertain whether donations, attendance and volunteering will return to pre-pandemic levels or close thereto
- ➔ After the withdrawal of government support in the fall of 2021 we have been running and continue to run a cash deficit and have a 'Funding Gap' as do many other organizations
- ➔ What we do know is that we have several strengths that will help to support us and some challenges to contend with



What caused our funding gap?

- In 2021 the donations that we received were \$80m less than in 2019 (the previous pre pandemic year)
- This decline in donations was offset by government grants with the result that we came very close to breaking even in 2021 despite the drop in donations
- At the end of October 2021 government grants were largely terminated and accordingly we are now feeling the full effect of the decline in donations
- Given the uncertainty of our situation our budget for 2022 has included donations at basically the same level as 2021 which we hope is a conservative position



Strengths

- We have cash reserves that are currently enabling us to maintain our operations
- The above means we have time to reduce the funding gap incrementally not abruptly
- We have many volunteers who continue to contribute their efforts to the Church
- Our building and site are very attractive
- We can accommodate a modest increase in renters
- Our location has become more accessible
- There is a growing population closer to our site



Challenges

- Our cash reserves can only last so long
- The loss of volunteers in key positions is costing us money and could cost us more
- Donations have declined and part of this decline appears to be permanent in nature
- There are cost increases that we have very little control or influence over (insurance, utilities etc.)
- The demographics of the Church are not favourable
- Our recurring 'asks' from the congregation may be losing their effectiveness
- We received grants for seniors' programs in the last 2 years but there is no certainty that these will continue



What is the ideal solution?

- The re-engagement of people
- The attraction of new people who will volunteer and donate



Other possibilities

- Do less (may not save in the long term)
- Our fundraising is down from 2019 so there may be scope to enhance this
- Change usage of the building
- Consolidation



What do we do next?

- The purpose of this meeting was to advise as to what our situation is or appears to be
- The Board will be concentrating on this issue going forward
- The Board welcomes input from the congregation on possible ways forward for RDLUC. Please send an e mail to the Chair of the Board:
rdlucbc@reddeerlakeuc.com
- Board will initiate conversations on certain issues
- We are reviewing the Callout results with a goal of establishing a process at the Board's May meeting to submit recommendations as to actions to consider

what we need to hold on to

this is only an opportunity

resurrection happens

we can do hard things

fresh

simple

real

fresh

**what new things needs to be embraced?
what familiar things needs to be reinvigorated?
what needs to be left behind?**

simple

**how do we do fewer things better?
how do we work within limits?
how do we become value driven?**

real

**does it actually matter?
why are we doing it?**