



THINGS YOU *(probably)* DIDN'T KNOW WE DO

In past issues of *InsideMSC*, we've mentioned some of the things we do besides ensuring that mission workers receive your financial gifts. **In this issue, we're taking an inside look at some of the many things that MSC's staff, volunteers, and board do that you (probably) don't know about.** Get ready to learn more about our Admin, Risk Management, MEAP, Missions Promotion, Relief & Development, and more!

ADMIN

For nearly 80 years, MSC has been known for diligent financial stewardship through low operating costs and fiscal prudence. From a distance, it's probably hard to take in the scope of what's accomplished each year. With that in mind, here's a few things you probably didn't know about MSC's admin:

IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS...

MSC handled over
20,000
individual donations

Many of these are designated to multiple workers, projects, or programs around the world. Processing a donation can take significant time depending on the complexity.

MSC handled donations from
Over 3,800
unique donors

Those who gave to MSC workers, projects, and programs represented all **10 provinces** of Canada as well as **29 additional nations** from all around the world.

MSC converted received funds to
FIFTEEN
different currencies

Although many workers prefer to receive CAD, USD, or EUR, others receive funds in local currencies that are most useful to them where they serve.

PENNY In 2015, we launched a new internal database to replace our vintage 1980s-era model. At a cost to date of about \$150k, it is known affectionately by staff as *Penny*. Although some may balk at the cost, **Penny enables us to continue handling over \$10M of donations annually with a very small staff.** In many ways, Penny is a member of the team and an important contributor to MSC's low overhead and high efficiency. Development on Penny will be ongoing as we seek to maximize its helpfulness.



RISK MANAGEMENT

by Phil Barnes

You probably know that MSC cares a lot about the safety and security of our workers. You probably didn't know that we call this care "Risk Management." Here's why.

R I S K

"Isn't it dangerous there?"

Many mission workers answer this question countless times from supporters who have spent their lives in stable, peaceful environments free from the threat of terrorism, crime, anti-Western sentiment, deadly diseases, and dangerous wildlife. Supporters are also accustomed to relying on safety devices, safety standards, and safety precautions at public venues, road works, construction sites, etc. Many also have "9-1-1 Syndrome," assuming that there is always a highly-trained professional on call who will come quickly and take care of you if something goes wrong. When we compare Canada to the countries where workers serve in these terms... **yes, most of our workers are in dangerous places.**

The question missions organizations have wrestled with for years is how to handle these many increasing threats to safety and security. **Many mission supporters and workers alike believe that we should all simply "trust the Lord."** Yet, many who share this conviction still fasten their seatbelts, put medicine and pesticide out of reach of children, wear life-jackets, and lock their door at night. Even though they trust the Lord as the only provider of true security, they take reasonable, inexpensive precautions for predictable threats, and thus lower the risk of injury or loss.

Over the last 20 years many other missions organizations have developed security departments with Security Managers. **For some good reasons, MSC has chosen to use the language of "Risk Management" instead of "Safety and Security."** First, we can't actually provide safety and security in any meaningful way for most of our workers. Secondly, we don't know if it is the Lord's will for workers to be safe and secure. The Lord often leads workers into very dangerous places for His purposes, and so we want them to go even if that leads to a higher likelihood of suffering loss of some kind.

Our “Risk Management” approach provides a complete assessment of the risks facing the family on the field in these areas: **SAFETY, SECURITY, HEALTH, AND NATURAL THREATS.**

By properly assessing these risk levels, we aim to ensure that as workers enter and stay in the field, they maintain awareness of the unique risks posed by their place of service. With these risks in mind, MSC helps them to find reasonable, inexpensive ways to lower their level of general risk and create contingency plans for predictable risks so that we all know what they will do should a major threat occur.

Risk Management is an area where we will be developing continuously, particularly online resources. For the past 4 or 5 years, **MSC has been paying for all of our new overseas workers to take an online mission security course from Crisis Consulting International (CCI)**, and have required workers to complete and maintain Risk Management Profiles. MSC’s executive staff have also invested their time in a pair of one-week courses from CCI on Crisis Management and Security Management.

We work through Risk Management with all new workers and have spoken specifically with those in

the highest risk areas. We will continue to extend this conversation to all our workers on the field as time and resources allow. Many countries that

were considered low risk now require heightened threat awareness. There was an MSC worker in the Brussels airport when the bombs exploded, and other workers lost people they knew. Recently, an MSC worker was caught in the “yellow vest protests” in France and tear gassed. **In recent years, MSC has been able to directly help workers through site assessing potential housing which prompted them to find another place to live, assisting with an emergency medevac in a health crisis, and by facilitating the safe release of a kidnapped worker.**

If you would like to help directly, MSC has a dedicated Risk Management Fund you can support.



SAFETY

the condition and/or presence of:

- guardrails • seatbelts
- construction fences
- roads • lighting
- safe vehicles
- manhole covers • etc.



SECURITY

the presence of, or potential for:

- crime • kidnapping • terrorism
- carjacking • home invasion
- cyber threats
- etc.



HEALTH

the condition and/or presence of:

- prevalent diseases
- accessible healthcare
- emergency services • etc.



NATURAL THREATS

the presence of, or potential for:

- earthquakes • typhoons
- hurricanes • cyclones • wildlife
- insects • scorpions
- snakes • tsunamis • etc.





meap

mk education assistance program

You probably didn't know that MSC's *MK Education Assistance Program*, is prayerfully administered to assist workers with the costs of educating their children up to the end of high school while on the mission field. Distribution is made each autumn based on estimated costs of education and are adjusted as necessary to reflect actual needed amounts.

WorkerCare

You probably didn't know that MSC's *WorkerCare*, which provides experienced support and encouragement to MSC mission workers, doesn't just provide care over email and phone calls but actually gets up and goes to visit workers all over the world in the places where they serve. Travel is planned in such a way that many workers can be visited in a single trip.

RELIEF + DEVELOPMENT

You probably didn't know that MSC's *Relief & Development Fund* is used in response to international crises and disasters as they happen. MSC has a unique role in recovery and rebuilding, ensuring that churches and believers in the affected area can continue the mission work that only they can do. You can give to R&D any time and funds will be used for the next critical development.

IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS...

MSC's MEAP distribution helped

**21 Families with
43 Educations**

MSC's WorkerCare reps visited

**144 Workers in
28 Countries**

MSC's Relief & Development sent

**\$43,000 for Kerala Flood Relief
\$15,000 for Cyclone Idai Relief
\$44,000 for Other Relief**

MISSIONS PROMOTION

You probably didn't know that MSC attends, promotes, and runs various missions events across Canada each year through our team of regional representatives. Regional reps are the local liaison for sending churches in each part of the country and are available as a resource to church leaders looking to send and workers looking to go. We hope to add an additional representative in Southern Ontario in the near future.



Matt Robertson
NORTHERN ONTARIO
matt@msccanada.org



Jean-Pierre Cloutier
QUEBEC
jeanpierre@msccanada.org



Harold Summers
WESTERN B.C.
harold@msccanada.org



Carl Dorozio
WESTERN B.C.
carl@msccanada.org



Conrad Lechelt
ALBERTA & EASTERN B.C.
conrad@msccanada.org



Ron Hampton
THE PRAIRIES
ron@msccanada.org



Paul DeJager
ATLANTIC CANADA
paul@msccanada.org

msccanada.org

