

PATHWAY GLOBAL SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

The Missing Link to Cross-Cultural Training
in Urban Centres

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Summary

The need to have qualified and well-trained leaders in international contexts is growing as more people migrate to our province from overseas. Our current international churches (ministering in non-English speaking contexts) are growing, and our pastors are raising up lay leaders who are handling pastoral responsibilities. Furthermore, there is an increasing need to plant churches in international contexts in the Lower Mainland and in other population areas. The current pipeline will not be able to meet this growing demand. The biggest issue is that our pastors and emerging leaders do not have access to biblical and ministerial training in our Bible school due to cost and life circumstances. Many have families and have jobs that are low-paying and without benefits. To move to Abbotsford and/or to enroll in the Distance Learning Program at Summit Pacific College is an option that is not realistic for many of them.

As the new Director of International and Indigenous ministries, I want to make theological educational accessible to our international leaders and offer them a beneficial opportunity to learn, apply, and operate in their God-given calling. This is the motivation behind creating a district school of ministry, which will be called Pathway Global School of Ministry.

Mission Statement

Pathway Global School of Ministry (a BCYD initiative), provides accessible and affordable biblical training to international and indigenous leaders for the purpose of credentialing, and helps the local church develop sustainable discipleship strategies.

Vision Statement

Pathway Global School of Ministry (a BCYD initiative), seeks to mobilize Christian leaders to become involved in the expansion of the gospel in Canada and abroad.

The Benefits of a School of Ministry.

A school of ministry such as Pathway Global School of Ministry will be beneficial to develop leaders who will help in existing churches and initiate church plant projects in the urban areas of our district. This approach to theological education will:

- Allow international leaders to have access to quality training without having to uproot themselves or make unrealistic financial sacrifices.
- Help current pastors to obtain credential status with PAOC.
- Assist the District in commissioning capable and well-trained leaders in areas of need.

As leaders find a pathway to credentialing status and obtaining quality theological education, they will be inspired to pursue more education and further their own leadership development for the church and community. They will feel more prepared to minister in our current society and will have the tools to strengthen the local church. They will also feel that they are an integral part of our fellowship and will work hard to make it better.

Biblical Studies Certification (Extension of Summit Pacific ROMER Distance Education)

Academic Component

The school will use Distance Education courses from Summit Pacific College. It will run as a hybrid, 3-year program that is divided in 2 12-week terms and 1 6-week term, which will include self-study, conference calls with the professor, and classroom lectures taught at extension sites throughout our district (including our District Office).

For the inaugural 2-year cycle, we will offer the following courses:

Year One:

First Term (MAR-JUN)	Second Term (JUL- AUG)	Third Term (Sep- Nov)
Pentateuch (BIBL 114)	Hermeneutics	Acts of the Apostles (212)
History of Canadian Pentecostals (HIST 172)		Pastoral Theology (331)

Year Two:

First Term (MAR – JUN)	Second Term (JUL-AUG)	Third Term (SEP – NOV)
Doctrine I	Homiletics	Doctrine II
Practical Elective		Pneumatology

Year Three (optional):

First Term (MAR – JUN)	Second Term (JUL – AUG)	Third Term (SEP -NOV)
Bible Elective	Practical Elective	Bible Elective
Theology Elective		Theology Elective

All courses will have a “contact hours” requirement fulfilled through traditional in-person classes taking place on Saturdays every other week. The course will include mid-term and final exams on Week 6, and 12 respectively (Week 3 and 6 during Summer Term).

Practical Component

In addition to the academic component, students who are not lead pastors and/or church planters will have to serve in the local church as an apprentice under the guidance of the church’s lead pastor and the Director of International and Indigenous Ministries for BCYD.

The Practicum will be fulfilled as follows:

Year One:

Gift Discovery:

- The student will serve in a ministry area such as children’s ministry, music and technology, youth, etc.
- The student will take the S.H.A.P.E gift test and discuss the result with his/her lead pastor and the Director of International and Indigenous Ministries.

Year Two:

- The student will lead or coordinate a ministry project within their local church or the community.

The Cost for the School of Ministry

Each course will cost \$250 and each student is eligible to apply for a \$100 BCYD subsidy with a recommendation from a lead pastor of a PAOC church.

The Request to Summit Pacific College Educational Committee

As the Director of International and Indigenous Ministries for BCYD, and as a prospective adjunct faculty member at SPC, I request that Summit Pacific College will endorse this program as a distance education program for cultural leaders with family obligations eligible to confer ROMs with PAOC, and a Certificate in Biblical Studies for Cultural Ministries from SPC.

The endorsement will afford cultural students the possibility to take part of privileges that SPC students enjoy as distance education students, and the opportunity to receive their degree at SPC Graduation.