



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

OCTOBER 2020



A blue-tinted background image showing a group of students in a classroom. A male student in the foreground is smiling and looking towards the right, holding a pen over an open notebook. Other students are visible in the background, some looking towards the same direction. The overall atmosphere is positive and collaborative.

COMPASSION
COMMUNITY
CALLING
CARING
CHRIST
LOVE

**“MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL
YOU WITH ALL JOY & PEACE.”**



FROM THE PRESIDENT:

"REJOICE, PRAY, GIVE THANKS"

If the last six months are anything to go by, we know the months ahead promise more uncertainty – that could spell trouble or blessing, or perhaps both. **During this strange season, we at Columbia have been encouraged by many people. Words of blessing, passages of Scripture and visions/word pictures have been shared – your support is such an amazing gift!** We are leaning on the truth of the Apostle Paul's words, *"Christ's grace is sufficient for us, for God's power is made perfect in weakness"* (2 Cor. 12:9). While we wonder what is in store for us this year, we continue to have faith our students, staff and faculty will experience tremendous learning, growth, and transformation.

That said, I must admit I have struggled to find a positive, upbeat answer when people asked me about this past summer at Columbia. The truth is that it was tough – the work and decision-making seemed endless. It feels like every, single thing we do at Columbia has been impacted by COVID-19 in some way, shape or form. But we are not asking for sympathy – we know that churches, camps and other ministries have all been struggling. And, unlike many places, we have reasons to celebrate. We're here, and most importantly, students are here!!

While COVID protocols have put a crimp in our ability to meet in large groups, serve in the community and simply communicate as easily as before, **we are choosing to focus on "what we get to do," as opposed to "what we have to do."** This was brought home to me back in August when I was complaining to a student about having to wear masks. She responded with: "But we GET to learn together in class, and we GET to worship together in chapel!" She brought me up short, and reminded me of the incredible privilege we have to study God's Word together.

At times of crisis or challenge, it is often best to simplify so that one can focus on what's most important. In I Thessalonians 5:16-18, the Apostle Paul wrote: *"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* As we look to the future, we will celebrate all that God is doing among us, pray that God purposes will be fulfilled in and through us, and we will give thanks for God's amazing love, salvation and provision.

Benediction – Romans 15:13

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

BY RICHARD THIESSEN

One of my favourite verses is I John 4:18: *“There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.”* There is no doubt in my mind that we are experiencing a collective rise in the level of not love but fear and anxiety in our lives. Fear more than anything else appears to be the motive behind so much that we are seeing and hearing throughout the day. And when we are fearful, we are often willing to sacrifice so much that we believe or hold true and instead to hold on to someone or something that we believe will protect us. And, at the end of the day, the instruments and methods of that perceived protection are seldom love; the ways of the world are instruments of fear.

There is a natural fear that arises in many when told that we are experiencing a world-wide pandemic. As a result, they are taking what they feel are scientific-based or just plain common sense precautions, and hoping that others will do the same. What is incredibly ironic in all of this is that we appear to have others in our society who are driven by nothing else than another fear – the fear of someone limiting their freedom by telling them what to do or limiting what they can do. So, if it is fear that motivates one segment of society to ask that we limit or restrain our interaction with each other, it is fear that motivates another segment of society to insist that they have the freedom to interact with each other without restraint. At the end of the day, fear rules the day.

At Columbia, we want to be motivated not by fear but by love. Everything that we think, say, and do should be a response to love, not fear. We have been loved by God, and we know God’s love, and therefore, we want to love others so that they can experience that same love. That love motivated our parents and grandparents to build this college, it motivates us to support it financially and to give of our time and energy to work here, and it motivates us to encourage young people to set aside time during their formational years to study here, to immerse themselves in this community, and to experience God’s love.

Many post-secondary educational institutions have chosen not to study in person, but to learn virtually. Columbia has chosen a different course of action, and so this September we welcomed close to 400 students to our campus. Students have gathered together in the classroom, in our chapel, and in our residences to learn from God’s Word and to grow in their faith. Yes, we are motivated by a certain level of fear to make sure that we are protecting our students and staff; to me that speaks of love for each other. We are also motivated by love to give our approximately 400 students an educational experience that will change their lives. Now more than ever our society desperately needs to hear the message of God’s love – “perfect love casts out fear.”



**“PERFECT LOVE
CASTS OUT FEAR.”**

FALL 2020 BY THE NUMBERS

1936

Year Founded

373

Current Students

70

Faculty & Staff

4

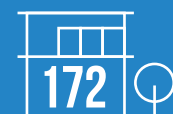
Varsity Teams



Female Students



Male Students



Residents

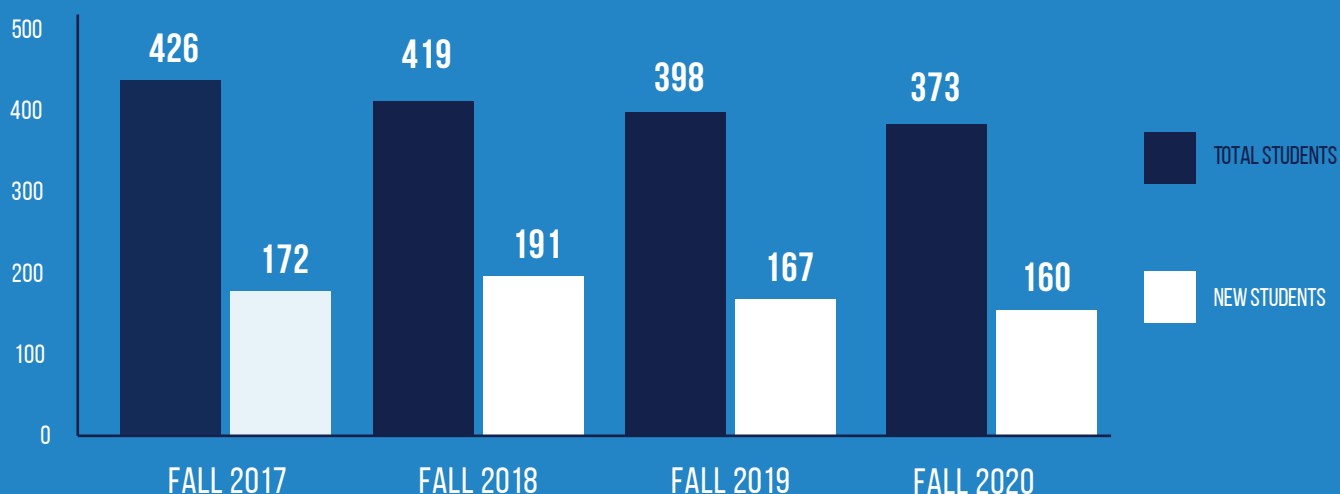


Commuters



Offsite

STUDENT ENROLLMENT



WHERE OUR STUDENTS ARE FROM

10
United States

08
International



TOP 10 DENOMINATIONS

Mennonite Brethren - 107
 Mennonite Church - 23
 Mennonite Other - 3
 Baptist - 73
 Independent/ Non Denom - 33
 Alliance - 31
 Pentecostal - 24
 Evangelical Free - 15
 Reformed - 14
 Catholic - 5

STUDENTS BY PROGRAM



BA Degree
53%
 201 TOTAL



Diploma
20%
 79 TOTAL



Certificate
23%
 87 TOTAL



Undeclared
04%
 15 TOTAL

OUR PROGRAMS:



APPLIED
LEADERSHIP
29



BIBLICAL
STUDIES
65



COLUMBIA ONE
27



COUNSELLING
79



EDUCATIONAL
ASSISTANT
25



EMERGENCY
RESCUE TECH.
6



GENERAL
STUDIES
16



HEALTHCARE
ASSISTANT
6



INTERCULTURAL
STUDIES
31



OUTDOOR
LEADERSHIP
20



QUEST
21



SOCIAL
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
17



WORSHIP ARTS
20



YOUTH WORK
36

*STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PROGRAM AS A MAJOR OR MINOR.



“”

I have learned to grow in my faith with professors who push me to dive deeper into the Bible and ask questions, I've grown in allowing space to be guided by the Spirit and trusting in the process, and mostly I've grown in experiencing my salvation in the beautiful creation of British Columbia!

ALLIE PHILLIPPY

BA. IN OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP

“““

“CBC has helped me to grow in my ability to engage with people who come from different backgrounds or traditions than I have. I have grown in my ability to listen, ask questions, and appreciate different perspectives while also growing in my ability to discern how I should respond to others.”

LEVI FRIESEN

BA. IN YOUTH WORK



2020-21 COVID 19 STRATEGIC PREPAREDNESS PLAN

ACADEMICS

The Academics office worked diligently throughout the summer to assist faculty in creating flexibility when delivering course content for the Fall and Winter semesters. Their efforts focussed primarily on assisting faculty with the transition to Microsoft Teams and Office 365, as well as determining class size limits and course schedules. All classroom spaces, as well as the chapel and library, were re-aligned to maintain physical distancing protocols.

ADMISSIONS

Adjusted to significantly reduced face-to-face recruitment opportunities. This required the development of new online resources (e.g., virtual view days), greater social media presence, and ramped up video production.

CAMPUS PREPAREDNESS TASK FORCE

In order to assist every department on campus in their efforts to adapt to the new COVID-19 reality, we formed a campus-preparedness task force that met weekly through summer. This ad hoc group represented all areas of Columbia life, and was charged with ensuring that Columbia is COVID-compliant.

DEVELOPMENT

Completely re-imagined events and ways of maintaining connection. Although the Columbia Open Golf Tournament had to be cancelled, our sponsors and golfers stepped up to match regular support levels. New plans are in the works for the Calgary Alumni Event, Scholarship Awards Dessert and the Columbia Annual Fundraising Dinner.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Has held a firm line on college expenses, while also maximizing the benefits available from various COVID-19 relief programs offered by the federal government.

FOOD SERVICES

Adjusting to new personnel while also having to implement stringent new protocols regarding hygiene, physical distancing, etc.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IT expertise has long been critically important for Columbia to fulfill our mandate, but the results of the pandemic have seriously ramped up the need for a top-notch Learning Management System (Microsoft Teams), well-functioning laptops and excellent software. All of these areas were addressed over the summer months.

JANITORIAL SERVICES

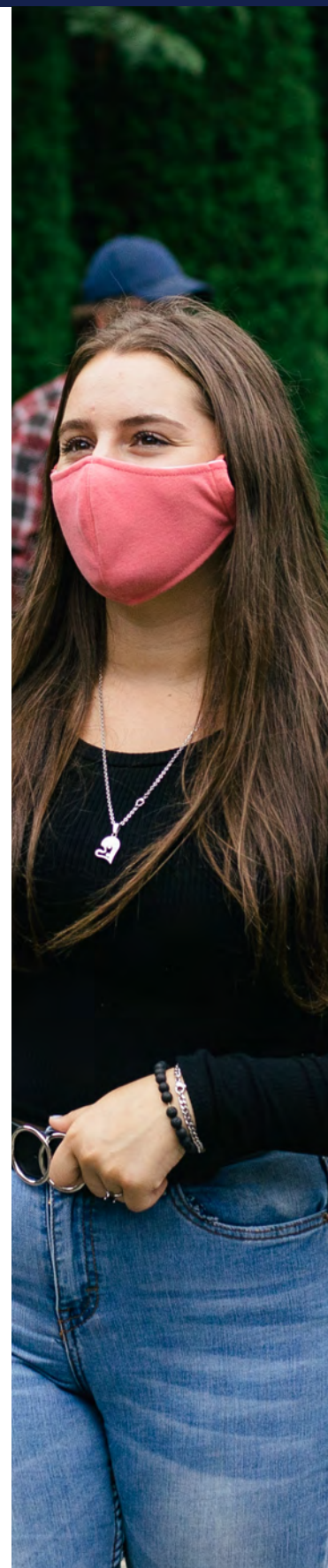
Increased efforts in every building on campus to maintain and promote the highest levels of hygiene.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

Due to the need for more communication, and communication in various forms, this department is being stretched to the maximum. We have just hired a new Communications & Marketing manager. Even through the transition, we have managed our social media platforms, and produced a much needed COVID-19 protocols orientation video.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Assembled a complete Student Development team that has been able to develop workable protocols for athletics, dining hall, residences, student lounges, etc. With the addition a COVID Care Coordinator, we believe we have the necessary staff to provide great services on campus again this year.





LOOKING AHEAD:
2020 & BEYOND

PROMOTE THE WELLBEING OF STUDENTS

For some years now we have been responding to the increased mental health concerns of young adults. The spiritual health concerns raised by both the Hemorrhaging Faith (2012) and Renegotiating Faith (2018) studies have also captured our attention. The need for mature mentors, along with biblical study that combines both practical application with academic rigour is more acute than ever. We continue to press into our practical theology emphasis.

MANAGE THE CHALLENGES CREATED BY COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND GUIDELINES

The radical changes necessitated on account of COVID-19 realities have required the time and energies of every Columbia team member. Managing the programming, protocols, and finances of the College is an all-consuming task, especially in light of continuous uncertainty. At the same time, we are committed to remain focused on mission – equipping people for a life of discipleship, ministry and leadership in service to the church and community.

DEVELOP THE COLUMBIA STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2025 PLAN

A preliminary Columbia Strategic Direction 2025 document emphasizing practical theology and leadership development was already created in 2019. With all the disruption of the past 6 months we now recognize the need to develop a fuller and more robust strategic plan for all areas of Columbia programming and operations. An external facilitator has been drafted in to guide the process.

STRENGTHEN COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOCAL AND CONSTITUENT CHURCHES

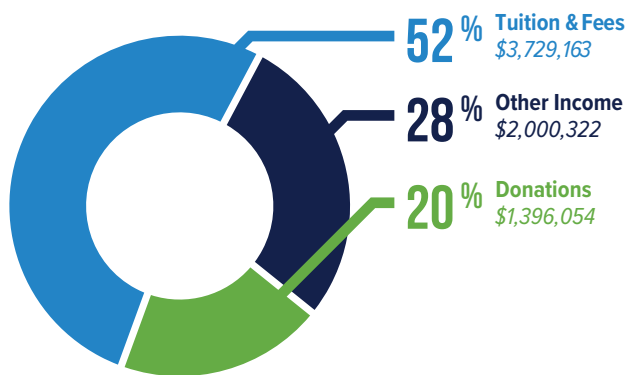
With new staff in place to help us focus on church relations, we intend to discern action steps for improved programming in collaboration with ministry partners. (Strategic conversations with BCMB churches, MCBC churches, Multiply, MCC and other strategic partners regarding necessary programming for equipping future leaders.)



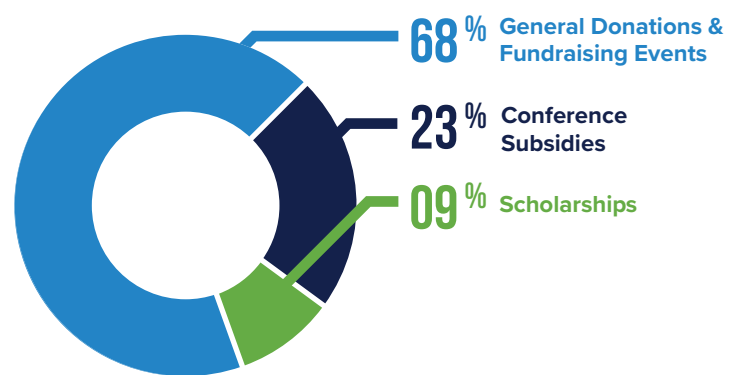
FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

2019 - 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

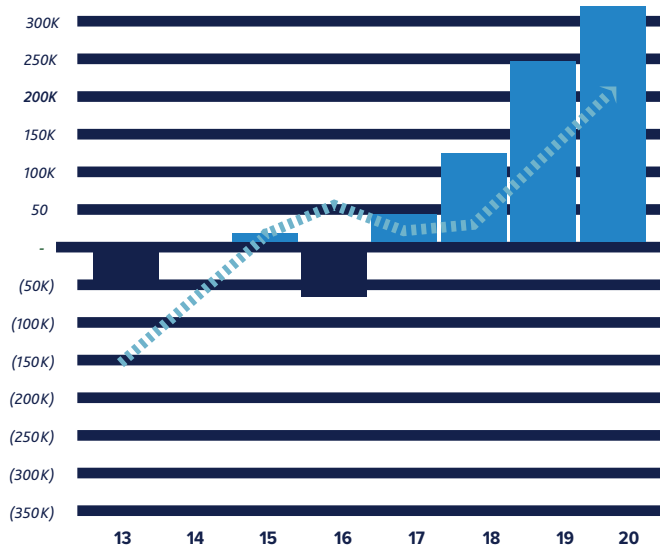
SOURCES OF INCOME



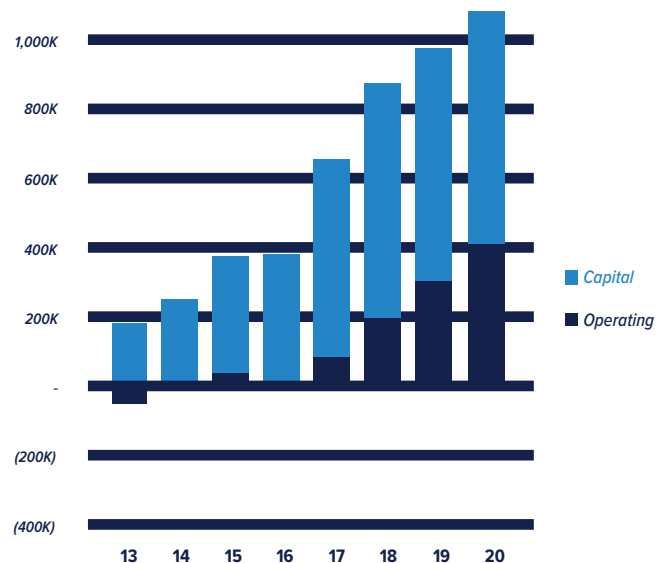
FINANCIAL SUPPORT



CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS



CAPITAL RESERVE ALLOCATIONS



COVID 19 IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

Government Support

\$410,000.00



STAFFING COSTS

\$360k - \$450k

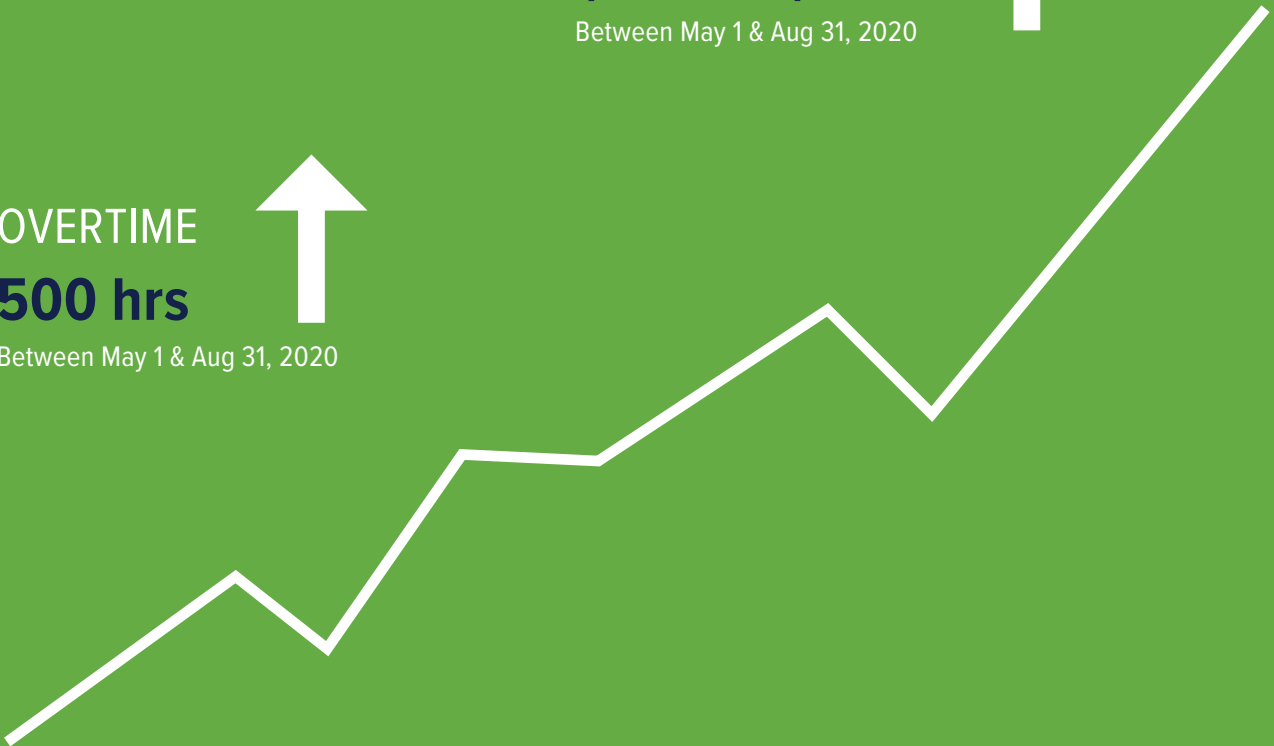
Between May 1 & Aug 31, 2020



OVERTIME

500 hrs

Between May 1 & Aug 31, 2020





CLIFF AT COLUMBIA

Coming Soon...

Tune in to our upcoming video series starring Clifford Prang.
New video each day from October 19-23.

COLUMBIABC.EDU/CLIFF

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