

A photograph of four men in traditional Middle Eastern clothing. The man on the far left wears a light grey thobe and a white kumma with a black patterned band, holding a small glass. The man next to him wears a dark blue thobe and a similar kumma. The third man wears a black thobe and a brown and white checkered keffiyeh. The man on the far right wears a red thobe and a white keffiyeh. They are all smiling and posing together in what appears to be a kitchen or food stall setting.

# 2024 Annual Report

OM Canada

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*\*In order to ensure the safety of our team and those  
we serve, some names have been changed*



# God is in control...always

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,"  
declares the Lord.

"As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 55:8-9 (NIV)

Reflecting on 2024, I am in awe of how God worked in ways far beyond our expectations. Once again, God proved that He is not only in control but also faithful and true to His Word and His promises.

In the first quarter of the year, we faced what we initially thought was a setback when our Financial Development Director stepped down from his role. Yet, God provided the right individual to fill that gap, which eventually led to the creation of a Financial Development Team – a first in OM Canada's history! Truly, His "thoughts are not like our thoughts, and His ways are not like our ways." God's ways and thoughts are not just different—they are always better! We thank and praise God for His provision and guidance. We trust that the Lord will continue to help us grow in capacity through this newly developed team.

I also want to thank God for you and your partnership. Without you, we would not be able to share this report. It is your continuous prayers, as well as your generous and sacrificial giving toward the work of the Gospel, that enables us to make a lasting impact for the Kingdom. You are an integral part of Global



Missions, and I want to encourage you: whether you are praying for missionaries helping to fight against human-trafficking in Southeast Asia, supporting a women's sustainable livelihood project in Niger, or going on a one-week outreach in Albania—YOU ARE IN MISSIONS, and God is using you!

I trust this report will encourage you as you see the "fruits" of our partnership. I also pray it will empower you to remain steadfast in your role in global missions. Finally, I invite you to continue working with us to bring the saving grace and hope of our Lord Jesus Christ to the least reached areas of the world!

Until all have heard,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bautista'.

**Joshua Bautista**

Executive Director of OM Canada

We are committed to seeing  
a **vibrant community**  
**of Jesus followers**  
within reach of every  
person in the world

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- We believe that the gospel has the power to change everyone and everything.
- We believe it is God's mission to transform lives and communities as He reconciles the world to Himself.
- As believers, we ALL have the privilege of joining with Him in this mission.

## A global movement

For over 60 years, OM has been working around the world to motivate and equip ordinary Christians to share God's love with the least reached.

One of our founders, George Verwer, emphasized the importance of everyone hearing the gospel. However, the number of people who haven't heard it increases by around 63,000 daily, totalling over 2 billion in the world today.

We want to reverse this trajectory!  
As mobilizers and disciplers, our Holy Ambition is to see 25,000 new vibrant communities of Jesus followers being launched every year, by 2030.



## PEOPLE SERVING WITH OM GLOBALLY

4,500

The number of adults serving with OM

125

The number of nationalities  
serving with OM

147+

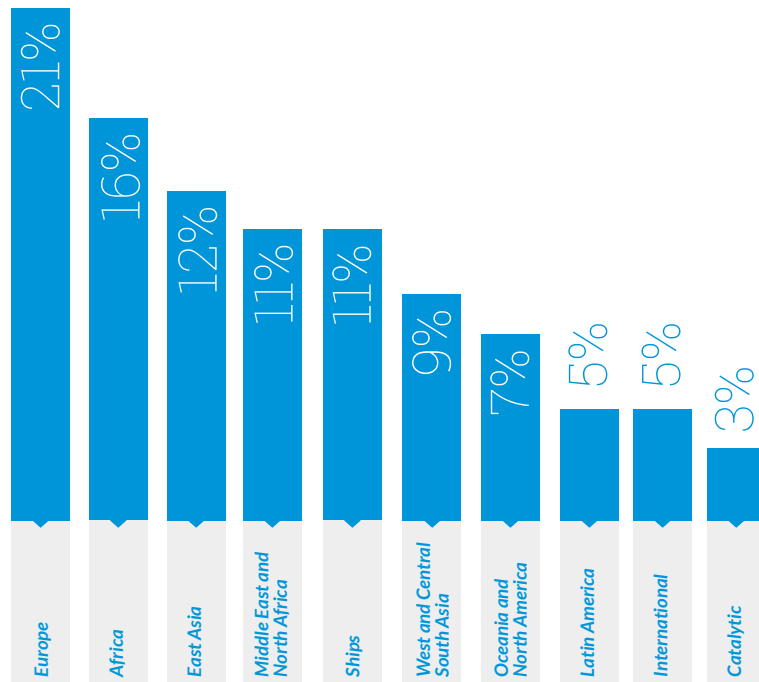
The number of countries where OM workers  
are serving and are in partnership, in addition  
to on board OM's ships.

\* The majority world is defined by OM as Africa, Asia, South and Central America, the Middle East, Balkans, Eastern Europe, Caribbean, and Papua New Guinea.

# More than 58% of OM workers are from the majority world\*



## WHERE WE ARE SERVING GLOBALLY



## New groups formed with your support during 2024

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8 (NIV)



790

VIBRANT COMMUNITIES



978

BODY OF CHRIST GROUPS



3,297

SMALL GROUPS

### Vibrant Communities

A group of believers who practise worship, prayer, baptism, breaking of bread, service, witness, giving, fellowship and Bible study. Each Vibrant Community is led by **local believers** and **has multiplied** to at least one more group.

### Body of Christ groups

A local expression of the Body of Christ who meet regularly to engage in Bible study and teaching, and practice some of the things described above. There are **some believers** in this group.

### Small groups

A group meeting around the Word of God in some way. They may be **seekers** and not yet believers.



## Expanding Impact Through a Matching Gift Opportunity

In December 2024, OM Canada launched an exciting new initiative to strengthen our mission and support our workers in Canada: a matching gift campaign for personal support. This campaign was created to encourage new and increased recurring gifts, which are matched dollar for dollar for an entire year to support the wider working team in Canada.

The impact of this initiative will provide additional stability for our team members, ensuring they have the necessary resources to continue serving in their vital roles. By launching this campaign we are strengthening our organization's foundation and expanding our ability to share Jesus' love with the least reached.

We look forward to seeing how this initiative will continue to bless our team and ministry in the year ahead.

To learn more about how you can be part of this initiative, contact the Financial Development team at [development.ca@om.org](mailto:development.ca@om.org)

**DOUBLE  
YOUR  
IMPACT**



**Chris Visser**

Director of Financial Development



## Mobilization in Canada

In 2024, the Mobilization Department remained focused on the heart of our calling: inspiring and equipping Canadians to step into God's global mission. Our priorities included building one-on-one relationships, mobilizing prayer, managing key events, strengthening church partnerships, and promoting both short and long-term missions. We also continued monitoring global mission trends to better understand how we can serve and send effectively in a rapidly changing world.

Throughout the year, we witnessed a growing hunger among Canadians to take bold steps of faith—including exploring overseas missions. After years of uncertainty and hesitation, more individuals and churches are once again opening their hearts to God's call to the nations.

By God's grace, 2024 was a fruitful year of engagement:

- We participated in over 44 mission and youth-related conferences across Canada.
- We facilitated or contributed to more than 100 prayer meetings, fuelling intercession for the nations.

- We presented OM's global vision in over 200 gatherings, from churches and small groups to mission-focused events.
- Altogether, we estimate that we were able to verbally share the mission of OM with more than 10,000 people.

Behind every statistic are real conversations, prayers, questions, and moments where people encountered God's heart for the world. We give thanks for each opportunity and look forward to what the Lord will do in the year ahead.

**"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"  
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"  
Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)**



**Mpumi Maweni**  
Director of Mobilization



## 2024 SPOTLIGHT REGIONS

Together, we are called to the ends of the earth to share God's plan for redemption. Of the billions of people who have never heard the gospel or have never met a follower of Jesus, many are concentrated across these five geographic regions.

### NORTH CAUCASUS

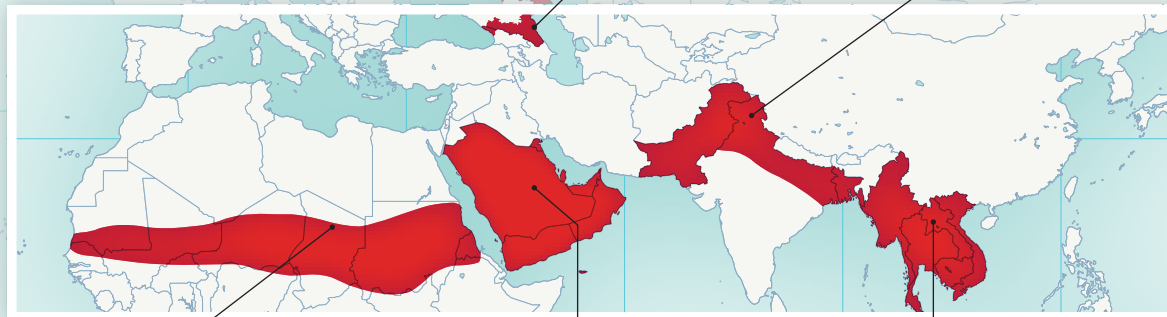
Southern Russia, including Abkhazia, Adygea, Karachay-Cherkessia, Kabardino-Balkaria, North Ossetia-Alania, Ingushetia, Chechnya, and Dagestan

Few known Jesus followers among 5 million people

### SOUTH ASIA

India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh

Few known Jesus followers among 1.5 billion people



### SAHEL

Diverse tribes across Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Senegal and Sudan

Few known Jesus followers across 5,000-kilometre belt of land

### ARABIAN PENINSULA

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, and Yemen

Only 500-1,000 local Jesus followers reported among 30 million Gulf Arabs

### MEKONG

Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam

Very few Jesus followers among 240 million people

**“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”**

**MATTHEW 28:19 (NIV)**



# Sahel Region

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Being Muslim defines the lifestyles and identities of most people in Africa's Sahel region. Though the gospel message faces pressure from cultural and political authorities, Jesus followers are equipping and sending teams of same- and near-culture believers to make disciples across the region.

2024 TOTAL GIFTS FROM CANADA

**\$ 57,010 CAD**



# Suffering in Sudan

MENA

Crisis after crisis dominate headlines from the Middle East and North Africa: civil war in Sudan, violent conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza; an earthquake, a flood and increasing persecution of believers in North Africa. These conflicts, natural disasters and humanitarian crises affect millions in an already tense region.

## Openness to the gospel

The Sudanese are again experiencing civil war reaching back over 30 years. More than half of the population struggles to get clean drinking water, food, fuel, or basic healthcare. In such critical conditions, the OM regional leader asked a

believer, "Why don't you and your family relocate to another city, where life would be easier?" The response: "My house is full of Muslim families who are seeking refuge. I have opportunities for the gospel and open hearts like never before. There is no way I am going anywhere else right now!"

Since war broke out between Hamas and Israeli forces, OMers in Israel have discovered a new openness to conversations about God and faith. Small groups continue to meet and grow, with 21 Discovery Bible Studies (DBS) now overseen by OMers.

"MY HOUSE IS FULL OF MUSLIM FAMILIES WHO ARE SEEKING REFUGE. I HAVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GOSPEL AND OPEN HEARTS LIKE NEVER BEFORE. THERE IS NO WAY I AM GOING ANYWHERE ELSE RIGHT NOW!"

## Disaster relief

A pastor called for his church to open its doors, prepare food and serve the surrounding community, which is predominantly Muslim and Kurdish. Their neighbours, who would previously not step inside a church, accepted the hospitality and care. One Muslim man was so touched by the love and generosity of the followers of Jesus that he told the pastor: "You not only fed my body, but also my ears [heart]." Twenty per cent of those who received help returned for a church service.

As much suffering in our world intensifies, so too does the search for Christ. More and more Muslims have become disillusioned with their religious system and leaders. Many want to turn away from organized religion, but we are also seeing increasing openness to hearing about Jesus.



# Arabian Peninsula

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There are less than 1,000 Jesus followers among Arabs in the Arabian Peninsula. Believers suffer government persecution, family pressure and social ostracism, but they also struggle to find community with other Christians. Yet many young people in the region are disillusioned with Islam and open to hearing the good news of salvation. Expatriates are welcomed for many types of work where they can sensitively live out the love of Christ to their Muslim neighbours.

2024 TOTAL GIFTS FROM CANADA

**\$ 48,962.88 CAD**





# To the Heart

## ARABIAN PENINSULA

Many languages have a variety of styles and songs used in worship. For some, though, it can be difficult to worship through song if there are none in their heart language. Local worship music impacts communities in the Arabian Peninsula (AP), inspiring them to engage more deeply with their faith.

Using music to worship God seems strange to Arabs starting to follow Jesus. In Islam, music is opposite to worship, and there are many restrictions on music and singing across the AP. Music is becoming more popular among Gulf

Arabs, especially the younger generation. Youth are connecting online with social media and YouTube. OM has teams across the AP that work online, hosting small communities of youths that seek to know more about God. When appropriate, they do simple Bible studies together and also talk about discipleship. In time, they can meet with our team face-to-face to understand the offer of joining a new community in Christ.

### From the heart

Different communities have distinct views and practices regarding the role of music in worship.

OM HAS TEAMS ACROSS THE AP THAT  
WORK ONLINE, HOSTING SMALL  
COMMUNITIES OF YOUTHS THAT SEEK TO  
KNOW MORE ABOUT GOD.

Some believers may find singing during worship new, but they want to worship and express themselves from the heart. As Jesus followers discover they can sing and dance, the lies they believed about music are demolished.

In one AP country, a partner organization is developing indigenous music to meet that need. Locally-produced worship music can be a catalyst for spiritual awakening and transformation. Their songs resonate more deeply as they reflect their own culture, experiences, and values. This can aid spiritual growth and bring listeners closer to Jesus.

Social media has helped connect people with different worship music. Worship songs in Arab believer's heart language create a belonging and authenticity—a way of expressing their faith and identity.



# North Caucasus

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Islam permeates all aspects of community life with five million people in more than 40 ethnic groups. Small communities of local Jesus followers face strong opposition from both society and political authorities. Many don't have access to the Bible in their own languages. It can be difficult for Christians to share the message of Jesus' love with neighbours in the face of cultural pressure and persecution. Amidst this, believers are living out the love of Jesus that brings peace and unity.

2024 TOTAL GIFTS FROM CANADA

**\$ 17,017 CAD**



# Sharing Jesus in the Mountains

CAUCASUS

Davud\*, an OM worker, with his friend Omer\*, travelled through the mountainous region of North Caucasus to share the hope of Jesus.

They met someone with a very sick relative, Nuray\*, in the hospital. The men asked Nuray: "Could we anoint you and pray for you?" Again, she agreed. They anointed her and prayed for her in the name of Jesus, and then left.

A few hours later, they received a message. The doctor said that she was completely healed. Nuray

said: "I am amazed. Let them come again and tell me more about their God." So they did.

The next time Davud and Omer visited Nuray's village, they brought their families with them and stayed one night with Nuray's family. They pray that this entire family will follow Jesus.

During their travels, Davud and Omer prayed for unreached people groups in the region. When they visited a remote mountain village where one of these groups lived, they did not know anyone,

**MUHAMMED AND HIS FAMILY HAVE  
SINCE BECOME FOLLOWERS OF JESUS—  
READING THE BIBLE TOGETHER AND  
GROWING IN FAITH.**

but prayed for God to connect them to a person of peace.

They met a group of men clearing the narrow, blocked road and asked if they could help. The men agreed. Afterward, they introduced themselves.

One of the men was Muhammed\*, whom Davud and Omer invited to drink tea together. In that culture, friendships are formed by sitting together, sharing a meal and drinking tea—the time for deep conversations. Though they lived far apart, Davud and Omer visited Muhammed's village several times to disciple him. Muhammed confided that they were two of his best friends.

Muhammed and his family have since become followers of Jesus—reading the Bible together and growing in faith. The North Caucasus can be a very difficult and dangerous place to share the gospel. Yet Muhammed is sharing his faith with others, recently with his brother.



# Mekong Region

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Many local Christians live out the love of Jesus through compassion programs that focus on victims of human trafficking, disaster response, vocational training and more. Growth of Jesus followers often occurs through the work of same- and near-culture believers who can contextualize the gospel message. The surrounding countries of Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam have all experienced war, discord, genocide, suffering, and more within the past 50 years.

2024 TOTAL GIFTS FROM CANADA

**\$ 43,141.80 CAD**





# Taking the Gospel to the Sports Fields

MEKONG

**SPORTS MINISTRY IS A KEY INSTRUMENT  
IN BUILDING TRUST AND FOSTERING  
RELATIONSHIPS IN COMMUNITIES.**

the love of Christ with those they meet. After any sporting event, the team leads a discussion on life lessons learnt through sports. Participants are very open to talk about life and hear one another's story. Sports ministry is a key instrument in building trust and fostering relationships in communities.

## **Church planting through sports**

Living in a Buddhist-majority country comes with opposition from the government and local communities when sharing the gospel and being a Christian. The approval of one's family also has a huge impact on whether someone becomes a believer or is baptized. In many Buddhist communities, identity lies within family. Choosing to follow Jesus can mean giving up the identity of your family. For many Buddhist believers, the Bible is seen as a historical book only. People ask team members why they believe in this book, allowing team members to engage with them about faith.

Sharing the gospel with Buddhist neighbours takes intentionally invested time to explain one's faith and live it out. Sports ministry works well, because it allows anyone to take something that everyone loves (like soccer) and use it to share our life and introduce them to Jesus.

Since 2019, the OM team has focused on discipleship and church planting in 14 areas of one Asian country with few or no known Jesus followers.

They have hosted sporting events and shared

## **Gaining support for sports ministry**

Despite the impact of sports ministry, getting the local church to support the OM team can be a challenge. Many churches do not yet understand the significance sports ministry has on making disciples.

It requires patience and time to build credibility and standing in these least-reached areas; team members are sometimes not welcomed or trusted. Over time, the team has seen small house groups of new believers started and people taking the steps to be baptized.



## South Asia

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Communities of Jesus followers face prejudice and oppression from family and culture, causing many to fear reaching out to their Muslim and Hindu neighbours. There has been an increase in terrorist attacks against Christians, as well as anti-blasphemy laws targeting Christ followers. Believers share the truth of the Bible alongside practical service assisting refugees, contributing to education and community development, and rescuing women and children from trafficking.

2024 TOTAL GIFTS FROM CANADA

**\$ 169,544.42 CAD**



ONE FAMILY SHARED THE DEVICE WITH  
THE NEXT FAMILY AND NOW THERE  
ARE 10 HINDU FAMILIES ENJOYING THE  
AUDIO BIBLE.

# Bringing Freedom

SOUTH ASIA

## Breaking the debt cycle

OM teams have been working in Sindh province in the south of Pakistan for the past 11 years, bringing hope through the message and example of Jesus.

The main challenges for lower caste and 'untouchable' Hindus in Sindhi villages are poverty and debt. Spurned by higher castes, they must work for Muslim landlords who exploit them by underpaying for their hard labour.

In response to this injustice, an OM team of 14 workers aims to transform these communities through self-help groups and self-sustaining

projects. The groups provide small business loans to enable Hindus to open small shops in their homes. Through these support groups, the team can offer more resources to help their spiritual growth.

## Sharing the spoken Word

Much of the Hindu population is illiterate. One family was given an audio Bible to listen to God's Word. Every morning they would listen to the recording. Unknown to them, their neighbours could all hear the stories as well.

One day, the recording stopped working and they asked for a replacement which could come the

following afternoon. The next morning, the family's neighbours knocked on the door. "Why you are not playing the audio Bible? We are listening every day!" they told them.

One family shared the device with the next family and now there are 10 Hindu families enjoying the audio Bible.

## From small beginnings

Then slowly, things changed. Gradually, another family turned to Jesus Christ, then another family, and another family. All 29 families in the village are believers now. In the last six years, more than 150 people from that village became believers.

As of summer 2024, there are 35 fellowships among the Hindus, and 26 leaders have been trained. In the past 10 years, more than 3,400 people from a Hindu background have come to Christ.



# OM's Ship Ministry

In the past 55 years, OM's ships have brought bookfairs, training conferences, local evangelism, humanitarian aid, and more to nearly 500 ports in more than 153 countries. More than 51 million visitors have come aboard our vessels and over 70 million pieces of Scripture have been distributed. While in port, teams visit communities to offer practical help and the hope of the gospel, alongside local churches and partner agencies.

The Logos Hope, OM's largest ship, entered service in 2009. Today, Logos Hope visits ports around the world for several weeks at a time. On average, over one million visitors have been welcomed on board every year!

The Doulos Hope, launched in 2023, brings many fresh and exciting advantages to this ministry. This smaller vessel can operate in shallower waters and access ports that have been beyond the reach of her sister ship.

2024 TOTAL GIFTS FROM CANADA

**\$ 1,045,891.85 CAD**





# Eyesight for a more Colourful World

SHIPS

AT NOW BEING ABLE TO READ AND  
SEE BETTER. "BEFORE, I COULDN'T  
LOOK PEOPLE IN THE EYE," SHE SAID,  
"BUT NOW I CAN. THE WORLD IS  
MORE COLOURFUL."

East London, South Africa: 200 inmates receive glasses at a nearby prison and hope is shared on a radio broadcast, live from the ship.

Logos Hope recently teamed up with Passion for People, an organization working alongside inmates at a correctional centre. One Saturday morning, a dozen crewmembers joined Passion for People team members to load a van with boxes of eyeglasses and equipment needed for eyesight tests to determine reading and far-sight issues. Then, inmates can select suitable glasses.

There was a joyous atmosphere among the women in the dining room where the tests were taking place. When they finally received their glasses and were invited to test them by reading the menu on the wall, their faces lit up with smiles, while others had tears rolling down their cheeks. In all, 200 inmates (male and female) received glasses during the visit.

One prisoner, Abi\*, shared her joy at now being able to read and see better. "Before, I couldn't look people in the eye," she said, "But now I can. The world is more colourful!"

Helping alongside the crew was Caron, a member of the port committee for the ship's visit to East London and presenter at Link FM, a local radio station. She also broadcast for Link FM on board Logos Hope. As she herself was an inmate six years ago, Caron shared, "I wanted to be a part of [this] today because I wanted the women to see that there is life after prison, so that they'll be encouraged."

Cindy, who has been a member of Passion for People for 13 years, helped to organize the team's visit. "I was very excited [when Logos Hope reached out], because we know the need. For many inmates, their families want nothing to do with them. So, they don't get the basics they need," she explained.

Thank you  
for your  
generous  
giving in  
2024

COMMITTED TO  
GOOD STEWARDSHIP



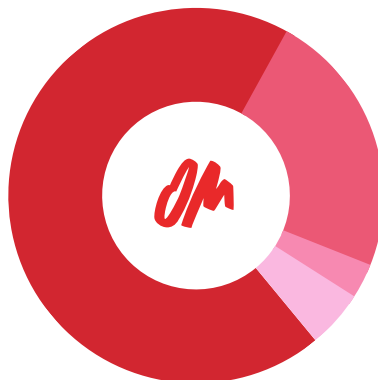
In 2024, you gave a total of

**\$6,089,834**

**TO OM CANADA. THIS CAME FROM:**

FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS.....	<b>49%</b>
ORGANIZATIONS/CORPORATIONS/FOUNDATIONS.....	<b>20%</b>
CHURCHES.....	<b>31%</b>

**FOR EVERY \$1 GIVEN TO OM CANADA, ACROSS ALL GIFTS  
AND INCOME SOURCES, WE DISTRIBUTED**



- Projects & Ministry workers overseas: 50¢
- Projects & Ministry workers in Canada: 23¢
- Mobilizing/ Marketing/ Fundraising: 16¢
- Operational Expenses: 11¢

# OM CANADA AROUND THE WORLD

\*Location markers represent geographic areas and not specific locations.

## Canadian Leadership

### EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM



Joshua  
Bautista  
*Executive Director*



Simon  
Yeomans  
*Associate Director*



Chris  
Visser  
*Director of  
Financial Development*



Mpumi  
Maweni  
*Director of  
Mobilization*



Joel  
Osborne  
*Director of  
Communications and Marketing*



In the same way,  
let your light shine  
before others, that  
they may see your  
good deeds and  
glorify your Father  
in heaven.

**MATTHEW 5:16 (NIV)**



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