



Churches Together for the Good of the City

Contact TrueCity

To explore project involvement or to inquire about the process of joining the TrueCity movement contact TrueCity at:

**333 King Street East,
Hamilton, ON L8N 1C1**
Office: 905-296-1426
Email: info@truecity.ca
Web: www.truecity.ca

TrueCity Gatherings

- The **TrueCity Conference** brings churches together each February to celebrate what God is doing in and through us. It is a time when relational ties are strengthened and vision is renewed.
- Key people from congregations come together for **Collaboration Building Sessions** each fall and spring to bring greater definition to the shared initiatives of the movement.

Connecting in these ways makes our unity more robust as congregations recognize how their unique calling fits into the bigger picture of how God is at work in our city.

Partners in the Movement

At the core of this movement are a group of churches who have covenanted together for/to pursue the good of the city. As of 2009, these churches are:

- Wentworth Baptist Church
- Philpott Memorial Church
- Lightway Church
- Bethany Gospel Chapel
- First Hamilton Christian Reformed Church
- Hughson Street Baptist Church
- Mount Hamilton Baptist Church
- The Meeting House - West Hamilton
- Little Bethel Community Church

Together the TrueCity core churches have entered into partnership with **International Teams Canada (ITCA)**, which provides the legal and financial infrastructure for the movement, and for the personnel who assist churches with the organizing and facilitating work of TrueCity.



International Teams Canada | 1 Union St. Elmira, ON N3B 3J9
Tel: 519.669.8844 | **Toll-Free:** 800.465.7601 | **Fax:** 519.669.5644
Email: canada@iteams.org | **Web:** www.iteams.ca

International Teams independent audit is available to all donors. In addition, semi-annual project reports that demonstrate investor impact and compare results against expectations will be made available.



TrueCity is a movement of churches deeply committed to seeing our city flourish. Building on each other's strengths, churches are making a difference in their neighbourhoods and in the city as a whole.

TrueCity churches work together in both formal and informal ways. Shared projects include:

- Missional Development
- Cultivating Community with Newcomers
- School Involvement
- Youth Network
- Missional Prayer
- TrueCity Gatherings

God's kingdom grows more tangibly present when churches learn from each other and work together. By forging ahead on this journey, congregations have deepened their neighbourhood engagement in meaningful, Christ-shaped ways.





Missional Development

The **Missional Development Project (MDP)** provides **resources, processes and coaching** for congregations to discern their calling and live it out more fully. The MDP helps churches to move forward in non-confrontational, life-giving ways which respect and value both past and present.

“People in our church are very involved in the community, but haven’t had the sense that we’re engaging the community as a congregation. With so many possibilities, it’s hard to settle on those few things that we’ll do well together. The Missional Development Project catalyzed a discernment process which sharpened our focus as a congregation.” - **Leanne and Dallas Friesen, Mount Hamilton Baptist Church**

Cultivate Community with Newcomers

Every year 5000 new immigrants arrive in Hamilton. More than 1000 are refugees. The **Cultivate Community with Newcomers Project** grows the capacity of congregations to welcome and integrate with newcomers. Congregations form teams which focus on building cross-cultural friendships and then coach others to do the same.

The annual **Ride for Refugees** (www.rideforrefugees.com) raises

awareness of the plight of refugees worldwide. It is also a highly effective way for churches to support work among refugees both globally and locally.

“When I told my family I was coming to Canada my mother didn’t agree. She was afraid for me being by myself. But I said ‘God will provide me with a family.’ And God did give me a family - He gave me the church.”

Milouse, a Haitian refugee



Youth Network

The Youth Network brings together youth leaders from around the city for mutual encouragement and the sharing of ideas and resources. It also brings youth groups together for shared times of worship, prayer, fun and service. The goal is to nurture gospel shaped lifestyles of service, justice and worship within the emerging generation.

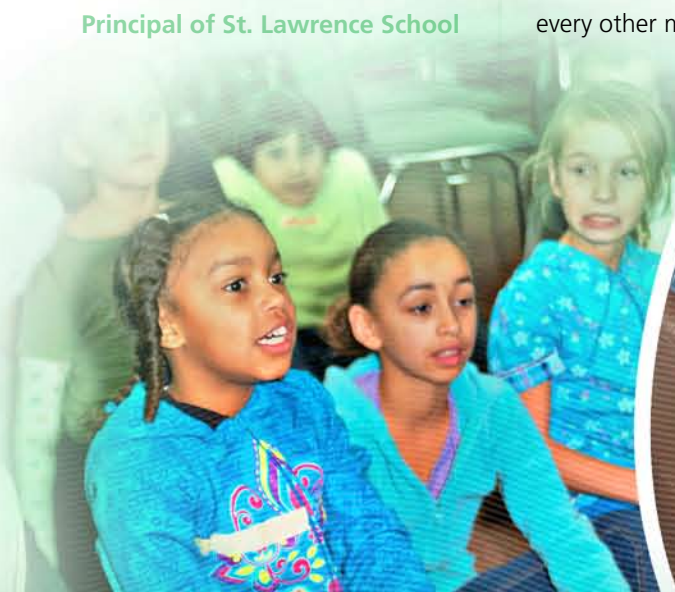
Twice each year the Youth Network facilitates

CrossCulture, a one-day event which integrates worship and service. Youth gather from churches across the city to worship together and then go out in teams to help with specific projects.

School Involvement

Serving local schools opens the door to deeper neighbourhood involvement. TrueCity churches help run breakfast and after-school programs, tutor in classrooms, and partner with KidsFest to provide backpacks for students in need. The **School Involvement Project** builds connections between churches working with schools in their neighbourhoods. A peer mentoring model helps churches to remain focused on their unique church-to-school relationship while sharing input and encouragement with other congregations.

“St. Lawrence has been recognized as one of the best schools in the province. Hughson St. Baptist Church has provided us with some of the most dedicated and hard working tutors St. Lawrence has ever had. They have helped us move forward in academic excellence. We are very thankful.” - **Eleanor Woerhle, Principal of St. Lawrence School**



Missional Prayer

A growing emphasis in the movement is on congregational practices that cultivate prayer. **TrueCity Prayer Tours** provide regular opportunities for churches to expand their prayer horizons through times of on-site intercession for one another’s neighbourhoods and congregations. These two-hour evening tours are scheduled every other month. See www.truecity.ca for specific details.



“To me, worship is getting out of my comfort zone and doing what most teenagers wouldn’t. Jesus did not call us to be molded to our couches but to move and be moved. It’s to open my eyes and acknowledge what needs to be done, but also the courage to go do it. I want to go against the stereotypes of how teenagers are lazy, rude, and self-centred, and be active, genuine and others-centred.”

- **17 year-old participant**

“God is using the movement to allow local churches to learn from each other, capitalize on each other’s strengths and impact both communities in the city and the city of Hamilton as a whole.”

- **Dwayne Cline, Senior Pastor, Hughson Street Baptist Church**

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