



PEMBINA COUNSELLING CENTRE

Annual General Meeting 2016

March 2nd at 7pm

Please join us on Wednesday, March 2nd at 7pm for our Annual General Meeting at the Morden Friendship Centre what the impact your partnership makes with PCC.

Fundraising Banquet

Stay tuned for more details of our banquet in April.

PCC Locations

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Joy... the fruit of investing in others

~ Paul Penner

A cup of coffee with a good friend can really hit the spot. It can be every bit as good as some warm sunshine on a freezing Manitoban who has sought refuge from our January cold down south. I was talking with just such a friend this past week. The conversation warmed me. We got talking about helping others. There are different ways to help. We can leave money at the Coop check out in support of Christmas Cheer food hampers (*or other good causes*) - and that is good. Very good! But when we know of a need and who it belongs to personally, it feels even better.

We exchanged some stories and found ourselves engrossed for a moment in what Jesus got all excited about... investing in others without personal gain provides the giver **joy**. What we were talking about was giving that goes beyond meeting basic needs (*food, clothing, shelter*). We talked about long term 'investments' like capacity building that empowers people. We had a real life example... helping someone who was stuck living in a poorly insulated trailer paying over \$500 per month for heating bills in the dead of winter. This person couldn't get ahead. Working together with this individual to buy a home which would end up costing less than renting was a dream which transitioned into a workable plan. A good friend of mine, who has lived responsibly, was struggling under the burden of renting and not getting ahead. A Christian businessman noticed and decided that he would gift the down payment amount for a house so he could grow some equity. My friend was told to 'go shopping'. He did and this changed his finances significantly. He was able to rent out the lower portion of his new house and reduced his occupancy costs by half. He was able to pay down his sundry debts and accelerate his mortgage payments. Talk about grateful! I believe God was glorified.

Capacity building is about empowering people where they have deficits which interfere with employment pursuits, health maintenance and relationship deficits. People are empowered when they are resourced to act on their needs. Resources

that empower us are the ones, which if not met, leave us unnecessarily dependent on others where we could effectively be independent.

Resources that empower might also include: particular knowledge, interpersonal skills, tools, finances, opportunities, and positive attitudes. When people are empowered to act on their own needs adequately enough to be independent of others, then... they can act on the needs of others as well as their own. When dependent individuals develop capabilities adequate for healthy **independence** (*which we have defined as being able to act on our own needs*), they are ready for '**interdependence**'. It is to this point of functionally capable independence that parents want to raise their children. We want our kids to become progressively less dependent by helping them to acquire the life skills and resources to become fully capable and functionally independent adults ready to take on the challenges of life. As we build their capacities and empower them to live life effectively (*for this life and the next*) we have prepared them for **interdependence**. Jumping directly from dependence to interdependence without being capably independent will end up just being a relationship of co-dependents. Life will be harder until healthy independence is attained.



So what's the point? We all need to acquire capabilities (*ie. developmental assets*), needed to be effective (*ie. fruitful*) in the relationships and challenges we take on. And we need someone who is independent (*who doesn't need us*) to help us get there. Call it capacity building, mentoring, ministry, discipling, training, investing or life-long learning - but whatever you want to call it, when you are investing in others or being invested in, it makes us more fruitful and gives us joy. Want more joy... invest in others!

Pembina Counselling Centre's Mission

TO HELP INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE STRUGGLING PERSONALLY OR IN RELATIONSHIPS, TO GAIN DIRECTION AND FIND LASTING HOPE.

Greetings from the Board of Directors ~ Edwin Klassen

The new year brings renewal, new opportunities and challenges and we continue to follow Pembina Counselling Centre's mission by serving those needing help in love and with understanding.

The Board of Directors have been busy developing the "PCC story" and are excited to unveil our new marketing strategy at this year's fundraising banquet planned for April. We are looking forward to a full house for this banquet and to once again have friends gather for this special event. If you are a friend of Pembina Counselling Centre, please join us and invite your friends for a time of great food and entertainment.

This past fall we were pleased to have Louise Peters join our Board. We look forward to her sharing her gifts and talents with the Board and Pembina Counselling Centre.

Do you have a passion for the mission of Pembina Counselling Centre and want to contribute to it? Please consider becoming a society member or partner. If you would like more information about serving in this capacity, call the office to arrange a time with Paul Penner, Executive Director. We would love to talk to you and see God's potential helping in building this ministry.

Pembina Counselling Centre will help everyone in need. This sometimes means we are assisting people who do not have the financial resources to pay for services. Fundraising becomes a key component for our organization. Your on-going support is cherished and important to us, and we say 'Thank You!' We feel blessed and we wish God's blessing on each and everyone that is willing to help us help those that are in need.