



Photo By Steve Hiebert
 Personal Expressions

This Past Quarter

Oct 1 - Jan 31

101 New Clients
 645 Appointments

Upcoming Events

March 4 - Annual Meeting
 Westside Church
 in Morden

April 29 - Banquet
 Speaker Pastor Bruce Martin
 from Calvary Temple

Call our office to
 reserve your tickets



Our Mission

We exist to help individuals who are struggling personally or in relationships, to gain direction and find lasting hope.

N E W S L E T T E R

By Chris Derksen and Paul Penner

What an incredible privilege to be writing to you as the new Executive Director of Pembina Counselling Centre in our first newsletter of 2020. Many changes have happened at Pembina Counselling Centre in 2019, and Paul and I felt that it would be fitting for us to share with you how my hiring came to pass. I'll let Paul tell the story.

The shoe fits...

Several years ago I expressed my desire to the Board of Directors to step down from the role of Executive Director for PCC by February 4th, 2020, my 65th birthday.

After many years of serving not only as the ED, but as clinical supervisor, and a counsellor, I felt that it was time to hang up at least one of my many hats at PCC.

Plans were set into motion to see that goal realized and in 2019 Vern Reimer joined the Board of Directors of PCC and devised a plan that would see my goal realized.

Vern effectively reverse engineered the recruitment process which allowed me to step down from the

ED role by my target date. So in September 2019 we began advertising for a new Executive Director. Applications came in, but one stood out, and many boxes needed to be checked off.

- local boy (the new E.D. wouldn't have to move)
- roots in the area (family close by is a good thing)
- experience in not-for-profit work (10 years with Teen Challenge)
- a groomed leader who is passionate about God and people
- connects well with others
- someone who loves fundraising for a worthy cause
- someone with faith that he is called to trust God with the vision and mission of PCC.

Thankfully, someone was out there who checked off all of our boxes!

Just prior to us posting the position, Chris Derksen contacted me and asked if I would go out for lunch, and so we met at Lucky's restaurant in Morden.

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He shared with me his desire to pursue a counselling degree and wanted some advice. After 10 wonderful years with Adult and Teen Challenge his tenure with the organization was complete due to some organizational restructuring. Chris wanted to remain in the Pembina Valley and was considering his options. Interesting I thought. I shared with Chris that I also was in transition and I was about to give notice of my intent to resign as Executive Director at PCC. We just happened to be looking for a replacement. I encouraged Chris to submit his application if he was interested

Prior to lunch neither of us knew about the changes in each other's lives. One could entertain the thought that Chris' journey and our need at PCC were intersecting by sheer coincidence. But I don't think so. Timing couldn't be better and we soon realized that not only was the timing right, but the boxes checked off. Chris would have new shoes to fill, but the shoes seemed to fit quite well. I wasn't doing the hiring for my replacement, but our conversation was the beginning of conversations that opened new chapters in both of our lives and at a very timely need. God has a way of opening doors and showing up in our stories in a way that we recognize that in God's plan nothing is by chance.



“You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.”

- C.S. Lewis -



A huge thank you to CO-OP, and to all of you who filled up your tanks on January 23rd for our 2nd annual Fuelled By Giving event!

Thanks to you, we managed to raise \$5,226.00 to support PCC!

The Pembina Valley is blessed to have organizations like CO-OP that focus on making a difference in our community.

— pembinacounsellingcentre.ca — reception@pccmb.ca —



Making A Donation

Your donation can make a difference in the lives of those who are struggling and who cannot afford the full cost of counselling.

Give our office a call, send us an email or visit our website to make a donation today.



Making An Appointment

If you or someone you know is struggling, please don't hesitate to call, or email us to make an appointment.

P: 204.822.6622 | 204.331.3930
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