

How does the partnership work?

1. Lincoln Road Chapel has deliberately released or shared members of its pastoral staff to begin and expand the services of Vision Ministries Canada.
2. The two ministries are distinct charitable organizations, and are separately incorporated and funded.
1. Lincoln Road Chapel provides office space to those serving with Vision Ministries Canada, most of which are also on staff at Lincoln Road.
4. Vision Ministries Canada has provided office equipment and other benefits for Lincoln Road Chapel. E.G., high speed access line, toll free telephone number, fax machine, printers, computers, software etc. VMC also pays for its share of photo copying.
5. Lincoln Road Chapel is becoming a modeling and teaching church that provides a positive ministry example to many of the churches in the VMC church network.
6. Activities and leadership development events conducted by Vision Ministries Canada at Lincoln Road have a beneficial spill over effect. E.G. Richard Rardin events.

What About Staffing?

1. Some of the staff of LRC are “on loan” to Vision Ministries Canada. They are technically employed by Lincoln Road Chapel and are paid by the church. VMC reimburses the church for the VMC portion of their salaries.



Henrietta Koenig
Administrative Assistant

2. Benefits for shared staff are paid for by staff one third, by LRC one third and by VMC one third.
3. Vision Ministries Canada is the focus of three quarters of Gord's time, half of Jay's and half of Jay's and Henrietta's.

This working arrangement is reviewed June of each year to ensure its ongoing functionality.

It is the belief of Gord and Jay that it is an advantage for them to continue to be practitioners in their local church while they provide leadership for the churches of the VMC constituency.

They learn from other churches while also contributing to them. They view this arrangement as ideal since it allows them to stay in touch with real ministry and is economical. The elders of Lincoln Road consider it a good arrangement since it allows them to extend their ministry to our nation and around the world.

This explanatory brochure was approved by the Lincoln Road Chapel Leadership Team and the staff of Vision Ministries Canada on August 27, 2002.

Lincoln Road Chapel

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HOW ARE



AND



RELATED TO EACH OTHER?

Two Ministries One Location

The ministries of Lincoln Road Chapel (formerly Lakeshore Bible Chapel) and Vision Ministries Canada are closely intertwined

They share common ministry philosophies, facilities, staff and equipment. But they are separate and distinct ministries.

How it happened

In 1974 the elders of Lakeshore Bible Chapel invited Gord Martin (right) to assist their congregation with its outreach to the neighbourhood. He began by doing door to door visitation, weekend mall outreaches, training events etc. Very slowly at first, the congregation grew.



A brand new facility at 470 Glen Elm was built in 1978. But before long it was too small to accommodate the people who were coming.

The Spirit did not give us the freedom to expand. As we talked, debated and prayed a group of new and enthusiastic believers left to plant the Victorious Church in Kitchener in 1985. The following year Forestview (now Highview) Community Church was launched, also in Kitchener. A few years

later (1988) Oasis Outreach Ministries was launched, with lots of its initiative coming from Lakeshore.

During the eighties Gord and the elders were reinventing the leadership style, governance and ministries of Lakeshore. Similar processes were developing in congregations in Elmira, Guelph and Simcoe. As Gord met with the emerging pastors from those churches they began to see a need for a co-operative ministry of some kind that would facilitate leadership development and healthy church growth among Brethren churches that wanted to become more fruitful and functional.

In 1990 Gord attended The Canadian Consultation on Evangelism (an EFC event) in Ottawa. He was deeply moved by the need of the nation for many more healthy outreach-oriented churches. Immediately following the conference he began to meet with a small group of families in Cambridge. In 1992 it became the Cambridge Community Church. At the same time he met with Paul Fletcher, Dave McClurkin and David Booker to plan an evening in Toronto called "Vision Ontario" – an evening to focus on the need for evangelism and church planting. Following that somewhat historic evening, Vision Ontario was born.

The elders of Lakeshore gave Gord their consent to devote half of his time to this new ministry which would focus on church planting, leadership development and the development of a co-operative network of churches which had similar roots and values as Lakeshore. It began in 1992 with the active support of Interest Ministries in Chicago.

Bruce Fournier one of the elders of Lakeshore was the chairman of the board of this new ministry.

Lakeshore continued to flourish. A few years later (1996) New Hope Community Church was born in Waterloo. In 1996 Vision Ontario became Vision Ministries Canada.



Jay Gurnett (left) added the western dimension and David Booker helped develop connections with the Maritimes. New churches sprouted up in other parts of Ontario, Alberta and Prince Edward Island. In the fall of 2000 Central community church opened its doors in Kitchener.

In 2002 Lakeshore moved to Lincoln Road and became the Lincoln Road Chapel. And so the two ministries have continued to grow together.

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