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St. Andrew's Day
30 November 2022

Dear friends of St. Andrew's Hall,

Greetings and blessings to you in the midst of another busy and productive autumn term here on the University of British Columbia campus. Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministries of the Hall as we live into our vision of being *called to discern and equip the future church that God is bringing*. We engage this vision daily through our mission to *educate and equip missional leaders through teaching, hospitality and witness for Christ's church of tomorrow, today*. Guided by the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, our Board meets three times a year to evaluate and encourage the management and staff of SAH in the implementation of our five-year strategic framework and the embodiment of our values of being a faithful, courageous, innovative, collaborative, and missional community.

Your support of the ministry of St. Andrew's Hall enables us to live out the strategic directions of our framework that includes deepening theological education through our agreement with Vancouver School of Theology, as well as the equipping of current leaders and congregations through The Centre for Missional Leadership. St. Andrew's Hall has three professors seconded to teach across the street at Vancouver School of Theology where Presbyterian students prepare for Ordained ministry in degree programs: Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart, Professor of Mission Studies, Rev. Dr. Richard Topping, Professor of Studies in the Reformed Tradition, and Rev. Rebecca Simpson, Director of Presbyterian Formation. We have over twenty Presbyterian Church in Canada students enrolled at Vancouver School of Theology and St. Andrew's Hall offers care and hospitality to another dozen international Reformed students who feel at home in Presbyterian community. Our recent grads are serving Presbyterian congregations across the country in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia. They all express their deep appreciation for the support of St. Andrew's Hall in their theological studies at Vancouver School of Theology.



*Presbyterian VST students on retreat
at Camp Douglas*

Our strategic directions also attend to the non-degree programs offered through St. Andrew's Hall as a blessing to the wider church. Under the direction of Rev. Albert Chu, the Centre for Missional Leadership offers a certificate program led by Rev. Dr. Tim Dickau, monthly pastoral leader zoom calls for ministers and elders, congregational consulting, clergy retreats, and a robust church planting network known as Cyclical Vancouver led by Andrea Perrett. Over the years, CML has produced a wide range of publications to help leaders with missional theology. In early 2023, the next book will be published entitled *Vancouver*:

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An Asian Religion in Vancouver that is based on interviews with Asian Christian laypeople in Vancouver, challenging the secularization thesis of Western church decline by naming the growth and vitality (often underreported in the media) of Asian Christian witness on the West Coast. A CML highlight of this past year was the summer Guder Scholars program. Named for our CML Senior Fellow Rev. Dr. Darrell Guder, the program receives applications from Reformed ministers in their first fifteen years of Ordained ministry. Seven pastors were selected from across North America, and St. Andrew's Hall funded their travel, accommodation, and meals for the onsite retreat focused on the theme of "Missional Leadership and the Online Church." As one Guder Scholar wrote, "Thank you for an incredible week of refreshment and encouragement. It was such a gift to be together with other pastors and missional leaders from St. Andrew's Hall looking for creative ways to encourage one another and build the church."



2022 Guder Scholars

Our strategic directions also attend to our ministries of hospitality, chaplaincy, facilities, finances, and governance. Our housing ministry creates a home away from home for full-time UBC students and their families from around the world. Our chaplain Rev. Sumarme Goble leads Tuesday worship for the community, weekly Bible study, a vocational discernment group and, along with our Community Coordinators, a weekly soup night as well as Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner. Many of our students come to St. Andrew's Hall as committed Christians, and others hear the gospel for the first time while engaged in their university studies. This year, the Board approved the capital replacement of all furniture within the residences (new beds, tables, chairs) according to our multi decade capital improvement program. Residents are delighted with the updated look of our rooms!

All of this is made possible by your generous and ongoing support of St. Andrew's Hall. For example, a donation of \$200 provides the food and preparation for one of our Wednesday Soup Nights and fellowship time in the Hall for residents. The average cost per year for St. Andrew's Hall supporting a student studying for the ministry (50% tuition and housing bursary) is \$15,000. Fifteen generous donors providing

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\$1,000 each would help support a future leader in the Presbyterian Church in Canada studying theology at VST and living at SAH. Please pray on how God is calling you to support future leaders of the church through St. Andrew's Hall. I invite you to fill out the response card included in this mailing and make your St. Andrew's Day gift today to support the ministries of the Hall. I also invite you to share this letter with friends and colleagues to share with others the ministry and impact of St. Andrew's Hall. We are always in need of support for student bursaries to help those preparing for Ordained ministry with the cost of education and housing. For example, Certified Candidates preparing for ordination at Vancouver School of Theology receive up to 50% off their tuition and housing through St. Andrew's Hall bursaries. To help with this student support a one-time donation is much appreciated, or you could join my wife Laura and me, in making a monthly donation to the Hall.

If there is a particular area of our ministry that you feel passionate about or you are considering a legacy gift, I would also love to speak with you about St. Andrew's Hall as you make important plans for the future. However you choose to support this vibrant and transformative ministry on the University of British Columbia campus, I thank you with deep and sincere appreciation. I am honoured to serve as Dean of St. Andrew's Hall and to join this community of scholars and students in discerning, participating, and celebrating what God is doing in our midst for the sake of the church and world.

Grace and peace in the name of Jesus,



The Rev. Dr. Ross A. Lockhart
Dean of St. Andrew's Hall