

HOSTING A MISSIONARY: LOCAL CHURCH RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Each local church on the CWD should pray, plan and prepare in advance as much as possible in order to be able to provide hospitality (accommodation, meals, gas for vehicle) as well as a deputation offering for the visiting missionary who has been scheduled by Canada West District NMI deputation coordinator
2. Each local church should expect to host a missionary at LEAST once a year and up to twice if speakers are available. Please do not refuse to have a missionary! This is not just an obligation as a Church of the Nazarene, it is an amazing blessing that we enjoy as part of a Global Church.
3. Each local church (NMI president and pastor) will receive a tentative schedule of a missionary speaking district tour. **It is IMPORTANT to respond ASAP (no later than a week if possible) to let the coordinator know that the date will work.** This gives the coordinator time to make adjustments if needed. Please note that a missionary provides their available dates, therefore the coordinator must work within these given dates. As well, logistical travel flow and churches who rent facilities also affect the scheduling, so please keep this in mind and be flexible.) Unfortunately not every church can have a missionary on a Sunday. Once the coordinator has heard from every scheduled church, a CONFIRMED SCHEDULE will be sent out with details.
4. For churches who are experiencing financial and people constraints, please consider how to build a network of others, if possible, to help out. For example, if a church is experiencing financial difficulty and does not have anyone available to host and or the expenses to cover a hotel, build a list of folks from nearby churches (within a 30 min. drive) that would be willing to help out with the hosting.
5. For churches that do not have a church building, please consider ways in which you can still host a missionary. For example, does anyone have a space in their house that you could gather? Weather permitting: how about a backyard gathering? Or planning to use available space in your community? (Community hall, schools...?) Build networks....maybe even another church would allow you to meet!
When all efforts fail, please contact your deputation coordinator before you say no.
6. Each local church will receive a bibliography of the visiting missionary. Please promote the service.
7. Each local church will be expected to communicate in advance with the missionary via email to provide information on the following: Time and location of the service; accommodations (address); any meals that are planned.
8. Each local church will receive from the district coordinator any special needs (allergies etc.) of the visiting missionary)
9. Each local church is to provide the following hosting needs:

Communicate with the missionary: As soon as you have your schedule, be sure to communicate with the missionary. Here are some things that should be addressed:

- Date, start time, and time zone of event
- Location of event
- Cell phone number of a contact person
- Transportation details
- Type of event: i.e. missions service, Faith Promise, children, youth, small group
- How many times they will speak and the duration of each time
- Anticipated audience age and number attending
- Appropriate dress for the expected weather
- What kind of tech support will the missionary need?
- Will they need interpretation?
- How much space will they need for a display?
- Is it permissible to use their names, photos and field of service in promoting the event?
- Is it permissible to post or stream the service or event online?

Appropriate accommodations: This should include the following: a clean private room with appropriate sized bed(s), clean bathroom, access to WIFI, meals covered during the missionaries stay.

Accommodations can be in private homes and or reputable hotels. If in a hotel, the local church is responsible to cover the cost. In the event that a private home does not have WIFI, please coordinate with someone who does. Visiting missionaries are not on 'holiday', but are actively working, which includes timely email communications.

It is at times common for a church to host a missionary the night of the scheduled service as well as the following night, if the next day is a scheduled "day off". On the confirmed schedule, the coordinator will indicate which date(s) the churches are responsible for hosting overnight.

Meals: In the event that a missionary has a special dietary need, please take this into consideration. Please provide all meals that would be covered while the missionary is a guest at your church.

Transportation needs: cash for gas and or pre-paid gas cards for those who are driving either their own personal vehicle or a rental vehicle. You can also choose to accompany the missionary to the gas station and fill up their vehicle.

In the event that the missionary does not have their own means of transportation, the deputation coordinator will communicate this with you prior to the tour. The local

church will coordinate pick- ups and drop off with churches prior to and following. The deputation coordinator will provide the appropriate contact information (NMI pres./pastors) of the churches before and after your own missionary service. If it is a lone missionary, it is highly recommended that a driver be of the same sex as the visiting missionary, esp. if the distance is long. This is to protect both the driver and missionary, in respect and appearance. If a driver of the same sex is not available, consider having 2 go for the drive! If this isn't possible, the driver needs to let someone else know their plans as well when they depart and arrive. (CWD Clergy have a Safeguarding Policy. Missionaries also have guidelines.)

If your church is unable to provide a driver, but the prior to or after church is able to do so, then please consider sharing the cost of gas with the driver.

DEPUTATION OFFERING

10. Each church is strongly encouraged to give with a generous heart to the deputation offering. Deputation offerings help cover expenses of the missionary while on home assignment as well as greatly contribute their actual onsite area of ministry work.
(Projects, transportation needs, etc.)

All deputation offerings received should be compiled into ONE cheque written out to CHURCH of the NAZARENE CANADA with a memo line: Deputation offering for ' (name of missionary) ' The CWD NMI council recommends as a guideline for giving: Generosity. For churches that are experience financial stress, please consider reaching the goal of at least \$250 as an offering. This may mean require planning in advance and setting a budget. For churches that are able to give more....there is no limit!!! PLEASE DO NOT set a 'maximum' amount, but allow people to give as the Lord leads them to give.

Please do not give this cheque to the missionary before they leave. You are responsible for mailing deputation offerings to the National office address. It is helpful for the missionary to know how much was given so they can plan their ministry. Please be sure to fill out the Remittance Form from the National office and send with the offering.

Please mail the cheque to the following address and let the missionary know the amount (email this information to them).

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE CANADA
3657 Ponytrail Dr.
Mississauga, ON
L4X 1W5 Canada

If any other offerings are received for the missionary over and beyond the deputation offering received should be given as a 'love offering.' The missionary is free to use such gifts for personal

use. There is no obligation of the church to go beyond the deputation offering, though at times, there are those who desire to personally bless the missionary with a cash gift. Please do not give as a cheque, give as cash or gift cards so they are able to use it.

Note: If you give a missionary cash or a personal offering above \$500 CAD, it is a taxable income for the missionary, and you will need to provide a T4a slip from the church to assist the missionary in completing their taxes. For assistance, contact the National office.

Hosting Missionaries who serve in a 'Creative Access' area. (Now referred to as "Additional Areas")

What is a Creative Access/Additional Area? It is a country (or countries) in which missionaries serve that would not under present political regimes allow Christians to openly share the gospel. Missionaries often serve in creative capacities. This is to protect the missionary, but also the 'underground' local church. There are countries where sharing the gospel with others with the intent of converting is illegal. There are also countries where nationals are forbidden to change from the 'state' religion to Christianity. Any connection between a name, church and creative access country could have severe consequences. (Deportation, jail, death)

Therefore, when we have the opportunity to host a missionary that is serving in a creative access country, as a local church and district, we are NOT ALLOWED to post anything ONLINE connecting the missionary's name with the church. This includes video recording and posting online services in your church. All promotions have to be kept verbal within your local congregation. Advertising can be done; just **DO NOT** include the missionary's name.

CWD NMI DEPUTATION COORDINATOR: Ria Lartec 403 919 1025 igorotaria@gmail.com