

## LAUNCH POINT - GUIDING IDEAS

### Cause oriented

Bridging with causes that are investing in the general good of society, is a creative way for people to be introduced to Jesus. Canadians continue to give 2 billion hours to volunteerism and Ontario high schools require completed hours for graduation. We want to come alongside people working for the betterment of society and affirm them, earning the right for spiritual conversations.

### Place of shalom – through Sabbath

*Jesus said, 'The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath.'* Mark 2: 27 NLT

We want to operate from a place of peace (shalom). Jesus resists the busyness of society inviting us into a rhythm through Sabbath as a way of being. A healthy state of *being* stems from a deeply rooted peace from God. That place can only come from concentrated, intentional time with God, waiting, anticipating, watching, interceding, listening... Sabbath helps engage a posture that brings our whole selves and not our distracted selves. Sabbath helps us learn who activates and energizes any good thing we are a part of. Launch Point seeks not to be about frantic human effort in isolation from God, but rather a community energized by that deep inner gift of the Spirit of love, joy and peace. As we enter this sanctuary of time, such sabbath gives us the energy, the vision, the insight, and the purpose for everything else we do.

### Our picture of God is enlarged with diversity

Multiple generations, both genders, from a growing number of cultures and backgrounds increase our understanding and revelation of God. We seek to actively pursue conversations that connect our faith in Christ and life stories to each other.

### Radical generosity for the benefit of others

*The church that reinvests 100% into the community.*

The operational budget is hoped to be underwritten by private donors, potential subsidies and supporting churches.

We want to foster a culture that is *others*-centred. We want to be a people that casts a spotlight on the

betterment of others rather than self preservation. A *Psychology Today* article by Allen R McConnell Ph.D. confirms the science that *giving* really is better than *receiving*, as it creates shared investment and ownership of community.

### Fostering a Playful culture

Pressure, bottom lines, and stress are often byproducts of our worldly culture of performance. We want to be counter-cultural, inviting people into an environment where it's okay to fail—providing for a safe place. As kids, we learned to *play* with others, from which grew connectedness, community, creativity, and joy. As adults, we desire to recapture that. We want to be about pursuing excellence, but not perfection, giving room for failure and growth. It's not about us! Performance is not the goal, because God can work through our shortcomings and imperfections. This fosters a culture of freedom and recognition of our humanness. It's energy-giving rather than energy-depleting.

### Launch Point Team - Principled Profile Characteristics of Launch Point Launch team partners

- Heart to seek the heart of God for vision and guidance
- Heart for people with perceptive vision to see the good in others
- Service oriented with a commitment for regular service to a designated Launch Point Cause
- Desire to serve out of giftedness; Since there is a freedom and satisfaction when serving out of one's area of passion which makes serving fun!
- Willingness to grow in Jesus, as genuine intimate engagement generates spiritual power. Dedicated daily time to read and reflect on God's truth. This creates a healthy sense of *being* which allows one to minister from a place of rest, sharing God's love with others.
- Team Player; as team encourages, seeks the best in each other, laughs together, plays together, supports one another, respects differences, thereby deepening our view of God.

- Perseverant; committed to Sabbath and allowing DNA of Launch Point culture to stem from that daily rhythm.
- A personality that can flow with *design and build* model. We want to create a culture where it is ok to fail—where people feel safe. We want to be energy giving rather than energy depleting.
- A listening posture for God, people and community; teachable, with freedom to speak his/her convictions

## Expectations for involvement of Launch Point team partners

- Weekly contact (possibly via zoom, other media or in person at beginning)
- Daily prayer commitment for Launch Point
- Secure 3-5 prayer partners to pray for them as a launch team partner and for Launch Point
- Daily alone time with God
- 8-12 month commitment
- Selecting a personal favorite organization for service, from the 4-5 causes identified by Launch Point
- Being a voice that champions Launch Point to others
- Tithing to Launch Point as we seek to create a culture of generosity!

## Next steps with Launch Point team partners

- Meeting weekly for prayer and strategy
- Defining of roles as per gifting
- Encouraging/providing opportunities for faith growth in Jesus.
- Building community

## How:

- By reinvesting 100% back in the community
- By affirming volunteering and community service
- By coming alongside what is already being done well

## Elevator Speech

- Fastest growing religious group in Canada are “nones” – no affiliation to faith.
- 50% of Canadians are marginal affiliates – maybe connected once or twice a year.
- Roughly 70% of Canadians are unconnected to a Jesus community
- People won’t trust what you have to say until you earn their trust, so we are coming alongside people through causes – that is organizations where people are already serving – to affirm them in what they are doing. We are looking for the good in people. We believe that God’s ongoing work is revealed in all of creation and His created. God is always seeking us and revealing to us His goodness and His image in us. Serving others is part of God’s reflection in us. We seek to partner with God’s pursuit of all people.
- We have a different starting point from traditional discipleship which was telling people what is wrong with them (you are a sinner) rather than what is right with them (God loves what you are doing to serve others and wants to help you grow into the full potential that God gave you). We want to earn the right to speak into that service about a God who has good news.
- Knowing the good news and discovering God’s image in us, helps us make room for people to truly flourish as human beings by the work of Christ, because being “others-centered” is what Jesus teaches.
- Learning what he taught leads us to knowing him... knowing him leads us to become all that he hopes for us to be and share it with others.



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