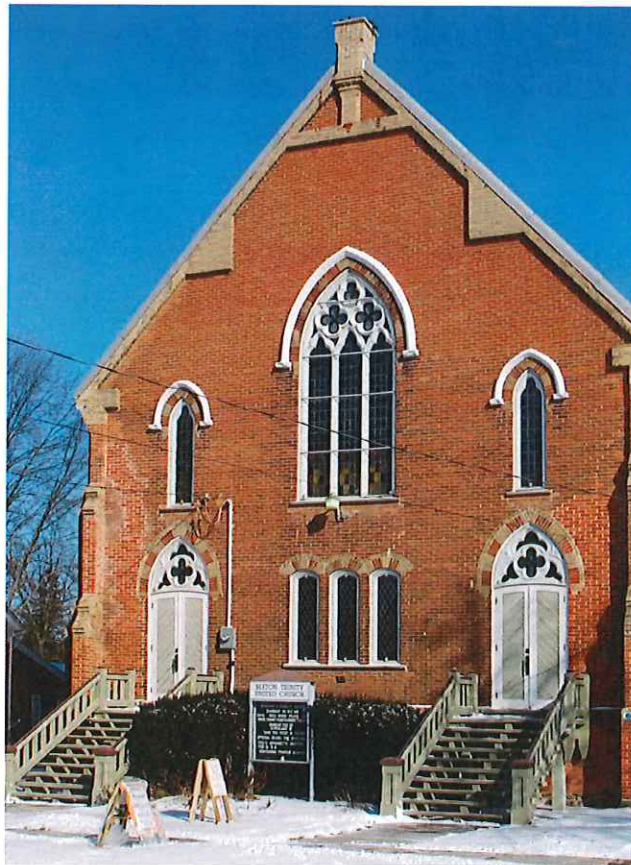


Trinity United Church

Beeton, Ontario



Annual Report 2015

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Minister's Report

Over the years, I've been asked to assist other Pastoral Charges search for a new minister. It's often an interesting, if not exhausting, task and one that allows me another window onto the church beyond the walls of Trinity. One night I was sitting with such a Search Committee and helping to name a few questions that we might use in interviewing potential clergy. The committee was attempting to go a bit beyond questions that might usually be asked in such an interview and looking for some creative wording.

At one point a member of the committee suggested asking – *“Do you have a simple way to bring more people to church?”*

We spent the next hour discussing whether that question – or a question of similar sentiment – should be asked. It became a wonderfully passionate conversation. Some of our number believed that a few simple things might increase worship attendance. Others saw the challenge as far more complex.

Chris White in the book *Emmaus Road: Churches Making Their Way Forward*, that he co-wrote with Donna Sinclair, writes:

“Church, in my experience, is hard. It requires courage, the ability to live with conflict, and the ability to make long-term commitments – to not flee when things get difficult. It's like the perseverance the two disciples discovered when they began to talk with the stranger (on the road to Emmaus).”

The contents of this Annual Report echo those sentiments. People with concern for our particular community of faith fill its pages with the qualities that are named in the paragraph above. There is passion within these pages. There is insight within these pages. There is a partial record of our time together within these pages. And there is some frustration within these pages. All indicative of any community.

The Church – locally, nationally and even internationally – is attempting to learn what Church might look like as we go forward. All congregations of the United Church of Canada will be asked to review and vote on the Comprehensive Review recommendations that the General Council approved last summer at its meeting in Newfoundland. These recommendations will fundamentally change how our

denomination functions.

At the congregational level, United Churches across the county are attempting to define and redefine what the church will look like going forward. Trinity is no different. It was said at an Official Board meeting in the fall, “Church might not look like what we’re used to.” And that has to be okay.

We have many strong building blocks as we move forward. A children and youth program that is the envy of many churches of Trinity’s size. A friendly and welcoming congregation. A community of faith praying for and concerned for the well-being of those within its bounds and beyond. A building in good shape.

We have our financial challenges and we need to continue to be realistic about them as we were with our stewardship letter this past fall.

All this being said, the Visioning Team of this congregation will help Trinity discern its mission and vision as we move into the future – and I look forward to working with it.

Even as we take a “big look” at our congregation, we still make adjustments along the way. Our new Bible Study is testament to that.

Take some time, read these pages and let’s move forward with God’s grace.

Reverend Kent Ward

Membership Totals

Category	2012	2013	2014	2015
Membership - 1 January	181	189	192	187
Received by Profession of Faith	12	1	0	0
Received by Transfer from Another Church	0	5	0	0
Removed by Transfer to Another Church	0	0	-4	0
Removed by Death	-4	-3	-1	-1
Membership - 31 December	189	192	187	186
Non-Resident Members	-15	-16	-12	-12
Resident Membership	174	176	175	174

Statistical Report

Baptisms – 0

Profession of Faith – 0

Transfers – 0

Weddings – 2

Sasa Jurisic and Melissa Denise Martin

July 17, 2015

Trevor Lee Jones and Elexias Kathleen Henderson

October 3, 2015

Funerals – 4

Pauline Edna Lorene Bristow
(March 3, 2015)

64

October 20, 1950 – February 25, 2015

Eva Luise Waldstein
(April 29, 2015)

93

January 20, 1921 – January 15, 2015

John Edward Milton Northwood *
(June 19, 2015)

85

June 17, 1929 – June 16, 2015

William Albert Jobe
(November 11, 2015)

74

May 3, 1941 – November 4, 2015

*Member

Session Report

Attitude of Gratitude

As we reflect back over 2015, the Session is grateful for all those who have touched the life and work of Trinity United Church in Beeton. Session is the committee of the Church that is responsible for the spiritual needs of our members, adherents and community. We do this work through Worship, Christian Development (Education), Pastoral Care, and Outreach. Our tasks are completed with a lot of help from a lot of different people and we are thankful for all that they do.

Rev. Kent leads us in weekly worship offering us different ways to look at the world and our role as Christians in it. The prayers, music and flow of the service all adds to its meditative feeling and also gives those attending a fresh start to a new week. The electronic Epistle each week sent to those on the e-mail list is also a way to ponder about our role in God's world.

Worship is enhanced by our wonderful music resources -- the choir, the organist and our guest soloists/groups. We are very lucky to have a choir that leads us in our hymns each Sunday as well as offering an anthem each week. All this music is seamlessly supported by Janet Tipping, our organist.

All ministers take vacation and have study weeks where the Session finds replacements. During 2015, we had the opportunity of listening to Sue Scottinwood, a licensed lay-minister from Orangeville, Rev. Dennis Posno, retired from Barrie, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Peeters from Omemee and Rev. Lorne O'Neill, retired from Alliston. One Sunday the Session members conducted the service themselves. The education of the children, youth and adults of Trinity is strong. The Sunday School is growing and the volunteers are doing a great job of keeping everyone happy, busy and thinking!

Our Youth Group continues to meet every two weeks. Teenagers may not be present on Sunday mornings but they enjoy their evening activities, getting ready for parades, sleep overs and food collection and helping with pageants. Bible Study is another Christian development event at Trinity and it has re-started this past fall with a study of the scriptures that will be used in the upcoming Sunday service.

Pastoral Care is done by everyone -- some with a concerted intention, some almost unintentionally. It is done every time we say hello to our neighbours and listen to how they are doing, when we pray for those who are on the prayer list and for those who are in our hearts. Whenever we help others, it is a sign of love and God is love.

Trinity outreach includes collecting food for the Food Bank in Tottenham, essentials for My Sisters' Place in Alliston, shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse, and the adopted family at Christmas time. These have been long on-going projects and we are thankful for those who do the organizing, collecting and delivering, Trinity is more than the small church in the village of Beeton.

Our caring also extends to getting to know those we meet each week by offering social activities. In 2015 these included Skating at the Arena followed by Hot dog lunch at the church, Bring a friend to church with pot luck lunch, Games night, Movie night, Sunday School Tea, Welcome Back BBQ, Pot Luck Scramble, Christmas Advent event and a Santa Claus Parade float. Even our refreshment and fellowship time after Sunday church service gives people a chance to have a coffee or tea with others and share a story or two.

In 2015, Trinity also hosted several community church events. In March, the World Day of Prayer was organized by Darlene Manley. We did not hold a Maundy Thursday service so that we could hold a Good Friday service. There was not one planned at the Presbyterian Church and Session felt it was important to have this service in Beeton. We also hosted the Remembrance Day service as the Presbyterian sanctuary was still under repair.

In summary, the Session thanks God for all that has been given to us, especially everyone involved at Trinity.

Sincerely,
Susan Zylski, Clerk of Session

Peggy Harvey, Jim Tucker, Karen Service, Donna Whalen, Margaret Paul, Angela Clouse, Peggy Poulsen, Bonnie Fortune, Annette Beusaert, Tanya Muir, Ray Lisk

Choir Report

The Choir continues to gladly offer their Ministry of Music. Their joy and enthusiasm shines through every Sunday and is well received by the appreciative congregation. Besides the regular Sunday services, we prepared music for special services at Easter, Remembrance Day, Thanksgiving, Anniversary and Christmas. Jean Platt is the Choir Director and Janet Tipping is the Organist. Other members are Karen Kenn, Darlene Manley, Ruth Stamper, Brenda Lisk, Julie Pollock, Delphine Archibald, Lowell Tipping, Ray Lisk, Ross Robinson, and Jim Tucker (Ginette Shaw helped with Christmas music).

In addition Lowell Tipping regularly joins in with his trumpet, to the delight of the congregation.

Each month we have welcomed special performances to add to the program. Thank you to Samantha Aucoin (accompanied by Tom Shephard), Darlene Manley, Alan Henry, Naomi Bristow, Phil Bradley, Lowell and Janet Tipping, Brian and Susan Good.

Thanks also to Trish Ward for filling in for Janet while she was away.

New members are always welcome. We enjoy our practices on Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M., and look forward to another year of fellowship and music.

Ray Lisk

Library Report

2015 was another positive year for the library at Trinity. Many books & DVDs were borrowed and enjoyed by a variety of people. There were even several books borrowed by our children; particularly at Christmas! A few people found that they enjoyed certain authors so well that they purchased titles that weren't already in our collection and then donated them. Many thanks! Considering the year's budget restraints, this was a big help!

If you read or view something that impresses you, please consider jotting down a few lines about it. Kent can then include them as "Book Bytes" in his weekly email blast!

Respectfully submitted by Darlene Manley

Stewards Report

Once again the Board of Stewards had a busy year in 2015. The final kitchen window was installed in time for the Beef Supper. The new hand railings for the front steps of the church were installed in the spring. The large room in the basement was painted and some trim was replaced. Much needed electrical upgrades were made in the sanctuary.

We continued to have ongoing issues with the lift but we contracted a new company to maintain the lift and deal with any service issues. Several adjustments were made and the lift is working much better.

Fundraising went very well this year. Although the weather was not cooperative for either the beef or chicken BBQ suppers, both were successful. The turkey supper was very successful and the leftovers were used to create turkey pot pies which were sold to raise additional funds. The yard sale, bake sale and peameal on a bun sale went very well. A new fundraiser this year, The Queen Elizabeth Tea, was well attended and generated funds. The concert put on by the Waterloo Regional Police Chorus was very successful and the silent auction that was held in conjunction with the concert raised additional funds. Thank you to Naomi Bristow and Front Porch Harmony who volunteered their talents for a Christmas concert as an additional fundraiser.

Financially, it was a difficult year at Trinity. During the summer we had to cash in a \$10,000 GIC in order to meet our financial obligations. A successful campaign for donations in the fall means that we are again in a healthy financial situation but the Stewards are well aware that we have to be very careful about future expenditures and controlling costs.

The Board of Stewards would like to thank everyone who made financial donations or donations of time and talents to Trinity in 2015. Without your continued support, we would be unable to maintain our building and make necessary improvements. We look forward to a financially successful 2016.

Submitted by Elaine Rivett

Youth Group Report

This last year in Trinity United Beeton Youth group was busy. Ten to twelve youth group members continued to meet every other week with some special functions added in. Our leadership team is Kent Ward, Bonnie Fortune, Rick Geater, and Karen Service joined our team and Susan Snyder van der Zee.

We met and learned scripture from the Way to Live, and Bible Gateway. We cooked and ate, tobogganed, made Empty Tomb buns, skated, read, led and acted out the stories. Debated and discussed the meaning and the Word. We laughed, gaffed and snorted our way through meetings. We cooked some more, went to Sunset Speedway, Colts hockey game, had games night, played Capture (the hiding) Flag. Almost lost a youth to the long grass. Did a scavenger hunt and Pillage the Village around Beeton. We helped with VBS, helped with Spring Tea and later the pageant and parade float. We enjoyed games of all sorts, fellowship and the snacks! Did I mention the eating yet?

We have solid group of youth, some of who are part of our planning including Kayla Hartmann and Adriaan van der Zee. Our group is expanding and evolving as our members age. We enjoy our time together and are always looking at ways to improve our world around us. We have been learning to work together, cooperate, find God's love in every area of life and share the love.

We are truly grateful for the help and support provided by our generous congregation. We are providing an open and safe, welcoming group for the youth of Beeton.

Many thanks to you all.

Susan Snyder van der Zee and Bonnie Fortune.

Sunday School Report

Welcome to Sunday School. During the past year we have spent time exploring bible stories using the theme of Journey. We looked at the journey of Moses out of Egypt and what he encountered as well as the journey of the disciples with Jesus as he roamed the countryside to teach. We use a model of Sunday school that allows us to take a story or lesson and explore it for a few weeks using a different focus each week. For example, one week we may do crafts like creating a mural or, we could use games such as our version of Bible Bingo or the matching game to reinforce the language or words that we are exposed to in the lesson. Drama and storytelling, where the students can actively participate in re-telling the story to their classmates, are also used. Participants enjoy time in the kitchen where we learn not only about the lesson but how to work together to achieve an outcome. We introduced music this year and hope to broaden the use of music in our program in 2016. By using this method of approaching a lesson, our children can learn not only the detail of the story but also the themes and lessons they can apply during the week. It also allows those children who can not be with us every week to stay connected with the program as they do not feel that they are being left behind due to absence. Each week we highlight the Church season we are in, the Lord's Prayer and our Creed. We draw from a number of curriculum resources including Seasons of the Spirit from the United Church of Canada and Godly Play to name a few.

Sunday School attendance has increased during this past year. Our participants range from 3 years old to Grade 8 students of all skills and abilities. We are outgrowing the Sunday School room as many Sunday's we have 10-15 children participating. The Sunday School participants enjoy helping in our Sunday morning worship by lighting the Christ Candle, the Call to Worship and our annual inter-generational service during Advent. Being able to get up in front of a crowd, even a friendly one, is a big step for many of our children. We appreciate your support.

During a week in July, Susan van der Zee and a group of volunteers offered a Vacation Bible School program to our families and to the wider Beeton community. It was a great success. Thanks to Bonnie Fortune and Shirley Calhoun for leading story time and to all our volunteers who contributed in so many ways.

During 2015, our Sunday school leaders included Susan van der Zee, Adriaan van der Zee & Trish Ward.

Trustees' Report

In 2015 the Trustee's continued to work with a consultant representing Rogers Communications regarding erecting a telecommunications tower in the rear of Beeton Trinity United Church Cemetery. This telecommunications tower is intended to improve the Rogers Communication cellphone service in the Beeton Area. This section of property has never been intended as a burial area and has been used for many years to dispose of excess soil. To allow the tower to be built on the site Rogers as agreed to pay \$12,000 a year in rent to the Trinity United Church trustees. The consultants have completed the final site plan for the tower and have approval to erect the tower from some of the local agencies.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission and the council of Town of New Tecumseth will need to approve the placement of this Tower. As part of this process Rogers will be holding a public meeting and meet with local landowners in Beeton to gather input from residents about the plans for this tower. If approved the Rogers hopes to have the tower erected on site during the spring of 2016.

In December 2014 the Trustee's engaged Stone Orchard Software Company to remap the Cemetery and develop a software package to digitize the cemeteries burial records. The existing records will be inputted by a volunteer and all new burial records will be stored in this format. The new mapping and cemetery software will give the Trustees an easier method to maintain the cemetery records and remain compliant with the Ontario Government Legislation. We are in the process of completing the new mapping of the cemetery.

In 2015 there were 5 burial and 3 cremation internments at the Beeton Trinity United Church Cemetery.

The Trinity United Church Trustees are committed to provide a high standard of care for the grounds of the Beeton Trinity United Church cemetery for generations to come.

Jim Tucker

Trinity Cemetery - Beeton
Comparative Income Statement

	Actual 01/01/2015 to 12/31/2015	Actual 01/01/2014 to 12/31/2014
REVENUE		
REVENUE		
Graves And Plots	2,610.00	3,000.00
Perpetual Care	1,740.00	2,000.00
Perpetual Care Monuments	500.00	200.00
Grave Openings & Closings	4,250.00	9,100.00
Cremation Openings/Closing	2,250.00	1,250.00
Monument Bases	300.00	100.00
Corner Markers	500.00	1,000.00
National Trust Interest	1,388.23	1,646.70
Total Interest Income	1,388.23	1,646.70
Donations	5,850.00	21,063.36
TOTAL REVENUE	19,388.23	39,360.06
TOTAL REVENUE	19,388.23	39,360.06
EXPENSE		
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES		
Grave Openings And Closing	2,998.75	8,107.00
Caretaking & Maintenance	9,107.54	9,678.24
Shed Repairs and Maintenance	387.95	0.00
Monument Maintenance Exp	491.55	995.10
Total Maint. Expenses	491.55	995.10
Updated By-Laws	226.00	0.00
Bank Charges & Interest	75.00	64.23
License Fee	218.00	0.00
Office Supplies, Postage, Pho...	480.14	442.17
Computer and Software	1,971.90	0.00
Memorial Service expenses	0.00	219.79
Total Office Expenses	2,670.04	661.96
Secretary-Treasurer Fee/Offic...	1,014.18	847.50
Chairmans Honorarium	200.00	200.00
Superintendent - Mileage	500.00	500.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	17,671.01	21,054.03
TOTAL EXPENSE	17,671.01	21,054.03
NET INCOME	1,717.22	18,306.03

Trinity Cemetery - Baeton
Comparative Balance Sheet

	As at 12/31/2015	As at 12/31/2014
ASSET		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Royal Bank Current Account	19,229.91	20,692.54
Cash Float	1,021.47	81.62
Cash: Total	20,251.38	20,774.16
STORAGE SHED	2,599.00	2,599.00
Scotiabank Perpetual Care Trust..	88,465.98	86,225.98
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>111,316.36</u>	<u>109,599.14</u>
TOTAL ASSET	<u>111,316.36</u>	<u>109,599.14</u>
LIABILITY		
TOTAL LIABILITY	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
EQUITY		
EARNINGS		
Retained Earnings	109,599.14	91,293.11
Current Earnings	1,717.22	18,306.03
TOTAL EARNINGS	<u>111,316.36</u>	<u>109,599.14</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>111,316.36</u>	<u>109,599.14</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u>111,316.36</u>	<u>109,599.14</u>

BEETON TRINITY UNITED CHURCH - INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE	2014	2015
Envelope Offerings	37,643.95	49,738.17
PAR Envelope Givings	31,287.00	30,422.00
Loose Offerings	2,583.45	2,484.46
Building Fund	10,522.45	10,628.00
PAR Building Fund	384.00	384.00
Income from Mutual Fund	7,346.16	6,733.98
Mission & Service Fund Donations	8,144.70	7,863.00
Sunday School Revenue	440.15	422.87
Vacation Bible School	0.00	70.00
Assistive Hearing Device Donation	1,000.00	0.00
Church Rental	751.00	1,382.00
Monthly Raffles	667.11	400.75
Golden Girls	1,275.00	725.00
Luncheon Group	2,388.08	0.00
Youth Group	37.85	50.00
Fall Canvass	5,040.00	5,060.00
Can Drive	373.23	556.05
Foodland Tapes	232.30	135.12
Library Donations	30.00	0.00
Memorial Donations	1,865.00	145.00
Police Chorus Concert	0.00	3,217.86
Silent Auction at Police Concert	0.00	517.00
Naomi Bristow Concert	0.00	2,090.00
Bake Sale	654.25	468.20
Yard Sale	1,694.48	1,545.20
Peameal Bacon on a Bun	420.00	330.50
Beef Supper	2,576.90	2,299.08
Turkey Supper	3,346.88	4,475.23
Pot Pies	0.00	345.00
Chicken BBQ	1,526.27	1,859.32
Queen Elizabeth Tea	0.00	1,260.00
Cook Book Sales	110.00	50.00
Chair Donations	740.00	0.00
Electronics Recycling	460.65	0.00
Cemetery Donations	16,063.36	5,750.00
Benevolent Fund Donations	50.00	0.00
Interest Income	120.00	55.23
TOTAL REVENUE	139,774.22	141,463.02

EXPENSES	2014	2015	2015	2016
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Minister Salary	64,660.08	65,823.96	65,463.96	65,463.96
Employment Insurance	1,279.16	1,302.84	2,054.55	1,337.06
Canada Pension Plan	2,078.77	2,150.00	2,118.58	2,200.00
ADP Fees	267.07	300.00	482.85	500.00
U.C.C. Pension, Health Benefits	10,125.86	10,500.00	9,352.50	10,000.00
Travel Allowance Expense	1,932.74	2,000.00	1,450.50	1,500.00
Custodian	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Organist	1,925.00	1,925.00	1,925.00	1,925.00
Envelope Steward	1,430.00	1,430.00	1,430.00	1,430.00
Treasurer	1,560.00	1,560.00	1,560.00	1,560.00
Supply Preachers	249.56	300.00	541.71	500.00
Guest Singers	250.00	250.00	100.00	250.00
Benevolent Fund	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
World Vision	156.00	936.00	624.00	0.00
Youth Group	776.53	1,000.00	233.21	500.00
Skating Party	277.91	300.00	60.75	0.00
Social Events	218.56	250.00	0.00	200.00
Heating	4,027.77	4,250.00	4,270.11	4,500.00
Water & Sewage	219.28	350.00	202.86	250.00
Hydro	2,368.00	2,500.00	2,270.15	2,500.00
Insurance	3,157.92	3,300.00	3,472.20	3,600.00
Repairs & Maintenance	5,193.17	2,500.00	1,135.38	2,500.00
Electrical Upgrades	0.00	15,000.00	13,732.89	0.00
Bathroom Upgrades	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
Audio Equipment & Supplies	1,326.62	500.00	0.00	400.00
Front Doors	6,430.15	0.00	0.00	0.00
Internet	549.31	575.00	812.72	900.00
Website	0.00	1,500.00	1,408.38	500.00
Electronic Newsletter	139.63	265.00	294.58	500.00
Church Telephone	759.70	800.00	858.29	900.00
Minister's Telephone	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
Licenses & Permits	352.55	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lift Maintenance	220.35	5,000.00	2,940.88	3,500.00
Snow Removal	660.00	600.00	270.00	400.00
Worship Supplies & Curriculum	779.62	500.00	686.87	650.00
Minister Study & Book Allowance	560.79	132.00	38.88	150.00
Continuing Education	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Furniture	1,807.99	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kitchen Supplies	170.56	0.00	7.18	50.00
Library Expenses	341.95	150.00	181.15	200.00
Sunday School Expense	161.24	250.00	27.99	150.00
Vacation Bible School	0.00	0.00	247.91	250.00
Music Related Expenses	0.00	200.00	0.00	250.00
Advertising	392.33	500.00	162.72	250.00
Office Supplies	1,671.72	1,000.00	618.71	750.00
Custodial Supplies	110.18	100.00	0.00	100.00
Presbytery Dues	4,716.00	4,693.00	4,693.00	4,892.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	5.00	250.00	163.79	250.00
Bank Service Charges	215.90	250.00	206.45	250.00
Concert Expenses	352.70	750.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>130,527.67</u>	<u>143,742.80</u>	<u>133,900.70</u>	<u>133,808.02</u>
Mission & Service Contributions	9,639.08	8,500.00	7,863.00	8,000.00
Cemetery Donations	16,063.36	0.00	5,750.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	156,230.11	152,242.80	147,513.70	141,808.02

	2014	2015
REVENUE	139,774.22	141,463.02
EXPENSES	<u>156,230.11</u>	<u>147,513.70</u>
NET INCOME	<u><u>-16,455.89</u></u>	<u><u>-6,050.68</u></u>

Opening Balance	37,048.73		
Plus Revenue	141,463.02	Bank Balance - Dec 31, 2015	45,077.86
GIC Redemption	<u>10,000.00</u>	Plus Outstanding Deposit	<u>4,000.00</u>
	188,511.75		49,077.86
Less Expenses	<u>147,513.70</u>	Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>8,079.81</u>
Balance	<u><u>40,998.05</u></u>	Balance	<u><u>40,998.05</u></u>

CURRENT INVESTMENTS (as of December 31, 2015)

GIC-39	5,000.00	
Mutual Fund	<u>190,748.09</u>	(includes \$179,025.54 from sale of manse)
Total Investments	<u><u>195,748.09</u></u>	