

BOARD RESPONSE TO SPECIAL MEMBER RESOLUTION

Why We Launched Encounter the Truth

In the year 2020, and in the depths of pandemic lockdowns, the Metropolitan Bible Church launched Encounter the Truth (ETT) radio ministry with a clear vision: to share faithful Bible teaching with listeners beyond the walls of our church.

At the time of founding the ministry, it was the Board's vision and mandate that the program be produced to such a high level of quality that it could reach across North America on terrestrial radio signals and around the world digitally. The goal was to serve the largest number of people possible on the widest range of broadcasting networks.

Early Impact

From the outset, there has been - and continues to be - a strong hunger among Christian broadcasters for high-quality, Christ-centered teaching. The Met's teaching ministry was uniquely positioned to meet that need, and God has graciously used Encounter the Truth to reach many lives across Canada and beyond.

A listener comments:

Dear Pastor Jonathan;

I just wanted to let you know how much your ministry is changing my life. I first started listening to you on Harvester's FM, in Nova Scotia. Then I discovered the App. I can listen anytime, anywhere, and it is WONDERFUL!

Your teaching is so practical for today's world. You make God's word relevant for today. You make God's Word come alive! I have shared your ministry with friends, even one in New Zealand. I am currently listening to the Ephesians series. THANK YOU it is such a wonderful series. The Truth shines through. The Holy Spirit indwells me openly, as I listen. I only listen to 3 Pastors online, you are one along with Dr. Charles Stanley, and Dr. Chuck Swindoll.

Another listener says:

Encounter the Truth is such a blessing. The Lord released me from a sin, and I believe He used ETT to do that. Thank you! He opened my eyes and I repented; I am so thankful to the Lord. The teaching showed me what to do, not just to identify the problem but also the solution, the steps to take. I am so grateful for the podcast.

A Distinct Canadian Voice

We also want to highlight that ETT is one of the few Canadian ministries serving in this broadcasting and digital sphere. Encounter the Truth brings a unique contribution to the Canadian ministry landscape by offering contextualized, culturally appropriate, and contemporary Bible teaching to the airwaves and the online media world. This distinctively Canadian voice is deeply needed and widely appreciated, both at home and abroad.

Alignment With The Met's Mission

Importantly, ETT aligns fully with The Met's mission, *to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ, together engaging people with the gospel, establishing believers in the gospel, and equipping servants of the gospel, in our nation's capital, and the nations of the world.* ETT relies on the wide proclamation of the Word of God to make disciples. It engages new people with the gospel as they encounter the message on various channels, while establishing and equipping believers with faithful Bible teaching that reaches them where they are. ETT reflects The Met's missions policy, grounded in the biblical imperative to cross boundaries of place and culture to reach those who do not yet know Jesus - and to do so through the faithful verbal proclamation of the Word of God. This excerpt from the missions policy summarizes the priority that ETT fulfills: *The Met's missions program exists to extend the work of disciple-making beyond our walls....We understand that disciples are made through the proclamation of the gospel and wider ministry of the Word, so all mission activity will have, at its heart, a focus on verbal communication of God's Word.*

Radio Reach Today

Today, the reach of this ministry is extensive, and for that we give thanks to the Lord. On terrestrial radio alone, Encounter the Truth is broadcast on approximately 400 signals across Canada and the United States, reaching a population base of over 100 million people. Notably, the majority of these radio stations are covered free of charge or for very nominal charges.

The program airs daily in the Greater Toronto Area and Western New York on WDCX radio, reaching commuters at the prime slot of 8:30 a.m. It is also broadcast daily on CHRI, serving Ottawa, Pembroke, Cornwall, and Montreal at an important morning wake-up time. Many in our community and within the Met Church family benefit daily from the ministry in that way. A full range of ETT's reach is available on our website – www.encounterthetruth.org

ETT reaches Atlantic Canada on 12 signals across the region, and reaches the west, with signals in Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. It also touches a wide range of major urban centres in the United States on a daily basis, including Chicago, Cleveland, Tampa, Miami, and many, many more.

The possibilities for the power of God's Word to touch hearts and transform lives through this reach are immense. Over these last five years, ETT has become established as a trusted ministry in the Christian broadcasting sphere, and opportunities continue to open up for the reach to expand.

Digital and Podcast Reach

Beyond radio, its online and podcast presence extends globally through outlets such as Trans World Radio, ETT's app and website. The program is also streamed daily on the front page of the Gospel Coalition Canada's website - an incredible opportunity to bring biblical teaching to even more listeners.

Why Continued Support Is Needed

In recent years, tremendous new opportunities for broadcast have opened up, enabling the ministry to expand its reach and impact. With growth, however, comes the need for sustained resources. Ongoing support from our church family remains essential to maintain and strengthen this outreach while ETT's own donor base continues to build steadily. A sudden unplanned change in

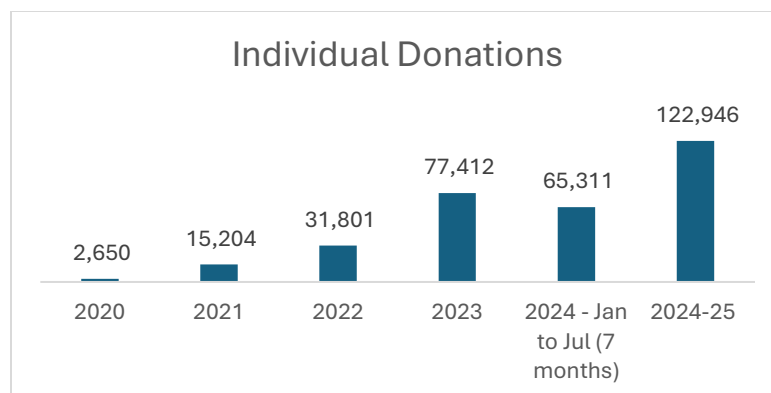
the church's support level for ETT would necessarily result in cutting broadcast signals in a number of our key Canadian urban centres, where we feel the a particular burden to bring the light of the gospel (note that the vast majority of our US signals are free or low cost, or are funded by earmarked donations given specifically for those signals by interested donors).

ETT's Finances

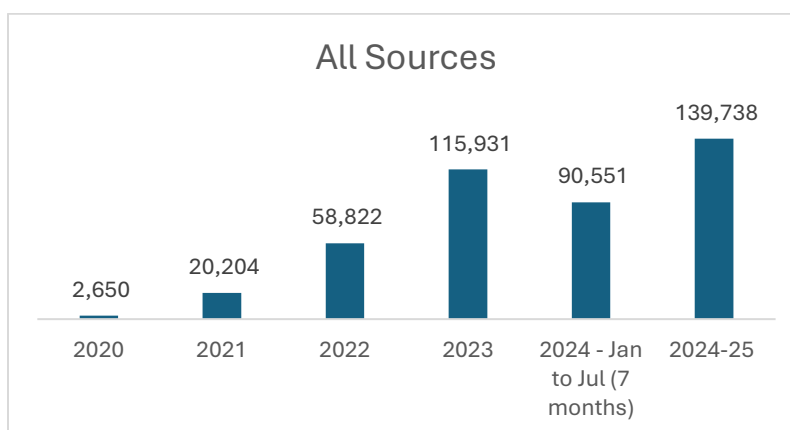
In the spirit of transparency, we would like to present ETT's figures since inception till July 2025:

	12 months	12 months	12 months	12 months	7 months	12 months
ETT Income	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan-Jul 2024	Aug'24-Jul'25
Individual donations to ETT	2,650	15,204	31,801	77,412	65,311	122,946
Easter offering	-	5,000	10,000	7,614	25,240	-
Missions Conference Offering	-	-	17,021	30,905	-	16,792
Total Income	2,650	20,204	58,822	115,931	90,551	139,738
ETT Expenses	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan-Jul 2024	Aug'24-Jul'25
Expenses	20,000	100,418	208,957	364,043	296,372	420,686
Support from Missions/Min. Ini. Fund	17,350	80,214	150,135	248,112	205,821	280,948

We are particularly encouraged by the growing individual donations to ETT:



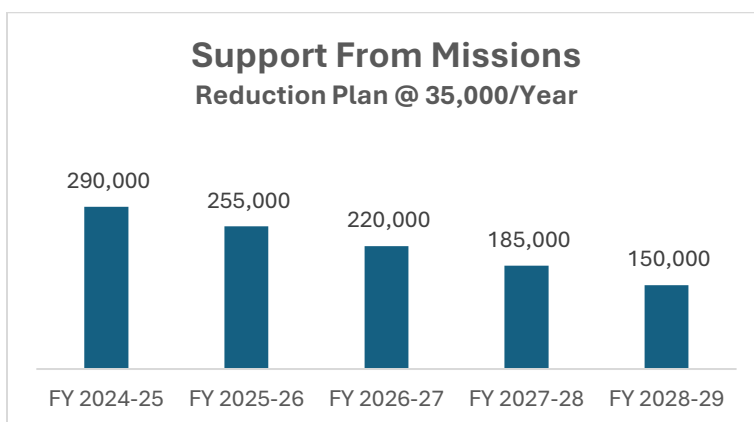
Combining donations from all sources (individuals, special offerings, etc.) we have seen an encouraging trend as well:



Governance and Transition

The Met has charged a dedicated new board with leading Encounter the Truth and has formally handed over the day-to-day leadership and financial responsibilities. But it would not be prudent - nor indeed honorable - for us to hand over those responsibilities without also providing resources to meet them as the ministry transitions toward greater self-sufficiency. Up until this point, as a Met ministry, ETT's work has been facilitated through the Met's administrative and support staff structure. As of August 1st, ETT has taken on costs for administrative support directly, which has naturally increased the financial needs of the ministry.

We are committed to ensuring a smooth and responsible transition of the ministry so that it can continue to flourish and meet its original vision and mandate. We do not wish to transition the ministry in such a way as to undermine the investment of finances and labour that has been made to establish it over the last five years. As part of the multi-year transition plan, the Met's grant to Encounter the Truth has already been reduced by \$35,000 since last year's approved budget. It is the Board's plan and intention to reduce the grant by a further \$35,000 each year over the next four years - for a total reduction of \$140,000 over a four-year period, at which time, The Met's support shall remain limited to \$150,000 per year, which would be 15% of a 1 million missions budget.



We're grateful for your prayers and encouragement as we partner in sharing God's Word with a world in need of Jesus. We also thank the Lord for steady growth in our Missions ministry: the number of supported missionaries has increased from 46 to 60, and supported projects from 1 to 4 over the past year.

- Board of Directors, The Met