

## PASSING THE TORCH

*Inside this mailing you have received a calendar profiling the beautiful people we serve here in UrbanPromise Toronto (UPT). When I look at the faces in this calendar I cannot help but remember the early days of UPT when my wife and I founded this ministry fourteen years ago.*

**W**hen we started UPT we had no money, no staff and no office. However, we do have a great God who gave us a strong conviction to raise up a team of young Christian leaders to serve in Toronto's most "at-risk" communities. With this calling in mind we began to share this vision with everyone we could. That was a long time ago and today we have

excited to announce we are leaving to build a new ministry.

In the beginning days of UPT one of the goals my wife and I had was to develop young leaders who would impact their communities through the power of Christ. By developing a solid Intern Program we've had the opportunity to shape hundreds of young adults from all over the world to grow strong in their relationship with Jesus

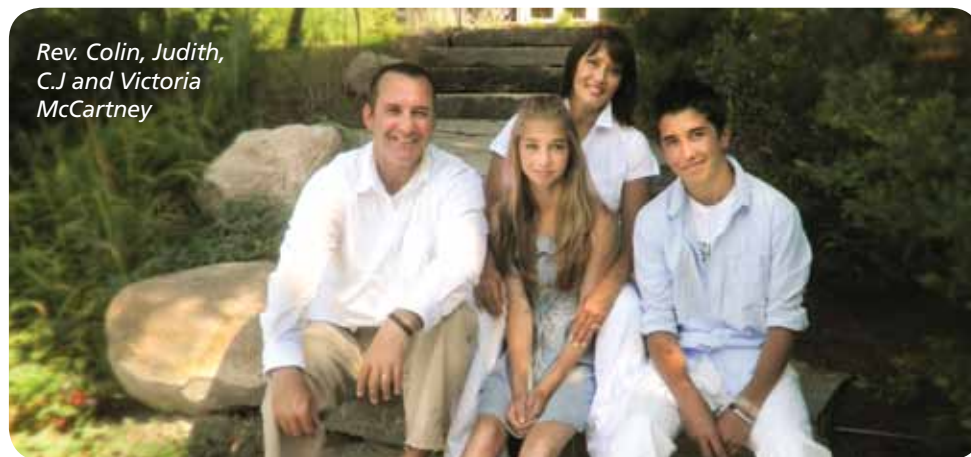


coming to know Christ as their Saviour while giving them a chance to develop their leadership potential in giving back to their neighbourhoods. Yes, strong leadership development has always been a priority of ours to the point that we even imagined a day some of the leaders we trained would eventually take over our jobs. Well, this day has come. We are now confident that we can leave UPT in a strong position for two reasons:

### 1. I HAVE A TERRIFIC LEADER WHO CAN REPLACE ME

I am happy to announce that Brett McBride is replacing me as the Executive Director of UPT. Brett is perfect for this role as I have had the privilege to work with him and watch him develop his leadership skills while serving at UPT for

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Rev. Colin, Judith,  
C.J. and Victoria  
McCartney

been blessed with a great staff, interns, streetleaders, donors and yes, even a decent office. The calendar you hold in your hands declares that God has been good and the ministry is strong. However, calendars also make you think about the future and for Judith and I the future means we will be moving on. Yes, after founding UPT 14 years ago, we are

as they develop their leadership skills serving in our programs. We also created a StreetLeader Program involving hundreds of "at-risk" youth from the government housing communities we serve. This ministry has resulted in countless youth

**REACH** A CHILD,  
**RAISE** A LEADER,  
**RESTORE** COMMUNITY!

over 12 years. I can assure you that UPT is in great hands with Brett. He has a strong passion for Christ and deep love for the Word of God. He has also proven himself as a successful and committed leader. His track record at UPT speaks loudly for itself. I will be supporting him as he leads UPT and I hope you join me in standing with him as he is worthy of our continuing support. Pray for the Board at UPT as well as Brett McBride and our wonderful staff at UPT. God is doing some amazing things through them and they continue to need your financial and prayer support. We love them all and I look forward to still being involved at UPT in a consultative basis with the Board and with Brett McBride. If you have any questions please give either Brett McBride or I a call and we will be available to talk with you as we watch God continue to bless UPT.



## 2. WE ARE MOVING ON TO ANOTHER SEASON OF MINISTRY

A few months ago a wise friend of mine told me what Judith and I started at UPT fourteen years ago is a gift that needs to be shared with the rest of the Christian community. Judith and I agree with my friend's challenge. We realize our many years of combined ministry experience

is an invaluable gift from God and it is time to share it with those outside of UPT. With our extensive experience and expertise we are committing ourselves to equip a new generation of emerging leaders called to serve vulnerable children and youth both nationally and globally. Much of the vision for this ministry has come from my speaking tours which have taken me across Canada, into First Nations Reservations and into some of the poorest countries in the world like Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Through these trips we have met amazing young Christian leaders many doing their best serving vulnerable children and youth in their neighbourhoods but they are alone and are very under resourced. It is to these leaders and the children and youth they serve that we feel called to.

Imagine with me the great needs present in these at-risk communities we hope to reach. They are immense! But now think of the wonderful young leadership potential just waiting for us to invest our time and even our money into. With my visionary and innovative spirit along with Judith's ability to pull order and direction out of my entrepreneurial drive we are confident we have the ability to mentor, equip and coach these emerging leaders who desperately need strengthened in the valuable work they do. Our vision is to apprentice these emerging leaders here in Toronto while Jude and I equip them in their leadership development so we can send them back to their home countries empowered to start up ministries for vulnerable children and youth. Together, through the Spirit of God, we can create a movement of young leaders who will reach at-risk

children and youth with the transforming power of the Gospel of Christ.

Judith and I are grateful to have people like you, your churches, other ministries, Dr. Tony Campolo and our



beloved UrbanPromise involved in our lives. We are also appreciative of the great training Judith is receiving at the Arrow Leadership Program she is part of. You are all a big piece of this exciting new ministry and we hope you will join us as we begin this new endeavour while you still support the good work of UPT. Soon we will send some of you more details of the new ministry we are starting but for now your prayers for our family are needed at this time as we move ahead in faith trusting God to work through us as we extend the Kingdom.

Love you all,

**Rev. Colin, Judith,  
C.J and Victoria McCartney**

*P.S – Though this letter is to inform you of the changes occurring at UPT and the future ministry that the Founders of UPT are now starting up please do not forget the ministry we founded during this Christmas season. Please give generously knowing that many more people will be reached through your kind donations.*

UrbanPromise Toronto exists to proclaim the love of Jesus, and to express it through the spiritual, social, and educational development of children, youth, and families living in government-housing.



[urbanpromise.com](http://urbanpromise.com)

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