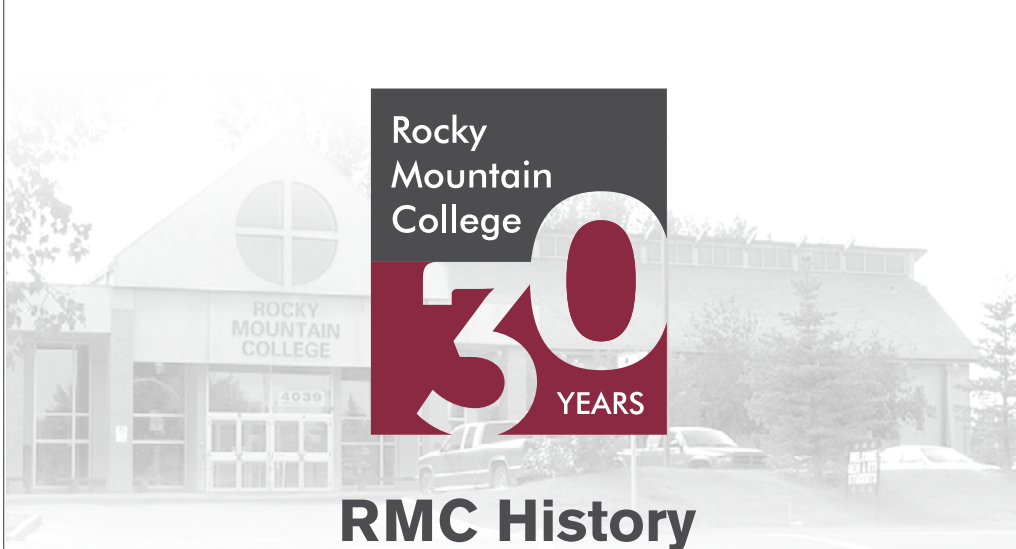


the Rock

... on this rock we build



RMC History

This year RMC is marking our 30th anniversary as a college located in Calgary and the focus of this newsletter over the next few months will be a celebration of that event.

The RMC story began with the decision in 1989 to merge Hillcrest Christian College (Medicine Hat) and Mountain View Bible College (Didsbury). That decision prompted the purchase of property in NW Calgary at 4039 Brentwood Road in 1991 where RMC has called home ever since.

This purchase prompted a flurry of activity including hiring Reverend Randy Steinwand as founding President; the facilitation of a major renovation; recruiting and hiring an administrative, staff, and faculty team; and coordinating the blending of two separate colleges so that RMC could open its doors for the fall 1992 semester. Full days indeed, and a time of leaning on God for His leadership and provision!

With God's faithful care, strong board governance, wise leadership acumen, the efforts of dedicated employees, and over 250 volunteers, RMC achieved the goal of welcoming its first students on a bright sunny September 9th morning. There was much to celebrate, including the occupancy permit received just a few days earlier!

“ The early years saw an expanding enrolment creating an energizing campus! The continued growth spurred a spirit of innovation...and what seemed like constant renovations... So much fun! ”

In those early days God blessed the RMC adventure and students were warmly welcomed by Calgary churches. Enrolment in the first year totaled 179 students from 22 denominations. The immediate diversity was a strong and welcome affirmation of the board's insistence that RMC be founded as a multi-denominational school. That hallmark value continues 30 years later and students remind us regularly never to change that practice.

The early years saw an expanding enrolment creating an energizing campus! The continued growth spurred a spirit of innovation as well as what seemed like constant renovations to keep up to the growing enrolment. So much fun!

The same passionate energy continued after Randy Steinwand tendered his resignation in 1996, leaving RMC well positioned in the Canadian landscape




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of Christian colleges to continue discipling students and preparing leaders for ministry. Gordon Dirks, RMC's second President, built on that foundation taking RMC forward into the future.

Under Gordon's leadership, RMC embraced a progressive model of Bible College by broadening curriculum offerings to include a stronger focus on performing arts programs. The signature RMC Choir and Orchestra, an enhanced athletics program, significant field education experiences and a new one-year discipleship program called THE EDGE, were just some of the highlights! It was in 2000 that RMC embarked on a major renovation to create improved space for students and their needs.

As many are aware, in the early 2000s the Bible college movement in North America underwent a painful enrolment shift with many colleges experiencing rapidly declining enrolments. RMC was not immune to that change and in 2015, after thorough research and prayer, the RMC Board of Governors made a courageous strategic decision to pursue a new model of learning they believed would be more effective in developing leaders for the church. That decision was to transition RMC from a traditional campus-based college to a Distributed Learning college and the new delivery system was called Pathways. Under the leadership of Academic Vice President Chris Elford, the transition was seamless and today Pathways has a growing enrolment!

Pathways is targeted to the adult learner to study where they live and do ministry. Due to that intentional strategy, there are no students on campus. Currently 74% of RMC students live in rural Canada; average 31 years of age; are often married with children and study while in a local ministry. Courses are accessed online, or we may send a professor to teach a course if there are a group of students attending. Recently, we launched another accredited distributed learning program called REALIZE. It is a competency based distributed learning system to partner alongside Pathways.

God has led and blessed RMC in many ways over the last 30 years. We have served over 6,000 students who have touched over 60 countries around the world. The student body has regularly included over 30 different denominations each semester and today we have over 30 partners that we serve with to help develop disciplined leaders. 80% of our students come from those partnerships and in some ways, we have multiple arms of ministry.

“ Our founders launched RMC to pursue a two-fold mission. To disciple students in the Christian faith; and to develop leaders for ministry. ”

RMC grads serve as missionaries, youth pastors, pastors, executive pastors, social workers, inner city workers, pregnancy care centre workers, lead homes for unwed mothers, teach in Christian colleges, serve in politics, lead Christian counseling practices, and are business leaders. This legacy is a testament to many answered prayers and God's ongoing activity in our lives.

Our founders launched RMC to pursue a two-fold mission. To disciple students in the Christian faith; and to develop leaders for ministry. While the methods and curriculum we use to accomplish our mission have changed over the years, those two core values remain unchanged, even 30 years later.

We wish to thank the board members, leaders, staff, faculty, donors and students who have made the RMC dream a reality, enabling us to stand on their shoulders as we look to the future. Their passion for RMC's mandate continues to burn bright and long in our hearts as we seek to wrap our arms around the world as Jesus has asked us to do!



From the desk of Kerry Belt
President of RMC



RMC IS EXPANDING ITS TEAM!

We are looking for faculty, administrative and financial personnel.

Submit your CV or resume to
dean@rockymountaincollege.ca

PRAYER MATTERS

Jesus taught us that prayer furthers His kingdom on earth. Please pray with us for the following:

- President Kerry Belt as he continues to lead RMC
- For our students studying this Fall
- For our partners and God's favour on them
- For our faculty, as they teach and inspire our students
- Thank God for always providing

**Can we pray for you?
Please send your prayer requests to
Gaileen Gillies at
ggillies@rockymountaincollege.ca**

Please find enclosed an envelope to make a donation, send a prayer request or ballot to RMC.

With gratefulness,
Kerry Belt, President