



WHAT IS SUMMERBRIDGE?

The Summerbridge Program offers an 8–12 week summer opportunity for young adults of diverse cultural backgrounds to strengthen relationships by serving in their home congregations and communities, to experience the fulfillment of Christian service, and to support the development of their leadership skills.

Who can apply?

- People 17 years and older are eligible.
- Affiliation with a Mennonite or Brethren in Christ congregation is required.

What kind of work would you do?

Summerbridge assignments should benefit both the workers and the communities they serve in.

Types of service could include but are not limited to: providing organized activities for youth and children, teaching dance or art classes in local communities, working in an urban garden, or acting as a pastoral intern. The possibilities are endless and should be suited to fit with the vision or dream of your church!



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HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Summerbridge offers an opportunity for young adults from your congregation to serve God in your local community over the summer months. By creating a joint project plan with the Summerbridger, your congregation can meet pressing needs of the church and broader community. As Summerbridge participants serve under the mentorship of their pastor, they develop leadership skills and strengthen their relationships with the congregation.

“Summerbridge is an amazing opportunity to connect our congregation with the larger Mennonite Church body and to connect us more deeply with our Anabaptist roots of peace and justice.”

Pastor Justin Chan from South Vancouver Pacific Grace

FOR CHURCH AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

Qualifications for partnership

We partner with Mennonite or Brethren in Christ congregations that prioritize community building and Christian service, and encourage leadership development for those of diverse cultural backgrounds.

What are the financial arrangements?

Summerbridge participants will receive a stipend equalling minimum wage for each week (35 hours) that they participate in the program up to a maximum of 12 weeks. The costs to run this program are shared by three partners (provincial/regional MCC, MCC Canada, and the sponsoring church).

The sponsoring church is responsible for managing the finances of the project.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Expectations for Church/Summerbridger

- Identify a good candidate from their church who fits program goals of leadership development, community engagement & Christian services.
- Jointly prepare a project proposal for MCC.
- Appoint a supervisor from within congregation.
- Complete application and commit to bi-weekly reporting and end term report.

Expectations for Participant

- Carry out the project as proposed.
- Strengthen relationships with congregation and community.

Expectations for MCC

- MCC reviews and approves applications. Priority is given to projects related to peace, social justice & community development.
- MCC holds a June orientation for all Summerbridgers in Winnipeg, MB. Orientation related expenses are covered by MCC.

