

October 28, 2014

Dear Pastors, Leaders, and Church Treasurers,

Greetings in Jesus' Name!

The Saskatchewan Baptist Association presented its annual "shadow budget" to delegates from the churches at Melville Baptist Church on Saturday, October 25, 2014. This "shadow budget" was approved by the delegates unanimously. Highlights of the budget include:

- A forecast of income based on current (2014) church giving levels of \$71 400.00.
- Total expenses of \$103 116.25, which include:
 - Association Expenses of \$81 716.25, which includes Region Minister costs.
 - SBA Ministry Expenses, including beginning to set aside funds for future disbursement (ie: Youth Gathering, NAB Youth Workers Summit) of \$21 400.00
 - Moving items (ie: Pattimore Support, Youth Gathering, NAB Youth Workers Summit) from the Reserve Funds to the General Operating budget where they belong.
 - Reducing Pattimore support 20% yearly over the next 5 years, and asking the churches to consider supporting (or increasing support to) the Pattimore's ministry to bridge the gap the SBA's reduction will create.
- This leaves us with a \$31 716.25 deficit.

The Leadership Team of the Saskatchewan Baptist Association has suggested that our member churches consider giving 5% of their annual operating budget, minus missions giving, to the Saskatchewan Baptist Association. For some of our churches, this may be a significant sacrifice. For other of our churches, this may be easier to attain. As we are Baptists, we cannot direct our member churches to do so, but we would ask that each member church prayerfully consider doing so.

We would also request that all giving from our member churches be disbursed, if at all possible, on a quarterly basis during the first week of January, April, July and October. It makes budgeting and forecasting much easier, and takes a large load off of the SBA treasurer when paying the bills.

I would ask that this letter, and a copy of the SBA Shadow Budget be shared with every pastor, leader (elders, deacons, and church councils) and treasurer in our member churches. These needs and requests are vital for our Association, and it is vital that each leader have access to the information so they can prayerfully consider it.

Thank you for your continued support, both financially and prayerfully.

In Christ,



Rev. Doug Armbruster

Moderator

Saskatchewan Baptist Association