



Fort McMurray  
Alliance Church

# Interns & Apprentices

*8 month to 2 year intern program  
2 to 3 year apprenticeship program*

An **intern** is someone seeking to gain valuable practical experience within a local church in preparation for fulltime ministry or to simply get a flavour of what local church ministry is like while considering the potential of fulltime ministry.

An **apprentice** is in training for fulltime ministry through a 50/50 split of direct ministry involvement and academic study through Distance Learning Courses such as those offered by Briercrest College & Seminary. In some cases apprentices gain ministry credentials with the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada.

Some flexible options for apprentices include combining work terms in the Fort McMurray area with the apprenticeship program. On-site modular courses at a school like Briercrest can also be included in the academic component.

## We Will Equip You

Facilitated by one of our staff and alongside the other interns/apprentices, you will attend weekly intern classes that consist of personal and spiritual development, leadership development, and ministry theory. Some of this involves reading and reporting on a number of books and journal articles related to ministry and spiritual formation. Apprentices will additionally set-aside time to work through a series of Distance Learning Courses that will prepare you to enter the licensing process for ministry with the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada.

You will also be partnered a mentor from outside of the staff team who you can meet with for additional support and prayer.

You will develop a variety of spiritual disciplines that will facilitate your ongoing spiritual formation including a personal quiet time of prayer, Bible study and journaling that will undergird your whole experience.

You will learn from and work alongside a dynamic team of staff and volunteers who are committed to creative approaches to ministry in the context of a youthful and international city. You will find the church and city to be an exciting environment for the risk-taking emerging leader who wants to develop into a Spirit empowered catalytic agent for the unveiling of God's kingdom. Ample breathing space is given to the person who is seeking to live life to the full while thinking innovatively in order to make the invisible Jesus tangibly visible to the needs of our city and world.

## We Will Release You

You will be released to work alongside a staff pastor or key ministry volunteer in a specific ministry area where you will be coached and given opportunity to lead and grow in the practical elements of ministry.

While your focus will likely be on a particular ministry area, you will need to see yourself as a team player who is able to serve wherever needed.

Your involvement will span from tasks that are critical to the running of the ministry of the Church, to significant leadership and teaching opportunities designed to stretch and grow you, and then everything else in-between.

On average, you can expect that you will invest 50 hours a week into internship, including reading and reflection. Internship is work, but it is rewarding work that will grow you in a multitude of ways.

## **We Will Feed You**

We are providing you with an incredible opportunity to learn valuable ministry skills in the context of a vibrant growing church family with a talented and fun loving staff and volunteer team.

Internship is primarily a volunteer educational experience. You are not a paid staff member. However, you will be provided with a monthly honorarium of \$600.

Plus for single interns, we will feed you and find you a bed. This may be in the home of the Lead Pastor, another staff member or a congregational member. Room & board is only available for interns who come from outside the Fort McMurray area, but you can still crash at the Doyle's for a few meals.

We will assist married couples to find accommodation in the area, but are not able to provide room and board. Again crashing at the Doyle's for a few meals is encouraged.

## **We Will Give You An Incredible Northern Experience**

Fort McMurray, also known as the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, is Northern Alberta! This is Oilsands country! You will be serving in the heart of Canada's rugged boreal forest, with some incredible outdoor sports opportunities in a quickly growing city of over 100,000 that is surprisingly exuberant and international. If you are jazzed by any of fishing, hunting, paintball, mountain biking, hiking, skiing, snowboarding, golf, hockey, ATVing, snowmobiling, you'll have ample opportunity! Or you can choose to experience Fort McMurray's growing arts and music scene with your own talents or just your talent to kick back and enjoy. For others there are some seriously intense photographic and painting opportunities ready for you to capture in and around our region. And then to balance it all out you can workout in some of the most incredible recreational facilities in the country.

Check out a couple of video links from the blog Missional Canadian that will give you a bit more of a picture of what's happening in Fort McMurray. ("Do We Focus on McMurray Mike": <http://wp.me/ppCqi-nl>, or "Looking Ahead to Fort McMurray": <http://wp.me/ppCqi-m7>)

As an intern or apprentice you will be on the cutting edge of an average sized but growing church that is committed to penetrating a booming city dominated by young adults in

search of the life we all yearn to live. We use words like life, adventure and transformation to describe our ministry, where our passion is to be a people transformed by Christ to be a transforming influence on our city and world.

Fort McMurray Alliance provides an exiting environment for the risk-taking emerging leader who wants to develop into a Spirit empowered catalytic agent for the unveiling of God's kingdom. Ample breathing space is given to the person who is seeking to live life to the full while using his or her creativity to make the invisible Jesus tangibly visible to the needs of our city and world.

## **About the Program Coordinator**

The internship and apprenticeship program is coordinated by the Lead Pastor Doug Doyle.

For 20 years Doug served as the Lead Pastor at Redwood Park Church in Thunder Bay, Ontario where he had the privilege of leading that church from being a smaller inwardly focused church to a missional multi-site congregation with a social services outreach centre, that saw weekend attendance move towards 900. Redwood's internship and apprenticeship program has seen young adults equipped and sent out to serve in churches all around the country and world. Previously Doug has been involved in various camping and youth ministries.

Doug came to Fort McMurray less than a year ago with a strong sense of call to share and demonstrate the life-transforming message of the Gospel in one of the fastest growing cities in Canada with one of youngest demographics in the country. By far it is Doug's biggest leadership challenge of his life, and he's totally jazzed to see what God will do through the Fort McMurray Alliance family.

With the move to Fort McMurray Doug became involved with Briercrest College and Seminary in Caronport, Saskatchewan, where he teaches two courses a year as an Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology. From his home base in Fort McMurray, Doug serves as the Program Coordinator for Briercrest's MDiv (Master of Divinity) program, with an urgency to see the next generation of ministry leaders raised up to serve effectively within our ever evolving Canadian culture, as well as our vastly changing world.

Doug is married to Jane who has a phenomenal gift of hospitality and cooking. However when you come over you might want to ask what it is you're eating – as sometimes Doug enjoys a hike with a good friend and a gun in the beauty of our rugged Canadian outdoors, or maybe a paddle on a remote lake with rod in hand. He's thinking that with the move for Fort McMurray, he might have to break down and add an ATV to his toys.

## **To Apply**

Please fill out the Internship/Apprenticeship Program Application and email that to [doug@fmalliance.ca](mailto:doug@fmalliance.ca). You can also request a copy of the Lifestyle Agreement that would need to be signed should you be accepted into the program.