

Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada New Foursquare Church Development Team

Church Planting Intensive

Requirements for 2 credits at Pacific Life Bible College

Course Objectives

This course is about church multiplication; it's an invitation to launch a faith community that will communicate the gospel in a credible and understandable way to a particular region, people or culture and to make disciples who will do the same.

“Intensive” is an accurate word to describe the CPI learning process. The pre-event work, the intensive itself, and the synthesis that follows will help potential church planters think and pray their way through the fundamental questions that must be asked before beginning a new church:

- What does God want me to do?
- Who am I?
- What am I called to do?
- Who will do it with me?
- How will we do it?
- How will we evaluate our progress?

At PLBC we are more interested in developing leaders and churches that start and finish well than we are in purely academic exercise. However, our research shows that doing your “homework” in preparing yourself as a church planter is critical to your success, for you personally and for the church you start.

Course Instructors

Various pastors and church leaders associated with the New Foursquare Church Development Team.

Course Resource

ReachMore Foursquare Church Planting Notebook

Course Requirements

1. **30 %** Complete all the pre-event work in the ReachMore Notebook (approximately 64 hours).
2. **5 %** Interview a church planter who is one to three years past his/her launch using the questions found in the introduction to the Notebook and others you come up with.
3. **5 %** Read the pamphlet entitled *The ABC's of Natural Church Development*.
4. **30 %** Participate actively in the entire CPI Intensive (approximately 30 hours).
5. **30 %** Complete the Church Planting Proposal (see the next page).

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Church Planting Proposal Components

1. **Values Statement:** A list of 4-7 statements that capture the heart of what your church is all about. These are not theological statements that declare the importance of worship, evangelism, teaching, discipleship, etc. They are characteristics and distinctives about you and how you go about doing those and other aspects of ministry that help determine your priorities and resolve your decisions.
2. **Vision Description:** One to two paragraph description of the future, what the church's impact on lives will look and feel like 3-5 years from now.
3. **Mission Statement:** One paragraph that answers the following:
 - a. Who are the people God has called you to reach?
 - b. What are the needs of these people to which you will respond?
 - c. How will you address those needs?
4. **Prayer Support Team:** Who are the intercessors that have agreed to support you in prayer, and how will you structure your ongoing communications with them?
5. **Leadership Team:** What will your leadership team look like? How will you go about building your leadership team? Who are the members of your leadership team and in what roles do they serve (what are their assignments)?
6. **Intentional Outreach:** Describe what you and your launch team will do to intentionally network with pre-Christians as you prepare for launch and the first year of the church.
7. **Timeline:** What is your timeline from completion of your church planting proposal to launching public services to your first anniversary? The timeline should indicate key points in the development of the full range of ministry that you intend to offer to the community, and in the establishment of the necessary components of the administrative structure.
8. **Budget:** What is your start-up budget of income and expense? What is your proposed monthly budget of both income and expenses for the first year of your church plant?
 - Aim for at least three renewable streams of income (eg. tithes and offerings, bi-vocational income, monthly support from people outside the church, income from shared facility, etc.)
 - Aim for at least two non-renewable streams of income (eg. denominational allowance, one-time gifts, parent church support, etc.)
 - Since church planting is all about the harvest, a great check on your budgeting process can be to note whether the expenditures are for mission or maintenance.