

You've got mail!

Thousands keep up-to-date with the latest in family matters and useful resources through Focus's e-newsletters:



Your support helps us produce free electronic resources for on-the-go families who need information in byte-size format. *Focus on Parenting*, an e-newsletter that launched this past year, and a soon-to-be-launched marriage e-newsletter provide helpful articles and quick tips in a small, easy-to-read package. And in addition to the informative *Today's Family News* as well as the insightful Institute of Marriage and Family Canada's *e-Review*, our monthly Clergy Care newsletter, *Signpost*, encourages and affirms both pastors and their families.

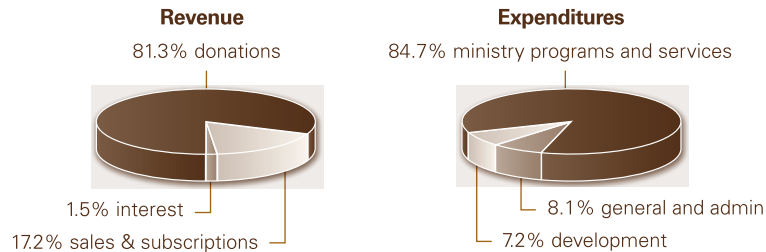
"I greatly appreciate receiving *Today's Family News* via email. Your articles are very informative. They help keep me up-to-date on current family and moral issues. Thank you so much and God bless."

"Thank you for your powerful, Christ-centred ministry. This past year we have enjoyed your family magazine, *Today's Family News* emails, *Parenting Matters* tour and *The Truth Project*. We are continually encouraged as parents to follow God's principles and to cherish the responsibility and blessing."

We want to hear from you!

Do you have a Focus story of your own to share? Your testimonies are such an encouragement to the staff at Focus, and more importantly, to other supporters of the ministry. Simply write to us at letters@fotf.ca. We'd love to hear from you!

We are stewards. Our programs and services are supported entirely by our donors in Canada. We are committed to keeping our donors informed of our progress and are members of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC). We are stewards of all the resources God entrusts to us and we are accountable to our ministry partners, and to God, for how we use all that we receive.



Stewardship Update

Focus on the Family Canada

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Core Ministry Activities • Summer 2008

It's all because of you.

In other words, we couldn't have done it without you.

In this issue of the *Stewardship Update*, we want to highlight the impact of Focus's core activities – the results of our day-to-day ministry – that God's grace and your ongoing support have helped to achieve.

The real-life stories featured in each section bear witness to how your donations have touched the lives of millions of families from coast to coast.

Every day we receive letters, emails

and phone calls that overflow with gratitude for the work of Focus. But we know we couldn't have done it without your prayers, your generosity and your willingness to fight for the family.

That's why we hope that through this issue, you'll be able to get a glimpse into what you have helped to achieve, right here in Canada. From the bottom of our hearts and on behalf of the countless families that have been blessed by your support – thank you!



"I am so thankful for Focus on the Family. We are fighting a spiritual battle and I know that Focus is in the trenches. I listen to Focus every weekday . . . it sharpens my mind, it comforts me, it challenges me and IT GIVES ME HOPE . . . in this quickly deteriorating world. THANK YOU . . . THANK YOU . . . THANK YOU for all your hard work and your countless ministries that are helping to further the Kingdom of God!"

"It's great to see the much-needed ministry of Focus on the Family still going and going! You helped us in many ways when we were raising our kids and now we have grandchildren whom you are helping in their home along with their parents! Your legacy of Christ being modelled in the homes of our grandchildren and their children and so on (we expect) means everything!"

"I just need someone to talk to!"

Lives, marriages, relationships on the mend as Focus care team stands in the gap.

Ready to pray and lend a listening ear, Focus representatives take calls every day from people who are facing hard times. Just last year, we received 14,131 prayer requests by phone, email and mail. In addition, the Focus staff meets every morning of the work week to pray for these requests. If you or your family members need prayer, please feel free to call us at 1-800-661-9800 or email us your prayer requests at letters@fotf.ca.

"I am one of the countless people who have been helped and blessed by your ministry. At a time when my marriage was in crisis and I felt I was drowning in confusion and pain, Focus on the Family reached out to help and embrace me. I was deeply impressed by the love and the quality of my conversations with each level of your organization, from the dear woman who answered my first phone call to the excellent, kind and godly people I was led to for help. At every step, I felt their merciful embrace (even through a telephone) and could hear genuine compassion in their voices. They prayed with me. They listened to me and I was not alone. Thank you so very much and God bless you."



Canadians find Focus magazines relevant, uplifting.

Fresh features and increased Canadian content appeal to every age.

Generations both young and old are benefiting from the "Canadianization" of the monthly Focus on the Family magazine – an ongoing, intentional process that is garnering a very positive response from readers. Kids and teens are also able to select their form of entertainment and insight from a diverse range of Focus magazines that are especially tailored to their age group.

"I realized I should do something I've intended to do for almost a year: let you know how much I appreciate the Canadian version [of the magazine]. It's so nice to have one which recognizes our unique culture. It's great to have mention of Canadian situations, holidays [and] spellings of words. Keep up the good work."

From a dad for Brio: *"Appreciate your magazine and how you continue to engage my daughter's interest with it. She is always anxious for the next issue to come. I like to snoop through it and see what interests teenage girls and appreciate the spiritual depth brought to their lives. My feedback is perhaps an amusing response to your last 'Guy Talk' column. I commend the young man who doesn't think that the young ladies need makeup, but his reason was somewhat amusing. If his concern is that my daughter's makeup might 'get all over him' then he has a bigger concern . . . if my daughter's makeup has occasion to get all over him, he just might have ME ALL OVER HIM!!!"*

"Hit the pause button, Mom!"

Online programming makes it easier to fit great teaching into a family's busy lifestyle.

Families are able to listen online to their favourite radio programs such as the daily Focus radio broadcast, *Adventures in Odyssey*, *James Dobson's Family Minute*, *Plugged In Movie Review* and Focus's *Weekend Magazine*. Our website, Focusonthefamily.ca, provides families with inspiring articles and information; and Pluggedinonline.com helps both parents and kids make informed, wise media choices for their families. These new forms of media are easily adaptable

to individual family needs and are great tools to reach a younger generation.

"I listen to the online broadcasts – very convenient because I can pause the broadcast when I get interrupted by phone or kids, and rewind if I missed a part. Thanks for this excellent format!"



"Focus on the Family has been a pillar of God's wisdom and hope that we have trusted for years. Recently, I brought home a movie my 10-year-old son really wanted to see. It came recommended by another family and so I, in good faith, rented it. My son asked, 'Mom, did you look this up on Pluggedinonline.com?' I confessed that I had not. So he promptly got on the computer, pulled up the description and with raised eyebrows exclaimed, 'Mom, you should see the review! Focus says it's full of bad language and very disappointing."

I don't want to waste your money, but I won't be watching that movie now, or ever! At that point my daughter looked at me questioningly and said, 'Mom, what were you thinking? We never, ever see a movie without checking with Pluggedinonline.com first!' I am so proud of my children and I thank God for the character I see in them. Thank you for helping to protect our family, and countless others, from the worldly influences that attack us daily in everything we see and hear."

Over 100,000 Canadians tune in to Focus on the Family radio programming.

People from every province depend on Focus broadcasts for inspiration every day.

The simple act of listening to a Focus broadcast for half an hour has warmed hearts and changed lives the world over. And it's definitely no exception in Canada. Focus's free radio programs continue to be an encouragement, with timely messages that offer strength and comfort to so many on a daily basis.

"I listen to your program on [Satellite Radio] and I really enjoy it. I'm a truck driver and I like to fill my time in the truck with good solid family teaching. It has enriched my life and gives me encouragement through rough times."

"I wanted to take this time to thank you for your ministry. Recently I have been listening to your program rather than watching TV because I wanted to use my time more constructively. Listening to your program on the radio really has helped me grow in understanding family and spiritual development."

