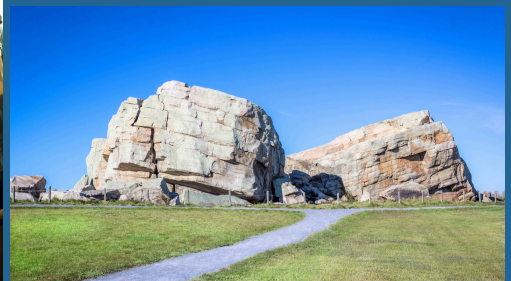


OKOTOKS ALLIANCE CHURCH



LEAD PASTOR

POSITION & DESCRIPTION
MARCH 2025

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SUMMARY

Okotoks Alliance Church (OAC) is looking for our next Lead Pastor. We are a church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (The Alliance Canada) located in the thriving and growing community of Okotoks, Alberta, just south of the City of Calgary. Further information about our church and community follows in this document.



PURPOSE

OAC has a history of Jesus-centered ministry in our community and beyond. Our passion is to experience and extend God's grace and hope to our church, our community and to the world.

We believe that God's love empowers us to love our neighbours and our enemies, and that this love leads us to embrace both justice and mercy with a bias toward caring for the marginalized and misunderstood. An ideal candidate will model this love of God and will help the people of our church to live this out in their day-to-day lives.

As a church, we are searching for a growing, authentic follower of Jesus who longs to serve a very human community of believers who are, in turn, a part of the church Jesus gave his life to build. If there is something within you that resonates with this desire, we would love to hear from you!



OVERVIEW

An ideal candidate will be a devout, active follower of Christ. This devotion will be grounded in a deep personal spiritual relationship with God through the work of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and will be apparent in a life of loving witness and service that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus and the fruit of the Spirit.

The Lead Pastor will work collaboratively with the staff, the Board of Elders and the congregation from a place of internal wellness of soul. They will joyfully, effectively and accurately communicate the Word of God. They will be able to clearly articulate and communicate goals and then work together with the staff, the Board and the congregation to advance these goals. They will have a deep interest and concern for the discipleship of Christians and will work to develop a culture of discipleship at OAC to further the mission of God's kingdom.

A strong candidate will ideally have at least ten years of effective leadership within the church. They will be currently licensed as an official worker with the Alliance Canada or able to gain that licensing prior to engaging with us for this role. They will have significant theological training with a deep appreciation for the value of ongoing education.



OUR STORY

Okotoks Alliance Church (OAC) has served the Town of Okotoks and surrounding area since 1988. Starting as a small gathering in the home of Pastor Rudy Friesen, OAC grew in successive steps and locations to its current home in the Foothills Regional District on the northern doorstep of Okotoks. From the early days of small group meetings in homes to worship God and build relationships, OAC had several temporary homes in Okotoks before purchasing almost 9 acres of land north of town in 1990.

In 1991, Pastor Tim Brazeau was called as the new Lead Pastor. In December of that year, a small chapel was built by members of the congregation with volunteers from Okotoks, Calgary and the surrounding area – completed in three days from Friday to the first church service on Sunday in what was later called the “miracle on the prairies.”

This chapel served the community until 1994 when the current permanent church facility was started, with the new facility completed in April 1995 comprising a sanctuary and adjacent rooms of the south wing. With a seating capacity of 180, this sanctuary was the base of worship of the church for the next 24 years, supplemented with a new north wing addition with classrooms and offices in 2000.


Ministry grew in that vibrant environment, requiring multiple weekend services, and a corresponding surge in Pastoral and Ministry leader staff in many areas – Associate Pastor, Children’s Ministry, Youth Ministry, Worship Ministry, and others. Like the dynamic and fast-growing community of Okotoks, many changes in the congregation and staff occurred up to 2010, when Pastor Tim Brazeau stepped down as Lead Pastor to pursue God’s call overseas.



CALLED TO GROW

Under the watchful eye of transitional Pastor Mel Sylvester, Pastor Terry Lee was called as Lead Pastor in September 2011. Under his leadership, Small Groups and Family Ministry focus grew, and the focus on Worship Ministry and preaching and teaching of God's Word was amplified. A long-time dream to build a new 360 seat sanctuary was realized through the "Called to Grow" building project, opening in September 2019, with other expanded facilities to support ministry.

With a population of 32,957 in 2024, and new development in Okotoks now a stone's-throw from the church, OAC has become a close neighbour to many new and future families. Following Pastor Terry's departure in June 2024, OAC has entered into a season of seeking the Lord concerning the next chapter of the work He has given us. Under the care of Transitional Pastor Ian Trigg, OAC's story continues in the search of our next Lead Pastor. The best is yet to come.



LOVING *Christ*
HIS CHURCH
AND OUR
Community
WITH
CONSIDERATION.

VISION

Our Vision of "Loving Christ, His Church and Our Community with Consideration" is the foundation of our mission to share the good news of God's saving grace. So that everyone may know the deep love and amazing grace of God, we strive to love those in our communities with intentional care and follow Christ's commands to love others as He has loved us.

We look UP to honour the One who saves us by persistently worshipping the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



We look IN to honour one another, to cherish the relationships we share, to serve and encourage one another through ministries of mercy, loving care, and to grow deeper in our union in Christ.



We go OUT to honour His world by ministering the Good News: care, compassion, encouragement, and the hope of the Gospel of Jesus, from here to there, and around the globe.



We honour the One who made us when we better understand His world, its challenging realities, and the role His church is to have.



VALUES



PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

Our practice is to be led by God's Word in our all decisions and actions.

PRAY FIRST

Our first and best conversations, individually and corporately, are always with God.



A WORSHIPING COMMUNITY

Our passion is to authentically encounter God when we gather together.

BETTER TOGETHER

As we grow closer to Jesus, we grow closer to each other.



EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

We long to be faithful stewards, at all times in all ways, of the gifts, time and resources God entrusts to us.

OTHERS-ORIENTED

Our love for God informs and transforms how we serve others, both locally and globally, including the poor, the marginalized and the vulnerable.



EMBRACING THE NEXT GENERATION

Reaching and engaging our children, youth and young adults is exceptionally important to us as we seek to be a truly multi-generational church where each generation is encouraged to know, follow and serve Jesus.



THE *big* ROCK

Okotoks has a bit of everything for everyone! People continue to make their way here because of our small town charm, close proximity to Calgary and the mountains, beautiful natural surroundings, strong sense of community and our family-friendly environment.



A THRIVING COMMUNITY

The name of the town is derived from the Blackfoot word for “rock” and may refer to the magnificent rock formation west of the community known as “Big Rock.” Okotoks has grown by almost 10% over the past five years, with our 2024 population reaching 33,000 people. The development of new homes and communities will likely ensure this growth continues as Okotoks has become a bedroom community for Calgary. The laid-back lifestyle Okotoks offers continues to reach new families looking for safe places and spaces to raise their children. The Alberta government recently approved the annexation of 4800 acres to accommodate future growth plans of the town which anticipate Okotoks becoming a community of 75,000 people by 2085, according to the town’s most recent master plan.

LOCATION & HISTORY

Okotoks is a thriving and beautiful community located 15 minutes south of Calgary. Perfectly situated along the Sheep River, the town of Okotoks has a 150 year history, serving initially as an outpost on the McLeod Trail, a route for stage coaches and freight coaches travelling between Fort Calgary and Fort McLeod.



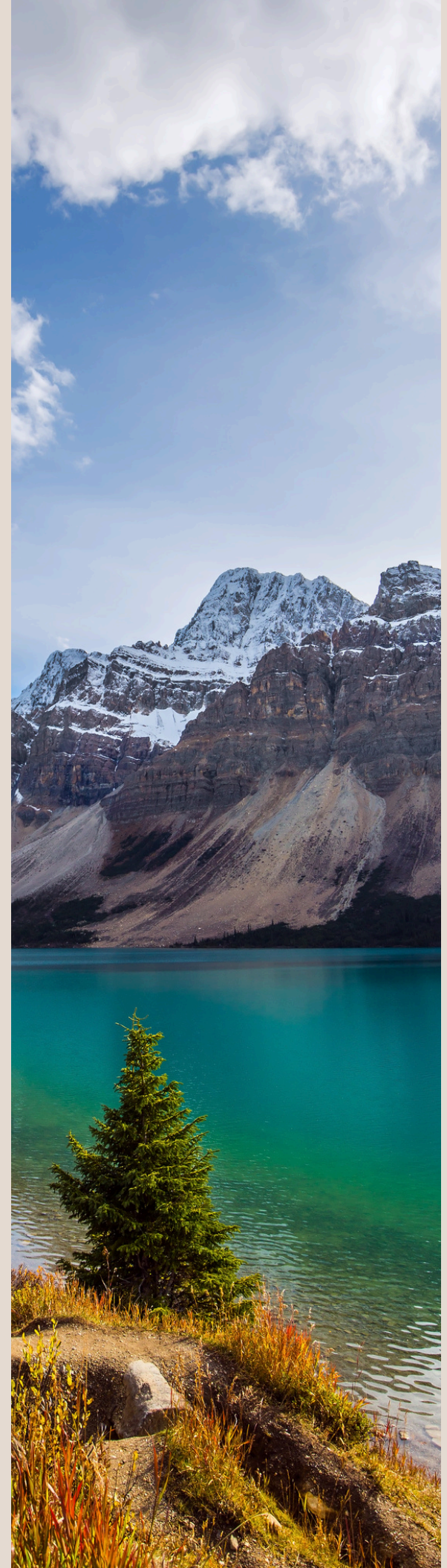
AMENITIES

Okotoks is increasingly becoming known for its high quality of life. It is a thriving close-knit community with a diverse population and an abundance of things to do. The stunning views of the Prairies to the east and the Rocky Mountains to the west make this beautiful community a wonderful place to live that has something for everyone.

Home of the Junior A Okotoks Oilers of the BCHL and the Okotoks Dawgs of the Western Canadian Baseball League, and the Foothills Okotoks Fieldhouse, the town is a hotbed of athletic activities and opportunities. The arts also thrive in town with multiple museums, galleries, and musical opportunities.

There are over 500 hectares of park and green spaces and natural reserves in the community, housing some 110 parks, 100 km of connected pathways, 72 playgrounds and 326 sports fields! It truly is a great community to explore and raise a family in! With access to both Calgary and the Kananaskis Valley, Okotoks residents are given an inexhaustible list of options to explore the wonder of the world around them.

There are currently nine public schools and several private schools in Okotoks. A myriad of post-secondary schools are within reasonable commutes from Okotoks, including the University of Calgary, Mount Royal University, Ambrose University, St. Mary's University, SAIT, Bow Valley College and Columbia College.





LEAD PASTOR

MINISTRY DESCRIPTION

The primary purpose of the Lead Pastor is to provide effective spiritual leadership to the Board of Elders and the congregation of Okotoks Alliance Church to help us fulfill our calling to love God and neighbour.





LEAD PASTOR

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

1

A growing and vibrant walk with Jesus that informs who you are and how you live and serves as a model to others.

2

A clear sense of God's call.

3

An effective leader who can serve well in a collaborative environment.

4

An authentic understanding of your strengths, gifts and growth areas.

5

An effective listener who values communal discernment.

6

The capacity to encounter setbacks with resiliency and courage.

7

A kind person with a strong capacity for empathy and interpersonal interaction.

8

A curious person who is always looking to learn more.

LEAD PASTOR

CORE COMPETENCIES

MINISTRY

- The ability to encourage, inspire and lead the church forward.
- A proven recruiter, equipper and nurturer of teams.
- An excellent preacher and communicator.
- The ability to pastor people in the context of their day-to-day lives, including times of disappointment and complexity.
- A personal commitment to influencing others for Christ.
- A capacity for logistics and careful institutional management, including the oversight of finances and the physical facilities.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

- A proven track record of effective leadership and influence within the church.
- A ministry-related degree with theological training is highly valued (graduate degree or higher preferred).
- A licensed, ordained worker with the Alliance Canada (or the desire for and theological alignment required to pursue licensing with the Alliance Canada).

SALARY PROJECTIONS

Compensation will be commensurate with fit and experience, and will be based on the normal Western Canadian District pay scale.





LEAD PASTOR

SEARCH PROCESS

- OAC will be seeking resumes from interested and qualified candidates from the time of this posting until April 30, 2025.
- Resumes will include a statement of your personal testimony, including your journey to vocational ministry, and what draws you to consider this opportunity to serve at OAC.
- The OAC Board of Elders has identified a Research Team to prayerfully process resumes and conduct initial interviews.
- Only candidates with resumes that meet our Research Team's criteria will be contacted.
- Links to three recent sermons will be of great assistance to our Research Team as will three or four references, should your application be pursued.
- The Research Team will make recommendations to the Board of Elders who will further interview and invite the preferred candidate to a weekend candidating experience on site.
- The OAC Board of Elders will make a recommendation for this role to the Superintendent of the Western Canadian District who will affirm the appointment.

CONTACT

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RESUME, COVER LETTER
AND STATEMENT OF YOUR JOURNEY WITH JESUS
TO THE OAC RESEARCH TEAM**

researchteam@okalliance.ca



BOARD OF ELDERS
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TRANSITION PASTOR
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