

Église Réformée de la Rive-Sud (ERRS) à Lévis *South-Shore Reformed Church in Lévis*

Presentation Letter : Building Acquisition and Transformation Project

The people: Who we are

L'Église Réformée de la Rive-Sud (ERRS) is a tight-knit congregation located in Charny, a district of Lévis (pop. 155 000), Quebec. We are a proud member of the Église Réformée du Québec (ERQ), a provincial federation of churches affiliated with CanRC, OPC, PCA, URCNA and also member of NAPARC.

Our assembly is mainly comprised of 19 families and counts 63 members, of which 30 are children under 18. Although the church has existed for over 34 years by God's faithfulness, it is not until recently that the church congregates in its present form. In 2020, our board of elders was finally completed with the addition of Pastor Blaise Tsabang, who joined to team up with Pierre Carignan and Gaétan Jacques. This marked the beginning of a new chapter of growth and revitalization. As we experience this resurgence, we are also preparing to call our first deacon and working on a process to train new elders and deacons. Your prayers for these undertakings are greatly appreciated.

Recently, our attendance has surged with numerous families, especially those with young children, embracing our congregation. This inspiring growth has sparked a serious re-evaluation of our sanctuary, Sunday school, and nursery capacities as we strive to accommodate our flourishing community in an already limited space.

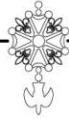
The project: What we want to do

The project is built around a two-fold objective to acquire the building and transform it within a 3 – 5 years span to meet our needs. The two phases of the project are as follow:

<u>PHASE 1: Acquisition</u>	<u>PHASE 2: Transformation</u>
<u>Goal:</u> Acquisition of the building, maintenance and operational expenses	<u>Goal:</u> Restoration and Transformation of the building according to our vision
<i>Total Cost:</i>\$ 270 000	<i>Total Cost:</i>\$ 750 000
<i>Amount needed to date:</i>\$ 255 000	<i>Amount needed:</i>\$ 750 000
<i>Fundraising timeline:</i> June 2024	<i>Fundraising timeline:</i> June 2025

Figures will be updated as the project unfolds

Our vision entails adapting the building to cater to the evolving needs of our growing church while also establishing it as a sought-after community venue for local groups and rentals. Bolstered by the expertise of church members, many of whom are professionals in architecture, engineering, project management and construction, we are poised to undertake these two phases.



The background: how we landed here

In March 2023, FAREL Reformed Theology Seminary (FAREL), the owner of the building we worship in, conveyed its intentions to sell by June 2024. This prompted a thorough evaluation of available venue options in our region.

Following a prayerful deliberation, the whole congregation has almost unanimously decided to cease the opportunity of purchasing the building. Indeed, having considered all options at hand, becoming the new owner of the building appears to be the wisest choice, both financially and socially.

Financially sound project. Generally, rent is high for the few venues available in the area and the buildings that would suit our needs are typically expensive as well. FAREL has expressed a willingness to sell the building at a substantial discount on the market value. Additionally, we believe there is an opportunity to offer the place up for rent to help finance our project in the long run. Finally, we could retain the current tax exemption on the lot. These many advantages have been convincing motivations to engage in buying this building.

Socially rooted project. We have worshipped in this place for 34 years now. Its location is firmly rooted in the minds of our community and surrounding neighbours. It is also easily accessible due to its central location, both regionally and provincially. For example, it serves regularly for the ERQ's synods.

We strongly believe this project is an occasion to continue and to grow our mission by making the Church all the more visible in the area, as we meet our own needs.

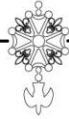
We are grateful that our congregation's response to the project has been overwhelmingly positive. Within a remarkably short time, our newly established *Building Fund* has garnered contributions equivalent to a significant portion of our average annual tithe.

While our church members' enthusiasm in contributing is evident, we humbly acknowledge the role external support will play. It is surely a big undertaking for such a small and young church. Thus, we extend an invitation for both spiritual and financial partnerships.

The partners: who we need

We invite you. Humbly, we ask you to join us in our project by providing the necessary financial support to bring it to fruition. Please contact us to setup a giving mechanism. We will make sure to provide you with clear and detailed quarterly report on the amount received from partners as well as the progress of this project.

We firmly believe that God will abundantly supply the needs of those who are moved to contribute. By partnering with us, you become an integral part of our mission to reach and transform our community.



Our approach to this project has been meticulously considered to ensure it does not place undue strain on our community, be it financially or in terms of time commitments. As such, we have developed comprehensive project documentation and a compelling business case, forming the foundation of our ambitious endeavor. We invite you to contact us for further information if you are so inclined to donate and wish to see more extensive documentation.

We believe that this project, underpinned by careful planning, committed and invested partners and the grace of God, will contribute to the growth and vibrancy of our congregation.

The Final words

We are well aware that “The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.” and that it is His counsel that shall stand in the end.

This “*Building Acquisition and Transformation Project*” represents more than a physical endeavor; it symbolizes the growth and expansion of our church. Rooted in the traditions of Reformed Theology, we are committed to preserving our place of worship while embracing the future. As a small but determined congregation, we are excited to join hands with churches and individuals who share our love for community, worship, and the spread of the Gospel. Together, guided by the grace of God, we are confident that this project can succeed and bring glory to our Creator.

We humbly thank you for your time and consideration.

To get in touch

Elders of the Église Réformée de la Rive-Sud in Lévis :

Pastor, Blaise Tsabang : blaisetsabang@gmail.com
Elder, Pierre Carignan : pierre.dan.carignan@gmail.com
Elder, Gaétan Jacques : gjacques30@gmail.com

Mailing address :

5377, Ave. Du Maréchal-Joffre
Lévis, QC G6X 3C9