

# "Reaching Francophone Canada"

# Francophone Church Plant Portfolio

### Name of Church:

Église Baptiste Évangélique Connexion

### **Location:**

Plessisville (pop. 6,700), the central town in the entire "L'Erable" (Maple) County, and is situated 85 kms southwest of Quebec City and 185 kms north-east of Montreal.



Fully paid for and renovated church building

## **Contact Information**

**Primary contact person:** Karl

Fortin

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**Mailing address:** 

C.P. 442, Plessisville, QC G6L 2Y8

**Meeting place:** 

1030 rue St-Jean, Plessisville

Website: www.egliseconnexion.org Facebook: EgliseConnexion

Email: drfortin@cgocable.ca

#### Mother church:

Église Baptiste Évangélique de Victoriaville, QC, 120 kms south-west of Quebec City.

#### **Mission:**

To connect people with the real Jesus, with one another and with the community.

Launch team on launch Sunday, January 13th, 2013

#### **Mission Field:**

Maple County (*MRC de L'Érable*). Its principal town is Plessisville (pop. 6,500) known as the "Maple Capital of the World." It is situated 80 kms south-west of Quebec City with many unreached towns nearby. The town is named after Quebec's first Catholic Archbishop (Joseph Octave Plessis/1763-1825), and was home to a struggling evangelical Baptist church up until several years ago. The entire county encompasses a population of about 24,000 of whom less than 1/100th of one percent claim to be evangelical Christians.

#### **Vision:**

To be a community of disciples of Jesus who live and proclaim the Gospel and plant new communities with the same vision.

**Missionary Launch Team:** Karl and Naomi Fortin with the assistance of evangelist Steve and Catherine Cloutier, along with 25 members of the launch team from the Victoriaville church.

# **History:**

For the past several years, there has not been one single evangelical church either in Plessisville or any other unreached town/village within the county. It hadn't always been that way, in fact there was a French Baptist church there right up until 2009, but tragically that struggling work had dwindled down to a discouraged group of just ten believers. A strategic decision was then taken to enfold that tiny group into a much larger congregation at Victoriaville, 30 kms away.

That decision was taken with a clear purpose to re-launch the work at Plessisville with new leadership and a new vision when the time was right to do so.

# Lead church planting couple:

Karl and Naomi Fortin

Karl Fortin was on the pastoral team at the Victoriaville church, and served there on a part-time basis while also maintaining his chiropractic practice in Plessisville on a part-time basis (18 hrs/week). The mother church at Victoriaville commissioned Karl to lead the replanting process at Plessisville and during much of 2012, he and Steve Cloutier served within the mother church, training and preparing their launch team. This church plant was



publicly launched January 13th, 2013 and they are presently averaging about 45-50 each Sunday in the replanted work at Plessisville.