

SOAR Heartland & SOAR Sask 2026 – Pause Year FAQ

What's Next?

Matthew 9: 37-38

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Jesus invites us to pray for more hands in his harvest. We are committed to this invitation and sense Jesus’ is also inviting us to consider new possibilities of calling, equipping, and sending disciples.

1. Why is SOAR Heartland and SOAR Sask pausing for 2026?

After 23 years of fruitful ministry, we sense Jesus inviting us into a season of faithful obedience. It may be easier to continue the programs ‘as is’ than to pause and engage **creative reflection, rest and renewal**. SOAR has trained disciples, launched ministries, and equipped churches for mission. Yet we’ve also discerned growing strain—volunteer shortages, staff fatigue, and the need for new leadership structures. Also, we desire to engage in a mission that multiplies.

This pause year allows us to **listen to the Spirit, renew leadership**, and **reimagine** how mission training can continue to multiply disciples in the next season.

2. What does “pause” actually mean?

God is calling us to seriously reflect on how He is inviting us to reach those who do not yet know Jesus. What part is He asking us to play in the work He is already doing? In what ways is He calling us to shift our focus, so that the world may come to know Jesus?

SOAR will **not run its usual 5-10-day mission training programs** in 2026 (both Heartland and Sask).

Instead, the year will be used to:

- Pray, listen, and discern what Jesus is inviting us into next.
- Refresh and equip leaders for the next chapter.

- Explore new formats for mission training—possibly smaller, lighter, more mobile initiatives.
- Strengthen relationships with churches, ministries, and communities that have partnered with SOAR.

3. Who made this decision?

The decision emerged through **prayerful discernment** among the Multiply Central Canada team, including leadership from **Lloyd and Carol Letkeman**, consultation with **Derek Parenteau (Multiply Canada Director)**, and dialogue with key **SOAR leaders and volunteers**. It is a **shared decision of obedience**, not a retreat—made in faith and unity.

4. Is this pause permanent?

No. This is a **one-year pause** for discernment and renewal.

During 2026, we will seek God's direction for the future—whether that means restarting SOAR in a new form, merging it with other training initiatives, or launching new mission training expressions altogether.

Our prayer is that SOAR's legacy continues through whatever new wineskin Jesus provides.

5. What will happen during the pause year?

The year will be intentional and prayerful. Some focus areas include:

- **Listening & Discernment Retreats** for staff and volunteers.
- **Consultations with partner churches and ministries** to hear how SOAR has shaped them and what's next.
- **Leadership renewal**—developing a sustainable model for the next generation of SOAR leaders.
- **Innovation**—testing smaller, more flexible training formats that could complement or replace SOAR.

6. How does this affect volunteers and leaders?

We deeply value every volunteer who has prayed, led, cooked, cleaned, worshiped, and served through SOAR.

This pause is an **invitation for rest and reflection**, not disengagement. We'll invite past volunteers to:

- Join in **prayer gatherings** and **listening sessions** during the year.
- Contribute their stories, insights, and dreams for the future of mission training.
- Consider new opportunities with **FOCUS training**, **Multiply's short-term mission partnerships**, or **local outreach**.
- Send us your prayerful reflections, inspirations, ideas, and dreams. Or arrange a time to meet in person or virtually to pray and discuss ideas together.

7. How should churches and youth groups respond?

Churches are invited to:

- **Pray** with us for clarity and renewal.
- **Encourage** young people to engage in mission locally or through Multiply's other initiatives.
- **Stay connected** as we communicate next steps—many of you have been the backbone of SOAR, and we want to keep walking together in mission. We have a wealth of resources and “how to” manuals for developing SOAR that are available upon request. We are still active in mission and are available for consultation, retreats, and helping church teams to be on mission locally, regionally, and internationally.

8. What about ministry partners who normally host SOAR teams?

We are reaching out personally to each of our partner ministries to communicate this change early.

Our commitment is to **maintain and strengthen relationships**, even without the event this year.

We hope to continue serving and connecting through smaller initiatives, leadership visits, or prayer gatherings.

9. How will this year be used by Multiply Central Canada?

This pause frees space for Multiply to:

- Focus on **developing new mission training resources** (like FOCUS modules).
- Equip churches to **mobilize everyday practitioners**.
- Create mission training that is **sustainable, Spirit-led, and contextually relevant** in this next season.

10. How can I be involved during the pause year?

Here are some ways you can participate:

- **Pray regularly** for discernment and renewal.
- **Share feedback** about your SOAR experiences and hopes for the future.
- **Join upcoming prayer or vision gatherings**.
- **Support financially** as we retool for future mission training.
- **Encourage young adults** to participate in ACTION & TREK.
- **Encourage young adults** who are on the threshold of **vocational mission** to participate in FOCUS training.

11. What's the vision beyond 2026?

We believe Jesus is calling us to something **new and renewed**—a movement that's more mobile, relational, and multiplying.

The pause is not the end of SOAR; it's the **Sabbath before a new season of fruitfulness**.

Our prayer is that when SOAR—or its next expression—returns, it will be **saltier, lighter, and more Spirit-empowered than ever before**.

12. Who can I contact for more information?

For questions, prayer, or conversation:

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