



Spinal Cord Injury BC

# REACHING OUT

Spinal Cord Injury BC

2015 Annual Report



**We know that a spinal cord injury can happen to anyone at any time. And that no one should go through it alone.**

**THAT'S WHY**, since 1957, Spinal Cord Injury BC (SCI BC) has been reaching out to British Columbians with spinal cord injuries, and their families and friends, to help them adjust, adapt and thrive. Whether someone is dealing with a new injury or struggling with the ongoing challenges of living and aging with a physical disability, we're there to help. Together, our members, staff, donors, sponsors, volunteers, and local partners are building communities of support throughout the province. Together, we're delivering important programs, services and information—in person, by phone, and online.

**Together, we're reaching the men, women, and families who need us most.**



**Ed Milligan**  
Board Chair



**Chris McBride**  
Executive Director

**More than 12,000 British Columbians live with spinal cord injuries, with 500 new injuries occurring each year.**

As the population ages, the number of SCIs will grow.



Our Peer Events and one-to-one Peer Matches connect people with spinal cord injuries, and their families, to people who understand, because they've been there too.



Our online Resource Centre, Information Database and free InfoLine offers essential information on a variety of topics.



Our blog, videos, webinars, and The Spin magazine highlight important tips and stories from the spinal cord injury community.



# SPINAL CORD INJURY

## FACTS & FIGURES

people living with SCI in Canada

# 86,000

121,000 projected by 2030



# 3.6 BILLION

ESTIMATED ANNUAL  
\$ ECONOMIC COST  
OF NEW TRAUMATIC  
SCI IN CANADA.



SCI BC Peer  
Coordinator  
locations in BC

number of new cases of SCI each year

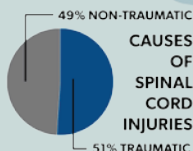
# 4,300

5,800 a year by 2030

# 500 > 12,000

new injuries  
every year

British Columbians with  
a spinal cord injury



# \$1.6 - 3 MILLION

ESTIMATED LIFETIME COST  
OF LIVING WITH A  
SPINAL CORD INJURY  
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

## CAUSES OF SCI

### TRAUMATIC +

1. motor vehicle accidents
2. falls
3. sporting accidents
4. other

### NON-TRAUMATIC

acquired diseases (spinal tumors/  
cysts); viral or bacterial infections  
(i.e. polio); multiple sclerosis; birth/  
congenital disorders (i.e. spina bifida)

over 80% of people with SCI are men



# > 49 PERCENT

are aged 60 and older

Last year, our SCI BC InfoLine service received **2,830 information requests**. **1,635** were phone calls and **1,195** were sent by email.

**16,636** visits to our online  
SCI BC Database

**5,555** visits to our housing  
and employment sites

### TOP 5 REQUESTS

1. Housing
2. Recreation
3. Funding
4. Health
5. Equipment

## COMMUNITY

### THE PEER-TO-PEER CONNECTION

**SEVERAL YEARS AGO**, a seemingly minor accident sent Trevor into surgery.

He would spend the next 11 months in a hospital bed, unable to walk, with friends moving on and his family far away. Inside, Trevor faced the darkest moments of his life—and he attempted the unthinkable.

Luckily, Trevor met someone who was able to draw him out of this dark place.

Kirsten understands what it's like to be in a wheelchair—she has lived with her own injury for 23 years. With encouragement from Kirsten, Trevor started coming out to SCI BC events and met others facing similar challenges.

**1,973** people with spinal cord injuries or related disabilities, and their family and friends, attended at least one of the **340** peer events held throughout BC.

**115** new people with SCI or a related disability registered with our Peer Support Program.

With the help of our Peer coordinators, we made **153** peer-to-peer matches around the province.

“It doesn't matter that we're disabled. It's amazing how capable I feel now! ... As a newcomer to the world of spinal cord injury, I thought my life was over. **Staff at SCI BC opened their arms and hearts to me during a time when I had no hope to live.** And while every day is a struggle to survive, I keep fighting. I can't thank them enough. They saved my life.





“ When you first get your injury it's not easy. SCI BC continues to give me a reason to fight everyday to live.



“ It's not good, mentally, to stay by yourself cooped up all the time. These things, they seem small— but they have great benefits in the long run.





**“ They’re like my new family. They’re this community. They’re support. They’re peers. They’re friends. They’re warm and open. They’re inspiring.**



**“ I’ve been injured for more than ten years. Because of SCI BC, I’ve finally gotten into sports and activities that I didn’t know I could do.**



# INCLUSION

A WORLD OF POSSIBILITY



**THREE YEARS AGO**, Spinal Cord Injury BC asked the organizers of the Scotiabank Half-marathon and 5k Charity Challenge for one simple thing: Allow wheelchairs on the race course, too. The result? A race without barriers, 42 members on our Team

Walk 'n' Rollers, and \$38,591 raised for spinal cord injury. Walkers, runners and rollers poured in from across the province to support SCI BC and take part in our biggest peer-to-peer fundraiser yet!





# UNDERSTANDING

## WIDE-REACHING IMPACT



### WHAT IS IT LIKE TO LIVE WITH AN INVISIBLE DISABILITY?

When five of our members shared their stories of incomplete spinal cord injury in SCI BC's magazine, The Spin, it really struck a chord. Men and women from cities and towns around BC wrote in, saying they finally felt understood and included. To them, our Summer 2014 issue was more than a good read. It was the message they'd been waiting for: "You are not alone."

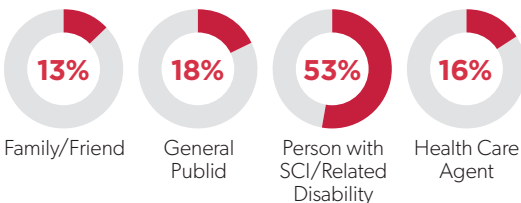
### LAST YEAR



**“I was 39 when I was injured in a car accident... And I am still working with all the questions; acceptance still comes and goes. Thank you for the articles about people from my tribe—it's good to hear from others with similar issues.**

— Karin Watson, 71, Courtenay, BC

### WHO CONTACTED US?



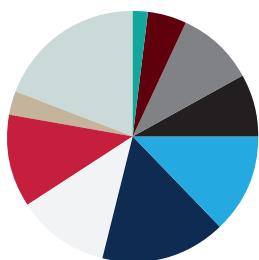
People throughout BC, and from as far away as Argentina, Kazakhstan, and South Korea engaged with us online.

Our InfoLine service received **2,830** information requests.

# SUMMARY

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Revenue Sources



2%	Events & Projects
5%	Bequests
10%	Corporations
8%	Individual Donations
13%	Government
16%	BC Paraplegic Foundation
12%	Gaming
12%	Fees for Service
3%	Other
19%	Community Organization Grants & Donations

### Summary of Operations

Revenue	2015	2014
Donations, bequests & fundraising projects	\$ 696,833	\$ 640,073
Government funding	275,191	289,254
Gaming grant	250,000	308,000
Donation from BC Paraplegic Foundation	325,000	325,000
Fees for services	246,731	259,822
Community groups and United Way donations & grants	236,288	123,312
Other	53,360	50,721
Membership fees	1,480	1,005
	2,084,883	1,997,187

#### Expenses

Programs	1,364,802	1,224,528
Fundraising	184,958	214,989
Administrative and support services	560,973	578,499
	2,110,733	2,018,016

<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (25,850)</b>	<b>\$ (20,829)</b>
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### Summary of Financial Position

Assets	2015	2014
Current Assets	\$ 968,124	\$ 991,277
Restricted Cash	250,000	250,000
Capital Assets	38,134	52,055
	\$ 1,256,258	\$ 1,293,332

#### Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	\$ 478,713	\$ 484,566
Deferred Contributions	93,614	96,985
Net Assets	685,931	711,781
	\$ 1,256,258	\$ 1,293,332

Complete financial statements, audited by Manning Elliott, as well as the auditors' reports on those financial statements, are available upon request by calling 604-326-1225 or by emailing [info@sci-bc.ca](mailto:info@sci-bc.ca)



# 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

**SCI BC TV** launched on YouTube, keeping viewers informed, engaged and up-to-date with the latest in the SCI community.

**We supported 1,810 people with spinal cord injuries and related physical disabilities, as well as their families and friends.**



**1730 KM** SCI BC member David Parke got back on his bike and rode from Northern BC to Vancouver to raise funds and awareness for our programs and services.

**First Annual Multi Sports Day** enabled members to try adaptive sailing, yoga, tennis, and more!



**The Inaugural Father-Daughter Surf Trip** forged important bonds between fathers with SCI and their children, with the support of various Vancouver Island community partners



**New SCI BC "Bean There" Support Groups** took off in local coffee shops throughout the province.

**213 Volunteers contributed 1,173 hours of time.**



**Multi Regional Events** connected members living in different areas of the province. Groups from Vancouver and Kelowna converged in Whistler for an unforgettable weekend of ziplining, bungee jumping, and understanding.



**42 Walk 'n' Rollers raised \$38,591** for SCI BC in our best Scotiabank Charity Challenge yet!



# THANK YOU

**It would be impossible for us to reach out through programs, services, and support without the generosity of the broader community — our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and partners.**

## DONORS & SPONSORS

### \$10,000 +

Murphy Battista LLP  
ScotiaBank Charity Challenge  
The 1988 Foundation  
Vancouver International Airport Authority  
Vancouver Regional Construction Association  
West Shore Holdings Ltd.

### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Allergan Canada  
BC Club Challenge  
Coloplast Canada  
Macdonald's Prescriptions Ltd.  
MV-1 Canada  
Travelers Canada  
Whole Foods  
WorkSafeBC

## **SCI BC was very honoured to be remembered with bequest gifts – legacies that will benefit our community for years to come.**

Estate of Vincenz Bauer  
Estate of Shaughan Patrick Bryan  
Estate of Albert Hiller

Estate of Kenneth William Rolf Nore  
Estate of Marguerite Marion Reeves

## **Contributions were also received with gratitude in honour or memory of:**

Bob	G.M. Dewar	Art Heppner	Gerry Owen
Mike Busby	John Grant	Barbara Heron	Ritchie
John Christofel	Larry Hamada	L. Lovegrove	
Jerry Corriveau	Rodney Harrold	Shirley McFeat	

We're deeply grateful to each and every one of you. Listed or not, all gifts — of all sizes and types — are tremendously appreciated and valued by SCI BC and the community we serve.

**Thank you for another amazing year!**