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ANNUAL REPORT 2023

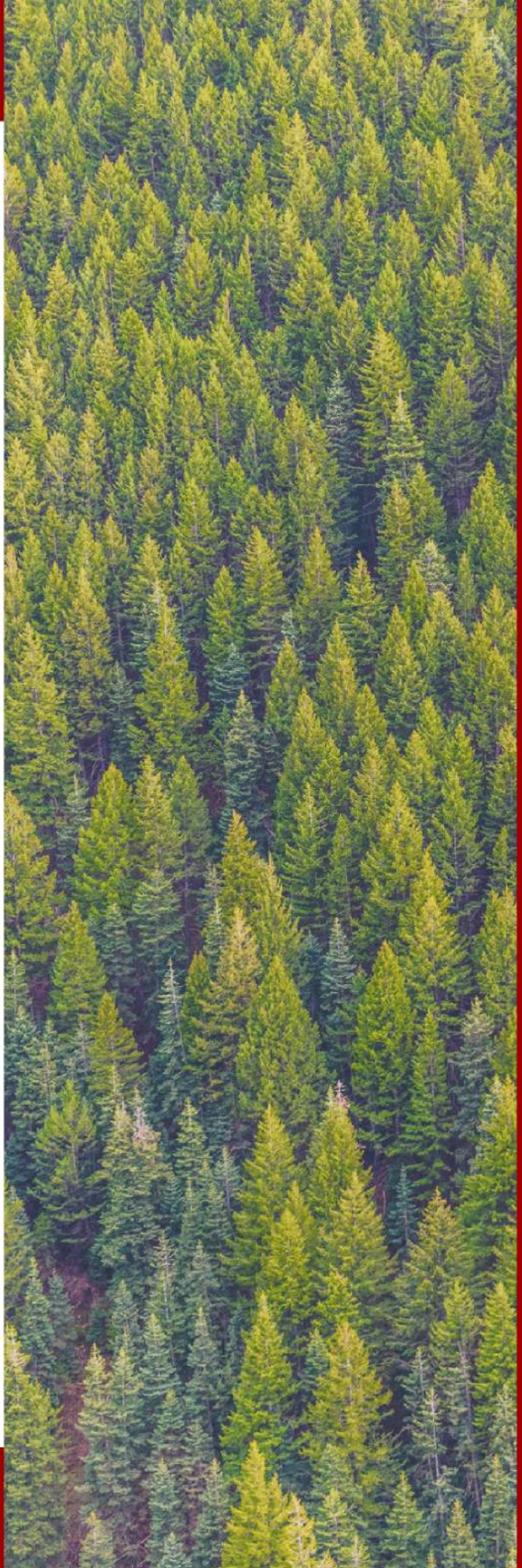


BRAIN INJURY
CANADA

LÉSION CÉRÉBRALE
CANADA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR
2	MESSAGE FROM THE CEO
4	MISSION, VISION & VALUES
5	SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
7	PROGRAMS
14	CONFERENCE
18	COMMUNICATIONS
19	ADVOCACY
22	AWARENESS
23	CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS & PANELS
25	RESEARCH
26	PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION
27	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
29	BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATIONS



WELCOME

FROM THE CHAIR

As my term as Brain Injury Canada's board chair concludes, I am proud to showcase this year's incredible work that our staff, board members, volunteers and donors have led and supported. The challenges of a global pandemic remained and while we worked to introduce a semblance of "normal" to our day, it was our resilience, compassion and dedication that contributed to this year's accomplishments.

This was a growth year at Brain Injury Canada. It saw the expansion of vital partnerships and the recruitment of additional staff. Our success was driven by a focus on organizational sustainability that resulted in the renewal of funding streams and the positive pursuit of new ones.

Our governance committee undertook a comprehensive review and development of board policies that will continue to lead and direct our strategic organizational achievements. As well, we saw the complex challenges led by growing intolerance to our values in the world. As stewards, we introduced mandatory Equity, Diversity and Inclusion training to our board that will also be shared with other brain injury organizations across the country in an effort for deeper thought and understanding.

I would like to thank Kristen Bailey, Pia Lindemann Kristensen, James Cohen and Heather Watkins, who also completed their terms as board members for their contribution and commitment to BIC's vision, mission and values. Your support, guidance and professionalism have made my term as chair a great experience.

A special thank you to our Chief Executive Officer, Michelle McDonald, and her staff for their amazing dedication. Your oversight of our operations and implementation of our strategic direction has been a pillar of our success.

This year, we will see the introduction of new board members with the ability and passion to continue to grow and govern BIC's future led by co-chairs Graham Todd and Xavier Linker. I cannot wait to see the amazing things you accomplish. There is no denying that our future is in great hands.



Mario Longo,
Board Chair

MESSAGE

FROM THE CEO

This has been another busy year for Brain Injury Canada. In alignment with our strategic plan, we continue to focus our work on the key areas of education, advocacy and awareness. As you will see throughout this report, a lot has been happening so I will just highlight a few programs here.

We launched our Foundations of Brain Injury for Healthcare Professionals e-course in October and registration has far exceeded our expectations. This confirms the need for more affordable learning opportunities for healthcare and service providers to expand their professional education. We have received valuable feedback from learners and we look forward to providing more courses in the coming year.

In response to the over-representation of individuals living with brain injury in the correctional system, we launched a pilot program with BC Corrections to provide tailored educational content about brain injury to those who work in BC correctional institutions and as probation officers. The feedback has been positive, and we will be looking to expand this course to provincial correctional systems across Canada, as well as the Federal system.

In June 2022 Member of Parliament Alistair MacGregor for Cowichan-Malahat-Langford introduced Bill C-277 on June 2, 2022 in the House of Commons, proposing a national brain injury strategy. We thank MP MacGregor for his dedication to the brain injury community and will continue to move this forward with our partners.

Also in June 2022, brain injury associations across Canada came together to Shine A Light on Brain Injury through a shared social media campaign. We will continue to expand our efforts in the area of awareness as we go forward.

This is just a small sample of what we have been doing and there is so much more to come.

I am so appreciative of the staff team I get to work with every day. Rachel Newcombe and Matías Muñoz both work diligently to ensure our programs stay on schedule and keep us moving forward. We are a small but mighty team, but their hard work, passion and dedication powers the work we do. We look forward to adding to our team in the next fiscal.

CONT'D...

I also want to recognize our Board of Directors for their work and expertise. From building our governance policies, to expanding business development opportunities, to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Training, it has been a busy year. As they finish their terms, I want to give special thanks to both Mario Longo and Kristen Bailey who have held the roles of Chair and Co-Chair respectively for the last two years. Their leadership, guidance and dedication to Brain Injury Canada has been essential in our growth.

We can't do any of what we do alone, so I am so appreciative and thankful for our many partners and collaborators:

- Thank you to our Scientific Advisory Committee. These researchers and clinicians have volunteered their time to review every piece of content in our in our courses and resource website to ensure all content is credible and evidence-based. We value these contributions and look forward to building our committee and building these relationships.
- Thank you to the brain injury associations across Canada. These associations are the feet on the ground and are valued as essential partners in the work we do. We look forward to continuing to collaborate and build this network.
- Thank you to the health care and service community across Canada. This is an such incredible community of people and I count myself lucky to be able to work alongside all of you. Your hard work and dedication is recognized and valued and we look forward to continuing to build and strengthen these collaborations.
- Most importantly, thank you to those individuals and families living with brain injury everyday. Whether engaging with us on social media and newsletters, sharing our programs, or reaching out directly to us, this community moves us forward. As we dive into the next fiscal, we look forward to continuing to address gaps in knowledge, awareness, and advocacy.

We have a lot on the horizon for the coming year, and I look forward to continued work with our partners, policy makers, brain injury associations across Canada, and most importantly individuals and families with lived experience. We need the involvement of everyone to ensure brain injury is a priority going forward.



Michelle McDonald,
CEO



OUR MISSION

Advance awareness, education, opportunities, and support by:

- Advocating at a national level on issues important to the brain injury community
- Establishing meaningful connections and collaborations with stakeholders
- Educating and empowering people living with acquired brain injury, families/caregivers, healthcare workers, researchers, and the general public

OUR VISION

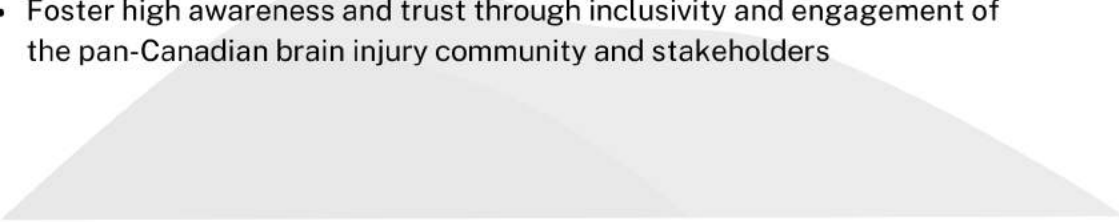
A better quality of life for all people affected by acquired brain injury in Canada.

OUR VALUES

At Brain Injury Canada, we firmly stand behind our values.

- Accountability
- Compassion
- Connection/collaboration
- Diversity
- Integrity
- Stewardship

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Deliver national programs accessible to all Canadians
 - Become a technology-enabled, innovative organization that maximizes reach and impact as a knowledge hub, connector and partner
 - Ensure sustainability and growth through effective governance and consistent, diversified funding sources
 - Foster high awareness and trust through inclusivity and engagement of the pan-Canadian brain injury community and stakeholders
- 

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) is comprised of physicians, healthcare professionals, researchers, stakeholders and thought leaders in the field of brain injury from across Canada. The SAC collaborative is an integral oversight body that has provided advice and recommendations regarding content on our resource website to ensure objectivity, relevancy, and a high standard of scientific excellence.

The SAC evaluates the materials that are published through the Brain Injury Canada for accuracy and completeness. SAC members also provide an important conduit to identify the latest research in the field of brain injury. As new treatments and methods for supporting people living with brain injury are discovered and evaluated, SAC members provide insights into what this means within a Canadian context.

We would like to thank the members of the SAC for continuing to build a network of care for Canadians living with brain injury in their community and supporting the work of Brain Injury Canada.

SAC MEMBERS

Shelina Babul, PhD

Carolina Bottari, erg. PhD

Deidre Burns, RD

Mohamed-Amine Choukou, PhD

David Clarke, MDCM, PhD,
FRCSC, FACS

Angela Colantonio, PhD, OT. Reg. (Ont.)

John F Connolly, PhD

Nora Cullen, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Michael Ellis, MD, FRCS(C)

Alon Friedman, MD, PhD

Asaf Gilboa, PhD

Kristian Goulet, FRCPC

Robin Green PhD, CPsych

Michael Hutchison, PhD, RKin

CONT'D...

Constance Lebrun, MDCM, MPE,
CCFP(SEM), FCFP, Dip. Sport Med

Carolyn Lemskey, PhD,
C.Psych, ABPP-CN

Cameron Mang, CSEP-CEP, PhD

Avril Mansfield, PhD, RKin

Shawn Marshall, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Patrick McGrath, OC, PhD,
FRSC, FCAHS

Emily Nalder, PhD

Will Panenka, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Kara Patterson, PT, PhD

Kathryn Schneider, PT, PhD

Noah Silverberg, PhD, R.Psych,
ABPP-CN

Carmela Tartaglia, MD, FRCPC

Charles Tator, OC, MD, PhD,
FRCSC FACS

Alexis Turgeon, MD,
MSc(Épid), FRCPC

Lyn Turkstra, PhD

Paul van Donkelaar, PhD

Cheryl Wellington, PhD

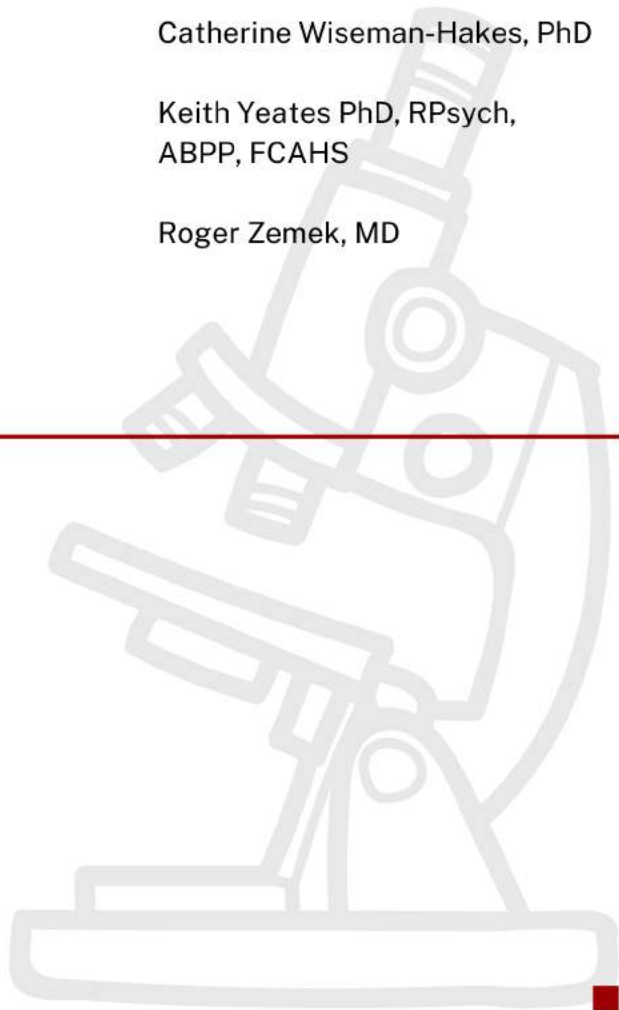
Anne Wheeler, PhD

Catherine Wiseman-Hakes, PhD

Keith Yeates PhD, RPsych,
ABPP, FCAHS

Roger Zemek, MD

For more information on our Scientific
Advisory Committee, please visit:
<https://braininjurycanada.ca/en/sac/>



PROGRAMS

EDUCATION

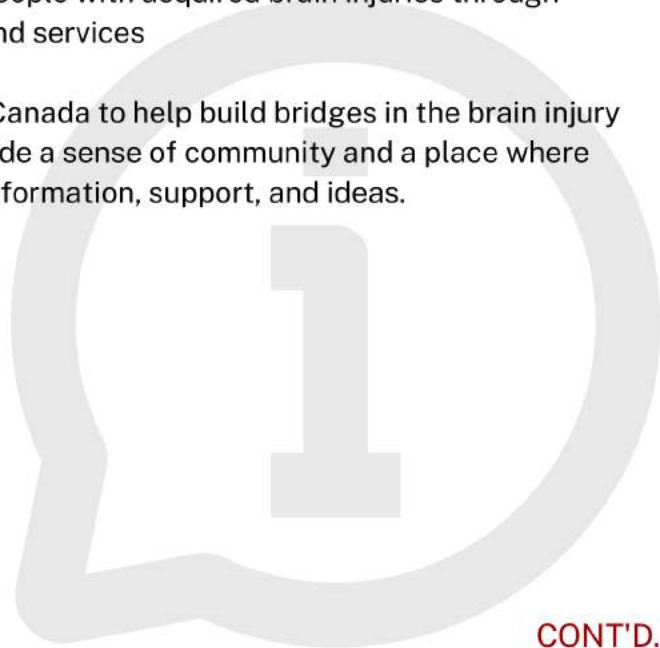
Resource website

Brain Injury Canada continues to update and enhance our comprehensive resource website funded in part by the Government of Canada. Available in English and French, the site is universally designed for individuals with brain injury, as well as their family members/caregivers, health service providers, and clinicians.

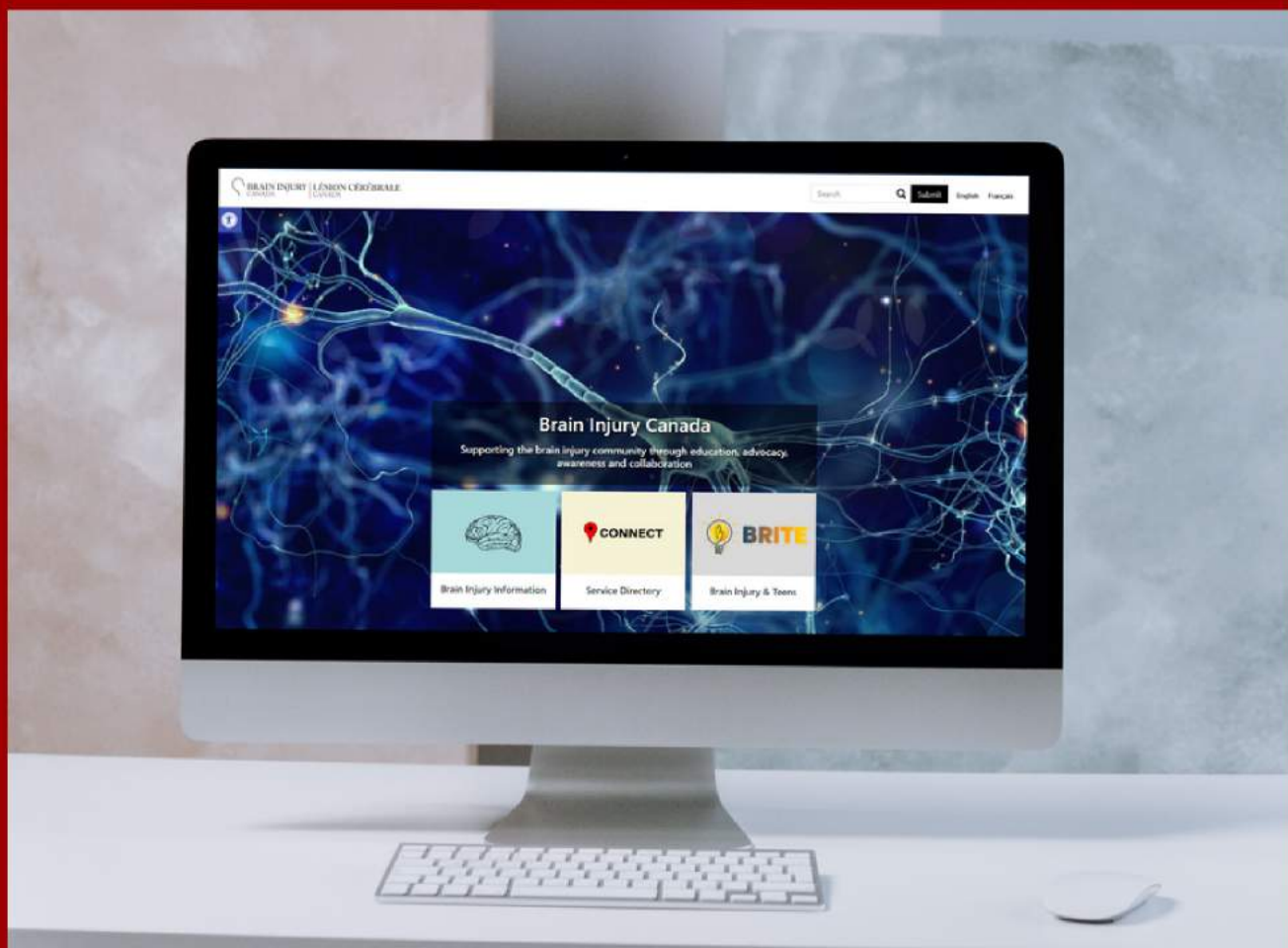
Goals of this resource initiative include:

- Increasing the capacity of Brain Injury Canada to be a reliable and credible source of information related to brain injury;
- Consolidating and centralizing evidence-based information from across Canada;
- Improving the organization's leadership role in building collaborative relationships with partners and stakeholders from cross industries;
- Addressing regional disparities in access to information, ensuring Canadians have equal access to resources and information regardless of geographic location in Canada;
- Bridging the gap between individuals and families in locating relevant services and information in their communities; and
- Improving social inclusion for people with acquired brain injuries through enhanced access to supports and services

This initiative enables Brain Injury Canada to help build bridges in the brain injury community. This resource will provide a sense of community and a place where anyone can go 24 hours a day for information, support, and ideas.



CONT'D...



As we build resources, we realized that we needed to bring them all together, while still setting the standard for accessibility tools that give you the control to interact with our websites in a way that's comfortable for you.

When you visit braininjurycanada.ca, you will see a new, more streamlined website designed for easy interaction. On the home page, you will see that we have our resource website (Brain Injury Information), our service directory (Brain Injury Canada Connect), and BRITE(coming soon).

At the bottom of the page, you will find our featured content and our events. We will be updating this section regularly, so check back for announcements and new events. We're so excited to continue creating new resources for the national brain injury community.

CONT'D...

Interactive Service Directory

We launched our new interactive service directory Brain Injury Canada Connect in August 2021. This directory is designed for individuals in the brain injury community in Canada to find much-needed services and supports.

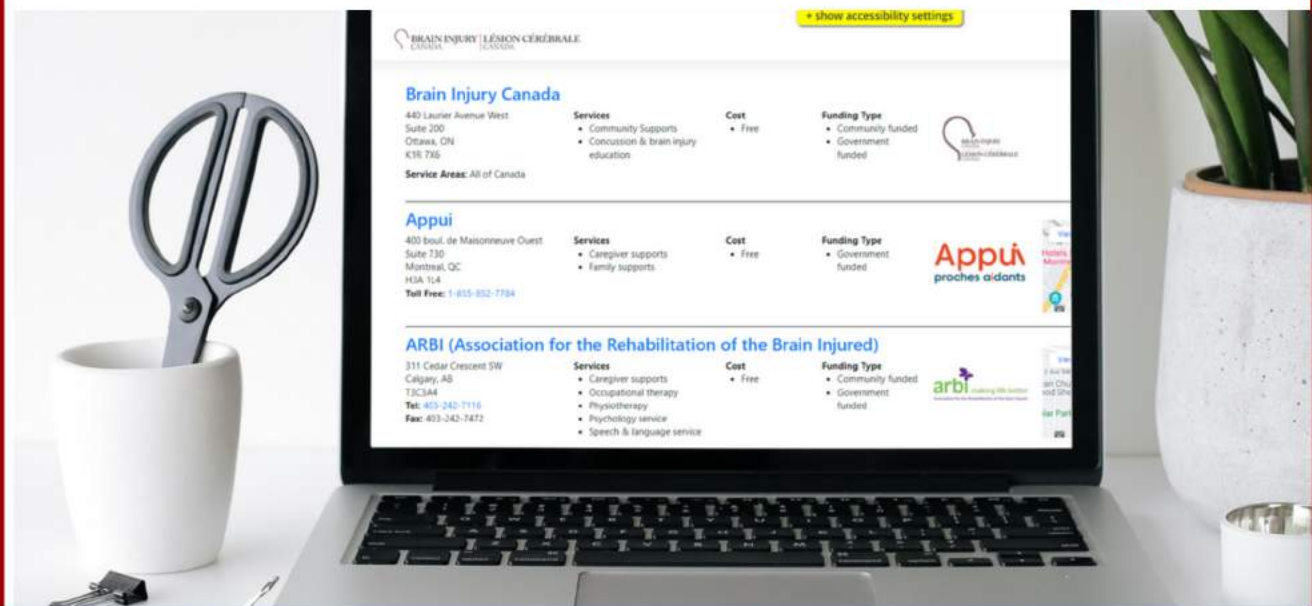
This resource will continue to grow, and new organizations and businesses will be added regularly. Our goal is to over time create a resource that is truly representative of all the geographical regions of Canada and possible areas of support.

Visit www.braininjurycanadaconnect.ca and use the filters on the right-hand side of the screen to start exploring.

Google Ad Grant

Brain Injury Canada is the recipient of a \$10,000 per month Google Ad grant, which enables us to showcase important pages on our website in alignment with the organization's strategic goals. This includes online course registration and Brain Injury Canada Connect, our online directory. Our monthly spend has increased approximately 68% year over year, comparing June 2022 to May 2023. On average, our monthly spend is between \$8,700 - \$9,300, utilizing 87-93% of our monthly grant. This results in over 2,250 clicks onto our website a month, with a click through rate of between 9-10%. This is the percentage of people who are seeing our Google Ads and clicking on them. In Google Ads, click through rates are considered satisfactory at rates of between 4-5%, which means our results are excellent.

CONT'D...



E-Course for Healthcare Professionals.

As an often invisible disability, it is essential that health care workers and providers understand both the nuances of brain injury and how it intersects with all facets of daily living.

The Foundations of Brain Injury for Health Care Professionals is an affordable self-paced course designed specifically for health care and service professionals to enhance their knowledge of brain injury, enabling improved, customized and informed care.

This course is multi-modal for the best possible self-directed learning experience, including:

- Videos from experts in the area of brain injury to provide an evidence-based, research-supported lens
- Videos from individuals sharing their personal accounts of living with the effects of brain injury, ensuring a valuable educational resource powered by lived experience
- Downloadable resources & further educational opportunities for deeper learning

All course content is evidence-based and has been developed under the guidance of our Scientific Advisory Committee, comprised of researchers and clinicians from across Canada.

BC Corrections E-course

The BC Corrections pilot project launched in January of 2023. This project is a joint collaboration between Brain Injury Canada and BC Corrections providing tailored educational content about brain injury to those who work in BC correctional institution. This includes interactive quizzes, first-person accounts and advice from employees, and practical takeaways divided into audience categories depending on whether the student works in a centre or as a probation officer. As of June 2023, there have been 85 enrolments, with qualitative feedback indicating that the course is addressing a knowledge gap.”

CONT'D...

WEBINARS



Brain Injury Canada hosted educational webinars on a variety of topics, featuring speakers from across Canada. We hosted a mix of pre-recorded and live webinars, and all webinars are saved and posted on [our YouTube](#) so you can watch them at your convenience.

Building Resiliency: Strategies and Supports for Caregivers

This webinar delved into strategies that can be adopted when confronted with challenges from ethical personal decisions all the way through finding the means to affect systemic change.

- Caregiver Burnout, Moral Distress and Moral Resiliency: Choosing the Good vs the Perfect - David Campbell, Ethicist with the Kingston Health Sciences Centre.
- Introduction to the new Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence - Liv Mendelsohn, MA, MEd, is the executive director of the Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence.

Art, Dance, & Meditation: Exploring Brain Injury Therapies

This symposium brought together passionate speakers with professional and lived experience using art, dance, and meditation as therapies to help improve quality of life.

- Introduction to Art Therapy - Swetha Ranasuriya, Suvaya Therapy
- Moving with purpose: an introduction to dance therapy - Sima Chowdhury
- Guided iRest® meditation session - Angie Davis, Gentle Yoga International

CONT'D...

BRITE

Brain Injury Canada is proud to introduce an exciting new project: BRITE (BRain Injury and TEens), an online resource for youth aged 13-18 living with brain injury.



BRITE will serve as the go-to resource for teens impacted by brain injury – providing them with access to education and information that will answer their questions; provide recommendations for physical and emotional support; connect them to peers and professionals; and provide them with the tools they need to feel empowered to take their next steps, wherever they may be in their journey.

Brain Injury Canada would like to extend our sincere appreciation and an enthusiastic thank you to Dan Andreae, our honorary patron, for his generosity in supporting the BRain Injury and TEens (BRITE) platform through a matching donation campaign. Dan matched \$10,000 in donations for up to a total of \$20,000 during our fundraising campaign, enabling us to build this resource for youth in Canada.

A message from Dan Andreae on BRITE

“

I am proud and excited to be supporting a vital and innovative initiative that will help teenagers cope more effectively with the effects of brain injuries on all levels. With this first in Canada program Brain Injury Canada will provide crucial information and resources to teenagers in communities across the country.

”

CONT'D...

EMPOWERING CAREGIVERS THROUGH EDUCATION

Supporting caregivers is core to our mandate. Brain injury does not just happen to the individual. Family/caregivers provide play an essential role in helping individuals with their recovery and activities of daily living. Brain injury is unique as the impacts can be cognitive, physical, emotional and behavioural resulting in the need for complex and intense interactions and care needs. Stress and compassion fatigue are highly prevalent in caregivers and over time can take a toll on mental and physical health.



Through the support of the Petro-Canada Caremakers Foundation, we will be developing 5 free self-guided learning courses for caregivers to enhance their knowledge and provide access to evidence-based information and strategies to help them as caregivers, and in turn enhance the lives of the individuals they support. Each course would include an introduction, learning objectives, content broken down into chapters/sections, additional resources and a quiz to assess learning. Course will be written in an engaging and accessible manner and will utilize the videos from experts, real-life caregiver experiences and downloadable resources and tools.

CONFERENCE

The 2022 Brain Injury Canada Conference Navigating the Landscape of Brain Injury took place on May 25 & 26, 2022 and was another successful event. This virtual conference format truly enables this to be a national brain injury conference. Brain injury Canada strives to create platforms to bring people together in the interest of education, information and awareness of brain injury. We had participants from all over the country, and had an amazing line-up of speakers covering topics relevant to brain injury.

Topics included:

Resiliency Resq: Re-Think, Re-New, Re-Energize

SAJEL BELLON - Ed.D, RP, CTSS, Canadian Psychotherapist, Stress Specialist, Professor, and Professional Speaker

Adolescent Identity After TBI: What Clinicians Need to Know

LISA KAKONGE- M.Sc., Reg. CASLPO, CCC-SLP

Hurt, Alone, and Dumb: Living the Traumatic Brain Injury

BRIAN MENDOZA DOMINGUEZ, DSocSci, MAL, CPIM, Practicing Partner

The Challenge of Prolonged Post-Concussion Symptoms: Patient Education Efforts of the Canadian Concussion Centre

LESLEY RUTTAN, Ph.D., C.Psych. & CHARLES TATOR, PhD, MD

Building Bridges and Enhancing Capacity: Improving Client Outcomes Through Collaborative Programming Between Community Rehabilitation and Acute Hospital Settings

JANE SAVAGE, BA, MSW, RSW, Clinical Social Worker

Respecting Traditions: Healthcare for Indigenous Peoples in a Difference Lens

ANNIE SMITH ST-GEORGES, Algonquin Traditional Elder

CONT'D...

Housing First - A Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program for People Experiencing Homelessness and Complex Needs: Are There Lessons to be Learned for Patients with Brain Injury?

SAM TSEMBERIS, PhD, CEO Pathways Housing First Institute

The Power and the Perils of Mindfulness for Brain Injury Care

JESSIE SMITH, Mindfulness Teacher

Implicit Bias - Recognize, Challenge, Interrupt

ANIA HARRIS, Personal Injury Law Clerk & Vice Chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Caucus of the Ontario Trial Lawyers Association (OTLA) & NAKEMA WALKER, Service Director & Member of the Ontario Rehab Alliance Black Network

Intimate Partner Violence and Brain Injury: Experimental Outcomes From a Direct Services Program

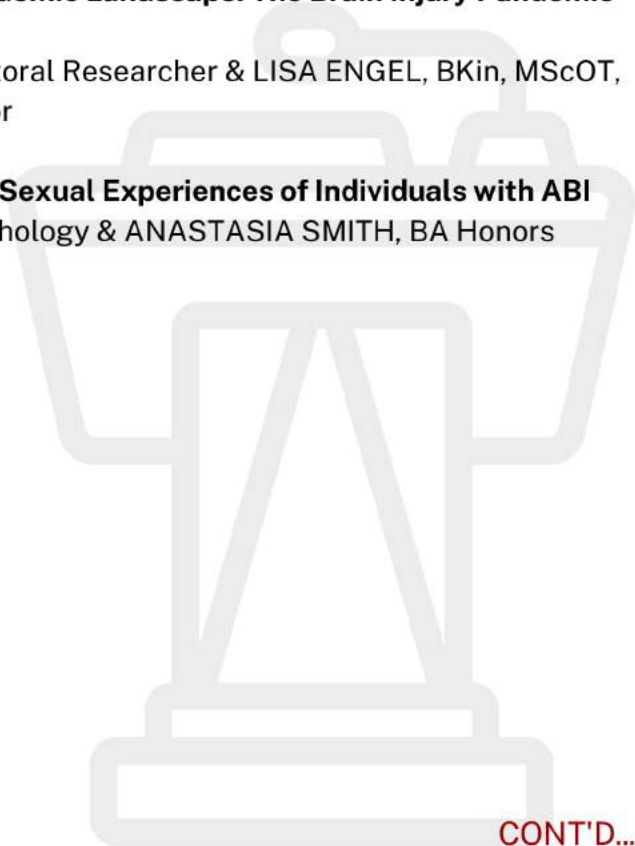
CANDACE STRETCH, Manager of Supportive Housing & Family Services & TORI DACH, Community Program Coordinator

Community Brain Injury Associations and Researchers are Working Together to Navigate the Current and Future Pandemic Landscape: The Brain Injury Pandemic Preparedness (BIPP) Project

ANA PAULA SALAZAR, PhD, Postdoctoral Researcher & LISA ENGEL, BKin, MScOT, PhD, OT Reg. (MB), Assistant Professor

Examining the Social, Romantic, and Sexual Experiences of Individuals with ABI

JAN GELECH, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology & ANASTASIA SMITH, BA Honors Psychology



CONT'D...

POST-CONFERENCE SURVEY RESULTS

80

% Rated Excellent or
Very Good

98

% Rated Extremely
Organized or
Very Well Organized



"I enjoyed the variety and caliber of presenters - every session was unique and excellent"

"The presenters were a great mix of personal and professional experiences. We had much to take away"

"Very captivating to be a part of a national event on the brain injury topic. Apart from our provincial and regional associations, we don't have many places to discuss this particular topic in a professional way. It helps to know we're not alone with similar challenges"

In order to appropriately plan and strategize the future of Brain Injury Canada including our programs and conferences, we will not be holding a conference in 2024. We will provide other opportunities for education and engagement, but we need to take the appropriate time to plan for our future. Stay tuned to our email and social media for updates as they are made.

CONT'D...

Thank you to our Conference sponsors:



This event was supported by a grant from:



Thank you to our exhibitors:

CARF Canada
www.carf.org

The Canadian Centre for
Caregiving Excellence
www.canadiancaregiving.org

CONNECT Communities
www.connectcommunities.ca

FORS (FAMILY ORIENTED
REHAB SERVICES)
www.forstherapy.com

Helius Medical – PoNs Therapy
www.ponstherapy.ca

Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP
www.hshlawyers.com

March of Dimes Canada
www.marchofdimes.ca

Nutritional Rehabilitation
www.nrservices.ca

Oatley Vigmond LLP
www.oatleyvigmond.com

Revive and Thrive Wellbeing Inc.
www.reviveandthrivewellbeing.com

Vista Centre Brain Injury Services
www.vistacentre.ca



COMMUNICATIONS

Brain Injury Canada's communication channels continue to grow and be an important part of resource dissemination and community building. Our predominant channels include our email newsletter and our social media platforms.

Impact Newsletter

Brain Injury Canada sends out a quarterly Impact newsletter with news/updates, personal stories, and more. Open rates are higher than industry average at 30% (approximately 20-25% higher than average). Through this newsletter we are able to reach a national audience and inform them of important works of advocacy (such as Bill C-277's signature gathering period), Brain Injury Awareness Month initiatives, and educational resources as they become available (such as courses).

Email

The use of email outside of our quarterly newsletter enables us to engage key stakeholders as needed on topics that are important to them and the community. When appropriate, we use email to encourage lived experience participation in surveys, share new resources, and promote relevant studies and partner resources that we believe may benefit some (if not all) or our audience. Internally, email permits us to stay in contact with partners, advisors, and the brain injury community. We are able to share relevant information, make connections between individuals and other brain injury associations, and address potential problems efficiently and with little delay.

Social Media

Social media continues to be an engaging way to interact with the ABI community across Canada. Across all platforms we have almost 15,000 followers and strive to bring engaging and educational content to them with every post. We also share the posts and activities and other brain injury associations and partners.

Our social media interactions are made up of people predominantly sharing our posts to their networks, as well as commenting on our posts with their own personal stories. Our goal of maintaining a regular social media presence with helpful information and personal stories fosters a sense of community where people feel comfortable sharing their own experiences, which in turn help others going through similar situations. It is an integral tool for an organization that is national in scale and has a community that is geographically wide-spread.

CONT'D...

Followers as of June 19, 2023:



3.9k



8.5k



808



1.1k



282

ADVOCACY

As a pillar of Brain Injury Canada, we engage in a wide variety of advocacy initiatives focused on making systemic change for and within the brain injury community. We foster relationships with other organizations with similar advocacy goals, and find opportunities to build important campaigns, demonstrating a unity in our mission of improving the lives of individuals with brain injury and caregivers. This year we lead and participated in several advocacy initiatives focused on long-term impacts.

Private Members Bill C-277: A National Brain Injury Strategy

Member of Parliament Alistair MacGregor for Cowichan-Malahat-Langford introduced Bill C-277 on June 2, 2022 in the House of Commons, proposing a national brain injury strategy. In conjunction with the CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses, we contributed to the bill's development, and are incredibly excited for this important step in developing a national strategy for the brain injury community.

To build on the momentum of the initial reading, Brain Injury Canada partnered with the CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses; the BC Brain Injury Association; and the Cowichan Brain Injury Society to develop a petition and letter writing campaign to support Bill C-277.

The e-petition met the criteria of receiving 500 signatures to be certified. We also had a phenomenal response to the letter writing campaign with letters being sent to elected representatives in ridings across the country and all cc'ing the Prime Minister and the Minister of Health. The petition is now tabled for a government response.

Thank you to everyone who signed the petition and participate in the letter writing campaign and to all the brain injury associations across Canada who helped disseminate. We sincerely appreciate your support on this initiative.

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Canada Disability Benefit Act

June 2022 - Brain Injury Canada participated in a collective of stakeholder organizations to urge the Government to work together to bring Bill C-22, the Canada Disability Benefit Act, back for second reading before the House of Commons rises for the summer 2022 break. The letter was signed by 75 organizations and led by Disability without Poverty

National Dental Care Program

In preparation for the implementation of the National Dental Care Program, the Minister of Health sent a request for information/feedback to the dental industry. To ensure the perspective of brain injury was included, Brain Injury Canada contacted each provincial dental association to raise awareness of some of the issues around dental care for those living with brain injury, such as accessibility, communication and wait times are incorporated into their feedback.

National Neurological Strategy for Canada

Brain Injury Canada CEO, Michelle McDonald, as Chair of Governing Council has been leading Neurological Health Charities (NHCC) in their advocacy for a National Neurological Strategy for Canada. NHCC is a coalition of organizations that represent people with neurological diseases, disorders and injuries in Canada. NHCC provides leadership in evaluating and advancing new opportunities for collaboration specific to advocacy, education and research to improve the quality of life for people affected by neurological conditions.

NHCC believes that it is time for the Government of Canada to demonstrate leadership on neurological health by working with the neurological community to develop and implement a National Neurological Strategy for Canada. NHCC recognizes that the federal government has already undertaken several national strategies on brain conditions including a National Mental Health Strategy, a National Dementia Strategy, a National Autism Strategy, and a National Concussion Strategy.

Visit www.mybrainmatters.ca for more information.

CONT'D...

The Case for a Canadian Brain Research Moonshot

In December 2022, Brain Injury Canada, submitted a brief to the Standing Committee on Science and Research for its Study of International Moonshot Programs. A moonshot is a type of approach in which researchers are directed to focus on a specific general problem. The brief urged this committee to examine how an unprecedented focus on brain research through a Moonshot-type approach could lead to the breakthroughs that are needed to make significant impact on neurological conditions and mental health disorders.

Through the leadership of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy, fifteen health charities, non-profits, and science organizations supporting research and services for brain disorders submitted briefs in alignment with this call. The network, partnerships, and vision are in place. Now we need the funding to catalyze this coalition into concerted, bold, and concrete action.

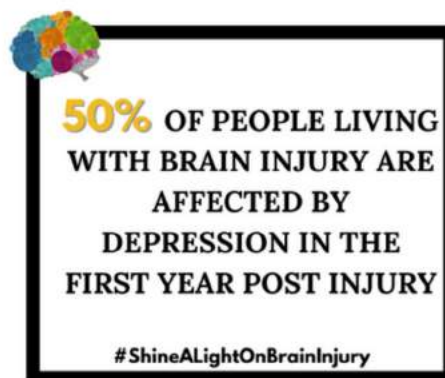
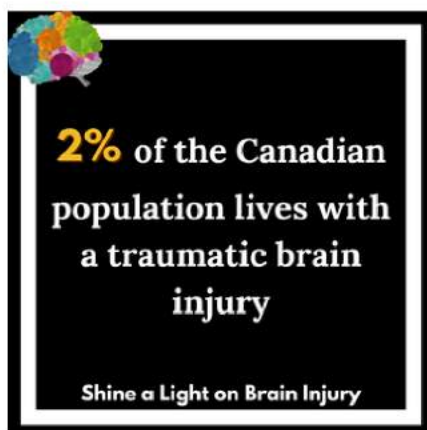
HDSC



AWARENESS

Brain Injury Awareness Month campaign

The 2022 national collaborative Brain Injury Awareness Month campaign focused on raising awareness of brain injury in Canada - in other words, shining a light on this often invisible disability. Brain injury associations across Canada came together to share a series of social media posts and key message with an emphasis on the intersection of mental health and brain injury. The posts were a blend of statistics, key points and perspectives of lived experience from individuals living with brain injury.



CONT'D...

CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS & PANELS

Staff at Brain Injury Canada were invited to attend and present at conferences, panels and workshops across Canada. It is important for there to be a national voice for brain injury at many of these events.

Here is a sample of some of the conferences Brain Injury Canada participate in over the last year.

Attended:

Canadian Concussion Network Annual Conference

June 2022 – Montreal, Quebec

Canadian Traumatic Brain Injury Research Consortium Conference

June 2022 – Montreal, Quebec

University health Network Neurotrauma Care Pathways Virtual Summit

September 28, 2022

BC Consensus Day on Brain Injury, Mental Health, and Addictions

October 14, 2022

- Michelle McDonald acted as a virtual table moderator and external evaluator

Presented:

Poster Presentation – International Brain Injury Association World Congress

March 2023 – Dublin, Ireland

- Topic: How Community Brain Injury Associations Can Optimize Their Response to a Future Public Health Crisis: Lessons Learned After the First Year of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Presenter: Michelle McDonald

CONT'D...

**Connexion TCC - En route sur l'autonomie
– Forum sur les traumatismes
craniocérébraux**

November 2022 - Montreal, Quebec

- Topic: Traumatisme cérébral au Canada, un statut sous-reconnu et mal desservi
- Presenter: Xavier Linker, Board Member of Brain Injury Canada presented in French



Champlain ABI Coalition

December 2022 - Virtual

- Topic: Brain Injury in Canada: Under Recognized and Under Served
- Presenter: Michelle McDonald

Ontario ABI Navigator Retreat

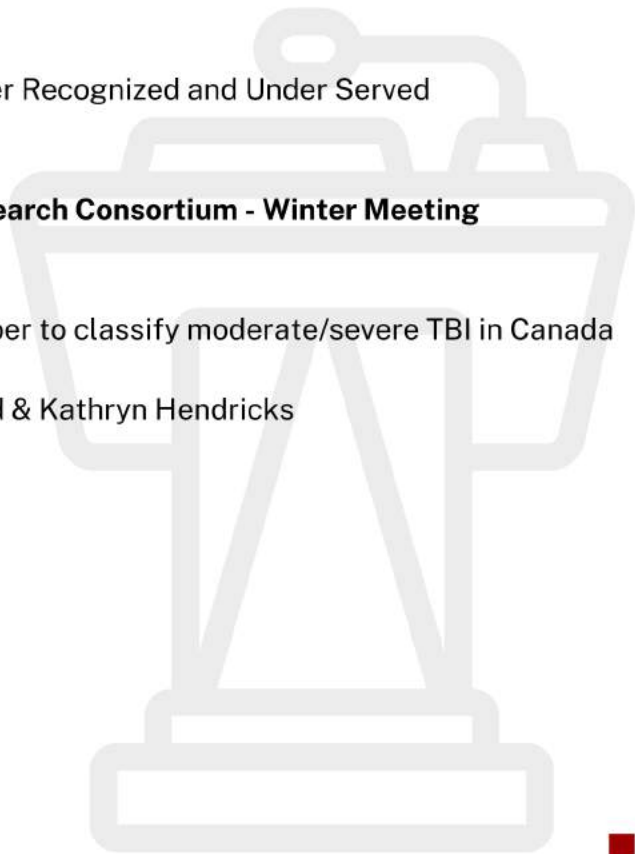
December 2022 - Virtual

- Topic: Brain Injury in Canada: Under Recognized and Under Served
- Presenter: Michelle McDonald

Canadian Traumatic Brain Injury Research Consortium - Winter Meeting

January 2023 - Lake Louise, AB

- Topic: Partnering on a position paper to classify moderate/severe TBI in Canada as a chronic condition
- Co-Presenters: Michelle McDonald & Kathryn Hendricks



RESEARCH

Brain Injury Pandemic Preparedness Research Project

Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, association executive directors and researchers across Canada began to talk about the issues facing associations and people living with brain injury. Out of these discussions came the Brain Injury Pandemic Preparedness (BIPP) project, with the aim of optimizing community pandemic strategies. The BIPP project team includes executive directors from Brain Injury Canada and six provincial associations and researchers from four provinces.

Nationally funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, this 2-year project aimed to connect brain injury associations across Canada and co-create a pandemic preparedness resource tool to support associations now and in the future.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

Carolina Bottari
University of Montreal

Lisa Engel
University of Manitoba

Michelle McDonald
Brain Injury Canada

Carolyn Lemskey
Community Head Injury Resource
Services

Shlomit Rotenberg
University of Toronto

Cassandra Stockley
Newfoundland and Labrador Brain
Injury Association

CO-INVESTIGATORS

Ashley Brosda
Brain Care Centre

Monique Gignac
University of Toronto

Gladys Hrabí
Manitoba Brain Injury Association

Glenda James
Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association

Emily Nalder
University of Toronto

Marjolaine Tapin
Connexion

Julia Schmidt
University of British Columbia

Bonnie Swaine
University of Montreal

Ruth Wilcock
Ontario Brain Injury Association

Sareh Zarshenas
University of Montreal

CONT'D...

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION

Partnerships and collaboration are a key priority for Brain Injury Canada. Partners and collaborations include:

- Accessible Housing Network
- TBI in Underserved Populations Program Advisory Committee — University of Toronto
- Cross-Sectoral Solutions: Strengthening Community Capacity to Address the ‘Parallel Pandemic’ of Intimate Partner Violence-Related Traumatic Brain Injury Through a Survivor-Led Support Intervention — Stakeholder Advisory Board — University of Toronto and Womenatthecentre
- Ontario-Quebec Rehabilitation Research and Technology Consortium - Mobility Network Work Group
- Ontario Neurotrauma Care Pathways Current State Critical Considerations Working Group
- ONF-REPAR Executive Committee Member
- Canadian Concussion Network — Integrated Knowledge Translation & Stakeholder Engagement Committee
- Neurological Health Charities Canada
- Canadian Traumatic Brain Injury Research Consortium — Steering Committee
- Disability Tax Credit Alliance — Committee Member
- Champlain ABI Coalition — Committee Member
- BC Concussion Advisory Network — Member



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BRAIN INJURY CANADA Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 232,682	\$ 162,247
HST and source deductions recoverable	6,383	4,773
Prepaid expenses	2,188	2,050
	<u>\$ 241,253</u>	<u>\$ 169,070</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Bank indebtedness (Note 3)	\$ 30,000	\$ -
Accounts payable	599	169
Goods and services tax payable	-	125
Employee deductions payable	5,924	-
	<u>36,523</u>	<u>294</u>
LONG TERM DEBT (Note 3)	<u>-</u>	<u>30,000</u>
	<u>36,523</u>	<u>30,294</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>204,730</u>	<u>138,776</u>
	<u>\$ 241,253</u>	<u>\$ 169,070</u>

CONT'D...

BRAIN INJURY CANADA
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
Year Ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
RECEIPTS		
Donations	\$ 70,428	\$ 45,552
Conference receipts and sponsorships	16,619	46,101
Grants	264,638	191,573
Sundry receipts	29,010	3,829
Other	322	-
	381,017	287,055
DISBURSEMENTS		
Advertising and promotion	9,686	3,196
Bank charges	1,559	354
Business taxes, licenses and memberships	1,771	2,603
Delivery, freight and express	28	389
Employee benefits	13,740	6,427
Insurance	2,050	2,050
Meals and entertainment	173	-
Meetings and conventions	24,172	30,760
Office	5,820	5,498
Grant expenses	20,120	13,613
Professional fees	10,600	9,238
Rental	1,202	-
Salaries and wages	205,594	100,156
Sub-contracts	6,698	86,108
Telephone	1,267	1,916
Training	7,280	250
Travel	3,303	74
	315,063	262,632
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 65,954	\$ 24,423



BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATIONS

Alberta

Southern Alberta Brain Injury Society

Brain Care Centre

Parkland Head Injury Association

Association for the Rehabilitation of the
Brain Injury (ARBI)

British Columbia

Braintrust Canada

Brain Injury Alliance

British Columbia Brain Injury Association

Campbell River Head Injury
Support Society

The Cheshire Homes Society
of British Columbia

Fraser Valley Brain Injury Association

Comox Valley Head Injury Society

Cowichan Brain Injury Society

Kamloops Brain Injury Association

Nanaimo Brain Injury Society

Northern Brain Injury Association of BC

Powell River Brain Injury Society

Prince George Brain Injured Group Society

South Okanagan Similkameen
Brain Injury Society

Victoria Brain Injury Association

Manitoba

Manitoba Brain Injury Association

Newfoundland and Labrador

Newfoundland and Labrador
Brain Injury Association

Nova Scotia

Brain Injury Association of Nova Scotia

Ontario

Ontario Brain Injury Association

The Compassionate Justice Fund

Brain Injury Association of Durham Region

Brain Injury Association of Fort Erie

Brain Injury Association of
London and Region

Brain Injury Association of Niagara

Brain Injury Association of
North Bay and Area

CONT'D...

Brain Injury Association
of Thunder Bay and Area

Brain Injury Association
of the Ottawa Valley

Brain Injury Association of Peel Halton

Brain Injury Association
of Peterborough Region

Brain Injury Association
of Quinte District

Brain Injury Association
of Sarnia Lambton

Brain Injury Association
of Sault Ste Marie

Brain Injury Association of Sudbury

Brain Injury Association
of Waterloo-Wellington

Brain Injury Association
of Windsor Essex

Brain Injury Association of York Region

Brain Injury Society of Toronto

Hamilton Brain Injury Association

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association

Lloydminster and Area Brain Injury Society

Quebec

Connexion TCC QC

Association des traumatisés crâniens
de l'Abitibi-Temiscamingue (Le Pilier)

Association des personnes ACVA-TCC
du Bas-Saint-Laurent

Association des handicapés
adultes Côte-Nord

Association des accidentés cérébro-
vasculaires et traumatisés
crâniens de l'Estrie

Association des TCC et ACV de la Gaspésie
et des Îles-de-la-Madeleine

Association des personnes handicapées
physiques et sensorielles
du secteur Joliette

Centre d'aide personnes traumatisées
crâniennes et handicapées
physiques Laurentides

Association des traumatisés cranio-
cérébraux Mauricie-Centre-du-Québec

Association des Traumatisés cranio-
cérébraux de la Montérégie

Association québécoise
des traumatisés crâniens

Association des neurotraumatisés -
Outaouais

Association des TCC des deux rives
(Québec / Chaudière-Appalaches)

Association Renaissance des personnes
traumatisées crâniennes du Saguenay /
Lac-Saint-Jean





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