2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Parkinson
Association of Alberta

A COMMUNITY CONNECTED

A NOTE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Martin Kratz
Board Chair

It's difficult to adequately acknowledge the challenges faced by our world in 2020. The pandemic has been challenging for all of us. We recognize and acknowledge the circumstances and situations we found ourselves managing as an organization and certainly also of the clients, supporters and friends of Parkinson Association of Alberta. It has been our honour to be able to work through it all together with you.

Before the life changing events of early March, we hosted our first gala in Edmonton that featured the sport of boxing and the benefits of non-contact boxing exercise programs for people with Parkinson's. The Main Event raised over $60,000 for the organization and allowed us an opportunity and platform to share our work and our story with a larger audience. We are grateful for those who lent their time, energy, voices and financial investment to this event and are eager to explore future iterations of the same.

Lana Tordoff
Executive Director

We had been in the process of planning special content for Parkinson's Awareness Month in April when our doors closed and in-person programming was called to a halt. This allowed us to sustain engagement and the provision of meaningful support while we worked toward planning for the unknown amount of time in isolation that we were all facing. Virtual programming has become the expected mode of delivery these days and although not for everyone, participation has been strong. Grocery and prescription pick-ups and Zoom tutorials became a routine part of our work and it was rewarding to see folks adapting and continuing to stay connected with us and each other.

In the pages of this report, you will see detail on financials, notable programming achievements and feedback from volunteers and clients. Not noted are the "operational improvements" that are not always seen but were important pieces of work to undertake to ensure we can continue to be effective. Investment was made to improve our information technology infrastructure, our donor management/online donation tools, our website and our human resources strategy. With an eye on future efficiencies, we continue to identify opportunities to streamline our processes in order to enhance and retain our focus on client facing support.

In 2019 we started to think about how we could become a more truly provincial organization without focusing only on regions where we could employ a staff person. The circumstances of 2020 and the pandemic, our learnings, and the increased engagement we have seen across Alberta, have allowed us to understand and begin to implement this vision using online tools. We are eager to continue in this vein and look forward to being a meaningful resource for even more people affected by Parkinson disease and Parkinson's Plus Syndromes in 2021.

Like all registered charities, Parkinson Association of Alberta is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who are sincerely invested in the work and outcomes of our organization. We are so very fortunate to include their skills, experience and expertise in guiding our direction for the future. We thank the following board members for their commitment and ongoing support.

Our current Board of Directors

Sine Chadi, Doug Critchley, Hanif Fazal, Dr. Cara Ferreira, Jamie Gordon, Ken Gordon, Christine Keillor, Grant Kozak, Martin Kratz, Sarat Maharaj, Reg Milley, Stephen Rex, Pam Strauss, Dr. Oksana Suchowersky, Derek Weisbeck

Term concluded in 2020

Janice Calihoo, Dr. Zaheer Lakhani, Kenneth Papp, Dan Toews

Term concluding in 2021

CHRISTINE KEILLOR

Joined the Board in 2016. Serving as a liaison between industry and researchers, nurses, clinicians, educators and non-profit organizations; Christine brought over a decade of valuable experience and knowledge of chronic diseases (including Parkinson disease) to the Board which helped shape the organization.

GRANT KOZAK

Joined the PAA Board in 2016. Grant himself was diagnosed with Young Onset Parkinson's in 1995. Grant joined the Board to give back to the disease that has affected so many individuals and their families. His insight and lived experience made Grant an excellent addition to the Board.

HANIF FAZAL

Joined the board of Parkinson Association in September of 2020. His personal relationship with PD combined with his financial acumen motivated Hanif to contribute his time in the role of Treasurer. Although life circumstances prevented Hanif from remaining on the Board, his support in the short term is truly valued.

DOUG CRITCHLEY

Joined the PAA board in 2015; serving as Chairman of the Board from 2016 to 2018. Parkinson's is dear to him with his father being diagnosed at an early age. His strong belief in giving back to the communities where he works and lives was a credit to the organization and the Board.

WE APPLAUD AND THANK ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS

"Well friends 2020 was hard on us all. Not much for a volunteer to do this past year. I loved calling our wonderful Parkinson family members to remind them about the Zoom Support groups and making touch base calls. It was so good to connect. I hope it brightened someone's day. I know it did mine. I can't wait to see you all in person again soon!" -Shelly from the Lloydminster region

"I volunteer because my husband was diagnosed with Parkinson's in the fall of 2017 and I would like to support him and help advance awareness of Parkinson's. I have been volunteering since we first attended the Lacombe Parkinson Support Group in mid 2018. - Maria from the Red Deer region

Our 2020 Volunteers

Brad Asselstine, Duart Berg, Dana Bradley, Langston Brasen, Vicki Burgess, Linda Callan, Nate Carter, Wei ChaN, Charlene Coli, Jennifer Davidson, Joe DeBiasio, Mary Devolin, Chris Gaudet, Holly Gerrard, Karen Gibbons, Nicole Gibbons, Leah Greig, Holly Hawryschuk, Ronda Holland, Jim Hutton, Joseph Jason, Christine Johnston, Drayson Jones, Pat Jones, Brent Kersten, Kim Klassen, Tom Machan, Shauna Mark, Thuraya Marshall, Hillary McCready, Frank McLoone, Aidan Menges, Rebecca Mercier, Kelcey Mercier, Dave Millar, Laurel-Ann Millis, Sidharth Mohanan, David Moore, Annie Mueller, Angela Oliver, Lorne Oliver, Thanasi Pananos, MJ Paragas, Rita Parent, Sean Pasternak, Michelle Ponich, Levi Power-Fardy, Rick Prentice, Mehrafarin Ramezani, Desmond Reagan, Ross Richards, Louise Russell, Mike Ryan, Cody Sawchyn, Shalaine Sedres, Shelly Sjoquist, Warren Sjoquist, Patrice Teveniuk, Brian Thompson, Janet Ulan, Walter Ulan, Cheryll Watson, Annie Wei, Trystan Wiszowaty

IN THE FIGHT AGAINST PARKINSON DISEASE, EVERY GIFT FUELS OUR POWER TO SUCCEED!

Thank you to the following individuals, corporations and government agencies for their continued investments in our valuable work.

Abbvie, Abundance Canada, Alvin & Gisele Schreiner, Anwar Ahmad, Ashok & Kanchan Bhasin, Associazione Trevisani Nel Mondo (Edmonton), ATCO Gas EPIC, Aurora Cannabis Inc., Bayshore Home Health, Bernie & Sandra Bradley, Brian Banks, Bryan & Company LLP, Buckwold Holdings Ltd. - Carol Buckwold, Cara Ferreira, Chadi Family Foundation, City of Edmonton, Clarice Siebens, D & V Lawrence Family Fund, Derek Weisbeck, Donna Evans, Dr. Oksana Suchowersky, Engineered Air - Resman Community Services, Estate of Frances Ruth Starr, Frank Corrick, Gerald Wood, Gordon & Diane Buchanan Family Foundation,

Government of Canada (Covid relief), Government of Canada New Horizons for Seniors Program, Highlander Liquor Store Inc., Hillhurst Rebekah Lodge, Holy Spirit Charitable Society, I C Henderson Foundation, Joan McGilvray, John & Sheilagh Langille, Keith & Edna Sveinson, Kinsmen Club of Calgary, Legacy Wealth Management Inc., Lenore Hoover, Leonard Kraemer, Livewire Puzzles, Lola Scruggs, Mann McMahon Legacy Fund, Marjorie Sewell, Mark & Tracy Brunelle, Mark Mercier Foundation, Mary McGilvray, Masternak Foundation, Neil & Jeanie McBain, Patricia Carey, Prairie Crocus Foundation - Janine Labossiere, Rainbow Country Dancers Society, Reginald & Marcie Milley, Richard Prentice, RJ Nelson Family Foundation, Robert Fisher, Robert Head, Roger Dootson Charitable Foundation, Ron Lefebvre, Ross McBain Charitable Gift Fund, Scotia McLeod Charitable Foundation, Scott Hammel, Serv-All Mechanical Services Ltd., Sherryl McBride, Stanley & Dorota Weber, Stephen Rex, Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc., Tony Koopmans, Town of Cochrance, Town of Strathmore, Unifor Local 658A, United Way of Alberta Capital Region, United Way Alberta Northwest, United Way Lethbridge & South Western Alberta, United Way of Calgary & Area, United Way South Eastern Alberta, Walter & Karen Duda, Wendy Brunelle, William Aaron

We value and are extremely grateful for every dollar committed. For the purpose of limiting the costs of printing, only investments over $5,000 are indicated here.

OUR IMPAACT IN 2020

2368 total clients
which includes
254 NEW CLIENTS
60% People with Parkinson's
1% People with Parkinson's Plus Syndrome
34% Care Partners
5% Friends or family impacted by PD

393
information packages provided across Alberta

9,723
views
of
ACTIVE & EDUCATIONAL
recorded programming listed on our YouTube channel

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
we hosted 27 webinars with over
443
views from participants across Alberta

OVER 350 PARTICIPANTS
attended
Hope Conference
from across the world

250 HOURS
watched time at our first virtual Hope Conference!

SUPPORT PROGRAMS
We had 286 support groups with over
2,322
people attending Alberta wide

2,875
Instances of one-on-one / family support (in-person or virtually)
469 HOURS
by our staff

98
ACTIVE PROGRAMS
(physical, cognitive, voice/speech, social)

OVER 4,000
participants from across Alberta

FUNDS FOR RESEARCH

$138,000

- $20,00 to the University of Calgary, towards Molecular & Functional Neuroimaging Basis of Cognition
- $20,000 to the University of Alberta, towards Understanding the Impact of Parkinson disease on Life-Space Mobility
- $98,000, University of Calgary to the Hotchkiss Brain Institute, Calgary Parkinson Research Initiative

Thank You

to our 2020 research donors

Carol Buckwold
Dr. Oksana Suchowersky
Grant Burchnall
Garfield & Ann Purdon
Howard Skoropad

Nick Strzalkowski

I received Parkinson Association of Alberta (PAA) funding in 2016 as a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Calgary Hotchkiss Brain Institute. This was the first external funding that I received as a postdoc. The PAA grant was incredibly helpful in getting my research started, and lead to a further successful grant application from the US based Parkinson Foundation. I am now an assistant professor at Mount Royal University, and I can thank Parkinson Association of Alberta for supporting my research program that helped me secure this position.

Linda Kim

I was very fortunate to receive the Parkinson Alberta Graduate Scholarship in 2017-2019 as an early PhD student under the co-supervision of Drs. Patrick Whelan and Zelma Kiss. My PhD work formed the first collaboration between them and complimented research programs of my co-supervisors, who are interested in the brain and spinal circuitry of locomotor control (Dr. Whelan) and applying these in Parkinson disease (PD) (Dr. Kiss).

Special thanks to our valued event sponsors for their generous support

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TREASURERS REPORT

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020, the financial records of the Parkinson Association of Alberta for the fiscal year January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 have been reviewed and audited by Czechowsky, Graham & Hanevelt Chartered Professional Accountants.

These have included the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020, the statement of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended.

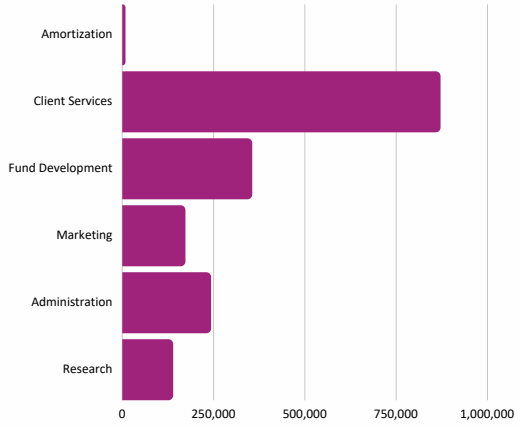
The audit is a “clean audit” with no issues or problems raised by the auditors.
Information in this report agrees with the audited financial statements and copies of the statements are online under the AGM link. Hard copies are available upon request.

For the year ending December 31, 2020 Parkinson Association of Alberta reported a surplus of $26,121.
Revenues were down across the board, largely as a result of the covid-19 pandemic . Parkinson Association of Alberta benefited greatly from sustainability grants through both the federal and provincial governments. The generosity of our individual and family donors was also evident in our Annual Giving Campaign that resulted in over $140,000 in investment into our work. Corresponding expenses were also down significantly which supported our ability to end the year in a positive position. These are identified in the Audited Financial Report and summarized in the Annual Report.

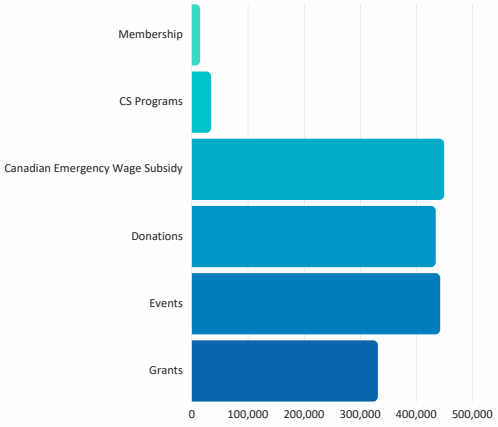
At the 2019 AGM held in September 2020, we shared our concerns over the ongoing deficit situation of Parkinson Association of Alberta and forecast that the changes we were making would improve our circumstance in 2020. We are confident the learnings and steps we have taken will continue to move us in a positive direction.

We acknowledge and thank all those who contributed to our sustainability through this challenging year.

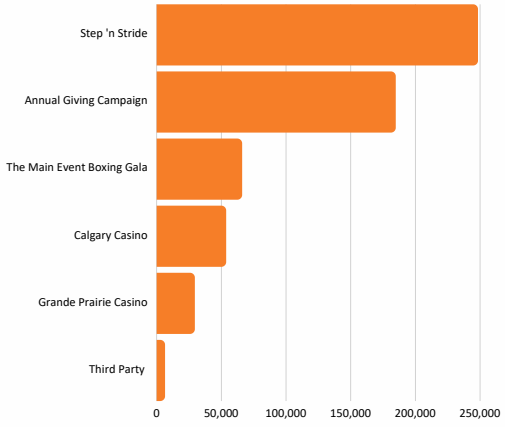
Expenses



Revenue Summary



Net Event Revenues



THOUGHTS FROM OUR PARKINSON'S COMMUNITY

"Parkinson Association of Alberta was a lifeline for us as I began my PD journey and adapted to Edmonton's medical community. There is no way this huge life change could have happened so smoothly without the support of Parkinson Association of Alberta, and their amazing staff."
Vaughn and Cheryl

"Our neurologist suggested we contact PAA for support and information after confirming Monty's diagnosis just over a year ago. We also joined a monthly support group, which we both attend, and I joined a caregiver group. These care groups reinforce the feeling that we are not alone in dealing with PD. They also offer us a tremendous opportunity to share information that might not be readily available."
Monty & Yolande