

**Canadian Deafblind Association
National**



34th Annual General Meeting

Saturday, October 17th, 2009

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT

2009 Annual General Meeting Agenda

2008 – 2009 National Board of Directors

2008 – 2009 Regional Chapters and Contact People

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of October 18th, 2008

President's Report 2008 – 2009

Executive Director's Report 2008 – 2009

Auditor's Financial Statements

Chapter Reports

Biographies of the Candidates for Election

Awards

CDBA NATIONAL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Canadian Deafblind Association's (CDBA) National organization is to promote and enhance the well-being of people who are deafblind through: advocacy, the development and dissemination of information and the provision of support to our chapters, members and community partners.

**Canadian Deafblind Association
34th Annual General Meeting**

Saskatoon Inn
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
October 17, 2009

2:00 – 4:00 PM

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order.....	President - Carolyn Monaco
Approval of the Agenda.....	“ “
Approval of the Minutes - 2008 AGM.....	“ “
President’s Address	“ “
Approval of Financial Statements.....	V.P. Admin. - Marilyn Robinson
Appointment of Auditor.....	“ “
Executive Director’s Report.....	Executive Director - Stan Munroe
Chapter Reports.....	Chapter Representatives
Report of Nominating Committee.....	V.P. Admin. - Marilyn Robinson
Election of Board of Directors.....	Executive Director - Stan Munroe
Awards.....	President - Carolyn Monaco
Other Business.....	President - Carolyn Monaco
Adjournment.....	President - Carolyn Monaco

Cake and coffee will be served following the meeting.

2008 - 2009 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CANADIAN DEAFBLIND ASSOCIATION

**Due to privacy, the contact information for the Board of Directors has been removed from this list.*

NAME	OFFICE	DATE ELECTED
Carolyn Monaco	President Director at Large	10-20-2007
Wayne Turnbull	Vice-President Special Projects Alberta Chapter Representative	10-18-2008
Marilyn Robinson	Vice-President Administration Manitoba Chapter Representative	10-20-2007
Roger Hunter	Secretary-Treasurer Director At Large	10-20-2007
Sara-Lee Salterio	Director British Columbia Chapter Representative	10-18-2008
Allan Matheis	Director Saskatchewan Chapter Representative	10-18-2008
Catherine Wareham	Director Director at Large	10-20-2007

Robert Kucherepa	Director Director at Large	10-18-2008
Dwain McLean	Director New Brunswick Chapter Representative	10-20-2007
Judy Dandurand	Director Director at Large	10-20-2007
Suzanne McConnell	Director Director at Large	10-18-2008
Cheryl Ramey	Director Ontario Chapter Representative	10-20-2007

Executive Director: Stan Munroe
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Port Morien, NS
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REGIONAL CHAPTERS AND CONTACT PEOPLE

British Columbia Chapter

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New Brunswick

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Nova Scotia

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Manitoba Chapter

Sandy Owczar, Executive Director
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**CDBRA NATIONAL
33rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Delta Calgary South
Calgary, Alberta
October 18, 2008**

ATTENDANCE:

Members (voting) (47)

Marilyn Robinson (2 proxies)
Dwain McLean (4 proxies)
Carolyn Monaco (16 proxies)
Evelyn Matheis
Allan Matheis
Judy Dandurand
Roger Hunter (1 proxy)
Wylie Bystedt (7 proxies)
Sara-Lee Salterio
Robert Kucherepa
Judy Kucherepa
Cynthia Pominville
Wayne Turnbull (1 proxy)
Francis Jablonca
Cathy Wareham
Ruthann Turnbull

Life time Member (non-voting) (1)

Stan Munroe

Associate Members (non-voting) (4)

Lorraine Williams
Cathy Proll
Sandy Owczar
Patricia Curtis

Observers (non-voting) (4)

Gail Verdi
Richard Kierzek
Lance Fernandes
Linda-Fox Mellway

MINUTES

Introductions:

The meeting began at 2 PM with a welcome from Alberta Chapter and weekend host Wayne Turnbull.

Wayne indicated that the Alberta Chapter was celebrating its 10th Anniversary and he introduced the Board members who were present.

Linda-Fox Mellway, Deputy Mayor, City of Calgary, welcomed everyone to the City of Calgary. She carried out a 'Calgary White Hat Ceremony.'

Regular Agenda

1) Welcome

President Carolyn Monaco welcomed all those in attendance to the 33rd Annual General Meeting of CDBRA. It was recognized that with proxies, there was a quorum to proceed with the meeting.

2) Approval of the Agenda

2008 AGM-01 Motion to Approve the Agenda: Moved by Marilyn Robinson; seconded by Wayne Turnbull to approve the agenda for the AGM of October 18, 2008. All in favour.

3) Review of Minutes of 2007 AGM

2008 AGM-02 Motion to Approve the Minutes of the 2007 AGM: Moved by Allan Matheis; seconded by Catherine Wareham to approve the minutes of the AGM of October 20, 2007. All in favour.

4) President's Report – Carolyn Monaco

Report as per that published in the 2008 AGM booklet and power point presentation.

5) Auditor's Report for Fiscal Year 2007-2008

Treasurer Roger Hunter presented the financial report from Peter Shennett, Chartered Accountant, outlining the financial position for the fiscal year 2007-2008. The auditor's report is published in the 2008 AGM booklet. The report indicates that the financial position of CDBRA for this past fiscal year being in much stronger position than for the fiscal year 2006-2007.

2008 AGM-03 Motion to Accept the Auditor's Report: Moved by Roger Hunter; seconded by Marilyn Robinson that the auditor's report for the fiscal year 2007-2008 be accepted. All in favour.

Roger thanked the staff at CDBRA-ON Chapter, Board members and the Executive Director for making his job easier.

6) Approval of Auditor for 2008-2009

2008 AGM-04 Motion to Approve the Auditor for 2008-2009: Moved by Roger Hunter; seconded by Allan Matheis to approve Peter Shennett, Chartered Accountant, as the auditor for CDBRA National for fiscal year 2008-2009. All in favour.

7) Executive Director's Report – Stan Munroe

Report presented as per that published in the 2008 AGM booklet.

Stan indicated that it was a thrill recently to look at the material in the storage box in Brantford that has accumulated since CDBRA began in 1975.

He indicated that it was indeed a great privilege to continue to serve the association in his administrative capacity and to represent CDBRA internationally. CDBRA continues to be a world leader in advocating for persons who are deafblind. It continues to be a great thrill to be still involved after 33 years of the association.

8) Chapter Reports

Official Reports as per that published in the 2008 AGM booklet. Verbal reports as follows:

Alberta – Wayne Turnbull

- This past year the Chapter enjoyed their first major fundraiser - a Casino. They are expecting to receive \$70,000.00 - \$90,000.00 from this event. They are proposing to spend these funds on intervention services. The challenge with providing these services is going to be recruiting enough trained intervenors.
- A camp is planned and Wayne reported 13 intervenors will be available to assist 13 consumers.
- Wayne reported that the Chapter has 10 members. Their objective is to identify more persons who are deafblind in Alberta and encourage them to become members of CDBRA.

British Columbia – Wylie Bystedt

- Executive Director resigned last year. Funds for that position were re-allocated to the general program.
- A Family Services Coordinator was hired to manage the summer program and family services.
- Early Intervention program (ages 0-5) has been underway for 6 years. Eight graduates are now attending regular school. Program has been most helpful for the children and their parents.
- Chapter provides services to over 80 children, 0-19 years of age and has a new program in place to provide family respite.
- The proposed merging of the Chapter with Deafblind Services Society is still in the discussion stage.

Manitoba – Marilyn Robinson

- The Chapter Board is working with Intervention Manitoba Board to merge to form a new organization effective April 01, 2009. The new organization will have a Board of 7 members with provision for 12 members.

New Brunswick/PEI – Patricia Curtis/Dwain McLean

- They outlined their fund raising, training and family camp projects.
- This past year they had the first child from PEI to attend their family camp.

- The Chapter sent 3 parents to the SENSE Scotland “Listen to Me 4” Parents Conference.
- The Executive Director attended the Communication Conference in Leeds, U.K.
- The Chapter reported an excellent board and staff training weekend in September, focusing on intervention.

Nova Scotia

There was no verbal report from Nova Scotia.

Ontario – Cathy Proll

- This has been a busy year for the Ontario Chapter.
- During the past year they formed a study group and visited programs at Sense Scotland, Sense U.K, Denmark, Norway and British Columbia. Cathy thanked Stan for setting up the European contacts.
- From this study group, a report was produced which made 30 recommendations for improvement. One recommendation was to increase staff to look after the new responsibilities being assumed by the Chapter.
- Other focus areas included training and partnerships. The Chapter is entering into a partnership with the Canadian Hearing Society on developing a data base.
- A major project they are working on is project 2011 – a major initiative which includes planning for new accommodations.
- Cathy reported a successful Awards Night this past June.
- Their 9th Parents Conference is planned in association with their Chapter AGM to be held November, 2008.

Saskatchewan – Allan Matheis

- Chapter enjoyed a very successful year; group homes are running well. Challenge is to find qualified staff.
- They are currently in union negotiations with staff.
- The 2008 golf tournament was very successful. Plans are developing for a June, 2009 tournament.

9) Rebranding of Name and Logo

Carolyn initiated discussion on the new name proposed for the association and the new logo as part of the “Rebranding of CDBRA.”

Carolyn reported that the Board of Directors approved a motion at a meeting on May 26, 2008 to adopt a new name for the Association as follows: *Moved by Rebecca Shields; seconded by Dan Crawford that we change the name of the Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association (CDBRA) to the Canadian Deafblind Association (CDBA). All in favour.*

To complete the proposal to change the name, a special resolution is required from the membership to approve the new name.

2008 AGM-05 Motion to Approve the Special Resolution to Change the Name of the Association: *Moved by Catherine Wareham; seconded by Judy Dandurand to sanction the special resolution of the Board of Directors on May 26, 2008 and approve the name change of*

the association from The Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association to the Canadian Deafblind Association. All in favour.

A discussion came up from the Manitoba Chapter regarding enacting the French translation of our name as part of our legal name change. There was consensus that at this time we proceed only with the English version for the legal name change but continue to use the French translation on the letterhead and in the logo.

Carolyn had presented the new logo as agreed to previously by the Board of Directors.

2008 AGM-06 Motion to Approve the New Logo: *Moved by Catherine Wareham; seconded by Allan Matheis to approve the new logo. All in favour.*

***Action:** Stan to proceed now with the application to Industry Canada for new Letters Patent.

10) Report from Nomination Committee – Marilyn Robinson

Marilyn reported that there were five vacancies for the new Board: 3 Chapter Representatives: (British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta Chapters) and 2 At – Large positions. Prior to this meeting, Sara-Lee Salterio and Allan Matheis were appointed by the British Columbia and Saskatchewan Chapters, respectively. (Following the meeting, it was learned that Wayne Turnbull was appointed as Alberta Chapter Representative).

11) Election of 2 At – Large Positions

For the 2 At – Large positions, 3 nominees were presented to the membership as follows: Wylie Bystedt from British Columbia, Robert Kucherepa from Alberta and Suzanne McConnell from Nova Scotia.

Robert Kucherepa and Suzanne McConnell were elected to the Board.

2008 AGM-07 Motion to Destroy the Ballots: *Moved by Marilyn Robinson; seconded by Roger Hunter to destroy the ballots from the election. All in favour.*

12) Awards

Carolyn reported that the following CDBRA awards were presented this past year:

- **National Cherry Bulmer Award Recipient:** Linda Mamer
- **Andrew Love Memorial “Intervenor of the Year” Recipient:** Kristi Clark
- **CDBRA National George Brown College Award for Excellence in Field Placement Recipient:** Lisa Jackson
- **Andrew Love Memorial Award of Excellence, George Brown College Recipient:** Christina Chirila.

13) Adjournment

2008 AGM-08 Motion to Adjourn: *Moved by Allan Matheis to adjourn the 33rd AGM of CDBRA.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2008 - 2009

Carolyn Monaco
National President

After thirty-three years of being known as the Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association (CDBRA), this past year will always be remembered as the year we finalized the change in our name from CDBRA to the Canadian Deafblind Association (CDBA). From this point on we will be known as the Canadian Deafblind Association. Although a name change had periodically been mentioned over the years, serious discussions at the board level began about two-and-a-half years ago. I am pleased to announce that as of September 18th, 2009 the national and chapter name changes have all been approved by their respective federal or provincial governing body. The process for some was a little more extensive than we initially might have thought and it was definitely a learning experience for us all.

While we have removed "Rubella" from our name, we will always have high regard for those who were the root of our inception as an organization in 1975. Indeed it was largely because of those individuals with congenital rubella syndrome that we developed the concept and principles of intervention, intervenor services and a network of adult living residences.

We have changed our name and revised our logo, but our principles and strong commitment to individuals who are deafblind, their families and personnel working in the field continues to be at the heart of what we believe and what we do.

It was a pleasure to have been able to attend the New Brunswick Chapter's AGM and weekend of activities in May of this year, and to bring greetings to the members of that chapter on behalf of our national organization. The Honorary Patron of the New Brunswick Chapter Roxanne Reeves, who has a cousin with congenital rubella syndrome, was in attendance for a portion of the weekend as was her husband Shawn Graham, the Honourable Premier of the Province of New Brunswick. It was a pleasure to have met them both. I believe that National's presence at Chapter AGMs is beneficial to both the chapter and to CDBA National. It puts another face to National and is an opportunity to support the national chapter representative, as well as an opportunity to share first hand what we're doing to attain our mission. It provides National with insight into the strengths and needs of a chapter in order that we might provide more effective support, while at the same time learning from the skilled and knowledgeable staff and members of a chapter. Many thanks to Roger, Dwain, Patricia and the staff and members of the New Brunswick Chapter for the invitation to attend and your generous hospitality.

This year's poster reflects the CDBA National Principles of Intervention. Along with the principles, there are three pictures depicting intervention with individuals in three different age groups and in three different activities. Thank you to those of you who submitted pictures for the poster. Our hope is that this poster will be proudly displayed in every CDBA office, program, and home as a constant reminder of the principles that reflect the philosophy of intervention and the standards we should all aspire to understand and advocate for.

Our annual golf tournament was once again very successful. Special thanks to Marsh Canada for their continued support and especially to Marta Dziejko and her team of Marsh staff who work so hard for months prior to this event to ensure its success. Many thanks also to our chapters and individual board members who really rose to the occasion this year to demonstrate their support for the tournament in a bigger way than ever before. Staff and members of the Ontario Chapter manned the “hole in one” waiting for someone to win the prize of a Ford Edge, but to no avail. A very special thank you to Robert Kucherepa from Alberta who sponsored the hole in one this year. Our Master of Ceremonies this year was Ericka Dixon-Williams, who is the parent of a child who is deafblind. Erika shared aspects of her life as the parent of a child with deafblindness and kept everyone entertained with her quick wit and sense of humour. Everyone in attendance had a little more compassion and understanding for the role parents play in the lives of their children with deafblindness by the end of the evening.



The members of the Competency Committee have met a number of times over the past year as they continue their work to complete a document which will be valuable to organizations that train and employ intervenors both nationally and internationally. On behalf of CDBA National I would like to thank the members of this committee who have volunteered an incredible amount of time to this project and for their passion and belief in the importance of this document. Without their experience and expertise, this project could not have been done.



Members of the Competency Committee are L to R: Carolyn Monaco, Lorraine Simpson, Cheryl Ramey (Chair) Barbara Horvath (Facilitator), Joyce Olson, Cathy Pascuttini & Betty Jean Reid.

During this past year Deafblind International invited our Executive Director Stan Munroe to join the Dbl Management Committee. Stan moving to the Management Committee position meant that I was then able to sit as the CDBA representative on the Deafblind International Council. I attended my first meeting in September, 2009 and believe that having representation on this council has significant benefits CDBA. The international networking opportunities could not be replicated in any other way. While Canada may be amongst the world leaders in service delivery, we don't come close to replicating the kinds of research, documentation and publication of information that many other countries are doing. While we have a lot to share in the areas of organization, service delivery and the training of intervenors we still have a lot to learn, particularly in the areas of communication. The Communication Network at Dbl has been for a few years researching and looking at new ways of developing communication skills with individuals who are congenitally deafblind that are not broadly well understood yet here in Canada. I also went to a workshop at the European Conference on the development of social-haptic communication for individuals with acquired deafblindness, which is being used very successfully in parts of Europe and is something we need to learn more about here in Canada. As a member of the Ontario Study Group we first saw this being used in Norway while on our tour two years ago. Without these international connections, we would not have the same kind of access to important new information that could positively impact the lives of Canadians who are deafblind.

We have also had an impact on the international community. Never before have I heard the term "intervenor" so many times at an international conference as I did in September at the European Conference. People are excited about it, they are implementing the philosophies in their own countries, they're training intervenors, they're translating information on intervention and intervenors into their own languages and sharing stories of the successes of people who are deafblind who have the services of an intervenor. From the intervention and intervenor perspective, we were proud to have come from the country of its inception and an organization that believes in and promotes the philosophy.

On behalf of Stan and myself I want to thank the board for their support of our involvement on behalf of CDBA in Deafblind International.

This AGM to some degree marks the end of one era and the beginning of a new one. We have an opportunity and an obligation to create new excitement about our revised name and logo, about the philosophies and beliefs of this organization, and about the quality of the services that we provide. We have to be honest about our strengths and about the aspects of challenges that we all face, whether it be at the national level or at the chapter level. We are a small but determined group who has tried to support one another in the past but if we are all to move ahead we must do even a better job of that in the future.

In closing I would like to thank all of the national and chapter board members, chapter staff and especially Stan for your patience during this year of transition. With this behind us now I hope we can all look forward to the Canadian Deafblind Association doing its best to meet the needs of individuals who are deafblind, their families and our community partners.

Thank you.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2008 - 2009

Stan Munroe
Executive Director

It was a pleasure to serve as the Executive Director during the past year. Together with my years as Consultant/Administration Assistance and service on Board, I have been connected with CDBRA/CDBA for 34 years.

Through the period November 2008 - through October 2009 I was involved in the following activities:

Administrative Duties

- Organized 2009-2010 membership renewal process.
- Organized materials to be sent out for AGM in Saskatoon, October 2009.
- Organized AGM booklet for distribution at 2009 AGM.
- Organized the agenda, participated in and prepared Minutes for Board of Directors meetings.
- Prepared successful application to HRSDC for a 3-year Operational Grant for \$55,000 per year.
- Prepared final report to HRSDC for FY 2008-2009 Operational Grant and interim report for FY 2009-2010.
- Issued receipts to donors to National and those Chapters without charitable numbers.
- Worked with Treasurer on preparing long-term budget proposals.
- Worked with President and Chapters on completing the rebranding/name change process.
- Attended 2008 AGM and prepared minutes of Board meetings held coincidental to 2008 AGM.
- Prepared various articles recent edition of Intervention Magazine: Spring/Summer 2009.
- Organized pre-publication materials for recent edition of Intervention Magazine.

Conferences

- Participating in conference calls (along with Carolyn Monaco) as part of Planning Team for Dbl North American Regional Conference which was eventually postponed.
- Attended Dbl European Conference in Senigallia, Italy. Prepared report to the Board on the Conference.

Lend A Hand Golf Tournament

- The CDBA National and Marsh Canada jointly sponsored the 23rd Tournament on July 06, 2009 was once again held at the Nottawasaga Inn near Alliston, Ontario. This year the tournament raised over \$22,000. This brings to \$421,000.00 the total proceeds donated to CDBA since the tournament started in 1987.

The success of this tournament once again continues to be largely due to the strong support of our sponsor Marsh Canada who has indicated their preparedness to sponsor the tournament in 2010.

My responsibility, as in previous years, was to arrange for some prizes, teams, coordinate the financial transactions and issue charitable receipts and letters of thanks.

Deafblind International (DbI)

- Attended my first DbI Management Committee meeting in Osimo, Italy, February, 2009.
- DbI Management Committee activities through the year included working on revision of DbI Constitution, developing DbI Conference evaluation questionnaire, participating in an advocacy committee and taking on DbI Management Committee contact responsibilities for DbI Conference 2011.
- Attended the DbI Management Committee and Council Meetings in Senigallia, Italy, September 2009.
- Prepared article on CDBA rebranding for DbI Review.

Stan Munroe
October, 2009

CHAPTER REPORTS

A) BRITISH COLUMBIA CHAPTER

Address & Contact Information: 711 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC V3M 1B2

Website: www.cdbrabc.ca

Email: theresa@cdbrabc.ca

Name of Chapter Representative to National: Sara-Lee Salterio

Name of Family Services Co-ordinator: Theresa Tancock

Chapter of CDBRA since: 1978

Number of Members: 38

Number of Employees: 3 full time and 1 part-time, as well as 80 summer Deafblind Intervenors

Number of Volunteers: 15

Board size and Make up: 6 Board Members, including 2 parents, 2 professionals and 2 Deafblind Intervenors

Description of the Services and Programs Provided During the Past Year:

- **Intervention Services:** Summer Intervention Program (SIP), Summer Recreation Program (SRP), Hospital Intervention Services Program (HISP), Relief Intervention Services Program (RISP), Early Intervention Program (EI)
- **Independent Living:** Not applicable
- **Awareness:** Connections with Deafblind Services Society (DSS – B.C. adult services), Presentations and Displays organized at different venues (e.g. Leisure Fair, Vancouver Children's Festival, Vision Teacher's Conference)
- **Training:** Preparatory training for Deafblind Intervenors and Parents for the Summer Intervention Program (using Skype and Elluminate to connect with other regions of B.C.)
- **Conferences:** Annual B.C. Deafblind Conference (in partnership with the biannual Vision Teacher's Conference)
- **Professional Development:** Intervenor for Individuals with Deafblindness, a College Certificate Program at Douglas College (in partnership with the Provincial Outreach Program for Students with Deafblindness)
- **Fund Raising:** Although we are primarily funded by the Ministry of Children and Families, we have also had a variety of fundraising initiatives, including hot dog/plant sales, bulb sales, bike a thon, selling of B.C. Chapter's Deafblind novelties and sponsorship from the Langley Rotary Club.
- **Camping:** Annual Family Retreat (July 26 – August 1, 2009)

Other activities: Parent Network (email), Deafblind Awareness Week

Partnerships: Deafblind Services Society (DSS), Provincial Outreach Program for Students With Deafblindness (POPDB), Council of Service Providers (CSP), BC Early Hearing Screening Intervention Advisory Committee, Child Development Centers and Infant Development Programs across B.C., Provincial Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Children's Hearing and Speech Center of BC.

Membership recruitment activities: Email and mail out announcements, Deafblind Intervenor Database, Summer Recreation Program

Chapter incorporation # if incorporated: Not yet applicable

Plans or Goals for the Upcoming Year: Our main goal is to relocate so that we may share office space, and ultimately services, with the Deafblind Services Society (DSS). Our dream is to one day be together to create an organization that will provide services for people of all ages, from birth to death. We also hope to promote increased networking among our families and

Deafblind Intervenors. This will be done through improving our Deafblind Intervenors Database and Parent Network, as well as presenting more information workshops for families. We also hope to present workshops to students of college programs, such as Special Education Assistant Programs. We will include a 'feature family' in our Newsletter to 'close the distance' and create connections between our families across B.C. We will also be improving our website, making it more accessible and informative. We are increasing our fundraising strategies, which will hopefully create within our province greater awareness of our organization, Deafblindness and Intervention.

B) ALBERTA CHAPTER

Address & Contact Information: P.O. Box 89006, McKenzie Towne SE, Calgary, AB T2Z 3W3

Contact: Wayne Turnbull (403) 248-2154

Website: N/A

Email: mtrtrouttours@shaw.ca

Name of Chapter Representative to National: Wayne Turnbull

Name of Executive Director (if any): N/A

Chapter of CDBRA since: 1998

Number of Members: 8

Number of Employees: N/A

Number of Volunteers: 20

Board size and Make up: 7 consisting of: 2 deafblind, 1 parent of deafblind and 4 business professionals

Description of the Services and Programs Provided During the Past Year:

- **Intervention Services:** Yes
- **Independent Living:** No
- **Awareness:** Yes – Public Speaking (Service Clubs)
- **Training:** Yes
- **Conferences:** No
- **Professional Development:** No
- **Fund Raising:** Yes – Casino (August 2008), Raffle
- **Camping:** No

Other activities (specify): Retreat (Annual)

Partnerships: Alberta Disabilities Forum, Medicine Hat College

Membership recruitment activities (specify): Email Blitz, Word of Mouth,

Chapter incorporation # if incorporated: 5010624103

Plans or Goals for the Upcoming Year: Independent Living, Provide more Intervention Services, Expand Membership, Advocacy, Retreat, Purchase of Adaptive Equipment.

C) SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER

Address & Contact Information: 83 Tucker Crescent, Saskatoon, SK S7H 3H7

Contact: Phone: (306) 374-0022 Fax: (306) 374-0004

Website: N/A

Email: Lorraine.cdbra@shaw.ca

Name of Chapter Representative to National: Allan Matheis

Name of Executive Director: Lorraine Williams

Chapter of CDBRA since: 1985

Number of Members: 10

Number of Employees: 43

Number of Volunteers: N/A

Board size and Make up: Presently we have 6 board members – 3 are family members and 3 are community members.

Description of the Services and Programs Provided During the Past Year:

- **Intervention Services:** We have three homes in Saskatoon that support 11 individuals. We have a community based program with 24 hour intervention supports.
Independent Living
- **Awareness:** We speak to students at the local college that are taking the Rehabilitation Worker and Early Childhood courses. Agencies across the province meet in Regina and host a MLA Gala. This provides opportunity to meet with MLA's to promote and educate them on what it is we do and what the needs of those who we support are.
- **Training:** 2 day Intervenor Training, Sign Language, CPR, Food Safe, Occupational Health & Safety, Basic Skills Training, MANDT (Crisis Prevention), Comprehensive Personal Planning and Support Policy, Various training events held locally
- **Conferences:** N/A
- **Professional Development:** N/A
- **Fund Raising:** We host an annual golf tournament every spring. The majority of these funds help with the mortgage of our newest home. Funds also go toward client programs. Not only is this our major fundraiser, it is also a great avenue for public awareness.
- **Camping:** Most of the individuals attend Camp Easter Seal in Watrous, SK. Due to the high demand of campers; they are only able to attend about every three years. Intervenors attend with them to ensure that all of their needs are met. Some individuals rent cabins at a near by lake every summer (this is where golf funds come into play). They love the outdoors and the break from their regular routines at home.

Other activities (specify): N/A

Partnerships: We work with other community agencies on a regular basis. The Executive Director meets with other ED's once a month. This is a great networking opportunity. We also partner with other agencies in sharing of trainers/resources for staff training and development.

Membership recruitment activities (specify): N/A

Chapter incorporation # if incorporated: 207396

Plans or Goals for the Upcoming Year:

D) MANITOBA CHAPTER

Address & Contact Information: #201 – 1100 Concordia Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R2C 4A9

Email: sandyowczar@mts.net

Chapter Representative to National: Marilyn Robinson

Executive Director: Sandy Owczar

Chapter of CDBRA since: 1992

Number of Members: 20

Number of Employees: CDBA-Manitoba Chapter has approximately 30 employees including full time, part time and casual.

Number of Volunteers: 10 members are on the Board of Directors

Board size and Make up: Our Board is made up of individuals from various walks of life that have been connected to the organization. They include parents and professionals from different industries.

Description of the Types of Services and Programs:

Currently our primary focus is running our Supported Independent Living home for congenitally Deafblind individuals. We will be opening our second home for three more individuals in October 2009.

Plans or Goals for the Upcoming Year:

We will be maintaining our primary focus of training over the next year, however, with an increase of approximately 15 employees coming into our new house we will also be focussing heavily on streamlining processes and ensuring smooth operations throughout the organization.

The CDBA – Manitoba Chapter Board of Directors have spent a lot of their time updating and reviewing polices over the past year to coincide with the merger of our two Boards. We have increased our Board size to 10 members.

E) ONTARIO CHAPTER

Address & Contact Information: 54 Brant Avenue, Brantford, Ontario, N3T 3G8

Telephone: (519) 759-0520; **TTY:** (519) 759-3597; **Fax:** (519) 759-1425

Website: www.cdbraontario.ca

Email: cathy.cdbraontario@rogers.com

Name of Chapter Representative to National: Cheryl Ramey

Name of Executive Director: Cathy Proll

Chapter of CDBRA since: 1991

Number of Members: 160

Number of Employees: 150

Number of Volunteers: 11

Board size and Make up: CDBRA Ontario has 12 members that sit on our board. They consist of parents of children who are deafblind, a consumer, professionals in the field of deafblindness, professionals at large, and 1 vacancy

Description of the Services and Programs Provided During the Past Year:

- **Intervention Services:** The Ontario chapter provides adult intervention services to 35 adults in family home and community settings and Summer and Holiday Intervention to 65 children
- **Other Programs and Services:**
 - Parent Conference Weekend
 - Training and Consultation Services
 - Transitional Planning and Support
 - Newsletters
 - Funding Assistance and Emergency Intervention
- **Awareness:** JuneFest activities in Toronto, Flag raising ceremony proclaiming Deafblind Awareness Week in the city of Brantford
- **Training:** CDBA has entire training department dedicated to providing both internal and external training with respect to all aspects of Deafblindness and Intervention.
- **Conferences:** In 2010 CDBA is partnering with George Brown College and the Deafblind Coalition of Ontario to present the 3rd Annual Symposium on Deafblindness. CDBA Staff were in attendance at the 7th DBI European Conference in Italy. In addition 3 staff members attended the Charge Conference in Chicago. Two staff members attended the Rubella Conference in the UK
- **Professional Development:** Professionals from Europe presented workshops to our staff of Video Analysis, Communication, and assessment
- **Fund Raising:** Memorial Donations, Nevada Break Open Ticket Program, Donations, Saleable items such as shirts and books.

Partnerships: Member Agencies of the Deafblind Coalition of Ontario including: W. Ross Macdonald School, CNIB, Rotary Cheshire Homes, Deafblind Ontario Services, McInnes House, Centre Jules Leger, The Canadian Helen Keller Centre, Oasis, and George Brown College

Plans or Goals for the Upcoming Year: CDBA has developed a new strategic plan for the next few years. This plan also includes an annual operational plan. Some of the highlights of this plan include: Work on our new Resource Centre, Re-development of our website, review of our by-laws and policies and procedures, a review of our model of service delivery, increased children's services, and new marketing and resource materials.

F) NEW BRUNSWICK/PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CHAPTER

Address & Contact Information: 259 Brunswick Street, Suite 301, Fredericton, NB E3B 1G8

Website: www.deafblind.nb.ca

Email: cdbra@nb.aibn.com

Name of Chapter Representative to National: Dwain McLean

Name of Executive Director (if any): Patricia Curtis

Chapter of CDBA since: 1982

Number of Members: 51

Number of Employees: 40

Number of Volunteers: 20

Board size and Make up: 8 members of the Board (2 parents, 6 professionals)

Description of the Services and Programs Provided During the Past Year:

- **Intervention Services:** NB/PEI Intervention Services are provided through the Department of Social Development. Hours of Intervention vary depending on the consumer's needs.
- **Independent Living:** CDBRA-NB/PEI is currently working on building the Curtis Complex (a 10 unit building). We are asking 2 MLAs to lobby for us.
- **Awareness:** Our fundraisers, pictures in local papers, radio announcements, deafblind awareness workshops to school children, boys and girls clubs, social workers, medical personal.
- **Training:** Intervenors usually have a degree and/or the Human Services Counselor course plus Level 5 sign language and Level I Braille, if required by the consumer. Training is provided by APSEA Itinerant teachers and both APSEA and CDBRA resource people. Our Directors of Intervention have conducted Regional workshops and have found them very successful. This is something we will continue. Along with this training, Intervenors must attend 3 to 4 CDBA sponsored workshops each year. CDBA-NB/PEI offers CPR and CPR upgrading each year. Other workshops would include, behaviour management, recreation activities, orientation and mobility, crisis intervention, swimming, fundraising techniques, working with families and/or group home staff, sign language, Braille and deafblind technology. Other Support Staff B Any supporting professional that the consumer requires is provided either by the Department of Education or Family and Community Services. The Intervenor is expected to learn and follow through with certain programs, i.e. Orientation and mobility, occupational/physiotherapy. The Intervenor will often accompany the consumer/parent to medical and dental appointments. All support persons become part of the consumer=s team.
- **Conferences/Professional Development:** All Intervenors, consumers, family members and staff are eligible to apply to attend a conference of interest to the NB/PEI Board of Directors (following the established guidelines).

- **Fundraising:** Liquor store outlets in Fredericton, Saint John, Bathurst, Dieppe, Rexton and Grand Manan; the Ford Antique Car Show in Moncton; a wedding show and golf tournament. This was our 5th golf tournament and it raised over \$8,000.00.
- **Camping:** 2008 was our 20th annual camping experience for consumers, families and Intervenors. Some of the activities included sensory games, crafts, the price is right, pontoon boat rides to sand dunes in the middle of the ocean, BINGO, fire works, magic show, variety show, and much more.

Other activities (specify): Bus trip to the Aquatic Center on the Fundy Coast in St. Andrews; Recreation Day including mini-golf, basketball, driving range and waterslide; Apple Picking; sleigh ride; Christmas parties for consumers and Intervenors in Moncton, Bathurst, Saint John and Fredericton; Board Appreciation Dinner in December.

Partnerships: n/a

Membership recruitment activities (specify): Building upon last years project of encouraging families to join.

Chapter incorporation # if incorporated: 106845175RR000

Plans or Goals for the Upcoming Year: to continue to provide the best possible Intervention for our consumers; to building our 10 unit Curtis Complex and Learning Centre; facilitate an Intervenor and Board Retreat; continue with Regional workshops, write a new information brochure, send delegates to the Dbl Conference in Italy.

NOMINEES FOR DIRECTORS AT LARGE CDBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009 AGM

1) Al Love

Hello, my name is Al Love and I would like to re-acquire a position on the National Canadian Deafblind Association Board of Directors. A change in careers has allowed me some flexibility in my time and is allowing me to renew my interest in some old and new organizations. In the past the National Canadian Deafblind Association has provided the direction for the Chapters across Canada, I would once again like to be a part of that.

Present Employment: Transit Manager, Battlefords Handi-Bus 2008 – present. Battlefords Handi-Bus in North Battleford and Battleford is an “accessible door to accessible door” shared ride service provided for people who because of a permanent or temporary physical or cognitive disability are unable to use the regular transit system with safety and dignity.

Volunteer Experiences:

- *Canadian Deafblind Association*, Saskatchewan.
 - Active board member since 1986 served in all positions of executive.
 - Served on the National Board of Directors 1990 – 1995; four years as treasurer.
 - Recipient of Canada 125 medal for recognition of volunteer service.
- *Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres (SARC)*. Board Member, 2009. The Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres (SARC) is a non-profit association representing community-based organizations that provide residential, developmental, and

employment supports/services to thousands of individuals with disabilities. SARC Members are located in every corner of Saskatchewan and employ more than 2,000 people. SARC provides a variety of supports to its Members so that they can provide a quality service to persons with disabilities.

- *Battlefords Residential Services Inc.* Board Member, 2009. Battlefords Residential Services Inc. (BRSI) is a non-profit, community based organization providing residential, day program and support services for individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities through the operation of: 5 group homes providing service for 28 individuals, Supportive Living Program providing service for up to 17 individuals and a community based day program providing service for 9 individuals.

Personal History: As a parent of a deafblind child I have been exposed to a wealth of life experiences that have allowed me to develop a more positive outlook on life and the problems it presents. I have been very active in developing ongoing programs for my son and ten other deafblind individuals who now live in three group homes that I helped establish and I remain involved with in Saskatoon.

2) Betty Lysionek

My name is Betty Lysionek and I reside in Sudbury Ontario. I am the parent of a 26-year-old young lady identified as an infant as being congenitally deafblind. We received support from W. Ross Macdonald School Deafblind Resource Program from her preschool days straight through until she graduated school at the age of 21. Since that time our daughter receives a home based program with intervention with support from the Ontario Chapter of the Canadian Deafblind Association.

I have been involved at various levels with the Ontario Chapter of CDBA throughout the many years we have been in this field. I sat on the Ontario Chapter's board of directors for 12 years. Eight of those years I served as the treasurer to the board. My membership with the organization dates back to 1986. I have attended numerous educational and sharing opportunities through the years, conferences, workshops and forums. I have spoken at many events, giving the 'parent' perspective.

In my professional life I have been employed by the Bank of Montreal for many years. I currently sit as a Commercial Services Officer.

3) Carolyn Monaco

I would look forward to another term as a member of the CDBA National Board of Directors and believe that my field-related knowledge and experience would be an asset to the organization at this level. I have a keen interest in this field and this organization from both a national and international perspective. I believe strongly in the mission of the organization and the Principles of Intervention developed by this organization. I believe our success as a national organization lies largely in the strength of our chapters and the support that the national body can provide to them as well as the support and guidance that they can provide to each other. Our national and chapter name changes are now all completed and we can move forward with our commitment to those we serve. I would be pleased to have the opportunity to once again be a part of CDBA's future.

Biography

- The CDBA National President for the past two years

- Taught in the Intervenor for Deafblind Persons Program at George Brown College in Toronto from 1996 to the present, as well as providing training and consultation nationally and internationally
- Coordinated the training and consultation related to deafblindness for the Skills, Training and Resource Centre (STAR) at the W. Ross Macdonald School
- Worked with students with deafblindness from 1978 to 1998 in a residential school, a mainstream school and as a provincial resource consultant to schools and families throughout Ontario
- Served on the national Board of Directors of the Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association and was the president of the Ontario Chapter for 6 years and a board member for 12 years
- The author of chapters on Deafblindness and Intervention related to Conceptual Development, the Education of Students who are Deafblind and Strategies for Infants and Preschoolers who are Deafblind
- The recipient of the CDBRA National Cherry Bulmer Award in 2005 “for making an outstanding volunteer contribution to the organization at both the chapter and national levels”
- The recipient of the 2002 Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Visually Impaired (AER) Division III Samuel Gridley Howe Award “for outstanding practice in services for individuals with deafblindness and their families.”

4) Catherine Wareham

Hello, my name is Catherine Wareham and I reside in a small community called Chelmsford just on the outskirts of Sudbury in Northern Ontario. I am married with two children now 14 and 11 years of age. My deafblind journey began as a substitute secretary at the W. Ross Macdonald School back in 1985. I remember being mesmerized as I observed the Intervenor's interacting with the deafblind students at the school. I was hooked!

I began taking part-time studies through the University of Waterloo. The first group home for deafblind adults was opening soon and I applied with little hope I would obtain a position. Fortunately for myself they took a chance on a novice and I spent the next 3 years learning about this field. My journey then took me into an Intervenor's position with a deafblind preschooler on the local six nations reserve. Now I learned about 'Deafblind Resource Services' through the W. Ross Macdonald School. That was my ultimate goal.

I worked the following year in the residential program at W. Ross Macdonald until a position opened in the resource program. Again, I was fortunately given an opportunity and my real education began. I have now been with Resource Services approximately 20 years. We joke that we are like the mail carriers, through sleet, rain and snow we shall be there! And we often are!

In the past I have served on both the Ontario Chapter Board as well as the National Board, enjoying both in very different ways.

AWARDS

The Canadian Deafblind Association's

NATIONAL CHERRY BULMER AWARD

This award is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding volunteer contribution to the Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association at the National and Chapter Levels. This award has been named after Cherry Bulmer in recognition of the passion, enthusiasm and commitment with which she dedicated her time and effort to this organization.

The recipient of the 2009 Cherry Bulmer Award is a gentleman who shares this same passion and commitment. He has served both the New Brunswick Chapter and CDBA National for over 15 years.



Roger Hunter – Recipient of the 2009 CDBA National Cherry Bulmer Award

The Canadian Deafblind Association's

**GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE INTERVENOR PROGRAM
EXCELLENCE IN FIELD PLACEMENT AWARD**

This award is presented to a graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field placement component of the Intervenor Program.

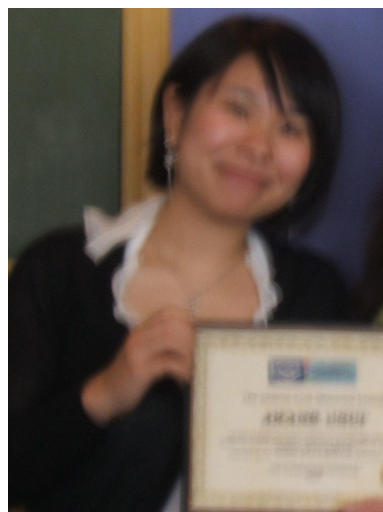


Sandra Owen-Peters - Recipient of the 2009 Excellence in Field Placement Award

The Canadian Deafblind Association's

GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE ANDREW LOVE MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is presented to a graduating student of the Intervenor Program who has shown outstanding ability in working as an Intervenor with a child who is deafblind.



Akane Usui - Recipient of the 2009 GBC Andrew Love Memorial Award