

Canadian Deafblind Association
National
45th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Saturday, September 26, 2020

Virtually via Zoom

INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT **

Annual General Meeting Agenda

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting September 21, 2019

CDBA National Board of Directors 2019-2020

National Executive Director Report

CDBA Chapter Activity Reports 2019 – 2020

2020 Nominations Committee Report

CDBA National Presidents 1975 – Present

CDBA Lifetime Members

CDBA Founding Members

CDBA National Awards

George Brown College Student Grad Awards

****Audited Financial Statements for fiscal year April 1, 2019-March 31, 2020 are available to CDBA members on request info@cdbanational.com**

Canadian Deafblind Association 45th Annual General Meeting

**Virtually via Zoom
September 26, 2020
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm EST**

AGENDA

Chair: Carolyn Monaco

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of the Agenda**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes - 2019 AGM, Fredericton, New Brunswick**
- 4. Report of the President, CDBA National**
- 5. Report of the Executive Director, CDBA National**
- 6. Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020**
- 7. Appointment of the Auditor for 2021**
- 8. CDBA Chapter Activity Reports**
 - British Columbia**
 - Alberta**
 - Saskatchewan**
 - New Brunswick**
- 9. 2020 Andrew Love Memorial Award for Intervenor of the Year**
- 10. 2020 Cherry Bulmer Award for Volunteer of the Year**
- 11. Election of the CDBA National Board of Directors 2020-2021**
- 12. Location of the 2021 CDBA National AGM**

Minutes

44th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Canadian Deafblind Association (National)

**Crowne Plaza Lord Beaverbrook
Fredericton, New Brunswick
Saturday, September 21, 2019**

Present

Voting Members (16)

Carolyn Monaco, David Brown, Sandra Owen-Peters, Frances Jablonca, J. Allan Matheis, Renee Landry, Charles Landry, Leslie Comrie, Dwain McLean, Patricia Curtis, Ghita Gaudet, Eugene Gaudet, Suzanne McConnell, Beth Major, Rob Johnson, Julie Sproul

Proxy Votes (12)

Associate Members (4)

Kevin Symes, Theresa Tancock, Dana Heinrichs, Tom McFadden

AGENDA

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm local time upon reaching quorum. President Carolyn Monaco was in the Chair.

Carolyn expressed a warm welcome to all those in attendance.

2) Approval of the Agenda

Motion 2019 AGM – 01: Motion to approve the agenda:

It was moved by Sandra Owen-Peters, seconded by David Brown that the agenda for the 44th National AGM be approved.

CARRIED

3) Approval of the Minutes of 2018 AGM – Toronto ON

Motion 2019 AGM – 02: Motion to approve the minutes of the 2018 AGM:

It was moved by Dwain McLean, seconded by Renee Landry that the minutes of the 43rd National AGM on September 22, 2018 be accepted.

CARRIED

4) Report of the President, CDBA National

Carolyn Monaco spoke to the successes and challenges of the past year, using a PowerPoint format.

Carolyn spoke briefly about the passing in February of former CDBA National executive director and current Dbl Information Officer Stan Munroe, and recognized his many years of service and dedication to the field of deafblindness.

She celebrated the quality of George Brown College's 2019 Intervenor graduating class and the annual presentation of awards to two deserving grads.

She highlighted our annual "Lend-A-Hand" golf tournament in June which was sponsored for the first time by the Cooperators Insurance Company. CDBA National was also actively involved in the planning of this year's celebration of Deafblind Awareness Month during the month of June 2019.

Finally, she thanked CDBA contract staff for all their work during the past year. The full content of the Presidents Report can be found in the 2019 AGM Book which is posted on the website www.cdbanational.com

5) Report of the Executive Director, CDBA National

Tom McFadden presented his report on the activities of CDBA National over the past year, acknowledging some overlap with the Report of the President.

Tom provided insights into the continuing celebration by the Senate of Canada of Deafblind Awareness Month throughout Canada in June.

He addressed our successful funding application to the federal Office of Disability Issues through the Social Development Partnership program – Disability component (SDPP-D) of a 3-year operational grant of \$45,000 annually. This will provide National with a degree of certainty in terms of its overall planning in the foreseeable future.

Tom reported briefly on the success of this year's fundraiser golf tournament under the sponsorship of the Cooperators Insurance Company, Justin James & Associates; on the partnership with the Canadian Association of the Deaf (CAD) "communicating accessibility" as well as the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association (CHHA) both of

whom engaged the Canadian disability community leading up to the development of Federal accessibility legislation. He expressed his gratitude for the continued partnership with our CDBA provincial chapters in BC, AB, SK and NB.

Tom thanked Carolyn Monaco, CDBA National President and the National Board of Directors for their ongoing support; Paul Nobes (CDBA Webmaster & IT Officer); Cynthia Skilling (Graphic Designer) and Christiane Roswell (Bookkeeper) for their professional contributions throughout the year.

The complete content of the Executive Director's Report can be found in the 2019 AGM booklet which is posted on the website www.cdbanational.com

6) Presentation of Audited Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2019

Board treasurer David Brown presented, on behalf of accountant Peter Shennett, the audited financial statements for the fiscal year 2018-2019. An open question and answer period took place.

The full content of the Treasurers Report as well as the audited financial statements of CDBA National can be found in the 2019 AGM Book which is posted on the website www.cdbanational.com .

Motion 2019 AGM – 03: Motion to approve the 2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements:

It was moved by David Brown, seconded by Ghita Gaudet that the audited 2018-2019 financial statements be approved.

CARRIED

7) Appointment of the Auditor for 2018-2019

Motion 2019 AGM – 04: Motion to appoint an auditor for 2020

It was moved by David Brown, seconded by Charles Landry that Peter Shennett Professional Corporation be appointed CDBA National auditor for 2019-2020.

CARRIED

8) Chapter Reports

Reports on activities from CDBA Provincial Chapters were presented by each of the following:

- **New Brunswick Chapter** – Kevin Symes (Executive Director)

- **British Columbia Chapter** – Theresa Tancock (Chapter Family Services Coordinator)
- **Alberta Chapter** – Frances Jablonca (Chapter President)
- **Saskatchewan Chapter** – Allan Matheis (Chapter Representative)

The complete contents of Chapter reports can be found in the 2019 AGM Book on the website www.cdbanational.com.

9) Andrew Love Memorial Award

No nominations were received for the 2019 Andrew Love Memorial Award for Intervenor of the Year.

10) National Cherry Bulmer Award

No nominations were received for the National Cherry Bulmer Award, presented to a volunteer in recognition of his/her contributions to CDBA at the Chapter and National levels.

11) Election of the CDBA National Board of Directors 2019-2020

National executive director Tom McFadden presented the proposed slate for the 2019-2020 National Board of Directors:

Directors-at-Large to be elected for a 2-year term

- Carolyn Monaco (Ontario)
- Sandra Owen-Peters (Ontario)
- Renee Landry (New Brunswick)
- Leslie Comrie (British Columbia)

Chapter Reps to be appointed for a two-year term

- Frances Jablonca (Alberta Chapter)
- David Brown (New Brunswick Chapter)

Chapter Reps to be confirmed for one more year

- Wanda Schellenberg (British Columbia Chapter)
- J. Allan Matheis (Saskatchewan Chapter)

All Chapter appointments met the criteria of being active members in good standing with CDBA for 2019.

Motion 2019 AGM – 05 Motion to accept the proposed Slate of Nominations to the 2019-2020 CDBA National Board of Directors:
It was moved by David Brown, seconded by Renee Landry that the proposed Slate of Nominations to the 2019-2020 National Board of Directors be approved.

CARRIED

12) Location of the 2020 CDBA National AGM

September 26, 2020 to be confirmed.

13) Adjournment

3:25 pm local time on a motion by the Chair

CARRIED

/TWM

**2019/20 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CANADIAN DEAFBLIND ASSOCIATION**

NAME	OFFICE	DATE FIRST ELECTED	ADDRESS, PHONE, FAX & EMAIL
Carolyn Monaco	National President Director at Large	10-20-2009	254 Governors Road Dundas ON L9H 3K3
Wanda Schellenberg	British Columbia Chapter Representative	09-24-2016	2016 Kitchener Street Vancouver BC V5L 2W8
Allan Matheis	National Board Secretary Saskatchewan Chapter Representative	10-16-2010	1818 Rothwell Street Regina SK S4N 2C2
Frances Jablonca	Alberta Chapter Representative	09-23-2017	334 Silver Ridge Crescent Calgary AB T3B 3T5
David Brown	National Board Treasurer New Brunswick Chapter Representative	10-27-2012	87 Fawn Crescent Hanwell NB E3E 1B4
Sandra Owen-Peters	National Vice-President Director at Large	09-27-2013	70 Kent Road Toronto ON M4L 2X6

Renee Landry	Director at Large	09-23-2017	243 rue des Copains Dieppe NB E1A 1A3
Leslie Comrie	Director at Large	09-21-2019	533 East 8 th Avenue Vancouver BC V5T 1S9

Executive Director:

Tom McFadden
14-1860 Appleby Line
Burlington ON L7L 7H7
(866) 229-5832 (T/F)
(905) 331-6279 (B)
(905) 331-2043 (F)
tmcfadden@cdbanational.com

IT/Website Officer

Paul Nobes
428 King Street
New Waterford NS B1H 3Y4
(902) 862-7367 (B)
(902) 371-7136 (C)
pnobes@cdbanational.com

CDBA CHAPTER OFFICE CONTACTS

British Columbia Chapter

Theresa Tancock, Family Services Coordinator
227 6th Street
New Westminster BC
V3L 3A5
(604)528-6170 (B)
(604) 528-6174 (F)
E-mail: theresa@cdbabc.ca

Alberta Chapter

Frances Jablonca, President
334 Silver Ridge Crescent NW
Calgary AB
T3B 3T5
(403) 289-6017 (B)
E-mail: cdbaab1@gmail.com

Saskatchewan Chapter

Dana Heinrichs, Executive Director
110 Anderson Crescent
Saskatoon SK
S7H 4C2
(306) 374-0022 (B)
(306) 374-0004 (F)
E-mail: cdba.sk@shaw.ca

New Brunswick Chapter

Kevin Symes, Executive Director
495-B Prospect Street, Unit H
Fredericton NB
E3B 9M4
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(506) 451 - 8309 (F)
E-mail: k.symes@cdba-nb.ca

**REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
to the
CDBA NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
September 26, 2020**

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A heartfelt “thank you” to all of you for taking the time on a weekend to join us for this 45th Annual General Meeting. It goes without saying that we hope and trust that you and yours are staying healthy and safe during this challenging time. The unparalleled nature of the coronavirus has forced National and its Chapters to navigate through uncharted waters as we continue to focus on advocacy for the deafblind communities that we serve. We do not have a roadmap for what to expect – or when – but we are well aware that the pandemic continues to have a disproportionate impact on marginalized communities with disabilities such as those who are deafblind.

For the 6th consecutive year, the month of June was celebrated as “Deafblind Awareness Month” in Canada. was coordinated by the National Deafblind Awareness Month Working Group (NDBAM) and celebrated in a multitude of ways by the CDBA National and its Chapters, Deafblind Ontario Services, Canadian National Society for the Deafblind and other organizations in the field of deafblindness. The pandemic however forced the cancellation of the traditional Senate of Canada Reception in Ottawa as well as a myriad of other planned events throughout Canada. The leadership of Chair Karen Madho from Deafblind Ontario Services was an integral part of the Working Group’s activity, particularly with the production of a collaborative video containing a number of short video clips, submitted by individuals in the field of deafblindness, to “Make a Wave” across Canada. The video is available on our website www.cdbanational.com.

As with other charities and not-for-profit organizations, falling revenues were a big concern these past few months. As you all surely know, CDBA National is financed primarily through a combination of fundraising, government grants, individual donors and membership fees. Unfortunately, 3 of the 4 revenue streams (government grant the exception) have taken a huge hit due to a combination of social distancing measures affecting our annual fundraising golf tournament, as well as the economic downturn, primarily affecting donations and membership. Nonetheless our focus supporting CDBA chapters and advocating for those who are deafblind and their families has not wavered. A good example was the successful applications for financial help received from 3 families through our National Support Fund.

Until this year, CDBA National managed its operations under a cloud of relative uncertainty, not ever really certain of the level of funding it could count on. However, the Office of Disability Issues, through the Social Development Partnership Program- Disability (SDPP-D) program, listened to the pleas from the disability sector in a very positive way. As of April 1 2019, our annual “sustaining” grant was made “operational” at the same rate of \$45,000 for each year through April 2022.

In August of this year, the federal government approved our application for an additional \$11,244.00 to be spent by the end of this fiscal year (March 31, 2021) to enhance our communications and engagement activities during the pandemic.

These will include but not limited to:

- Conducting our National AGM online via Zoom conferencing
- Upgraded software and training
- Costs for Intervenor of deafblind participants
- Panel discussions about the impact of COVID-19 on Chapter services
- Development of webcasts for parents of pre-school children
- Provision of online professional development to Intervenor related to the safe and effective delivery of services during the pandemic
- Platform by which this training can be provided

We continued to communicate with members, their families, partner agencies and interested parties through our bi-annual "Intervention" news magazine; a quarterly e-newsletter with news from around the globe; and regular e-blasts about issues and newsworthy announcements of interest to CDBA members such as the Accessibility Canada Act and recent additions and revisions to our National website to enhance your browsing experience.

In January of 2019, the Board and management of CDBA Ontario followed through on its plans to separate from National. Unfortunately, the excitement that many CDBA members living in Ontario felt about building a new Chapter in the province has not yet been translated into action.

In July of this year, our Alberta Chapter also ceased its formal operations due in large part to volunteer exhaustion. It is a good thing however that AB Chapter funds will be transferred to, and managed by, National for the exclusive benefit of CDBA members living in Alberta.

At the end of August 2020 – only 5 months into the current membership year – members who have renewed their membership to date and are therefore in good standing with voting privileges at the AGM stood at 150. The breakdown looks like this:

- Individual 82
- Family 18
- Associate 33
- Lifetime 14
- Corporate 3

In conclusion, I want to acknowledge the unselfish contributions of all our volunteers across the country, too numerous to mention, who contributed greatly to a host of CDBA National and Chapter fundraising events such as golf tournaments, runs, cycle races, wagon rides, and bowl-a-thons.

I am also very grateful for the outstanding work throughout the year of the following professionals whose fee for service contract work has been outstanding:

- Accountant Peter Shennett
- IT/Website Officer Paul Nobes
- Bookkeeper Christiane Roswell
- Graphic Designer Cynthia Skilling

Finally, thank you to the CDBA National Board for their collective support and encouragement throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom McFadden
Executive Director
CDBA National

CDBA Alberta

Sept. 24th, 2020

The Alberta Chapter of CDBA is now dissolved as of the end of August 2020. Our membership was too small and board involvement too minimal to allow the functioning of a non-profit volunteer organization.

We want to recognize that over the many years of its existence, board members had strived hard to meet the needs of the deafblind in Alberta and had experienced success in multiple areas including yearly fall-weekend camps, various other social events, promotion of deafblind awareness and support with accessibility technology. For the efforts of all involved, we are thankful.

In order to continue to serve deafblind Albertans, I will remain involved as a liaison for accessing funding for services with CDBA National.

Sincerely,

Past President CDBA-AB
Frances Jablonca

1. **Name of Chapter:** CDBA-BC
2. **Address & Contact Information**
 - 227 – 6th Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 3A5
3. **Website and Email:**
 - www.cdbabc.ca
 - theresa@cdbabc.ca
4. **Chapter Representative to CDBA National:** Wanda Schellenberg
5. **Name of Executive Director or Senior Staff:** Theresa Tancock
6. **Chapter of CDBA National since:** 1978; incorporated 2012
7. **Number of CDBA Members:**29
8. **Number of Employees:**
 - Full-time:**2
 - Part-time:** 1
 - Contract:** 57+
9. **Number of Freelance Contractor Interpreter/Intervenors:**
10. **Number of Volunteers:**
11. **Board of Directors Listing and Title:**
 - President: **Linnea Cudmore**
 - Vice-President: **John Mail**
 - Secretary/Treasurer: **Linda Mamer**
 - Directors: **Wanda Schellenberg**
Leslie Comrie
Paul Michaud
Crystelle Jensen
 - Past President: **Linnea Cudmore**
12. **Chapter Incorporation #**S-0060315
13. **Chapter Mission and Mandate:**
 - **Mission Statement:**

The Canadian Deafblind Association - BC Chapter promotes the awareness and recognition of deafblindness and deafblind Intervention.
 - **Mandate:**

A provincial organization that endeavours to:

 - Promote public awareness of deafblindness as a unique disability.

- Promote the philosophy of deafblind Intervention.
- Work with government and other agencies to initiate and promote the development of programs designed to provide Intervention for individuals who are congenitally deafblind.
- Support the service delivery component of the organization.
- Promote training in the areas of Deafblindness and deafblind Intervention.
- Act as a resource in addressing the needs of individuals who are deafblind.

14. Types of Programs and Services offered by the Chapter this year:

- **Early Intervention Program:**

- 2019-20: Provided support to children with deafblindness throughout BC.
 - Birth to five years old.
 - 14 children were new referrals
 - 13 outreach families: 27 local families
 - 164 home visits; 408 hours of outreach support
 - 11 children attended preschool/daycare
 - 5 children transitioned to Kindergarten September 2019
- Deafblind education, training sessions and joint visits were provided to preschools and daycares throughout BC, as well as to the professional teams and families of the children.

- **Intervention Program:**

- Summer IP 2019 (9 weeks)
 - 57 participants
 - 11 preschooler-age and 46 school-age
 - 65 Intervenors hired
- Winter IP 2019-20
 - 35 participants
 - 3 preschool-age and 32 school-age
 - 34 Intervenors hired
- Spring IP 2020
 - 31 participants
 - 3 preschool-age and 28 school-age
 - 31 Intervenors hired

- **Summer Recreation Program:**

- Weekly activities planned throughout the summer at different venues in the Lower Mainland.
- Children/youth with deafblindness, their Intervenors and families welcome, as well as CDBA-BC Members.
- Activities included were Science World, Vancouver Aquarium, a waterpark and train ride, bowling, Maplewood Farm, paddleboats/carousel ride at Burnaby

- Village Museum
 - Offers opportunity for networking, sharing and consultation.
- **Youth Transition Program:**
 - Training (Adult Services/Consult) – have supported young adults and their adult staff with ongoing consultation.
- **Family Activities:**
 - Deafblind Awareness Month (June 2019)
 - Family Bowling/AGM EVENT
 - Dinner and Photos for NDBAM local building illuminations
 - Vancouver School Board deafblind field trips
 - Evening for Intervenors – in collaboration with the Provincial Outreach Program for Students with Deafblindness District Partners Conference
 - Parent Chat Sessions and Intervenor Chat Sessions

15. Plans and/or Goals for the Coming Year:

- To continue to develop our virtual programs and supports for individuals with deafblindness, their families and Intervenors.
- To continue to strategize and develop increased training opportunities for Intervenors.
- To acquire funding support specific to Youth Transition.
- To continue to collaborate with other organizations provincially, nationally and globally to increase awareness and improve support for individuals with deafblindness, their families and Intervenors.

**New Brunswick Chapter 2019-2020 Annual Report
CDBA National AGM
September 26, 2020**

1. **Name of Chapter:** Canadian Deafblind Association – NB Inc.
2. **Contact Information**
495B Prospect Street,
Unit H, Fredericton NB
E3B 9M4
Tel: 506 -452-1544
Fax: 506-451-8309
3. **Website:** www.cdba-nb.ca
Email: office@cdba-nb.ca
Follow us on twitter @CdbaNb
4. **Chapter Representative to CDBA National:** David Brown
5. **Name of Executive Director or Senior Staff:** Kevin Symes
6. **Chapter of CDBA National since:** 1982
7. **Number of CDBA Members:** 38
8. **Number of Employees:**
Full-time: 10
Part-time: 16
Contract: 0
9. **Number of Freelance Contractor Interpreter/Intervenors:** 0
10. **Number of Volunteers:** 0
11. **Board of Directors Listing and Title:**
President:
David Brown
Vice-President:
Renee Landry
Treasurer:
Robert Johnson
Recording secretary:
Beth Major

Directors:

Sheila Rogers

Ghita Gaudet

Charles Landry

12. **Chapter Incorporation # 832075519RP0001**

13. **Chapter Mission and Mandate:**

Since 1982, the Canadian Deafblind Association-NB Inc. (CDBA-NB) has been involved in providing support and services through Intervention to individuals who are deafblind, deaf or blind with associated disabilities and their families throughout New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. CDBA-NB Inc. helps people of all ages and with a wide range of complex difficulties. As client's needs have changed, CDBA-NB Inc. has adapted to meet those needs, offering quality services that place the individual, and their family, at the heart of all that we do.

CDBA-NB Inc. is committed to assisting all persons to achieve, with Intervention, the best quality of life.

14. **Types of Programs and Services offered by the Chapter this year:**

Intervention Services:

NB/PEI Intervention Services are provided through the Department of Social Development. Hours of Intervention vary depending on the client's needs.

Independent Living:

The Committee is still working on this.

Awareness:

Our fundraisers, deafblind awareness workshops to school children & social workers.

Work Placement Experiences and Training for Clients

We have a number of clients who work in a variety of different job placements with their Intervenor, such as:

Value Village (Saint John)

Walmart (Fredericton)

Superstore (Fredericton)

Sobeys (Bathurst)

SPCA (Bathurst)

CDBA-NB clients also volunteer at the library, food bank, Boutique Encore & the Veterans Center.

Newsletter

The staff continues to produce two newsletters a year - June and December.

CDBA-NB Office Staffing

This past year, Tammy, the CDBA-NB Office Manager left to pursue a role where she would be able to use her accounting skills to a higher level. That allowed Jody Brewer, to move into the Office Manger's role. Chantel Whitman, was hired to fill the role of the Manager of Intervention Services and Kevin Symes is the Executive Director. This year we did something a little different at CDBA-NB, we hired one of our clients to work in the office. Sheena will work in the Administrative Support role with her Intervenor, Alina. We look forward to working with our new staff Chantel, Sheena and Alina, into the coming year. If you have any concerns or questions, please let us know.

Staff Training:

Intervenors usually have a degree and/or the Human Services Counsellor course plus Level 5 sign language and Level I Braille, if required by the client. Along with this training, Intervenors are strongly urged to attend CDBA sponsored workshops each year. CDBA-NB pays for CPR and CPR upgrading. 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:

Any supporting professional that the client requires is provided either by the Department of Education or Social Development. 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 client/parent to medical and dental appointments. All support persons become part of the client's team.

Conferences/Professional Development:

All Intervenors, clients, family members and staff are eligible to apply to attend workshops or a conference of interest, to the NB Board of Directors (following the established guidelines).

Fundraising: Ford Antique Car Show in Moncton, National Atlantic Car Show, ticket sale.

Camping:

The 2020 Camp was cancelled this year due to COVID-9. We have also learned that the venue for our yearly camp is being sold and will no longer be available. We are looking at several sites to continue to offer camp when it is again allowed.

Other activities (specify):

To offset the loss of this year's camp, we are doing various day trips taking into consideration the COVID-19 health guidelines from the Department of Health. Day trip

to the Moncton Zoo with the PEI, Moncton and Bathurst clients. Also, a day trip on a boat tour of the Saint John River with our Fredericton and Saint John Clients. CDBA-NB helps support our clients in a number of different ways. Movies, bowling, sensory garden, swimming, gym/exercise, golf and “clubhouse” to name a few. Deafblind Awareness Event was not held this year because of COVID-19.

Lorna Thompson Memorial Snoezelen Room

The Snoezelen room continues to grow with the support from a number of different groups and is being used daily by many CDBA-NB clients as well as those from outside agencies. We are also seeing an increase in outside groups using our room. (2020 update) The Snoezelen room has been closed starting in March of 2020 because of COVID-19. We are looking at the possibility of opening the room in a limited capacity in September 2020. Contact the office directly for further updates.

Teaching Kitchen: The teaching kitchen has been put to good use this year. The Clients and Intervenors have used it various times to make yummy treats during their Clubhouse time. They get together once a month on a Thursday to use the kitchen. (2020 update) The Teaching Kitchen is currently closed.

“Believing in Beth” Beth was a client with CDBA-NB for many years. “Believing in Beth” is an amazing book written about Beth by her mother, Edith McGrath and sister, Marci McGrath.

Believing in Beth is a true story that shares how the birth of one special little girl, Beth McGrath, turns her family’s life upside down. As a result of Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS), Beth continually struggles to escape into a world of her own. For the love of her daughter, Beth’s mother Edie, is determined to make Beth live in her family’s world.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of this book for \$15.95 plus applicable shipping and handling, please contact the CDBA-NB office at 452-1544 or office@cdba-nb.ca.

A percentage of the proceeds from the sale of this book will be donated to the special care home where Beth resides. A donation will also be made to the New Brunswick Chapter of the Canadian Deafblind Association.

15. Plans and/or Goals for the Coming Year:

To continue to provide the best possible Intervention for our clients; multi-sensory room, resource center and CDBA-NB offices. We continue to meet the needs of current and future clients even with the current Covid 19 situation. Fundraising is a bit of a challenge but we are looking at new initiatives to accomplish this.

If you would like more information on the work of CDBA-NB, please feel to contact us. I hope that you have found this report helpful.

Respectfully submitted by:

David Brown & Renee Landry
CDBA-National Board members
CDBA-NB Board members

Kevin Symes
CDBA-NB Executive Director

1. **Name of Chapter:**
CANADIAN DEAFBLIND ASSOC – SASK CHAPTER INC

2. **Address & Contact Information**
110 ANDERSON CRES,
SASKATOON SK S7H 4C2

PHONE 306-374-0022
FAX 306-374-0004

3. **Website and Email:**
cdba.sk@shaw.ca

4. **Chapter Representative to CDBA National:**
ALLAN MATHEIS

5. **Name of Executive Director or Senior Staff:**
DANA HEINRICHS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

6. **Chapter of CDBA National since:** 1985

7. **Number of CDBA Members:** 14

8. **Number of Employees:**
Full-time:19
Part-time:14
Relief:18

9. **Number of Freelance Contractor Interpreter/Intervenors:** 0

10. **Number of Volunteers:** 9

11. **Board of Directors Listing and Title:**
President: Al Love
Vice-President: Cathy Leonard
Treasurer: Chris Gonari
Secretary: Evelyn Matheis
Directors: Allan Matheis, Randy Klein, Alicia Ruiz,
Ezna Groenewald, Linda Taylor
Interpreter/Intervenor Coordinator:
Past President: Theo Gonari

12. **Chapter Incorporation #**122537640RR0001

13. **Chapter Mission:**
Mission Statement
The Canadian Deafblind Association provides Individualized programs

that honor the unique needs of persons who are Deafblind, while advocating for optimal independence and quality of life that ensures dignity and respect.

Vision Statement

All people who are deafblind will live rich and meaningful lives.

- 14. Types of Programs and Services offered by the Chapter this year:**
Providing each Individual with Intervenors who mediate between the Deafblind Individual and their environment as they are served in the Residential and Day Programs.

- 15. Plans and/or Goals for the Coming Year:**
 - Continue with the strategic planning process.
 - Survive COVID-19, enhance home based programming

2019/20 in review:

We are currently serving 10 individuals (1 of which is a child under Child and Family Program).

CDBA has mourned the passing of 3 people associated with the agency in the past year. It started with a long-time volunteer Lydia involved in an MVA, then Darla from MacDermid Lamarsh as our golf tourney planner who succumbed to the effects of cancer and then last but certainly not least, our very own Rhonda Simon who passed on March 29, 2020 from complications of Parkinson's disease. Each one leaving a footprint on our hearts and minds.

All day community-based programs have been suspended due to COVID and adapted to home and outdoor activities. 2 of the Individuals we support have temporarily moved to their family homes during this pandemic to help ensure their safety.

COVID also affected our 16th Annual Golf Tournament as it had to be canceled.

A highlight for CDBA this year was filling the position for the Program Adm Assistant, it could have not been timelier to help in this year of new challenges.

Celebrations:

- Staff appreciation event with a fun and entertaining evening of "Name That Tune"
- Disability Service Professional week, acknowledged with gifts of appreciation to our Intervenors and participation in a social media campaign
- Deafblind Awareness – CDBA SK was part of a national D/B awareness month campaign #makeawave and had video clips of the Individuals working part of the

release. Then for the Saskatchewan portion June 7-13 was declared by Minister Merriman as D/B awareness week.

- CDBA Sask AGM on June 23, 2020

Our Board of Directors has undergone some changes: 3 resignations came in this spring, fortunately the recruiting process went well with the help of social media, friends and family - we have just welcomed in 4 new members to our group.

CANADIAN DEAFBLIND ASSOCIATION

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS

2020-21 National Board of Directors

Directors-at Large to be elected for a two-year term:

Carolyn Monaco (Ontario)

Renee Landry (New Brunswick)

Leslie Comrie (British Columbia)

Chapter Representatives with one year remaining in their 2-year term

*David Brown (New Brunswick Chapter)

Chapter Representatives to be re-appointed for a 2-year term

*Wanda Schellenberg (British Columbia Chapter)

*J. Allan Matheis (Saskatchewan Chapter)

***Appointed by their respective Chapter Boards**

THE CANADIAN DEAFBLIND ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Name	From	To
Carolyn Monaco	2007	present
Wylie Bystedt	2006	2007
Patrick Peterson	2004	2006
Linda Mamer	1995	2004
Stan Munroe	1988	1995
Dorothy & Gerry Brogan	1982	1988
Adrienne & Michael Caruso	1978	1982
Iris & Bob Gilchrist	1975	1978

FOUNDING MEMBERS

Patricia Andrews
Gerry & Dorothy Brogan
Mike & Adrienne Caruso
Ed & Beryl Champion
Patricia Curtis
John & Gail Gerwing
Bob & Iris Gilchrist
Carol & William Hurtick
Zita & Frank Kato
Stan Munroe
Dorothy Wilcox

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Chuck & Cherry Bulmer
Wylie Bystedt
Mike & Adrienne Caruso
Patricia Curtis
John & Gail Gerwing
Bob & Iris Gilchrist
Walter Gretzky
Charles Kelliher
Linda Mamer
Dwain McLean
Stan Munroe
Lorraine Williams
Sue Wright

CDBA NATIONAL AWARDS

NATIONAL CHERRY BULMER AWARD VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

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. It is presented to a volunteer member of the organization who demonstrates that same outstanding passion, enthusiasm and commitment.

2005	Carolyn Monaco
2006	Patrick Peterson
2007	N/A
2008	Linda Mamer & Jon van Bilsen
2009	Roger Hunter
2010-13	N/A
2014	Michael Stewart Sr.
2015	N/A
2016	J. Allan Matheis
2017	Suzanne McConnell
2018	Dwain McLean
2019	N/A
2020	Frances Jablonca

ANDREW LOVE MEMORIAL AWARD INTERVENOR OF THE YEAR

This award is presented by the Canadian Deafblind Association at its Annual General Meeting

1998	Lisa Bennett
1999	Barbara Daley
2000-01	N/A
2002	Cherry Bulmer
2003	Joan Mactavish
2004-06	N/A
2007	Jocelyn Meroniuk-Vezey
2008	Kristi Clark
2009-14	N/A
2015	Sonia Bianchi
2016	Lenora Spencer
2017	Daisy Lor
2018	Jacky Mackenzie
2019-20	N/A

GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE STUDENT AWARDS

ANDREW LOVE MEMORIAL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Presented to a graduating student of the Intervenor Program at George Brown College in Toronto who has demonstrated outstanding ability working with a child who is deafblind.

1998	Suzanne Loft
1999	Sarah Hunter
2000	Julie Cooksey
2001	Joyce Oliveira
2002	Stacey Ruigrok
2003	Julie Stuckless & Dawn Wilshire
2004	Erin Alger
2005	Kenneth Boone
2006	Sarah Giraldi
2007	Helen Sharp
2008	Stephanie MacDonald
2009	Christina Chirila
2010	Akane Usui
2011	Kim Bowers
2012	Kim Antti
2013	Kelby Belch
2014	Brittany Day
2015	Chelsea Hamilton
2016	Chloe Gosse
2017	Crystol Shiranthi
2018	Clarissa Gregorio
2019	Jemma Waito-Taylor

CDBA NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FIELD PLACEMENT

Presented to a graduating student in the Intervenor Program at George Brown College who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field placement component

1998	Tina Perovic
1999	Melanie Gauthier-Perley
2000	Judy Bertrand
2001	Mary Cho
2002	Niall Brown
2003	Jacki Green
2004	Gillian Thompson
2005	Sara Hansen
2006	Meghan Peter
2007	Jessica Tymecki
2008	Lisa Jackson
2009	Sandra Owen-Peters
2010	Julie Wassink
2011	Daniella Scarcello
2012	Rebecca Blundell
2013	Heather McKinnon
2014	Stephanie Colantoni
2015	Ashleigh Whittam
2016	Lacey McMaster
2017	Bethany Simao-Alves
2018	Mayuri Thiageshwaran
2019	Aislynn Curran

2020 CDBA National Cherry Bulmer Award for Volunteer of the Year

Frances Jablonca was, until its dissolution in July 2020. President of CDBA-AB. Prior to her elevation to President she served in several capacities On the Board of CDBA-AB for several years.

As an elementary school teacher, Frances worked with children and most recently as an ESL instructor at Bow Valley College in Calgary. Her involvement with the field of deafblindness began more than 25 years ago after the birth of her middle child Charlotte, born with CHARGE Syndrome.

As a parent, amongst the many skills she acquired, she learned the role of Intervention and advocacy because of her experience with Intervenors and other professionals in the field.

Under her watch, CDBA-AB strived very hard to meet and support the needs of the deafblind community in Alberta. The AB Chapter experienced success in multiple areas of service including:

- Annual Fall weekend retreats
- Social events during Deafblind Awareness Month in June
- Charlotte MacKinnon Memorial Wagon Ride
- Fundraising events such as hosting casinos
- Support with accessibility technology

Frances joined the Board of Directors of CDBA National in September 2017 as the Alberta Chapter Representative and served AB Chapter interests with enthusiasm and profound commitment. As a lasting tribute to her daughter Charlotte, who passed away in 2015 at the age of 22, Frances has written a series of articles entitled “Lessons from Charlotte’s Web” for the CDBA National “Intervention” magazine about her experiences as a mother of a child with deafblindness.

Because of her years of service to CDBA, both provincially and nationally, it is our pleasure to present Frances Jablonca with the CDBA National Cherry Bulmer Award. This is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding volunteer contribution to the Canadian Deafblind Association at the national and chapter level. Many members came to this organization out of necessity. You felt that you had to speak for your deafblind children so their needs could be met and they would be able to live fulfilled lives. Frances did just that – her beautiful daughter lived her young life of 22 years to the fullest despite her disability, thanks in large part to her mother’s spirit to do good in the world. CDBA Alberta and, later on, CDBA National, were the beneficiaries of that giving spirit for many years!

It is therefore our pleasure to give Frances Jablonca the 2020 Cherry Bulmer Award for Volunteer of the Year. With it comes our deepest gratitude for her community spirit, her time, her example, and her talents as a volunteer.