

Canadian Deafblind Association
National
47th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Saturday, September 24, 2022

Virtually via Zoom

INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT **

Annual General Meeting Agenda

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting September 25, 2021

CDBA National Board of Directors 2021-2022

National Executive Director Report

CDBA Chapter Activity Reports 2021-2022

2022 Report on Nominations

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, 2021-March 31, 2022**

are available via email to CDBA members on request

info@cdbanational.com

Canadian Deafblind Association 47th Annual General Meeting

**Virtually via Zoom
September 24, 2022
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 - 2021 AGM via Zoom**
- 4. Presentation by the President, CDBA National**
- 5. Report of the Executive Director, CDBA National**
- 6. Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022**
- 7. Appointment of the Auditor for 2023**
- 8. CDBA Chapter Activity Reports**
 - British Columbia**
 - Saskatchewan**
 - New Brunswick**
- 9. 2022 Andrew Love Memorial Award for Intervenor of the Year**
- 10. Report on Nominations: CDBA National Board of Directors 2022-2023**
- 11. Other business from the floor**

Minutes

46th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Canadian Deafblind Association (National) Saturday, September 25, 2021 Via Zoom

Present

Voting Members (12)

Carolyn Monaco, David Brown, Therese Rousseau-Brown, J. Allan Matheis, Evelyn Matheis, Robert Tancock, Renee Landry, Leslie Comrie, Wanda Schellenberg, Linnea Cudmore, Linda Mamer, Ismet Suteria.

Proxy Votes (13)

Associate Members (5)

Kevin Symes, Theresa Tancock, Dana Heinrichs, Paul Nobes, Tom McFadden

Special Guest (1)

Peter Shennett

AGENDA

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm EST. President Carolyn Monaco was in the Chair.

Carolyn expressed a warm welcome to the individuals who registered for this second National AGM conducted via Zoom. A minimum of 25 voting members are required, either in person or represented by proxy, in order for this meeting to be an official AGM. Total attendance was 12 voting members present, and 13 voting members represented by proxy.

Regarding the logistics of actual voting on Zoom, Carolyn explained the option of raising one's hand.

2) Approval of the Agenda

Motion 2021 AGM – 01: Motion to approve the agenda:

It was moved by Linda Mamer, seconded by Wanda Schellenberg that the agenda for the 46th National AGM be approved.

CARRIED

3) Approval of the Minutes of 2020 AGM via Zoom

Tom McFadden briefly provided an overview of the minutes from the 2020 National AGM that was conducted via zoom.

Motion 2021 AGM – 02: Motion to accept the minutes of the 2020 AGM:

It was moved by Allan Matheis, seconded by Renee Landry that the minutes of the 45th National AGM be accepted.

CARRIED

4) Report of the President, CDBA National

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Carolyn Monaco spoke to the challenges of the past year during the COVID-19 pandemic, noting how well CDBA chapters performed. Accountant Peter Shennett will be presenting his audited financial report for the past fiscal year April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021.

George Brown College's 2021 Intervenor Program student graduation was conducted virtually via zoom. National awards – Andrew Love Memorial and Excellence in Field Placement – were presented to deserving student graduates from both 2020 and 2021. GBC recently announced that its 2-year Intervenor Diploma program will be replaced in May 2022 by a 1-year online certificate program. You can refer to the summer issue of Intervention magazine, or contact GBC directly, for more information.

Last spring, 2 young female students from Chatham, Ontario raised over \$700 for CDBA National by way of a school project selling chocolate. This was a remarkable and generous gesture which CDBA profiled in the summer issue Intervention magazine. Our annual "Lend-A-Hand" golf tournament fundraiser resumed this year after being cancelled last year. Net profit was nearly \$11,000.

Regarding Deafblind International, face-to-face management meetings were cancelled this past year, but hopefully the Dbl International Conference in Ottawa will be a go in July 2023. The Dbl Review magazine went entirely digital, while individual membership was offered at no charge.

The Dbl Network of the Americas conference in March 2021, in partnership with the Texas School for the Blind, was held virtually.

National Deafblind Awareness Month was celebrated in June utilizing a yarn bombing initiative initiated by Dbl.

To conclude, Carolyn thanked retiring National Board member Renee Landry for her significant contribution to National since September 2017.

5) Report of the Executive Director, CDBA National

Tom McFadden presented his report on the activities of CDBA National over the past year, hoping to avoid overlap with Carolyn's Report of the President.

After being cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19, our "Lend-A-Hand" golf tournament fundraiser helped us raise much needed funds, 10% of which go directly into the National Support Fund. Tom expressed his appreciation to title sponsor Cooperators Insurance, the hole, golf cart and meal sponsors, and the 76 golfers and 5 volunteers for making this event a real success.

For the 7th consecutive year, Deafblind Awareness Month throughout Canada was celebrated in June with a "yarn bombing" theme crafted by Deafblind International (DbI). The pandemic once again forced the cancellation of the traditional Senate of Canada reception in Ottawa.

Tom acknowledged the continued funding support of the federal Office of Disability Issues through the Social Development Partnership program – Disability component (SDPP-D). The original 3-year operational grant of \$45,000 annually was extended another year through to April of 2023. This will provide National with a degree of certainty in terms of its overall planning in the foreseeable future.

Despite significant pandemic restrictions, a resulting reduction in expenditures helped to benefit National with a substantial surplus for the fiscal year.

Communications with members and their families, corporate partners and interested supporters continued with the publication of 2 issues of "Intervention" magazine, quarterly e-newsletters and regular e-blasts on topics of interest.

Tom expressed his gratitude for the continued partnership with our CDBA provincial chapters in BC, SK and NB, and acknowledged the outstanding contributions of Paul Nobes (CDBA Webmaster & IT Officer); Cynthia Skilling (Graphic Designer) and Christiane Roswell (Bookkeeper) throughout the year.

The complete content of the Executive Director's Report can be found in the 2021 AGM booklet which is posted on the website www.cdbanational.com

6) Presentation of Audited Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2021

CDBA National accountant Peter Shennett presented the auditor's report on financials for the fiscal year April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. An open question and answer period took place.

The audited financial statements were shared onscreen during the presentation and are available on request from the CDBA National office.

Motion 2021 AGM – 03: Motion to approve the 2020-2021 Audited Financial Statements:

The Chair acknowledged that the National Board of Directors previously passed the following motion, and that such motion be incorporated into the minutes of this AGM:

It was moved by David Brown, seconded by Allan Matheis that the audited 2020-2021 financial statements be approved.

CARRIED

7) Appointment of the Auditor

Motion 2021 AGM – 04: Motion to appoint an auditor for 2022

It was moved by David Brown, seconded by Allan Matheis that Peter Shennett Professional Corporation be appointed CDBA National auditor for fiscal 2021-2022.

CARRIED

8) Proposed Amendments to the CDBA National Bylaws

Board Governance Committee Chair David Brown reviewed numerous changes/amendments to the current bylaws of CDBA National as sanctioned by the National Board of Directors on June 29, 2021. Discussion followed.

It was moved by David Brown, seconded by Wanda Schellenberg that the proposed amendments to the CDBA National Bylaws be approved as presented.

CARRIED

9) Chapter Activity Reports

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

- **New Brunswick Chapter** – Kevin Symes & David Brown
- **British Columbia Chapter** – Theresa Tancock & Wanda Schellenberg
- **Saskatchewan Chapter** – Dana Heinrichs & Allan Matheis

The complete contents of Chapter reports can be found in the 2021 AGM Book on the National website www.cdbanational.com

10) Presentation of the Andrew Love Memorial Award for Intervenor of the Year

The Andrew Love Memorial Award for Intervenor of the Year was submitted by Theresa Tancock of CDBA-BC, and was presented by CDBA National ED Tom McFadden to Bonnie Middlemiss of Duncan, British Columbia. This award recognizes a special

Intervenor who possesses outstanding intervention skills that are exemplified through a philosophy of “doing with, not for”. The award recipient receives a cheque for \$200.

11) Election of the CDBA National Board of Directors 2021-2022

National executive director Tom McFadden presented the slate of directors for the 2021-2022 National Board of Directors:

Directors-at-Large with one year remaining in their 2-year term

- *Carolyn Monaco (Ontario)*
- *Leslie Comrie (British Columbia)*
- *Renee Landry (New Brunswick)*

Chapter Reps with one year remaining in their two-year term

- *Allan Matheis (Saskatchewan Chapter)*
- *Wanda Schellenberg (British Columbia Chapter)*

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

- *David Brown (New Brunswick Chapter)*

All Chapter appointments met the criteria of being active members in good standing with CDBA for 2021.

Motion 2021 AGM – 05 Motion to accept the proposed Slate of Nominations to the 2021-2022 CDBA National Board of Directors:

It was moved by Allan Matheis, seconded by Renee Landry that the proposed Slate of Nominations to the 2021-2022 National Board of Directors be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

13) Date and Location of the 2022 CDBA National AGM

Saturday, September 24, 2022 – Location and format to be confirmed

14) New Business from the Floor

The idea of National hosting an Ontario “parent conference”, should there be sufficient interest on the part of Ontario families was raised. Carolyn stated that she was aware of a number of former CDBA-ON Chapter families that might be interested. The matter was referred for consideration at a future National Board meeting.

15) Adjournment

At 3:10 pm EST on a motion by the Chair.

Members of the National Board remained after the AGM to briefly discuss the resignation of Renee Landry as a Director-at-large seat with still one year remaining in her term. She indicated a willingness to stay on until a replacement could be found. Tom mentioned that Suzanne McConnell, a former CDBA National board member from Nova Scotia, would be interested. Brief discussion followed.

It was moved by David Brown, seconded by Wanda Schellenberg that Suzanne McConnell of Halifax, Nova Scotia be appointed to the Board for a one-year term.

CARRIED

/TWM

**2021/22 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CANADIAN DEAFBLIND ASSOCIATION**

NAME	OFFICE	DATE FIRST ELECTED	EMAIL ADDRESS
Carolyn Monaco	National President Director at Large	10-20-2009	carolyn.monaco@sympatico.ca
Wanda Schellenberg	British Columbia Chapter Representative	09-24-2016	wandaschellenberg@gmail.com
Allan Matheis	National Board Secretary Saskatchewan Chapter Representative	10-16-2010	jallan@sasktel.net
David Brown	National Vice President & Board Treasurer New Brunswick Chapter Representative	10-27-2012	dwbrown@bellaliant.net
Suzanne McConnell	Director at Large	09-25-2021	suziem670@gmail.com
Leslie Comrie	Director at Large	09-21-2019	lcomrie@me.com

Executive Director:

Tom McFadden
(866) 229-5832 (T/F)
(905) 464-8166 (C)

tmcfadden@cdbanational.com

IT/Website Officer

Paul Nobes
(902) 862-7367 (B)
(902) 371-7136 (C)

pnobes@cdbanational.com

**REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
to the 47th
CDBA NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday, September 24, 2022**

=====

Way back in 2011, during my first AGM as national executive director, I recall speaking about a **long-term vision** for building a bright and prosperous future for this national charitable organization. This vision was defined as an opportunity to look at things that were realistically achievable, and would serve as a guiding and reinforcing statement of intent, of focus and of ongoing commitment to help better the lives of those persons who are deafblind and their families.

Later that same year in Fredericton, the National Board discussed and confirmed a **Strategic Plan** which focused on the need:

- for increased visibility;
- for improved communication, internally and externally;
- for better collaboration with stakeholders and like-minded organization in the NFP sector;
- for cost-effective administration and management of both volunteer and financial resources; and
- for new and innovative services to members who are deafblind and their families.

How have we done? It is anticipated that the newly-elected National Board of Directors will embark on a **new Strategic Plan** encompassing the next 5 years, from 2023-2028. This will for sure be the time to reflect on what we have accomplished; on the opportunities we may have missed; and on the immense challenges ahead.

The welcomed return of our annual “**Lend-a-Hand**” **charity golf tournament**, after being cancelled in 2020, proved to be quite a success. Our primary fundraiser was sponsored again by insurance giant Cooperators and raised much needed funds, despite COVID-related protocols. Ten percent (10%) of net proceeds are put into our National Support Fund which provides emergency funds, upon application, for CDBA members who are deafblind and their families.

For the 8th consecutive year, “**Deafblind Awareness Month**” was celebrated during the month of June with a “yarn bombing” theme crafted by Deafblind International (DbI). This global phenomenon saw over 20 countries come together to yarn bomb for deafblind awareness. Activities in Canada were coordinated by a working committee of representatives from a number of not-for-profits in the field of deafblindness, including CDBA. Unfortunately, the traditional Senate of Canada Reception in Ottawa was reduced to a “meet & greet” scenario due to the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the past year was difficult in many ways, pandemic restrictions have actually benefited the Association financially. I will leave it to our accountant Peter Shennett to expand on this during his **Audited Financial Report**.

As I reported last year at this time, CDBA National had to manage its operations under a cloud of uncertainty, not ever really sure of the level of **government funding** it could count on. However, in April 2019, the Office of Disability Issues, through the Social Development Partnership Program-Disability (SDPP-D) program, made our annual “sustaining” grant more “operational”, moving away from an emphasis on “project and outcomes-based funding, and in the process, approving \$45,000 annually for three years through April 2022. This funding agreement has since been extended another year, through April 2023!

It must be noted that a **Federal grant application**, which was submitted for the same amount of \$45,000 annually over 3 years starting on April 1, 2023, has not yet been approved.

In August of 2020, the federal government approved our application for an additional \$11,244 **to enhance our communications and engagement activities during, and affected by, the pandemic**. To date this money has not been completely spent. Some of the \$7,600 surplus will be used to cover the cost of our 8-10 minute you-tube awareness video. Since awareness of deafblindness is so much an integral part of what we do, this video, which will be slated for posting on our website, should turn out to be a very useful tool.

Additionally, **National is currently updating and re-designing its website**. A portion of these surplus funds will also be used to cover costs related to this project.

Your Association continued to communicate with members, their families, partner agencies and interested parties via our **bi-annual "Intervention" news magazine; a quarterly e-newsletter** with deafblind news from Canada and around the globe; and **regular e-blasts** about issues and newsworthy announcements of interest to CDBA.

When **CDBA Alberta** ceased its formal operations a couple of years ago, due in large part to volunteer exhaustion and lack of staff, AB Chapter funds were transferred to CDBA National to be managed. Recent internal discussions about how to utilize this money has resulted in the creation of a **Memorial Scholarship in the name of Wayne Turnbull**, a deafblind consumer, volunteer and advocate from the province of Alberta.

To conclude, although the current financial position of the Association is encouraging, there are **3 key issues to be addressed going forward**.

The first is to find a new corporate Title Sponsor for our annual golf

tournament fundraiser. The Cooperators after 3 years is moving on due to a significant change in circumstances.

The second is Board succession planning, which is directly related to our National Bylaws which restrict the number of Directors-at-Large to the same number of Chapter Reps, currently 3 & 3. It may be time for this 1 to 1 ratio to be increased to 2 to 1, if for no other reason but to impact workload on Board members who are also asked to serve on one or more standing committees in addition to their 9-10 monthly Board meetings during the fiscal year.

The third issue involves member recruitment and retention. The number of members in good standing with voting privileges at the 2021 AGM fell to 141, down from 2020 when the number was 158. This year, the number has dropped once again to 123. In comparison, at the end of August 2015, we had 277 members paid and in good standing. This decline will merit future discussion by the National Board about potential solutions. The impact of COVID-19 on Chapter summer programs certainly has been a factor, especially in Ontario when CDBA Ontario decided to break rank with CDBA National and re-brand itself. It is a fact that since 2011, we have lost Chapters in Manitoba, Ontario and Alberta.

Good news is 2-year membership renewals have remained relatively constant year over year, suggesting a significant core of recurring members. CDBA has essentially an aging membership base that perhaps has not been engaged or activated fully as advocates and sources of knowledge. I take some responsibility for this. There are in my view lost opportunities when we don't fully benefit from the many "lived" experiences our member families have to share. We need to solicit more participation.

Our membership breakdown compared with the past 2 years looks like this:

	Aug 2020	Aug 2021	Aug 2022
• Individual	81	69 (-12)	56 (-13)
• Family	22	22	14 (- 8)
• Associate	33	29 (-4)	32 (+3)
• Lifetime	19	17 (-2)	17
• Corporate	3	4 (+1)	4
TOTAL	158	141	123

I am very grateful for the outstanding work throughout the year of those 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

A particular thank you goes out to the CDBA National Board of Directors for their unselfish volunteer contributions throughout the past year, and to CDBA Chapter executive directors Theresa, Dana/Leanne and Kevin respectively for their steadfast support of me personally and for National in general. I have the utmost respect and admiration for these professionals and for the superb job that they do day in and day out! I thank them sincerely!

Respectfully submitted,

Tom McFadden
Executive Director
CDBA National

CDBA-New Brunswick Chapter 2021-2022 Annual Report *Kevin Symes, Executive Director 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.

Board of Directors CDBA-NB has a wonderful group of Board members who believe in the services and the people we work with. We are currently seeking new Board members; if you or someone you know would be interested in becoming involved, please let us know.

Intervention Services: NB/PEI Intervention Services are provided through the Department of Social Development. Hours of Intervention vary depending on the client's needs. CDBA-NB is currently servicing 22 clients with 24 Intervenors.

Independent Living: There have been many challenges, however, CDBA-NB believes that this is well worth all the effort and is still wishes to move this project forward.

Awareness: This year has been a challenge, because of all the Covid 19 restrictions. However, CDBA-NB took part in a global "Yarn Bombing" initiative. CDBA-NB wrapped a tree in front of the New Brunswick Legislative Build, for Deafblind Awareness Month. Intervenors and Clients also to part in activities in other parts of New Brunswick.

Work Placement Experiences and Training for Clients We have several clients who work in a variety of different job placements with their Intervenor, such as: Value Village (Saint John), Superstore (Fredericton), Sobeys (Bathurst), CDBA-NB office (Fredericton) & SPCA (Bathurst) CDBA-NB clients also volunteer at the library, food bank, Boutique Encore, SpinCo Fredericton & the Veterans Center.

Newsletter The staff continues to produce two newsletters a year - June and December. Intervenors, please send us pictures and stories about your client so that we can share them with the other members of CDBA-NB.19

CDBA-NB Office Staffing

Sheena continues to work as the Administrative Support role with supports from her Intervenor. Carol Kennard is our Office Manager; Chantel Whitman is the Manager of Intervention Services and Kevin Symes is the Executive Director. If you have any concerns or questions, please let us know.

Staff Training:

Intervenors usually have a Home Care 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).

Funding Requests

Submissions were made to several different groups for support. The names of the organizations that support CDBA-NB can be found in the Fundraising Report.

Summer Camp:

We hope to be able to move forward with a CDBA-NB Camp in the summer of 2023. It has been a while since we have all been together. The families and Intervenors should receive more information in Spring of 2023.

Other activities:

To offset the loss of this year's camp, we are doing various day trips taking into consideration the Covid 19 health guidelines. This year the Intervenors and clients decided what they would like to do. So, examples are day trips to the Moncton Zoo, day trip to Fredericton Clay Café, movie and a meal and some simply went out for a meal. CDBA-NB helps support our clients in several different ways. movie passes, bowling, sensory garden, swimming, gym/exercise, golf, and "clubhouse" to name a few.

Lorna Thompson Memorial Snoezelen Room

The Snoezelen room is now open to outside groups. We have been cleaning the room after each use as per Department of Health guidelines.

Teaching Kitchen:

The teaching kitchen is now open for use. We hope, to soon, have Intervenors and clients back in the kitchen and cooking.

NBDEN

CDBA-NB is a member of NBDEN. As a result of our work with NBDEN we have had an increased policy engagement, there are significant policy changes that have had extremely positive impacts on persons with a disability in New Brunswick. For more information about NBDEN and what we do, please contact the CDBA-NB Executive Director.

CDBA-NB Activities

This year, CDBA-NB has been a part of several outside committees. Some of these activities are as follows: ADAPT Standards Review Committee, ReThink Ability Steering Committee, National Deafblind Awareness Committee, DBI Ottawa 2023 Sponsorship Committee and CDBA-National Board of Directors conference calls.

“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.

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 through Intervention. 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

Kevin Symes
Executive Director

**CDBA CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT FORM
2022 National AGM**

1. Name of Chapter: CDBA SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER INC

2. Address & Contact Information 110 ANDERSON CRES, SASKATOON, SK S7H
4C2 306-374-0022 OFFICE 306-374-0004 FAX

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

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

5. Name of Executive Director or Senior Staff: LEANNE KERR – EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

6. Chapter of CDBA National since: 1985

7. Number of CDBA Members: 13

8. Number of Employees:

Full-time: 16

Part-time: 33

Contract: 0

9. Number of Freelance Contractor Interpreter/Intervenors: 0

10. Number of Volunteers: 0

11. Board of Directors Listing and Title:

President: AL LOVE

Vice-President: CATHY LEONARD

Treasurer: CHRIS GONARI

Secretary: EZNA GROENEWALD

Directors: EVELYN MATHEIS

J. ALLAN MATHEIS

RANDY KLEIN

LINDA TAYLOR

ALICIA RUIZ

VERN FIOR

Interpreter/Intervenor Coordinator: N/A

Past President: AL LOVE

12. Chapter Incorporation #122537640RR0001

13. Chapter Mission and Mandate: The Canadian Deafblind Association provides individualized programs that honor the unique needs of persons with Deafblindness, while advocating for optimal independence and quality of life that ensures dignity and respect. All people who are Deafblind will live rich and meaningful lives.

14. Types of Programs and Services: CDBA will provide each Individual with Intervenors who mediate between the Deafblind Individual and their environment so as to allow the Individual to communicate effectively as they are served through residential and day programs.

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

CDBA SK Board of Directors will develop a strategic plan. Ratify a new Collective Agreement for the next 3 yr term.

2021/2022 Year in review:

Leanne stepped into the Executive Director Role at CDBA-SK on a temporary basis at the end of December 2021, and by the beginning of February, the position became permanent. When Dana resigned, there was a bit of a shuffle within the management team with one of the Supervisors moving into the Program Admin Assistant role and the hiring of a new Supervisor at the Kerr home.

We are currently serving 10 Individuals (1 of which is a child under Child and Family Programs). Arrianna H. finally moved in to the Kerr house in September 2021 after a very lengthy admission process.

CDBA continues to work with the VADIS group and the Reference Team within CDBA. The Reference Team works together with the staff to help build a healthier workplace culture. We recorded some "Tea Time" sessions for those who could not attend while they were happening. While this was helpful when we were not meeting as a larger group, we have now moved this format to the monthly staff meetings. Increasing communication and building a healthy workplace is very important to CDBA and we plan to continue working on this.

Highlights this year were:

- Lots more family contact over this past year and the start-up of in-home family visits
- The CNIB invited us to a picnic in Prince Albert as well as their deafblind community awareness event at Lawson Civic Centre
- Staff appreciation in March with notepads and pens (with a personalized note for each staff)
- Disability Service Professional week, acknowledged with tasty treats for our Intervenors

- Saskatchewan declared June as deafblind awareness month, matching that of other provinces.
- The Summer Student grant was awarded again for this summer.

Training is getting back on track now that we are able to hold more in-person training sessions. There have also been a huge number of new Intervenors hired in the last few months, so everyone is working very hard at orientating them with everything they need to know to support the Individuals and be successful at CDBA.

The annual golf tournament with the support of MacDermid Lamarsh was held on June 1. This was held at The Legends Golf Club in Warman and the reception was at the Brian King Centre with Touch of Ukraine providing supper. Despite the exceptionally windy day, so many people were saying this was the most fun they have had at our golf tournament. MacDermid Lamarsh and our own board of directors were instrumental in the success of this tournament. We ended up raising a total of \$22,656.95 this year!

CDBA-SK has partnered with several agencies in Saskatchewan in order to offer a Truth and Reconciliation speaker series for team members throughout the disability sector. Dr. Jarvis Swidrovich is an incredible speaker and we were so fortunate to be able to release that on National Indigenous Peoples Day. The second speaker, Raven Sinclair, will be released on September 30, The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Both of these speakers have remarkable stories to tell which helps everyone gain a bit of understanding of their past history and why it is important to acknowledge the truth.

Although this past year has been filled with significant change and new challenges, we never deviate from our goal of providing quality care for people with deafblindness.

**CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT FORM
CDBA National AGM
September 24, 2022**

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, ED
6. **Chapter of CDBA National since:** 1978; incorporated 2012
7. **Number of CDBA Members:** 27
8. **Number of Employees:**
 - Full-time:**2
 - Part-time:** 1
 - Contract:** 57 Seasonal Intervenors
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
Crystelle Jensen
Scott Mallinson
Angela Uncles
 - 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:

- o Promote public awareness of deafblindness as a unique disability.
- o Promote the philosophy of deafblind Intervention.
- o Work with government and other agencies to initiate and promote the development of programs designed to provide Intervention for individuals who are congenitally deafblind.
- o Support the service delivery component of the organization.
- o Promote training in the areas of deafblindness and deafblind Intervention.
- o 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:**

- 2021-22: Provided support to children with deafblindness throughout BC.
- 31 children (7 months to 6 years old/school entry)
- 5 children were new referrals
- 9 outreach families: 23 local families
- 209 virtual visits; 120 hours of virtual outreach support
- 19 in-home visits during gradual re-entry to in-person visits
- 11 children attended preschool/daycare
- 11 children transitioned to Kindergarten September 2021
- Deafblind education, training sessions and joint visits were provided to preschools and daycares primarily virtually throughout BC, as well as to the professional teams and families of the children.
- Parent sharing workshop sessions were held virtually throughout the year.

• **Intervention Program:**

- Summer IP 2021 (9 weeks)
- 48 participants
- 4 preschooler-age and 44 school-age
- 64 Intervenors employed
- Winter IP 2021-22
- 24 participants
- 2 preschooler-age and 22 school-age
- 27 Intervenors employed
- Spring IP 2022
- 33 participants
- 2 preschooler-age and 31 school-age
- 38 Intervenors employed

• **Virtual Recreation Program:**

- Continues to be a strong program and offers opportunity for networking, sharing and consultation.

- Planned and facilitated by our Intervenor Resource Team.
- We held 6 activities through the summer, 2 for the Fall, 2 for the Winter and 2 for the Spring.
- Children/youth with deafblindness, their Intervenors and families welcome, as well as CDBA-BC Members.
- Boxes of corresponding craft supplies were shipped to each child's home
- Activities include all sensory components and are designed to meet the needs of all participants. We also include many theme-related corresponding ASL signs, as well as fun songs and stories.

- **Youth Transition Program:**

- Training (Adult Services/Consult) and PATHS continued to be suspended due to the pandemic, but some are planned for the 2022-23 year.
- Supported 6 youth moving through the transition phase to adult services.
- Participated in many school team meetings for Kindergarten transitions and school IEPs.

- **Intervenor Training**

- New training program for our Intervenors.
- We have adopted (and are adapting) the Modules from the Open Hands, Open Access Modules from the Minnesota Deafblind Project.
- 11 students participated in 2 modules: *The Sensory System, The Brain and Learning*, and *'Intervenor Strategies'*.

- **Projects**

- Intervenor/or Community of Practice: Munch 'n' Learn' workshops – 2
- Dbl Network of the Americas: Topical Discussions – 2
- National Deafblind Awareness Month
- Proclamations were made provincially and in some BC communities.
- Venues and landmarks were illuminated in blue across BC.
- Communities participated in Yarn-bombing.

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 and to bring back our Summer Recreation Program.
- To continue to offer and enhance training opportunities for Intervenors through our training program.
- To develop and offer our training program to a parent cohort.
- 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.

CANADIAN DEAFBLIND ASSOCIATION

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS

2022-23 National Board of Directors

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

Carolyn Monaco (Ontario)

Christina St. Amand (Ontario)

Suzanne McConnell (Nova Scotia)

Chapter Representative to be appointed for a 2-year term

*Linda Taylor (Saskatchewan Chapter)

Chapter Representative to be re-appointed for a 1-year term

*David Brown (New Brunswick Chapter)

*Wanda Schellenberg (British Columbia Chapter)

***Appointed by their respective Chapter Boards**

CDBA CHAPTER OFFICE CONTACTS

British Columbia Chapter

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

Alberta Liaison

Frances Jablonca
334 Silver Ridge Crescent NW
Calgary AB
T3B 3T5
E-mail : mac5jab@gmail.com

Saskatchewan Chapter

Leanne Kerr, 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
(506) 452-1544 (B)
(506) 451 - 8309 (F)
E-mail: k.symes@cdba-nb.ca

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
J. Allan Matheis

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
2008	Linda Mamer & Jon van Bilsen
2009	Roger Hunter
2014	Michael Stewart Sr.
2016	J. Allan Matheis
2017	Suzanne McConnell
2018	Dwain McLean
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
2002	Cherry Bulmer
2003	Joan Mactavish
2007	Jocelyn Meroniuk-Vezey
2008	Kristi Clark
2015	Sonia Bianchi
2016	Lenora Spencer
2017	Daisy Lor
2018	Jacky Mackenzie
2021	Bonnie Middlemiss
2022	Donna Lagace

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 Girdi
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	Crystal Shiranthi
2018	Clarissa Gregorio
2019	Jemma Waito-Taylor
2020	Sara MacLean-Walsh
2021	Sarah Porter

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	Carson Finkeldey
2021	Tabatha Morin