



2016/2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Northern Alberta's
Annual General Meeting February 9, 2017



Our Mission Statement: To improve the quality of life for people affected by spina bifida and hydrocephalus through advocacy, research, education, and support.



ADMINISTRATION

Office:

- Megan Gergatz-McMorran worked as the Program Manager for 20 hours/week
- Danielle Schmidt shared the position of Program Manager with Megan and worked 20 hours/week
- Pariyanka Chandan worked for 359 hours over the summer as our Fundraising Event Coordinator to organize and run the Hope Classic

Membership:

- We have 265 members on our Membership List
- 97 members renewed their membership during the last fiscal year
- Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL): A subscribe or unsubscribe email has been sent out to all of our members to get their email consent, so that we can comply with the legislation that comes into effect July 2017

Strategic Plan:

- The Board continues to follow the Strategic Plan that was developed in March 2012 and the priorities identified at the adult focus group on January 2013
- A meeting to reevaluate the Strategic Plan was held on February 8, 2017

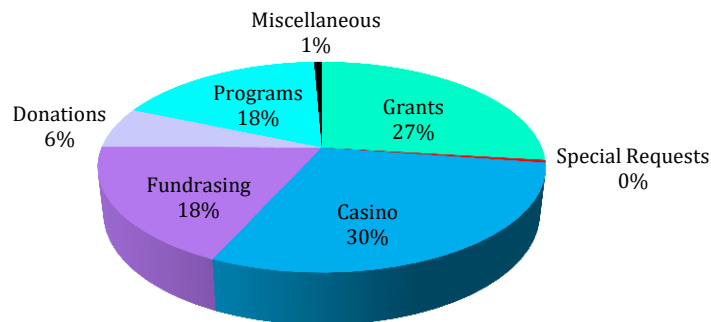
Fund Development:

- The SBHANA Casino was held on July 31st & August 1st, 2016 at Century Casino with Margaret Miller as the Casino Chairperson again this year
 - AGLC Casino money in the amount of \$75,314.53 was received in November 2016
 - SBHANA's next Casino will be in the third quarter (July, August, or September) of 2018
- Successful fundraisers & public awareness events held this year:
 - Comedy for a Cause: Silent Auction towards the Adult Cruise at Rick Bronson's The Comic Strip **\$2284.15**
 - Hope Classic income **\$18,296.90** 20% of proceeds excluding corporate donations went to SBHAC; **profit \$15,077.52**
 - Skate for Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus income **\$1,170.00**
 - Raffle (drawn at skate event) income **\$3,030.00** (profit **\$2,900.27**)
 - KMS Smokie Sale **\$977.80** (proceeds went to the Adult Retreat)
 - June Awareness Paint Parti **\$405.00**
 - Christmas Party Silent Auction **\$750.00**
 - Giving Tuesday **\$725.00**
- Received the following Grants:
 - 1) Community Initiatives Program Operating Grant (CIP) – Government of Alberta (\$25,000)
 - 2) Royal Alexandra Hospital Employees' Charitable Donations Fund (\$1,000)
 - 3) Community Board Donation – TELUS (\$3,000)
 - 4) Canada Summer Jobs - Government of Canada (\$3,384)

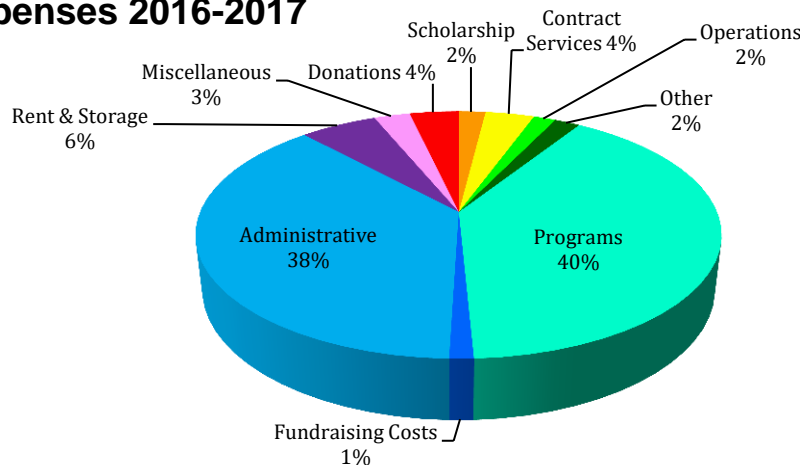


- 5) Union 52 Benevolent Society (\$2,000)
 - 6) Edmonton Public Teachers Association Local 37 of the Alberta Teacher's Association (\$12,000 to be used for Camp Freedom 2017)
- Special Requests received:
 - 1) Butler Family Foundation (\$500)

Total Income 2016-2017



Total Expenses 2016-2017



ADVOCACY

- SBHANA is represented at meetings held by the following:
 - Interagency Committee on Recreation for Persons with Special Needs
 - Alberta Disabilities Forum
 - Royal Alexandra Hospital Celebration of Giving
 - SCI- AB Community Developer to provide feedback regarding the Federal Accessibility Legislation
- Member of the Alberta Disability Forum, Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations, and Voice of Albertans with Disabilities



RESEARCH

- Did not receive any donations for research in the 2016 year

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

- Cindy Smith (president) spoke at the University of Alberta to students in the Occupational Therapy 557 course in September 2016
- Community Services Learning project: Megan Gergatz-McMorran & Danielle Schmidt spoke to the U of A's ANAT 400 class on January 12, 2017 about the SBHANA and the projects we are offering
- City of Edmonton requested feedback regarding catheter shelves in the accessible bathrooms in Rogers Place: Danielle Schmidt attended a meeting at Rogers Place on January 12, 2017 to discuss placement of catheter shelves in the accessible bathroom

COMMUNITY BUILDING

- Advertised like-minded organizations, programs and services through our updates and opportunity emails and our newsletter
- Wrote a letter to City of Edmonton Mayor, Don Iveson, in regards to proclaiming June SB&H month
- International Day for Persons with Disabilities – we donated one Cineplex gift card as a door prize and Megan Gergatz-McMorran manned a display at the event

EDUCATION

SB/H Awareness:

- The SBHANA participated in the 2016 Educational Assistants Conference on February 19, 2016 at MacEwan University, set up a display and handed out Education Manuals
 - Quality of Life DVD & Educator Manual– Danielle handed out 8 of these
- June Awareness Month 2016: High Level bridge was lit green on June 6th, Bridge banners were placed on three overpasses around the city, Awareness Displays for SB&H were set up and manned by volunteers at the following locations: KMS Tools for 3 days, Skate for SB&H, and we planned a new Awareness event: Paint the Night Paint Parti held at The Druid.



- Millicent Omenta, a student from the University of Alberta finisher her 20 hour Community Service Learning placement with SBHANA working on social media in April 2016



- Hope Classic Media: Pariyanka Chandan, Marisha & Alice Milette did an on television interview with CTV & Morgan Cathcart did an interview at the Hope Classic for CTV
 - Represented at the Hope Classic - Now Radio (trucksicle)
- International Day for Persons with Disabilities IDPD – Megan Gergatz-McMorran set up and manned our information display

Staff Education:

- Danielle Schmidt attended the MED Mobility Education Day on October 20, 2016

MEMBER SUPPORT

Information Updates:

- Regular emails sent out to membership with Information in Updates and Opportunities and website kept up to date with current information

Social Activities:

- Summer BBQ held in conjunction with the Hope Classic on August 13, 2016 with over 200 people in attendance.
- Christmas Party was held on November 26, 2016 with 135 members, family members, volunteers and staff who attended.
- There was no Mom's potluck dinner held this past year. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the dinner plans were cancelled.

Camp Freedom:

- 17th annual camp was held on July 28th - 31st, 2016 with 22 campers from all around Western Canada and 15 volunteers
- Nominated for Laurel Awards



Support Fund:

- Approved **29** different support fund requests with a total value of \$17337.20
- Budget stayed at \$18,000/year, funding remains at up to \$1,000 per member with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus per year
- Health & Wellness component of the support fund continues to fund up to \$500 towards medical/wellness expenses on a one-time or trial basis

Member Education Fund:

- The member education fund was not accessed in the year of 2016

Scholarship:

- There were three scholarship recipients this year: Morgan Cathcart, Matthew Veeneman and Gbemiro Adegubuyi were given the Dr. Peter Bowen Scholarship receiving \$1,000 each towards their post-secondary education



Wheelchair Loaner Program:

- 2 Quickie Kids wheelchairs available for short-term loans
- Both are still loaned out over the course of the year; no new requests for the wheelchairs have been made

New Parent Bags:

- 8 new parent bags were assembled by Sharon Veeneman this past year
- The bags are distributed through the Spina Bifida Clinic at the Glenrose. 6 of the 8 bags were distributed in 2016. 1 bag was distributed in January 2017. The Clinic still has 2 bags left to hand out to new parents.

NoLimits Support Evenings

- Coffee nights continued throughout the year on the first Thursday of each month
- Social and educational support evenings were delivered on a monthly basis (had July, August and December off)
- NoLimits members helped out with the Raffle, KMS Smokie Sale, Hope Classic and Christmas Party

Information Referrals & Support

- Numerous calls and visits to the SBHANA office for information and support
- Several adults living with SB&H calling & visiting for support
- Hospital visit to one adult member this past year

COMMUNICATION

Newsletter:

- Three editions (Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Winter 2017) were published this year with several member contributions: article ideas, articles, member spotlights and support fund thank you articles

Website:

- Updates to the website have been done throughout the year of 2016; no major changes done

SBHAC:

- Renewed our membership with the National association
- Donated \$2000 towards Operating Costs to SBHAC
- Donated **\$3,219.38** from the Hope Classic
- Danielle Schmidt & Sean Bouffard attended the AGM teleconference on October 18, 2016
- Participated in the Virtual Tree Campaign 2016-2017