



Together, we can.

RICK HANSEN FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT: FISCAL 2014



Thank You

The disability community is a large one and each person has unique needs and opportunities. Inspired by this community, the teams at the Rick Hansen Foundation and Rick Hansen Institute find solutions to meet their needs.

Solutions can only happen in partnership with our committed donors. Thank you to our government funders, corporate partners, philanthropists, donors and volunteers for funding innovative research in the care and treatment of spinal cord injury; for helping to fund the equipment and technology that improves the quality of life for many; for supporting our goal to encourage young people to practice inclusion and difference making in their daily lives; and to everyone who ultimately supports our goal of increasing accessibility in our communities and actively removing barriers for people living with disabilities.



Vision:
*An inclusive society
without barriers.*

Illustration courtesy of Alanna Hansen

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Our Vision

An inclusive society without barriers.

Our Mission

To inspire leaders, influencers and the public to contribute to Rick Hansen's continuing journey to accelerate progress towards a healthier and more inclusive world.







Message from the CEO and Board Co-Chairs



Dear Friends,

Our goal is to break down the barriers faced by people with disabilities. We can make that goal a reality by working together and empowering others to create a world where people living with disabilities, including paralysis after spinal cord injury, can fully participate and contribute.

This annual report features stories of how people like you — our passionate community of partners, donors and volunteers — are accelerating the pace of advancements in spinal cord injury research and care, creating awareness and improving accessibility and inclusion for the benefit of the nine million Canadians that will face some form of disability by the year 2030.



Together, we are making a difference — thank you.

We would like to express our gratitude to our Board of Directors, our hard working staff and community of volunteers for their dedication. We are tremendously grateful to our funders and donors who made our accomplishments possible, including the Government of Canada (through Western Economic Diversification), provincial and territorial governments, corporate partners, philanthropists and community supporters.

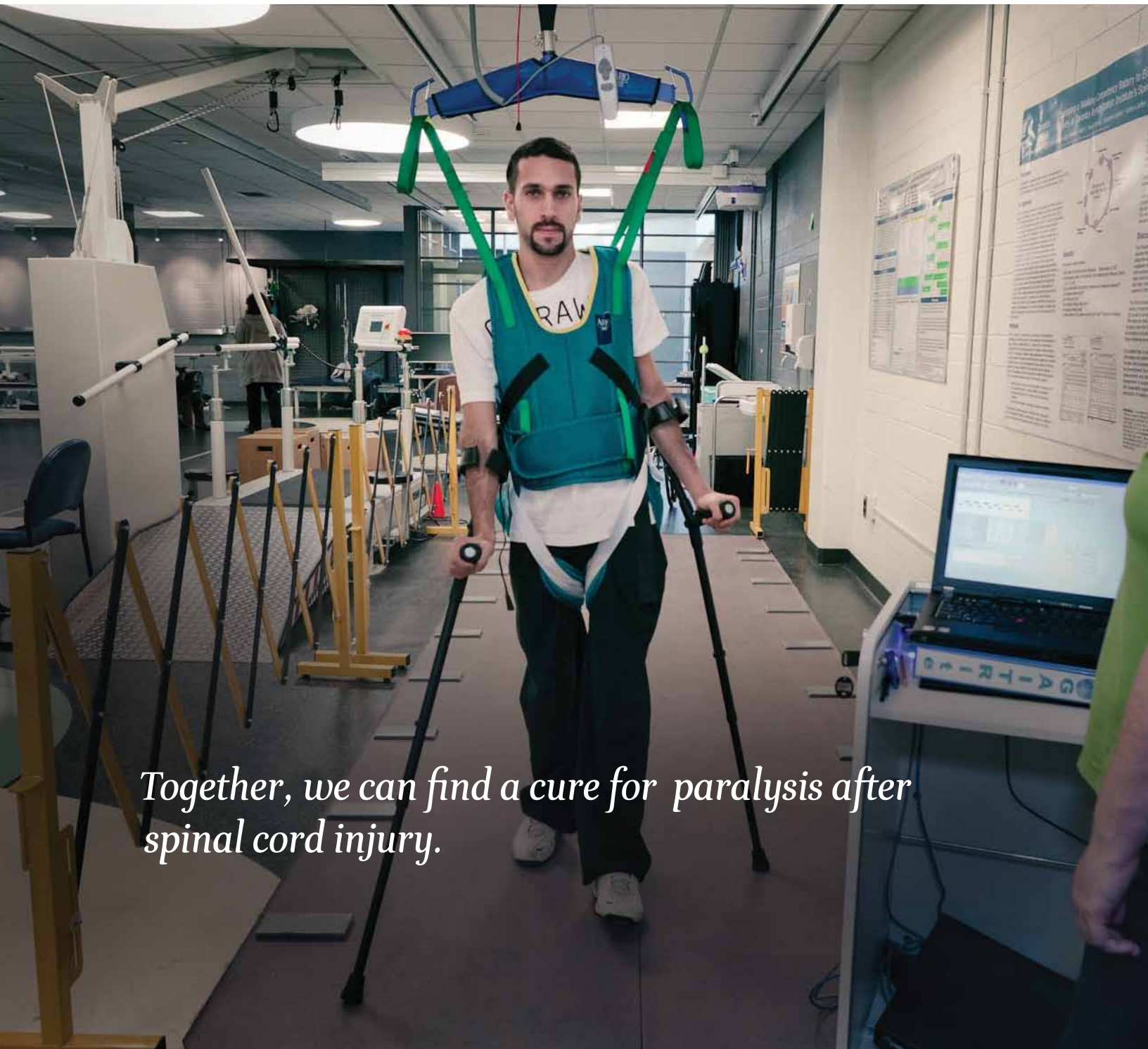
So much has changed for the better since the 1985–1987 Man In Motion World Tour: perceptions, attitudes, accessibility and far more inclusion in business, the arts and sports. But until the day comes when a person with a disability is seen as a true equal, there is still much to be done.




Rick Hansen, C.C., O.B.C.
Chief Executive Officer
Rick Hansen Foundation


Lyall Knott, Q.C.
Co-Chair, Board of Directors
Rick Hansen Foundation


George Gaffney
Co-Chair, Board of Directors
Rick Hansen Foundation



Together, we can find a cure for paralysis after spinal cord injury.

Research and Innovation

A spinal cord injury can have a devastating impact on the health, well-being and financial security of the injured, their families and the community.

New research continues to revolutionize the treatment of spinal cord injury. With your help, we are mitigating the unsustainable human and economic costs of this condition and solidifying Canada's reputation as a global leader in spinal cord injury research and care.

Thanks to you, the Rick Hansen Foundation (the Foundation) is providing the essential funding needed to cultivate critical research capacity through the Rick Hansen Institute, partners at the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre, researchers and research centres across Canada.



Rick Hansen Institute

Together, we can identify cures for spinal cord injury and translate research into new treatments and technologies to improve lives.

The Rick Hansen Institute (RHI), an innovation established and funded by the Rick Hansen Foundation, is guided by the vision of a world without paralysis after a spinal cord injury (SCI). To achieve this goal, we connect scientists and clinicians in Canada and around the world. Together, these leaders in spinal cord research are improving the treatment and care of people living with an SCI.

RHI galvanizes researchers, clinicians, coordinators and the spinal cord injury community across Canada and around the world to harness and share their collective knowledge to deliver research and treatment results. The focus of RHI's work is identifying cures for spinal cord injuries and translating research into the treatments and technologies required to improve the quality of life for individuals with such injuries.

In Fiscal 2014, RHI supported 45 projects in translational research, best practice implementation, informatics, consumer engagement and networking projects, and engaged with 43 international SCI experts in various advisory committees. The RHI research network grew to over 1,500 participants spanning 30 countries.



What is the Rick Hansen Institute?

Established by the Foundation in 2007, RHI is a Canadian not-for-profit organization committed to accelerating the translation of discoveries and best practices into improved treatments for people with spinal cord injuries.

Photo on left: Blusson Spinal Cord Centre, home of the Rick Hansen Institute, International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD), the VCH Brenda and David McLean Spine Clinic and Physical Activity Research Centre (PARC).

This exciting growth was funded by Western Economic Diversification, the Government of Manitoba and the Government of Ontario, along with the support of our many partners and donors.

Key RHI Milestones:

- Solidified new partnerships to collaborate with the North American Clinical Trials Network, the Australian Institute for Safety, Compensation and Recovery Research, AO Spine, and the Queensland University of Technology.
- Facilitated connections between early-stage and emerging companies that are developing therapeutics and medical devices with applications to SCI and secondary complications to potential investors and partners by hosting two investment forums to date: the Biotech Showcase in San Francisco in January 2013; and BioPharm America in September 2013, in Boston, MA.
- Established the first international Rick Hansen SCI Registry (RHSCIR) site in Beijing at the Peking University Third Hospital in April 2014, with additional sites in New Zealand currently in development. Considered a model for multi-centre collaboration and clinical study management for research, the registry currently comprises a living network of over 70 principal investigators, RHSCIR coordinators and clinical staff from 31 facilities across Canada.
- In partnership with Accreditation Canada, released the first-ever comprehensive, evidence-based standards for SCI services delivered in Canada. Halifax's Capital District Health Authority, a member of the RHISCR network, became the first site (two facilities) to be granted national accreditation status as centres for SCI care by Accreditation Canada.
- Developed a free, web-based clinical examination tool (www.ISNCSCIAAlgorithm.com) to determine the impairment and severity of an SCI in partnership with international experts, improving accuracy of diagnosis and treatments for patients to maximize recovery. With over 5,500 return users from 108 countries, RHI has made an open source version of the algorithm available free of charge to support groups who want to integrate it into their own research databases and medical records.
- Partnered with community organizations such as Unite2Fight Paralysis and the Ontario SCI Solutions Alliance to promote SCI research participation and educate individuals with SCI and their families about the research progress.



Rick Hansen SCI Registry Goes Global

Beijing, China

Photo on top: Dr. Maria Barrados, Chair of Accreditation Canada International, Dr. Jie Qiao, President of Peking University Third Hospital and Mr. Bill Barrable, CEO of RHI. Looking on are the Hon. Rona Ambrose, Canada's Minister of Health, and the Hon. Li Bin, Minister of the China National Health and Family Planning Commission, and other members of the 4th Canada-China Health Policy Dialogue. Photo courtesy of Health Canada.

This past April, RHI, Peking University Third Hospital (PUTH) and Accreditation Canada International (ACI) announced that they will be working together to develop and implement best practice standards for spinal cord injury care in China. A unique opportunity to learn and combine best practices developed in both countries, implementation of these standards will ultimately ensure that the approximately 60,000 individuals who sustain a spinal cord injury in China each year receive the best possible care and health outcomes.

This agreement also marks the establishment of the first international Rick Hansen Spinal Cord Injury Registry site at PUTH enabling Chinese scientists to share data and participate in international multicentre clinical trials.





Improving Access to New Technologies: Gabriel Abotossaway

Manitoulin Island, Ontario

Gabriel Abotossaway can live in the comfort of his own home thanks to investments in SCI related technologies by the Rick Hansen Foundation and Rick Hansen Institute.

The Foundation and Institute played an important role in the recent Health Canada approval of the U.S.-based Synapse Biomedical NeuRx Diaphragm Pacing System (DPS), designed to assist people who lack control of

their diaphragms and are ventilator-dependent. With the approval from Health Canada, SCI patients throughout Canada can access this DPS technology previously only available to clinical trial participants or through the Medical Devices Special Access Program. This approval is the outcome of years of clinical research that began in 2007 when the Foundation and RHI assisted with funds to enable individuals from across Canada to participate in a clinical trial for the device. Today, thanks to this advancement, individuals like Gabriel can breathe and live independently.

Photo on top: Gabriel Abotossaway.

Photo on left: RHI staff member Scott Mousing.



ICORD: A Key Partner

Vancouver, BC

A key partner at the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre, ICORD is one of the many partners funded by the Foundation.

Collaborations between researchers at ICORD and around the world accelerate the pace at which new discoveries and treatments can be implemented. For example, thanks in part to funding from the Foundation, ICORD was able to purchase a Variable-Assist wearable bionic

suit which Dr. Tania Lam and her team will use to study gait and postural control – both of which are critical factors in enabling a patient to regain the ability to walk again after a SCI. Researchers are investigating the suit's potential application in rehabilitation. The Variable-Assist wearable bionic suit allows clinicians to challenge their patients' abilities, encouraging them to actively contribute to their recovery process.

Photo on top: This Variable-Assist wearable bionic suit, purchased by the Foundation, gives Dr. Tania Lam and her team the opportunity to understand how the body relearns the ability to walk.

Blusson Spinal Cord Centre

Together, we can support the partners at the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre involved in research and treatment of SCI.

The Blusson Spinal Cord Centre is an innovation of Rick Hansen, the Foundation, the University of British Columbia (via ICORD) and Vancouver Coastal Health. The Centre realizes Rick's vision of an integrated spinal cord injury research facility that accelerates the search for a cure. This integrated Centre is the first of its kind, bringing together 300 plus SCI research, treatment and project professionals under one roof with access to high quality research facilities and equipment. The Centre includes the Rick Hansen Institute, the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD), and Vancouver Coastal Health's multidisciplinary Brenda and David McLean Integrated Spine Clinic, all providing top quality clinical services and care.

The Foundation committed \$20 million over 10 years to the partners at the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre to support the development of a global model for leadership and collaboration, and the development and validation of SCI related treatments and cures.

Key milestones include:

- Grants provided researchers access to leading edge technologies, like the addition of a Variable-Assist wearable bionic suit at ICORD, that will push the boundaries of rehabilitation practices. Their findings inform best practices in

rehabilitation and will be shared with colleagues within RHI's national network of scientists and clinicians.

- Helped retain the best and brightest Canadian researchers by supporting their participation in spinal cord injury related research projects in Canada that expand our understanding of spinal cord injury and support international travel to increase global collaboration.
- Supported the Canada Research Chair in Rehabilitation Engineering Design representing a new partnership program between the BC Institute of Technology and ICORD. The program will ensure the development and application of technology to solve problems associated with spinal cord injury.
- Development of tele-health devices such as a portable bladder monitoring device that enables people with SCI to self-monitor their bladder without the use of a catheter. This allows individuals greater independence and reduces both unnecessary travel and associated healthcare costs.



Together, we can improve accessibility and inclusion for the benefit of the nine million Canadians who will face some form of disability by the year 2030.

Accessibility

Every year, the number of Canadians living with disabilities grows. Right now, one in seven people in Canada live with some form of disability. By 2030, that number will be one in five. With the support of donors and partners like you, we are able to provide mobility and accessibility related equipment and programming that enhances independence, community access and improves health.



“I’ve had an experience that affected me in the deepest parts of who I am and I will always be grateful for this chance.”

– Lisa Marie, Power to Be participant

Quality of Life Program

Together, we can help address priority needs for people with a range of physical disabilities.

Canadians with spinal cord injury and other physical disabilities can face a number of barriers in their daily lives. To minimize or remove barriers and improve their quality of life, the Foundation manages the Quality of Life Program. Grants are provided to support individuals and community projects that improve accessibility, remove barriers, and enable Canadians with physical disabilities to participate in and contribute to their community.

The Quality of Life Program is funded by donors like you. Re-introduced in April 2012, the Foundation granted \$270,000 to eligible recipients in F2014 — far short of what was requested of our organization. The Foundation team continues to work with current and potential donors to raise more donations and help fund the needs of Canadians with physical disabilities.

Thanks to your support, the Foundation provided funding for equipment (including gift-in-kind accessible vans) to 11 individuals for a total of \$217,397. In addition, funding reached more people in the disability community when we granted \$51,924 for special projects and programs run by six disability and community organizations.



Did you know?

More than 8 out of 10 people with disabilities use aids and assistive devices. Having the right aids can enable an individual to participate more fully in society.



Did you know?

The average cost of a manual wheelchair is \$4,000–\$5,000 and the average cost of a power wheelchair is \$10,000 – \$15,000.

Photo on left: Strengthening their connection to themselves through nature, participants like Lisa Marie of the Power to Be Adventure Therapy Society Adaptive Sea-Kayaking Program enjoy a day in the stunning waters of Deep Cove, BC thanks to funding from the Foundation's Quality of Life Program.

This year, the Quality of Life Program:

- Provided funding for equipment such as wheelchairs, a hospital bed, an adult tricycle, medical scooters, and a free-standing lift. Gift-in-kind wheelchair accessible vans were also granted in Alberta, Ontario and Newfoundland.
- Ensured seniors in Alberta have access to care providers who have basic knowledge of providing care for people with disabilities through the CPA Alberta Community Living Attendant Training Program.
- In partnership with the Yukon Council on disABILITY, provided equipment and services to improve the health and quality of life for those living in the Yukon Territory.
- Installed a wheelchair accessible wash-room for students at the Rick Hansen School in Mississauga, Ontario.
- Supported the participation of wheelchair curlers and coaches from Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Airie, Red Deer and Edmonton, at a three-day tournament hosted by the Calgary Wheelchair Curling Association.
- Supported the Power to Be Adventure Therapy Society's Adaptive Sea-kayaking Program in North Vancouver, which combines an ability-centered perspective that uses the benefits of nature to strengthen people's connections with themselves, their communities and their surroundings.



Adult Tricycle

Brandon and the Brubacher Family

“ Words can't express our gratefulness to all the donors who helped make the dream of a bike [a] reality for Brandon. He has a big grin on his face as he cruises along. It is a great exercise for him and strengthens his legs. Thank you! ”

Photo on right: Wheelchair curlers, including 15 new players to the sport, from Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Airie, Red Deer and Edmonton competing in the Calgary Wheelchair Curling Association's tournament this past March.





Freedom on the Outside: Woneta Matei

Victoria, BC

Photo on top: Woneta with her medical scooter that was funded by the Foundation's Quality of Life Grants Program.

Woneta suffers from fibromyalgia, a central nervous system disorder characterized by chronic widespread pain throughout the body, profound fatigue and depression. Thanks to donor support, Woneta received a Voyager Shoprider medical scooter through our Quality of Life Program. Having the scooter for transportation has contributed to a substantial decrease in Woneta's spinal pain and increased her energy level. Her ability to complete tasks and errands that she was previously unable to do has improved confidence and happiness. But most significantly, the scooter gives her the ability to access her community and support systems independently. Motivated to express her thanks and the positive impact that the scooter has on her quality of life, she shares the following poem.

Freedom on the Outside

*Freedom for me is being able to travel outside of the confines
of my dwelling to the open air*

*where I can feel a whisper of wind gently move through my hair
where I can smell the rain, or the flowers, or the trees
where I can hear both the sounds of the city
or the chirp of a bird when silence overtakes noise*

*where I can look up into the smile of a sunny sky
or watch the dance between the moon and the stars.*

*I now can be a part of the world around me...
Where I can window shop or enter a boutique of my choosing
Where I can speak to a bank teller in person
Where I can meet old friends or make new ones
Where I can stop beside a fire hydrant or a yellow curb
And not worry about getting a ticket.*

*For all of these things I am grateful
Not because I am riding on a Harley Davidsom or driving
a Porsche,
But because I now have a **'Voyager – Shoprider'***

MY medical scooter

*That can always take me to where I want to go,
When I want go
And this is more than enough.*

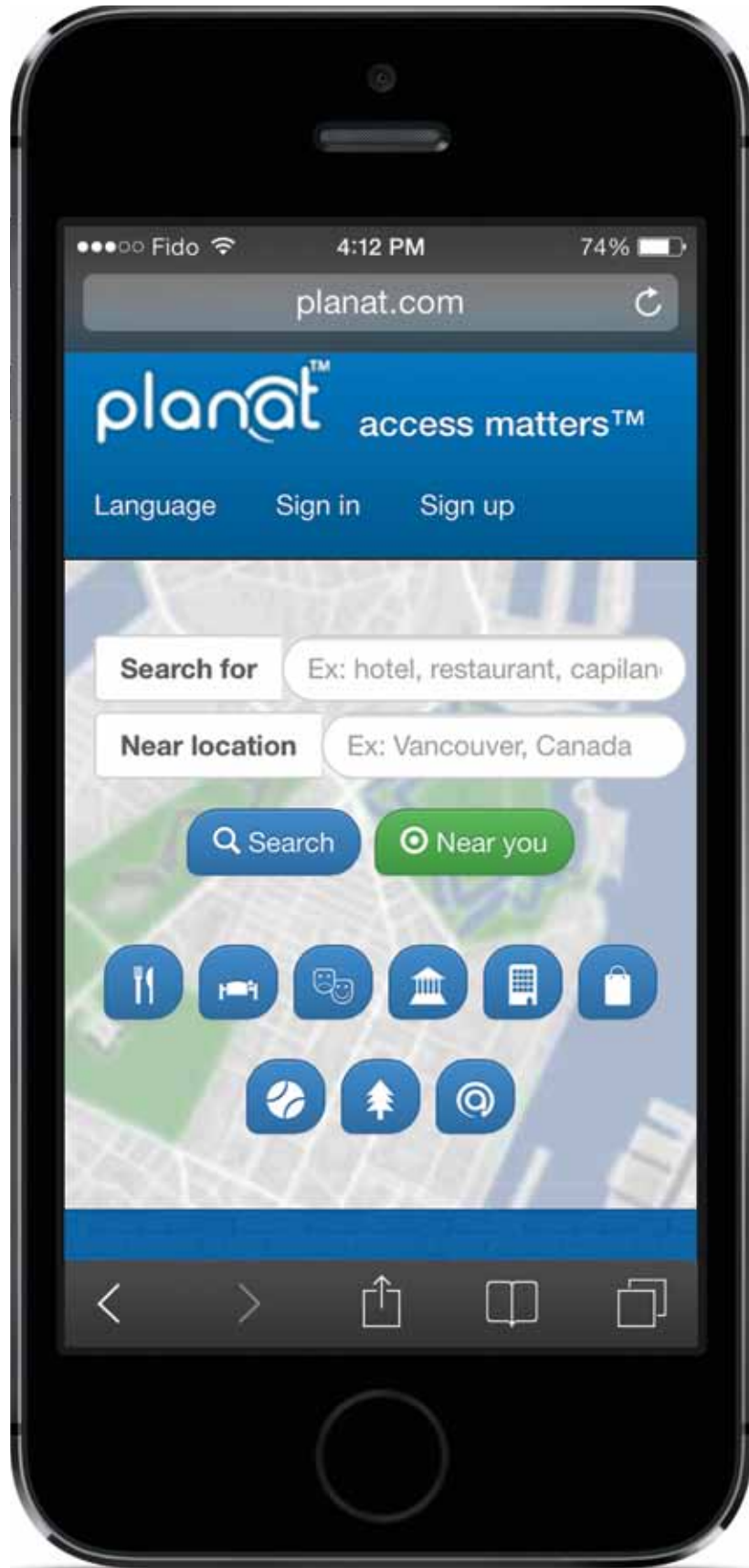
– Woneta M.



Invacare Scooter

Jazmin Pigeon

“ This [scooter] has greatly helped me with my independence. I can do more things with my toddler. I can go places without worrying as much about getting tired, as well as many other freedoms. This has been an amazingly powerful experience. I thank the Rick Hansen Foundation whole heartedly for giving me this opportunity. ”



planat™: access matters™

Together, we can be innovative in addressing barriers to accessibility.

The team at the Rick Hansen Foundation wants to make the world more accessible. That's why we developed **planat** — a web site that informs the public about the accessibility of public venues around the world.

planat is making lives better for people with mobility, hearing, and sight impairments through the use of accessibility ratings, photos and descriptions of public venues. **planat** celebrates accessibility, providing meaningful information to help everyone navigate our world.

planat provides a platform that lets businesses showcase their venue's inclusiveness. There are now 25,000 venue ratings from more than 20 countries. The ongoing growth of **planat** is directly related to the support and strong commitment of organizations like the City of Richmond, Carleton University, Accent Inns and Tourism Vancouver, as well as a number of local organizations and individuals dedicated to making their communities accessible.

This year, **planat**:

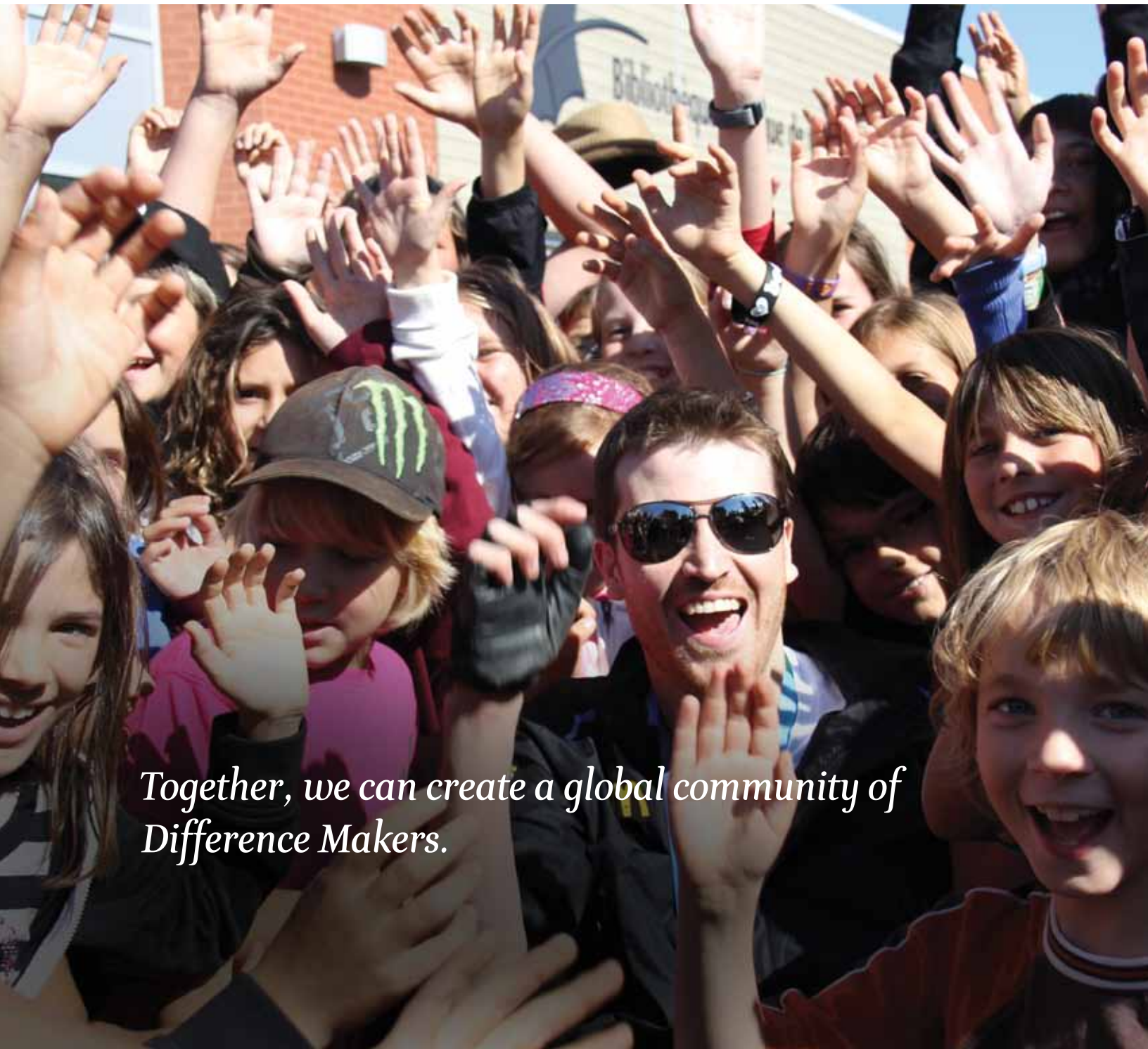
- Introduced a mobile version of the platform, refined the overall user experience and continued to cultivate and retain its user-base through special partnerships.
- The City of Richmond in British Columbia became the first municipality in Canada to promote the access of its public spaces by using **planat**.
- In partnership with the Yukon Council on disABILITY, supported the enhancement of Yukon listings in **planat** by conducting **planat** based accessibility reviews on a variety of Yukon venues.



Did you know?

The United Nations reports that more than 60 million people in North America, and 1 billion people worldwide* live with disabilities. This represents the world's largest minority, and one that is growing rapidly.

*Source:
<http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1607>



*Together, we can create a global community of
Difference Makers.*

Awareness

Rick Hansen and his Foundation team are committed to growing a global community of people who strive to make the world more inclusive and accessible by making a difference in their communities.



Rick Hansen Difference Maker participant

Colin Sunday

“Disability only disables you as much as you let it. [The Rick Hansen Difference Maker online campaign] is awesome to see. [It] makes people appreciate the help and ability they have!”



“Receiving the award made me feel really proud and makes me want to carry on helping other people.”

— Emerald Yun, Rick Hansen Difference Maker Award winner, BC

Rick Hansen School Program

Together, we are empowering and engaging youth to make a difference in their communities and supporting educators to create inclusive and accessible schools.



PRESENTING PARTNER

Rick and the Foundation team believe deeply in the power of youth to change the world. Our goal is to ensure that future generations of young Canadians practice inclusion and have the key skills to make a difference in their communities.

The Rick Hansen School Program curriculum is free to schools across Canada. During Fiscal 2014, 2,500 Canadian elementary and secondary schools participated in the School Program. Thanks to supporters like you, we updated the elementary school materials, developed materials for secondary school students and produced bilingual versions of all our teaching resources. The Abilities in Motion Program (formerly known as Schools in Motion) now includes lessons and activities



What is the Rick Hansen School Program?

The Program encourages Canadian schools to be inclusive and accessible for people with disabilities, and gives students the key skills to make a difference in their communities. We provide free, bilingual, multimedia teaching resources linked to the curricula for each province and territory.

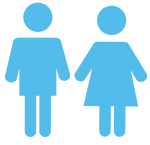
that help students experience how people with disabilities overcome challenges. The improved Difference Maker Program gives students the opportunity to participate in a one-month, teacher-led program using resources that instill social responsibility and empower students to make a difference in their school or local community.

This year, the Rick Hansen School Program:

- Introduced bilingual versions of all teaching resources and engaged Franco-phone and French Immersion schools in the Program.
- In collaboration with the Canadian Paralympic Committee, developed a set of thematic teaching materials exploring the 2014 Sochi Paralympic Games used by over 300 schools.
- With the Rick Hansen Ambassador Program, trained 25 Rick Hansen Ambassadors representing a range of disabilities to deliver inspirational presentations to student audiences in Vancouver and Toronto. Additional training workshops are planned for Ambassadors in Saskatchewan and Alberta.
- Developed a pilot program with RCMP Richmond and the Richmond school district in BC, to help Grades 6/7 students develop key leadership skills, undertake local community projects and be recognized as difference makers.
- Delivered a pilot workshop on inclusion in education to 300 Simon Fraser University student teachers.
- Worked with Deloitte LLP on a pro bono basis to measure the impact of the Program with a report to be delivered in Fall 2014.



The Rick Hansen School Program



545,790

You helped us reach 545,790 Canadian students this year with the story of Rick Hansen and the message of inclusion and difference making.



2,500

Active Schools in Canada: 2,162 (in March 2013) to 2,500 (in March 2014) and growing!



\$6,571

Students and schools across Canada raised \$6,571 for accessibility projects this year.



45,540

To date, our Difference Maker Awards have recognized 45,540 exceptional students who have made a difference



1.2 MILLION

By 2017, approximately 1.2 million Canadian students will have participated in the School Program since inception.



Tofield School Significant Objects Experiment

Tofield, Alberta

Photo on top left: Student Difference Maker Sierra and her mom, Teri.

Photo on top right: Sierra and her best friend Sara in California preparing for motocross season.

Sierra was a 16 year old professional women's motocrosser, Tier 2 level soccer player and runner who ran 12 km a day. She mentored young people, aspired to study Kinesiology at university and dreamed of one day competing at the Olympics.

Then one day she had an accident and became a paraplegic. In her mum's words, she handled it like a trooper. In Sierra's own words, "... it happened to me for a reason because others couldn't have handled it."

After her discharge from hospital, Sierra returned to school at full force. A few months later, her Grade 11 English class carried out a Significant Objects Experiment where students complete a piece of writing about an

insignificant object and then hold a silent auction to show the power of writing — an insignificant object becomes significant because of the story that is created around it.

To pick the charity that funds would go toward, students proposed and presented options and then voted as a class. Sierra suggested the Rick Hansen Foundation because of her personal experience with a SCI and her contact with the Foundation after her accident. When the class voted, the Foundation was chosen as almost everyone's first pick.

The Foundation arranged for Bryce Clarke, an RHF Ambassador from Edmonton, to speak to the school before the event. Bryce recently became the second quadriplegic in Canada to become an RCMP Detective. He told the students his story, focusing on the importance of attitude and perseverance. His presentation taught the students more about SCI and the work of the Foundation. Bryce voluntarily travelled to the school a second time on the night of the auction to answer questions and help people better understand where the money would go.

“In my opinion Bryce Clarke's presentation was one of the highlights of the night!” said Lindsey Kossey, the teacher in charge of this fantastic initiative. “Bryce was so gracious to travel out to Tofield in the middle of winter on a snowy night to come and speak to us. He put the audience at ease as he spoke about his own experience and the work of the Foundation.”

The auction raised over \$400, which was donated to the Rick Hansen Foundation.

“Thank you so much for your interest in helping us! Any chance to get the students actively involved in the world around them is a great experience!”

*- Lindsey Kossey, Teacher,
Tofield Secondary School*

Photo on bottom: Sierra and her brother, Zach.





“Jackie Silver’s presentation was a heart-warming story that focused on abilities, positive attitude and a ‘Can Do’ mind set. She provided a powerful message on equity, accessibility and inclusion. Thank you for sending us a fabulous Rick Hansen Ambassador.”

— Monica Joshan, Arbor Glen Public School, North York, Ontario

Rick Hansen Ambassador Program

Together, we can share powerful personal stories to make a positive difference in the world.

The Rick Hansen Ambassador Program showcases the powerful personal stories of individuals who are passionate supporters of the Rick Hansen Foundation. Many Ambassadors have overcome challenges in life and have thrived in the face of adversity. Often representing the Rick Hansen Foundation at schools and special events, these 171 volunteer ambassadors located in 87 cities across 10 provinces speak to the potential inherent in every person to make a positive difference in the world and highlight the importance of inclusion.



Doris Pantel Catellier

*“Excellent & truly inspiring speaker!
“Make a difference in your own way &
focus on what you can do, and not what
you can’t!” ”*





Meet an Ambassador: Jessica Kruger

Vancouver, BC

Before her accident, Jessica was an active 14 year old. She was working on a ladder when she fell, becoming a quadriplegic. In rehab, she dealt with the frustrations of living in a wheelchair, but soon realized that people in wheelchairs could do all the same things as someone able-bodied, just in a different way.

There are only 10 women in Canada that play wheelchair rugby — also known as murderball. This fiercely competitive, contact sport was created by and for quadriplegics. Jessica is one of those 10 exceptional Canadian women. Her goal is to make the national wheelchair rugby team and to compete at an international level. Murderball came to Jessica early in her recovery and she has been playing it ever since. Jessica trains daily in her drive to make the national team.

Jessica believes that people should be well rounded and firmly dedicates herself to the goals and dreams that drive her forward.

Photo on top: Jessica Kruger, Rick Hansen Ambassador playing wheelchair rugby, better known as murderball.

Working closely with the Rick Hansen School Program, 28 Ambassadors were trained to speak to student audiences and shared their message of inclusion in approximately 50 classrooms in Toronto and Vancouver. The initiative was incredibly successful and plans are in the works to do the same in Saskatchewan and Alberta next year.

This year, the Rick Hansen Ambassador Program:

- Coordinated 23 volunteer Ambassadors who made 93 presentations in Ontario, BC and Alberta during the past year. Presentations ranged from accessibility training for youth volunteers at local community centres, to sessions for university medical students and Boy Scouts groups.
- Recruited an additional 35 new Ambassadors, representing a range of disabilities, thanks to new partnerships with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and Canadian Association for the Deaf.
- Acted as spokespeople for the Foundation by providing first-hand insight into the impact of research and improved accessibility at funding announcements in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick.



Linda Mellway McIntyre

“Hi Rick, congratulations on your 27th Anniversary of the Man In Motion World Tour. I remember vividly when you called from China.....and arriving in Ottawa.....and the million dollar cheque on Parliament Hill.....and seeing you off at a mall with our 5 little kids in tow. I’m still proud of you. Thanks for everything you did back then and continue to do.”





Pilot Project: Rick Hansen Difference Maker Initiative

Together, we can encourage Canadians to build an inclusive society without barriers.

The Rick Hansen Difference Maker Initiative is a pilot project of the Foundation with the goal of mobilizing Canadians to identify and remove barriers for those who live with a disability.

The pilot was run by a passionate, multi-disciplinary team motivated to encourage social change to benefit those with disabilities. The team included RHF staff and volunteers, the staff and students of the MBA Program at the UBC Sauder School of Business, and a group of philanthropists who volunteer their time and expertise to the project. This team believes solutions are found through a collaboration of key sectors in our society: business, education, government and the non-profit world.

In the first phase of this pilot project, we reached out to our online community and donors, asking them to join us in creating a barrier free society. Participants could identify a barrier, tell their stories, share their ideas about creating a world without barriers and nominate difference makers.



Christina Cloke- Dixon- Usborne

“ Striving to make our world more accessible and helping others to see the importance. Having a son with limitations has only strengthened our family as a whole. Together we can build a limitless world..... Together!!”



Linda Nearing

“ Your movie on The Difference Makers was great; Each one of the Difference Makers tried to make the world a little easy for someone else. I just loved them all.”



Thank You to Our Partners

Your strong support of the Foundation's programs and leadership is helping us meet needs, advance research and increase accessibility in the spinal cord injury and disability communities. Together, we are making lives better. Thank you for your inspiring passion and commitment to our work.



Boston Pizza Foundation Future Prospects: Partnering with RHF to Empower Youth

**Rick Hansen
SCHOOL PROGRAM**

FUTURE PROSPECTS
BOSTON PIZZA FOUNDATION
 ROLE MODELS FOR LIFE
 PRESENTING PARTNER

Boston Pizza Foundation (BPF) Future Prospects announced a commitment of \$1 million over five years in support of the Rick Hansen School Program, a national initiative that inspires, empowers and engages children to make a difference in their local communities and build awareness of the importance of accessibility and inclusion.

“The Rick Hansen School Program helps create inclusive and accepting communities and a more caring world for all. At BPF Future Prospects we believe strong role models inspire kids to be great and we partner with organizations that help youth be all they can be at home, school, their community and the world,”
 – Cheryl Treliving, Executive Director, BPF Future Prospects

Photo on top: Cheryl Treliving, Executive Director, BPF Future Prospects with Rick Hansen and Mike Reid, of the Rick Hansen Foundation.

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Major Gift Donors

The team at the Rick Hansen Foundation is grateful to our major gift donors who generously contributed \$10,000 or more from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

Donors \$50K +

Anonymous
The Gordon and Ruth Gooder Charitable Foundation
The Yuel Family & PIC Investment Group Inc.
James Anthony Allard
The Keay Family and Duncanby Lodge & Marina Inc.
Global Freedom Foundation

Donors \$10K to \$49,999

DC Anderson Family Foundation
Adele Deegan
Karen Van Dongen
Gordon Sproule
The Keg Spirit Foundation

Corporate Partners

Our sincere thanks to our corporate partners for your contribution to the success of our programs and events in Fiscal 2014.

Corporate Partners

Boston Pizza Foundation Future Prospects
BC Sport Fishing Group
Boston Pizza International Inc.
Churchill International Property Corporation
Islander Reels
Jim Rissling
Langara Fishing Adventures
McWatters Collection Estate Wines
Ray Danniels and SRO Management
River Rock Casino Resort
Scotiabank
The Keg Steakhouse + Bar

Flick Hansen
Foundation



**THE RICK HANSEN DIFFERENCE MAKER
CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION**

WE honor you for being with a Difference. It
is our hope.

Barry Munro



Government Funders and Community Partners

Government and community organizations are essential partners in our work. The programs and initiatives they support are helping people with spinal cord injuries achieve better health outcomes while minimizing associated health-care costs. Funding also ensures that Canadian scientists and clinicians are at the forefront of their fields of research in the care and treatment of spinal cord injury.

This year we confirmed ongoing government investment into vital research and the continued expansion of our research network throughout Canada. We are also very excited by the establishment of the first international Rick Hansen Spinal Cord Registry site in Beijing, China.

Key Milestones:

- The Government of Canada, through Western Economic Diversification, renewed its funding commitment of \$35 million over five years to support Rick Hansen Institute, bolstering the Blusson Integrated Cures Partnership.
- The Foundation and the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation partnered with the Ontario Ministry of Research & Innovation (MRI). MRI is investing \$15 million over the next three years to advance spinal cord injury research and best practice initiatives.
- The Foundation and Canadian Paraplegic Association of Manitoba partnered with the Manitoba Ministry of Health, Ministry of Jobs and the Economy, and Manitoba Public Insurance. The Manitoba Government is investing \$3 million over the next five years to support Manitoba-based research, RHSCIR, implementation of the Access to Care & Timing project in Manitoba, and community supports.
- The Foundation partnered with the Yukon Council on disABILITY to allocate \$100,000 from the Yukon Government, to address the unmet needs of Yukon residents with mobility challenges. Some of this funding will be used to carry out accessibility assessments of Yukon venues in planat.

Photo on left: Rick Hansen recognized Difference Maker Barry Munro, Board Member of the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation, with Ontario Minister of Research and Innovation, Reza Moridi after announcing a \$15 million commitment over three years to advance spinal cord injury research and best practice initiatives in the province.

Government Partners and Community Partners

Federal

Funder

Government of Canada

- Western Economic Diversification

British Columbia

Funders

Government of BC

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Justice

Partners

BC Wheelchair Basketball Society

BC Wheelchair Sports Association

ICORD

Neil Squire Society

Rick Hansen Institute

Sam Sullivan Disability Foundation

Spinal Cord Injury BC

University of British Columbia

Vancouver Coastal Health Authority

Alberta

Funders

Government of Alberta

- Minister of Innovation & Advanced Education

Partners

Alberta Paraplegic Foundation

Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta)

Saskatchewan

Funders

Government of Saskatchewan

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Social Services
- Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport
- Office of the Provincial Secretary

Partners

Canadian Paraplegic Association

(Saskatchewan)

Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation

Saskatchewan Wheelchair Sports Association

Manitoba

Funders

Government of Manitoba

- Department of Jobs and the Economy
- Department of Innovation, Energy and Mines
- Department of Municipal Government
- Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation
- Workers' Compensation Board of Manitoba

Partner

Canadian Paraplegic Association (Manitoba)

Yukon

Funder

Government of Yukon

- Department of Health and Social Services

Partner

Yukon Council on disABILITY

Ontario

Funder

Government of Ontario

- Ministry of Research and Innovation

Partner

Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation

New Brunswick

Funder

Government of New Brunswick

- Department of Healthy and Inclusive Communities

Partners

Ability New Brunswick

Stan Cassidy Centre for Rehabilitation





A special thank you!

Copper Cayuse Outfitters: Celebrating 10 Years of Paying it Forward

*Business Community Fundraiser
Pemberton Valley, BC*

Fundraising for spinal cord research is very near and dear to Jan and Dudley Kennett. They were once told that Dudley would never walk or ride again due to severe neck injuries. Through therapy, the benefits of modern research, and sheer effort of will on their parts, Dudley and Jan ride the backcountry and walk wilderness trails together again. Every year they pay it forward with the popular Hooves in Motion fundraiser

that draws Pemberton residents to the Kennett ranch. People can spend the day at the ranch, participate in trail rides, wagon rides, a cowboy lunch, and an evening western BBQ with live music and campfire chats. Many local businesses provide sponsorship and participants make a donation with every dollar donated going to the Foundation. In June 2013, the Kennett's celebrated the 10th anniversary of Hooves in Motion! In the past decade, they raised over \$55,000 for the Foundation — an extraordinary achievement. Rick and the Foundation team are deeply grateful and inspired by Jan and Dudley's commitment to finding a cure for spinal cord injury.

Thank you Hooves in Motion!

Pemberton, BC residents at the Kennett Ranch enjoying trail rides at the recent 10th Annual Hooves in Motion fundraiser organized by volunteers, Jan and Dudley Kennett and Don Coggins.

Community Giving

Donors and supporters find many ways to practice their philanthropy with the Rick Hansen Foundation. Supporters like you sign-up for monthly giving or organize a community fundraiser. Others see a posting on our Facebook page or Twitter feed and share it with their friends. Some donors decide to leave a bequest in their will. Others find ways to volunteer.

We are so grateful for all the ways you help. Thank you for making a positive difference in the lives of those with disabilities!

Estates

Estate of Gladys Lester
Estate of Kenneth Nore

Donors \$500 to \$9,999

Anonymous (4)
Aqueduct Foundation
Mary-Sue Atkinson
BC Wildlife Federation
Janice Benna
James Bouchard
Dory Boyer
Barbara Broadbent
Canadian Academy of Sport Medicine
Cenovus Energy (Head Office)
Dennis Connelly
Copperfield Park II Ltd
Scott Cowle
Paul Crake
Credit Union Central of Canada

Chesley Crosbie
Dark Water Dragons Society
Bunny Ferguson
Fountain Tire
Fraternal Order of Eagles, BC Provincial Auxiliary
Ann Gillen
Good Hope Cannery Ltd
Frank Goodman
Bryan Gormley
Halfmoon Bay Elementary School
Carey Halovich
Margo Hammett
Fred Helmer
Larry Henley
Hollyburn Family Services
Hydro One Employees' & Pensioners' Charity Trust
Invatron Systems Corporation
LGL Limited Environmental Research Associates
Donald Lockhart
Hugh MacGowan
Paul and Anne Mahon
Jeff Mallmes
McDonald's Restaurants of Canada (Richmond, BC)
Wendy McGraw
Henry Mews
Arne Moller
Nancy Morrison
Glen Parsons
Phoenix Truck & Crane
R.C. Palmer Secondary
RBC Royal Bank
Leslie Reissner
Rick Hansen Secondary School (Mississauga, ON)
Ross Rigby
Gary Segal



Stony Rapids School
United Way/Centraide Ottawa
Vancouver Foundation
Victoria Foundation
Florence Wall

Cynthia Ralston
Chris Reaume
Isabel Ruttle
Gerhard Sommer

Monthly Donors

Anonymous (2)
James Alton
Joan Anderson
Graham Beer
Mildred Beggs
Franceen Berrigan
Philip Boorman
Yuliya Chalaya
Domenic Colati
Murray Creller
Belinda Dean
Renee Eaton
Colin Ewart
Frank Goodman
Katie Grieve
Cherise Griffin
Muting He
Diane Hunt
Jeannette Kneider
Marie-Pierre Lavoie
Gordon Lawrence
Ronald Lichtenwald
Mary Lindsey
Linda Loiselle
George Marlatte
Lawrence Mascarenhas
Edith Matous
Vaughn McEachen
Bruce Raber
Barbara Rae

Community Fundraisers

Elnora Pioneer Club Fundraiser 2013
Hooves in Motion 2013
Ironman Fundraiser
Spring into Motion
Victoria Motor Sports Club Autocross Fundraiser
2013

The Rick Hansen Foundation team has made every effort to list all supporters who gave permission to be recognized. Please let us know if your name is missing from our recognition pages by calling 1-800-213-2131 ext 1550.

Thank you!



Jayne McGraw: Helping to Create New Possibilities

*Community Fundraiser
Oshawa, ON*

“I suffered a spinal cord injury at the age of 21 and know what it’s like living with a disability. Wheeling around my community of Whitby, I often have limited access to stores and offices. I had to adapt my home. And many in my position face obstacles to employment. That’s why I believe in the work of the Rick Hansen Foundation. On March 22, 2014, I ran my own community fundraiser in Oshawa, Ontario, to help create new possibilities. It took energy and commitment to organize the event. But do you know the best part of all this work? My guests had fun while helping a good cause! The money we raised will help the Rick Hansen Foundation continue to fund accessibility initiatives across Canada, including Quality of Life grants, while also funding a cure for spinal cord injury.”

Thank you Jayne!

Photo on top: Jayne McGraw.

Robert Buren: RHF Ambassador

*Community Fundraiser
Oakville, ON*

Injured in 2008, Rob Buren made the decision to keep looking forward and pursue his dreams. He has shared his story as an Ambassador for the Rick Hansen Foundation, with his own TEDx talk and through other speaking engagements. Rob is passionate about sports. In August 2013, Rob and his wife Sabrina competed in their first full Ironman race in Kentucky — a gruelling challenge. We were thrilled when Rob crossed the finish line, becoming the first Canadian paraplegic to complete this Ironman.

Thank you Rob for all you do!

July 25, 2013

Rick Hansen Facebook post

“One of our amazing Ambassadors, Robert Buren, is taking on one of the biggest challenges of his life! In exactly one month, he will be competing in his first Ironman with his wife Sabrina in Louisville, Kentucky. His goal is to be the first Canada paraplegic to complete this full Ironman and raise funds to support others with an SCI. We are so honoured that Rob has chosen to fundraise for our Foundation and wish him & Sabrina all the best in completing their first Ironman!”

Photo on bottom: Rob Buren.



Financial Statement Summary

April 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014

The following financial statement summary and supporting charts illustrate our revenue sources and outline our expenditures against our programs.

Please refer to the full set of audited financial statements on the Rick Hansen Foundation website at www.rickhansen.com.

The Rick Hansen Foundation follows the best practices for registered charities as promoted by Imagine Canada.

We strive to provide the highest standard of accountability and transparency to supporters and donors by publishing our Annual Reports and providing links to our annual Charity Information Return (T3010) filed with the Canada Revenue Agency on the Rick Hansen Foundation website at www.rickhansen.com. In addition, we regularly provide accountability reports to our government funders and stewardship reports and newsletters to our supporters and donors.

Statement of Financial Position

as at March 31, 2014

Assets	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,172,276	1,147,984
Accounts receivable	37,844	2,785,451
Interest receivable	172,312	98,720
Due from related parties	176,764	–
Short-term investments - at market value	1,895,945	4,327,841
Prepaid expenses and deposits	127,349	110,544
	<hr/> 3,582,490	<hr/> 8,470,540
UBC endowment rights	542,910	623,341
Capital assets	223,750	320,768
Long-term investments - at market value	11,845,530	9,883,013
Intellectual property rights	1,800,000	1,800,000
	<hr/> 17,994,680	<hr/> 21,097,662
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	294,901	521,606
Due to related parties	14,236	1,907,735
Deferred contributions	763,775	781,185
	<hr/> 1,072,912	<hr/> 3,210,526
Fund Balances		
Endowed	101,555	101,555
Internally restricted	12,877,243	12,069,027
Unrestricted	3,942,970	5,716,554
	<hr/> 16,921,768	<hr/> 17,887,136
	<hr/> 17,994,680	<hr/> 21,097,662

Statement of Operations

for the year ended March 31, 2014

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Revenues		
Government and other grants	8,622,151	9,683,528
Sponsorships and donations	1,632,767	2,541,299
Investment income	1,667,808	1,193,545
Events	20,000	570,336
Other	214,157	279,825
Value-in-kind	67,882	5,697
	12,224,765	14,274,230
Expenses		
Research	8,962,492	5,396,698
Schools	829,226	586,764
Awareness	332,447	-
Accessibility	602,075	708,178
Other	269,643	5,654,563
Total programs	10,995,883	12,346,203
Fundraising	1,085,634	1,758,622
Management and administration	1,100,460	1,526,483
	13,181,977	15,631,308
Deficiency of revenues over expenses before the following	(957,212)	(1,357,078)
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(8,156)	(5,842)
Deficiency of revenues over expenses for the year	(965,368)	(1,362,920)

The Rick Hansen Foundation is managed by a team working in our Richmond, BC office under the direction of the CEO. In addition to providing philanthropic services and managing the donations and grants of the organization, our staff manage and oversee national programs.

Recognizing the need to ensure sustainability of our organization, the Rick Hansen Foundation Board approved a deficit in fiscal 2014 which was funded by specifically designated reserve funds. This strategic decision allowed the Foundation to start to diversify our funding base through the development and implementation of the Major Gift, Corporate and Community fundraising programs. The reserve fund draw-down is illustrated on page 62.

Revenue has decreased from the prior year due to the end of a number of federal and provincial five year term contribution agreements and the wrap up of sponsorship and events associated with the 25th Anniversary Awareness campaign.

Investment income includes interest, dividends as well as realized and unrealized gains and losses.

Research expenditures increased from the prior year due to a grant of \$2M, the first Blusson Integrated Cures Partnership grant to BSCC partners, RHI and ICORD, and renewal of funding from the Government of Canada to support RHI.

School program expenditures increased due to program development funded by new donations and sponsorships and the Awareness Program captures the Rick Hansen Difference Makers Initiative and Ambassadors activities.

Other program expenditures decreased due to the wrap up of the 25th Anniversary campaign and reduction in funding available for Quality of Life grants. Management and administration expenditures include salaries, rent, telecoms, IT, insurance, legal, audit, and other infrastructure costs.

The Foundation continued to realize cost savings during the year through a reciprocal services agreement with the Rick Hansen Institute. In this agreement, the Foundation fundraises on behalf of the Institute and provides Finance, and Marketing and Communications support on a fee-for-service basis.

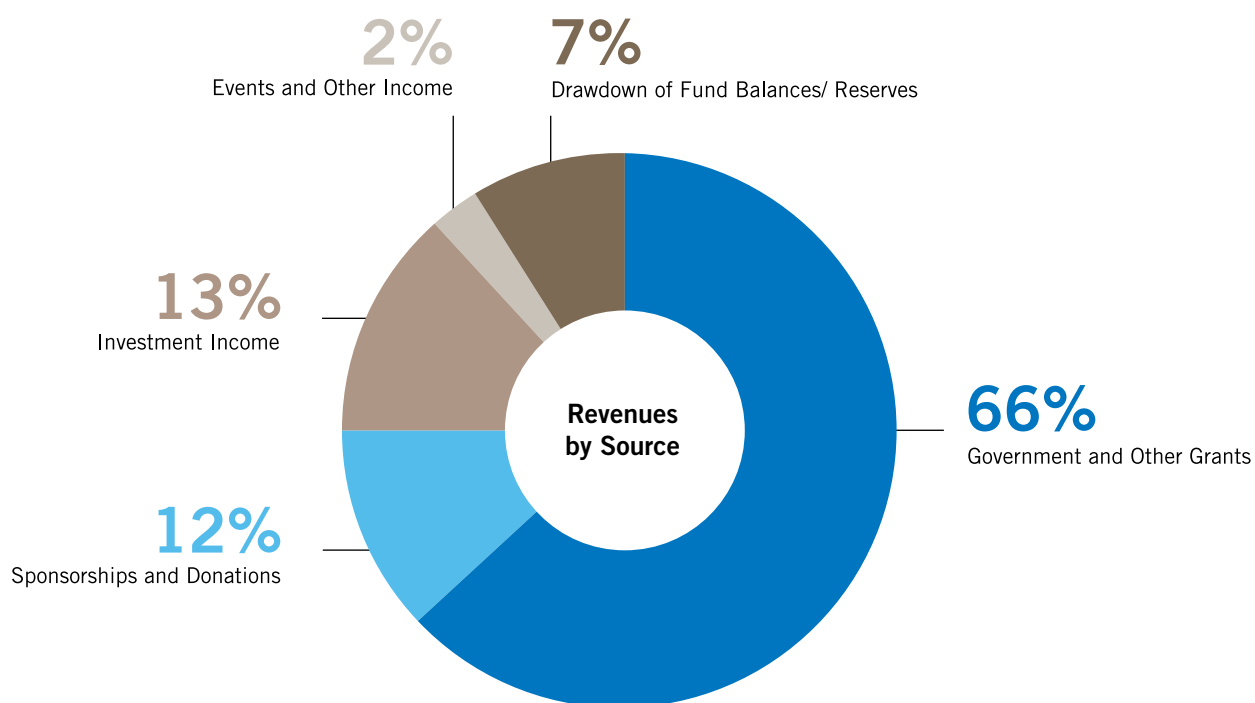
Rick Hansen Foundation

Key Financial Information and Trends

Revenues

Where does our funding come from?

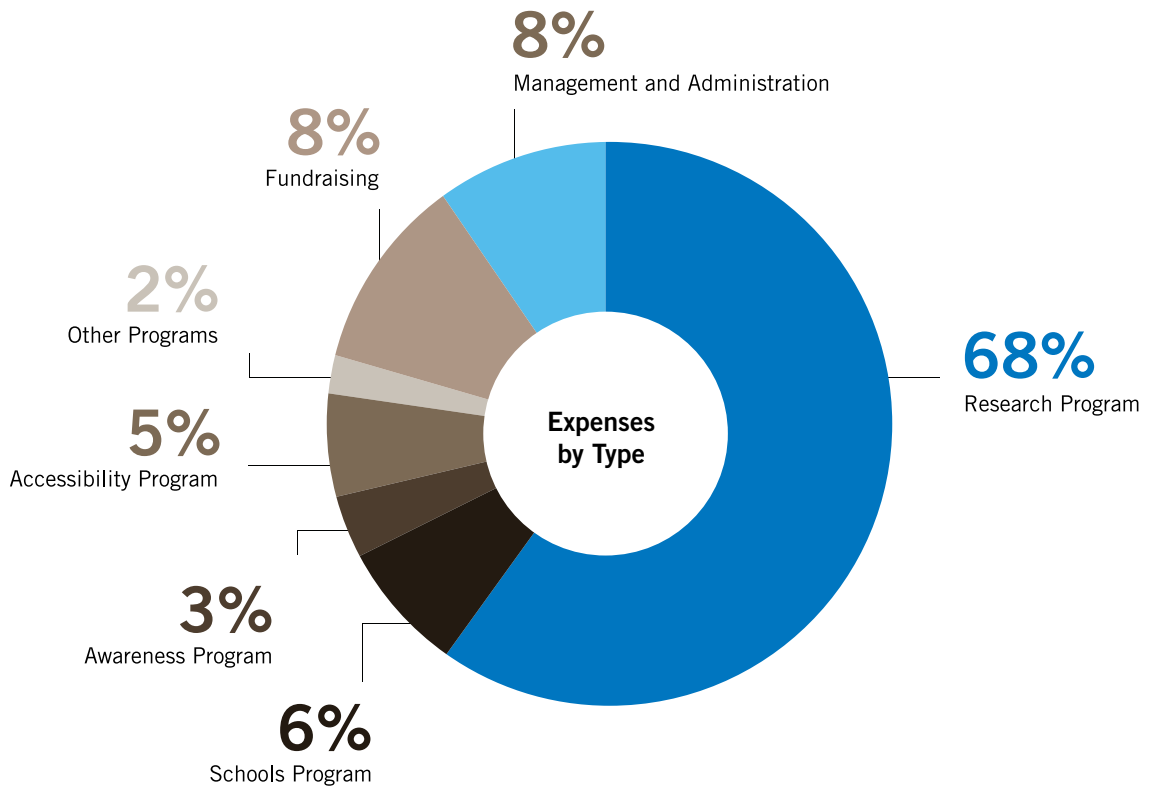
The Rick Hansen Foundation receives contributions from federal and provincial governments, earns income on endowments and investments, and receives donations and sponsorship from a wide range of individuals and organizations in support of our mission of helping those with disabilities and building an inclusive and accessible world.



	\$	
Government and Other Grants	8,622,151	66%
Sponsorships and Donations	1,632,767	12%
Investment Income	1,667,808	13%
Events and Other Income	302,039	2%
	12,224,765	
Drawdown of Fund Balances / Reserves	957,212	7%
	13,181,977	100%

Expenses

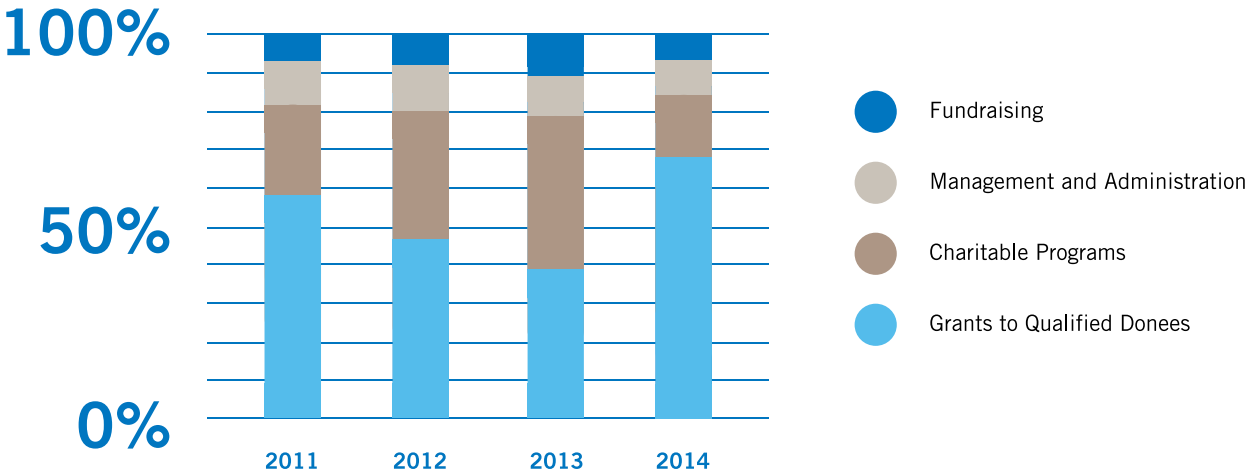
How we apply our funds



	\$	
Research Program	8,962,492	68%
Schools Program	829,226	6%
Awareness Program	332,447	3%
Accessibility Program	602,075	5%
Other Programs	269,643	2%
Fundraising	1,085,634	8%
Management and Administration	1,100,460	8%
	13,181,977	100%

Trend of Expenditures by Type

Changes to our spending over the last four years



	2011	2012	2013	2014
Grants to Qualified Donees	57%	45%	38%	68%
Charitable Programs	24%	36%	41%	16%
Management and Administration	11%	10%	10%	8%
Fundraising	8%	9%	11%	8%
	100%	100%	100%	100%

Adjusted Fundraising Ratio

Changes to our fundraising ratios over the last four years

	2011	2012	2013	2014
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Fundraising Costs*	2,337,761	3,874,473	1,942,863	1,290,793
Fundraising Revenue**	20,743,975	25,663,153	12,813,099	10,254,918
Fundraising Ratio	11.3%	15.1%	15.2%	12.6%

* Figure includes costs associated with securing Government, Major Gifts, Corporate and Community Giving funds.

** Figure includes Government, Major Gifts, Corporate and Community Giving revenue.

Fundraising to help fund programs is a critical part of our work. Our cost of fundraising ratio, which compares fundraising costs to fundraising revenue for fiscal year 2014 is 12.6%. The chart above has been adjusted to include the fundraising costs and revenues associated with government which makes up 60-80% of our total funding annually.

The decrease in revenue is related to the end of a number of federal and provincial five year term contribution agreements and the wrap up of sponsorship and events associated with the national 25th Anniversary Awareness campaign.

The Foundation is investing in Major Gifts, Corporate and Community fundraising over the next three to five years to raise much needed resources to ensure financial sustainability and help expand our programs to meet the increasing needs of Canadians with spinal cord injuries and other disabilities. We expect our fundraising ratios to decrease as revenue increases and we realize the long term benefits of this investment.

Board of Directors 2013-2014

Lyll Knott, Q.C. (Co-Chair)

Senior Partner,
Clark Wilson LLP

George Gaffney (Co-Chair)

Executive Vice President,
RBC (retired)

Eric Watt (Treasurer)

Senior Partner,
KPMG (retired)

Perry Goldsmith (Secretary)

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Ida Chong

Former Cabinet Minister and Member of Legislative Assembly for Province of British Columbia

Christine Day

CEO,
Luvo

Sally Douglas

Founder and Managing Director,
Kaldor Brand Strategy and Design

Amanda Hansen

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Vancouver Coastal Health

Kimberly Kuntz

Partner,
Bull, Housser & Tupper LLP

Tod Leiweke

CEO,
Tampa Bay Sports & Entertainment

Colleen Nelson

Executive Director of the Australian Prostate Cancer Research Centre - Queensland Chair of Prostate Cancer Research at Queensland University of Technology

Louise Turner

President,
Premier's Technology Council in British Columbia

Rick Hansen Foundation Management Team

Rick Hansen

CEO

Doramy Ehling

Chief Operating Officer

Catherine Ruby

Chief Financial Officer

Mike Reid

Vice President, Resource Development

Colin Ewart

Vice President, Strategic Partnerships

Marianne Lowe

Director, Human Resources

Renee Eaton

Director, Community Giving

Dan Maceluch

Director, Marketing and Communications

Dan DeBeyer

Director, planat™

Deena Stigas

Director, Special Projects

Ewa Holender

Manager, School Program



Thank you! Your support is making a difference.

– the Foundation team



Earning the Imagine Canada Standards Program certification



Photo on top: Renee Eaton, Sherrill Schlamann and Shawn Hopkins are 3 members of the 5-person team who led the accreditation process for the Imagine Canada Standards Program certification.

While it is a simple logo, the Imagine Canada trustmark represents an incredible amount of energy devoted by the Foundation staff to reach this achievement. The process included the completion of a rigorous peer review process demonstrating that the Foundation's processes and policies currently meet 73 externally-established best practice standards in five key areas: Board governance, financial accountability and transparency, fundraising, staff management, and volunteer involvement.

The Imagine Canada Standards Program promotes a benchmark for best practices for charities and non-profit organizations across Canada. The designation helps to strengthen public confidence in individual organizations, but more importantly, the charitable sector as a whole.



Visions for a Better Future

Our vision is that one day our world will be an inclusive society without barriers. Rick and the Foundation team remain committed to bringing together experts and key decision makers from a wide variety of backgrounds, inspiring collaboration in order to generate solutions towards an inclusive world sooner than would have otherwise been achieved through disparate means.

With your support we are providing critical leadership and raising essential funds and awareness to accelerate the pace of advancements in spinal cord injury research and care, and improve accessibility and inclusivity for individuals with disabilities.

In order to achieve our vision Rick and the Foundation set the following Legacy Goals for the next phase of our work:

- Decrease the incidence of paralysis by 50 % within the next 15 YEARS.
- Return the newly and chronically injured to physical function within the next 25 YEARS.
- Accommodate the estimated 9 million Canadians that will face some form of disability by 2030 with an inclusive and accessible society.







300-3820 Cessna Drive, Richmond, BC Canada V7B 0A2

rickhansen.com | 1-800-213-2131 | info@rickhansen.com | [@RickHansenFdn](https://twitter.com/RickHansenFdn)

