



HEALTH COALITION

OF ALBERTA

Annual Report

2018



WHO WE ARE

The Health Coalition of Alberta started in 2006 as an alliance of voluntary health sector organizations, consumer groups and individuals with common health issues and concerns. By 2014 the Coalition had formalized into a registered a non-profit society. The diversity of the Health Coalition of Alberta's membership base reflects a wide variety of diseases and conditions, ages, populations and genders. Through the strength of our membership we will be consulted with, and listened to, when decisions are made that impact the health of Albertans.

The Health Coalition has more than 90 individuals committed to working together and advocating with a united voice for better access to optimal healthcare for all Albertans. Members have identified three priority areas: patient/stakeholder engagement in healthcare discussions/decisions; improving access to care for all Albertans; and, improving access to medications for all Albertans. The Coalition works to achieve these priorities through primary initiatives like education of members and the public, raising awareness regarding healthcare reform decisions and service changes which could impact Albertans, particularly patients in their care pathways, as well as advocacy on key healthcare access issues.

Through ongoing engagement of our membership in activities that align with our mandate and principles the Health Coalition of Alberta Society is able to bring the voice of patients and their caregivers to represent our positions on common health and healthcare issues.

Our MISSION

We are a coalition of voluntary sector organizations, groups and individuals advocating with a united voice for better access to optimal healthcare for all Albertans.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Director's, I am pleased to present the Health Coalition of Alberta's annual report for 2018. It was a year focused on governance and modernization to confirm alignment with member expectations and our role as a non-profit in Alberta. It was also essential to ensure changes were made to provide clear direction for our future.

A major project for the Board of Directors was to assess and revise our bylaws in order to accurately represent how the Health Coalition's business is completed. Although changes were made to our membership categories, the structure of both paid and unpaid members remained the same as input clearly expressed the need for options. By year-end, we had our bylaws approved by our members as well as filed and approved the Government of Alberta. This process meant we were unable to conduct a membership drive until late Q4. I am happy to report, this delay did not cause any loss of members as we continued to experience growth.

Another key project for the Board in 2018 was participating in a Board Effectiveness Workshop as part of our organizational capacity building strategic priority. Alberta Culture and Tourism led an excellent session that helped us clarify roles and responsibilities and begin work to develop a policy manual. We also assessed our Board skills to give focus to future recruitment.

2018 saw changes to our Board as we welcomed Darlene Gallant, Shirley Duia and Karen Knutson and Mary Chibuk and Tom Perkins both resigned their positions. On behalf of the Health Coalition of Alberta, I want to thank both of these individuals for their volunteer service. I would especially like to recognize Mary Chibuk for her long-time commitment to the Coalition. Mary was part of the original group of volunteers who created our Coalition in 2006! The Board of Directors also worked with Beth Kidd, our Executive Director, to deliver a balanced budget. Despite finding cost efficiencies and growing our fund development base, we did not quite achieve this but have renewed our commitment to do so in 2019. I would like to thank our paid members, donors and gift-in-kind supporters for their ongoing contributions.

Finally, I want to thank our members for your input. Your insight and expertise ensures we reflect the lived experience of both patients and caregivers in our healthcare positions.

Respectfully submitted



Bruce West
President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2018 was an incredible year of accomplishment for the Health Coalition of Alberta. By year-end, we had addressed almost all of the suggestions for improvement expressed by members, funders and stakeholders during our environmental scan in 2016-17.

Key achievements included:

- Hosted a member session with the Deputy Minister of Health
- Met with ADM of Alberta Health and Executive Director of Pharmaceutical Funding about our priorities
- Completed outreach meetings with all political parties
- Planned our election campaign, collected feedback to update our positions, hosted a political landscape overview session for members
- Participated in the National Pharmacare consultation, briefed members on developments, submitted written feedback, delivered public presentations
- Submitted a position paper to PMPRB about proposed reforms
- Finalized and communicated our position on biologics and biosimilars
- Achieved broader reach with external stakeholders such as: AHS, SCNs, AMA, Health Advocate, IHE, Imagine Citizens, Bio Alberta, etc.
- Participated in the CADTH Symposium advisory committee
- Launched corporate recognition program

The one outstanding project that still needs to be completed is re-building our website. We have made progress on this and our goal is to launch a new site mid-2019. Other 2019 plans to address our advocacy priorities (access to care, access to medications and patient engagement) are:

- Deliver an encompassing Provincial Election Campaign to drive action by our members, achieve commitments on key issues and spread awareness about patient concerns
- Create and conduct a new political and government outreach plan post-election
- Expand advocacy plan to address patient concerns about RAPID
- Conduct a Federal Election Campaign with a focus on National Pharmacare and PMPRB

We have already made headway with some of these plans. For example, we led a successful provincial election campaign that secured a commitment from the new Alberta Government to consult with patients prior to making any decisions on national pharmacare.

In closing, I'd like to extend my sincere gratitude to all our members and supporters who are working with us to improve healthcare for all Albertans. We have a stronger voice together!

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Kidd
Executive Director

TREASURER'S REPORT

I am pleased to present the Health Coalition of Alberta Society's Financial Statements for the 2018 fiscal year.

The cash reserve remained strong at \$61K, largely due to the diligent efforts of the Executive Director to increase corporate sponsorship, recognizing a 37% increase from the prior year for a total of \$80K. Membership revenue was down 56% from the prior year due to changes to the membership categories and fees in the bylaws that also required filing, thus delaying membership campaigns until the fall of 2018. The Health Coalition of Alberta recognized revenues of \$81K for 2018.

Overall expenditures of \$91K for 2018 remained consistent with the prior year. More notable changes in expenses were related to website development and advocacy and forums. The new website will help the Health Coalition of Alberta to be more user-friendly, provide more relevant and current information and move towards online collection of membership fees. The existing website has reached its useful life and is no longer supported for updates. Half of this cost was paid in 2018 and half remains to be paid in 2019. These fees are offset by large savings in advocacy and forums of 83% thanks to the Parkinson Association of Alberta for allowing the Health Coalition of Alberta to rent their facilities and to obtaining great speakers who donated their time or charged a reduced fee.

The Health Coalition of Alberta recognized an operating deficit of \$10K in 2018, which is down 67% from the deficit in the prior year of \$30K.

The Health Coalition of Alberta's financial statements for 2018 will be provided to all voting members and shared at the AGM.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Knutson
Treasurer

2018 CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

Funding from our Corporate Supporters helps the Health Coalition of Alberta to focus on achieving our strategic plan and our mission. We thank all our Corporate Supporters for their commitment to ensuring patients are included in healthcare decisions.

GOLD:

Pfizer Canada Inc.

SILVER:

Innovative Medicines Canada

Janssen Inc.

Merck Canada Inc.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.

BRONZE:

Abbvie

AstraZeneca Canada Inc.

Celgene Inc.

GIFT IN KIND:

Canadian Cancer Society

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Bruce West



Bruce West is a continuing care advocate. He retired in October 2013 after five years as Executive Director of the Alberta Continuing Care Association (ACCA), a voluntary, non-profit advocacy organization that represents the owners and operators of long term care and supportive living facilities, and the providers of home care and home support services throughout Alberta. Prior to his time with the ACCA Bruce had a 30-year career with the Government of Alberta where he held a number of senior management positions related to Alberta's housing and continuing care systems. Bruce has particular interests in promoting high quality and sustainable seniors housing, health care and continuing care to enhance the quality of life of Albertans.

Vice-President Teren Clarke



Teren is the CEO with Spinal Cord Injury Alberta and Executive Director of the Alberta Paraplegic Foundation. She has been in this role since 2005. Prior to that, she worked with Muscular Dystrophy Canada between 1993 and 2005 in roles including National Director of Programs, Prairies Executive Director and Provincial Services Director. Teren was appointed by the Federal Minister of Health to the inaugural Stem Cell Oversight committee and served for four years. She also served on the Advisory Committee for the Institute of Genetics, one of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for four years. Teren earned a BN from the U of C and a Masters in Management from McGill University.

Treasurer Karen Knutson



Karen is currently working independently to help health professionals gain control over their personal and professional finances. She is based out of Calgary, Alberta and is a CPA - Chartered Accountant with a Masters in Professional Accounting. Karen has over 15 years of experience in corporate accounting, finance and leadership roles, and has served as a director and treasurer on various not-for-profit boards. Her previous role was Manager External Reporting & Internal Controls for WestJet. Karen is also a health and wellness enthusiast working towards a transformational nutrition coaching certification.

Secretary Joan King



Joan King is the Government Relations and Advocacy Lead for Diabetes Canada in Western Canada. Joan has been a passionate diabetes advocate for over 19 years, working with Diabetes Canada's National Advocacy Council and hundreds of volunteers in advocating the positions and policies of Diabetes Canada to the Canadian public, governments, non-government organizations and the media on behalf of the diabetes community in Canada. Following the completion of her Business and Commerce degrees, she worked at the Youth Emergency Shelter Society in Edmonton.

Member-at-Large Angeline Webb



Angeline Webb is Regional Manager of Health Policy and Health Promotion with the Canadian Cancer Society where she has been engaged in health policy advocacy and health promotion for the last 15 years. She develops, implements, and administers public health advocacy and health policy development initiatives and health promotion programming for the Canadian Cancer Society in the Prairie and Northern regions as well as at the federal level. Angeline's focus is healthy public policy and chronic disease prevention with most of her attention devoted to tobacco reduction policy development.

Member-at-Large Fraser Hall



Fraser Hall is a Services Specialist a for Muscular Dystrophy Canada. In that role he supports individuals and their families who are affected by neuromuscular disorders, by helping navigate health care systems, community supports, recreation opportunities and financial aid. He also advocates for patient rights, caregiver supports and accessibility issues. He also has a background working with individuals with special needs and outdoor Education.

Member-at-Large

Darlene Gallant



Darlene has worked in the health care field for 35 years. Since the death of her husband, she has become an advocate for those with Pulmonary Fibrosis/Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis and their families.

She is also a patient advisor with the Respiratory Strategic Clinical Network. Darlene currently serves on the board with the Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation and with Breathe the Alberta/NWT Lung Association. Four years ago she started a Support Group for those with Pulmonary Fibrosis/Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis. Three years ago she started the Edmonton Pulmonary Fibrosis Association, now under the

umbrella of the Lung Association.

Member-at-Large

Shirley Duia



Shirley is a post-secondary education student at the University of Alberta studying Physiology. Shirley has been passionate about health care from a very young age. Her mother is a family physician and a role model for Shirley. Her ambition is to enter medical school and become a doctor. Shirley is a volunteer ER attendant at the Misericordia Hospital where she aids nurses and provides assistance to patients and visitors. She also volunteers as at Villa Caritas and provides support to seniors. Her volunteer experience includes special events like the Heritage Festival and Walk for Seniors as well as helping at the Mustard Seed kitchen.

Shirley's goal is to learn about other aspects of health care, including how to enable easily accessible health care for all.

Executive Director

Beth Kidd



Beth has 25 years of experience in developing, directing, and implementing patient advocacy, government relations, public relations, and marketing strategies. Beth has spent the majority of her career in the health charity sector although she came to the Health Coalition of Alberta from the corporate world. Beth is a life-long volunteer with many charities, political parties and community groups. Currently, she is a member of Migraine Canada's newly formed Board of Directors and volunteers with the Dementia Network Calgary Council.



OUR MEMBERS

Alberta Alliance on Mental Illness and
Mental Health

Alberta Committee of Citizens with
Disabilities

Alberta Community Council on HIV

Alberta Continuing Care Association

Alberta Council on Aging

Alberta Hospice Palliative Care Association

Alberta Pituitary Patient Society

Alberta Senior Citizens' Housing Association

ALS Society of Alberta

Alzheimer Society of Calgary

Alzheimer Society, Alberta and NWT

Aplastic Anemia and Myelodysplasia

Association of Canada/Network of Rare
Blood Disorders

Arthritis Society Alberta and NWT (The)

Autism Society of Edmonton Area

Brain Care Centre

Canadian Association for Porphyria (The)

Canadian Association of Pompe

Canadian Cancer Society

Canadian Cancer Survivor Network

Canadian Liver Foundation

Canadian Mental Health Association

Edmonton Region

Canadian Mental Health Association,
Alberta Division

Canadian Psoriasis Network

Canadian Spondylitis Association

Caregivers Alberta

CARP Calgary Chapter

CARP Edmonton Chapter

Cerebral Palsy Association in Alberta

CNIB AB & NWT/ Vision Loss Rehab

Creekside Support Services Ltd

Crohn's and Colitis Canada

Cystic Fibrosis Canada - Calgary & Southern
AB Chapter

Cystic Fibrosis Canada - Edmonton &
Northern AB Chapter

Diabetes Canada

Easter Seals Alberta

Edmonton Down Syndrome Society

Epilepsy Association of Calgary

Fibromyalgia Society of Edmonton and Area

Gastrointestinal Society - Canadian Society
of Intestinal Research

Health Arrows

Heart & Stroke Foundation of Alberta, NWT
& Nunavut

HIV Community Link - Calgary and Medicine
Hat

HIV Network of Edmonton

Huntington Society of Canada

Kidney Foundation of Canada - Southern
Alberta Branch

Kidney Foundation of Canada- Northern
Alberta & Territories

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada
(The)

Lung Association - Alberta and NWT (The)

Lupus Society of Alberta

M.E. Society of Edmonton

Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada -
Alberta & NWT Division

Muscular Dystrophy Canada - Prairies &
NWT

Myeloma Alberta Support Society

Osteoporosis Canada - Alberta Chapter

Parkinson Association of Alberta

Save Your Skin Foundation



Schizophrenia Society of Alberta
Seniors Community Health Council in
Alberta
Southern Alberta Myeloma Patient Society
SouthWest Edmonton Seniors Association
Spinal Cord Injury Alberta
Turning Point Society
Ups and Downs - Calgary Down Syndrome
Association
Voice of Albertans with Disabilities
Austin Mardon
John Bachnyski
Katie Soles

Rayne Johnson
Rick Brick
Catherine Ryan
Jeff MacKay
Bruce West
Kathy Watson
Mary Chibuk
Kathy Kovacs Burns
Ganive Bhinder
Joan King
Darlene Gallant
Karen Knutson
Larry Pempeit
Rita Lyster
Tim Battle

Our MANDATE

The mandate of the Health Coalition of Alberta Society is to advocate for people-centered healthcare in Alberta. Through the strength of our membership we will be consulted with, and listened to, when decisions are made that impact the health of Albertans.

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