



HEALTH COALITION

OF ALBERTA

Annual Report

2021



WHOWEARE

The Health Coalition of Alberta (HCA) started in 2006 as an alliance of voluntary health sector organizations, patient and consumer groups as well as individuals with common health issues and concerns. By 2014, the Coalition had formalized into a registered 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 consists of more than 100 organizations and individuals committed to working together and advocating with a united voice for better access to optimal health care for all Albertans. Members have identified three priority areas: patient/stakeholder engagement in health care 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 such as education of members and the public, raising awareness regarding health care reform decisions and service changes which could impact Albertans, particularly patients in their care pathways, as well as advocacy on key health care 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 health care issues.

Our MISSION

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the Health Coalition of Alberta's annual report for 2021. The adaptations that we made in 2020 served us well in facing the challenges presented by the ongoing COVID- 19 pandemic. Like most organizations in our sector, we functioned as virtual organizations allowing for ongoing delivery of programs and services. Our services are more fully described in the Executive Directors report. As board members we are proud of the evolution of our organization during challenging times and have maintained reasonable financial stability.

Our governance activities were focused in 3 key areas this past year. The first was to complete a comprehensive board manual to provide an updated resource to our current and future board members. The second focus was to advance the understanding of board members regarding the complex concept of health equity. This learning will help us as an organization to begin to apply a health equity lens as we consider future activities. Our third focus was to build a new strategic plan that would guide us through the next 3-5 years. We spent many months and meetings reflecting on our capacity, our environment and consulting with members around their access to health services and more broadly their access to the social determinants of health. These robust discussions allowed us to create our next strategic plan which we are pleased to share a summary chart with you. Our process was supported by Pieter De Vos.

Our goals and objectives for the next 3-5 years are ambitious and require collaboration and partnership to achieve. We hope that our 6 priority goals resonate for you and you will feel a call to action for greater involvement as members to join with the Health Coalition of Alberta to advocate for a health care system that is centered on patient needs to achieve healthy lives. If you too desire a future where all Albertans have equitable access to quality health services; and patients, families and caregivers have voice and influence into the decisions that impact their health; then we welcome you to our board!

I would like to acknowledge my colleagues around the board table whose commitment allowed us to complete the important tasks described above. I also want to acknowledge the strong leadership provided by our executive director Beth Kidd and her admin assistant Jaymee Maaghop who have capably supported the work of the Board and maintained day to day operations. Finally, I would like to thank our corporate supporters and our members whose insights help to shape our coalition.

Respectfully submitted



Teren Clarke

President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Health Coalition of Alberta and our members proved to be adaptable, flexible and responsive advocates as we all adjusted to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in 2021. The Coalition continued to provide pandemic support to members and met requests for individual advocacy assistance. As members' daily operations stabilized, we were able to focus on systemic advocacy once again.

It was a year filled with consultations, submissions and meetings as we worked towards achieving necessary policy shifts brought to light during the pandemic and focused on return to care. The HCA saw an increase in external stakeholder outreach as we were invited to industry advisory board meetings, AHS reviews, University Hospital Foundation roundtables, and spoke at the Canadian Association of Healthcare Reimbursement Western Day event and the national CADTH Symposium.

A major priority in 2021 was to ensure our members' perspectives were heard during the Government of Alberta's consultation on revising continuing care legislation. After multiple meetings, providing written feedback, etc. I was pleased to see all of our recommendations captured in the resulting MNP report.

2021 was a federal election year and we used this opportunity to provide issue briefs about national pharmacare, rare disease strategy, and continuing care to members as part of our election package. We also distributed these briefs to all MPs after the election.

Other key highlights of 2021 include: advocating for balance with PMPRB reforms; National pharmacare submission, meetings, etc.; expansion of our Member Webinar series; phase 1 of a Patient Resource Hub; and, creation of a white paper on informed and educated consent.

Jaymee Maaghop, our administrative assistant, was instrumental in the creation of the new Policy and Procedures Manual and also provided invaluable assistance with advocacy policy development. Adding Jaymee to our team has helped to stabilize the work of the Health Coalition of Alberta and our future growth.

2021 also saw both the Board and staff build our knowledge base about inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility prior to our strategic planning process. Thank you to Angeline Webb and the Canadian Cancer Society for sharing her expertise with us to guide and supplement online trainings.

Finally, 2021 was a challenging year for me and I want to thank the Coalition's members, Board of Directors and Jaymee Maaghop, for their support, understanding and confidence.

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 2021 fiscal year.

The Health Coalition of Alberta ended the year with a strong net asset position of \$118K which includes \$45K in accounts receivable due to remaining funding trickling into early January and \$11K in accounts payable related to finalizing the three-year strategic plan.

Revenues of \$109K were recognized, which includes \$3.5K in honorariums, all of which is attributed to the efforts by the Executive Director to continually strengthen the corporate supporters program. Revenue is down 28% from 2020, however, this is due to one-time additional funding received in the previous year of \$30K; and normalized revenue is up from previous financial years and exceeded budgeting expectations. Membership fees continued to be waived during the 2021 membership campaign due to financial hardship experienced by the members from COVID-19.

The economic environment from COVID-19 brought on a significant increase in advocacy demands on the organization in 2020 and expenditures for development of the strategic plan, additional SEO work, and enhancing communications were shifted into the 2021 financial year. As a result, overall expenditures of \$115K for 2021 are up 15% from the prior year, recognizing an expected operating deficit of \$6.5K. The Health Coalition of Alberta would have experienced an operating surplus for 2021 outside of these additional deferred expenditures.

The Health Coalition of Alberta's financial statements for 2021 will be provided to all voting members and shared at the AGM.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Knutson
Treasurer

2021 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 health care decisions.

GOLD:



SILVER:

Gilead Sciences Canada, Inc.
Innovative Medicines Canada
Janssen Inc.
Merck Canada Inc.

BRONZE:

AstraZeneca Canada
Eisai Limited
Servier Canada Inc.

GIFT IN KIND:

Canadian Cancer Society
Diabetes Canada
Microsoft Canada

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Teren Clarke



Teren is the former Chief Executive Officer with Spinal Cord Injury Alberta and Executive Director of the Alberta Paraplegic Foundation. In retirement since March 2020, she serves as a patient and family advisor for the Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) for Neurology, Rehabilitation and Vision, an initiative of the Alberta Health Services. She has been an active participant in several working groups with the SCN. She also serves on the Executive Committee for the North American Spinal Cord Injury Consortium. Teren was with SCI Alberta 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 earned a Bachelor of Nursing from the University of Calgary and a Masters in Management from McGill University.

Vice-President Joan King



Joan King is a Government Relations and Advocacy Director for Diabetes Canada. Joan has been a long-time patient advocate working for Diabetes Canada and with health coalitions and partner health charities. Joan has worked with 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.

Treasurer Karen Knutson



Karen is a Certified Transformational Nutrition Coach, helping people overcome weight issues and related chronic conditions through a holistic approach. She is also the founder of Active Coaching and worked with professionals to help them gain control over their personal and professional finances. She is based out of Calgary, Alberta and is a CPA – CA with a Masters in Professional Accounting. Karen has over 15 years of experience in corporate accounting, finance, and leadership roles, was the Manager of External Reporting & Internal Controls for WestJet and has served as a director and treasurer on various not-for-profit boards.

Secretary Fraser Hall



Fraser Hall is a Services Specialist for Muscular Dystrophy Canada. In this 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 Shirley Duia



Shirley is currently a graduate student in neuroscience at the University of Alberta. She is deeply passionate about all aspects of our healthcare system and she participates from both a medical research background and through advocacy. 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.

Member-at-Large Scott McRae



Scott McRae has worked for the last 12 years in the health charity sector after prior jobs as a writer and woodworker. Scott graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Bachelor of Arts in political science, and currently lives in Calgary.

Ex-Officio
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.

Ex-Officio
Angeline Webb



Angeline Webb is the Senior Manager of Health Policy and Health Promotion with the Canadian Cancer Society where she has worked for the past 18 years. She develops, implements, and administers public health advocacy and health policy development initiatives and health promotion programming in the Prairie and Northern regions as well as at the federal level. Angeline's focus is healthy public policy, chronic disease prevention and the reduction of health disparities.

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 Research Canada's Board of Directors and a member of CADTH's Patient and Community Advisory Committee.

Administrative Assistant

Jaymee Maaghop



Jaymee provides organizational support to the Board, the Executive Director, and the Coalition members on a part-time basis. Jaymee has been working with patient organizations from various therapeutic areas on health care policy and access issues. While she is based in BC and works full-time for a member organization, the Gastrointestinal Society, she is proud to support the Health Coalition of Alberta in achieving its mission for better access to optimal health care for all Albertans.



OUR MEMBERS

Alberta Committee of Citizens with Disabilities (ACCD)
Alberta Community Council on HIV
Alberta Continuing Care Association
Alberta Council on Aging (ACA)
Alberta Hospice Palliative Care Association
Alberta Pituitary Patient Society
Alberta Senior Citizens' Housing Association (ASCHA)
ALS Society of Alberta
Alzheimer Society of Calgary
Alzheimer Society, Alberta and Northwest Territories
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 Down Syndrome Society
Canadian Liver Foundation
Canadian Mental Health Association, Edmonton Region
Canadian Mental Health Association, Alberta Division
Canadian MPN Research Foundation
Canadian Psoriasis Network
Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
Canadian Skin Patient Alliance / Canadian Association of Psoriasis Patients
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
Dementia Network Calgary
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
Greg's Wings (formerly Health Arrows)
Heart & Stroke Foundation of Alberta, NWT & Nunavut
HIV Community Link - Calgary & Medicine Hat
HIV Network of Edmonton
Huntington Society of Canada
Kidney Foundation of Canada - Northern Alberta & Territories
Kidney Foundation of Canada- Southern Alberta Branch
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada
Lung Association - Alberta and NWT
Lupus Society of Alberta
M.E. Society of Edmonton
March of Dimes
Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada - Alberta & NWT Division
Muscular Dystrophy Canada - Prairies & NWT
Myeloma Alberta Support Society
Natural Health Practitioners Canada
Osteoporosis Canada – BC & Alberta Region
Parkinson Association of Alberta



Psychologists' Association of Alberta
Save Your Skin Foundation
Schizophrenia Society of Alberta
Seniors Community Health Council in
Alberta on Aging
Southern Alberta Myeloma Patient Society
SouthWest Edmonton Seniors Association
(SWESA)
Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association
of Northern Alberta
Spinal Cord Injury Alberta
Turning Point Society
Unmasking the Reality of Lung Cancer
Ups and Downs - Calgary Down Syndrome
Association
Voice of Albertans with Disabilities
John Bachnyski
Tim Battle

Ganive Bhinder
Rick Brick
Kathy Kovacs Burns
Mary Chibuk
Shirley Duia
Darlene Gallant
Rayne Johnson
Karen Knutson
Rita Lyster
Jeff MacKay
Austin Mardon
Larry Pempeit
Tom Perkins
Catherine Ryan
Katie Soles
Kathy Watson
Bruce West

Our MANDATE

The mandate of the Health Coalition of Alberta Society is to advocate for people-centered health care 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.

Contact Us

✉ director@healthcoalitionab.ca

☎ 403-605-2859

🐦 @CoalitionAB

🌐 healthcoalitionab.ca

