

## **Rising to the Challenge** Annual Report 2023 • 2024



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# **Mission**

To change what it is to be blind through innovative programs and powerful advocacy that enable Canadians impacted by blindness to live the lives they choose.

## **Values**

- Empowerment
- Inclusiveness
- Innovation
- Passion
- Collaboration
- Integrity



## Message from the Board of Directors Chair

We titled this annual report "Rising to the Challenge" for good reason – not to boast, but to heartfully **thank**. We are tremendously grateful to our participants, staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters across Canada. You have heard the rallying cry of our strategic plan, The Way Forward, and together, all of you are rising to the challenge this plan presents along with us.

With the support of CNIB's community, in less than a year's time we've already made powerful strides toward meeting the commitments of our strategic plan. Since launching The Way Forward in November, we've unveiled the "Charter of Rights of Children Who Are Blind or Low Vision"; created an inclusive schools resource package and curriculum that



has already reached more than 86,000 educators; delivered two advocacy campaigns to dismantle barriers to safe, accessible travel; and shone a spotlight on the stories of our community members, joining forces with some of Canada's most vocal influencers with sight loss and garnering more than 1,000 instances of media coverage.

Meanwhile, over the last year, we also continued to deliver, nurture, and expand our flagship programs for people who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision from coast to coast to coast. From CNIB Guide Dogs, which is soon to break ground on a new puppy development centre; to CNIB Access Labs, a new, first-of-its-kind accessibility consulting program; we continued to evolve our programming last year to meet the evolving needs and goals of those we're so proud to serve.

None of it would've been possible without you, our community of supporters, volunteers, participants, and allies. I invite you to explore this report – to delve deeper into what we accomplished together over the last year and to take pride in your part in this vital work.

Finally, I would be remiss to not pay my particular thanks to John M. Rafferty, who led our organization as President and CEO last year. Thank you, John, not only for your leadership in this milestone year, but for your steadfast, exceptional leadership over the past decade and a half. Your impact on the CNIB community will live on for generations to come.

Now, as we welcome our next President and CEO, Angela Bonfanti, to lead CNIB into the future, we step into this new era with renewed energy, optimism, excitement, and determination to eliminate the barriers faced by Canadians who are blind, Deafblind, or have low vision.



On behalf of CNIB, thank you all for rising to the challenge.

**Robert Fenton KC** Chair, Board of Directors

This year was a turning point for our organization and the people we serve across the country. We didn't just launch a new strategic plan, we set a whole new course for the future – a future where accessibility, inclusion, and equity are inherent to every part of our society.

What we've accomplished in only one year is a testament to the powerhouse of supporters and allies we have behind us. When our community comes together with passion and determination, they are absolutely unstoppable.

- **Angela Bonfanti**, President and CEO

## From Us to You

## Thank you from the CNIB team

Our employee team is made up of talented individuals from coast to coast to coast with vastly different skill sets, who carry out a range of different roles to make our organization run smoothly for those we serve. What do we all have in common? We're all passionate about creating a more inclusive world for people who are blind – and we're all immensely grateful to our stakeholders for enabling us to do that.



Thank you to every person who chooses to stand up, raise their voices, and join us in our advocacy initiatives, fighting for inclusion and accessibility for people who are impacted by blindness nationwide. **99** 

- Keya Osborne, Director, Disability Justice



Thank you to our volunteers across the country for everything you do. We're so grateful for your dedication, commitment, and support! **99** 

- Diana Rosales, Director, Community Engagement and Inclusion



Thank you to our participants! Thank you for your trust, your excitement, your support, your passion, your willingness to try, and your determination to always reach for more. **99** 

- Shoko Kitano, Executive Director, British Columbia and the Yukon



I would like to send a huge thank you to the dedicated parents across Canada who work with us to create a better world for their children, and all children and youth who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision. **9** 

- Victoria Nolan, Manager, CNIB Next Generation



Thank you to our leadership volunteers: our board, committee, and National Youth Council members! Your guidance is crucial to everything we do. **99** 

- Temi Omope, Manager, Board Engagement and Risk Stewardship



Thank you to our donors who make our work possible. Whether you give annually or monthly, you're a corporate donor, a Friend for Life, or a transformational philanthropist, your support makes a world of difference. **99** 

- Danusha Fernando, Director, Donor Data, Analytics & Engagement

## We Have Lift-Off!

# Celebrating a powerful first year of The Way Forward strategic plan

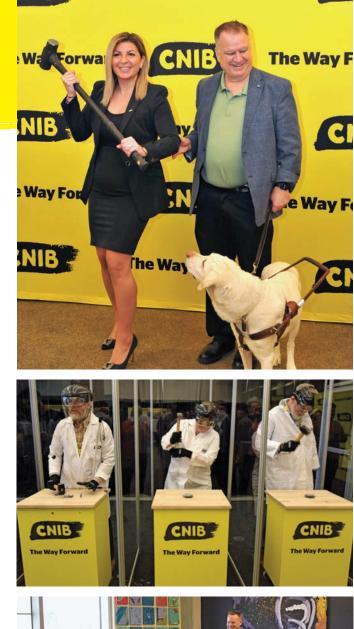
In November, we were proud to launch CNIB's new five-year strategic plan, The Way Forward – and we did it with a bang, literally. The launch event saw CNIB's Board of Directors members wielding hammers and smashing stop watches that had been dipped in liquid nitrogen to symbolize our goal of obliterating barriers and telling the whole world: the time for change is now.

The plan, which was built on the direction and feedback of thousands of people impacted by blindness and their supporters nationwide, features three key commitments:

- **Attitude Is Everything:** Increase understanding of blindness and dispel misconceptions about people who are blind, partially sighted, or Deafblind.
- **Safe and Accessible Journeys:** Remove barriers and create safe, accessible door-todoor journeys for all.
- **Our Kids Will Thrive:** Give parents and children the support they need to excel in and out of the classroom.

Since that first day when our board members smashed their stop watches into oblivion, we haven't slowed down for a moment. Together, our team and our participants have been charging full speed ahead to meet the goals of our strategic plan, and our first year was a prolific one – full of powerful campaigns, engaging events, and transformative actions.

On the next six pages, you'll learn more about the first year of our strategic plan, The Way Forward, and how we moved the needle on each of our commitments – thanks to the support of our participants and stakeholders nationwide.





## **The Way Forward: A Powerful First Year**

### Attitude Is Everything

Through our "Attitude Is Everything" commitment, CNIB's goal is to increase understanding of blindness and dispel misconceptions about people who are blind, partially sighted, or Deafblind.



#### Influencing public attitudes

In an organizational first, CNIB joined forces with social media influencers across Canada who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision to raise awareness about our strategic plan and issues facing our shared community.

From activist and speaker Molly Burke to artist Paul Castle, these 10 passionate influencers are some of the nation's most vocal advocates changing the way people think about life with blindness. Together, they have a combined 2.5 million social media followers. Working collaboratively with CNIB, our influencer partners published dozens of posts designed to dispel misconceptions about blindness and encourage their followers to get involved in CNIB's strategic plan. We will be proud to continue working with these advocates into the future, as we change the narrative on blindness together.

#### Media outreach and campaigns

In our strategic plan's first year, we delivered several high-impact advocacy and awareness campaigns to dispel misconceptions about people who are blind, as well as to support the "Safe and Accessible Journeys" and "Our Kids Will Thrive" commitments of our plan. These include our SnoWay campaign, designed to shine a spotlight on barriers to travel caused by lack of snow removal, and our Get on Board campaign, which examined the accessibility of transit systems nationwide.

We also conducted ongoing media outreach throughout the year to put the stories of our

participants front and centre in the national consciousness. Through digital and print storytelling and media outreach, CNIB and the issues we're working to dismantle were talked about 1,033 times in the news over the past year – spanning print, digital, television, and radio media.

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## **On the Horizon**

Over the course of the last year, we made our community's voices heard more than a thousand times through our multimedia campaigns, storytelling, and media outreach. But we also worked behind the scenes to plan a number of awareness and advocacy projects for the year to come. In the next year, we'll be launching:

- **an in-depth longitudinal study** in which we'll be following the lives of individuals who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision for a 20-year span and getting a close, long-term look at their evolving lifestyles, challenges, needs, and goals.
- **CNIB's Inclusive Language Guidelines**, which will help members of the media, government, educational community, medical community, and all Canadians better understand how using respectful, inclusive language can reduce ableism and level the playing field for people who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision.
- a first-of-its-kind legal support program, which will allow people whose rights have been violated because of their blindness to access a range of resources, justice navigators, and support with fighting their cases and achieving justice.



#### Lights, camera, action!

The best way to change attitudes about blindness is to let people who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision speak in their own words, telling their own stories. In the last year, we shot more than a dozen videos with our participants across the nation, putting a spotlight on their unique challenges, achievements, and goals.



## **The Way Forward: A Powerful First Year**

### **Safe and Accessible Journeys**

Through our "Safe and Accessible Journeys" commitment, we're working to remove barriers and create safe, accessible door-to-door journeys for all.

#### Pushing transit officials to Get on Board with accessibility

Taking place in October, our Get on Board campaign put a spotlight on the need for accessible public transit in Canada. The campaign involved a secret rider survey designed to help us learn more about the level of accessibility of transit systems, and culminated in regional transit town halls, bringing officials and community members together to discuss what's needed to make their local transit systems more accessible. We also brought local public officials on transit ride-alongs so they could experience first-hand the barriers to public transit faced by people who are blind. Through the campaign, we met with over 30 politicians and transit representatives across the country, opening invaluable dialogues about making their transit systems more accessible.

#### **Clearing the way with SnoWay**

In the winter of 2024, we launched our first-ever SnoWay campaign to educate municipalities and the public about environmental barriers caused by snow- and ice-covered sidewalks and transit stops, and to remind them of their responsibility to clear snow and ice from public paths of travel. In addition to a media campaign that included print and television coverage, we held an online photo contest for our community members to share examples of improperly cleared snow and ice in their local regions.





#### **Creating accessible neighbourhoods**

Last year, we were proud to work with the City of Montreal to help city workers and planners understand the importance of accessibility in and around construction sites. Our teams shared valuable insights on accessibility standards and gave city employees the opportunity to get a first-hand understanding of some of the challenges posed by construction sites for people with disabilities by taking



them on a blindfolded white cane walking experience through a mock construction site. We also distributed 650 door hangers to homes throughout Montreal to improve awareness of the accessibility barriers posed by obstacles on sidewalks.

## Investigating barriers caused by raised cycle tracks

Whether it's snowbanks, light poles, or unmarked ditches, any obstacle on the sidewalk can pose dangers and barriers for people who are blind – particularly when they're located around key locations like bus stops. In September, CNIB earned a research grant of \$50,000 through the Active Transportation Fund on behalf of the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure, and Communities to support our research into how raised cycle tracks at bus stops impact the mobility and safety of people who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision - and to develop recommendations for the construction of future raised cycle tracks in Canada. This investment enabled CNIB to conduct invaluable research to mitigate bicycle track barriers at bus stops and create recommendations that enable safe and accessible journeys for everyone.



## **The Way Forward: A Powerful First Year**

### **Our Kids Will Thrive**

Through the "Our Kids Will Thrive" commitment of our plan, we're working to give parents and children the support they need to excel in and out of the classroom.

#### A charter for a better tomorrow

Parents of children who are blind are saying it loud and clear: They want better support for their kids, both in and out of school. Currently, Canadian kids who are blind or have low vision don't receive the in-school support needed to excel, and parents report a lack of awareness about blindness among their child's medical teams, leading to a lack of information, resources, and guidance.

Ensuring children and families have the support they need to thrive means taking a multipronged approach targeting not only educational barriers, but social and medical barriers as well. That's why, in November, we proudly launched the "Charter of Rights of Children Who Are Blind or Low Vision" at a parliamentary reception in Ottawa, attended by public officials, members of parliament, CNIB partner organizations, and families impacted by blindness. The Charter establishes a child's rights to appropriate referrals for community supports, both educational and medical, at the time of diagnosis. The Charter also speaks to the right of children and parents to receive timely access to assistive technology devices, accessible classroom materials, and appropriate accommodations.

We provided support to **700 children and teens** last year, as well as **1,400+ family members** of children and youth who are blind.







#### **Creating inclusive schools**

One of our goals through "Our Kids Will Thrive" is to dismantle accessibility barriers in the classroom both socially and academically. Whether they're sighted or blind, every child should have the same opportunity to learn, grow, explore new things, and build friendships in the school environment.

To help make that goal a reality, last year we developed an inclusive schools curriculum and resource package to increase understanding about blindness among school officials, educators, and students, and to teach them how to create inclusive, welcoming, accessible environments for students with sight loss. In addition to providing the curriculum and resource packages to educators – reaching 86,000 teachers so far – we were also proud to deliver in-person presentations on inclusive in-class experiences to more than 1,800 students and school staff.

#### On the horizon

Behind the scenes over the last year, we've been working to build a groundbreaking new program for kids and parents impacted by blindness. It's called CNIB Next Generation. Our goal? To ensure families have access not only to outstanding CNIB programming, but seamless wraparound support along every step of their journeys - whether they're exploring new CNIB program opportunities, seeking community supports outside of CNIB, or navigating an issue within the health care or education sector.









#### Go online for more

To learn more about our soon-to-be-launched CNIB Next Generation program, visit **cnib.ca/nextgen**.



# **Programming Highlights**

### Our path to truth and reconciliation

CNIB is committed to building a welcoming, supportive community for Indigenous Peoples through collaboration and engagement with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities across the country. As we expand our reach, we're enhancing existing programs, including our CNIB Mobile Hub offerings, while developing new initiatives that are co-created to engage more Indigenous participants and establishing meaningful relationships in rural communities.

It's all part of our truth and reconciliation journey and strengthening our commitment to the 94 Calls to Action by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. We're taking this journey with support and guidance from Tawi:ne Consulting Inc., an Indigenous-owned company specializing in Indigenous engagement and consultation, policy and governance, and capacity development.

Last year, we launched our reconciliation action plan, Reconciliation – The Way Forward, with measurable targets and specific actions to hold us accountable for this important work. Since then, we've been delivering on a number of strategies to make our organization more inclusive to and representative of Indigenous Peoples, including by building relationships with Indigenous service organizations, co-creating programs tailored to Indigenous participants, and making truth and reconciliation a cornerstone of our internal culture.



#### Go online for more

Visit **cnib.ca/reconciliation** to learn more about our truth and reconciliation journey.



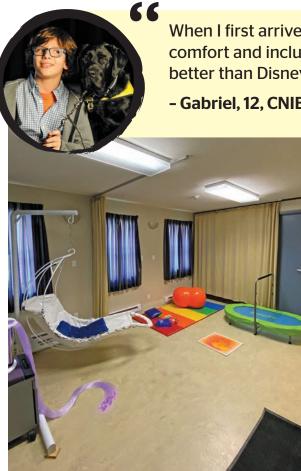


## **Connecting people and** ideas through Connecting the Dots

At last year's CNIB Connecting the Dots conferences taking place in Quebec City, Vancouver, and Toronto as well as virtually, 640 attendees learned about current trends and research: met a community of experts, academics, employers, and entrepreneurs; experienced the latest advancements in accessible and assistive technology; learned more about programs, services, and resources for people impacted by blindness; discussed and shared all things braille; and explored exciting career opportunities. It was our most wellattended and comprehensive Connecting the Dots event series to date, and we look forward to expanding it even further in the years to come.

### Lake Joe: A multi-sensory camp experience

Over the past year, campers at our CNIB Lake Joe facility in Muskoka enjoyed a wide range of camp upgrades, including new windows, sidewalks, and railings. In a camp first, we also created a new multi-sensory room at Lake Joe thanks to funding from the Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Fund - Youth Innovation Grant. Designed to support campers who face challenges with overstimulation or may need quiet time alone, the room features a range of calming and tactile features like a swinging chair with weighted blanket, colourful fibre optic strands, a mini trampoline, exercise balls, fidget toys, and projectors that display large, colourful, high-contrast images on the wall.



When I first arrived [at CNIB Lake Joe], it gave me a feeling of comfort and inclusion. I just felt really happy there. I think it's better than Disneyland! >>

- Gabriel, 12, CNIB Lake Joe camper



Last year, we were proud to welcome nearly 1,400 visitors to enjoy the magic of CNIB Lake Joe.

CNIB delivered programming to 12,000+ people impacted by blindness across Canada last year.

### Introducing CNIB Access Labs

Last year, we transformed our CNIB Frontier Accessibility program into CNIB Access Labs, signifying our commitment to making digital experiences and built environments more accessible and inclusive for all Canadians. CNIB Access Labs is a groundbreaking accessibility consultancy program dedicated to transforming digital experiences and built environments across Canada. With a strong focus on user-centric design and lived experience accessibility testing services, CNIB Access Labs aims to revolutionize accessibility practices and foster a society where no one is left behind.



### Go online for more

Visit us online at **cnib.ca/labs** to learn more about the brand new CNIB Access Labs program.

## Bridging technology gaps in B.C.

Unlike several other provinces, there is no government technology subsidy program in B.C. for people who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision. But thanks to a transformational gift from

the Joan C. McCarter Foundation through the Victoria Foundation, we were able to provide life-changing technology devices to nearly 200 British Columbians last year. The tech equipment given was tailored to the needs of the individual and included everything from new laptop computers outfitted with assistive technology programs like JAWS and ZoomText. to CCTVs, portable video magnifiers, and iPads.

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[The gift of technology I received] enables me to access information that I wouldn't be able to access otherwise. I can reconnect with the world again in ways I was not able to do before. It's made a huge difference on the way I approach the day and feel about my independence. **99** 

- Ronald Gutowski, B.C., CNIB participant

Through our Phone It Forward program, we gave 670 new and refurbished mobile phones and devices to Canadians who needed them last year. We produced 600+ accessible formats of literature last year through CNIB Beyond Print, adding up to 1.8 million braille pages, 415,000 CDs, 1,200 printbraille books, and 215 Envoy Connect devices.

## Bringing accessible solutions to market

In the past fiscal year, **CNIB SmartLife brought a** number of new products and innovations to market, paving the way for early availability of exciting offerings like the CNIB SmartLife talking microwave. Hable One. **Envoy Connects, CNIB** SmartLife PenFriend, liquid level indicator. ARx Vision Al powered wearable camera, WeWALK V2 + AIM Smart Cane, Hapti-Braille, USB Note, and many more. These products have been selected with accessibility, affordability, and usability in mind to better serve our community.





## Happy birthday to the Montreal Hub!

2023 marked a milestone year for our Quebec community as we celebrated five years since the launch of our Montreal CNIB Community Hub, which has grown to become a place of fun, learning, friendship, and empowerment for hundreds of Quebeckers impacted by blindness. To celebrate the occasion, we welcomed participants to join us - both virtually and in person - to look back on what CNIB achieved in the beginning of its second century and held an open forum for questions, discussions, and, best of all, festivities! In-person participants enjoyed a pizza and cake party with a tour of the Hub, including our audio book recording studio and CNIB SmartLife Centre tech bar.

## **Living Out Loud**



## Championing programs focused on friendship, exploration, and the joys of life

At CNIB, we believe joy is not only a crucial part of life, but a gateway to overall wellness and achievement of one's personal goals. Sports, recreation, art, and social programs are powerful tools for fostering social connections, building self-esteem, and teaching invaluable life skills like teamwork, leadership, and independence.

From exercise classes to sculpting workshops to immersive discovery trips to an endless list of attractions, we're proud to deliver dozens of programs in communities across Canada that prioritize the good stuff in life: joy, laughter, friendship, hobby-building, exploration, and excitement.



In the last year, we delivered **750+** unique programs to people impacted by blindness nationwide.



### **Hitting the ice with Canadian Blind Hockey**

Last year, we were proud to partner with Canadian Blind Hockey (CBH) to help bring this incredible sport to more Canadians, and to help ensure CBH has the resources they need to do it. As part of this partnership, CNIB has been assisting CBH with their fundraising initiatives, enabling them to focus their efforts on delivering impactful programs for Canadians who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision of all ages.



### Go online for more

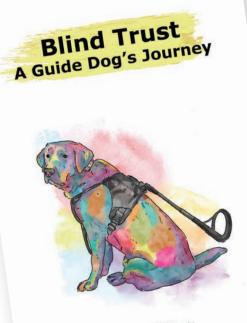
Visit **cnib.ca/hockey** to learn more about the work we're doing to help more Canadians who are blind hit the ice.



## **CNIB Guide Dogs**

### Enabling independence, four paws at a time

For someone who is blind, having a guide dog can be a transformative experience - a gateway to independence, freedom, and mobility. Since establishing CNIB Guide Dogs in 2017, our program has expanded tremendously as we work to meet the urgent need for high-quality guide dogs in Canada. We now have more than **250** dogs in the CNIB Guide Dogs program, graduating another nine guide dogs, five buddy dogs, and one ambassador dog in the last year. The class of 2023 also included our first buddy dog graduate in Quebec and our first ambassador dog in British Columbia!



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#### "Blind Trust: A Guide Dog's Journey"

Raising awareness about the importance of guide dogs is a cornerstone of the CNIB Guide Dogs program. Last year, we collaborated with AMI (Accessible Media Inc.) and Halter Media on a new broadcast series that explores the remarkable partnership between guide dogs and their handlers. "Blind Trust: A Guide Dog's Journey" showcased the CNIB Guide Dogs training process and the life-changing impact these incredible dogs have on their handlers. The series also offered a glimpse into our buddy dog and ambassador dog programs, delving into the unique bond between these animals and their human companions.

- Thanks to [my guide dog,] Harper, my mental health has improved so much. With her, I can navigate my city of Halifax without stress - and I can be active again! Harper and I walk or hike together for hours at a time. She's my guide and my companion.
  - Anton Sianchuk, handler of CNIB guide dog Harper





### Coming soon: The Howard & Delores Beck Puppy Development Centre

In September, CNIB Guide Dogs unveiled the site of our first-ever puppy development centre in Georgina, Ontario. The Howard & Delores Beck Puppy Development Centre will be a state-of-the-art facility that will support, socialize, and train future CNIB guide dogs, and serve as a community space for residents to learn more about guide dogs and blindness. There will also be opportunities for members of the Georgina community to work with dogs and volunteer. While the site is currently undergoing assessments and permit approvals, we plan to have shovels in the ground by the end of 2024.





#### **Thank you, Delores Beck!**

This first-of-its-kind facility will be made possible by the dedicated support of Delores Beck, one of CNIB's most generous donors in our 106-year history. Although her husband, a highly esteemed attorney named Howard Beck, is no longer with us, Delores has continued to support CNIB in his name, generously giving more than \$5 million in lifetime support to the CNIB Guide Dogs program.

Last year, we were thrilled to be able to give something – or in this case, someone – back to Delores to thank her for her incredible support. After one of our guide dogs, Bella, had to leave our program due to an injury, we were honoured to allow Delores to adopt Bella as a beloved pet and companion.

## **On the Road**

## Increasing our reach through the CNIB Mobile Hub

Whether they live in a busy metropolis, a quiet suburb, or an isolated northern community, we want every Canadian who's impacted by blindness to feel supported by CNIB – no matter where they call home.

In addition to our wide range of virtual services, the CNIB Mobile Hub allows us to reach individuals who don't have a CNIB location in their community, but who still want and deserve to access our programs in a welcoming, inclusive, in-person environment.

Launched in 2022, our CNIB Mobile Hub programming has expanded greatly in the last year, enabling more and more Canadians to access this one-of-a-kind service. While we served 760 participants in 24 communities across four provinces in our inaugural year, last year we nearly tripled our impact - serving an incredible 2,140 participants in 40 communities across six provinces!



The CNIB Mobile Hub is an amazing project that offers all kinds of supports. [It's] giving individuals chances to be a part of a community, to meet people, to learn about what is out there for vision loss. I am looking forward to the Mobile Hub coming back multiple times this year and would love to be more involved. **99** 

- Wasif Bhatti, CNIB Mobile Hub participant

#### The CNIB Mobile Hub visited 40 communities last year:

Behchokò, NWT Yellowknife, NWT Camrose, AB Grande Prairie, AB Red Deer, AB Lethbridge, AB Prince George, BC Abbotsford, BC Terrace, BC Kelowna, BC Penticton, BC Nanaimo, BC Vernon, BC Comox, BC Ajax, ON Burlington, ON Hamilton, ON Windsor, ON Oakville, ON Chatham, ON Brandon, MB Morden, MB Bathurst, NB Shediac, NB Saint John, NB Miramichi, NB Edmundston, NB Campbellton, NB Sussex, NB Sackville, NB

Florenceville, NB St. Jerome, QC Laurentides, QC Outaouais, QC Quebec City, QC Weyburn, SK Prince Albert, SK Saskatoon, SK Estevan, SK La Ronge, SK

#### What's on offer?

CNIB Mobile Hub programming is tailored to the needs of each community we visit and often includes:

- Technology training
- Sports and recreation demonstrations
- Peer support sessions
- Self-advocacy resources
- CNIB SmartLife demonstrations
- Community service presentations





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MOBILE

IB Mobile Hub, participate in:

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## **Advocacy in Action**



### Putting a megaphone on our community's voices

Through our new strategic plan, The Way Forward, we're committed to being louder and bolder than ever before; we're committed to not asking for, but demanding change for all Canadians who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision – as we put a megaphone on the voices of our community through our shared advocacy work.

#### Creating welcoming, safe Uber rides for guide dog handlers

Last year, Uber Canada reported 82 incidents in which drivers refused rides to people with service dogs, including guide dogs. That's 82 too many. To help address this discrimination and support our commitment to safe and accessible journeys, CNIB partnered with Uber Canada last year on a public service campaign to educate rideshare drivers on the rights of guide dog handlers and the laws that protect them. As part of the campaign, we collaborated with Uber on four new awareness videos and a social media campaign, and distributed blankets, lint rollers, and "guide dogs welcome"

In the last year, we delivered 140+ advocacy programs for 2,000+ participants nationwide. window decals to Uber drivers to help make rideshares more welcoming to people who use service animals. While our work is far from over, we're proud to continue to collaborate with Uber to help ensure ride refusals are a thing of the past. <text>

#### Creating a more accessible Quebec

Thanks to support from Chambre des notaires du Québec, we were able to relaunch our Accessible Neighbourhoods project as well as our Know Your Rights campaign in the province of Quebec, both aimed at creating a more accessible, inclusive province where the voices of people who are blind are heard loud and clear. With the help of 19 local ambassadors, we held four door-to-door awareness events in downtown Montreal, meeting with business owners and increasing awareness of what it means to be accessible to consumers. We also provided accessibility training to 40 business owners, distributed 150 accessibility awareness kits, and reached thousands more through radio and television ads, increasing understanding of accessibility, inclusion, and the rights of people who are blind.





#### Raising our voices for the Canada Disability Benefit

Throughout 2023, CNIB engaged with government and stakeholders to support the passage of Bill C-22 to create a Canada Disability Benefit that would support the financial security of Canadians with disabilities like blindness. The Canada Disability Act became law in June of 2023. While the consultation process was launched by the federal government to determine the design of the benefit, **CNIB** launched its own Canada Disability **Benefit Consultation Panel to gather** feedback from our community nationwide on each key aspect of the benefit. The feedback was used to inform our final submission for the first stage of regulatory consultations. We'll continue these efforts to ensure the Canada Disability Benefit works for everyone who is blind, Deafblind, or who has low vision at the next stage of consultations when the first draft of regulations is released.

A BRAND YOU CAN FEEL

## A revolutionary tactile brand

In our ongoing work to create an inclusive, accessible society, CNIB is proud to champion tactile branding for consumers who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision. In addition to our visual brand built on high visibility and high contrast, we also have a tactile brand that allows people who are blind, **Deafblind, or who have** low vision to experience our brand at the touch of their fingertips. Learn more about our tactile brand and how it was created at cnib.ca/ tactilebrand.

#### **Coming together for education**

In March, we were proud to join forces with the Alberta Access to Education Coalition (AATEC) to hold the first ever AATEC Summit in Calgary. The AATEC is a parent-led group advocating for equitable access to education across the province. By amplifying the voices of students, AATEC works to ensure both parents and children impacted by blindness receive the support they need to excel in and out of the classroom. The first AATEC Summit attracted nearly 80 attendees, including students, parents, educational professionals, and government officials, as well as a wide range of partners, from Alberta Sports & Recreations Association for the Blind to Renfrew to Eschenbach.





# **Raising Funds, Raising the Bar**

### Thank you for supporting our fundraising events across Canada!

Although we're tremendously grateful for our transformational philanthropic donors, most of CNIB's funds are raised one dollar at a time – through monthly donations and modest but powerful one-time gifts.

That's why we're so grateful to all those who support our fundraising events across Canada, which are a cornerstone of our revenues. From barbeques to black-tie galas, our fundraising events are integral to keeping our programs going strong for the people who need them.

#### **Cookout with Cuddy**

In August, CNIB Lake Joe partnered with friends throughout Ontario's Muskoka region to raise over \$300,000 to support the camp. Our Cookout with Cuddy event was an extraordinary success with nearly 500 guests in attendance to enjoy dinner and a live sunset performance by Canadian music legend Jim Cuddy of Blue Rodeo fame.



#### Bal masqué bénéfice d'INCA (CNIB Masquerade Ball)

Taking place in Montreal in February, this immersive masquerade experience featured a dining-in-the-dark tasting, live music, circus artists, auction, and much more. The event was a great success thanks to the 100 guests in attendance who raised \$9,000 for CNIB programs and services in Quebec.



The 2023 CNIB Guide Dogs with Purpose Gala, taking place in January in Regina, received overwhelming support from the community. Nearly 250 people attended the gala and, together, raised more than \$82,000 for CNIB Guide Dogs - enough to sponsor a guide dog for its entire life!

#### **CNIB Pup Crawl**

Last year's CNIB Pup Crawl was our most successful yet, with \$135,000 raised by participants across Canada. During April and May, nearly 200 teams (including many canine companions) laced up their sneakers and hit the road to take on this virtual five-kilometre fundraising challenge. A huge thank you goes out to donors Mary and John Crocker who generously matched each dollar raised up to \$50,000.







## **Donors Make the Difference**

#### Thank you to our outstanding supporters

#### **Alvin and Mona Libin Foundation**

The Alvin and Mona Libin CNIB SmartLife Centre in Calgary is opening doors to accessibility, independence, learning, and technology for thousands of Calgarians impacted by blindness - all thanks to the generosity of its namesake.

Business leader Alvin and his late wife, Mona, created their foundation back in 1983 and have since funnelled their generosity into dozens of much-needed philanthropic initiatives to benefit Calgary and its surrounding communities. We were honoured and immensely grateful when the Foundation made an investment of nearly \$1 million to support our assistive technology program, our Phone It Forward program, and to build the Alvin and Mona Libin CNIB SmartLife Centre, which is affectionately called "the Libin Centre" by our local staff. In doing so, the Foundation has already allowed us to help more than 3,400 people who are blind harness the power of technology and develop the skills and confidence needed to stay active at work, at home, and in their community.



#### **The Hogarth family**

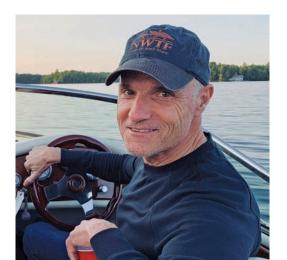
Supporting CNIB has become a generational commitment for the Hogarth family. The family patriarch, the late Murray Hogarth, first became involved with CNIB in the early 2000s



when fellow Lake Joseph cottager and longtime CNIB supporter Robert (Bob) Buchan asked for his support for the "Spirit of the North" redevelopment campaign, aimed at refurbishing our historic CNIB Lake Joe camp facility. Murray quickly became a driving force behind the successful campaign.

Just as his father had, Tim Hogarth also became a dedicated CNIB Lake Joe supporter. He got involved in 2016 when he agreed to co-chair the CNIB Lake Joe Vision Team and, over the next six years, Tim was instrumental in raising the funds needed to build

a multipurpose recreation and learning facility for generations of Lake Joe campers to come. In recognition of the Hogarth family's transformational commitment and support for CNIB Lake Joe, the building, for which ground will be broken later this year, will be named "Hogarth Hall".



#### **Brandt Group of Companies**

We were overjoyed last year when Brandt Group of Companies, a longstanding CNIB supporter, made an unprecedented contribution of \$2 million in support of CNIB programs in Western Canada. This momentous donation, which was made possible by Brandt's Thanks a Billion program, marks the largest single gift ever received by CNIB in Saskatchewan. The historic donation will profoundly shape CNIB's work in Western Canada, while also enabling the growth of the CNIB Mobile Hub and CNIB Guide Dogs programs across the country.

## 66

The work of CNIB is a gamechanger for thousands of Canadians whose lives have been impacted by blindness. Brandt is proud to offer tangible support for critical community programming through CNIB and its many initiatives. **99** 

- Shaun Semple, Brandt CEO



#### **Podium Audio**

Last year, Podium Audio

helped bring vivid, Canadian stories to life for countless

individuals living with print disabilities. Podium, an audio book and ebook publisher, made a generous \$60,000 gift to support our CNIB Beyond Print accessible publishing program. Their gift was used by our CNIB Beyond Print team to create a full audio production of a three-part complex graphic novel series, "The Reckoner Rises" by Canadian Indigenous author David A. Robertson, featuring the vocal talents of 15 Indigenous narrators who brought the characters to life. With an organizational goal to authentically share stories written by and about BIPOC individuals, Podium's gift is also supporting ongoing productions featuring unionized BIPOC voice talent.





#### Scotiabank

Thanks to an incredibly generous \$1.2-million gift, Scotiabank is helping Canadians who are blind – particularly young people – reach for thriving, sustainable careers. With a three-year investment from ScotiaRISE, which is Scotiabank's \$500-million commitment and social impact strategy to remove barriers to career advancement and employment, Scotiabank is investing in CNIB's youth leadership and employment programs, including CNIB Come to Work, supporting more than 1,000 members of our CNIB Come to Work Talent Pool. Participants will be able to access personalized professional development opportunities through workshops, internships, mentorships, networking events with potential employers, and referrals to community agencies for employment training sessions and work placements – all of which will help them move into the workforce poised for a lifetime of success.

## **Leadership Volunteers**

## The unsung heroes behind the work of CNIB

Our work wouldn't be possible without the dedicated service of our leadership volunteer team, made up of passionate board, committee, and National Youth Council members from across the country. These individuals generously give their time, talents, and expertise to our organization for one reason: because they care about creating a more inclusive world for people who are blind, Deafblind, or who have low vision.

Whether it's helping to build or finetune our strategies, offering much-needed expertise and advice, bringing forward new creative ideas, leveraging their networks to support our work, or even donating or helping out at events, these leadership volunteers are truly the unsung heroes behind CNIB.

### Thank you

To our Board of Directors, committee, and National Youth Council members, thank you for generously donating your time, passion, and expertise to CNIB. Your work makes a profound impact in the lives of people who are blind from coast to coast to coast, every single day.

#### **Board of Directors**

Robert Fenton, Chair Robert Penner, Past Chair Carrie Anton Scott Best David Bryane Mark Collett Stephanie Fry

Neil Graham Penny Hartin Susan Lindley Brad McPherson Louise Michaud Jason Mitschele Kelsie Montgomery Jane Muir Savidant Tim Murphy Tara Niekamp Paula Pepin James Rumble Bakari Savage Jonathan Wood

CNIB Board of Directors Chair Robert Fenton joins Angela Bonfanti for a coffee chat with our staff in November



### National Youth Council

William Honcharuk, Chair Emilee Schevers, Vice-Chair Alicia Chenier Oceanne Comtois Danica Frappier Taylor Gaudon Eitel Houedakor Kylie Matthews Aadim Rajan Curtis Ruttle Ayesha Shakil Abby Sienko

#### Members of our National Youth Council meet in CNIB's Toronto office



#### **Standing Committees**

#### **Audit Committee**

Kelsie Montgomery, Chair David Bryane Gabe Hayos James Rumble

#### **Governance Committee**

Jane Muir Savidant, Chair Jason Campbell Mark Collett Penny Hartin Jason Mitschele Charles Mossop Robert Penner

#### **People and Culture Committee**

Louise Michaud, Chair Carrie Anton Stephanie Fry Neil Graham Paul Anthony Hamilton Karen Jensen Paula Pepin

#### **Finance Committee**

James Rumble, Chair Larry Baldachin David Bryane Owen Edmondson Kelsie Montgomery Tim Murphy Karen Somerville Jonathan Wood

#### **Nominating Committee**

Robert Penner, Chair Karen Jensen Jason Mitschele Charles Mossop Tara Niekamp

#### **Risk Management Committee**

Tara Niekamp, Chair Stephanie Fry Will Honcharuk Brad McPherson Louise Michaud Robert Paolino Palash Sanyal

#### **Investment Sub-Committee**

David Bryane, Chair Ken Curtis Ryan Graham Kristi Pahapill James Rumble Randy Rutherford

#### **Pension Sub-Committee**

Gavin Benjamin, Chair Jason Campbell John Matheson James Rumble

#### **Strategy Committee**

Penny Hartin, Chair Scott Best Jennifer Bromley Alicia Chenier Eitel Houedakor Susan Lindley Shawn Maloney Jane Muir Savidant Tara Niekamp Bakari Savage

## **Community Volunteers**

## CNIB's founders and other volunteers assemble for a banquet in 1919

### A century-long legacy of caring

You might say volunteering is in CNIB's blood. In 1918, it was a group of seven unpaid volunteers who founded our organization, recognizing the dearth of social services for Canadian veterans returning blind from WWI. Without pay and in their precious spare time, they worked tirelessly to provide employment opportunities and basic necessities to those veterans who so greatly needed them following their time in combat.

It was the selflessness of our volunteer founders that created CNIB more than 100 years ago, and it was the continued dedication of volunteers who nurtured our organization to become the primary source of support for generations of Canadians who were blind, Deafblind, or who had low vision.

Today, CNIB continues to live and breathe on the dedication and kindness of volunteers, who outnumber our paid staff four to one. Our volunteer team is now made up of 2,000 individuals across Canada who do everything from facilitating peer groups to organizing events to manning reception desks to raising puppies who will one day become trusted guide dogs for people who are blind.

In the last year, our dedicated volunteers across Canada generously donated more than 615,000 hours of their time to support people who are blind, Deafblind, and who have low vision through CNIB programs.

**From all of us at CNIB:** Thank you to our incredible volunteer team across Canada! There wouldn't be a CNIB without you.



Since our founding in 1918, many of our programs have been delivered by volunteers



The late, great Walter Gretzky was a dedicated volunteer who used his love of sport to raise funds and awareness for CNIB for decades





Selfishly, I don't even want to call it volunteering because Tammy is just my friend and we just hang out. You know, that's sort of what our relationship has evolved into. So it doesn't feel like volunteering per se. We're friends. **99** 

- Karin, Vision Mate to CNIB participant Tammy





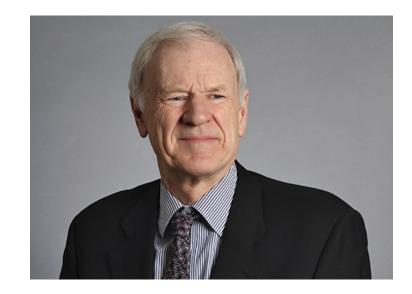
I love being able to talk to people - to be able to help them out. Maybe they've had a rough day, and it brings me so much joy to know that even something as simple as a friendly conversation can turn someone's day around. I always try to make sure everyone leaves feeling heard - and hopefully with a smile on their face, too. **99** 

- Salim, CNIB SmartLife Centre reception volunteer



I'm currently volunteering for CNIB with wonderful people, helping wonderful people. It's my dream to do more for the community, from helping make their everyday lives better to joining in the efforts to have their voices heard. **99** 

- Nadia, CNIB volunteer



### Congratulations to Ronald J. Kruzeniski, winner of the 2023 Magill Award!

Last year, longtime CNIB volunteer Ronald J. Kruzeniski was chosen as the well-deserved recipient of the 2023 Arthur Napier Magill Distinguished Service Award, our highest honour recognizing the contributions of volunteers from across Canada.

A dedicated volunteer for more than 30 years, Ron has not only provided strategic leadership as a member and, later, Chair of our Board of Directors, but he has also dedicated many hours to mentoring and coaching individuals who are blind, from newcomers to Canada to new university graduates. Innovative and visionary, Ron is deeply passionate about CNIB's mission and leads with kindness, integrity, humility, and inclusivity in everything he does.

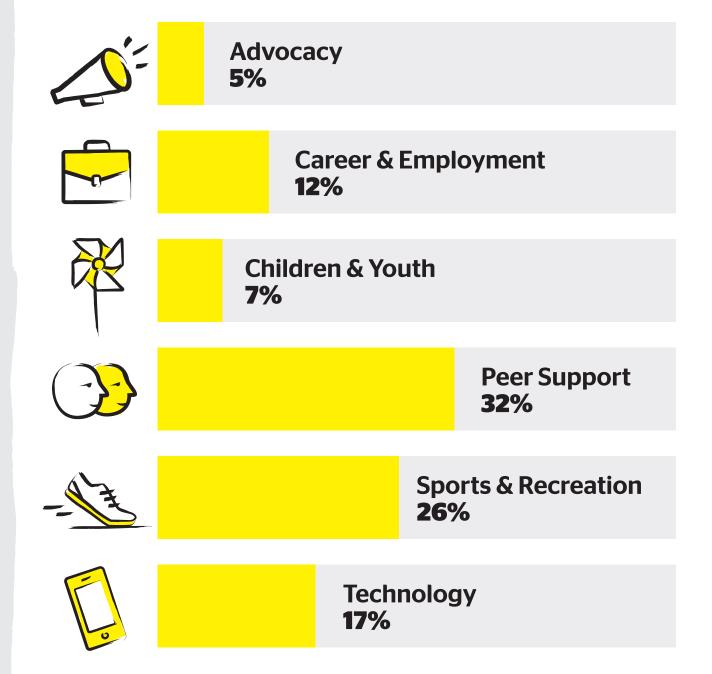
## **Your Dollars at Work**

As a charter member of the Imagine Canada Ethical Fundraising and Financial Accountability Code, CNIB takes pride in upholding the highest standard of ethics in the distribution of donations. Our financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and were audited by Ernst & Young LLP.

CNIB is accredited by the Imagine Canada Standards Program and has met 73 standards in board governance, financial accountability and transparency, fundraising, staff management, and volunteer involvement. This accreditation is in effect from 2020 to 2025.

Last year, we invested \$58.2 million directly into programs for Canadians impacted by blindness. The financial support for these programs comes from public support (51.1%), government funding (9.8%), investments (6.3%), retail lottery and gaming (12.5%), fees for service (8.4%), consumer products and assistive technology sales (5.6%), and other revenue generation initiatives (6.3%). For CNIB's complete audited financial statements, please visit **cnib.ca/financials**.

### **Participation in Our Innovative Programs**



## **Donor Honour Roll**

### **Major Gifts**

CNIB thanks the following individuals, corporations, foundations, and service clubs who made exceptional gifts of \$5,000 or more in the last year.

Anonymous (42) Abhi Manerikar Ann K. Bucke Ann Thiel Brad J. Hinz, MD FRCSC **Brian Maines Bruce Towler & Judy Steele** Chooi Leann Lim **David & Helen Eastaugh Delores & Howard Beck** Dr. Barry Emara Dr. Matthew Tennant Dr. Thomas Eid **Drew Shouldice** E. Neville Ward Earl Cook Family Edward Anderson Elaine & Lloyd Burrow Elizabeth McGavin Elizabeth Watkinson

Eric S. Margolis **Fay Sheppard Firstbrook Family** George & Patricia Fink Gordon VanSickle **Graham Williams** Grant Nixon **Greer Carter** Griffith R. Lloyd & Christina Lloyd Heather Jean McInnes Helen Mavnard Ian MacGregor James K Hugessen Jane & Steve Savidant Jane Beaumont Janis Crewson Joan Kelley Walker Joanne Bannister John & Jacquie Rafferty John P Close Josh Manusow & Kristen Creek Judith Campbell Kathy Starko Kathy Williams Kevin & Debra Fogarty Lee Costea Lucille Roch

Lucy Benguigui M. Paul-Aimé Tellier Madeline Joyce Caruso Marion Caplan Mark Collett Mary & John Crocker Maurice De Genaro Megan Vankerrebroeck Michele Power & Brian Livingston, in memory of Francine Power Mr. Albert Sarkozy Mr. Brent Welty Mr. Brian Klaponski **Mr. Carey Fouks** Mr. Dennis O'Byrne Mr. Francois Fourmy Mr. Frank Godin Mr. George Gaponow Mr. Ian Gibb Mr. Matt Simonot Mr. Michael Fawcett Mr. Michael Phuah Mr. Robert Desbarats Mr. Vijay Sappani Mr. Vincenzo Cilia Mr. Walter Redekopp Mrs. Connie Ross

Mrs. I. Ruth Skelton Mrs. Louise Browne Mrs. Rita Popowich Mrs. Susan Desbarats Ms Alison Thiessen Ms Annerose Armstrong Ms Audrey Adams White Ms Francine Monette Ms Patricia Wang Ms Penelope Watson Ms Sylvia Campbell Ms. Angela M. Wong Ms. Beverly Scarff Ms. Lori Eddy Nancy & Steve Simonot Nancy Cohen **Paul Bateson** Peter Herrmann Prema Ranganathan & Prasanna Ranganathan Ray & Debbie Bouchard **Rhonda Collins-Leech** Robert Charbonneau **Robert Penner** Ron & Anne Sidon Ron & Yvonne Kruzeniski Ryan & Tina Smith Sharon Fitzpatrick Sheila Scott

The Garnet Isabel Rook Endowment Fund The Hogarth Family The Oliphant Family The Whitehouse-Strong Family W. Selby Martin The Gray Family (Mark Gray, Alexandra Gray, Anthony Gray, Patricia Gray) 3D Petroleums Ltd. **5** Girls Foundation A & A Hersey Fund (DECD) A.W.B. Charitable Foundation A1 Tire & Wheel Abundance Canada Access Communications Children's Fund Accessible Media Inc. Accessible Technology Program Ace Boats Lifts of Muskoka Adonis Foundation ADP Canada **Adventurer Foundation** Affinity Credit Union - Saskatoon Alberta Law Foundation Alberta New Horizons for Seniors Project Alectra Inc. Allard Foundation Ltd. Andal Family Fund held at Calgary Foundation Ann Claire Angus Fund, held at Vancouver Foundation Armstrong Partnership LP

Axel & Wendy Foght Fund through the Victoria Foundation Bayer Inc. **BC New Horizons for Seniors Project Benefaction Foundation Brant Community Foundation** Bruce Power Inc. **Burgundy Legacy Foundation** C.C.B. Prince George White Cane Chapter C.M. Odette Philanthropic Foundation **Cal LeGrow Foundation Calgary South Asian Lions Club Canadian Tire Corporation Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities Canadian Wireless Telecommunications** Association Carte International Inc. **Cenovus Energy Central Okanagan Foundation Charities Aid Foundation Canada** Charles and Jessie Wilkins Donor Fund Christina and Harvey Queau Fund City of Hamilton City of Kingston and United Way serving **KFL&A** Community Investment Fund **City of New Westminster** City of Ottawa **City of Regina Clement and Hedwig Gerwing Fund held** at the Aqueduct Foundation Cliff & Pat Glen Fund held at Vancouver Foundation

Colleges Ontario Community Foundation for Kingston & Area

Computershare Trust Company

Congregation of The Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada

Crosbie Group of Companies

Crosstown Heating & Ventilating (Calgary) Ltd.

Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan

**Daniel Family Foundation** 

Deloitte

**Delta Gamma Foundation** 

Department of Canadian Heritage Dock Kings Inc.

Don & Karen Folk Family Fund held at the Central Okanagan Foundation

Doreen and Ross McKee Legacy Fund

Dorothy Ryan Estate Fund

Dr. Frank Turner Corp

Dr. Samuel Robinson Charitable Foundation

Duncan Ross Associates Ltd

**Easter Seals PEI** 

**Eberlein Family Charitable Foundation** 

Edmonton Community Foundation

Elinor Gill Ratcliffe C.M., O.N.L., LLD (HC)

**Enterprise Holdings Foundation** 

Eric S. Margolis

Ernest & Anne Steers Fund through the Victoria Foundation ESDC-Accessibility Standards Canada **ESDC-Aging Well at Home Program** ESDC-Early Learning Child Care (ELCC) ESDC-Enabling Accessibility Fund **ESDC-Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities ESDC-Sectorial Initiatives Program** ESDC-Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS) Program **Ewald Family Foundation** Eye Care Specialists of Saskatchewan F. K. Morrow Foundation Fall Line Initiatives Fund Farr Family Charitable Foundation Finch Fund at Stronger Philanthropy Fondation Claudy Croteau - Le Chemin du Coeur Franco-Nevada Corporation Frank & Mary Uniac Charitable Fund Frederick and Douglas Dickson Memorial Foundation Fund holders of the Calgary Foundation Fund holders of the Vancouver Foundation Fund holders of the Winnipeg Foundation G. Murray and Edna Forbes Foundation Fund Gaponow Family Foundation held at the **Aqueduct Foundation** George H. Stedman Estate

George Leousis Family Legacy Fund at the Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation **Giftfunds Canada Foundation Global Affairs Canada** Government of Canada Government Of Newfoundland & Labrador Government of Nova Scotia **Graydon & Dorothy Morrison Flow Through Fund at Calgary Foundation** Halifax Protestant Infants Foundation Halton Region Hamilton Community Foundation **Hodgson Family Foundation** Hoffmann-La Roche Limited Honda Canada Foundation Humanware Infrastructure Canada-Green & Inclusive **Community Buildings** Innovation, Science and Economic **Development Canada (ISEDC)** ivari Jack and Lois Shirley O'Regan Charitable Foundation Jessie Main Fund **Jilla and Robert Williams Foundation** Joan C McCarter Foundation through the Victoria Foundation Joe and Susan Salek John M. & Bernice Parrott Foundation Inc. John T Firstbrook Insurance Agencies Inc Josco Holdings LTD.

Joseph W. Adair and Dorothy M. Adair Foundation

June Block Talking Clock Fund held at the Edmonton Community Foundation

Justin Mooney and Simone Ratis

Kaatza Foundation

Keith & Betty Beedie Foundation

Kinsmen Club of Kingston

KPMG

La Chambre des Notaires du Quebec

Law Foundation of Prince Edward Island

LBCO Contracting Ltd.

Leon's Furniture

Linda Joyce Charitable Fund

Lorne and Carol Goldstein Family Endowment Fund at the Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto

Lynda Wheeler Foundation

Manion Wilkins & Associates Ltd.

Manitoba Accessibility Office

Manitoba Association of Optometrists

Mantella Corporation

**MAP Family Foundation** 

Mastercard

May And Stanley Smith Charitable Trust McEachern Family Foundation McEachern Management Ltd.

McFarlane-Karp Fund

**McMaster University** 

Mechanical Contractors Association of Toronto

Medcan

Metropolitan Plumbing and Heating Contractors Association

**Moneris Solutions Corporation** 

Morningview Foundation

My Tribute Gift Foundation

Nancy's Very Own Foundation

Nellie K. Hicks Fund for the Blind held at the Calgary Foundation

Nellis Roy Moyer & Mary Elizabeth Moyer Memorial Trust through the Victoria Foundation

NL New Horizons for Seniors Program

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.

Ontario Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

Ontario Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

**Ontario Power Generation (Head Office)** 

**Opticians Association of Canada** 

Order of The Eastern Star

Ottawa Association for the Blind Fund at the Ottawa Community Foundation

**Ottawa Community Foundation** 

Ovid Enterprises Inc.

Parkdale-Sherwood Lions Club Inc.

Participaction Canada

Paterson Family Foundation Inc.

Peat Family Charitable Fund

Peggy and Alex Colonello Memorial Fund

**Phyllis Evelyn Salter Foundation** held at the Vancouver Foundation Pinch Family Trust Fund through the Victoria Foundation Podium Audio **Private Giving Foundation Randy Blain Construction Inc RBC Future Launch** Red Rabbit Pictures Inc. **Richardson Wealth Limited Rideau Hall Foundation Robert Kenny Fund Robert W Allan Enterprises Ltd** Rodco Holdings Inc. Ron & Anne Sidon Family Charitable Gift Fund **Roots Community Food Centre Rudi & Sylvia Hoenson Foundation** through the Victoria Foundation **Ryerson University** Salex Inc. Sask Lotteries Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board Saskatoon Community Foundation Scarborough Toyota Scotiabank **ScotiaRISE** Seth Foundation for Health & Human Welfare Sharon Lunde Private Giving Fund Shedden Investments Inc

Shirley and Ed Mohr Fund Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Sisters Troubetzkoy Productions Smithfield Christian Congregational Church Sofina Foundation Solcz Family Foundation South Saskatchewan Community Foundation St. Andrews Lodge 593 Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation **Sudbury Community Foundation** Takla Foundation **TD Bank Group Telus Community Connections Telus Friendly Future Foundation TELUS Interior and Northern BC Community Board Terrace Community Foundation** The Alvin And Mona Libin Foundation The Arnie J. Charbonneau Foundation **The Birks Family Foundation** The Brandt Group of Companies The Canada Life Assurance Company The Davies Charitable Foundation The Don and Joan Walker Family **Charitable Trust** The Don and Nita Reed Family Foundation The Douglas A. Smith Family Foundation The Dr. Charles and Margaret Brown

Foundation The Gordon & Ruth Gooder Charitable Foundation The Grigsby Family Foundation The Jim and Laverne Popowich Foundation The Kat Family Foundation The Kaylou Foundation The Law Foundation of Ontario The Margaret Roche-Heywood Foundation The McConnell Foundation The Ontario Trillium Foundation The Paterson Foundation The Racioppo Family Foundation The Ralph M. Barford Foundation The Sappani Foundation The Simonot Family The Toldo Foundation The Wayne Gretzky Foundation The Welty Family Foundation The William & Nancy Turner Foundation The Winnipeg Foundation **Thomas & Beatrice Gilrov Trust** Three Sisters Gift Fund Throssell Holdings Inc. **Thunder Bay Community Foundation** TNI The Network Inc. TO Live (Sony Centre for the Performing Arts) **Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund** Torrance Foundation held at the Aqueduct

Foundation **True North Log Homes** United Way - Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington United Way of Calgary United Way of Estevan United Way of Newfoundland and Labrador Inc. United Way Regina - Weyburn Communithon Victoria Foundation Vincentelli Salas Charitable Fund **VOCM** Cares Foundation Waterloo Region Community Foundation WCPD Foundation Wellbeing Foundation Wellington Laboratories Inc. Westminster College Foundation Wheaton Family Foundation Wheels for Wishes White Knuckle Productions Inc. William & Betty Finch Fund at the Strategic **Charitable Giving Foundation** William and Charlotte Kitt Fund held at **Central Okanagan Foundation** Workplace NL

We respectfully honour the following individuals who have left gifts to CNIB with a cumulative total of \$10,000 or more in the last year, and we extend our sincerest condolences to their families and friends.

Anonymous (10) Estate of Adele Jutta Dalton Estate of Agnes Wouterloot Estate of Alan Roland Parkinson Estate of Albert John Smith Estate of Alexandrina Raposo Krisendat Estate of Alfred Bernard Cowley Johnson **Estate of Alfred Eugene Walker** Estate of Alfred Fred Muth Estate of Alice Bruder Estate of Alice Ethel MacInnes Estate of Alice Ruth Stark Estate of Alistair Campbell Douglas Estate of Amelia Elizabeth Sennik Estate of Amy Bessner Estate of Andrea Muller Estate of Anita Murray Estate of Ann Elizabeth Kurdyak Estate of Anna Marie Lewis Estate of Anne Isobel Daubney **Estate of Annette Mary Adams** 

Estate of Annie M. Loggie Estate of Ardith Madeline Canning Hiltz Estate of Athol Lillian Cherry Estate of Audrey Elizabeth Hertzberger Estate of Austin Sibbick Estate of Barbara Helena Simpson Estate of Barbara Mae Udy Estate of Barry Douglas Woodberry Estate of Bernedina Schouten Estate of Betty Doreen Murphy **Estate of Beverly Jean Gill** Estate of Bonnie Barbara Hartley **Estate of Cameron Kitching** Estate of Carl Trygve Carlsen Estate of Carole Willcox Charnutzky Estate of Carolyn Frances McGowran Estate of Cecile Vaillancourt **Estate of Charles Hubert Gould Estate of Cindy Smithers** Estate of Clarence Joseph Bur Estate of Colin Horton Gamble Estate of Cornelius Pynenburg **Estate of Craig Roy Brooks** Estate of David Minnes Sinclair Estate of David Rafal Estate of Desmond T Sullivan Estate of Donald William Frederick **McDonald** Estate of Doris Yvonne Martin Estate of Dorothy C. Knipfel Estate of Dorothy Eleanor McDonald

**Estate of Dorothy Elizabeth Paquette** Estate of Dorothy Jane McKay Estate of Dr. Gloria Mauro Estate of Edward Shaw Bond **Estate of Eileen Ruby Peters** Estate of Elin Sigridur Johnson Estate of Elizabeth Anne Montroy Estate of Elsie Clair Corbeil Estate of Enid Mario Estate of Erhard Ouassier Estate of Felix and Lillian Stradeski Estate of Ferdinand Wodarczak Estate of Florence Clara Gould Estate of Franceen Schwartz Estate of Frances Lois Ward Estate of Francine Swidde (Van De Wygerd) Estate of Frank Edward Mortola Estate of George MacDougall Estate of George Sandy Kuss Estate of Georgie Earline Walsh Estate of Gertraud Whitbeck **Estate of Gladys June llett** Estate of Gloria May Fletcher Estate of Grace Sorenson **Estate of Harry Sigal** Estate of Heinz Leonhard Haust Estate of Helga Marie Gruber Estate of Hilda Elizabeth Sawyer Estate of Hubert Pickard Estate of Hussen (Hazel) Mansour

Estate of Ida Blanche Denneault Estate of Ida May Keith Estate of Irene Mary Inglis Estate of Jack Sydney Wootliff Estate of James Bertram Lucas Estate of James Shouldice Estate of Jan Pearson **Estate of Janice Lynn Perrin** Estate of Jean Boakes **Estate of Jean May Riley Estate of Jeanne Andrews Estate of Jennie Herniak** Estate of Joan Elizabeth Young Estate of Joan Pamela Lewis **Estate of Joan Paterson Hudson** Estate of Johan Springer Estate of John David Isbister

Estate of John Homer Fleming Estate of John Leask Estate of John Milford Stewart Estate of John William Browett **Estate of Joseph Eric Thomas Estate of Josephine Black** Estate of Josephine Jenkinson Estate of Joyce Neilson Estate of June Ardith Teal Estate of Karoline Seniw Estate of Kathleen Virginia Brown Estate of Kenneth E. Weatherby Estate of Kenneth Hnidan Estate of Laura Gertrude Dawe Estate of Leslie Anne McGillis Estate of Lilian Chekosky Estate of Lillian Kusczak Estate of Lillian Marie Allen

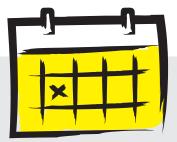
## **Endowments: A living legacy**

Leave a gift that spans generations when you become a part of the CNIB endowment program. Established in 1950 to provide sustainable programming for people impacted by blindness, the CNIB endowment program includes a range of endowments to support all areas of the work we do. You can choose to create an endowment during your lifetime, or you can choose to create an endowment through a gift in your will.

In 2023, three new endowments were created, totalling \$1,098,000:

Brandt Group of Companies Andal Family Fund held at Calgary Foundation The Robert and Evelyn Moffat Endowment

For more information, please contact: Cindi Meyer Director, Planned Giving LegacyServices@cnib.ca 1-800-563-2642



### Planned giving: The way to leave a legacy

Make a profound difference in CNIB's work with a little planning.

It's easy and we're here to help you explore donation methods that ensure your gift is tax effective while taking your family's needs into consideration. There are many different options other than a gift in your will, including a gift of life insurance, RRSP/RRIF, or TFSA.

If you've already made a legacy commitment, we'd love to hear from you so we can thank you personally.

Estate of Lillian Rose Aydon Estate of Linda Mary Louise Lowe Estate of Linda May Blackwell **Estate of Loren Taylores Barr** Estate of Louise Helen Ruth Dennison Estate of Lucienne Martel Estate of Lucille La Berge Estate of Luella Albertha McCleary **Estate of Madeleine Rochette** Estate of Magde Jean Myers Estate of Malcolm Gordon Cherry Estate of Margaret Elizabeth Armstrong Estate of Margaret Louise (Peggy) Jacobsen Estate of Margaret R Bartley Estate of Margaret Ryan (Dawes) Estate of Margery Sheila Northrop **Estate of Marguerite May Minuk Estate of Marguerite Millette-Trudeau** Estate of Maria Rachel Liane-Dawn Siemens Estate of Marie Antoinette Kaiser Estate of Marilyn Jean Angus Estate of Marilyn Patricia Clark Estate of Marion Dearden Coulter Estate of Marion Isobel Smith

**Estate of Marion Margaret Greene** 

Estate of Marlene Hazel Allen

Estate of Martin King

Estate of Marlene Ella Anne Sangrett

**Estate of Mary Agnes Russell Estate of Mary Anne Stapleton** Estate of Mary Gammon Estate of Mary Irene Young Estate of Mary Lindberg Estate of Mary Link Estate of Mary Margaret Johanna Nalty Estate of Mary Ruth Carpenter Smith Estate of Mary Thelma Livingstone Estate of Maud Annie Burdett Estate of Michael Gordon Westmore Estate of Mildred Ellis Estate of Mima Kirk **Estate of Moonyeen Stone** Estate of Muriel Eileen Hallet **Estate of Nancy Diane Hills** Estate of Ngoc Tran Trinh Estate of Pamela Coline Boyd Estate of Patricia Anne Hutchinson **Estate of Pattie Eleanor Hutton** Estate of Ralph Grant Beacock Estate of Raymond Edward South Estate of Reta L. Young **Estate of Richard Joseph Sarner Estate of Richard Nugent** Estate of Rita Johanna Lenz Estate of Rita Lillian Ho Estate of Robert and Evelyn Moffat **Estate of Robert Bruce Jones** Estate of Robert C. Huff

Estate of Robert Earl Pullin Estate of Ronald Raymond McLeod Estate of Rosita Hamame Estate of Ross Irwin Estate of Ruth Baker Estate of Ruth Thare Boeckner Estate of Sharyn Duffy Estate of Shirley Laurena Grant Estate of Sigurdur Johann Bjarnason Estate of Stan Tait Estate of Sylvia P. Baigrie Estate of Thomas Francis Easson **Estate of Tony Daciuk** Estate of Tyson Jepson Estate of Ursula Joanna Ball Estate of Velma Jean Tracey Estate of Vera Dolly Denty Estate of Vera Louisa (Louise) **Cousins Jenks** Estate of Verna McCulloch Estate of Victoria Caran Estate of Virginia Nash Tenny Estate of Walter Bodzian Estate of Wilhelmina Vander Torre Estate of Zoltan Steven Kolley **Gerald Maurice Brawley Estate Foundation** Henriette and Leonard White Endowment Fund James Rattray Memorial Fund John Thomas Adams Charitable Trust Lee and Gladys Payne Charitable Trust

Noreen and Robert Allen Charitable Trust R.M. Berry Memorial Fund Succession Alice LeBlanc Succession Andre Paul Louis David Succession Andrée Préville Succession Dennis Wade Succession Edouard Girardo Sylvia Drop Legacy Foundation The Donalda McKenna Charitable Trust The John A. Sanderson and Family Trust The Ryckman Trust

### **Friends for Life**

CNIB thanks the following individuals for creating legacy gifts in support of our work in the last year. We greatly appreciate our Friend for Life donors whose gifts will touch countless lives for years to come.

Anonymous (81) Brenda & Bob Kennis Catherine Boris Danielle & Davin Brown Darlene Tychansky Debbie Hewitt Dr. Jean R. Finney-Crawley Dr. M. Matthais Gail Vance Loo Russell Louise Michaud & James Mayes Luc C. Bigras Mme Margot Cyr Mr. Barry Munn Mr. Cory Kuepfer Mr. Finn Madsen Mr. Hank Vanderschans Mr. Harley Kynock Mr. John Percic Mr. Margaret Macdougall Mr. Peter Bates Mr. Robert Merrett Mrs. Brenda Wright Mrs. Catherine Ripley Mrs. Diane Dalkin Mrs. Frances McIntosh Mrs. Gena Jeyasingham Mrs. Hillary Bates Mrs. Jadwiga Letowt Mrs. Judith Hume Mrs. Maria Spampinato Mrs. Phyllis Nagy Mrs. Shirley Madsen

Ms Ann Telfser Ms Della Rawson Ms Grace Kong Ms Helen Hughes Ms Jennifer Lagtapon Ms Jocelyne Dancause Ms Mary Hamori Ms. Donna Miller Ms. Mamie Bowerman Ms. Patricia Janvrin Ms. Wanda McKinnon Myra Macdonald Noralie Jackett Patricia MacDonald-Beals Paul & Joan Tipping Robert G. Allen Sonia P. Ball Sonya Dyer Stephen Shrubshall Tim & Isabel Piesley Val & Don Chow

Founded in 1918, CNIB is a non-profit organization driven to change what it is to be blind today. We deliver innovative programs and powerful advocacy that empower people impacted by blindness to live their dreams and tear down barriers to inclusion. Our work is powered by a network of volunteers, donors, and partners from coast to coast to coast.

