



PEI Cerebral Palsy Association

Spring 2025

Issue 5

Become a member today for only \$5 per year!



Scan the QR code or [click the membership link](#) to become a member of the PEI Cerebral Palsy Association.

Fall and winter update

Changes to our Board of Directors

- At our 2024 Annual General Meeting, we welcomed Greg Morrison, Mark Whelan, and Danielle Dean as new board members.
- In September, our board of directors elected Greg Morrison to assume the Treasurer position.
- In October, we also elected Kevin Rogers as an addition to our board of directors.

Fall round of our Funding Request Program

- Biannually, we accept applications to our Funding Request Program that promotes equitable access and social inclusion.
- Last fall, we accepted applications to our Funding Request Program.
- Over the last few months, our Board of Directors developed enhanced guidelines to standardize our Biannual Funding Request Program.
- As a successful recipient of a few grants, we distributed \$2600 in total and invite other members to submit requests in the upcoming funding round in the spring.
- As a 2024 recipient of the Anti-Racism Microgrant, we offered a specific funding round to support our BIPOC members in winter 2025.

Winter Program: Breathing program Spinal Cord Injury PEI.



Image source: Spinal Cord Injury PEI (Facebook post)

- Last spring, we partnered with the Spinal Cord Injury PEI to offer a pilot program for a breathing class.
- These breathing classes use adaptive techniques and an inclusive environment to ensure the exercises are accessible to all participants regardless of ability.
- In January 2025, we launched six-week 30-minute virtual classes on Zoom taught by Kamala Yoga & Wellness.
- Please stay tuned to communications in the coming months for updates on any future programming..

New webpage: Educational resources about cerebral palsy.

- Inspired by demand from members for classroom resources to help celebrate Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day on March 25th.
- After connecting with the Cerebral Palsy Association in Alberta, we developed a new webpage for educational resources about cerebral palsy.
- Please view our new [Educational resources](#) webpage to explore informative videos and websites.

Spring initiatives/ ongoing programming

Relaunched: Survey on transit accessibility



- Our members and board members continue to raise their accessibility obstacles with the municipal transportation system on PEI.
- In Winter 2024, we drafted and collected feedback from our members on their exact and most significant accessibility barriers that prevent people with disabilities from using public transportation.
- A few weeks ago, we began redistributing this survey to our members and will collect future feedback until later this spring.
- This feedback will guide our advocacy approach to increase disability inclusion in our municipal transit system.
- [Please share your lived perspective to our survey.](#)

Reminder: Join the Peer Mentorship Program



- Last year, we launched the Peer Mentorship Program at the Annual General Meeting after our membership expressed interest in peer mentorship opportunities.
- We just launched the initiative to connect with others in the Cerebral Palsy community across Prince Edward Island.
- In the next few months, we will pair members again and continue on an ongoing basis.
- Please [sign up](#) today and/or contact us for more information.

Spring round: Funding Request Program

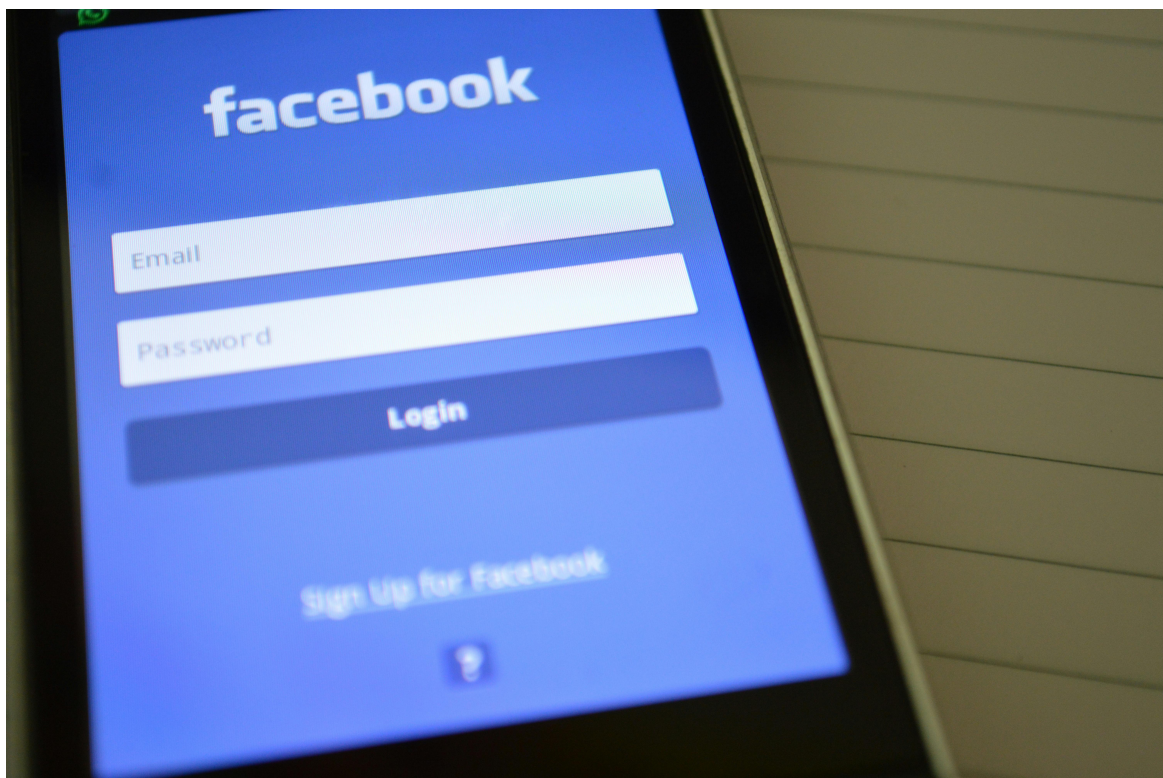


**Biannual Funding
Request Program**
***Spring round: Accepting
applications until May 15th.***



- Biannually we accept applications to our Funding Request Program that promotes equitable access and social inclusion.
- In the Fall 2024, we were able to provide funding to nine of our members.
- Our spring funding round closed last week and we will launch the next funding cycle in October.

We created a private Facebook group for our members



- As a request from our membership, we started a closed Facebook Group for families and individuals living with cerebral palsy to connect with each other.
- In this virtual space, families and individuals living with CP in PEI can chat, ask questions, provide advice, etc.
- Please request to join the [PEI's Cerebral Palsy Community](#) (private group on Facebook).

Highlighting our members

Remi is the 2025 Easter Seals Ambassador.

- ICYMI: [P.E.I. micro preemie named newest Easter Seals ambassador](#) (PNI Atlantic News, December 12, 2024).

- Congratulations to Remi Dean (member), who started as the 2025 Easter Seals ambassador in December.
- Please visit the [Easter Seals Society of PEI's website](#) to follow Remi's journey.

Lived perspective of access barriers to health care in P.E.I.

- ICYMI: [Desperate for better care for their son with cerebral palsy, this P.E.I. family turned to Alberta](#) (CBC News, March 11, 2025).
- Last fall, Elliot Rossiter became one of the newest and youngest members of the P.E.I. Cerebral Palsy Association.
- Thank you to the Rossiter family for sharing your lived perspective of access barriers to healthcare treatment in the province.

Accessible summer activities

Accessible Beaches

- [View this link to learn more.](#)

Accessible playgrounds

- [Victoria Park, Charlottetown \(CBC News Link\)](#)
- [Eagles nest playground, Stratford](#)

Accessible swimming pools

- [Credit Union Place, Summerside](#)
- [Bell Aliant Centre, Charlottetown](#)

Accessible swimming pools

- [Camp Gencheff](#)

Ongoing programming/ Community activities

Events: ParaSport and Recreation PEI

- ParaSport and Recreation PEI offers try-it sessions and regular programming to Islanders with physical disabilities.
- [Click this link for ParaSport and Recreation's events calendar](#)

Seated fitness class: Spinal Cord Injury PEI

- The Spinal Cord Injury PEI hosts a seated fitness class to promote emotional and physical wellness for individuals with spinal cord injuries and other neuromuscular disabilities.

- Physiotherapist Bonnie Caldwell leads this biweekly programming at the Royalty Centre in Charlottetown
- [Visit the Spinal Cord Injury PEI's website for more information.](#)

Recreational Respite

- We have partnered with Recreational Respite to offer programming to our members.
 - Recreational Respite provides virtual programming which aims to increase social inclusion and independence opportunities.
- Click this link for a calendar of the Recreational Respite offerings.

Opportunity: Employment mentorship

- Ellie Beck from ResourceAbilities is the new MentorAbility Hub Coordinator for Eastern PEI.
- MentorAbility Canada is a program from CASE (Canadian Association of Supported Employment).
- The initiative offers short-term mentorship opportunities between people with disabilities and employers.
- [Contact Ellie for more information about the MentorAbility initiative.](#)

Sharing information from national organizations

All Access Life

- Brett Robinson's (board member) family friend from Montreal, Bradley Heaven, cofounded All Access Life.
- This company "[empowers] people with disabilities to live their best life [...] by showcasing adaptive products [...] that] can transform lives and give people with disabilities greater independence" (All Access Life).
- [Please click the link to learn more about the nonprofit organization that connects people with disabilities to accessible resources.](#)

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