



PEI Cerebral Palsy Association

Winter 2024

Issue 3

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.

Summer/ Fall update!

We hired a summer student

- As a Skills PEI grant recipient, we hired Malcolm Gilman for July and August as our part-time Community Engagement Coordinator.
- Malcolm conducted administrative work, coordinating and communicating with donors, social media engagement, etc.
- Our summer student also created a survey for our members, collaborated with ParaSport and Recreation PEI on planning for boccia programming, and other projects.

Fundraiser: Cavendish Beach Music Festival Tickets



- Stephanie Drake (member) kindly donated accessible tickets to the Cavendish Beach Music Festival for our fundraiser.
- We auctioned tickets to the Cavendish Beach Music Festival; attendance with a companion for the three-day concert.
- Colin MacPhail (board member) was the highest bidder and attended the concert with his son Nick MacPhail (member).

Photo from Colin MacPhail

Fall round of our Funding Request Program



Biannual Funding Request Program
Fall round: Accepting applications until Oct 31st.



- Biannually we accept applications to our Funding Request Program that promotes equitable access and social inclusion.
- In the Fall 2023, we accepted applications to our Funding Request Program.
- We distributed \$1450 in total and invite other members to submit requests in upcoming funding round in the spring.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities



- December 3rd was the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD)
- Antwan Rolle (board member) led a initiative to raise the disability flag at the Charlottetown City Hall and the PEI Legislative Assembly.
- IDPD recognizes the human rights and social inclusion of people with disabilities.

Photo credits: Antwan Rolle

Winter initiatives.

We launched the Peer Mentorship Program



- At the Annual General Meeting, 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.
- Please [sign up](#) today and/or contact us for more information.

Coming soon: survey on municipal transit accessibility



- Our members and board members continue to raise their accessibility obstacles with the municipal transportation system on PEI.
- Yvonne and Hannah (board members) are currently drafting a survey to collect feedback from our members on their exact and most significant accessibility barriers that prevent people with disabilities from using public transportation.
- We will soon distribute this survey to our members,
- This feedback will guide our advocacy approach to increase disability inclusion on our municipal transit system.

Annual review of our bylaws



- Last year our by-law committee (Jeremy, Hannah, Hillary and Annie) drafted bylaws for our newly re-established PEI Cerebral Palsy Association.
- In March 2023, we hosted a special meeting with our general membership to pass our bylaws.
- This winter, we will be conducting a review of our bylaws by the end of March 2024.

Ongoing advocacy.

Sidewalk Committee



- Jeremy (President) meets monthly with the Coalition for accessible Charlottetown with CNIB PEI, Spinal Cord Injury PEI, Easter Seals PEI, and Resource Abilities.
- They presented items to the City of Charlottetown for the municipal government to improve.
- Focused on sidewalks, curbs, parking lots, etc.
- The Coalition is collaborating with Riley Taweel a civil engineer from Public Works at the City of Charlottetown.

Highlighting our members!

Benefit Concert

- P.E.I. performers to take part in benefit concert June



Photo credits: Guardian PEI

11 at Winsloe United Church"- Guardian PEI (09 June 2023).

- PEI musical talent played at a benefit concert in support of Dillon Cameron (member).

Easter Seals Wrap-up



Photo credits: CBC PEI

- "Sherbrooke 10-year-old named 2024 Easter Seals P.E.I. ambassador" - CBC PEI (01 December 2023).
- Katelyn and Meghan Rogers (members) completed their term as Easter Seals Ambassadors.
- Thank you Katelyn and Meghan for advocating to increase disability inclusion across our province.

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.](#)

Inclusive dance class for youth

- The Confederation Centre of the Arts in Charlottetown is offering an inclusive dance class for youth (age 9 and over).
- The dance class, inspired by the Boston Ballet's Adaptive Dance Program, Inclusive Dances welcome all abilities in a safe space that fosters creativity among youth.
- [Visit the Confederation Centre of the Arts' website for more information.](#)

Recreational Respite

- 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.](#)

Opportunity: Employment mentorship

- 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.](#)

Sharing information from national organizations

Survey: Festival and Event Accessibility for Canadians with Disabilities Survey

- "We are reaching out to ask for feedback on the accessibility of outdoor, indoor, and virtual festivals and events in Canada. Our survey is collecting the lived experiences of Canadians with disabilities, and those who support us. We want to know what was good, and what made it hard, or impossible, to take part in festivals and events. We will use this feedback to make accessibility recommendations. Canadian festivals and events can use these to improve accessibility. The recommendations will also inform future standards for Accessibility Standards Canada." (Amanda Lush, 2024)
- Complete the [survey](#) by February 2nd.
- [Visit the Independent Living Canada festival accessibility webpage for more information.](#)

Survey: Child development

- Researchers from McMaster are seeking feedback from families of individuals living with developmental disabilities.
- "The 'F-words for Child Development' (Functioning, Family, Fitness, Fun, Friends, Future) provide a family-centred, strengths-based, holistic approach to child health and development" (Amanda Doherty-Kirby, 2024).
- [Please visit the CanChild's webpage for more information.](#)

Contact us



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