

# Spinal Cord Injury Manitoba Inc.

**Mission: To assist persons with spinal cord injuries and other physical disabilities to achieve independence, self-reliance, and full community participation**



## 2019/2020 Annual Report

Version française disponible à: [www.scimanitoba.ca](http://www.scimanitoba.ca)  
French version available at: [www.scimanitoba.ca](http://www.scimanitoba.ca)

### Nature and Purpose of Spinal Cord Injury Manitoba Inc.

SCI Manitoba is a non-profit organization representing persons with spinal cord injuries (SCI) in Manitoba. Accountable to a membership comprised of persons living with these disabilities, their families and supporters; SCI Manitoba employs professional staff, uses committed volunteers and encourages peer-linkages to achieve its mission.

### SCI Manitoba's Core Services

SCI Manitoba operationalizes its Mission through SCI Manitoba's Rehabilitation Services Framework and the delivery of six Core Services. This transitional framework focuses on four phases: Recovery and Rehabilitation—early intervention in hospital; Reintegration—community services upon return home; Community Participation and Growth; and Sustainability—continued lifelong support.

#### Rehabilitation Counselling

Professional counselling services assist individuals in their return to an independent life in the community. SCI Manitoba offers continuous support, information, community links and follow-up.

#### Service Coordination

A unique framework ensures overall coordination for the rehabilitation process, from onset through community integration.

#### Vocational/Employment Services

These services assist individuals to identify vocational options and obtain employment consistent with their values, skills, abilities and interests.

#### Peer Support

"Someone who's been there" can act as a mentor and role model to encourage and sustain others through the challenges they face.

#### Community Advocacy

SCI Manitoba strives to create a society based on inclusiveness. These efforts involve identifying, reducing and working with others to eliminate barriers to full community participation, including leadership in prevention efforts.

#### Information Services

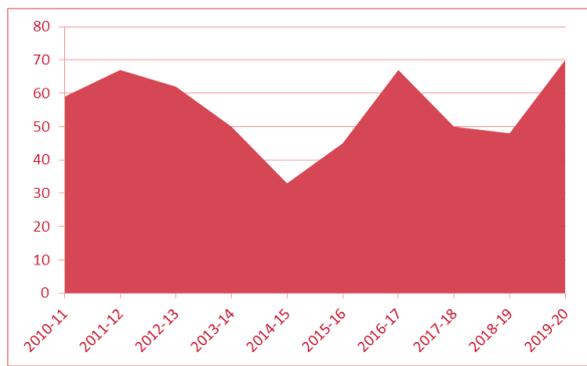
SCI Manitoba provides comprehensive and relevant information for stakeholders that includes individuals with spinal cord injuries, their families, employers, community agencies, insurers and governments.

### What is Spinal Cord Injury?

SCI is damage to the spinal cord whether it occurs by physical trauma, illness or disease. The spinal cord is the neural tissue in the spinal canal that connects the brain to the body below the head. This neural tissue cannot normally regenerate, thus damage to it is considered permanent.

- A person with **paraplegia** has paralysis in the lower extremities and part of the torso.
- A person with **tetraplegia** has, in addition, a partial or complete paralysis of the hands and arms due to a spinal cord injury in the neck area.

### New Injuries



70 new SCI between April 1, 2019 & March 31, 2020:

- 32 traumatic, 37 non-traumatic\*
- 47 paraplegia, 22 tetraplegia\*
- 17 complete, 52 incomplete injuries \*
- 56 aged 15 to 65 and 13 aged 66 and over\*
- 55 male, 15 female
- 60 non-Indigenous, 10 Indigenous

\*Some statistics unavailable

### Outputs—Information Services

Our new SCI Manitoba website [www.scimanitoba.ca](http://www.scimanitoba.ca) is maintained by webmaster George Tataryn. In addition to the information contained on this website, SCI Manitoba provides information resources including:

- ParaTracks (provincial newsletter)
- Life After Spinal Cord Injury manual
- Life After Spinal Cord Injury for Incomplete Spinal Cord Injuries manual
- Guide to Pressure Ulcer Prevention manual
- Children's book "....so Dad uses a wheelchair"
- Life Interrupted: For Youth with Spinal Cord Injury and their families manual
- STEP-UP Stakeholders Training and Education in Pressure Ulcer Prevention Program
- Brochures, articles, videos about SCI issues.
- Targeted education sessions

### Outputs—Client Services

SCI Manitoba's computerized Case Management System tracks program activities (outputs). Indicators are derived through various analyses of such outputs. Rehabilitation services staff completed 12,982 client services outputs during the year for 731 clients (see Services Table).

### Services Table

Type of Service:	# of Services Provided:	% of Total Services Provided:
Accommodation	608	6%
Vocational Education	1082	11%
Vocational Employment	1183	12%
Equipment	839	9%
Relationships	278	3%
Financial	599	6%
Health & Wellness	4540	47%
Legal	143	2%
Recreation/Leisure	133	1%
Intimacy	63	1%
Transportation	233	2%
Services Standard Indictors:	Direct 9701 Indirect 3281	75% 25%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>12,982</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Outputs—Community Advocacy

In addition to regular client services activities, SCI Manitoba was involved in a wide variety of community advocacy activities this past year. This improves exchange of relevant information on priority issues to encourage full community participation for persons with SCI. Ongoing community collaboration included:

- Ability New Brunswick Inc.
- Addictions Foundation of Manitoba
- Apprenticeship Manitoba
- Assistive Technology, Health Sciences Centre
- Barrier-Free Manitoba Initiative
- Behavioural Health Foundation of Manitoba
- Canada-Manitoba Job Grants
- Canada Pension Plan
- Canada Pension Plan—Disability Services
- Career Connections
- Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development
- Cindy Klassen Recreation Complex
- City of Winnipeg Access Advisory Committee
- Civil Service Commission
- Claimant Advisor's Office—Province of Manitoba
- Community Area Directors—Winnipeg Integrated Services
- Community Financial Counselling
- Community Inclusion
- Community Therapy Services
- Concordia Hospital (PANSU)
- Covid-19 Local Committee
- Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute
- Disabilities Issues Office of Manitoba
- Employment and Income Assistance
- Employment Preparation Centre
- Enabling Access
- Farmers with Disabilities
- First Nations & Inuit Health Branch
- First Steps Wellness Centre
- Geriatric Mental Health Team
- Health Sciences Centre Children's and General Hospitals
- Health Sciences Centre Rehabilitation Hospital SCI Program Management Team
- Health—Regional Policy & Prog. Acute, Tertiary & Special Care
- Health, Seniors and Active Living
- Identification of presenters to schools & other community systems
- Individual Employers
- Joint Community & Government Members Committee on Disability-Related Employment & Income Assistance Issues
- John Pritchard School
- Klinik
- Legal Aid
- Manitoba Chiefs
- Manitoba Employment Equity Practitioners Association of MB
- Manitoba Economic Development and Training
- Manitoba Institute of Trade & Technology
- Manitoba Possible Wheelchair Services
- Manitoba Public Insurance
- Manitoba Spinal Cord Injury Research Committee
- North American Spinal Cord Injury Consortium
- Parking Permit Advisory Committee
- Provincial Solutions Committee
- Red River College
- Re-Fit Centre
- Regional Health Authorities (Southeast, Interlake and Prairie Mountain)
- Rehabilitation resources to community, citizens, business, etc.
- Residential Tenancy Branch
- Riverview Health Centre
- Sargent Park High School
- Sargent Tommy Prince Place
- SCI Ontario
- SMD Self-help Clearinghouse
- St. James Assiniboia Centennial Recreation Centre
- South Eastman Literacy Service
- Specialized Services for Children & Youth Centre (SSCY)
- Steps 2 Work
- Ten Ten Sinclair Housing Inc. Board of Directors
- Therapy First
- The Wellness Institute
- Toronto Rehabilitation Institute
- United Way of Winnipeg
- University of Manitoba
- University of Maryland South Eastern Shore
- University of Winnipeg
- Volunteer Association of Manitoba
- Winnipeg Airport Authority
- Winnipeg Harvest
- Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation
- Winnipeg Regional Health Authority—Wound Care & Clinical Nurse Specialist, Home Care Program Support Team
- Winnipeg Transit Plus Policy Advisory Committee
- Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba

## President and Executive Director's Report

The 2019/20 year has been one of both stability and adapting to new challenges as our main priority was to ensure that the critical services that SCI MB provides continued uninterrupted.

SCI MB is recognized by the Government of Manitoba as an important service provider, which has allowed us to operate on service grants rather than be dependent on fundraising as many non-profit organizations must be. This has allowed us financial stability during unprecedented economic challenges while our counterparts are facing reduction of services due to a dramatic decline in fundraising.

This does not mean SCI MB has not had funding challenges. A portion of funding from the Government of Manitoba has changed departments; moving from Family Services to Economic Development and Training (ED&T). This meant that a new funding agreement needed to be in place that required wording that reflected the unique services we deliver.

Traditionally, as a designated agency, SCI MB's holistic service delivery was recognized and incorporated into the funding agreement. We are concerned that the wording of the current draft of our new funding agreement no longer reflects this and is now putting SCI MB in a similar position as other ED&T funded agencies that have only an employment focus. The negotiation of the new service agreement had caused delay in the flow of a portion of the renewed funding for this year. Nonetheless, SCI MB continued providing uninterrupted service to our members.

We have overcome the initial delay and the entire annual funding will flow from ED&T while we continue to work with this new department to develop a funding agreement that represents the holistic service delivery and autonomy that we have had for decades with our funders.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant and unanticipated cost pressures in the health care sector and it has taken the Manitoba Government time to consider all aspects of their service delivery in light of these challenges. The Manitoba Government has been taking a very hard look at all of their lines of business and supports to individuals. Fortunately, they understand the importance of SCI MB programming for our members and confirmed they would renew all annual funding for 2020-2021.

We are further encouraged as ED&T approved a 10% increase going forward for the total annual funding to SCI MB in recognition of the cost of the important services we provide. Similarly this year, SCI MB was successful in convincing other long-term funding partners to recognize the rising costs associated with our delivery of services. This resulted in the Workers Compensation Board increasing their annual funding by 25% going forward and the United Way of Winnipeg increasing their annual funding by just under 3% going forward.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic required changing how services were provided to our members. Government restrictions, including physical distancing, led to our SCI MB office being closed down in mid-March as all of our staff transitioned to work from home. In-person meetings with members and colleagues switched to telephone and video conferencing. Through the flexibility and dedication of our staff and volunteers, SCI MB was able to continue to provide our services without major disruption.

This limiting of in-person meetings poses a challenge especially for newly injured SCI patients as new members. While

there are reasons for optimism in our efforts to continue to engage with newly injured SCI patients as well as all of our members through regular phone calls, there is still much work to do as we plan to return to our offices and eventually resume in-person meetings with our members.

Our organization must continue to innovate as the operating environment changes, and as we continue to seek ways of connecting with people who need our services and support. Stable funding depends on ensuring the organization remains relevant and continues to serve the needs of individuals living with SCI with integrity.

We remain confident the outstanding quality of the services we offer, and the competence of staff delivering those services will continue to meet or exceed the expectations of both our funders and our members. This strong foundation will aid us as we continue to identify and implement strategies to more efficiently connect with those having sustained new spinal cord injuries while maintaining service to existing members; and to build partnerships and collaborate with a rapidly evolving health care system.

As we develop and refine our plan for the gradual emergence of a post-COVID-19 pandemic, there will be new challenges to address, some of which are not yet evident. Given that there is little chance of a return to in-person meetings in the immediate future, we will continue to look for safe and proactive ways to provide our members with support, and engage with key stakeholders.

We sincerely appreciate the continued financial support of our funding partners, sponsors and supporters. We thank our current Board Members and our staff for their dedication and commitment to providing leadership, excellent administrative assistance and professional services of the highest quality to assist Manitobans with spinal cord injuries. We cannot say enough about their contributions, their support, and their obvious commitment.

In summary, we are pleased to be able to report that SCI Manitoba continues to address timely issues at the direction of the Board; and staff continues to strive for excellence in standardized service delivery that has historically been the strength of SCI Manitoba—and an example to the SCI Associations in our national federation.

Our continuing partnership with our funders and other community stakeholders has allowed us to focus on building our staff strength in support of frontline service delivery. With stable funding and the support of outstanding staff, we look forward to the continuation of providing quality services to Manitobans with SCI.

—Len Steingarten and Ron Burky

## SCI Manitoba Staff

Ron Burky—Executive Director  
 Darlene Cooper—Director of Rehabilitation Services  
 Adrienne Conley—Executive Assistant  
 Denise Balliet—Accounting Officer  
 Maria Cabas—Rehabilitation Counsellor  
 Laurence Haien—Senior Rehabilitation Counsellor  
 Gail Burnside—Rehabilitation Counsellor  
 Melanie White—Rehabilitation Counsellor  
 Kelly Tennant—Rehabilitation Counsellor  
 Delcy Selymes—Rehabilitation Counsellor  
 Bernard Gaudet—Rehabilitation Counsellor  
 LéAmber Kensley—Rehabilitation Counsellor  
 Artem Dolia\*—Rehabilitation Counsellor Assistant  
*\*paraplegic or tetraplegic*

## Spinal Cord Injury Manitoba Inc. Summarized Financial Statements March 31, 2020

### Financial Position

	March 31, 2020	March 31, 2019
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	\$131,389	\$190,936
Accounts receivable	141,897	64,953
Prepaid expenses	7,643	9,423
Fixed assets	17,327	10,343
Trust assets	156,625	177,490
	<b>\$454,881</b>	\$453,145
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued	\$26,568	\$17,605
Accrued vacation pay	45,372	46,376
Deferred revenue	52,794	49,066
Trust liabilities	156,625	177,490
Net assets	173,522	162,608
	<b>\$454,881</b>	\$453,145

### Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Consolidated Financial Statements

#### To the Members of Spinal Cord Injury Manitoba Inc.

**Opinion:** The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at March 31, 2020 and the summary statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”) are derived from the audited financial statements of Spinal Cord Injury Manitoba Inc. (formerly Canadian Paraplegic Association (Manitoba) Inc. In our opinion, the summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements.

**Summary Financial Statements:** The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Organization's audited financial statements. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements.

**The Audited Financial Statements and our Report Thereon:** In our report dated September 1, 2020, we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements.

**Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements:** Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements.

**Auditor's Responsibility:** Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

DELOITTE LLP—Chartered Professional Accountants  
 Winnipeg, Manitoba—September 1, 2020

### Revenue and Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

	2020	2019
<b>Revenue</b>		
Grants and contracted revenue		
Province of Manitoba	\$319,400	\$290,433
United Way of Winnipeg	133,255	129,372
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority	57,897	57,897
Workers Compensation Board	20,000	20,000
Rick Hansen Foundation		
Quality of Life Grant	10,635	1,835
Flooring Replacement	3,469	—
	<b>544,656</b>	499,375
Fees for service	20,000	20,000
Miscellaneous	27,153	37,800
Recovery of equip. & training costs from/on behalf of paraplegics	74,254	68,579
	<b>666,063</b>	625,916
<b>Expenses</b>		
Amortization of fixed assets	9,951	7,239
Rehabilitation Services Program	433,359	416,101
Advocacy/Information Program	126,950	117,514
Vocational assistance	74,254	68,578
Quality of Life Grant	10,635	1,835
Total expenses	655,149	611,267
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses	10,914	14,649
Net Assets, beginning of year	162,608	147,959
Net Assets, end of year	\$173,522	\$162,608

A complete set of financial statements and Auditor's Report may be obtained from the Organization.

## SCI Manitoba Board of Directors

Corrine Deegan\*  
 Jeannette Gougeon  
 Lyall Hallick  
 Dan Joannise\*  
 Ron May  
 Audrey McIlraith\*  
 Barbara Rapson  
 Leonard Steingarten\*—President  
 Adam Terwin—Treasurer

*\*paraplegic or tetraplegic*

## Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to report that we continue our success of balancing our budget with the 2019/2020 year resulting in an Excess of Revenue over expenses of \$10,914.

Our major revenue sources were very consistent with the prior year, thanks to steady support from SCI Manitoba's key funders. Overall there was a revenue increase of \$40,147 as a result of funding increases.

Our expenses increased by a corresponding \$43,882. Our key expenditures on the Rehabilitation Programs and Advocacy Programs increased proportionally with our increase in revenue enabling SCI Manitoba to continue to deliver high quality services.

We wish to extend our sincere gratitude to our funders, members and donors for their continued support of SCI Manitoba's programs and services.

I wish to thank our Accounting Officer, Denise Balliet for her hard work and dedication, and thank Deloitte LLP for their services in the preparation of our Audited Financial Statements.

—Adam Terwin, Treasurer

In addition to our funders listed, SCI Manitoba wishes to also thank its other grantors and donors, including the following sustaining, charter and patron donors:

- Sandra Doerksen
- Marjorie Dyck
- Dr. Karen Ethans
- Andrew Hallonquist
- Ernie Hasiuk
- Keith G. Collins Ltd.
- Audrey McIlraith
- Barbara Millward
- George Murphy
- Rudy Niebuhr
- Jim Richardson
- Arnie & Orpha Schryvers
- George Silar
- Calvin Sinclair
- Spinal Cord Research Centre—U of M
- Joseph Smithson
- Leonard Steingarten
- June Thomson
- Robert Wroblewsky

## Research

Through the Manitoba Paraplegia Foundation Inc., SCI Manitoba directs funds toward treatments and a cure for spinal cord paralysis. SCI Manitoba also supports spinal cord research through its active role in the Manitoba Spinal Cord Injury Research Committee, and by informing SCI Manitoba clients and members of research participation opportunities.