



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

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Charity #: 107883969- RR0001



About Us:



Helping



Friendship



Creative Fun



Togetherness



Celebration



President's Message

Letter from Rick Till
President of the Board



President's Message

I have really enjoyed my first year as President of the Board of Directors. I want to thank the rest of our great Board members for their support and encouragement as I stepped into this role!

There have been many changes in the services that support people living with disability since the pandemic. Our Board has had many good discussions on how to adapt to all these changes and make sure we continue to provide the right kind of support to the people who depend on us. We have come through the pandemic successfully and remain a stable place in the community for our current members and the steady number of new people looking for a place like Rehab.

We will have some big changes inside Rehab this year as well. We will be saying goodbye to long-time supporter and Board member, Alison Blanchard. Later in the year, we will also be saying goodbye to Noreen Branagh, one of our valued staff members. Noreen has been part of our Rehab team for 23 years, and most of us really don't remember a time she was not here.

The next year will be a year of understanding and adapting to change. Rehab has been part of the community for over 65 years, and one of our great strengths is changing to meet the evolving needs of our community!

I am really looking forward to the creative solutions our Board of Directors and staff team will come up with in response to the input from our members and those new people who are looking for what they need.

Thank you all for being active members in your Rehabilitation Society.
I look forward to sharing this next year with you!

Rick Till
President, Board of Directors

Treasurer's Report

Kellie Cornforth
Board Treasurer



Treasurer's Report

March 31, 2023 marked the end of the 2022-2023 fiscal year. In order to give our accountant time to complete the annual organization financial audit, Rehab's audited financial statements will be available in Sept. 2023. John Rhodes, who has been our auditor for several years, and has provided us with excellent service will be completing the 2023 financial report.

Our past formal audit for the 2021-2022 fiscal year is currently available upon request. This report, prepared by John Rhodes, congratulates the Rehabilitation Society on astute financial management during challenging times and determines that the organization was not expected to incur significant financial risks during the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis (our casino and bingos), continues to be a significant source of revenue. Rehab hosted a successful casino in Sept 2022 and we will be eligible for a future date in spring 2024. Funding generated from the casino and regular bingos is significantly higher than pre-pandemic while rental income remains an important supplement to revenue sources.

Grant applications will begin in late fall/early winter to secure funding for 2024.

In the winter of 2022, we piloted a mail-out fundraising campaign. Led by the volunteer contribution of Tamara Alexander, a professional in the field, the Rehabilitation Society developed marketing materials to showcase the unique value of Rehab. Letters were mailed out to targeted audiences welcoming donations to support our programming and 36 gifts were received ranging from \$500.00 to \$25.00, for a total of \$3,500. As this is considered a good return for a first-time mail-out campaign, our Board views this venture as a long-term investment and a project worth continuing.

We have been fortunate this year as building expenses have been limited to minor furnace repairs and light fixture replacements. A grant has funded the upgrade of 3 staff computers. Motion sensor lights are being installed along the exterior to improve the safety of the building during off-hours.

Due to the overall financial stability of the organization, the Board was pleased to offer a wage increase to all staff in recognition of their outstanding contributions to Rehab. It is the Board's intention to continue increasing wages to align with industry standards.

It has been a delight to act as Treasurer on the Board of Directors. I am incredibly grateful to Alison Blanchard, who provided support and guidance in my transition to this role. In addition, John, Noreen and Terri have been kind and gracious, making this a very positive experience. Finally, I would like to thank the membership for entrusting me with this role.

Kellie Cornforth
Treasurer, Board of Directors

Who We Are

The Rehabilitation Society of Calgary was founded in 1957 as a member-owned, member-operated charity of and for people with disabilities.

Our Own Place is both the program and the concept: persons with disabilities work together to create a place for building social relationships.

Vision: To provide an example of inclusive community and civic participation that is organized and maintained by and with persons of diverse capacities, abilities, and challenges.

Mission: To improve the quality of life for persons living with disability by creating community, using a member-owned and operated place, where persons with disability participate with equality in a work and social setting.

Core Values:

- The recognition of the dignity and value of all people
- The meaningful participation and inclusion in community and civic life for all persons
- Meaningful opportunities for self-help and self-determination
- Maximizing opportunities for authentic adult relationships and support
- Providing opportunities that address unmet needs in the disability community

Board of Directors 2022- 2023

Past President	Alison Blanchard
President	Rick Till
Bingo Rep	Jean Adrian
Vice President	Sheri Cairns
Director/Casino Coordinator	Vanessa Toews
Treasurer	Kelly Cornforth
Director	Patty Loades
Secretary	Wendy Auger
Director	Sharlene Taylor
Membership Secretary	Sandy Piasta
Director	Lisa Charles

Participant Board Member:
"It is so good to be back having Board meetings in person. I understand more and learn more. We can hear everything and have more discussions".



Year In Review

We have had to adjust several times to the new kinds of situations arising in the post-pandemic world. After nearly 2 full years of lockdown for many of our vulnerable members, the kind of support and encouragement needed for them to 're-enter' the world again has been a year-long initiative. We have worked on strategies with individuals, and their support systems to develop and enact a process that will help people regain their confidence. There have been many shifts in agency programs and availability of community support workers. We continue to strategize with other support systems to work collaboratively in helping members return to their pre-pandemic levels of quality-of-life experiences. We are pleased to see that long-time members are returning and slowly rebuilding social interaction skills and confidence.

It was exciting for everyone to get back to our in-person social events !

🌟 In September we held our Volunteer Appreciation Event, with a great picnic and parking lot dance hosted by the local Ghostbusters crew, who brought their ghostbuster vehicles and played some great music that was also enjoyed by several groups from the surrounding senior's residences who came and sat in park spaces to enjoy the music.

🎃 The Hallowe'en party was also a success, and we now have a new member, one of our members, who is doing a great job. We supported her by the purchase of a new blue-tooth dance speaker that pumps out good volume with an accompanying light show.

🍀 The St. Patrick's dance was held over the afternoon, as we experimented with the 'new' best times for our members to be able to access events after changes in community support worker availability.

❤️ Valentine's is an annual special event, and this year the decorating crew did an exceptional job!

🎄 It was so good to be able to have a full house for the Christmas Gala again! Clever Canines volunteers returned to cook the most amazing Christmas Dinner, Santa had gifts for everyone, and everyone had a great time.

Our regular programs and activities are generated by member interest, but we look for opportunities within that to reinforce or develop social skills, general literacy, and/or physical movement, leadership skills, and other undiscovered talents.

Participant Board member:

"We are a good group and I really like to be part of planning things for Rehab".



Support Worker:

"My client was isolated at home for the better part of 2 years and regressed significantly in that time, both in physical health/mobility and emotionally as well. He pretty much forgot how to have a conversation. We were able to coax him to try coming out to Rehab as it was a very familiar, understanding place with old friends. After many months he now looks forward to socializing in a number of activities, and his mobility issues are also much improved."



Laughing Allowed ran the fall and winter/spring classes, including the first Laughing Allowed Stand Up Comedy Show last April, and the second one this April. Both were enthusiastically attended by over 60 friends and family. This innovative program just keeps expanding, developing, and bringing forward voices of individuals who seldom have the opportunity to take center-stage!



Movie & Popcorn and weekly Bingo are popular. We have also re-established the General Literacy tutoring group, again facilitated by one of our members. The Lunch Program brings us all together to visit and celebrate birthdays and other important occasions. We are now hosting a small but growing group that enjoys getting together for card games.



Memberships have taken a while to rebuild, complicated by extensive roadwork outside the building which caused access barriers, but we are almost back to pre-pandemic level. There is a steady number of new folks coming in, looking for program and daytime activity options. This is encouraging us to explore new needs, and new opportunities for initiatives and activities.



Unfortunately, our partnership with the Sugar Disc Co. has come to an end as the business is closing. Establishing new work projects is now underway, and we have several new potential business partnerships that are being explored.



We held a casino fund-raising date this year, as well as our ongoing Bingo fundraising. These have a great volunteer crew of both our members and community volunteers that we are very proud of. We also did our first ever mail-out Fundraising Campaign. We reached out to the general community about our work, and our Rehab Community, and the response was generous and really heartwarming!



Our building is busier than ever, being used by not only Rehab and our 'roommates' in the building, but also by other community organizations and special events. We are proud to be an active and participating part of the bigger community.



The upcoming year holds some big transitions and new ideas, and we are looking forward to new successes and new relationships!

Participant, Laughing Allowed Program:

"I have continued to take this class to improve my writing and communication skills, and I have been inspired seeing my classmates gain self-confidence and self-expression."



Participant Member:

"I stayed home a lot in the pandemic and it made me sad. Now I am busy and I can come to Rehab and do my jobs. I can see all my good friends and help everybody and that makes me happy."

Volunteer Recognition

As always, our volunteers include many members of Rehab who take on daily tasks in the operation of our building, activities, and events; along with the community volunteers who help out where needed. Our in-house volunteer teams include Garden, Reception, Work Projects, Kitchen, Cleaning& Recycling, Events, and Bingo teams, as well as valuable daily tasks related to the smooth operation of our organization. We had an amazing response to our call for filling the number of volunteer spaces esential to run our casino fundraising event in September.

This year Volunteer Recognition Certificates will be presented to 58 people who have volunteered with us to make a difference.

The 2023 REM (Rehab Extra Mile) Award will be presented to the following volunteers who have consistently gone over and above expectations in providing support for the organization and its members:

Lisa Charles,
Shelley Goodrow
and Dustin Sigvaldson.



2,709

Total Volunteer Hours
2022-2023



346

Board of Directors
Volunteer Hours



1,818

Bingo Volunteer Hours



To everyone who has donated time and effort to the Rehabilitation Society this year. Working together is what makes it work!!



In Memorium

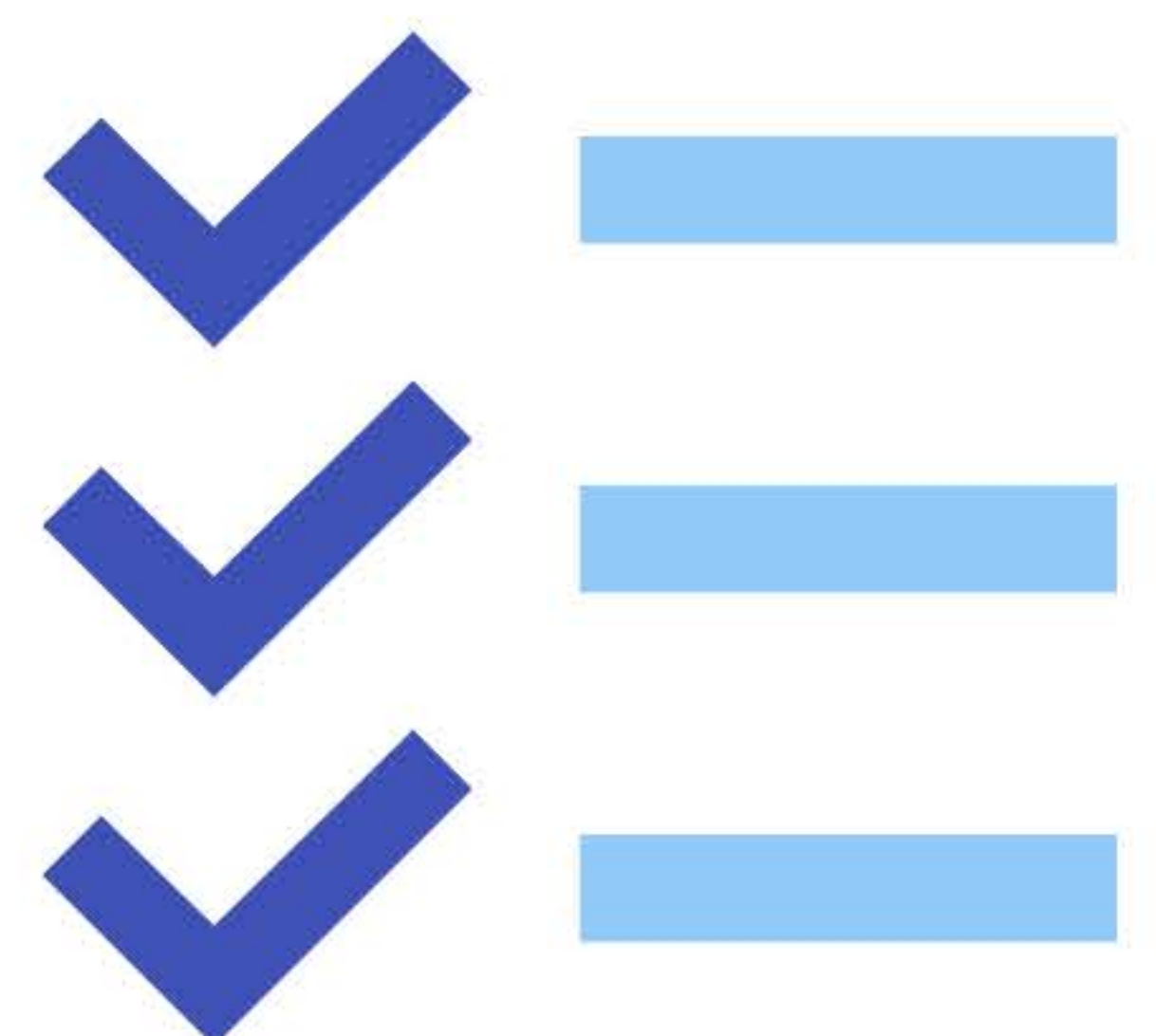
Patsy Fluter





Grateful thanks to the following Donors & Supporters

- The Calgary Foundation for their generous support in responding to the pandemic situation and through our post pandemic recovery.
- Employment & Social Development Canada, with partners Canadian Red Cross,
- Community Foundations of Canada, and United Way Centraide Canada, through the Community Services Recovery Fund for supporting upgrades and adaptation to the post-pandemic circumstances
- EAGLES Aerie #3475 for their continued financial and partnership support



Individual Donors & Supporters

Marjorie Weerstra
Ken Baker Susan Turner
Ross & Nancy Vogan
Maria Payoyo
Emma Meyer
Lou MacEachern
Carol Ellery
Prem Dave
Abe Agema
Jan & Sue Armstrong
Dao & Duong Anh
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Rhonda Bowfell
Lynne Horsefall



Donations In Kind

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TOA Development Strategies
John Setterlund
Delnea Designs
Noreen Branagh
Treloar & Associates
Canadian Red Cross
DataMedia
Rosalie Bains
Mary Willot
Doug Gunhouse
Arrow Comedy Training
Pete the Plumber/Electrician
Peneil Church
Stardale Women's Group
On the Spot Renos
Albert Boire

Clever Canines for their long term donation and volunteer work delivering our Christmas Dinner meal every year for over 100 people.



Building & Community Partners

Food Link/Calgary Food Bank

Calgary Model Trainmen's Club

Peniel Church

Eagles Aerie #3475

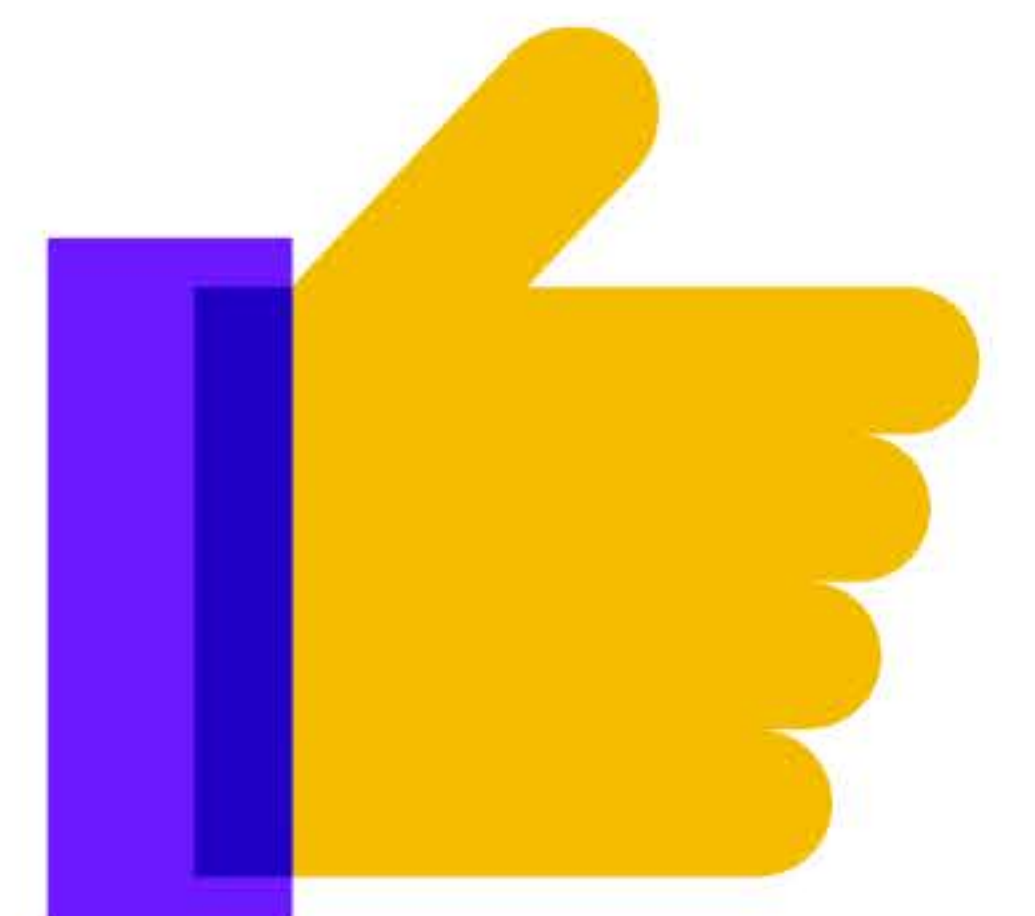
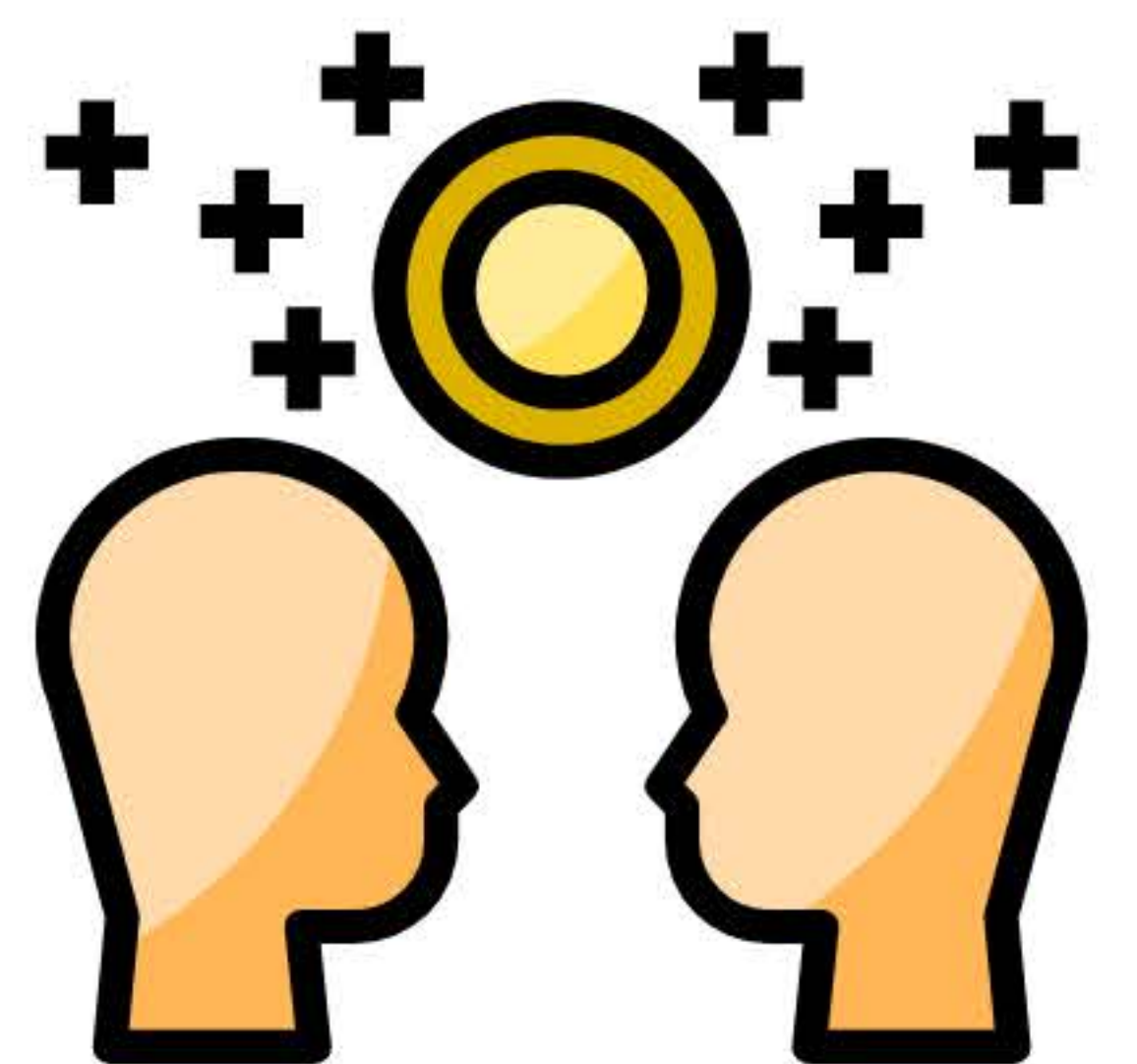
Society for Creative Anachronism

Stardale Women's Group

Bridgeland/Riverside Community Association

The Sugar Disc Company

Arrow Comedy Training



Thank You!

