



2017

ANNUAL REPORT



Sask**Abilities**



“ INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WANT TO FEEL INVOLVED IN EVERY ASPECT OF THEIR COMMUNITIES.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is with great excitement that I have the opportunity to present this, my first annual report as President of the SaskAbilities Board of Directors. I have been involved with SaskAbilities for many years as a client, volunteer and board member, and I believe it has been through these various lenses that I am able to truly appreciate the commitment to clients and the work achieved by this organization’s passionate and motivated staff.

I am grateful to be working with fellow board members who genuinely see the value in creating inclusive communities and by doing so are committed to the financial sustainability, vision and mission of SaskAbilities. It is an honour to be a part of the leadership story of such a dynamic organization that has long served Saskatchewan residents and will continue to do so for generations to come.

Promoting human rights and ensuring that people with disabilities can participate fully in the community is a passion of mine. As an individual with a disability, I appreciate the work SaskAbilities does to assist people experiencing disability to enhance their community involvement. Individuals with disabilities want to feel involved in every aspect of their communities, whether it be through employment, recreation or human service. I’m proud to be a part of a thoughtful group of dedicated individuals, businesses, community partners, staff members and volunteers working together to make this goal a reality for over 60,000 people across our beautiful province.

Andy Livingston

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Brenda Bancescu (Regina) | Bruno Konecsni (Saskatoon) | Dr. Ulla Nielsen (Saskatoon) |
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| Elaine Caswell (Regina) | Stan Lautsch (Swift Current) | Shona Switzer (Yorkton) |
| Kyle Chriest (Saskatoon) | Andy Livingston (Saskatoon) | |
| Michelle Hunter (Regina) | Brad Mitchell (Saskatoon) | |

“ CHANGE BRINGS GROWTH, TRANSFORMATION AND SOMETIMES CHALLENGES, BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT BRINGS PROGRESS.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Serving families impacted by disabilities in Saskatchewan is truly an honour. Since 1950, we have supported countless children, youth and adults experiencing disability to enhance their independence and participation in the community. As needs change and inevitably evolve, we have too. Ongoing evaluations of our programs and services ensure our vision, mission and values are continually reflective of the communities we support. Change brings growth, transformation and sometimes challenges, but most importantly, it brings progress. With this in mind, we realized it was time to shift our focus once more. In 2017, we announced exciting changes to our operating name, logo, vision and mission.

Milestones such as this would not be possible without dedicated people. From the many staff members across the province who truly change lives each and every day to the team of experts who have helped shape our rebrand, thank you for your contributions. As well, a warm thank you to the many funders, donors, partners, businesses, community organizations, volunteers and other stakeholders whose support of SaskAbilities is invaluable.

By working together, success stories like the ones found in this annual report are made possible. Throughout these pages, you will read inspiring examples of perseverance, compassion and hope from every corner and region of our organization. More than just a name change, our rebranding marks a new direction. As we look to the future, strong brand recognition will unify the many SaskAbilities programs, services and products and help us better serve individuals experiencing disability in Saskatchewan.

Ian Wilkinson



ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Kimi Duzan Regional Director Swift Current Branch | John Denysek Regional Director Yorkton Branch | Heather Rasmussen Director of Rehabilitation Services | Ian Wilkinson Executive Director | Alison Robertson Regional Director Saskatoon Branch | Karen Moore Director of Provincial Services | Corey Hadden Regional Director Regina Branch |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|

AFTER 67 YEARS, IT WAS TIME FOR A CHANGE...
INTRODUCING A FRESH LOOK AND
REVITALIZED VISION AND MISSION!

This isn't the first time we have evolved as an organization to ensure we are meeting the needs of the communities we serve, and it likely won't be the last. Change and adaptation is part of why our programs and services make such a difference in the communities we serve.



“WE WANTED TO PAY TRIBUTE TO OUR ORGANIZATION'S NOTABLE HISTORY WHILE MODERNIZING THE LOGO TO REFLECT THE TREMENDOUS EFFORTS WE'VE MADE OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. OUR NEW LOGO IS A TRUE REFLECTION OF OUR GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION.



The Saskatchewan Abilities Council has been a staple in the province since its inception in 1950. Over the past 67 years as a prominent non-profit, we have responded to the needs of the community and evolved as those needs changed. Now, we are pleased to share with you another change – a revitalized operating name, logo, vision and mission.

With a long history that garners strong brand recognition and positioning, we could not deny the value in keeping a name that so simply explains who we are and who we serve. SaskAbilities is a more modern, streamlined version of our name that still maintains a respectful nod to our history and roots

in Saskatchewan communities. The redesigned logo emphasizes our focus on ability, inclusion and community, while the new colours breathe a sense of rejuvenation and energy into our work.

Unveiling the new SaskAbilities name and logo in 2017 was an exciting moment for our organization. By integrating the growth and expertise gained in decades of being a vital resource for individuals and families experiencing disability, we are positioned to better serve individuals' best interests and promote strong, vibrant communities all across Saskatchewan.

Learn more about our rebranding initiative and discover everything SaskAbilities has to offer through our redesigned website at www.saskabilities.ca.

VISION
Working together to build inclusive communities for people of all abilities.

MISSION
SaskAbilities supports people experiencing disability with programs and services to enhance their lives.

VALUES
We treat people with respect, honesty and compassion. Our programs and services are client-centred, goal-oriented and accountable. We value teamwork, excellence and innovation.



1950s



1980



1984



1992



2017



REGINA BRANCH



“

BEING ACCEPTED INTO A WORK ENVIRONMENT LIKE THE GAP DEFINITELY HELPED BOOST MY SELF-ESTEEM AND SELF-CONFIDENCE. FOR ME, HAVING A PART-TIME JOB IS ANOTHER STEP TOWARD BECOMING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF SOCIETY AND THAT MEANS A LOT TO ME.

Madison Donald, NOW program participant

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Regina Branch continued its dedication to building inclusive communities for people of all abilities in 2017. In May, the Regina Branch celebrated completed renovations with a Grand Reopening ceremony that received overwhelming support from community partners, representatives from provincial and municipal government, friends, and participants in attendance. The expansion will extend opportunities to

enhance quality of life through meaningful engagement for 150 participants.

For the first time, the Regina Branch hosted an Art Showcase featuring participant artwork from The Light In Me art project, and ushered in a new art program called Artists in Communities. Both programs encourage using art as a creative outlet of expression and individuality, and both will continue promoting overall wellness into 2018.

QUICK NUMBERS

1,142

employers connected through Partners in Employment in Regina and Moose Jaw

240

volunteer hours in the Summer Fun program

20

participants in the New Opportunities for Work program obtained employment

150

individuals accessed Quality of Life services – Helping You Be, Belong, Become

THE BRIDGE TO EMPLOYMENT - NOW

For individuals with disabilities seeking employment skills and experience, the Regina community has turned to the New Opportunities for Work (NOW) program for over 10 years. The six-month program equips participants with the skills necessary to be successful and independent in the workplace.

The key to the program's success: the thoughtful mix of both classroom and practical work experience. Participants learn resume, interview and job search skills as well as workplace expectations, teamwork and other essential tools before transitioning into the community for on-the-job experience. In many cases, work experiences turn into paid employment and Madison Donald's experience was just that.

Motivated and willing to learn, Madison impressed program facilitators and employers with her positive attitude and determination. Who better to explain her journey than Maddie herself.

"I'm 20 years old and I was born with a form of cerebral palsy called spastic diplegia. Without getting into a lot of detail, it means my muscles, mostly my legs, have a higher degree of tightness than normal. I've had a few surgeries that have helped, but balance, stability and muscle control remain an ongoing struggle. Cerebral palsy is also a form of brain injury that affects my learning abilities. My parents have always instilled in me that everyone has learning limitations, mine just happens to be more extensive than most.

Did I give up? No, I worked hard. I graduated with my class and did so with a positive attitude, courage and encouragement from my support system.

After high school, I realized the next step in growing up and becoming more independent was to get a job... like I needed another challenge!

In January, I was accepted into the NOW program at SaskAbilities. After learning a lot in the classroom about how to succeed in the real working world, the instructors helped me prepare for an interview with the Gap clothing store for a work experience. I was very nervous, but I got it! I was very proud to get that far.

I learned a lot and my boss provided guidance on how I could improve. On the final evaluation day, the Gap decided to keep me on as a real, paid employee! I was beyond ecstatic to have that opportunity after working so hard. It was difficult and humbling at times but really worth it in the end.

Being accepted into a work environment like the Gap definitely helped boost my self-esteem and self-confidence. For me, having a part-time job is another step toward becoming a positive contributing member of society and that means a lot to me.

I'm grateful for all the advice, words of encouragement and support SaskAbilities provided me. They push you to be your best. But at the end of the day, it's up to me to continue to work hard, grow and, most importantly, not give up."

REHABILITATION SERVICES

THE GIFT OF MOBILITY

Regardless of the stage in life, Rehabilitation Services plays an integral role in supporting the comfort, well-being and independence of its clients. For those like Carol Schick who borrow equipment from the Special Needs Equipment loan program following a temporary injury, the devices make a substantial difference in not only recovery but also quality of life.

“For the last three months, I have been recovering from broken bones in my forearm and a cracked tibia. The walker [I borrowed from SaskAbilities] has allowed me to be mobile again and the bathroom equipment is especially

appreciated,” she wrote in a thank you note left to staff members in Regina. “Thank you very much for the invaluable service you provided to me and so many others.”

Thousands of equipment loans are made each year for short-term support after a surgery, an accident or a convalescence period. As Carol expressed in her note, access to this equipment helps keep people functioning as independently as possible while they recover.

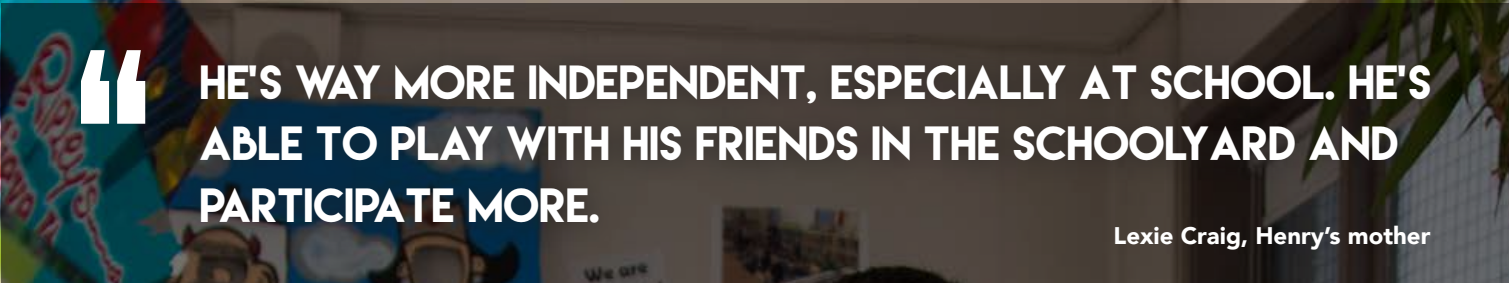
For others with long-term needs, Rehabilitation Services acts as a lifetime support.

Henry Craig Van Vliet is an active 9-year-old boy with cerebral palsy. He loves art, swimming, playing sports with friends, and watching videos like any child his age. The only difference is he uses a power wheelchair, loaned from the Special Needs Equipment depot in Saskatoon, to support his mobility. To ensure the chair fit Henry’s needs, the team of power wheelchair and specialized seating technicians worked together to adapt seating components and reprogram technical functions to support his comfort and abilities. For example, when Henry preferred the use of button controls to a joystick, they modified his power wheelchair and seating components to suit this. Once he mastered the buttons, his chair was reprogrammed again to change with him, this time to operate with a joystick.

“Everybody at SaskAbilities is really helpful and accommodating,” says Henry’s mother Lexie. “The technicians are always very friendly to Henry, showing him which tools they are using. The work they do on his chair really interests him.”

More impressive than the level of care the family has received is the impact the equipment has made in Henry’s life. “He’s way more independent, especially at school,” says Lexie. “He’s able to play with his friends in the schoolyard and participate more.”

As Henry grows and changes, his involvement with Rehabilitation Services will continue to adapt with him to support his independence and encourage community inclusion.



HE'S WAY MORE INDEPENDENT, ESPECIALLY AT SCHOOL. HE'S ABLE TO PLAY WITH HIS FRIENDS IN THE SCHOOLYARD AND PARTICIPATE MORE.

Lexie Craig, Henry's mother

YEAR IN REVIEW

Rehabilitation Services responds to the needs of thousands of Saskatchewan residents each year – often as part of a team to meet individual requirements and find innovative solutions. Services include Adaptive Technology, Orthopaedics, the Accessible Parking Program and Special Needs Equipment. Some clients may access one service for a limited time, when equipment is required post-surgically for example, while others may use multiple services over the course of their whole lives. In every case, the goal is to assist each client with the service, equipment and expertise they require to improve health, support independence and enrich quality of life for that individual.

QUICK NUMBERS

112

clients served by Adaptive Technology

22,076

permits issued by the Accessible Parking Program

35,705

pieces of equipment issued by Special Needs Equipment

12,774

clients served by Orthopaedics



SASKATOON BRANCH



PHYLICIA IS THRIVING AT THE QUALITY OF LIFE CENTRE! SHE LOVES ATTENDING THE PROGRAM AND GETTING OUT IN HER COMMUNITY. SHE'S EVEN MADE A BEST FRIEND! IT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE COULD HAVE HOPED FOR HER.

Mavis Bitternose, Phyllicia's sister

YEAR IN REVIEW

Programs and services for people experiencing disability continued to evolve to meet individual needs and aspirations at the Saskatoon Branch in 2017. Many of these included opportunities for employment, social and recreational outings, and meaningful experiences to improve quality of life.

In 2017, clients at the Saskatoon Branch experienced more than 2,200 recreational outings, giving them the opportunity to build lasting friendships and experience the community in a dynamic way. Over 1,200 clients benefited from some form of support at the Partners in Employment office, including 624 clients who created resumes, 533 clients who practiced and

developed their interview skills, and 365 clients who went on to obtain employment. Clients also benefited from skill-building experiences at the Branch's Training Centre in the areas of woodworking, metal shop, assembly, cafeteria and sewing.

In August, the Branch's long-serving Regional Director Joyce Phillips retired from a successful career with the organization. Over her 41 years with SaskAbilities, her accomplishments were numerous and notable, including the recent establishment of the Quality of Life Centre that provides adults with disabilities opportunities to learn about themselves, build relationships within the community and enjoy positive life experiences.

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

When looking for a recreational program for individuals with complex support needs and disabilities, the process can sometimes feel like Goldilocks' journey to find the perfect porridge and mattress – something that's just right. For Phyllicia Bitternose, other programs she tried just weren't a match. That's until she found the perfect fit at the Quality of Life Centre in April 2017.

The Quality of Life Centre in Saskatoon assists participants in improving their social skills, enhancing their community involvement, and developing a greater sense of belonging and fulfillment. For individuals with disabilities who face challenges making friends, remaining social or finding purpose in life, the Quality of Life Centre provides a safe, nurturing environment where participants can learn, grow and expand their capabilities at their own pace.

Within its first year of operation, the Centre has made a meaningful impact in the lives of its participants, Phyllicia being a leading example of the growth and development that is common among program participants. To no surprise, Phyllicia is thriving!

"When Phyllicia first arrived at the Quality of Life Centre, she was shy and hesitant to get involved," says Miranda Wood-Sparrow, the Quality of Life Coordinator. "But slowly she became more comfortable and that's when we started to see the real Phyllicia – the fun-loving, outgoing, amazing person she really is."

Phyllicia started trying new things, making new friends and realizing all the fun to be had. Now, Phyllicia is arguably one of the participants most excited for activities and can be counted on to pump up the rest of the group, often heard saying "We are going to have so much fun guys!"

Among the many activities to choose from, some of Phyllicia's favorites include colouring, coffee breaks with friends, watching videos, painting her nails (pink of course) and going on outings like bowling, movies or even just to get the mail. Whatever the activity, Phyllicia is first in line.

"Phyllicia absolutely loves being at the Quality of Life Centre!" says her sister Mavis. "It gives her a sense of belonging and purpose – and greater independence too. It gets her up, ready and out the door by herself even if I'm not there. She's definitely growing from it."

For most families, the best part is watching their loved one come out of their shell and discover the true joys of life.

QUICK NUMBERS

1,340

vocational
assessments
completed

365

clients obtained employment
with the support of Partners
in Employment

21,847,315

pieces of recyclable material processed
at the Avalon SARCAN Depot
operated by SaskAbilities, the busiest
SARCAN depot in Saskatchewan

2,288

recreational
outings provided

YORKTON BRANCH

THE PERFECT FIT

YEAR IN REVIEW

Supporting children, youth and adults experiencing disability to enhance their lives and participation in the community is paramount to the Yorkton Branch of SaskAbilities.

After a successful pilot phase in Saskatoon, the Yorkton Branch implemented a new employment program designed specifically for individuals on the autism spectrum. Participants enhanced their employability skills, improved interpersonal and social skills and gained valuable work experience in the community.

In cooperation with other local service providers and the Saskatchewan Association for Community Living, the Yorkton Branch hosted a one-day workshop for parents of children with disabilities about the various community resources available to their families.

Other highlights in 2017 included enhancing client safety practices in all program areas and assisting Partners in Settlement and Integration evolve into its own organization.

For many, employment is more than just a job – it's a way of expressing ourselves, using our talents for a greater purpose and increasing our quality of life. For Rylan Mund, it's all three.

Despite being an active volunteer for many years, Rylan had never been employed. With the help of the employment services offered by Partners in Employment, Rylan got his first job in August!

"He looks forward to going to work every day, he's excelling in his work, and the staff love having him around," says Krista Knutson, Employment Specialist with Partners in Employment in Yorkton. "He's showing so much independence and responsibility. It's awesome!"

For over 12 years, Rylan has been attending the Day Program at the SaskAbilities Yorkton Branch, where he has gained volunteer experience, improved his employability and social skills, and demonstrated his go-getter attitude. When it came to finding him a work experience, Partners in Employment sought to pair him with something he was passionate about while matching his skill set. The City of Yorkton jumped on board to host a work experience and shortly thereafter, the Gallagher Centre welcomed Rylan to their team.

Rylan started job shadowing in April, and by August, the Gallagher Centre had hired him as an employee under the Opportunities Fund, a wage subsidy program designed to encourage employers to hire employees of all abilities. The program allows for additional training time so the employee can accumulate the necessary skills to excel in the position. This has allowed Rylan to be compensated as a regular employee while maintaining the support of a SaskAbilities job coach.

"We've heard nothing but amazing things from Rylan's supervisors and coworkers," says Krista. "He fits right in, shares lunch breaks with his coworkers and jokes about hockey with the other guys. He's very much part of the group and the community."

Rylan's mom Twila even noticed changes in his self-confidence and independence. "While shopping for groceries, Rylan would typically stay glued to my side, but now, he will go to the other side of the store without me to get items on the list," she says. "He's never done that before."

For Rylan and the many others who have secured jobs through the help of Partners in Employment, finding a meaningful role in the community through employment is worth more than words can describe.



AFTER YEARS OF VOLUNTEERING, HAVING A PAID JOB IS REALLY MEANINGFUL TO RYLAN. WORKING IS TRULY THE HIGHLIGHT OF HIS DAY. HE'S SUCH A GO-GETTER AND ALWAYS WILLING TO LEND A HAND. I'M SO PROUD OF HIM!

Krista Knutson, Employment Specialist with Partners in Employment in Yorkton



QUICK NUMBERS

2,889

metric tonnes diverted
from the landfill by
RecyclAbility Enterprises

108

new jobs found
by Partners in
Employment

35,575

City Transit trips
provided

112

individuals accessed
Quality of Life
services



CAMP EASTER SEAL



EVEN IF CAMP EASTER SEAL WAS 10 HOURS AWAY, I WOULD STILL GET HIM THERE EVERY SUMMER! I LIKE TO GIVE HIM AS MANY OPPORTUNITIES AS POSSIBLE.

Teresa Cowan, parent of Camp Easter Seal camper Jonathan

YEAR IN REVIEW

Amidst some of the most picturesque scenery in Saskatchewan is the not-so-hidden gem Camp Easter Seal – the only barrier-free, fully wheelchair-accessible camp of its kind in the province.

All recreational activities – from swimming, horseback riding and wagon rides to rustic camping, picnics and sports – are adapted to each camper's abilities. This summer, 590 campers discovered the welcoming, magical home of Camp Easter Seal and experienced life without barriers for one week.

For over 60 years, Camp Easter Seal has been opening doors to new experiences, cherished friendships, social inclusion and greater independence. Kids of all ages and abilities have the opportunity to build their self-esteem, enhance their independence, make meaningful friendships and, above all, discover the joys of just being a kid.

For many parents, Camp Easter Seal is the only place they feel safe leaving their child. Considering Camp's excellent activities, enthusiastic staff, inclusive environment and the opportunity for campers to feel, well, just like everyone else – it's no wonder that campers regard Camp Easter Seal as the best place on earth!

QUICK NUMBERS

590

campers attended

65

summer staff

18,500

meals provided

94,320

hours of memories created

LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS

After experiencing the joys of summer camp when she was a child, Teresa Cowan knew she wanted to one day give her kids those same experiences. Years before her son Jonathan was even old enough to attend camp, she was looking for a place that could accommodate his special needs. When she learned Camp Easter Seal was opening up spots to support children with intellectual disabilities as well as physical disabilities, she applied immediately.

Three years later, Camp Easter Seal has become a summer staple in Jonathan's life, something that regardless of other plans, he doesn't miss.

"It's unique because it's the only opportunity in Saskatchewan for children with special needs to be able to be a regular kid," says Teresa. "Otherwise, they are basically denied attending a summer camp. As a parent, it's really sad when your kid can't do some of the regular things other kids can do. So Camp Easter Seal is at least one opportunity where Jonathan can be a regular kid."

It's what he needs, she continues. The space away from home, the freedom to do the activities he wants, the opportunity to stand on his own – it's his time. "At Camp Easter Seal, he can be his own person," she says. "He can be independent."

At Camp, Jonathan gets to do things he doesn't always get the opportunity to experience in his day-to-day life such as feeding and riding horses, water sports like tubing, playing in the amphitheatre, and going for ice cream all while forming meaningful relationships – just like a regular kid. Despite the five-hour, two-day adventure it takes to transport Jonathan to Camp, it's worth it.

Best of all, Teresa knows her son is safe. The staff members are well-trained, caring and excited to be there. Plus, camper to counsellor ratios are low to ensure that everyone is looked after and having fun.

As Jonathan ages, Camp Easter Seal will grow with him. With 12 sessions offered to campers of varying ages and abilities, Camp isn't limited to just kids. Unlike other camps, Jonathan can continue attending into adulthood for as long as he would like, given enough spots are available.

"We look forward to sending him every summer, and we're excited to re-apply again this year," says Teresa.

SWIFT CURRENT BRANCH

A DREAM COME TRUE

YEAR IN REVIEW

2017 was a year of growth and continued success for the Swift Current Branch. After identifying a gap in employment services for youth, SaskAbilities launched the Youth Employment Program in April 2017. To date, the program has supported 30 individuals experiencing disability aged 15 to 30 years old transition to employment. The Chinook Golf Course hired one of the program's participants and was honoured at the Spirit of Swift Current Business Excellence Awards for winning the Employer of Persons with Disabilities Award.

New community relationships were formed and existing partnerships deepened in 2017, notably with the City of Swift Current. In support of the impact SaskAbilities has in the community, the City of Swift Current declared the first week of September as SaskAbilities Awareness Week. The week-long celebration included a community barbeque, pancake breakfast, grand reopening at the Branch, and a presentation by a Youth Employment Program participant at City Hall.

The City of Swift Current also renewed the access and public transit services contract with SaskAbilities, voting to expand services to include an additional fixed route. As the operator of access transit services for individuals with mobility challenges on behalf of the City, SaskAbilities is proud to serve the Swift Current community and looks forward to many dedicated years to come.

From the moment Aaron Matthews spun a vinyl record, there was no looking back – he wanted a career in radio. With the support of the Community Inclusion Program offered by the Swift Current Branch, Aaron turned that dream into reality when he accepted a position with Golden West Broadcasting in March 2017.

Prior to his new job, Aaron was accessing Training Centre supports at SaskAbilities and recently participated in the Community Inclusion Program to assist him in transitioning to competitive employment in the community. The program, a mix of skill development and practical experience, coordinated a six-week work experience for Aaron at Golden West Broadcasting. Upon its completion, Aaron was offered a paid position.

"We are happy to have Aaron as part of our team," says Mike Saretsky, Station and General Sales Manager at Golden West Broadcasting. "We always want to add people to our team who are interested in what we do, and we welcome the different perspective Aaron brings. He's a valuable contribution to our company."

Aaron's duties include typing the announcements for Swift Current Online, speaking on air, participating in staff meetings and administrative tasks as assigned. Aaron feels part of the group at work, often eating lunch, sharing a laugh and participating in interoffice comradery like Movember with his co-workers.

"It's a dream come true and I get paid!" Aaron says about working at the radio station.

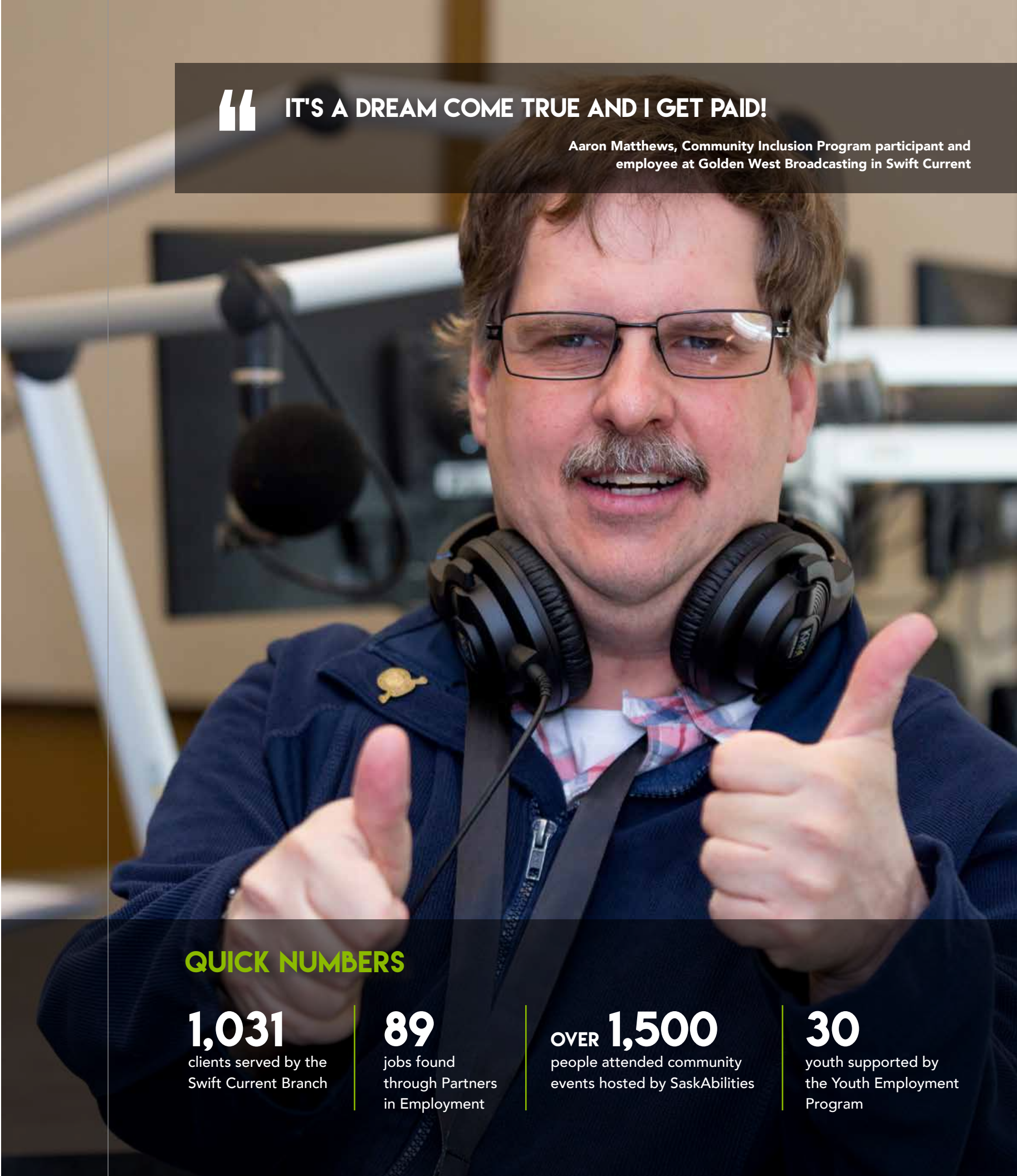
Since gaining employment with the radio station, Aaron has become more independent. He's learned to take public transportation, demonstrated time management and problem solving skills, and shown an increase in his confidence.

Like many others, Aaron has successfully transitioned from the Training Centre to community employment through the help of the Community Inclusion Program. Aside from employment at Golden West Broadcasting, Aaron has a very active schedule. He works casually for the City of Swift Current Recycle Depot and participates in Quality of Life programming at the Swift Current Branch. He's also involved in the Volunteer in Community program offered by SaskAbilities and donates his time to support two different ongoing volunteer initiatives in the community. In Aaron's case, an intake at SaskAbilities almost 25 years ago blossomed into a multifaceted array of skills, growth and opportunities.



IT'S A DREAM COME TRUE AND I GET PAID!

Aaron Matthews, Community Inclusion Program participant and employee at Golden West Broadcasting in Swift Current



QUICK NUMBERS

1,031
clients served by the
Swift Current Branch

89
jobs found
through Partners
in Employment

OVER 1,500
people attended community
events hosted by SaskAbilities

30
youth supported by
the Youth Employment
Program

FUND DEVELOPMENT

SPECIAL EVENTS

We extend the most sincere appreciation to our many sponsors, businesses, organizations, participants, volunteers and attendees that have donated or contributed to the success of our special events and third-party fundraising events. Your support is vital in changing the lives of individuals experiencing disability.

SNOWARAMA

This year marked 40 years of support of the Easter Seals™ Snowarama event. On February 11, over 225 riders, pledge raisers and countless supporters rallied together to celebrate the milestone year and helped raise over \$180,000! Snowmobiling enthusiasts from all across Western Canada travelled to Yorkton to participate in this community event, known for its groomed trails, great rider incentives and welcoming comradery that keeps people coming back year after year – some for all 40! New to the 40th celebration was a cabaret, enhanced prizes and a special 200 km trail.

Many of the Snowarama participants have been involved right from the start, either as a rider, volunteer or as an original member of the planning committee. Even after 40 years of snowmobiling for Easter Seals™ kids, the support of riders, corporate sponsors, volunteers and donors is unprecedented. Over \$2.5 million has been raised in support of Camp Easter Seal, Summer Fun and Adaptive Technology since 1977.

ABILITY BOWL

Each year, the Swift Current community joins together to support the Swift Current Branch of SaskAbilities at Ability Bowl, and each year we are blown away by the community's support and excitement. 2017 was no exception as Ability Bowl celebrated its milestone 30th anniversary. On April 22, over 230 fundraisers embraced the Rock 'n' Bowl theme, dressed as their favourite rock stars and, of course, bowled in support of the programs and services offered by the Swift Current Branch. Thanks to overwhelming generosity from the community, the event raised a record total of over \$80,000!

DROP ZONE SASKATCHEWAN

For the first time in Drop Zone history, we pitted Regina against Saskatoon in a race down the rappel lines on August 19 and 20! Saskatoon's daredevils were bussed to Regina where the party of music, DJs, Farmer's Market goodies, superhero-themed cupcakes and prizes awaited them. Whether you're a seasoned adrenaline junkie or a first-timer, rappellers agree: Drop Zone Saskatchewan is an opportunity of a lifetime! This year the event raised over \$80,000, all of which will support individuals with disabilities to access vital community programs and services offered by SaskAbilities and Easter Seals™ Saskatchewan.



THIRD-PARTY EVENTS

Paper Eggs – March 3 to April 17

57th Annual Draggins Car Show – April 14 and 15

Easter Seals™ Charity Golf Tournament – May 25

Blue Goose Golf Tournament Saskatoon Pond – June 8

Boston Pizza Day for Camp Easter Seal – July 12

Blue Goose Golf Tournament Regina Pond – July 13

Century 21 Dome Golf Tournament – July 27

Super Run – August 3 to 6

Century 21 Fusion Golf Tournament – August 10

Regina Wine & Spirits Gala – November 3 and 4

Baba's Perogies Support the Possibilities Day – November 4

Brainsport Gingerbread Run – November 19

CENTURY 21 GOLDEN HEART AWARDS AND KIDS TO CAMP CLUB

Easter Seals™ Canada and its member organizations across the country are proud to be the charity of choice for Century 21 offices throughout Canada. Agents who generously donate a minimum of \$2,100 are recognized in the Kids to Camp Club and presented with a Century 21 Golden Heart Award in acknowledgment of their help in sending kids to Camp Easter Seal. It is with the warmest thank you that we recognize our 2017 Kids to Camp Club members from Saskatchewan:

CENTURY 21 FUSION:

Kari Calder

Ed Machart

Lisa Mueller

Roger Schmid

CENTURY 21 DOME:

Brent Ackerman

Jamie Bashnick

Sharon Clark

FUND DEVELOPMENT

OUR SUPPORTERS



Every year we are grateful and humbled by the generous support of individuals, businesses and organizations who donate to SaskAbilities. We thank all of our donors for their contributions in 2017 – your support plays a pivotal role helping children and adults experiencing disability reach their goals and achieve success!

MEMBER LEADERS

SaskAbilities is a member-based organization. Those who make an annual minimum gift of \$150 or more during the membership year are recognized as Member Leaders of SaskAbilities.

Don Abrahamson
Jeff Auer
Rino Bacchetto
Phyllis Baker
Barber Motors (1963) Ltd.
Ken and Sharon Barker
Mark and Patty Beck
Jim and Allana Biss
Glenn Blackstock
Paul Blackstock
Dean Botham
Don and Blanche Bowman
Jeff Braid
Garry D. Bratt
Donald and Susan Bristow
John and Ina Brockelbank
Donald Buckingham
Bruce Buckwold
William Caplette
Sharon Carson
Wendy Caswell
Laird Cooper
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Ellen Gaunt
V. A. and J. L. Gebhardt
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Albert and Eva Gorrill
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Elizabeth Guest
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Corey Hadden
Norm and Elsie Halldorson
Victor Hamilton
Harvey and Bonnie Hamm
Conrad P. Hammer
Maria Harder
Jack Harris
Byron and Lorraine Harvie
Elizabeth Heidt
Simon E. Hatcherick
Simon E. Hatcherick
C. Jane Horner
Hornoi Leasing Ltd.
Michelle Hunter

Mr. A. J. Jacek
Ernie Klassen
Bruno and Marjorie Konecsni
Siegfried Kunstel
Kyle Charitable Trust
Graham and Anita Langford
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Mudry-Lautsch
Andrew Livingston
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Dr. Margaret McMahon
Ewen MacLeod
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Karen Moore
Dennis and Nina Morey
Dr. Ulla Nielsen
Tammy J. Ottenbreit
Eva Paton
Brian Petruic
Joyce Phillips
Lyle Phillips

Helen Pranke
Jim Pratt
John Prietchuk
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Irene G. Wiebe
Arley Wieler
Ian and Kirsten Wilkinson
James S. Wilson
Don and Dorothy Zopf

COMPANION CLUB

Individuals are recognized as Companion Club donors if they contribute regular monthly gifts, making a world of difference throughout the year in support of SaskAbilities and Easter Seals™ Saskatchewan.

Jim Achtymichuk
Corey Adam
Tressa F. Allard
Erika O. Altwasser
Cameron Anton
Phyllis Baker
Blair Baller
Mary Ann Beavis
Edwin E. Beland
Jeff and Lara Bergen
Ronald and Sandra Bland
Randy Boyko
Sandy Braun
John and Pamela Burt
Joylene Campbell
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Brian and Linda Davis
Steven and Stella Devenney
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Aime and Raymonde Forcier
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Randy and Trudy Grill
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Nu Tu-Mach
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Jean Wagner
Dr. Mark and Mrs. Tracy Wahba
Susanne Welechenko
Ian and Kirsten Wilkinson
Islay Wiskar
Debora Wotherspoon

Donor names are recognized with permission. Donor information is carefully reviewed for accuracy. We sincerely apologize if there are errors or omissions and ask that you contact our Fund Development office at 306.374.4448 if you note any inaccuracies.

FUND DEVELOPMENT

BEQUESTS

It is with deep gratitude that we honour and recognize the following individuals who remembered SaskAbilities in their wills.

Estate of Paulette Marie Caron
Estate of Sarah Carson
Estate of Gladys M. Hall
Estate of Eva Mae Mills
Estate of Estelle Moodie
Estate of Lorna Jean Pinkerton
Estate of Thesia Tedeschi
Estate of Catherine Zeilner

TRUSTS

Estate of Peter J. Dyck
Estate of William Wallace McDonald

ENDOWMENTS

SaskAbilities' endowments are held in perpetuity. The principal remains intact and only the income earned is used to support the programs and services of SaskAbilities.

The Arthur, Ella, Connie Tillman Endowment for the Parkland Ability Centre was established to support ongoing programs and special projects. The 2017 year-end balance is **\$126,213.53**.

The Feingertz Research Fund fosters research at SaskAbilities and supports special projects including equipment purchases, facility construction costs and research. The 2017 year-end balance is **\$161,132.77**.

The Spirit of Independence Endowment was created to provide future funds to support SaskAbilities' ongoing work. The 2017 year-end balance is **\$230,301.40**.

PARTNERS

Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres

SaskAbilities is a proud member of SARC and operates three recycling depots under franchise from SARC, a non-profit association representing community-based organizations that provide residential, development and employment supports and services to thousands of individuals with disabilities.

Easter Seals™ Canada

SaskAbilities is a member of Easter Seals™ Canada and owns the rights to Easter Seals™ Saskatchewan. The national organization is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life, self-esteem and self-determination of individuals with disabilities in Canada.

Saskatchewan Prevention Institute

SaskAbilities is a key funding partner of the Saskatchewan Prevention Institute, a non-profit organization whose focus is reducing the occurrence of disabling conditions in children using primary prevention methods.



FUNDERS



MAJOR GIFTS

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for their generous cash donations of \$3,000 or more.

Pearl Findlay
John and Valerie Leitch
Johnny and Ellen Maruska
Dr. Ulla Nielsen
Florence Rederburg



LONG SERVICE AWARDS

At SaskAbilities, we recognize staff members with significant career milestones to acknowledge their commitment to fulfilling our vision and mission.

30 YEARS

Blair Baller
Grant Fillingier
Jack Petrucha

20 YEARS

Janine Baumann
Yvonne Mansiere-Kildaw
Shirley O'Boyle
Tara Schuster

15 YEARS

Leslie Bailey
Teresa Barabash
Randeek Dekker
Blaine Henderson
Aleksandra Hoeber
Tammy Kardynal
Mark Krasko
Darren Ooms
Heather Rasmussen

10 YEARS

Stacy Angelopoulos
Donna Jacques
John Limet
Chelsa McDougall
Karen Moore
Brent Pollard
Claire Poole
Niles Senkus
John Spence
Cindy Wilkie

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|-------------------|--------------|
| REVENUE | | |
| Regina Branch | \$ 6,029,701 | \$ 6,146,470 |
| Saskatoon Branch | 8,764,539 | 8,690,254 |
| Swift Current Branch | 2,749,145 | 2,778,025 |
| Yorkton Branch | 5,684,976 | 5,644,716 |
| Camp Easter Seal | 884,917 | 833,817 |
| Rehabilitation Services | 12,903,921 | 12,084,632 |
| Provincial Administration | 2,356,783 | 2,246,321 |
| | 39,373,982 | 38,424,235 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Regina Branch | 6,202,996 | 6,597,668 |
| Saskatoon Branch | 9,062,646 | 9,099,347 |
| Swift Current Branch | 2,917,945 | 2,993,425 |
| Yorkton Branch | 5,980,352 | 5,787,299 |
| Camp Easter Seal | 1,325,924 | 1,235,911 |
| Rehabilitation Services | 12,846,469 | 11,935,366 |
| Provincial Administration | 596,840 | 667,983 |
| | 38,933,172 | 38,316,999 |
| EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES | \$ 440,810 | \$ 107,236 |

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2017

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|----------------------|---------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash | \$ 2,400,101 | \$ 2,825,043 |
| Investments | 99,372 | - |
| Accounts receivable | 1,892,865 | 1,219,479 |
| Inventories | 1,217,703 | 1,242,286 |
| Prepaid expenses | 182,502 | 160,436 |
| | 5,792,543 | 5,447,244 |
| DESIGNATED INVESTMENTS | 998,678 | 993,087 |
| CAPITAL ASSETS | 8,614,609 | 8,816,326 |
| INTANGIBLE ASSET | - | 6,000 |
| | \$ 15,405,830 | \$ 15,262,657 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ 3,589,980 | \$ 3,235,378 |
| Deferred grants | 1,685,144 | 2,096,716 |
| Scheduled repayments of callable debt | 30,212 | 30,212 |
| Current portion of capital lease | - | 4,665 |
| | 5,305,336 | 5,366,971 |
| Callable debt | 306,303 | 336,515 |
| | 5,611,639 | 5,703,486 |
| DEFERRED DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS | 231,030 | 201,343 |
| UNAMORTIZED CAPITAL ASSET FUNDING | 2,244,820 | 2,408,740 |
| | 8,087,489 | 8,313,569 |
| NET ASSETS | | |
| Net assets restricted for endowment purposes | 517,648 | 541,744 |
| Internally restricted net assets invested in capital and intangible assets | 6,157,162 | 6,102,441 |
| Internally restricted net assets - other | 250,000 | 250,000 |
| Unrestricted net assets | 393,531 | 54,903 |
| | 7,318,341 | 6,949,088 |
| | \$ 15,405,830 | \$ 15,262,657 |

Please see our website www.saskabilities.ca for the complete audited financial statements and notes.

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

| | Internally Restricted | | Externally Restricted | | | |
|---|---|------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | Invested in Capital & Intangible Assets | Other | for Endowment Purposes | Unrestricted | 2017 Total | 2016 Total |
| Balance, beginning of year | \$ 6,102,441 | \$ 250,000 | \$ 541,744 | \$ 54,903 | \$ 6,949,088 | \$ 6,766,623 |
| Excess of revenue over expenses | - | - | - | 440,810 | 440,810 | 107,236 |
| Employee future benefits remeasurements and other items | - | - | - | (47,461) | (47,461) | 70,929 |
| Amortization of capital assets | (656,806) | - | - | 656,806 | - | - |
| intangible asset | (6,000) | - | - | 6,000 | - | - |
| Capital asset funding recognized | 271,916 | - | - | (271,916) | - | - |
| Capital asset funding deferred | (107,996) | - | - | 107,996 | - | - |
| Purchase of capital assets | 501,490 | - | - | (501,490) | - | - |
| Gain on disposal of capital assets | 17,240 | - | - | (17,240) | - | - |
| Repayment of callable debt | 30,212 | - | - | (30,212) | - | - |
| capital leases | 4,665 | - | - | (4,665) | - | - |
| Interest income earned on endowment funds | - | - | 6,643 | - | 6,643 | 4,300 |
| Expenses paid out of endowment fund | - | - | (30,739) | - | (30,739) | - |
| Balance, end of year | \$ 6,157,162 | \$ 250,000 | \$ 517,648 | \$ 393,531 | \$ 7,318,341 | \$ 6,949,088 |

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|---------------------|--------------|
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Excess of revenue over expenses | \$ 440,810 | \$ 107,236 |
| Interest income earned on endowment funds | 6,643 | 4,300 |
| Expenses paid out of endowment fund | (30,739) | - |
| Employee future benefits remeasurements and other items | (47,461) | 70,929 |
| Adjustments for | | |
| Amortization of capital assets | 656,806 | 704,795 |
| Amortization of intangible asset | 6,000 | 12,000 |
| Capital asset funding recognized | (271,916) | (238,144) |
| Deferred donor designated funds recognized | (22,375) | (107,924) |
| Gain on disposal of capital assets | (17,240) | (7,330) |
| In-kind donation | (99,372) | - |
| Changes in non-cash working capital items | | |
| Accounts receivable | (673,386) | 548,118 |
| Inventories | 24,583 | 121,686 |
| Prepaid expenses | (22,066) | 99,752 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 354,602 | (31,693) |
| Deferred grants | (411,572) | 555,669 |
| | (106,683) | 1,839,394 |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Capital asset additions | (501,490) | (1,052,622) |
| Proceeds on disposal of capital assets | 63,641 | 24,119 |
| Designated investments, net | (5,591) | 46,964 |
| | (443,440) | (981,539) |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Proceeds from callable debt | - | 393,790 |
| Repayment of callable debt | (30,212) | (27,063) |
| Repayment of capital lease | (4,665) | (5,985) |
| Receipt of donor designated funds | 160,058 | 142,597 |
| | 125,181 | 503,339 |
| NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH | (424,942) | 1,361,194 |
| CASH POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR | 2,825,043 | 1,463,849 |
| CASH POSITION, END OF YEAR | \$ 2,400,101 | \$ 2,825,043 |

Please see our website www.saskabilities.ca for the complete audited financial statements and notes.

GET IN TOUCH: **WWW.SASKABILITIES.CA**

PROVINCIAL SERVICES

Ian Wilkinson, Executive Director
Karen Moore, Director of
Provincial Services
Heather Rasmussen, Director of
Rehabilitation Services
2310 Louise Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7J 2C7
T 306.374.4448
F 306.373.2665
E provincialservices@saskabilities.ca

REGINA BRANCH

Corey Hadden, Regional Director
825 McDonald Street
Regina, SK S4N 2X5
T 306.569.9048
F 306.352.3717
E regina@saskabilities.ca

SASKATOON BRANCH

Alison Robertson, Regional Director
1410 Kilburn Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0J8
T 306.653.1694
F 306.652.8886
E saskatoon@saskabilities.ca

SWIFT CURRENT BRANCH

Kimi Duzan, Regional Director
1551 North Railway Street West
Swift Current, SK S9H 5G3
T 306.773.2076
F 306.778.9188
E swiftcurrent@saskabilities.ca

YORKTON BRANCH

John Denysek, Regional Director
162 Ball Road, Box 5011
Yorkton, SK S3N 3Z4
T 306.782.2463
F 306.782.7844
E yorkton@saskabilities.ca

MOOSE JAW

Partners in Employment
8 Wood Lily Drive
Moose Jaw, SK S6J 1E1
T 306.693.3025
F 306.693.3822
E partnersinemployment.
moosejaw@saskabilities.ca

PRINCE ALBERT

Special Needs Equipment Depot
1205 1st Avenue East
Prince Albert, SK S6V 2A9
T 306.922.0225
F 306.764.8376
E princealbert@saskabilities.ca

CAMP EASTER SEAL

1410 Kilburn Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0J8
T 306.653.1694
F 306.652.8886
E campeasterseal@saskabilities.ca

