



# 73<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

APRIL 14, 2023

---

SASKATOON, SK



# SASKATCHEWAN ABILITIES COUNCIL INC. (SASKABILITIES)

## 73<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chaired by Michelle Hunter, President

---

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

MINUTES OF THE 72ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Tom Spence, Committee Chair

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Michelle Hunter, President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ian Wilkinson, Executive Director

PRESENTATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Brian Heinrichs, Virtus Group LLP

Karen Moore, Director of Provincial Services

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2023

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT



# WHO MAY VOTE AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING?

---

**The bylaw for SaskAbilities states that any current member may vote at the Annual General Meeting.**

## **ELIGIBILITY**

If your 2023 membership donation was made at least 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting, you are considered a current member of SaskAbilities and eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

When you join the Annual General Meeting, in-person or virtually, please provide your name. A staff member will check the member roster to confirm your eligibility to vote. If your name appears on the member roster, you will be entitled to vote. In case of a dispute, the member roster shall be deemed to be correct.

## **VOTING**

Voting members will be invited to vote on the election of directors and the appointment of auditors. Votes on these items are carried by a simple majority.

# MINUTES OF THE 72ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2022

---

*President Michelle Hunter introduced herself and welcomed members to the 72nd Annual General Meeting. She introduced Tom Spence, Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee, attending through Teams, and Ian Wilkinson, Executive Director.*

*Michelle Hunter declared the Annual General Meeting open at 10:00 a.m. She explained that the meeting was being held in-person and through Teams. She noted that meeting materials are available in the Annual General Meeting program and on the website, and outlined the voting procedure. Michelle Hunter reported that a quorum was in place and outlined eligibility for voting. She noted that the meeting was being recorded for SaskAbilities' internal use.*

### MINUTES OF THE 71ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Michelle Hunter drew attention to the minutes of the 71st Annual General Meeting, available in the Annual General Meeting program and on SaskAbilities' website.

**Motion** (Stan Lautsch/Nicole Onufreychuk): *To approve the minutes of the 71st Annual General Meeting as presented.*

**Carried.**

### NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Spence, chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee, presented the 2022-2023 nominations as follows:

To be Directors: Bruce Acton, Brenda Bancescu, Paul Blackstock, Bonnie Cherewyk, Kyle Christ, Henri de La Garde, Michelle Hunter, Stan Lautsch, Andy Livingston, Nicole Onufreychuk, Sandra Ruff, William Schwarz, Tom Spence, and Jonathan Tremblay.

*Michelle Hunter called for further nominations. There were none.*

**Motion** (Bruce Acton/Bill Schwarz): *That nominations cease.*

**Carried.**

Tom Spence congratulated the new Board.

---

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

On behalf of the Board, Michelle Hunter thanked individuals for attending the meeting. She acknowledged funding partners, donors, and Snowarama volunteers. Michelle Hunter thanked Tom Spence for his work as past president. The past year saw the creation of new programs and services specifically aimed at supporting the mental health and well-being of clients. SaskAbilities saw new partnerships and collaborations made within communities it operates in, and the deepening of current relationships with partner organizations, local businesses, community groups, and volunteers. 2021 saw the expansion of in-person programming to pre-pandemic levels, and the value in a hybrid model of service delivery.

In 2021, the Board completed an assessment of its performance. Along with Administrative Council, the Board monitored the capital improvements at Camp Easter Seal in preparation for in-person camping in 2022.

Michelle Hunter welcomed three new Board members, Bonnie Cherewyk, Henri de La Garde, and Jonathan Tremblay. She thanked resigning directors Dr. Tomi Mitchell and Dr. Grant Wilson for the contributions they made serving on the Board of Directors. Michelle Hunter recognized members, donors, and supporters for their commitment to SaskAbilities' vision, mission, and values.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ian Wilkinson welcomed members to the meeting. He encouraged members to read and share the 2021 Annual Report available on the website at [saskabilities.ca](http://saskabilities.ca). In 2021, programming was provided in three primary areas: employment, rehabilitation, and quality of life programs and services. The Board of Directors continued its work throughout 2021 of providing leadership and oversight. SaskAbilities worked closely with the Government of Saskatchewan and the Government of Canada to deliver and provide necessary services for children and adults. In 2021, Rehabilitation Services continued to provide services to individuals through Orthopaedics, Special Needs Equipment, Adaptive Technology, and the Accessible Parking Program. The Yorkton Branch introduced two new services: a dementia friendly program and a cognitive disability strategy program. The Partners in Employment office in Yorkton moved to a more central location. While Camp Easter Seal was closed to in-person camping, 193 campers were able to join the virtual camp called Camp Connected. A goal of raising \$3,800,000 was set for capital improvements at Camp Easter Seal and through generous support only \$300,000 remains to be raised. Swift Current

Branch's emphasis was on mental health and wellness for clients and staff members. Swift Current continued the recycling and transit services in the community with the support of the City of Swift Current. The second annual Walk Wheel Run event was successfully held in Swift Current. A new day program was opened in Saskatoon, and another will open in Warman in 2022. In April 2021, a new SARCAN depot was opened in Saskatoon. In response to the pandemic, the Saskatoon Branch partnered with the Saskatchewan Health Authority to hold two vaccination clinics. The Regina Branch continued to provide services for clients in-person, virtually, and within communities. During the year over 1,000 hours of virtual programming was provided through the Regina Branch. Ian Wilkinson thanked staff members for their hard work and dedication in 2021. He announced Jessica MacPherson is joining SaskAbilities as Regina Regional Director, and congratulated John Denysek on his retirement at the end of 2022 after more than 30 years of service with SaskAbilities. Ian Wilkinson thanked the Board of Directors for their encouragement and guidance throughout 2021.

### **PRESENTATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Brian Heinrichs of Virtus Group LLP reported that the auditors' report for the year ended December 31, 2021, was dated March 2, 2022, the date that the Board of Directors approved it. Virtus Group LLP has issued a clean audit opinion. He thanked management, Board members, and the Audit and Finance Committee for their full cooperation during the audit. He indicated that Virtus Group LLP appreciated the opportunity to conduct the audit.

Karen Moore, Director of Provincial Services, thanked the Financial Services team, staff members, and Virtus Group LLP for their work on the audit. She indicated to the members that the audited financial statements are available on SaskAbilities' website at [saskabilities.ca](https://saskabilities.ca).

Karen Moore provided an overview of the statement of operations, statement of financial position, statement of changes in net assets, and statement of cash flows. She reported a year-end excess of revenue over expenses of \$3,959,056, which is an increase of \$2,375,777 from 2020. Revenue and expenses were both more than 2020. The year-end financial position was \$22,978,841 which was up \$1,468,472 from 2020. Assets increased \$1,468,472 and liabilities decreased by \$2,495,544 from 2020. The cash position at year-end was \$4,528,966.

There were no questions regarding the audited financial statements.

---

## APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2022

**Motion** (Paul Blackstock/Brenda Bancescu): To appoint Virtus Group LLP as the Saskatchewan Abilities Council Inc.'s auditors for the 2022 fiscal year.

**Carried.**

## OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Motion** (Tom Spence/Brenda Bancescu): That the meeting be adjourned.

**Carried.**

Michelle Hunter thanked members for attending the meeting.

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.*

# GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 14, 2023

---

The Governance and Nominating Committee is chaired by Tom Spence and includes Bonnie Cherewyk, Stan Lautsch, Bill Schwarz, and Jonathan Tremblay. The Governance and Nominating Committee met in December 2022 and January 2023 to consider the slate of nominees to the Board.

Incumbent directors were asked to confirm their intentions for 2023. Thirteen incumbent directors have agreed to stand for re-election while one incumbent director has resigned. One new individual has agreed to let her name stand for nomination. The Governance and Nominating Committee has therefore prepared a slate of 14 candidates who have agreed to let their name stand for election.

In accordance with the Bylaw of the Saskatchewan Abilities Council (SaskAbilities), the Governance and Nominating Committee nominates the following slate of directors for election by the members at the 73rd Annual General Meeting:

Bruce Acton (Saskatoon)

Brenda Bancescu (Regina)

Paul Blackstock (Saskatoon)

Bonnie Cherewyk (Saskatoon)

Kyle Chriest (Saskatoon)

Henri de La Garde (Saskatoon)

Michelle Hunter (Regina)

Stan Lautsch (Swift Current)

Andy Livingston (Saskatoon)

Nicole Onufreychuk (Saskatoon)

Sandra Ruff (Yorkton)

William Schwarz (Regina)

Jonathan Tremblay (Regina)

Lawren Trotchie (North Battleford)

Respectfully submitted:

Tom Spence

Bonnie Cherewyk

Stan Lautsch

Bill Schwarz

Jonathan Tremblay





## **GUEST SPEAKER**

---

PLEASE WELCOME

**JOHN DENYSEK**  
Planned Giving Consultant

---

## **REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW**

The Board of Directors of SaskAbilities invites you to join them for refreshments after the Annual General Meeting.

## OUR VISION

Working together to build inclusive communities  
for people of all abilities

## OUR MISSION

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

---

Thank you for sharing your time with us.

If you have any questions about SaskAbilities,  
please visit our website at:

***saskabilities.ca***

Connect with us on



**SaskAbilities**

Since 1950