

2024



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Our Mission

Empower people with Parkinson's in British Columbia by providing resources and services to enable self-management, self-reliance, and self-advocacy.

Parkinson's Disease

Parkinson's disease is caused by a loss of dopamine in the brain and is the second most common chronic neurodegenerative disorder after Alzheimer's disease. Both motor and non-motor symptoms may be experienced, such as tremor, rigidity, slowness of movement, difficulty with speech, sleep disturbance and mood disorders. There is currently no known cure.

It is estimated that there are approximately 17,500 individuals living with Parkinson's in British Columbia. While the vast majority of people with Parkinson's are over 60, 20% are diagnosed before the age of 50 and many are in their 30s and 40s.

Executive Message

Dear Friends of Parkinson Society BC,

This past year marked a time of change and continued commitment for Parkinson Society British Columbia (PSBC). We said farewell to our long-time Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Jean Blake, and welcomed her successor, Joanne Baker. We also relocated our offices a few blocks west to a new space on West Hastings Street. Amidst these changes, our investment in the healthcare system and research remains constant. At the same time, our dedicated team of staff and volunteers continues to deliver the programs and services that so many in our community value and rely on.

SUPPORTING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

We have continued to provide financial support to four movement disorders clinics across the province to increase access to allied health professionals, including speech-language pathologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and social workers. This \$2 million investment over eight years reflects the importance of multi-disciplinary care for those living with Parkinson's disease and employs an innovative incentive approach to encourage health authorities to continue to sustain these positions beyond the term of our funding.

We also continue to advocate for timely, equitable access to new medications. In 2024, we were pleased to see Vyalev™, a subcutaneous infusion therapy, included on BC's PharmaCare Formulary.

ADVANCING RESEARCH

Funding research that is focused on understanding the causes, providing more effective treatments, and finding a cure remains a priority for the Society. In 2024, our investment of more than \$360,000 in research partnerships with Michael Smith Health Research BC and the Parkinson Canada Research Program helped build capacity among the next generation of researchers and contributed to greater understanding of this complex disease.

DELIVERING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Our Counselling & Healthcare Navigation service, activity and exercise programs, and virtual physiotherapy continue to be offered free of charge and are well-utilized by our community. Our provincial network of more than 50 support groups, powered by some of the most committed and informed volunteers, ensures that British Columbians living with Parkinson's disease have a strong sense of connection and community.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND LOOKING AHEAD

We are deeply grateful for the ongoing dedication and support of our volunteers, donors, staff, and the broader community. Quite simply, we would not exist, and could not do what we do, without you! There remains much work ahead. Our advocacy for more timely access to Deep Brain Stimulation surgery continues, as does our call for better access to movement disorders specialists in rural and remote areas of the province.

Thank you for helping us continue to support and uplift the Parkinson's community in British Columbia. Our goal is that every person touched by this disease has access to the information and services they need to live life to the fullest.

With gratitude,

Joanne Baker

CEO



Andrew Davenport

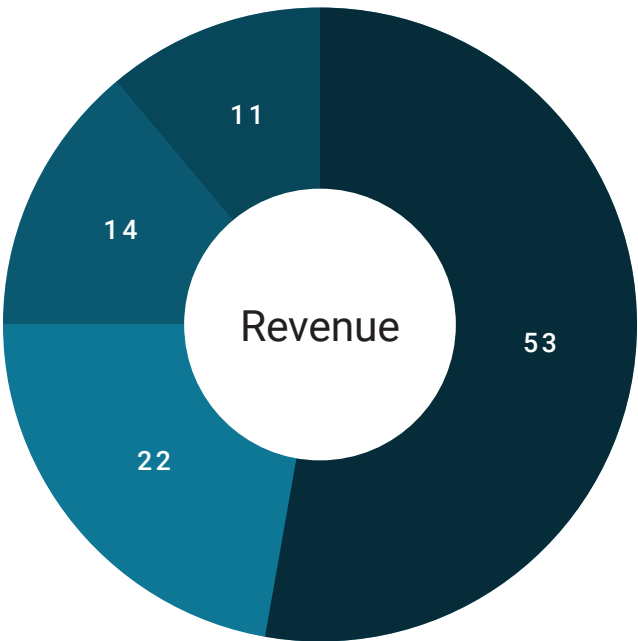
Chair



Message from our Finance Committee

The Society enters 2025 with reserves equal to two (2) years of its historical expenses, which provides the Society with further opportunity to increase its impact and reach throughout BC.

To view a copy of our audited 2024 Financial Statements, please visit www.parkinson.bc.ca.



53%

Bequests \$1,973,715

22%

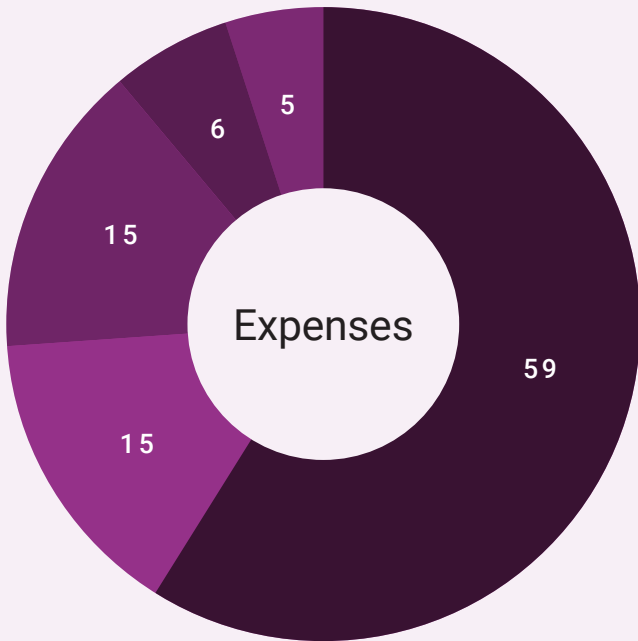
Donations \$819,553

14%

Investments & Other \$507,139

11%

Special Events \$431,798



59%

Support Services \$1,389,613

15%

Fundraising \$368,777

15%

Research \$354,566

6%

Public Awareness, Communication, & Advocacy \$147,055

5%

Governance & Administration \$114,248

Words from Our Community

Parkinson Society British Columbia relies solely on donations to provide life-changing support, deliver essential resources, and connect people affected by Parkinson's disease. Your gift impacts individuals and families across the province, giving them hope, strength, and the tools they need to face Parkinson's with resilience. See how supporters made a difference in 2024.

"When Gary was diagnosed, the next day, I contacted Parkinson Society BC [...] They were open and listening. They first sent out a package of information material. We became members. We started reading Viewpoints. I started going to events, meeting other people with Parkinson's and their caregivers. I love going to SuperWalk every year. They know what you're going through or they understand it. If it wasn't for the Society, I don't know what we would have done."

Sandra Alexander, Carepartner & SuperWalk volunteer



"I got connected to Parkinson Society BC through my good friend. In terms of support groups, there is currently a Young Onset Parkinson's Group. We all share this common trait, but you also get to compare notes, and you basically give each other hope and motivation and inspiration."

Jim Wu, Person living with Parkinson's & Parkinson Society BC Board Member



"I think it's very important for people to connect with Parkinson Society BC, because they give the resources. [Without them] I would not know about Parkinson SuperWalk, and SuperWalk gave me a goal to always train for. They [also] offered therapy for my husband and I that helped to get us through all those rough spots."

Jeanette Fisher Pynn, Person living with Parkinson's and Deep Brain Stimulation recipient



Investing in Research

Parkinson Society British Columbia (PSBC) proudly invests in research that advances understanding, improves care, and moves us closer to a cure for Parkinson's disease. Through direct funding and strategic partnerships — including with the Parkinson Canada Research Program and Michael Smith Health Research BC — we support clinical studies, pilot projects, fellowships, and innovative research that address the needs of people living with Parkinson's in BC and beyond.

FUNDED THROUGH THE PARKINSON CANADA RESEARCH PROGRAM

Connor Bevington

University of British Columbia

Effects of exercise on brain energetics in Parkinson's disease.

Priti Gros

University of Toronto

Measuring disease progression in Parkinson's disease using administrative health data.

Kathryn Lambert

University of Alberta

Examining the time course of movement programming deficits in parkinson's disease: An electroencephalographic investigation.

Joyce (Sze Tung) Lam

University of British Columbia

Treating anxiety in Parkinson's disease with a multi-strain probiotic – A randomized, controlled trial.

Stefan Lang

University of British Columbia

Network signatures of non-motor symptom outcomes following Deep Brain Stimulation in Parkinson's disease.

Martin McKeown

University of British Columbia

An individualized Multi-modal approach for detection of medication "off" episodes in Parkinson's Disease via wearable sensors.

Ali Salahpour

University of Toronto

Cannabinoid compounds to augment L-DOPA treatment and prevent L-DOPA-induced dyskinesia.

Brendan Santyr

University of Toronto

Using fMRI to optimize Deep Brain Stimulation settings post-surgery and reduce adjustment time.

Konstantin Senkevich

McGill University

Clinical Movement Disorders Fellowship.

Daryl Wile

Exercise snacks for people with parkinson disease: A pilot randomized controlled trial

FUNDED THROUGH MICHAEL SMITH HEALTH RESEARCH BC

Ifeoluwa Awogbindin

University of Victoria

The impact of SARS-CoV-2-infection/COVID-19 and microglial contribution on the development and severity of Parkinson's disease.

Lisa Julian

Simon Fraser University

Organelle signaling in stem cell identity specification.

Nika Shakiba

University of British Columbia

Unlocking the competitive potential of pluripotent stem cells: Towards novel stem cell therapeutics.

Nicholas See

Simon Fraser University

A chemical biology approach to uncovering modulators of a Parkinson's disease-linked protein.

Anthony Lapansky

University of British Columbia

Coordinating movement in a complex world: How the midbrain and oculomotor cerebellum encode visual motion originating from realistic scenes to guide locomotion.

LOOKING AHEAD

We remain committed to supporting both clinical and translational research that improves the lives of people affected by Parkinson's disease. As new projects are funded, PSBC will continue to share updates, outcomes, and discoveries that reflect the impact of your support — bringing hope and progress to the Parkinson's community.

Our Year in Review

83%

of participants in PSBC's new virtual group cognitive behavioural therapy program reported continued use of strategies to manage Parkinson's and caregiving challenges.



300+

frontline staff trained through 8 Parkinson Ready Vancouver sessions, with the World Parkinson Coalition and PD Avengers, to reduce stigma and improve accessibility in tourism, hospitality, transportation, and emergency services.



355

registrants across 4 regional conferences in BC, showing strong demand for accessible Parkinson's education and support.



3

new specialized support groups launched — South Asian, PD Solo, and Women Living with PD — expanding access to tailored peer support for underserved communities across BC.



500+

volunteer hours contributed to help make Parkinson SuperWalk in BC possible.

1,773+

volunteer hours contributed to Programs & Services, showing the vital role community members play in expanding PSBC's reach across BC.



4

part Parkinson's training series delivered and recorded with Fraser Health to support ongoing staff learning and improve patient care.



19

in-service presentations gave healthcare providers and community groups tools to better support people affected by Parkinson's.



1,057

registrants were drawn in to 19 webinars for 2024, with the top session — *Self-Compassion for Caregivers* — attracting 90 participants.



24

healthcare professionals completed PD Warrior training at workshops in Chilliwack and Prince George, strengthening their ability to support people with Parkinson's.

Special Thanks to Our Supporters

We do our best to ensure each name is accurately listed. Please inform us of any errors at donations@parkinson.bc.ca so we may correctly recognize you in the future.

INDIVIDUAL LEADERSHIP CIRCLE (\$5000+)

Anonymous (5)	Kaufman	John Peirce & Nancy	Sheila Diane Carnegie	Heather Jean McKenzie
Dorothy & Albert Anderson	Linda Leslie	Hetherington-Peirce	Maurice Wilson Gordon Craig	June Ardith Teal
Janice & Rodney Hobbs	Wray McDonnell	Albert Roos & Rosalind Best	Carolyn Eunice Gorman	Verla Ann McClynn
Heather Toews & Andrew	Holly & Chris Parrish	Chris Vollan	Margo Louise Jakobsen	

LEGACY GIFTS

INDIVIDUAL BENEFACTORS CIRCLE (\$1000-\$4999)

Anonymous (32)	Ralph & Linda Emsland	Patti Leggett	Jacqueline Ordroneau	Christopher Silvan
Frank Abbott	Murray & Carol Firth	Marna Leslie	Jane Osterloh	Alberta V. Sirosky
Paul Atterton	Jean H. Flintoft	Roberta & Angus Leslie	Lorna Patterson	Bernice & Michael Smerdon
Brian K. Begert	Matthew Freeman	Marian Lewis-Peel	Paul Pearlman & Stephanie	James Smerdon & Deana
Roberta Lando Beiser	Abe & Lillian Friesen	Robin Louis	Soulsby	Grinnell-Smerdon
Jill Boileau	Beverly & Kenneth Gelhorn	Diane Marsh	Leslie Pearson	Martti Solin
Kathryn Bonitz	Janice & Terry Gibbon	Mary E. Martin	Iris Pierrot	Birte Sorensen
Barry & Mary Bowen	Brian W. Gillespie	Bill Mathieson & Meg Clarke	Vicki & Rory Polson	Laurie Stovel
Todd Brown	Tony Dawson	Brian Maunder	Adam Rich	Carey & Tim Struch
Eric Carlson	Kenneth Hamlin &	Barry & Barbara McBride	Ted Rich	Dr. Jennifer L. Takahashi
Emily Chadwick	Anton Tabakov	Alan & Holly Meadows	Gennine Richardson	Tiffany Taylor
Craig Chisholm	Catherine & Gary Harasym	Dorothy Mills	David & Elaine Rickards	Garry & Cheryl Toop
Louise Corbell	Carolyn Harper	Doug & Brenda Morris	Claire Finch & Steve Russell	John van Dongen
Wilbur & Yvonne Couling	Margaux M. Hennebery	Margaret E. Mutch	The Sangha Family	Monica & Gary Vaughn
Pamela J. Cowan	Eileen Hillyard	Joseph Negraeff	Andrew Scott & Katherine	Erika & Daniel VonBank
Rob & Laura Cruickshank	Mark & Angela Hutchinson	Robin & Judith Nelson	Johnston	Andrea West
Marlene Dick	Ruth & Donald James	Joan Nielsen	Nancy Segsworth	Stan & Tilly Wiebe
Irene Dougans	Darlene Koller	Alison Norman & Brian Pollard	John Sheehan	Daryl Wile
Victor Dyck	Ruth & Alf Konrad	Marilyn & Darcy Olson	Theresa Sheehan & Terry Ellis	Sherri & Julian Zelazny
	Maureen Legg		Laird & Annalee Siemens	

INDIVIDUAL TULIP CIRCLE (\$500-\$999)

Anonymous (101)	Bruce & Delight Dobby	Arne & Pauline Johansen	Roger & Dominique Miller	Kathleen So
Rob Aird	Scott & Judy Drever	Pat & Bryan Kassa	Ernest & Janis Molgat	Marc St. Arnault
Raymond & Doreen Alley	Marjorie & John Ewacheski	Jeff & Wendy Keeble	Dwight & Heather More	Barry Taylor
Clifford & Carol Anderson	Nigel & Joan Fitzpatrick	Sherry Kennedy	Nick Nuraney	Carole Taylor
Wayne & Patricia Babcock	Todd Follett	John King	Fumiko Oguchi-Chen	C. Ann Thomson
Georgina Beddome	Lorne Goldman	John Kot	Rendy & Brian Olthuis	Jasdeep Uppal
Jean Blake	Steve & Lynda Grisack	David & Julie Lloyd	James H. Patterson & Lauren	Idonio Villani
Sheryl Bolton	Sandra Harrison	Barbara Lockyer	Kwan	Ulrika Wallersteiner
Susan Borthwick	Deborah & Garry Hartley	Keith & Betty Ann MacInnes	David Probst	Maire & Duncan Watson
Evelyn Bowersock	Hugh Hemphill	Jonathan Mackin	Doug & Lana Pulver	Bryan White & Glennis
Sylvia & Peter Bull	Katharine Hennebery	Ronald MacRae	Dr. Allan Quigley	Davidson-White
David & Debbie Couling	Katharina Huang	Eileen Mate	Deborah & Dave Ralston	Max Whitney
Brenda Dalawrak	Chris Huff	Shirley McGillivray	Dr. Karla Reimer	Malcolm Whittall
Evelyn Davis Johnson	Janice Hulse	Max & Margrit Meier	Patricia Rickards	Paul & Cindy Wiebe
Tony Dawson	Peter M. Jarvis	Ben & Dorothea Meulenbeld	Ed Silva	Faye Wong
			Joan & Richard Smyth	

ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP CIRCLE (\$5000+)

A&W (Newton/Strawberry Hill, Cloverdale, Surrey/Glenlyon & Burnaby)	Corus Entertainment	Georgia Main Food Group	Parke Pacific Projects Ltd.	Stingray Radio Inc. (Kamloops)
Aldor Acres Ltd.	Eagle Family Fund	Jakobsen Foundation	Raven Foundation	Telus Fully Managed
Aqueduct Foundation	Frances A. McClean & Charles J. McNeely, Jr. IMP Fund, held at Vancouver Foundation	Lewis Family Fund, held at Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation	River Foundation	The Alan & Doreen Thompson Charitable Foundation
			Sonrise Foundation	

ORGANIZATION BENEFACTORS CIRCLE (\$1000-\$4999)

BC Interior Community Foundation	Commonwealth Holding Co. Ltd.	Neijmeijer Pappa Foundation	Salmo & District Health Care	The Fograscher Family Fund, held at Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation
Better World Fund, held at Vancity Community Foundation	Fraternal Order of Eagles	Pattinson Media (Prince George)	Auxiliary Society	Werner & Helga Hoing Foundation
Bond Repro	Ladies Auxiliary No. 4281	Pekarsky Family Foundation	Smythe LLP	William F. White International Inc.
Boyer-Millar Foundation	Kamloops Parkinson's	Pure Country 105.7 (Vernon)	TELUS	Wilson M. Beck Insurance Services Inc.
Carole & David Muller Family Fund, held at Vancouver Foundation	Awareness Group	RBC Foundation	Telus Foundation	
	Loyal Order of Moose	Royal Canadian Legion	TELUS Friendly Future Foundation	
	Lodge #1552	Branch No. 81		
	Mel & Geri Davis Charitable Trust			



Parkinson SuperWalk returns the weekend of September 6 & 7, 2025

Parkinson SuperWalk is the largest fundraising event for Parkinson Society British Columbia. Each year, thousands of participants walk together in communities across the country to raise awareness, build community, and fund critical programs, services, and advocacy efforts for people affected by Parkinson's disease.

IN-PERSON WALKS ARE PLANNED IN:

- 100 Mile House
- Abbotsford
- Chilliwack
- Kamloops
- Kelowna
- Mid Island (Parksville & Nanaimo)
- New Westminster
- Pitt Meadows/Maple Ridge
- Prince George
- Vancouver
- Vernon
- White Rock/Surrey

Registration opens in June

Learn more at www.parkinson.bc.ca/superwalk





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Fax: 604-608-3311

www.parkinson.bc.ca

Charitable Registration Number

11880 1240 RR0001