



2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT



IT'S ABOUT ABILITY



**2018–2019
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Thank You



Message from our Board Chair

The Children Rehabilitation Foundation exists as the fundraising arm of the Rehabilitation Centre for Children and the SSCY Centre. The vision of the Foundation is for all children with a disability to have the support required to realize the maximum potential of their abilities.

The Children Rehabilitation Foundation exists as the fundraising arm of the Rehabilitation Centre for Children and the SSCY Centre. The vision of the Foundation is for all children with a disability to have the support required to realize the maximum potential of their abilities. To achieve this vision the Foundation's dedicated team works with its funders and corporate partners to provide support for a wide range of activities, equipment, and therapies. The role of the Board of Directors of the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation is that it is to provide oversight, governance, and stewardship to ensure that the Foundation is positioned to continue to pursue its vision for years to come.

The Board of Directors takes their role seriously not only because it is their legal duty to do so but more importantly because they believe wholeheartedly in the vision of the Foundation. In the execution of their responsibilities, the Board meets regularly to review the progress of the Foundation and perform its fiduciary responsibilities. It is an important and necessary function required to maintain the trust developed over the years between the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation and the funders and corporate partners that make their vision a possibility year after year.

It is during these meetings that Board members become in tune with the

operation of the Foundation. The Board delves into the financial statements, analyzes budgets and combs through department reports all in an effort to understand every aspect of the Foundation's operation. But there is one document that is presented at each board meeting that really provides insight into the operation of the Foundation.

At every Board of Directors meeting a binder called the Thank You Binder is circulated around the table. The Thank You Binder is a collection of letters and other correspondence sent to the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation and its donors from physiotherapists, occupational therapists, educators, and clients. It is in some ways the most important set of documents that we review. As much as analyzing the financial statements or reviewing department reports can enlighten the Board to the performance of the Foundation, the Thank You Binder is impactful.

It is the letters, notes, pictures, and emails in the Thank You Binder that brings home to the members of the Board of Directors the true picture of the performance of the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation. It is in the heartfelt messages detailing how a specially designed bike has brought

a smile and for the first time physical independence to a young child or teen. It is in the joy that is described in letters from the parents of children that for the first time in their lives are able to communicate with each other because of the Foundation provided iPad with speech-generating software. It is in the courage that can be felt in the letters from parents, children, and teens thanking the Foundation for the specialized wheelchairs, athletic prosthetic legs or myoelectric prosthetic arms that now allow them to perform to the uppermost level of their abilities. It is the page after page of these types of impact statements that prove to the Board that the vision of the Foundation is being attained.

This impact though could not happen without the support of our funders and corporate partners. You are literally the foundation to the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation. Your continued support is crucial if we are to be able to continue to create impact moments in the lives of children. Remember, it's about ability and the Children Rehabilitation Foundation's vision to maximize these abilities.

Peter Garagan Children's Rehabilitation Foundaion Board Chair



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The Children's Rehabilitation Foundation is a Manitoba charity dedicated to giving children & youth living with disabilities the opportunity to learn, play and reach their full potential.

OUR IMPACT



OUR MISSION

The Children's Rehabilitation Foundation raises funds to improve the lives of children who access services provided by the Rehabilitation Centre for Children and SSCY Centre.

OUR VISION

For all children to have the support required to realize their abilities.

OUR FOCUS

The life-changing programs and equipment we funded by the foundation gives children and youth the opportunity to enjoy the freedom of childhood – to play outside with their friends, participate alongside their peers in the classroom, and strengthen relationships with their family.



Bernard's Story

As Bernard steadies himself to take the first few steps on his new prosthetic running leg, he grips the parallel bars as Rehabilitation Centre for Children (RCC) clinicians guide him through the motions.

Within minutes, Bernard progresses into the hallway – needing a little more running space to perfect his lay-up and jump shot footwork.

“My dream is to be one of the youngest players in the Paralympics,” he beams.

Bernard was born with a proximal femoral focal deficiency (PFFD). The condition affects how the hip joint and leg develop, and as a result, he underwent a hip disarticulation. Only a small portion of people who have this rare amputation walk independently.

But Bernard is determined to show others that disability is not a barrier. The 12-year-old spends the majority of his free time running from basketball and wheelchair basketball, to sledge hockey and hip hop dance classes.

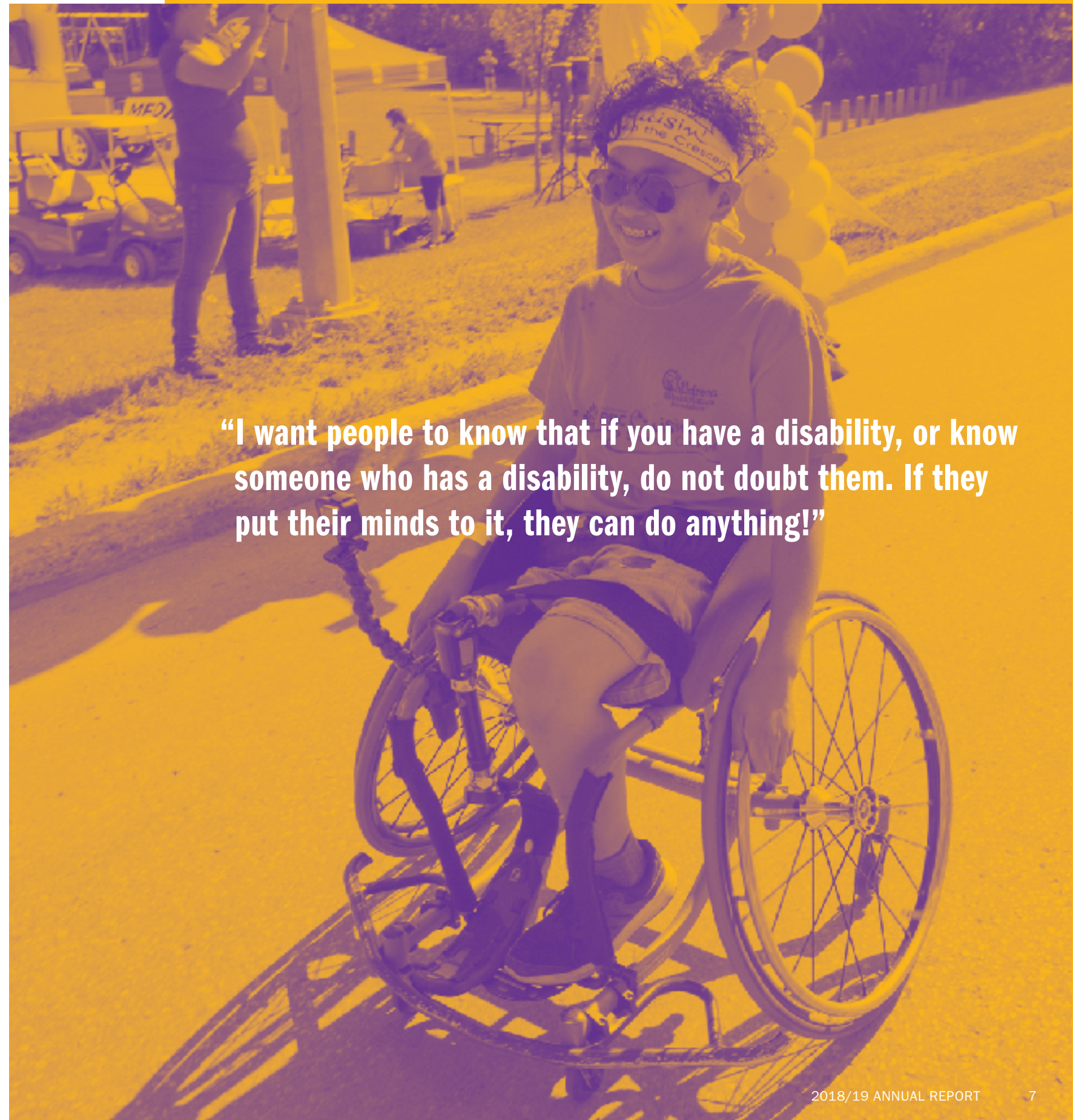
The Children’s Rehabilitation Foundation (CRF) helped fund part of a prosthetic device with hydraulic control system that allows him to

walk and run and multiple speeds. This past year he also received a high-performance sled, so he can continue to progress as a hockey player.

“The sled has made me faster, shoot higher and my agility is super good,” Bernard says. “My favourite part is racing up the ice while puck handling and scoring goals for my team.”

As the 2018 Youth Ambassador for CRF, Bernard will spend the year representing the children and youth who benefit from the equipment, programs and services provided by CRF and RCC.

“To me, being the ambassador means having responsibility and committing myself to being a role model for younger kids,” he says. “I want people to know that if you have a disability, or know someone who has a disability, do not doubt them. If they put their minds to it, they can do anything!”



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2018 Miracle Worker Award

How do you sum up the importance of one individual and their ability to change lives, Rene Pereux is the champion among us! With his big heart and dedication to the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation, he has changed countless families' lives. Simply and profoundly Rene is our Hero!

Words of Gratitude from Marjorie Guertin

One evening a simple chat about the children my Department has as clients resonated with my friend Rene Pereux. He listened not only with his ears but with his heart. At the end of our conversation he simply stated, "We have to do something for those kids!" Shortly after Sunkids Golf Tournament later to be renamed Starkids was born.

Rene and his committee have never wavered from the goal of making the tournament one that Children's Rehabilitation Foundation could be proud of. Many favours were pulled in by Rene and the committee to kick start this event from a simple idea. He has led the committee each year for 20 years with the goal of increasing the revenue to purchase whatever the Specialized Communication Resources Children Department needs.

Families, schools, therapists and most importantly kids have benefited from our growing library of 700 books and materials. Books and handmade materials have been used to help children reach their language goals, succeed in school and community activities but most importantly the

monies have given these children a voice. The books and training of therapists have moved children along the developmental path to either use one of the Voice Generating Devices the tournament paid for or to actually begin speaking.

The library allows the kids to go on adventures, learn about the world around them and bond with their parents. Often it leads to a child's first words, and tears of happiness in a parent's eyes.

We are so grateful for both Rene's time and generosity. Without Starkids, our department would not exist as it is today. It gives families a sense of normalcy and hope. I am forever grateful to Rene for everything he does to assist in giving these kids a chance to make their abilities shine. Rene is the true "Star" in our Starkids Tournament.

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—MARJORIE GUERTIN



Research

The overarching goals of research, evaluation, and quality improvement at both the Rehabilitation Centre for Children and SSCY Centre are to; learn more about issues that are important to children, youth, and families; improve care received through our centres; increase community participation; and improve quality of life for children, youth, and families. In my role, I work on many different types of projects, working toward these goals. My position is funded by generous donations to the Children’s Rehabilitation Foundation.

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I work with our clinicians to support clinician-led research and program evaluations. These projects focus on an identified need in a program, and help our clinicians learn new things and improve the quality of programs and services we offer. They also ensure we are using best clinical evidence to guide our programs and services, and that we are using our resources in the best way possible. Each project is unique, and I support clinicians in any way they need, such as with designing and developing the project, applying for funding and sharing results with families and other clinicians.

CRF AGM Report 2019
Jessie Shea, MSc,
Rehabilitation Centre for Children
Research Development Coordinator

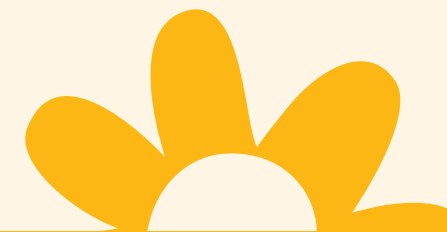
Projects in the past year include:

- Developing and testing a new prosthetic wrist unit
- Evaluating satisfaction with the Stepping Out on Saturdays Chickadee Camp
- Applying for and receiving funding to develop a new 24-Hour Positioning Program in Assistive Technology;
- Presenting new technology to create custom seating at an international conference; and determining the number and demographics of children and youth with Cerebral Palsy who receive services from our centre.

Another large part of my role is coordinating the SSCY Research & Evaluation Committee. We review applications to conduct research at SSCY Centre, from clinicians, University researchers, and multi-site

studies across Canada. We are also working on building partnerships with other organizations in Manitoba, increasing awareness of SSCY Centre as a place to do research, and increasing the number of different researchers conducting projects here. Encouraging diverse research at SSCY Centre helps promote SSCY Centre as a centre for excellence, and contributes to SSCY Centre providing evidence-based services.

These are just some of the projects happening over the past year. Every research project I work on is different, because they are designed to address a specific need for a particular program. However, all of our clinician-led projects have the same goals of improving our programs and services, ensuring we are using best clinical evidence, and providing the best care possible for our children, youth and families.



FINANCIALS

The Allocations Committee receives, reviews, and recommends to the Board requests for funding for research, programs, education, and assistive technology.

Allocations Committee Report – 2018–2019 Submitted by Archie Cooper, Chair

The tasks undertaken by the Allocations Committee in 2018/19 were:

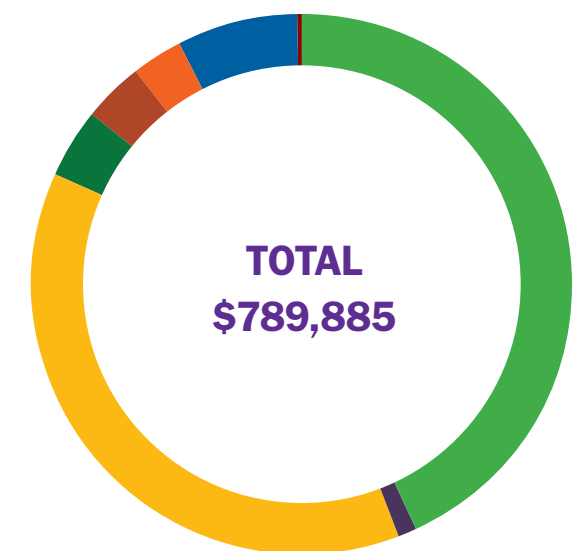
- reviewed the Committee's Terms of Reference
- reviewed and recommended to the Board the Policies and Guidelines for Funding of Equipment
- renamed and revised the Funding Request Application Form to the Program Funding Application Form
- revised the rating scale for the Staff Education/Development Program evaluation forms

- revised procedures for submission of research project proposals to the Leslie Barker Fund.
- reviewed and recommended to the Board the 2019 requests for funding made to the Foundation by RCC-SSCY, and to the Leslie Barker Fund.
- provided advice on out-of-the-ordinary requests to the Foundation for funding.

The 2018/19 Committee included Victor Andre, Barb Borton, Carrie Costello, Ruby Duxbury, Julie Huish, Marianne Klassen, Pat McNeil, Dave Reader, Chris Schollenberg (ex officio) and Archie Cooper (Chair).

FUNDS SPENT ON ALLOCATION COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS – 2018–19

Children's Equipment	\$340,285
Children's Loaned Equipment Maintenance and Repair	\$8,847
LIFE Programs	\$297,490
SCRC Program	\$32,020
W.A. Laddie Hutchison Bike Clinic	\$30,000
Staff Education/Development	\$22,533
RCC Research Development Coordinator	\$58,366
SSCY Family Resource Centre	\$343



Fundraising

I'm proud to report that 2018–2019 was another very successful year for the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation. We surpassed \$1.5M in revenues for the 5th year in a row thanks to the tireless efforts of our staff, partners, and volunteer committees. Through their hard work, persistence and creativity, many programs and events such as Night of Miracles, Cruisin Down the Crescent, and Starkids were again a great success.

This continued success in fundraising has allowed the Foundation reach even more children through expanded programs, equipment purchases and repairs, and research funding into better ways to improve the lives of children with disabilities. Our close partnership with Rehabilitation Centre for Children provides the Foundation with a clear understanding of the needs of children and families today and allows us to direct our funding to the areas where it its

needed most. It is through these partnerships, and outstanding support from the community, that the Rehabilitation Centre for Children has become recognized as a best-in-class resource for children across our province.

I would like to thank the Community for their continued support of the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation and look towards another great year in 2019–2020.

Joey Enright
Children's Rehabilitation
Foundation Treasurer





LARKYN'S STORY

Four-year-old Larkyn has a brand-new stander. This stander is perfect for her at home and daycare. She is fully included at daycare, playing alongside her friends in it.



CRUISIN' DOWN THE CRESCENT

On Sunday, June 10, 2018 – over one thousand community members walked, biked and jogged down Wellington Crescent in support of CRF. Many of the participants were families of children who received bikes and other specialized equipment from CRF.

HIGHLIGHTS



WINNIPEG JETS VISIT CRF

The Winnipeg Jets paid a visit to the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation to meet a group of excited CRF kids! The Jets players and staff made it a very special experience for the CRF kids and families they had the pleasure of meeting.



94-3 THE DRIVE – ROCK THE HOUSE CHARITY BONSPIEL

February 7th and 8th, 2019, 165 curlers participated in the first annual 94-3 The Drive – Rock The House Charity Bonspiel. There was an awesome energy throughout the Heather Curling Club for the Friday night, Saturday afternoon bonspiel. Local curling professionals came out to support the event and they were matched up against the top fundraising curling team for a showcase curling match to kick-off the bonspiel.



NIGHT OF MIRACLES

More than 500 guests attended our annual gala dinner at the RBC Convention Centre. Through the silent auction and live auction, we were able to raise funds to purchase some of our most-requested pieces of specialized equipment for children.



BIKES FROM BIKERS

The biker community came together for the 2nd annual Bikes From Bikers event on Saturday, June 22nd, 2018. From 12 motorcycles the first year to 25 motorcycles the second year, the number of participants doubled. The group of 25 rode their motorcycles to Steinbach, Manitoba and Beausejour, Manitoba, then back to the Specialized Services for Children and Youth Centre for a barbecue.



Final Thoughts

“Wise people say – you have at least one reason to Smile!”

Do you remember the days of Polaroid and Kodiak cameras and all the photographs your family took of those special occasions? You probably kept them in business for many years.

Fast forward to ‘NOW’, and instant pictures with your smartphone and downloading to social media – Wow has technology changed!



As I reminisce of the days when we took pictures with our Polaroid and Kodiak cameras, and the film was developed. Believe me when I say, we have abundance of pictures dating back from 1995 when the Children’s Rehabilitation Foundation was in the infant stages.

We have pictures in storage from 24 years ago, some of the people we remember, some we are not sure who they are. However, they have one thing in common everyone is smiling. The pictures of our children and youth receiving their specialized equipment and the many, many bike presentations. Not to mention the years and years of pictures of our events.

- RBC Cruisin Down the Crescent
- Canadian Tire Regent Starkids Golf Tournament
- Ride for Children’s Rehab
- Headingley Run For Wishes
- Donor and Volunteer Appreciation
- Khartum Ladies Cheque Presentation Events
- Fabulous 50’s Car Shows
- Manitoba Street Rod Association Bike Presentations
- Road to Rehab Bike Event
- Spring into Jazz
- IODE Jon Sigurdsson Chapter Bike Presentation
- Rotary Club of Winnipeg West Chicken Fest...

... and more bike presentations all from generous donors, and I would be remiss not to mention ‘Big Smiles’ in all the pictures.

Fast forward to today when everything is about new technology and taken with a new innovative phone or a smaller however more sophisticated camera that you hook up to your computer and WA-La instant picture. Pictures are Pictures and they capture one thing,

The Story – The Event – The Smile.

As you look through the past year of some pictures and stories, we have highlighted in our annual report, of the photos of specialized equipment presentations, and pictures of the L.I.F.E. Program our Night of Miracles Dinner, RBC Cruisin Down the Crescent one thing that will stand out for you are the big smiles!

‘A picture paints a thousand words!’ As you glance over our annual report, and see the smiles on the faces! YOU have been a special part of those smiles; you made it possible for a child to experience new freedom of riding a specialized bike – a new voice on their IPAD – or to participate in a program, and the opportunity to learn a new skill of being a friend.

It does not matter how you have touched this amazing organization, through volunteering, strategic direction, team member of Children’s Rehabilitation Foundation or a recipient of the generosity of our donors. You have been a big part of the years of smiles.

‘Thank you,’ are TWO small words I hope I am able express to our generous supporters and everyone who has been a big part of the Children’s Rehabilitation Foundation over the past year; you have made memories and brought big smiles to many – many children and youth!

Christine Schollenberg
Executive Director
Children’s Rehabilitation Foundation

Kristen Follows

Since birth, Kristen has had to work extra hard and longer than most children to achieve milestones. Born with a rare genetic disorder, only discovered in 2015, trying to find appropriate activities that could challenge Kristen has always been a struggle.

No matter what Kristen is going through, she is always smiling and happy. She loves to be outside as much as possible so we are always trying to find activities that she can enjoy outside. About 4 years ago, her physiotherapist suggested a bike from Children's Rehab. She arranged to get a bike on loan from the center. From the moment Kristen sat on the bike, there was a change in her persona, she had achieved a freedom she had never experienced before. Cruising around the neighborhood,

contacting with kids and neighbors, she felt like any other kid riding her bike. As a parent, we quickly realized that the bike gave Kristen an opportunity to experience things that most of us take for granted: independence. This past March, Kristen was presented with her own bike thanks to a generous donation from The Motor Club. Words cannot express our gratitude to all the people who helped make this bike a reality for our daughter. The Rehab Centre and their tireless efforts to support families of children with special needs is a driving force in our community and a voice that highlights the rights of those who cannot speak for themselves. Thank you for being the catalyst for this wonderful gift.



Thank you so much for the wonderful year. My family and I had so fun making memories with all of the wonderful people at the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation and SCCY Centre. It was fun to be the star at A Night of Miracles. Golfing at the Canadian Tire Regent Starkids Golf Tournament was amazing; it was my first time golfing. Also having a chance to talk to Mayor Brian Bowman at RBC Cruisin Down the Crescent.

All the interviews were so much fun, especially when I was able to tell the kids at home who also have disabilities that it shouldn't change who they are. Recording the video of me was amazing a bunch of

classmates, teachers, friends and family come up to me and tell me great things about what I'm doing and it was all thanks to everyone at Children's Rehabilitation Foundation. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Thank You,

Bernard Rosello
2018 Children's Rehabilitation
Foundation Youth Ambassador





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