

## ONE STOP: *solutions for independence*

### MARCH OF DIMES CANADA

**March of Dimes Canada (officially the Rehabilitation Foundation for Disabled Persons, Canada)** is a nationally registered charitable organization that provides support services to children and adults with disabilities, their families and caregivers.

#### **PROGRAMS**

**Peer Support Services** is comprised of two primary groups: **Stroke Recovery Canada®** and **Polio Canada®**. Peer Support Services aims to provide stroke and polio survivors, their families, caregivers and health care professionals with information, resources and support. The fiscal year 2008 - 2009 has been one of renewal and growth.

This past year March of Dimes Canada resurrected the Leaders in Volunteer Education (L.I.V.E) Conference which provides training for stroke and polio support group leaders. The conference helped to solidify relationships with existing groups, and revived a post-polio support group in Peterborough.

**Polio Canada®** represented March of Dimes internationally, with two delegates attending the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Post-Polio Health International Conference, making new global contacts in post-polio support and research.

Ten Post-Polio chapters across Canada met monthly via teleconference to share ideas and build support. Staff visits to Polio Quebec strengthened the relationship with this chapter, provided support for offering bilingual service in Quebec. A Polio Quebec representative now participates in the monthly teleconference.

The updated *PoliO'Canada* newsletter focused on survivor stories and health issues suggested by readers' feedback.

Polio Canada Highlights:

- As of March 31, 2009 the Polio Canada registry has 5,140 members
- By the end of fiscal year 2008 – 2009, there were 232 new members; 123 from Ontario and 109 from the rest of Canada
- Information packages and resources were sent to 116 people
- A monthly newsletter, "*Highlights*," sent out to 20 Chapter Chairs
- The website [www.poliocanada.com](http://www.poliocanada.com) received an average of 550 unique site visits per month

**Stroke Recovery Canada® (SRC)** chapters increased through staff working with chapter representatives from across the country, participating in more conferences, and sharing knowledge with partner agencies and healthcare professionals.

SRC received significant funding from both sanofi-aventis and Bristol-Myers Squibb in order to update the March of Dimes Canada website relating to SRC.

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SRC established a project entitled "Linking Survivors with Survivors" (LSWS). This regionally-coordinated peer survivor model of service delivery facilitates the smooth transition of stroke survivors back into the community. LSWS is a three year project funded by the Waterloo-Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).

The Stroke Survivor Research Project was initiated to capture the experiences of participants in local stroke recovery peer support groups.

SRC welcomed a new group in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory and laid groundwork for groups in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and British Columbia.

A task group was established to review chapter manuals and policies, and then provide a "best practices" framework that will help SRC better support its chapters.

The newsletter, *The Phoenix*, was updated and is focusing on survivor stories. More health-related content was developed to respond to the reader's needs and interests.

#### Stroke Recovery Canada Highlights:

- 1,957 individual members in SRC registry
- 335 new members; 205 from Ontario and 130 from the rest of Canada
- Information packages and resources were sent to 205 people
- SRC website received an average of 1,000 unique site visits per month
- A monthly newsletter, "Highlights," sent out to 50 Chapter Chairs

**Conductive Education® (CE)** is an innovative learning system that merges elements of education with rehabilitation to help people with neurologically-based movement difficulties improve their independence and mobility, building confidence and self-esteem.

CE Conductors hold specialized bachelor level degrees, enabling them to work with program participants to help them gain, or regain, physical mobility, self-sufficiency and independence, one small step at a time.

#### Conductive Education Highlights:

- Conductive Education services began at The Functional Performance Center in Mississauga, Ontario, in Fall 2008, allowing us to serve the west end of the Greater Toronto Area
- London/Woodstock sites were closed
- at the end of 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, CE has five operating sites; two in the Greater Toronto Area in Ontario and three in Halifax, Nova Scotia
- provided a total of 822 hours of service to 62 Nova Scotia consumers (18 adults and 44 children)



Children in a Conductive Education class

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### CanVet Vocational Rehabilitation Services

March of Dimes Canada, in partnership with WCG International HR Solutions and Innovative Rehabilitation Consultants, will provide vocational rehabilitation to Canadian Forces' veterans with disabilities.

The CanVet program went live on April 15, 2009. March of Dimes now has permanent CanVet offices in Halifax, Nova Scotia and Quebec City, Quebec.



**William Shatner,  
Honorary Chair & Spokesperson**



**Bret Hart  
Public Service Announcement**

*In the ring preparation,  
wearing a Marlies jersey*



**Rock for Dimes event, Halifax-2008**

### FUND DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

We continue to raise awareness of our national programs through direct mail, newsletters and special events. The last fiscal year saw us continuing to spread the key messages of March of Dimes Canada through public service announcements broadcast across Canada.

With the discovery of the polio vaccine in 1955, Dr. Jonas Salk established a worldwide reputation as a scientist and a humanitarian. The Jonas Salk Award is presented annually to a Canadian scientist, physician or researcher who has made a new and outstanding contribution to prevent, alleviate or eliminate a physical disability.

Highlights:

- 2008 Jonas Salk awarded to neurosurgeon Dr. Andres M. Lozano
- recorded new public service announcements featuring spokespeople William Shatner and Bret "The Hitman" Hart
- Rock for Dimes events were held in Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa, Toronto, London, Montreal, Halifax
- Fundraising partnership with BMW Motorrad Canada continues
- held the 1st Annual Waverley Glen Golf Classic

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### FINANCIAL STATEMENT SUMMARY

Consolidated audited statements for March of Dimes Canada and Ontario March of Dimes are available upon request. This corporation is in compliance with the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996.

**Summarized Income Statement**  
Year ended March 31, 2009, with comparative figures for 2008

Revenue	2009	2008
Fundraising	105,421	324,788
Peer Support Services	1,556	1,784
Conductive Education Contributions from Ontario March of Dimes	19,929	11,574
	226,526	184,284
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>353,432</b>	<b>522,430</b>

Expenses	2009	2008
Fundraising	38,761	170,353
Peer Support Services	195,682	249,982
Conductive Education	118,989	102,095
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>353,432</b>	<b>522,430</b>

**NOTE 1:** These results are included in the Consolidated Financial Statements of Ontario March of Dimes.

**NOTE 2:** Rehabilitation Foundation for the Disabled, operating as Ontario March of Dimes, has provided financial contributions to RFD Canada to offset expenses incurred in excess of reported revenues.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008 - 2009

**David Boyle,**  
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**Suzanne Clancy,**  
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**David Holland,**  
*At Large*

### IN MEMORIAM

We wish to acknowledge the dedication of the late David Meynell, a founding member of the Board of March of Dimes Canada.

His contribution was immense, as was his dedication, care and concern for people with disabilities and his steadfast support of March of Dimes Canada.



**David Balfour Meynell, Q.C.**  
September 24, 1931 - October 5, 2008  
*1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2002/03*  
*Chair, 2003/04 - 2007/08*

Charitable Registration No. (BN) 87958 5214 RR0001