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Lésions Médullaires Saskatchewan

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LEAD THE WAY**

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Message From the Executive Director

SCI Saskatchewan, through the Board of Directors and the HR Team, is committed to changing the way we think, talk and act about accessibility and inclusion!

We have implemented a synthesis theory to maximize our service delivery, awareness initiatives, projects and day to day endeavors. Through this combination of intellect and passion, our organization will realize our strategic priorities.

SCI Saskatchewan has developed new resources as we move forward in education, awareness and accessibility enhancements. The recently launched ChairLeader Campaign allows for entities across Saskatchewan to host a ChairLeader Campaign on the day of choice, with access to an SCI Sask ChairLeader Connector, presentation and Certificate of Participation. Details about the Campaign can be accessed on the scisask.ca website.

The SCI Sask Accessibility Strategy facilitates an Accessibility Consultation, Assessment and Report, and support to register on the RHFAC Registry. As a member of the Accessibility Professional Network, our SCI Sask

Accessibility Strategist RHFAC Professional works with businesses and organizations to analyze the level of accessibility onsite, deliver ratings, and provide strategies to enhance accessibility through Universal Design.

Our Peer Mentorship Network has expanded to over fifteen trained peer mentors in Saskatchewan. Peer Mentorship Services have the potential to assist individuals to rekindle a passion for life and facilitate full participation in all aspects of life. With the right support at the right time, at the right location, peer mentors can positively influence people to overcome barriers on-route to reaching their highest potential. SCI Saskatchewan is engaged with SCI Canada to focus on the development of a national framework for peer support services that can be tailored for the contexts of each province, and allow for mentorship, social connections, group activities, one-to-one supports, online options and events.

SCI Saskatchewan continues to collaborate and align with invested stakeholders to leverage capacity to improve services to citizens living with disabilities. In January 2020, we had the opportunity to present the SCI Sask vision, mission and service provision at "Grand Rounds" hosted by Saskatoon City Hospital and telecasted to many health facilities across Saskatchewan. Through this event, medical professionals became more familiar with our services and outreach endeavors.

Significant upcoming events are highlighted throughout this issue of Parascope, as well as on www.scisask.ca, and we invite you to review and participate.

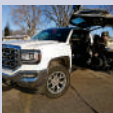


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Membership

Become an Individual Member of SCI Saskatchewan

SCI Saskatchewan Membership Benefits

include:

- SaskTel Mobility (Cellular) Program
- SGI Vehicle Registration Rebate
- Parascopes Magazine
- Voting Delegate at SCI Sask Annual General Meetings

The Individual Annual Membership year is April 1 to March 31 at \$40.00 per year.

We are pleased to provide a complimentary membership for the first year to persons living with a physical disability.

SCI SASK Invites you to attend the...

Annual General Meeting

June 19, 2020

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Mayfair United Church

902 33rd Street West

Saskatoon SK

**Changing the way we think, talk and act about
accessibility and inclusion.**

SCI SASK BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR 2020-2021

SCI Sask is seeking interested community minded individuals to be a member on our Board of Directors. Please contact Nominating Committee Chairperson Lynn Archdekin at lynn.archdekin@scisask.ca

Organizational News

SCI Saskatchewan welcomes new members to the HR Team

The SCI Sask Regional Office, which relocated August 2019 to the Hoffer Business Centre in Regina, is joined by three new team members.

Christine van der Merwe joined the team in November 2019 as Client Service Coordinator. Christine brings experience in group facilitation, coordination and promotion for social and educational programs. she has utilized her BA in Psychology in many work areas, specifically community outreach, research to support the understanding of root causes that impact the mental, social and economic wellbeing of individuals. Christine has initiated contact with many clients and looks forward to enhancing service delivery in the south of the province.

Omar Rashad brings diverse skills and knowledge through his Bachelor of Health Studies and Business Administration, to his position Client Service Coordinator as of February 2020. Prior to joining SCI Sask, Omar's recent work experience includes working with community-based organizations in the disability field and in project development. Omar brings passion to "make a difference", promote health and social justice and community collaboration to our organization and we look forward to supporting many opportunities to realize these goals.

Farzana Nazir joins SCI Sask Regional Office in March 2020 as the Regional Office Coordinator. Farzana comes to our organization with extensive academic accomplishments, including BA Science, Masters in Medicine, and is currently completing her Masters in Public Administration. Her past experience brings skills and ability to provide leadership in the facilitation of proactive liaisons with business, health practitioners, and community stakeholders. Farzana looks forward to assuring quality services that meet therapeutic, social, emotional, health and safety client needs, within the balance of maintaining alignment with strategic priorities.



Christine van der Merwe



Omar Rashad



Farzana Nazir

SCI Saskatchewan Thanks Our Outgoing Members of the HR Team

Our Organization has been privileged to experience teamwork and comradery both Larry Carlson, Regional Office Coordinator, Regina, and Dafydd Herbert, PMN Project Coordinator, Saskatoon. Both Larry and Dafydd leave SCI Saskatchewan at the end of March 2020. We thank both of these members for their valued contributions to achieving strategic goals and objectives during the tenure with SCI Sask. Best wishes on your future endeavors.

Spinal Cord Injury Saskatchewan Inc.



ACCESSIBILITY STRATEGY

Certified Consultations, Assessments and Designations to Build a More Accessible Saskatchewan

SCI Sask Accessibility Strategy, as a member of the Accessibility Professionals Network/RHF, promotes the development of enhanced accessibility in communities to improve the way people live, work and play.

How it Works

ACCESSIBILITY CONSULTATIONS



Accessibility Consultations are provided to customers, inclusive of organizations and businesses. The Accessibility Strategist will review the current space and proposed renovations, determine accessibility goals in the built environment, pursue options and establish a strategy to move forward. The consultation is provided at no fee; for consultations outside of Saskatoon and Area, the Saskatchewan Provincial Government per km rate will be costed to the customer.

ACCESSIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND REPORT



The SCI Sask Accessibility Assessment and subsequent Report will be completed through use of the RHFAC Rating System. The Assessment and Report is provided through a Memorandum of Agreement with the customer, which outlines the fee for service, plus per km expenses, and timelines expectations to meet the desired outcomes.

THE RICK HANSEN FOUNDATION ACCESSIBILITY CERTIFICATION REGISTRY



The RHFAC Registry is hosted by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA). Registration, with the applicable RHFAC fee structure, constitutes organizations and businesses to be listed on the RHFAC Registry.

INVEST IN ACCESS LEAD THE WAY

WAKING UP YOUR SPINAL CORD TODAY

Consider the lizard. It has the remarkable capacity to regrow its amputated tail which includes part of its spinal cord. And the rat, further up the evolutionary ladder, can regain weight-bearing two weeks after a spinal cord injury (SCI).

So the lizard is born pre-programmed to move; no training is required. The rat does require some apprenticeship. Luckily for the rat, a doctor in a white coat can't inform him he will never walk again. As for humans, the power of suggestion is enormous. How do humans learn to move? Babies move as an expression of their cognitive and emotional development, taking years to acquire and refine motor skills.

Therefore, rehabilitation of a severed spinal cord in humans requires a long period of guided **awareness**, which is much more than simple physical repetitions. Awareness is required to re-develop movement. In the 1990's new rehabilitation programs, aimed at **re-teaching walking** for both complete and incomplete SCI, demonstrated positive brain and spinal cord neuroplasticity.

How can we **induce more** positive **Neuroplasticity**, generating new sprouting and collateral neural connections to bridge the communication gap above and below the damaged section?

By increasing our **perception** of the aspects of movement! Let me share with you some principles I successfully implemented during my *physiotherapy work in Italy.

Principle 1 - Intention of function:

By only imagining the movement we activate the pre-motor cortex of our brain. Close your eyes and picture yourself lifting your paralyzed limb. Watch for ever so subtle muscular tension build up (above the injury) to accommodate such movement. This could be in conjunction with passive Range Of Motion of the limb, even if there is no sensation, in order to increase the sense-memory of the imagined action.

Even people with complete SCI who had an epidural stimulator implanted, needed a sustained strong cognitive effort to functionally stand or walk with once-paralyzed limbs. Clarity of intention is critical to attain quality of movement.

Principle 2 - Differentiation: In the book of Genesis it's said "God saw that the light was good, and God divided between the light and the darkness". From that we learn that the very first step to create change is to perceive differences.

How do we create differentiation? One tactic is to increase the polarities, in order to make the difference easier to perceive.

But in SCI increasing the stimulus won't help. If we inflict pain on a limb devoid of sensation, it doesn't bring the sensation back. On the contrary, we need to reduce the stimulus, which in turn allows us to perceive smaller and more discernible changes.

One thing to try is to look at differentiating the vertebra just above where the loss of sensation occurred by attending to the sensations of the vertebra above it. This is possible by laying on your back and twisting the pelvis (actively or passively) to the side ever so slowly and gently as you maintain focus on that area of the spine.

Principle 3 - Gentleness: The injured Spinal Cord section can be



Eylon Mogilner B.Sc.P.T during a rehabilitation session

thought as being neurologically "noisy". We know now that increasing stimulus doesn't help in bypassing the noise.

Rather, start with a very gentle stimulus, to increase perception of change. One thing to try is to gently trace the most elementary shape on the numb area, such as a line that travels downwards. Sometimes the nerve signal is so weak that it is perceived as an intuition rather than a fact. Ask the person to guess which shape was traced. Here repetition is gold. In order to awaken the Anti-Gravity Reflexes, try lying on your back. Have someone place a board to make contact with the soles of your feet, inviting the sensation that you are standing on the board. The board should initially be moved to maintain full contact with the soles. Less is more.

Sometimes the nerve signal is so weak that it is perceived as an intuition rather than a fact.

Principle 4 - Sloth-paced: sometimes you need to be fast to survive, but to acquire a new function you must initially make slow, deliberate movements. Being slow increases the time to perceive and elaborate the stimulus rather than having a knee-jerk reaction to it.

Principle 5: Breathing solely from the Thoracic diaphragm 24/7: this is especially relevant if you are C5 or lower. Almost everybody in the Industrial world have dysfunctional breathing. A person with SCI will reap many more benefits than the "healthy" person.

How? By contracting the diaphragm in a particular way, as a mother caresses her child, which increases the regulation of the nervous system and initiates the body's healing processes. Another benefit is added postural stability by regulating the Intra-Abdominal pressure.

A SCI rehabilitation is a long process, without certainty of the amount of functional recovery. **Despite that, you can boost your quality of life.**

It requires a curious and open mind, as well as a dedicated partner. Together we will create an individual rehabilitation program that you and your partner will practice daily under my guidance.

Eylon Mogilner B.Sc.P.T is a Health Professional with unique experience working with individuals with SCI in Italy, where he is a licensed Physical Therapist. Eylon current rehabilitation service in Canada is ***not** Physical Therapy, by choice.



Eylon Mogilner B.Sc.PT
Neurological Rehabilitation

Schedule your free consultation 306-361-6204
AgelessMotion.com | emogilner@gmail.com

TECHNOLOGY AND ADAPTATIONS

ADAPTING YOUR VEHICLE TO FIT YOUR LIFESTYLE, INSTEAD OF ADAPTING YOUR LIFESTYLE TO FIT YOUR VEHICLE

At SCI SK we are always interested in adaptations that will be beneficial to members of our community, and we strive to keep up with advancements in areas that will assist our clients in achieving independence. This is why, when Elliot Hopfner arrived at our office in an adapted vehicle with a modification that was a little different from what we are familiar with, we were eager to find out more. Elliot was happy to answer a few questions regarding his unique ride, and his decision for choosing the vehicle and conversion he did.

Jumping right in Elliot, do you mind if we ask what your level of SCI is, and how it occurred?

I was injured in a motor vehicle accident in August of 2011. I spent 9 months in the hospital, and my injury level is C5-C6.

How long after your injury was it when you decided you were going to drive again?

Before my accident I really enjoyed driving so I was pretty disappointed at the thought of not being able to drive again. Then, about 2 years after I was discharged from Rehab, I purchased an off road side by side UTV and had hand controls installed in it. This gave me the

confidence to acknowledge that I would be able to drive if I had the right equipment. In Sept of 2018 I purchased the vehicle I wanted to adapt, not realizing the process of aligning the conversion, with SGI, and reinstating my license would take an entire year.

Can you explain the vehicle, conversion, and any adapted devices you utilize?

The truck is a 2018 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT with a 6.2 L engine. In the All-Terrain Conversion (ATC) conversions they weld the two driver side doors together, cut out the floor on the driver side and weld in a lower one to allow headspace for the driver, who remains in their wheelchair. They install a wheelchair platform hooked up to hydraulic lines and a pump, which open the door and run the platform. On the wheelchair platform they mount a receiver that locks onto a bar that extends down from the wheelchair axle. They also put a four-inch lift kit on the truck to give it more clearance because of the lowered floor, and add a second battery for the lift to run off of. There are other finishing touches, such as extra door and running board lighting gas and brake are hooked up to a bar for my left hand to control the steering knob control with my right hand.

All the driving functions for exiting/entering, bed liner spraying of all the lift and platform parts for weatherproofing, seat belt mounting relocation, and more.

For entry and exit, the driver doors flip open and the wheelchair platform is brought down by the hydraulic lift. Once the platform is on the ground I roll backwards in my wheelchair onto it locking down my wheelchair into the receiver.

For my hand controls, the signal lights, windshield wipers, horn, light dimmers etc. are hooked up to a button that I push which activates a voice that speaks out a list of the varying functions and when I hear the one that I want I push the button a second time and that activates the chosen function.

“I purchased an off road side by side UTV and had hand controls installed in it. This gave me the confidence to acknowledge that I would be able to drive if I had the right equipment.

For a seat belt, I have found that using a zip tie on the buckle allows me to loop my thumb through it and push it down to lock it. I also use a Velcro sport chest strap that I had loops sewn on to for my thumbs (to get it on and off myself) to give extra stability while driving.

Why did you choose this truck with the ATC Conversion? And, where was the conversion done?

At my level of SCI, I do not have triceps, or the capability to self-transfer so I needed something that would enable me to stay in my chair, that I could get in and out of myself, and had the ability to pull a boat for fishing or camping trips, tow my side by side quad, and would be reliable for driving in and out of fields to get to my favorite hunting spots. I wanted to be able to drive myself to my university classes independently, as well as run general errands, or drive back home to visit

friends and family.

The vehicle modification company (ATC) has no dealerships in Canada so the conversion was performed in the States. This particular truck conversion was only available in the GMC Sierra and the Chevy Silverado 1/2 ton or 3/4 ton gas engines. I much rather the look of the GMC so I went with that.

Golden Mobility, here in Saskatoon, is where all the hand controls were purchased and installed. This is also the place that I get the truck serviced for things needing to be adjusted/adapted, added, maintained or fixed. They are the only option in Saskatoon but nonetheless, they are very reasonable to deal with and do good work! Especially





Elliot Hopfner using the lift on his GMC Sierra. Photo credit Elliot Hopfner

considering the truck is so unique that the only other one in the province is in Lloydminster.

Do you mind offering the price of the conversion?

Just the vehicle conversion from ATC, not including the hand controls, was \$40,000. For the hand controls on the steering wheel, the gas and brake function bar, voice command system and modifications to other buttons or switches that needed to be moved so they are accessible for me was another \$16,000. Depending on a person's level of injury, it would obviously cost more or less for the hand controls and modifications that are needed in the truck after the conversion itself is done.

Have you had any issues with the adaptations? Is there anything you would change about it?

The ATC company has been a little bit hard to deal with when it comes to them paying for warranty things. When I say warranty things I mean stuff that they neglected and/ or failed to change when the conversion was done to the stock truck. There was a handful of other little things that they did not do that should've been done as well.

Aside from the ATC company cutting a few

corners on the conversion and difficulty dealing with warranty, there is not much I would change.

Shared by Elliot Hopfner with Delynne Bortis , SCI Sask CSC, Saskatoon Provincial Office

Are you interested in learning about another accessible modification? Or have a modification that has improved your quality of life you would like to share with our readers? We would like to hear from you. Contact us at sciinfo@scisask.ca

Stayed tuned.

**21ST ANNUAL
SCI SASK
WHEELCHAIR
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SASKATOON
September
2020**

**Watch our Facebook
and website for
more details.**





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I can
pick my
kids up
from
school."**



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LOCAL WHEELCHAIR CURLER PLANS TO REPRESENT HER COUNTRY AT WORLDS IN MOOSE JAW 2021



Moose Jaw's Marie Wright fires a shot down the ice at Nationals in 2018

"Marie Wright can't stop smiling and everyone around her notices—it's just who she has always been: positive, upbeat and excited about what's to come in life."

That description of Marie, SCI Sask client from Moose Jaw, was given in a 2018 CBC news item.

At that time, as lead for the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Team, she participated in the Paralympic Games in South Korea. In 2019, Marie and her team again

represented Canada at the Wheelchair Curling World Championships in Scotland. At that time, Marie's team was ranked fourth in the world.

Marie sustained a spinal cord injury in a collision on a prairie dirt road in rural Saskatchewan on August 20, 1988.

Recalling the crash, Marie said, "I was following a grain truck and there were no lights on the back of it. It stopped out of nowhere: no signal lights, brake lights or tail

lights. It was either hit the ditch or hit the back of the truck. I thought I could probably go into the ditch a little sideways, but the loose gravel just grabbed the car and flipped it end over end."

Marie's two youngest daughters, Jolene and Rachelle as well as her niece and nephew were with her in the vehicle. Rachelle was just a year old at the time and sustained a serious head injury. Rachelle also is a wheelchair user now and lives

Continued next page

in long-term care where Marie says,
“Everyone loves her.”

Kyla and Tara, Marie's oldest daughters were visiting family in Brandon. Two years following the crash, Marie's husband left her, still recovering and now a single mother of four.

“She's a superwoman,” daughter Kyla Shewchuk said, “It was tough on her. I was the oldest and I saw her cry. We cried together, but we would never cry for long. She's strong. She's resilient.

And she is a ton of fun. . . She is polite and happy and smiling and hilarious, a superhero in every way.”

Echoing admiration for their mom, Tara Gottselig said that Marie never slowed down; she was busier than anyone else she knew. “She was our coach for everything. She just rocked. She was incredible.”

Marie continues curling, practicing at least four times a week. In the summer, among other activities, Marie coaches girls' fastball, which was a sport she excelled in prior to her injury.

In November, 2019, Curling Canada announced that the 2021 Wheelchair Curling Championships will be played March 21-27 at the Moose Jaw Ford Curling Centre. No doubt, Marie will be there with her team and with many family and friends cheering her on.

Giving her more joy than her other accomplishments. Marie is a grandma to 11. We agree with your daughter, Marie. And to borrow a curling term: You rock!

Article Submitted by Larry Carlson,
Regional Office Coordinator, SCI Sask
Regional Office, Regina.

National AccessAbility Week

May 31-June 6, 2020

**Let's change the way we think,
talk and act about
accessibility and inclusion!**

National AccessAbility Week (NAAW) is a time when accessibility and inclusion are promoted across communities and workplaces, and a time to celebrate the contributions of Canadians with disabilities. It is also an opportunity to recognize the efforts of Canadians who are actively removing barriers and ensuring persons with disabilities have an equal chance to participate in all aspects of Canadian society.

The increased social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities has positive economic and social benefits for persons with disabilities, business, the economy and society in general.

When persons with disabilities can access meaningful employment, resources and services, Canada's economy grows. Businesses have the chance to welcome more customers, service satisfaction improves and workplaces reflect Canada's diversity.

By bringing Canadians together to recognize the valuable contributions of persons with disabilities, we are strengthening the collaborative effort needed to create a country that is fully accessible and inclusive.

With the coming into force of the Accessible Canada Act, NAAW is now legislated. This means that it must take place every year, starting on the last Sunday in May!

Contact us at sciinfo@scisask.ca for more information or to plan an event.



PEER MENTORSHIP NETWORK

SCI Sask continues to enhance our Peer Mentorship Network. Our organization hosted a Community Gathering in Ile a la Crosse on February 27 2020, which shared the mission of Spinal Cord Injury Saskatchewan, Accessibility Videos, and the value of Peer Mentors. A team of four from the SCI HR Team facilitated the gathering. Over twenty-five individuals attended our gathering, including blessing from Elder Dubrule, individuals living with a disability, students and professionals.

Thank you to the following, who assisted to make this event a success:

Elder Dorothy Dubrule, St. Joseph's Hospital, Dumont Technical Institute, Community Initiative Fund.

If you are interested in more information about the Peer Mentorship Network, please contact us at sciinfo@scisask.ca.



Ms. Dora Iron meeting with PMN Coordinator Dafydd Herbert



4th Annual LA Charities Golf Tournament June 13, 2020

Harbor Golf and Resort Elbow, SK



All proceeds go towards the SCI Saskatchewan Scholarship program benefitting people with spinal cord injuries and other physical disabilities pursuing post secondary education. Scholarships help recipients meet their education goals, leading to employment opportunities in the future; encouraging self-reliance and full community participation.

If you wish to discuss sponsorship or team entry please contact Chris Letts at (306.290.9258 or chris@ifsgroup.ca) or Andrew Arguin at (306.281.8683 or oraarguin@edgelaw.ca) or Mitch Stevens at (306.270.5892 or mitch@swroofing.ca).



INVEST IN ACCESS LEAD THE WAY

What is the New ChairLeader Campaign?

The ChairLeader Campaign is designed for all types and sizes of entities such as Business, Organizations, and Hospitality Industries. Whether at a self-employed venture or a large corporation, SCI Sask will support you with an SCI Sask ChairLeader Campaign Connector, and provide challenge ideas, an informative presentation, motivation and equipment dependent upon the location and date. SCI Sask's goal is for your ChairLeader Campaign to be an enlightening experience.

How Does the ChairLeader Campaign Work?

Organizations, workplaces or individuals register to host a campaign. An SCI Sask ChairLeader Connector is loaned to your organization to support the campaign from start to finish. ChairLeaders can select the date and time to host their campaign. Campaigns include an educational portion and a practical experience. Each location is provided with wheelchair/(s) to use for the ChairLeader Campaign Challenge. The Challenge portion of the day gives participants the opportunity to experience some of the everyday tasks while using a wheelchair, such as getting a coffee, maneuvering through corridors, using equipment or reaching for files, or using elevators (or there are NO elevators, ONLY stairs).

Who Benefits from the ChairLeader Campaign?

Everyone benefits. The ChairLeader Campaign is designed to promote education and awareness in many sectors of society. The generated resources from ChairLeader Campaigns are directed back to Spinal Cord Injury Saskatchewan Services clients which expands the delivery of Rehabilitation, Education and Employment and Peer Support Services.

How Do You Get Involved?

To get involved visit our website at www.scisask.ca/chairleader.

2ND ANNUAL SCI SASK FUNDRAISER GOLF TOURNAMENT

July 25, 2020

Mark's Golf and Country Club, Prince Albert, SK

**Have Fun! Play Golf! Support the
work of SCI Sask!**

Stay tuned for more details.



Has your company participated in a government sponsored employment program for persons with disabilities?

The Government of Canada is conducting a voluntary study about its programs providing opportunity in the workforce for persons with disabilities.

If your company has participated in a government sponsored program that:

Raised awareness about persons with disabilities in the workforce

Subsidized the employment or hiring of persons with disabilities

Supported work placements/matching for persons with disabilities

Supported workplace accommodations for persons with disabilities

You might be eligible for this study! You will be asked to complete a 15-minute survey about your company's experience with the Opportunities Fund Program. Your feedback is vitally important, as ESDC wants to ensure the program meets the needs of employers. To participate in the survey go to: <http://bit.ly/ESDCopportunitiesfund>. You will be asked a few screening questions to ensure you are eligible to participate.

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS NEEDED! Survey Closes March 25, 2020

Has your company participated in a government sponsored employment program for persons with disabilities?

We want to hear from you!

The Government of Canada is conducting a voluntary study about its programs providing opportunity in the workforce for persons with disabilities.

If your company has participated in a government sponsored program that...

- ✓ Raised awareness about persons with disabilities in the workforce
- ✓ Subsidized the employment or hiring of persons with disabilities
- ✓ Supported work placements/matching for persons with disabilities
- ✓ Supported workplace accommodations for persons with disabilities

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Your feedback is vitally important, as ESDC wants to ensure the program meets the needs of employers. To participate in the survey go to: <http://bit.ly/ESDCopportunitiesfund>. You will be asked a few screening questions to ensure you are eligible to participate.

This study is being conducted on behalf of the Government of Canada by Forum Research Inc., an independent Canadian market research firm.

Any information you provide on behalf of your company will be held in the strictest confidence. To contact the project team for more information, please call: 1-833-906-1374.

SASKATCHEWAN HUNTER ADVOCATING FOR ACCESSIBLE HUNTING LAWS



“...it gives more equal opportunity for guys in my situation to do what guys can do on foot.”

Speaking on 980 CJME in February 2020, is Bobbie Cherepuschak; outdoorsman, conservationist, hunter and community organizer. He is founder of the Facebook page 306 Disabled Hunters with over 1000 actively engaged members. In his own words: “It’s not about the trophy that gets me out there and enjoying the sport- it’s about getting fresh air and enjoying being outside in the great outdoors.”

Bobbie has considered himself an outdoorsman from a young age, always eager to go deep into the bush. And it’s this passion for going deep into the bush that drives him to advocate for amended legislation regarding the use of an all-terrain, tracked wheelchair which can come in electric and gasoline powered versions and allow its user the kind of accessibility that some take for granted.

For the past seven years, Bobbie has been working at Cabela’s in Regina and has found support from other hunters who use

wheelchairs. “They want to get back into (hunting) after they’re injured, or whatever.”

Bobbie has also been supported on this journey by the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation, who are interested in initially purchasing one such wheelchair for hunters to rent.

His advocacy has recently gained momentum and he has been meeting with political leaders to raise awareness of the barrier created by current legislation that classes a tracked wheelchair as an “ATV or snowmobile” and therefore prohibits its use for hunting. He is increasingly finding support amongst decision makers and is hopeful that the amendment will come to pass.

In addition to his advocacy, his work at Cabela’s and pursuing his passion in Saskatchewan’s beautiful outdoors, Bobbie is also the Social Committee Director with the Regina Fish and Game League, which operates the Condie Gun Range just outside Regina.

He invites anybody living with a disability to come out to attend the Open House at the Range on June 13, from 8:00am – 5:00pm.

“We will have hand guns rifles shotguns and archery available for everyone to try out and there will be burgers and hotdogs and drinks available- for free. Best of all: admission is no charge!”



Bobbie Cherepuschak meeting with Regina MLA Trent Whetherspoon

Shared by Bobbie Cherepuschak with Christine van der Merwe, SCI Sask CSC, SCI Sask Regional Office, Regina.

THE SASKATOON ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS

Accessibility Education & Awareness EXPO

20
20

DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS,
REMOVING
BARRIERS

*TRADESHOW
DISPLAYS,
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
& SPEAKERS*

MAY 30, 2020
10:00 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.
SHAW CENTRE
122 BOWLT CRES, SASKATOON



More Information: AccessibilityYXE@gmail.com or call **306.XXX.XXXX**



EXPO 2020 Events Page

 **City of
Saskatoon**

Launch of the Indigenous Engagement Charter

SCI Sask took part in the launch of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce (SCC) *Indigenous Engagement Charter* on January 22nd.

The *Indigenous Engagement Charter* has been developed with expertise and cultural sensitivity and aims to bring Saskatchewan's Indigenous population to the same economic level as the broader population by enhancing engagement from businesses. The Charter will assist businesses as they work towards enhanced engagement with Saskatchewan's Indigenous communities.



Are you a SK Student Living with a Spinal Cord Injury or Physical Disability?

LA Charities Scholarship 2020

Applications due June 20, 2020

Administered by SCI Sask to support
post-secondary studies

Applications and information can be found on our
website at scisask.ca

Thank You *To our sponsors and supporters* for your support.

ANNUAL SUPPORTERS

Government of SK; Government of Canada; CIF;
SK Lotteries; WCB; South SK Community Foundation;
United Way Saskatoon Weyburn and Estevan;
Saskatoon Community Foundation; the Muttart Foundation;
City of Saskatoon; City of Regina; SK Wheelchair Sports.

Buy and Sell

If you have an item you are either looking to sell
or looking to buy please contact SCI provincial
office at sciinfo@scisask.ca or phone
306.652.9644.

Upcoming Events 2020

Have an event you would like us to promote, send us an email at
sciinfo@scisask.ca.

Chair Leader Campaign

Campaigns running throughout the year. Contact
the Saskatoon office for more information to get
your workplace or organization registered.

National Access and Awareness Week

May 31-June 6, 2020

AGM

June 19, 2020- MayFair United Church, Saskatoon

LA Charities Golf Tournament

June 13, 2020

LA Charities Scholarship Application Deadline

June 30, 2020

SCI SASK Fundraiser Golf Tournament

July 25, 2020

21st Annual SCI Sask Saskatoon Wheelchair Relay

September 2020- WATCH FOR DETAILS



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