



2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Neil Squire Society



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Message from the Chair of the Board

Resiliency and Innovation

Our NSS team continues to lead and inspire in so many ways!

Looking over the stories and stats in this report it's clear to see that our team has been hard at it with amazing resiliency considering COVID-19 is still with us.

Being able to serve even more participants across Canada than ever before in the past year is a real achievement to be sure. One of the most interesting parts of serving on the board is being able to observe how thoughtful our team is in making applications for grants to be able to serve even more people with disabilities. It's never a question of pure growth, but rather one where the team and management come together and ask each other do we have the people and the tools at hand to be able to offer a high-quality solution. Only then will the application move forward. Truly thoughtful innovation in our complicated and fast paced world is a real value our team brought together to serve over 6,600 Canadians in the past year.

Innovation to connect with more people and share our story led the team to first dream of and then to set a new GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title, teaching people about 3D Printing and how it can be used to help people with a disability by creating low-cost devices to aid in making their lives fully inclusive. A terrific upshot of this brilliant team effort was a connection of over 3,200 folks in Canada and around the world learning more about Neil Squire!

The media buzz around Neil Squire this created was really amazing to take in. Our entire team rallied to make this campaign work so well!

Our completely accessible Hearing Solutions facility is yet another innovation which we are seeing the benefits of in our community.

In the background our team has been working to update our IT processes to make sure that we're able to work efficiently and provide security to our participants. This update has been in our plans for many years. Seeing how the team is up to the challenge to make this transition is heartening.

Great results don't just happen on their own, they require a great team and leadership! Dr. Gary Birch and the entire Neil Squire team are to be congratulated on an incredible year.

I also want to thank our board and committee members that share their expertise and time to support our team and its mission.

And finally... If you ever have a day when the news all looks bad, just click onto the Neil Squire or Makers Making Change websites, or better yet, sign up for our updates. There are always new stories there that really bring home just how many people our team is able to help, truly working hard to help Canadians with disabilities, one person at a time, lead fully inclusive lives. Our team are hard at it doing great work to help others!



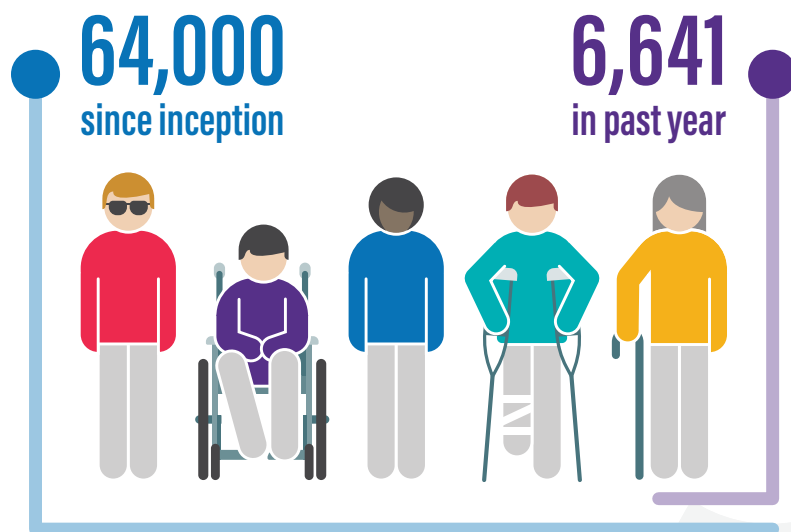
Brian Pritchard
Neil Squire Board Chair 2021/2022

A Record Setting Year

It was a record setting year in more ways than one for Neil Squire. On December 3rd, 2021, with the help from people and organizations from all over the world, we set a literal world record — a GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title — raising awareness for affordable assistive technology solutions for people with disabilities.

However, most importantly, we continued to serve our participants with passion. Throughout the year, we offered services both virtually and in-person to meet the needs of Canadians with disabilities. And breaking another record, we served **6,641** participants from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022. Since our inception, we have served nearly **64,000** persons with disabilities.

Throughout this report we will be highlighting our activities and successes in each of our areas of focus: Innovation, Digital Literacy, Employment, Assistive Technology, and Collaboration.





Fort St John Chapter Makes a Big Impact in Their Community and Beyond

Makers Making Change's most northern chapter at School District #60 in Fort St John has made a big difference in their community, from inspiring students to use the skills they learn in school for good to donating devices to local community organizations.



Fort St John Student Natasha shows off 3D printed ear savers

[Read more](#)

Garry Gets Creative With 3D Printing for Makers Making Change

Garry is an inventor like his father before him. As a C5-C6 quadriplegic, 3D printing gives Garry an avenue to create. Recently, Garry has also been dedicating his 3D printing talents to printing devices for Makers Making Change.

"I've been 3D printing for seven years now, and I really like it, because I can't do things with my hands — I can type, and I can operate a computer, but I can't really make anything — but with the printer, I can just design things on CAD and then the printer makes stuff."

- Garry, a Makers Making Change volunteer



Garry, a Makers Making Change Volunteer

[Read more](#)

Rachel Makes and Adapts Devices for Her Students

"I am really glad that your website is there for people to use, and I love that the plans are shared without a cost involved, because people I think who are looking for this are not people that should have to spend money for it, when it's something that they just need to follow through in everyday life, and giving them access to doing things that they want to do that everybody else does. I don't know how I would have made these kinds of adaptations for my student without that kind of resource."

– Rachel, Pediatric Occupational Therapist



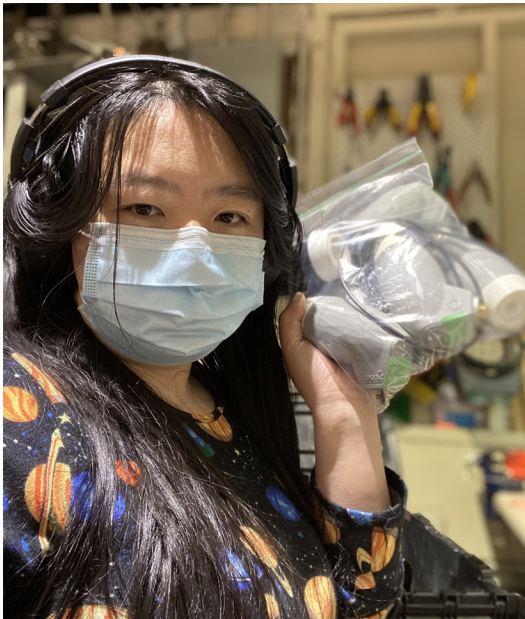
Rachel Thiros, pediatric OT

[Read more](#)

Vancouver Hack Space Helps Makers Making Change Build Over 30 LipSyncs

"It was just a joy to build, and also being able to build and test the whole thing really gave me a sense of how amazing the LipSync is, and what it does for people. For me, it's about using what skills I have to be able to make a difference in other people's lives."

- Mimi, Volunteer Maker



Mimi showing off her LipSync shells

[Read more](#)

MMC Chapter Comes Together to Design Portable Adaptive Toilet

“I’m just tremendously grateful for the volunteers and the people at Makers Making Change, who have decided to give back to people with disabilities, and to use their talents and their time to make this world a little bit more inclusive and a little bit more accessible for people who might need a little bit of extra help.”

– Jen Lyman, Cerebral Palsy Advocate



Jen Lyman, Cerebral Palsy Advocate, and her son, Bower

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Makers Help PlayFull Potential Find Assistive Device Solution in Record Time

Makers Making Change helped PlayFull Potential, a group of independent therapists, find solutions for children with limited mobility. MMC hosted a virtual build with the therapists, helping them build Round Flexure Switches.



PlayFull Potential build over Zoom

[Read more](#)

Winnipeg MMC Volunteer Jordon Earns Schulich Leader Scholarship

Makers Making Change volunteer Jordon Hong was named one of the University of Manitoba's Schulich Leaders, earning an \$80,000 scholarship. During his time as a student at Miles Macdonell Collegiate in Winnipeg, Jordon helped start a Makers Making Change chapter at the high school.

"I believe the world needs leaders in science devoted to technology for community, not for commercialism."

- Jordon, Makers Making Change volunteer



*Jordon, Makers Making Change Volunteer
Photo courtesy of UM Today News*

[Read more](#)

International Day of Persons With Disabilities Build Events, December 3, 2021

Makers Making Change hosted a number of exciting builds with organizations and schools across Canada on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The Memory Loss Music Player, switches, dice spinners, and adapted toys were among the items built. The devices were donated to local organizations.

“On behalf of the Jordan’s Principle team at St.Amant, I am extending appreciation for the generous donation of toys made recently by your volunteers. The plan is to deliver these toys to children in some of our more remote fly-in communities that do not typically have access to these kind of resources.”

– Suzanne M., St.Amant Social Worker



Toy Donation to the Movement Centre in Winnipeg

[Read more](#)

Innovation

We Set the #ATWorldRecord!, December 3, 2021

We have officially set a new GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title for the most people to take an online assistive technology lesson in 24 hours!

In total, 1,816 people from all over the world help set the #ATWorldRecord on December 3rd and raised awareness of the global need for affordable assistive technology. Some of the participants were students, disability professionals, makers, partnering organizations, and disability advocates.



December 3, 2021 | The most people to take an online assistive technology lesson in 24 hours



1,816 people from all over the world participated in our #ATWorld Record

[Read more](#)

3D Printed Assistive Devices for Recreational Therapy

"In recreational therapy, our goal is to get patients back to doing the things they love, kind of alongside the rehab, get them out into the community, get them participating in different leisure options, and while they're here, we want to make sure we're giving them different activities they can try for the first time. The [3D printed] tools have really helped us do that, and the ones that we've used the most honestly are the Makers Making Change designs."

- Lucas, University of Alberta Recreational Therapy Student



Lucas, University of Alberta Recreational Therapy Student

[Read more](#)

Makers Making Change

We delivered **1,038** Assistive Technology devices to people with disabilities

We published **157** Assistive Technology devices on our website

We have a total of **23** Canadian MMC Chapters

Digital Jumpstart Helps Community Futures Serve Rural Entrepreneurs with Disabilities in Manitoba and Saskatchewan

Community Futures Manitoba and Saskatchewan have had a long partnership with the Neil Squire Prairie Regional Office in Regina, Saskatchewan, often referring their clients to our Digital Jumpstart program to help them raise their computer skills and get them the necessary supports to get online.

“The program’s been amazing, it’s really made a huge impact, and we couldn’t have done it without Neil Squire.”

- Susan Bater, Manitoba and Saskatchewan EDP Program Manager



*Susan Bater, Manitoba and Saskatchewan
EDP Program Manager*

[Read more](#)

From Access to Engagement: A Digital Media Literacy Strategy for Canada, February 9, 2022

Greg Pyc, Neil Squire’s National Operations Manager, presented at the From Access to Engagement: A Digital Media Literacy Strategy for Canada symposium. The symposium consisted of round table discussions to determine the unique Canadian context, potential barriers to developing a digital media literacy strategy, and the opportunities for Canada to move forward as a leader in the field.

[Read more](#)



*From Access to
Engagement*

Digital Literacy

"I thought I was destined to sit in this recliner and stare at the wall, It's definitely a good program. I wouldn't have this job, I wouldn't even try to apply, because I just wouldn't have been able to learn that stuff myself."

- Peggy, Distance Computer Comfort and Digital Jumpstart Participant



Peggy, Distance Computer Comfort and Digital Jumpstart Participant

[Read more](#)

"What has been hardest for me is that I really, really love my job, and it's difficult to stay competitive when I face so many obstacles, so I'm just really grateful that there are programs like this out there. It's really reduced the strain and made me feel more confident that I can do everything that I need to do to stay viable in my industry. having someone supporting you in such a specific, caring [way], just coming from such a knowledgeable place. Very, very helpful."

- Melanie, Distance Computer Comfort Participant



Melanie, Distance Computer Comfort Participant

[Read more](#)

Digital Literacy

"At the beginning, I was having some issues sending some emails. It's a lot of details sending an email, you left click in some places, especially with an attachment, but right now I can do that, I'm so proud of that. Now that I'm doing this, whether it's with Narrator or NVDA, it's a gamechanger. I can go to the internet, I can go to Google, or Facebook, or anywhere. A huge thanks to all you guys. I'm really touched. It touches my heart a lot all of the help I am receiving, and I'm humbled by all of that. [There's] almost tears in my eyes, I mean it."

- Phillipe, Digital Jumpstart and Solutions Participant



Phillipe, Digital Jumpstart and Solutions Participant

[Read more](#)

"Everybody's been super supportive, and I'm really happy that some people took the initiative to help out when I was a little bit shy in asking if I needed something. [Neil Squire has] exceeded what I thought was available."

- Toni, Digital Jumpstart Participant



Toni, Digital Jumpstart Participant

[Read more](#)

Digital Literacy

"Not only did I not own a computer, I didn't know how to use one and Neil Squire has met both of those needs. This is my thank you letter: Thank you for helping me go from the depths of despair in feeling isolated to being lifted up by this program and to have made a friend, then having been doing so well to share my journey and now I have a renewed sense of community and my connection has survived COVID. My life has improved by working with Neil Squire in so many ways."

- Hayley, Digital Jumpstart and Working Together Participant



Hayley, Digital Jumpstart and Working Together Participant

[Read more](#)

"I had been really behind on modernizing myself with the computer. Neil Squire helped me learn many things, [including] Microsoft Office, and I was able to prepare myself to apply to a web design program. [Digital Jumpstart] was a super positive experience that got me going. I'm actually learning and retaining. My class average right now is 98%."

- Carmen, Digital Jumpstart Participant



Carmen, Digital Jumpstart Participant

[Read more](#)

Digital Literacy

"I want people to realize if I can do it, anybody can do it. [Neil Squire] helped me beyond what I thought. They actually have me thinking my goals might be possible. And that's a big plus for me."

- Jaycee, Digital Jumpstart Participant



Jaycee, Digital Jumpstart Participant

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"I wanted to learn how to use the computer better, and to talk with friends, and use Facebook and email. I learned a lot from Neil Squire. [My life] is more fulfilling because I get to stay in touch with more friends."

- Nicole, Digital Jumpstart Participant



Nicole, Digital Jumpstart Participant

[Read more](#)

Digital Literacy

Computer Comfort (British Columbia)

Participants

We served **82** participants in British Columbia, **32** of whom were new to Neil Squire

We had an average of **22** active participants each month

We served **130** participants through Digital Jumpstart

Tutoring and Tech Support Activities

We provided over **948** hours of one-on-one tutoring including:

474 total tutoring sessions

275 hours of tech support

We provided **450** hours of Digital Jumpstart computer, AT equipment, and software setup

We served participants with the following disabilities: arthritis, brain injury, cerebral palsy, chronic pack pain, epilepsy, fibromyalgia, learning disabilities, multiple sclerosis, mental health disabilities, muscular dystrophy, polio and post polio, post-traumatic stress disorder, Parkinson's, spinal cord injury, stroke, vision impairments.

Computer Comfort (Saskatchewan)

We served **74** participants in Saskatchewan

71 participants enhanced their employability

11 participants gained employment

4 participants returned to school

Neil Squire staff provided over **858** hours of one-on-one tutoring

Digital Literacy

Computer Refurbishing Program

We refurbished **41** computers for Computer Comfort participants

We repaired **32** computers

We configured **130** computers for Digital Jumpstart participants

Distance Computer Comfort

During the 2021-2022 year, the Distance Computer Comfort program continued to meet and exceed the needs of its participants, and our volunteers continued to do an amazing job.

With their valuable contributions, they have helped increase the number of clients we have worked with, compared to the previous year.

We served **94** participants nationally

We provided service to participants in **8** provinces

We provided service to participants in **36** cities

We provided over **1312.25** hours of one-on-one tutoring

We utilized **44** volunteers

We utilized **4** Computer Comfort partner sites

Participants

Of the **94** clients taking part in the program in the past year:

86 participants enhanced their employability

15 participants gained employment

10 participants moved on to volunteer opportunities

3 participants enhanced their citizenship engagement/active living

Digital Literacy

Volunteers

From the **44** volunteers who took part:

18 volunteered with Neil Squire for the first time

24 are either continuing client pairings into 2022/2023 or are waiting to be paired with clients

37 were located within BC, **3** in Alberta, with **1** in Manitoba, **1** in Ontario, **1** in Saskatchewan and **1** in Nova Scotia

Our B.C. based volunteers completed approximately **850** hours of tutoring

Digital Jumpstart

We served **130** participants nationally

19 of the participants gained employment or became self-employed

6 of the participants returned to school or stayed in school

72 of the participants were referred to employment readiness and placement programs

"My new motto is, 'Go with the flow!' I love going to work and looking forward to what the day brings, I will do it all, whatever needs to be done. The people are great, my customers know me by my first name, and I am happy to go to work!"

- Patty, Working Together Participant



Patty, Working Together Participant

[Read more](#)

"[Working Together] has helped us grow our capacity and add two valuable members to our team."

- Community Recreational Initiatives Society, Working Together Employer



Francis, Working Together Participant hired by CRIS

[Read more](#)

Employment

"She has been a perfect addition to our team. The hiring process was terrific and easy."

- Tonor Realty Ltd., Working Together Employer



Stephany, Working Together Participant, hired by Tonor Realty

[Read more](#)

"This program helps people with disabilities like me to overcome obstacles that I might not have done without them. [Program Coordinator] Terry [Terbasket] and [Program Manager] Mindy [Rollins] give us a safe place to learn and to grow confidence to achieve goals that we want for ourselves. I didn't realize until I started working that I'm a hard worker."

- Bluejay, Working Together and Distance Computer Comfort Participant



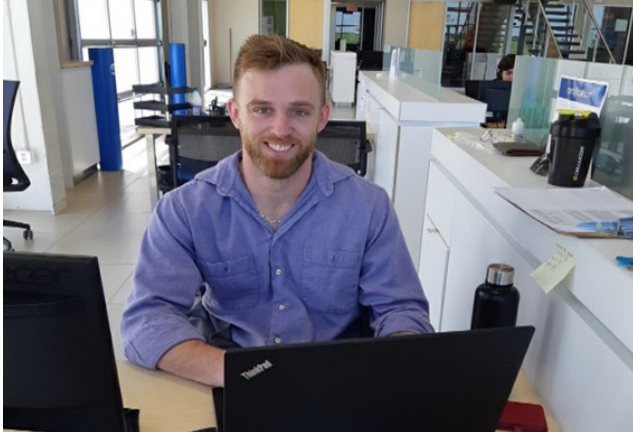
Bluejay, Working Together and Distance Computer Comfort Participant

[Read more](#)

Employment

"This program has taught me to be persistent when applying and to not get discouraged or give up. It has taught me how to prepare my resume and cover letter, and how to conduct myself in an interview should the opportunity present itself."

- Blake, Working Together Participant

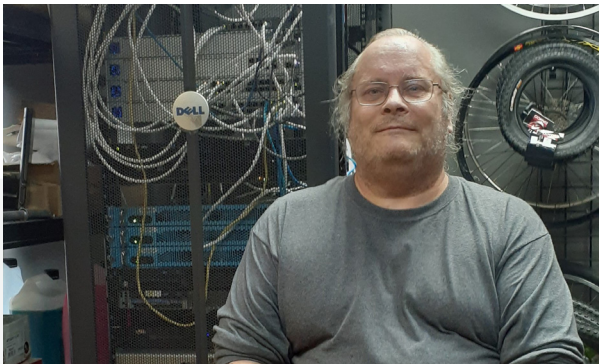


Blake, Working Together Participant

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"My goal was to start the transition from what I was having to do, to doing something I can do, and to provide an opportunity to be more creative. It has been a very good success. Working with Neil Squire was a breath of fresh air. Helpful, active, and there to help get things moving and done. Very much appreciated."

- Ron, Working Together Participant



Ron, Working Together Participant

[Read more](#)

Employment

"I have made new friends, found a girlfriend. I have learned so much and have more confidence in myself. I learned to take pride in myself and to get to work on time! In my future I would like to get married, get my driver's licence and travel someday. I hope other people like me find this program. It helped me so much, I feel pretty lucky!"

- Luke, Working Together Participant



Luke, Working Together Participant

[Read more](#)

"I have more confidence in myself and my abilities. I feel like my experiences as a person with a disability have value to others in making positive change in understanding the importance of accessibility and inclusion."

- Alison, Working Together Participant



Alison, Working Together Participant

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Employment

“The help from Neil Squire allowed time for our employees to settle into their new roles and adapt to the changes, as well as learn new skills. Both continue to be very successful. Having access to the Working Together Program and the support of Neil Squire Society, we were able to keep people working. Without this access we would have not been able to have these positions. Having the support allowed us to get reopened and back in a financial position to sustain the positions.”

– Shanty Café, Working Together Employer

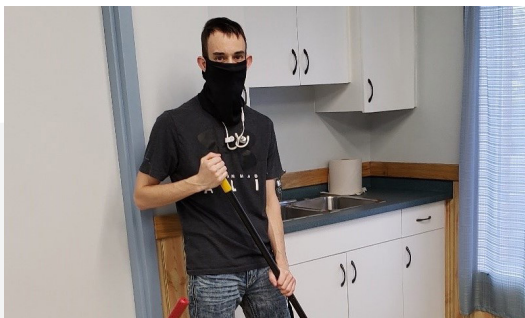


*Emily, Working Together Participant
hired by the Shanty Café*

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“Working with Neil Squire has definitely made me more confident, especially in my working life. I feel I have been given a lot more tools that will help me in all aspects of work — from finding jobs I may be interested in, to applying, to eventually being hired. The biggest thing I’ve gotten out of working with Neil Squire, though, is the confidence boost that comes with finding employment in the midst of a worldwide pandemic.”

– Tanner, Working Together Participant



Tanner, Working Together Participant

[Read more](#)

Employment

Working Together

We served **283** participants nationally

199 of the participants gained employment or became self-employed

57 of the participants returned to school or stayed in school

103 of the participants received a wage subsidy intervention

Group Employment Skills (Saskatchewan)

We served **87** participants in Saskatchewan

32 of the participants gained employment

11 participants return to school

We utilized **1,152** staff facilitation hours

84 of the participants enhanced their employability

Job Focus (New Brunswick)

We served **245** participants in New Brunswick

Workplace Essential Skills (New Brunswick)

We served **90** participants

Prairie Regional Office Donates Assistive Devices to École Dr AE Perry Elementary School, December 3, 2021

On the UN International Day of People with Disabilities our Prairie Regional Office chose to donate assistive supports to a local elementary school, École Dr AE Perry Elementary School, in Regina, Saskatchewan.



Left to right Neil Squire's Chelsea Osowy, and École Dr AE Perry's Monique Bowes, and Christopher Weber

[Read more](#)

Hearing Solutions Demo Week, December 6, 2021

Manufacturer rep, Natasha Lombardo, joined our Audiologist, Heather Ritchie, in our Burnaby office for our Hearing Solutions Demo Week. We offered complimentary hearing assessments, huge savings, and a demo of our newest hearing technology.



Audiologist, Heather Ritchie, and Manufacturer rep, Natasha Lombardo

[Read more](#)

Assistive Technology

AT Help Desk Launches a Podcast, “We Have Solutions!”, January 26, 2022

The AT Help Desk has officially launched a podcast! “We Have Solutions!” is a monthly podcast about assistive technology, disabilities, and breaking down barriers to accessibility through one-on-one interviews, news, reviews, and more. They’ll talk to a range of guests from within various disability-related communities including assistive technology users, experts in the field, and everything in between. The podcast can be found on Spotify, and new episodes will be released on the last Friday of every month.



[Read more](#)

Dr. Gary Birch’s Order of British Columbia Investiture Ceremony, March 3, 2022

Dr. Gary Birch, Executive Director of Neil Squire, was invested into the Order of British Columbia during a ceremony on Thursday, March 3, 2022. This year’s ceremony honoured 31 recipients from 2020, 2021, and from previous years who were unable to attend their ceremonies.



*Dr. Gary Birch,
Executive Director of Neil Squire*

[Read more](#)

Assistive Technology

"Retirement was not for me, but I did not have the necessary technology to enable me to be productive. The equipment and software enabled me to immediately become productive. Without your assistance I would never have been able to launch projects with One in Spirit. Also, the connections I was able to make through recording stories led to my being hired by Vancouver Island University. I know that with One in Spirit and VIU, your assistance has greatly aided in my career advancement. It feels very satisfying to be able to earn a meaningful living and being a taxpayer again."

- Randy, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant



Randy, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant

[Read more](#)

"I have noticed a significant difference in my ability to stay on my feet all day at work, with much more ease than before with the help of the above supports. My overall health, well-being and strength in my feet, ankles and lower legs has improved significantly since wearing the shoes with the insoles, in my physically demanding workplace. In turn, this has affected my mood, my stability, and my keenness to continue being more active, now that it's easier to do so. I am eternally grateful for [. . .] the support they have provided me. I will forever remember this experience as a positive one."

- Justina, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant



Justina, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant

[Read more](#)

Assistive Technology

"My life has improved dramatically with the assistive technology and it made the tasks much easier while operating my business. I definitely recommend [WorkBC Assistive Technology Services] to everyone! Thank you for letting me share my story and for all the help you provided me to improve the quality of my life. I have more purpose now — to go out and help others overcome their challenges and to succeed, as they reach out to accomplish their goals."

- Alfred, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant



Alfred, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant

[Read more](#)

"I am much more comfortable. I feel as though a level of tension has left my body. I feel grace in my day to day, that wasn't available to me before these devices. Thanks to my increased comfort, I have been a better worker. It is easier for me to communicate, easier to pick up on subtleties. I was able to put myself forward for a promotion and I received it!"

- Carissa, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant



Carissa, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant

[Read more](#)

Assistive Technology

"The Assistive Technology Services program helped me to get a fully modified wheelchair accessible vehicle by assisting me with funding for the conversion of my minivan. It helps me to get to and from work without the need for someone to help me get in and out of my wheelchair."

- Shayne, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant



Shayne, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant

[Read more](#)

"Because I am hard of hearing, I have difficulty communicating with my studio assistants, with fabricators, engineers, public art consultants, and journalists. I asked for replacement of my hearing aids. New aids with up-to-date technology were paid for by the Assistive Technology Services program. I am able to communicate clearly as never before. I am able to understand what is being said to me. Telephone communication, for example, is vastly improved."

- Mowry, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant



Mowry, WorkBC Assistive Technology Services Participant

[Read more](#)

Assistive Technology

Solutions (British Columbia)

We served **292** participants

Solutions (Saskatchewan)

We completed **114** assessments

107 of the participants enhanced their employability

97 of the participants gained employment or returned to school

Hearing Solutions

We provided **428** in-person appointments

We provided **66** hearing aid fittings

We provided **234** hearing assessments

We provided **128** other services (cerumen management, hearing aid services, follow-up, equipment training, custom hearing protection device fittings, etc.)

Since we opened our hearing clinic doors, we have seen **369** clients in-person services

WorkBC Assistive Technology Services

Number of ATS applications received: **1,286**

Number of employers served: **1,050**

Number of ATS agreements signed / assessments completed: **618**

Total disability supports provided: **1,919**

AT Help Desk

Hours of operation: **300** days and **3,600** hours

Number of inquiries: **1,114** of those:

Troubleshooting: **595**

AT suggestions or sourcing: **529**

Training: **16**



MLA Brenda Bailey Visits Neil Squire, May 25, 2021

We welcomed MLA, Brenda Bailey, Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and Innovation, to our head office in Burnaby. Ms. Bailey received a hearing evaluation in our fully accessible Hearing Solutions lab, demoed some assistive technology in our Solutions lab, and visited our Makers Making Change lab to learn about affordable open source assistive technologies.



MLA, Brenda Bailey, Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and Innovation

[Read more](#)

Neil Squire Named Organization of the Year, June 3, 2021

Neil Squire is the recipient of the Saint John Ability Advisory Committee's 2021 Organization of the Year Award for "embracing and enhancing inclusion for persons with disabilities in our community." The award was presented during Disability Awareness Week.



Atlantic Regional Office Neil Squire Staff

[Read more](#)

Collaboration

Saskatchewan Career Development Association Interviews Nikki Langdon, June 18, 2021

The Saskatchewan Career Development Association Podcast team interviewed Nikki Langdon, Prairie Regional Manager of the Neil Squire Society, to learn more about her career story, what Neil Squire offers, and the importance of vulnerability as a leader.



*Nikki Langdon,
Prairie Regional Manager of the Neil Squire Society*

[Read more](#)

New Charlottetown, PEI Location, September 2, 2021

We opened our new office in Charlottetown in Prince Edward island. This new location marks the 8th in Atlantic Canada.



Atlantic Regional Office Neil Squire Staff

[Read more](#)

Collaboration

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30, 2021

Neil Squire observed Orange Shirt Day and the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. Neil Squire is committed to understanding the truths of our shared history, to accept and learn from it and in turn we are determined to contribute to the creation of a better, more inclusive Canada.



Neil Squire Prairie Regional Staff on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

[Read more](#)

Collaboration

Cheryl Colmer to Represent Neil Squire on the Canadian Accessibility Network Advisory Council, October 18, 2021

Neil Squire has become an official Canadian Accessibility Network (CAN) Collaborator. CAN, under the leadership of the READ Initiative at Carleton University, is a national collaboration to advance accessibility for persons with disabilities through Research, Design and Innovation, Education and Training, Policy, Employment, and Community Engagement.

Cheryl Colmer, Central Regional Manager of the Neil Squire Society will be a representative on the CAN Advisory Council, which meets three times a year.



Cheryl Colmer, Central Regional Manager of the Neil Squire Society

[Read more](#)

Collaboration

Indigenous Disability Awareness Month, November 1, 2021

Indigenous peoples of Canada experience a disability rate significantly higher than that of the general population. Indigenous Disability Awareness Month (IDAM) brings awareness of these barriers and the issues that Indigenous peoples living with disabilities and their families face every day. More importantly though, in spite of these barriers, IDAM celebrates the achievements of Indigenous peoples living with disabilities and recognize the significant and valuable contributions they make to our communities socially, economically, and culturally every day.



Stanley Park Totem Poles

[Read more](#)

#PoweredToEnable Fundraising Campaign 2021, November 2, 2021

Our annual #PoweredToEnable Fundraising Campaign launches and runs throughout November and December.



 Neil Squire
neilsquire.ca/donate
#PoweredToEnable

Powered to Enable Campaign graphic

[Read more](#)

Collaboration

The Collective Impact of the BC Spinal Cord Injury Network, January 27, 2022

By working collaboratively, sharing resources, knowledge, and infrastructure, the BC Spinal Cord Injury Network helps make BC the best place for people with physical disabilities to live, work, and be active. The network is comprised of the following organizations: BC Wheelchair Basketball Society, BC Wheelchair Sports Association, Disability Foundation, Neil Squire Society, and Spinal Cord Injury BC.

While each of our organizations is known for doing a lot with a little, we all recognized that we could do a whole lot more by working together.

In 2021 alone, we served 18,343 people, welcomed 3,149 new members to our community, connected with 44,710 followers of social media, and received over 800,000 website page views from visitors looking for information, programming, and support on living well with a spinal cord injury.



[Read more](#)

Collaboration

Swing Into Spring Princess Ball, March 19, 2022

The Swing into Spring Princess Ball fundraising event in Regina, Saskatchewan was a tremendous success. All funds raised at this event will help to improve the lives of persons with disabilities in our Prairie Region.



Attendees of the Swing Into Spring Princess Ball

[Read more](#)

Collaboration

Leaving a Legacy

A planned gift is personal and meaningful and allows you the opportunity to give in a way that leaves a lasting legacy.



To learn more about Neil Squire's planned giving program, please contact:

Chad Leaman, CAE
Director of Innovation
604-473-9363 ext. 173
chadl@neilsquire.ca

Government Funders

Opportunities Fund, Employment and Social Development Canada

Government of Canada

**Social Development Partnership Programs – Disability Component,
Employment and Social Development Canada**

Government of Canada

Canada Summer Jobs, Employment and Social Development Canada

Government of Canada

Assistive Technology Program, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

Government of Canada

Community Gaming Grant, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Government of British Columbia

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

Government of British Columbia

WorkSafe BC

Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour

Government of New Brunswick

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Government of New Brunswick

Social Development

Government of New Brunswick

WorkSafe NB

Ministry of Immigration and Career Training

Government of Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Workers and Compensation Board

Major Donors

Major Donors

Andrew Mahon Foundation	Canada Life
BC Paraplegic Foundation	TD Canada Trust
BC Gaming Community Grant	Technation
Bio Talent Canada Youth	Vancouver Community Network
Craig H. Neilsen Foundation	United Way Central New Brunswick
HSBC	Simon Fraser University
Venture for Canada	Fredericton Community Foundation Inc.
GWL Reality Advisor	United Way Central New Brunswick
Last Mountain Distillery	Kaatza Foundation
Credit Union Atlantic	South Saskatchewan Community Fund
Neovation Learning Systems	Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board
Burnaby Board of Trade	Andrew Mahon Foundation
SGL Canada	Community Foundation of South Okanagan
Walsh Foundation	Greg Pyc
Vancouver Foundation	Hannibal & Christine Preto
Winnipeg Foundation	Methanex Corporation
SpencerCreo Foundation	

Individual Donors

Individual Donors

Marta Nowakowska
Nikki Langdon
University of Western Ontario
Gemtec Limited
Sask Energy
Gary Birch
Ruperstland Institute
BNI Urban Professional
ILLAHIE Foundation
Mary Frances Laughton
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Brian Pritchard
Nathan Toevs
Gai-Lanne Pepper
Beverly Grasse
Chad Leaman
Munesh Raman
Yasmin Juma
Rachin Kumar
DJ Lam

Statement of Financial Positions

(For the year ended March 31st, 2022)

Assets

Current Assets	2022	2021
Cash	\$3,104,369	\$1,993,645
Accounts receivable	\$991,274	\$751,506
Prepaid expenses	\$159,230	\$152,088
	\$4,254,873	\$2,897,239
Tangible capital assets	\$100,523	\$111,069
	\$4,355,396	\$3,008,308

Liabilities And Net Assets

Current Liabilities	2022	2021
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$584,302	\$609,419
Deferred revenue	\$3,428,824	\$2,116,514
	\$4,013,126	\$2,725,933
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$91,747	\$96,306
Invested in tangible capital assets	\$100,523	\$111,069
Internally restricted	\$150,000	\$75,000
	\$342,270	\$282,375
	\$4,355,396	\$3,008,308

Statement of Operations

(For the year ended March 31st, 2022)

Revenue	2022	2021
Contracts	\$10,793,045	\$9,754,540
Services and training fees	\$876,809	\$630,843
Recoverable costs	\$2,470,698	\$2,453,667
Donations - cash	\$48,517	\$57,215
Donations - in kind	\$5,655	\$55,088
Gaming	\$135,000	\$135,000
Interest income and other	\$95,703	\$46,349
	\$14,425,427	\$13,132,702

Expenses	2022	2021
Salaries and benefits	\$7,850,941	\$7,079,857
Client equipment	\$2,470,698	\$2,453,667
Rent	\$918,948	\$880,784
General and administrative	\$659,218	\$401,037
Client tuition	\$667,227	\$536,572
Donations - in kind	\$5,655	\$55,088
Travel	\$69,232	\$31,956
Consulting and contracts	\$393,384	\$206,007
Wage subsidies	\$491,609	\$749,823
Equipment maintenance	\$469,877	\$199,155
Material and supplies	\$132,934	\$214,637
Marketing and program development	\$185,480	\$160,353
	\$14,315,203	\$13,022,521
Revenue over expenses before other items	\$110,224	\$110,181
Amortization of capital assets	\$(50,329)	\$(55,362)
Write off of capital assets		—
Revenue over expenses for the year	\$59,895	\$54,819

Board and Committee Members

Board Members

Brian Pritchard, Chair
Marie Burgoyne, Vice-Chair
Colin Bell, Treasurer
Laurie Hill, Member
Judy Hutchins, Member
DJ Lam, Member
Tanya Morrison, Member
Josh Vander Vies, Member

Executive Team

Gary Birch, Executive Director
Greg Pyc, National Operations Manager
Rachin Kumar, Director of Finance

Senior Management Team

Harry Lew, Manager of Research and Development
Charles Levasseur, Solutions Departmental Specialist / Regional Manager / Assistive
Technology and Learning Disability Specialist
Nikki Langdon, Solutions Departmental Specialist / Prairie Regional Manager, Program
Cheryl Colmer, Central Regional Manager
Beverly Grasse, Regional Manager / Employment Specialist, Atlantic Region

Board and Committee Members

Management Team

Greg Pyc, Western Regional Manager
Nikki Langdon, Prairie Regional Manager
Cheryl Colmer, Central Regional Manager
Beverly Grasse, Atlantic Regional Manager
Charles Levasseur, Atlantic Regional Manager
Sara Bains, Director of Employment Programs
Katrina Tilley, Manager of Occupational Therapists
Zorana Ciric, Occupational Therapist
Harry Lew, Manager of Research and Development
Chad Leaman, Director of Innovation
Shelina Dilgir, Director of Development
Suzanne Wiens, Director of Communications

Executive Committee

Brian Pritchard, Chair
Colin Bell, Treasurer
Marie Burgoyne
Judy Hutchins
DJ Lam
Gary Birch (ex officio)

Board and Committee Members

Audit and Financial Management Committee

Colin Bell, Chair

David Brind

Gary Birch (ex officio)

Greg Pyc (ex officio)

Rachin Kumar (ex officio), Advisor

Marketing Committee

Judy Hutchins, Chair

Laurie Hill

DJ Lam

Brian Pritchard

Gary Birch (ex officio)

Austin Cozicar (ex officio)

Suzanne Wiens (ex officio)

Client Services Committee

Laurie Hill, Chair

Marie Burgoyne

Gary Birch (ex officio)

Cheryl Colmer (ex officio)

Rob Attwell, Advisor

Kristin Bower, Advisor

Imogen Ni Eala, Advisor

Board and Committee Members

Fundraising Committee

DJ Lam, Chair
Judy Hutchins
Brian Pritchard
Gary Birch (ex officio)
Shelina Dilgir (ex officio)
Chad Leaman (ex officio)
Don Danbrook, Advisor

Technology and Partnerships Committee

Tanya Morrison, Chair
Jaimie Borisoff
Drew Collier
Josh Vander Vies
Gary Birch (ex officio)

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Neil Squire

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