

# 2024 Annual Report

Improving the quality of life for Canadian amputees



The War Amps

# Contents

2024 in Review. . . . .	2	Financials. . . . .	18
Your Donation in Action. . . . .	3	Thank You . . . . .	20
New Initiatives for 2024 . . . . .	6	Governance. . . . .	21
Advocating for All Amputees. . . . .	11	Donor Recognition . . . . .	23
Our Work for Veterans . . . . .	15		

Thanks to the public's support of the Key Tag Service, The War Amps is providing amputees with artificial limbs, expertise, advocacy and peer support, and our historic work for veterans continues to the present day.



## The War Amps DOES NOT:

- Use professional fundraisers
- Receive government grants
- Solicit by phone or door-to-door
- Sell or trade your name/address
- Spend more than 10% on administration
- Tie up funds in long-term investments

On the front cover (from left): Champs Reid and Marcus; Champ Madison; Secretary of the Montreal Branch Jean-Marie Paul, Champ Leah and Afghanistan war amputee Maj. Blaise; Champ Zoé.

The Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program serves children under 18 in Canada who are born with a limb difference or who have lost a limb due to an accident or medical causes. We offer support through financial assistance for artificial limbs and devices, by providing information on life as an amputee and by offering opportunities for child amputees to connect with others like them. *Pictured: Florence and Jeanne.*



# 2024 in Review

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In many ways, 2024 has been a significant year for The War Amps. Several new initiatives and major funding increases allowed us to offer more support than ever before to Canada's amputees, and we have heard from many of our members that this has changed their lives.

The most far-reaching of these initiatives is the expansion of our funding for all adult amputees by introducing significantly more assistance for everyday artificial limbs, water limbs, daily living aids and much more thanks to the donations we receive from the public. To recognize the challenges new amputees face, we also increased our grant amount for new members to help ease their financial burden at such a vulnerable stage of their journey.

Our programs for child amputees continued this year as we restarted our most popular event for families, our CHAMP seminars, after a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A seminar weekend often marks the first time that children meet other amputees “just like me,” and it provides an opportunity to learn about amputation and access valuable resources. The War Amps funds every part of a Champ's time at a seminar, including transportation costs, accommodations, meals and activities, so that there are no financial barriers for a family.

Part of our work for amputees involves advocating for their rights and interests, which The War Amps has been doing for more than 100 years. You'll be able to read about how we assisted with and won several insurance cases for our members, including a 73-year-old leg amputee who needed an artificial leg to avoid dangerous falls and a 32-year-old arm amputee

whose insurance policy was causing financial hardship. We also continued our advocacy for veterans, working towards systemic change for veterans' compensation, pension and wellness benefits, among our other areas of focus for 2024.

Throughout the report, you will find testimonials from the public who have had their keys returned to them thanks to our long-running and successful Key Tag Service. We also share personal stories from our members from across the country who have benefited from our programs, which have impacted their lives greatly.

Please read on to learn about our activities and initiatives this year. If you'd like to learn more about the ways your donation helps amputees, visit [waramps.ca](http://waramps.ca) or follow us on social media. We welcome any feedback and, as always, remain accountable to you.

## Your Story

“Thank you for returning my lost keys. The Key Tag Service is amazing. I lost my keys during the summer and searched everywhere but was unable to find them. My hope was that they would be returned to The War Amps, and sure enough, I received the lost keys this week.”

– Harold

# Your Donation in Action

Every donation from the public supports our life-changing work for amputees. We do not receive government grants.

“When we found out our daughter Mégane would be born without part of her left arm, we worried about many things – how would she tie her shoes? Would her amputation stop her from doing anything? We wanted to understand what life would be like raising a child amputee, so we contacted The War Amps. They quickly connected us with another family who has a daughter with an amputation similar to Mégane’s. Meeting with them helped answer our questions and relieved some of our worries about our daughter’s future.

“Recently, Mégane fell in love with gymnastics. Thanks to funding from The War Amps, she was able to receive a specialized artificial limb that allows her to practise gymnastics safely. The financial support has been a big help to us because it means she can participate in her favourite activities and flourish just like other kids.”

– José and Magali, Mégane’s parents



## Did You Know?

In 2024, The War Amps Key Tag Service returned **5,606** sets of lost keys to their owners by courier – for free! You can order your own set of key tags online at [waramps.ca](http://waramps.ca).

Jeanne



“ Jeanne is a very active child who enjoys running, swimming and sports. She is growing quickly and has needed several new artificial legs over the years. Her legs are very expensive, so if The War Amps was not there to provide financial assistance for this, it would have a significant impact on her life. War Amps donors continue to support Jeanne and many other child amputees just like her. Your donations truly make a difference in our daughter’s life. ”

– Jacinthe and Étienne, Jeanne’s parents

“ Our daughter Michaela became a double leg amputee due to a medical condition at a young age. Her artificial limbs are costly and need to be replaced often as she grows. Without War Amps donors, we wouldn’t be able to provide her with the limbs she needs for daily life. We would like to say thank you to everyone who donates to The War Amps, because without your donations, Michaela wouldn’t be able to live the life she does today. ”

– Michael and Lyndsay, Michaela’s parents

Michaela





All of The War Amps programs for amputees, including the CHAMP Program, are funded by the public's donations to our Key Tag Service. To learn more about this valuable service and how it works, visit [page 9](#). Pictured: Gabriel.

# New Initiatives for 2024

Due to the ongoing generosity of the Canadian public, The War Amps was able to both expand and launch several vital initiatives this year to support the areas of greatest need for our amputee members.

## Increasing funding for adult amputees

Following our substantial increases in funding for artificial limbs and other amputation care needs in 2022 and 2023, we were thrilled to **expand our funding for adult amputees** once again this year, thanks to the support of our donors and lower expenditures from postponed events.

We know that many people would be shocked to learn that amputees don't receive enough funding from their provincial health-care plans or private insurers to cover the cost of artificial limbs. While we fill the gaps where we can, The War Amps is a charity that relies on public donations, and our support can only go so far. Nevertheless, we continue to advocate for prosthetic funding reform while stepping in to ensure amputees never go without the limbs they need for everyday life.

Several of our existing initiatives from 2023 were enhanced this year, including

funding for everyday artificial limbs, microprocessor-controlled knee units, water limbs, and prosthetic repairs, supplies and adjustments. Previously, we contributed between \$2,000 and \$40,000 per request depending on the initiative. Starting in January 2024, we now **cover the full remaining balance** for most of these requests after provincial health care and private insurance contributions, removing several of our previous funding limits.

“ Thank you to The War Amps – I got my water leg today! I went into the pool to try it out as soon as I got home, and it worked great. Now I can go swimming with the grandkids and safely stand in the shower. ”

– Adult amputee member

New this year, we began to offer funding to **cover the entire balance for activity-specific limbs (such as running legs) and daily living aids** for all adult members, which are not covered by any province, territory or insurance provider. We are also pleased to share that we now fund the remaining balance, after third-party funding sources, for artificial limb components and provide a one-to-two-year early limb replacement – when needed – for adults, who in the past would receive funding from us every three years for a new artificial limb.





Frédérique

prosthetist wrote to us to say, “It brings me great relief to know that I will be able to provide services for my most marginalized patients. You are really changing lives and, as a provider, I can now tell my patients that they do not need to despair over having to pay for an artificial limb.”

## Increasing new enrollee grant for members

When a person loses a limb, they face a new way of living and must adapt to different physical, mental and health challenges. This period of adjustment often impacts an amputee’s financial situation as well.

The War Amps acknowledges these challenges and, starting in 2022, we began offering adult amputee members a one-time new enrollee grant to help them cover costs like mobility aids and vehicle or home modifications. We increased our grant amount in 2023, and in 2024, our contribution rose once more to **\$1,500 per amputation, up to \$6,000** for quadruple amputees. We were able to help **1,705 adult amputees this year, distributing \$2,835,000**. This is in addition to our standard funding for artificial limbs.

When a child is born missing a limb or loses one due to illness or accident, a similar adjustment period impacts not only them, but their entire family. New this year, we extended our grant to child amputees, funding **56 grants for a total of \$105,000**.

The impact of these changes cannot be overstated for the many amputees who face thousands of dollars out of pocket to receive care. We are pleased to share that our contributions in 2024 for all of these areas totalled **\$18,391,000, with 2,542 requests funded**.

These funding expansions have been very well-received by both our members and the prosthetists who serve them, with estimates and invoices coming in at three times the rate we have seen in past years. One Ontario

### Did You Know?

Each year, we enrol new amputees who were born without a limb or who have lost a limb due to illness or accident. As War Amps members, they are provided with financial assistance towards the cost of artificial limbs, information on life as an amputee, support from other amputees and much more. In 2024, we enrolled **2,446 adult amputees and 115 child amputees**.

“ I just want to say thank you very much for the one-time new enrollee grant. I lost all 10 toes recently, and I am learning to adjust to my new life. I was overwhelmed by your generosity, and I am very appreciative of The War Amps support. ”

– Adult amputee member

## Funding research into amputee care

The War Amps introduced a successful prosthetic research grant in 2022 to offer funding towards innovative research in support of Canadian amputees. As part of our mandate to improve the quality of life and access to care for our members, research projects like these are invaluable.

In 2024, we approved two additional research requests for a total of **\$155,950 in grants**. These funds will go towards important areas of study for the future of amputee care, such as advances in prosthetic liner design to improve their sustainability, fit and comfort, and safe cycling adaptations for young upper limb amputees. We look forward to the results of these vital research projects as they progress.

## Supporting prosthetic clinics with new grant

The prosthetic profession is facing numerous challenges, such as a troubling shortage of Certified Prosthetists and the long-term financial impact of the pandemic, when clinics had to limit the number of patients they could see. Unfortunately, this has led to some prosthetic clinics experiencing financial hardship or being stretched thin, which can trickle down to the care amputees receive.

As part of our work to improve our members' access to quality amputee care, we launched a new grant in 2024 to contribute towards equipment purchases and repairs for private prosthetic clinics. In March, we began accepting applications and received **50 requests** from clinics, more than

half of the approximately 90 located across Canada. We are pleased to share that we awarded **\$500,000 in grants, or \$10,000 per clinic**, with funds going towards new ramps and stairs, new equipment for creating artificial limbs and much more.

By investing in prosthetists this way, we are helping clinics to increase their productivity and the quality of care they can give to amputees.

“ This is fantastic news, especially for a young clinic like ours. You have no idea how much this helps us improve the patient care we will be able to provide! ”

– An Alberta prosthetic clinic

## New events for child amputees and their families

This year was a pivotal one for The War Amps as we restarted our most popular event for child amputees and their families, our CHAMP seminars. For children, a CHAMP Seminar weekend often marks the first time they meet other amputees “just like me,” and it provides an opportunity to learn about amputation and access valuable resources. The War Amps funds every part of a Champ's time at a seminar, including transportation costs, accommodations, meals and activities, so that there are no financial barriers for a family.

### Did You Know?

The War Amps provides child amputees with financial assistance for swimming and driving lessons to learn important safety skills and help support them on the road to independence as they get older. In 2024, we funded **56 swimming lesson requests and 28 driving lesson requests** from across the country.

Champ Nile and his parents



We hosted two large-scale events in 2024, with a total of **426 attendees, including 62 new CHAMP families.** We also continued our successful (Re)Connect events this year, first unveiled in 2023, that bring together Champs and their families from the same region for an afternoon of connection and fun. **Twelve events** were held from Victoria to St. John's to Whitehorse, welcoming **440 attendees**, including Champs, siblings and their parents.

Started during the COVID-19 pandemic when in-person gathering was restricted, our exciting and informative virtual sessions and gatherings also continued. We hosted **37 sessions** in 2024, covering topics such as starting school as an amputee and information for new families.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are thrilled to have seven CHAMP seminars and 12 (Re)Connect events planned, as well as other activities, events and virtual sessions to fully support our Champs and their families.

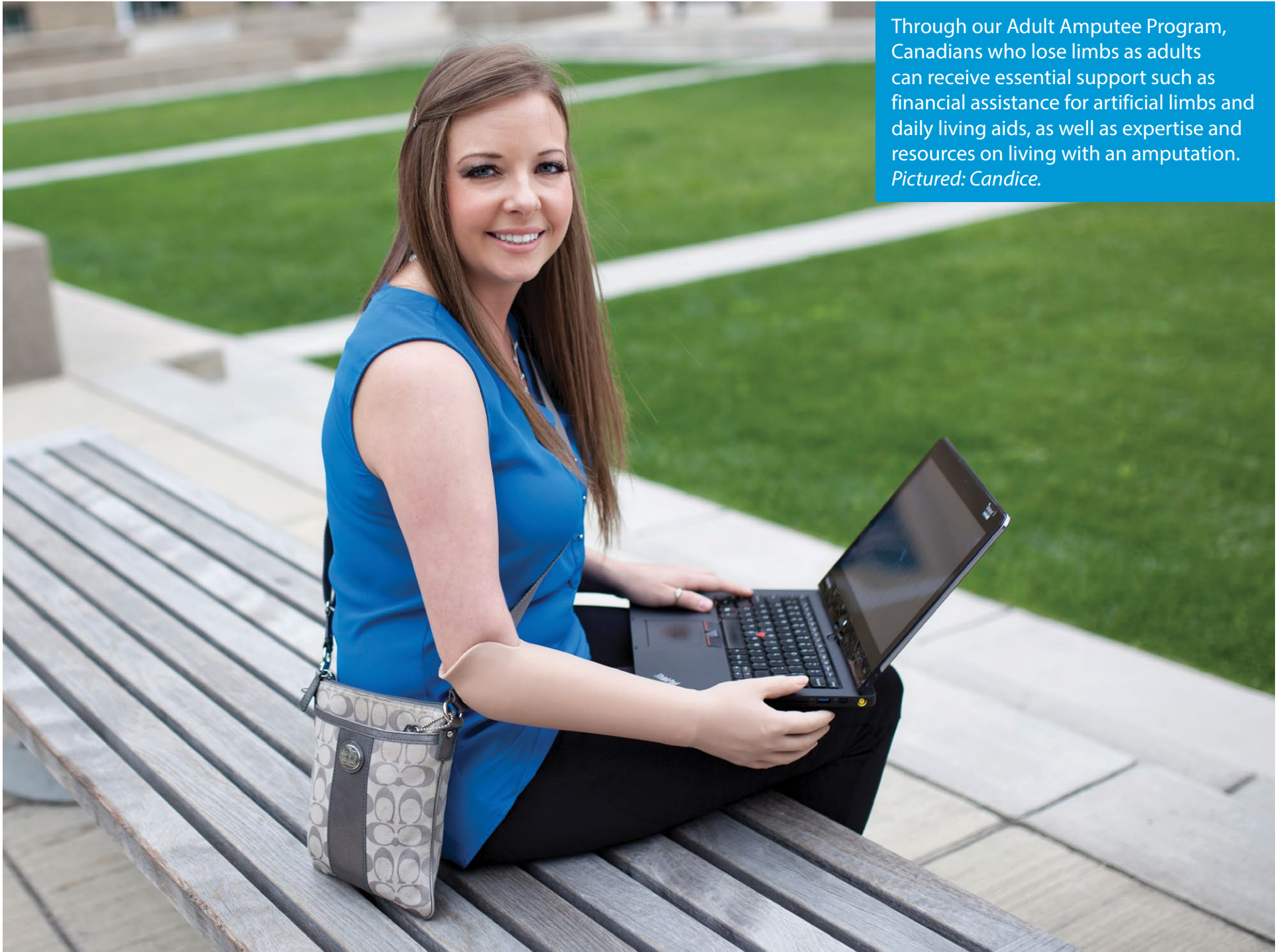
“ My family and I recently attended a (Re)Connect event. This was our first CHAMP event with our daughter, who was born in 2020, and we loved every moment of it and got so much out of the experience. Meeting other amputees was incredibly meaningful for me, but it was especially wonderful for my daughter to see that she's not the only one missing a limb. She's only four, but I often caught her looking across the room at another amputee with so much curiosity. Thank you for everything you do. ”

– Mother of a Champ

## Did You Know?

The Key Tag Service began in 1946 after the Second World War, launching a key return service that would prove to be a valuable aid to Canadians. War Amps members from the First World War started the service to create jobs for the returning amputee veterans and to generate revenue for the Association, which in turn funded our programs and raised awareness of The War Amps efforts.

Today, Canadians continue to benefit from this public service, with more than 1.5 million sets of lost keys returned to their owners, including expensive-to-replace car fobs. To this day, the Key Tag Service in Scarborough, Ontario, continues to operate as a sheltered workshop for people with disabilities.



Through our Adult Amputee Program, Canadians who lose limbs as adults can receive essential support such as financial assistance for artificial limbs and daily living aids, as well as expertise and resources on living with an amputation. *Pictured: Candice.*

# Advocating for All Amputees

The War Amps advocates for the rights and interests of all Canadian amputees and works on behalf of individual amputees who have encountered discrimination or red tape in accessing care, important financial benefits and legal rights.

## Advocating for improvements to the Canada Disability Benefit

In late 2023 and throughout 2024, The War Amps provided well-researched and detailed input to the federal government regarding proposed regulations for the Canada Disability Benefit (CDB), a new financial program for people with disabilities experiencing poverty. Our goal was to ensure that these vulnerable individuals would receive appropriate financial assistance that recognizes the additional burdens and costs people with disabilities, especially amputees, face every day.

As the national voice for amputees in Canada, we were extremely disappointed that **the federal government has yet to address key concerns raised by us** and other disability groups. Currently, the funding that will become available is only \$2,400 a year per person, or \$200 per month, which is not nearly enough to cover

daily living costs, let alone the expensive artificial limbs that amputees need to walk or dress themselves.

“Empowering Canadians living with disabilities requires bold action. To truly support those with disabilities made vulnerable by poverty, the government must significantly increase funding for the CDB to make a meaningful difference.”

– Annelise Petlock, Director, General Counsel and Member Programs for The War Amps

The War Amps argued that, in its current form, the CDB’s scope is too wide as it includes those who can earn an income through employment or self-employment. **The most vulnerable should be prioritized** by setting the eligibility income levels lower, allowing the CDB to pay more to those at a lesser income. If the government’s goal is to reduce poverty, we feel the benefit should focus on those who are actually experiencing poverty and not those who are able to make a moderate income.

Another point of contention in our advocacy work was the government’s proposal to use the federal Disability Tax Credit to determine eligibility, even though it serves a completely different purpose than the CDB. We put forward a more effective and fair solution – **adopt a presumptive approval**



**model based on a person’s access to provincial or territorial income support programs.** If someone has jumped through the many hurdles to access these programs, they should be presumed to be both disabled and living in poverty, which means they should be eligible for the CDB.

Amélie



This new benefit is an important opportunity for the federal government to make real, lasting change and help people with disabilities living below the poverty line. However, at this stage, the proposed regulations will fail those most in need. We will continue to advocate for these individuals and watch the situation closely as the benefit goes into effect in 2025.

## Navigating insurance denials and issues for our members

Part of our advocacy work is to educate insurers and provincial health-care agencies on the reality of living with an amputation and the costs associated with artificial limbs. While we advocate for all Canadian amputees, our efforts mainly focus on specific cases that will act as landmark decisions and have rippling positive effects for many other amputees across the country.

This year, we assisted with and won several insurance cases for our members. One case of note involved a 73-year-old above-knee amputee who received a denial from their province's health-care program for a medically necessary artificial limb with a microprocessor-controlled knee unit costing \$30,491. Due to this person's amputation type and age, it was crucial they receive this limb to avoid dangerous and life-threatening falls, which this knee unit can help avoid. The War Amps got involved with the case and, through our efforts, **the province agreed to cover the entire cost of the artificial limb.** This sets an important precedent in Canada as one of the first times a province has fully funded this type of limb.

### Your Story

"Thank you very much for returning our keys. We have had your key tags on our key rings for years and made yearly donations, never expecting that one day it would be very, very useful. The cost of replacing the key fob for our car is \$479!"

– Hélène

We also assisted with the case of a 53-year-old below-knee amputee who needed a new everyday artificial leg. When the claim was made to their insurance, the insurer sent a letter asking for additional information on why an artificial limb with a microprocessor-controlled knee unit was needed. As a below-knee amputee, this member did not need a knee unit. We have found it's not uncommon for insurers to misunderstand amputation and cause unnecessary delays like this, which can discourage amputees from continuing with a claim and can ultimately lead to continued health issues as they go without their prescribed limb. We provided an educational letter to the insurer about below-knee amputees and are happy to report that **they re-evaluated the claim and approved the full amount, less provincial funding,** towards this member's artificial limb.

A recent advocacy win involving a 32-year-old below-elbow amputee was another precedent-setting case for The War Amps. The public may not realize that several insurers refuse to allow direct billing for artificial limbs, which can cost tens of thousands of dollars. This means that even if the cost will be reimbursed later, our members have to pay out of pocket, which few can afford to do. This was the case with this amputee, who, as a parent with young children, struggled financially each time they needed prosthetic care. The War Amps went to bat for this member, and after multiple phone calls and added pressure, **the insurance**

**company agreed to direct bill their prosthetic clinic.** This marks our first win regarding assignment of benefits and is an exciting step forward to resolving a troubling issue.

## Providing funding for the most vulnerable

Covering the costs of daily life like housing and food, which are already high and only increasing, can be a challenge for many Canadians. When an amputation and the many costs associated with it are added on, it can be devastating if an individual is already struggling financially. That's why, through our Advocacy Program, members can apply if they are experiencing extreme financial hardship and are unable to afford prosthetic care or specialized aids and modifications, and we assist the most critical cases when specific criteria are met. This year, we supported **65 adult amputees** above and beyond our standard funding – which we have drastically increased this year across the board – **totalling \$253,681.**

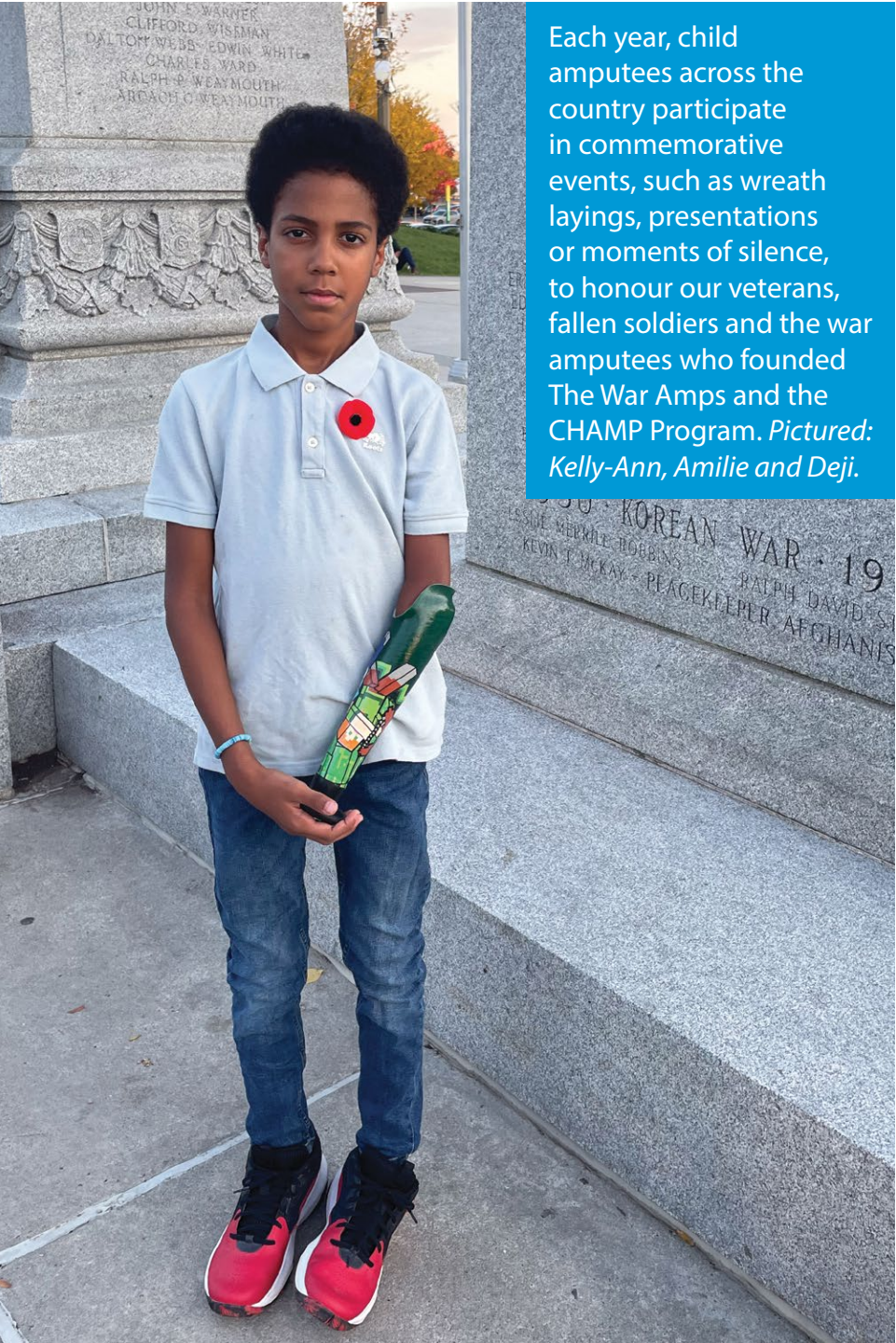
The War Amps provided assistance to a 70-year-old left below-knee and partial right foot amputee this year who was in dire need after not receiving proper prosthetic care following their amputations in 2022. They couldn't afford the travel costs to go to appointments, so in January, **we stepped in to cover these expenses.** We also connected them with a prosthetist, and they were

fit with their first artificial limb and referred to an amputee rehabilitation program. Later, the member needed custom shoes to protect their partial foot, which was too expensive for them to afford; we also covered this cost.

Another case of note involved a 69-year-old below-knee amputee who lost their leg due to diabetes and was struggling financially. This member was required to attend several physiotherapy and rehabilitation appointments before being fit for their first artificial limb. Unfortunately, they were unable to go because they live in a remote area far from the clinics with no access to public transportation and were not able to drive without vehicle modifications. **We approved their funding request for the costs needed to attend their medical appointments and covered \$1,940 towards vehicle modifications** to help them get back on the road to independence.

### Did You Know?

Each year, The War Amps offers bursaries to Champs ages 24 and under to recognize the importance of education in providing future independence to young amputees. In 2024, we awarded **91 bursaries**, contributing **more than \$482,000** to Champs' post-secondary educations.



Each year, child amputees across the country participate in commemorative events, such as wreath layings, presentations or moments of silence, to honour our veterans, fallen soldiers and the war amputees who founded The War Amps and the CHAMP Program. Pictured: Kelly-Ann, Amilie and Deji.

# Our Work for Veterans

The War Amps continues to be the leader in advocating for veterans' rights and legislation, as well as the driving force behind the National Council of Veteran Associations in Canada (NCVA). With more than 100 years of experience in this area, we are represented on four of the six ministerial advisory groups to Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC), co-chairing two of these committees.

## Priority advocacy areas in 2024

Through NCVA, this year The War Amps has continued our long-standing work of engaging in veterans issues through media campaigns, holding meetings with VAC officials and other parties, and our *NCVA Legislative Agenda 2024-25* to summarize our advocacy goals.

At the heart of our current advocacy work is our belief that veterans legislation should equate to a "one veteran – one standard" approach. As it stands, veterans injured before 2006 are covered under the Pension Act and receive far greater funding support when compared to those covered under the current New Veterans Charter/Veterans Well-being Act. We believe VAC should instead combine the best parts of both acts to create a comprehensive

compensation/pension and wellness model to benefit all disabled veterans, no matter where or when they were injured.

Some of our other priorities this year included areas in which we have been outspoken advocates for many years, such as the intolerable backlog and wait-time crisis to process veterans' disability claims, replacing the current inadequate Caregiver Recognition Benefit with a new allowance for veteran caregivers, and achieving enduring cultural change around harassment and sexual misconduct in the military.

With the new appointment in December of Darren Fisher as Minister of Veterans Affairs/ Associate Minister of National Defence, we are hopeful he will move forward the much-needed veterans legislation reform discussed here.

To read about all our advocacy work in detail, please see our *NCVA Legislative Program 2024-25*, available at [ncva-cnaac.ca/en/legislative-program](https://ncva-cnaac.ca/en/legislative-program).

## Success for Last Post Fund claims

This year marked an important milestone for The War Amps decades-long work for our seriously disabled Hong Kong veterans from



the Second World War. **Our final two funeral and burial grant claims to VAC made on behalf of these veterans and their families were successful**, closing a chapter on one part of our advocacy work with the passing of the last Canadian Hong Kong veteran.

The War Amps has acted on behalf of these veterans for decades, including extensive advocacy at the United Nations level for compensation, as well as assisting with their pension, disability and Last Post Fund claims to VAC.

Veterans who become disabled because of their service and pass away from that disability are entitled to these grants. Canadian prisoners of war in Hong Kong suffered forced labour, starvation, disease and much more for 44 months, with many dying in the camps. The veterans who survived suffered lasting disabilities, such as heart issues, vitamin deficiencies, limb deformities and blindness, and should clearly be entitled to the Last Post Fund grants.

Unfortunately, in the past, VAC has often denied these rights or delayed the process excessively for what we believe should be an automatic entitlement. **After The War Amps got involved and provided detailed submissions on behalf of these two Hong Kong veterans, VAC approved their claims**, the last of which we were notified of in December.

We are also pleased to share that we have had **great success over the last year** regarding Last Post funding for seriously disabled amputee veterans. Following discussions with VAC's new director of policy and their move to a more realistic assessment of claims, we have gained support for our automatic entitlement position, and more families are now receiving funding. There is still more to do to ensure automatic funding is granted, though, and we will continue to advocate for this change in the future.

## Major breakthrough for Canadian veterans with cancer

Recently, we received an encouraging update regarding government benefits for veterans with cancer. The War Amps and NCVA have seen that, for decades, Canadian veterans with cancer have faced significant challenges when applying for VAC disability and health-care benefits. Individuals had to show that their cancer was caused by their military service through difficult-to-obtain medical reports and, even then, had claims delayed or outright denied.

In our NCVA Legislative Program, we worked collaboratively with the newly formed Veterans with Cancer (VWC) organization to draw attention to this troubling issue, with members from VWC providing insight and lived experience for our joint advocacy work.

## Your Story

"Such a great organization that helps both young and older children, veterans and everyone who needs their assistance! I gladly donate each year when I get new key tags. It may not be a lot, but every donation goes to a great cause!"

– Bonnie

In late November, **VAC officials confirmed that medical reports are no longer required for cancer survivors**, and that they only need to show they served in a conflict or military deployment where "environmental hazards" were present, such as exposure to burn pits, carbon tetrachloride and Agent Orange, among others.

**This is an incredible step forward for veterans living with cancer.** It will also have a significant impact on the many cases The War Amps has advocated for over the years where a veteran's cancer leads to an amputation, which can be difficult to get VAC to acknowledge is connected to their military service.

Working with VWC, we will monitor future cases to make sure benefits are immediately granted. We will also continue to advocate for VAC to adopt these automatic entitlements for *all* veterans' disability and health-care claims.

For many child amputees, a War Amps event may be the first time they meet someone “just like me.” Our CHAMP seminars, (Re)Connect events and virtual sessions provide a supportive environment to learn about amputation and to connect with other amputees and families. *Pictured: Caydence, Audrey and Megan.*



# Financials

The War Amps has been continued under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act and is registered as a charitable organization with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). The War Amps is funded by donations to the Key Tag Service. It does not receive government grants. For more than 100 years, we have served amputees and continue to support them by providing much-needed funding for artificial limbs, peer support and a strong organization to advocate for their rights.

As part of The War Amps commitment to being accountable to our donors, we are pleased to provide you with our Essential Financial Information. The intent of this financial summary is to provide the most valuable data for our donors in terms of explaining our programs and how their money is being spent.

The War Amps has a unique structure within the charitable field. In 1946, the Key Tag Service was launched to provide employment for returning amputee veterans from the Second World War. This service was recognized as a sheltered workshop at that time. Throughout the intervening years, hundreds of Canadians with disabilities have worked at the Key Tag Service, which continues today. Employees at the Key Tag Service make competitive wages and help provide a service to Canadians that generates funds for the Association.

All of this detailed financial information is provided in our annual filing of form T3010, which is available to the public on the CRA website at [canada.ca/en/services/taxes/charities](https://canada.ca/en/services/taxes/charities). Our full, audited financial statement is also available at [waramps.ca](https://waramps.ca).

The War Amps 2023 financial statements are prepared and audited by Kelly Huibers McNeely Professional Corporation Chartered Professional Accountants. They also prepare our annual filing of the T3010 government return.

We are continually evaluating how we present our financial information in order to ensure that we provide our donors with the facts they need to make a well-informed decision.

The War Amps is proud of its history and the programs and services we offer to amputees. Public support of the Key Tag Service, which has returned more than 1.5 million sets of lost keys, enables the Association to continue to operate its many programs for amputees of all ages, including war amputees and seriously disabled veterans.



## Statement of Revenue and Expense for the year ended December 31, 2023

### REVENUE

Donations (Net)	\$21,368,108
Bequests	8,978,526
Interest and Other	4,033,538
	<u>\$34,380,172</u>

### EXPENSE

Adult Amputee Program	\$11,680,889
CHAMP Program	9,125,195
DRIVESAFE™ Program	334,882
PLAYSAFE™ Program	1,906,307
Prosthetics, Research and Education	559,426
Service Bureau and Advocacy	2,745,004
Special Projects	1,334,271
Veterans Issues – Special	704,758
Widows Assistance Program	227,617
Other Charitable Programs	549,472
Administrative	291,754
	<u>\$29,459,575</u>
Excess of Revenue Over Expense (Expense Over Revenue)	<u>\$ 4,920,597</u>

## Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2023

### ASSETS

Cash and Term Deposits (See Note 1)	\$80,164,475
Property and Equipment	6,044,510
Assets Held for Pension Liability	10,211,664
Other Assets	1,625,587
	<u>\$98,046,236</u>

### LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$ 1,385,254
Pension Liability	7,641,838
	<u>\$ 9,027,092</u>

### EQUITY

Equity in Property Equipment	\$ 6,044,510
Appropriated Equity (See Note 2)	75,060,000
Unappropriated Net Assets (Deficiency of Net Assets)	7,694,224
Externally Restricted for Endowment Purposes	220,410
	<u>\$89,019,144</u>
	<u>\$98,046,236</u>

## Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2023

### 1. CASH AND TERM DEPOSITS

The Association receives a significant portion of its funding immediately prior to the year end. These funds are used to finance the operations of its charitable activities in the ensuing year.

### 2. APPROPRIATED EQUITY

CHAMP Program	\$60,000,000
Prosthetics Research Fund	15,000,000
Survivors' Subsistence Grants	60,000
	<u>\$75,060,000</u>

The National Board of Directors has approved appropriations to:

- Provide for long-term commitments made on behalf of children enrolled in the Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program.
- Provide a special prosthetics and research fund to address the special needs of amputees where a standard limb will not provide quality of life and to carry out research on advances in prosthetic limbs.
- Provide survivors' subsistence grants of \$2,000 per member on the death of an active member and \$1,000 on the death of the spouse. Payment of these grants is at the discretion of the Association on the basis of need.

### 3. COVID-19 PANDEMIC

When the COVID-19 pandemic commenced, a number of measures were implemented by governments and the Association to combat the spread of the disease.

These restrictions limited our ability to carry out our purpose, including:

- Providing financial and advisory services, including artificial limbs.
- Providing support and spreading awareness through in-person events, such as seminars and presentations.
- Providing employment to Canadians with disabilities.

We are in the process of successfully reinstating these important programs and anticipate operations to return to pre-pandemic levels in 2025.

# Thank You

## Your support helps amputees achieve their goals.

The donations The War Amps receives from the public through our Key Tag Service make all our programs possible, and we do not take this support for granted. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, including corporate and foundation donors and those who have left estate donations in their wills, you are helping amputees across Canada to thrive.

Whether by providing financial assistance for the essential artificial limbs amputees need every day or helping individuals make meaningful connections with others going through the same thing, we cannot do this work without you. Looking forward, we will continue to carry on and evolve our programs and services to best serve the needs of amputees, now and in the future.

### Your Story

"We got our keys back after losing them and are very grateful for your service. In addition to your War Amps key tags, we had an expensive tracker attached to the keys. When my husband lost his keys, we of course tried to locate them, but we discovered that the batteries had died several months ago, and our fancy new technology was, in fact, useless! Thank you again for all you do."

– Charles and Wendy



# Governance

2024

## Executive Committee

Brian N. Forbes, B.Comm., LLB . . . . . Chairman, Executive Committee  
David Saunders, CPA, CA. . . . . Chief Operating Officer

## Executive Subcommittee

Danita Chisholm . . . . . Executive Director  
Darlene Quesnel . . . . . Executive Director  
Katie Dunfield . . . . . Director, Public Relations  
Annelise Petlock . . . . . Director, General Counsel and Member Programs

## Quebec Operations

Louis Bourassa . . . . . Director, Programs and Community Outreach (Quebec)  
Yardley Sandaire . . . . . Director, Internal Operations (Quebec)

## Board of Directors

Lorraine Cornelius . . . . . Chair of the Board  
Merrill Loepky . . . . . Regional Representative, Manitoba  
Tim Verney . . . . . Regional Representative, Nova Scotia  
Caroline Viau . . . . . Regional Representative, Quebec

## Connect With Us

### National Headquarters

2827 Riverside Drive  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1V 0C4  
Tel.: 1 800 465-2677 • 613 731-3821  
Fax: 1 855 860-5595 • 613 731-3234  
communications@waramps.ca

### Key Tag Service

1 Maybrook Drive  
Scarborough, Ontario  
M1V 5K9  
Tel.: 1 800 250-3030 • 416 412-0600  
Fax: 1 800 219-8988 • 416 297-2650  
customerservice@waramps.ca

### The War Amps – Quebec

Key Tag Service  
606 Cathcart Street, Suite 530  
Montreal, Quebec  
H3B 1K9  
Tel.: 1 800 265-0494 • 514 398-0759  
Fax: 1 877 600-6212 • 514 398-0699  
serviceclientele@amputesdeguerre.ca

For more information, please visit  
**waramps.ca.**

Find us on social media!  
**@TheWarAmps #WarAmps**

Charitable Registration No.: 13196 9628 RR0001

## Regional Representatives

To continue the legacy of “amputees helping amputees” started by the war amputee veterans before them, our Regional Representatives – all CHAMP graduates who have actively participated in Association initiatives throughout their lives – play an important role as part of our governance structure. Their involvement furthers the work of the war amputees who originally founded the Association and established the essential charitable programs that have successfully evolved over the years.

Tara Klippert  
*(Yukon and the North)*

Chris Koch  
*(Alberta)*

Isabelle Dugré  
*(Quebec)*

Tim Inglis  
*(British Columbia)*

Angie Ducharme-Johnson  
*(Saskatchewan)*

Caroline Viau  
*(Quebec)*

Keith Parker  
*(British Columbia)*

Leanne Holtvogt  
*(Saskatchewan)*

Justin Belliveau  
*(New Brunswick)*

Selena Smakal  
*(British Columbia)*

Merrill Loepky  
*(Manitoba)*

Kevin Roscoe  
*(Nova Scotia)*

Jennah Stavroff  
*(British Columbia)*

Kevin Delaney  
*(Ontario)*

Tim Verney  
*(Nova Scotia)*

Lisa DeJong  
*(Alberta)*

Chinyere Eni-McLean  
*(Ontario)*

Stephen Hann  
*(Prince Edward Island)*

Liz Gareau  
*(Alberta)*

Christine McMaster  
*(Ontario)*

Shelley Churchill  
*(Newfoundland and  
Labrador)*

Annae Jones  
*(Alberta)*

Denise Swedlo  
*(Ontario)*



Regional Representatives and arm amputees Liz Gareau (Alberta) and Caroline Viau (Quebec, also Board of Directors member) at a CHAMP Seminar in 2024

# Donor Recognition

The War Amps many programs and services are made possible by the support of our donors; we do not receive government grants. We would like to gratefully recognize some of our foundation, corporation and community group donors from 2024 whose support helped improve the lives of amputees across Canada.

## Foundations

Akira and Misae  
Masuda Fund at Calgary  
Foundation

Alex & Wendy Campbell  
Flow Through Fund at  
Calgary Foundation

Allan Deal

Allen Family Foundation

Anonymous Donor at  
Calgary Foundation

Anonymous Fund at  
Ottawa Community  
Foundation

Anthony & Rosemary  
Nichols Foundation

Arnie J. Charbonneau  
Foundation

The Audrey Loeb and  
David Ross Foundation

Baher Family Fund at  
Calgary Foundation

Barbara Caldwell Fund  
at Ottawa Community  
Foundation

Bates Family Foundation

Benevolent Badgers Fund  
at Edmonton Community  
Foundation

Choi Family Foundation  
Fund at Vancouver  
Foundation

Clay Family Charitable  
Foundation at Vancouver  
Foundation

Colchester Fund at Elgin-  
St. Thomas Community  
Foundation

David & Ann Kennett

The David & Elizabeth  
Keddie Family Foundation

Derek Anderson Charitable  
Fund

Dermarkar Family  
Foundation

Donald & Sheila Bayne

Donna MacLean War Amp  
Fund at Community  
Foundation of Southeastern  
Alberta

The Doris & Les French  
Foundation

Doris Tanner Pimm Fund  
at Edmonton Community  
Foundation

Dr. George L. Frederick  
& Mrs. Amelia Frederick  
Caring Foundation at  
Raymond James Canada  
Foundation

Dr. J. David and Doris  
Roger Family Fund at  
Ottawa Community  
Foundation

Elizabeth and Gene  
Maurice Fund at Calgary  
Foundation

Elizabeth Downing

Ernest & Anne Steers Fund  
at Victoria Foundation

Ernie & Cody Christman  
Family Fund at Edmonton  
Community Foundation

Evert Bakker

Fondation Jacques Lessard

Fonds Fondation Famille  
Germaine et Camille  
Rhéaume

Gary Bluestein Charitable  
Foundation

G. Murray and Edna Forbes  
Foundation Fund at South  
Saskatchewan Community  
Foundation

Grassby & Bennett  
Family Fund at Calgary  
Foundation

Harvey and Louise  
Glatt Fund at Ottawa  
Community Foundation

Higgins Family Fund  
at Ottawa Community  
Foundation

Irving Family Charitable Gift Fund	Kis Brothers Fund at Calgary Foundation	Paul E.K. and Suzanne Cornforth Fund at Ottawa Community Foundation	Roderick D Murray Foundation at Vancouver Foundation	Sjur, Martine and Reidun Seim Fund at Vancity Community Foundation
Jacob and Sandra Silberberg Family Fund at Vancouver Foundation	LIR Endowment Fund at Calgary Foundation	The Radford Family Fund	Ron and Elaine Billing Fund at London Community Foundation	SL Whitehead Foundation
Jacqueline and Richard Jones Fund at United Church of Canada Foundation	Marisue Miller	Ralph & Gay Young Family Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation	Rudi & Sylvia Hoenson Foundation at Victoria Foundation	Stephen Fournier
J. Christopher C. Wansbrough	Mark and Nancy Heule at Edmonton Community Foundation	Rheume Family Foundation	Ruthie Ladovsky Endowment Fund at Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto	Tarek Belghith, CEO of RZ Network Inc.
Jean & Gerry Staring Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation	Meir Rotenberg & Sharon Wolfe Family Fund at Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto	Richard and Justine Giuliani Foundation at Hamilton Community Foundation	Sage and Shea O'Neill Children's Fund at Calgary Foundation	Tillema War Amps Fund at Calgary Foundation
Joan Norman	Moses Charitable Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation	Rick and Daphne Hammond	Sandala Emery Family Fund at Toronto Foundation	Vibrant Communities Giving Program at Enbridge Gas
John & Janis Lynne Van Brunt	The Nancarrow Foundation	R&K Fund at Niagara Community Foundation	The Sandra Sengara Charitable Fund	William, Laura and Christopher Cook Memorial Fund at Victoria Foundation
Jones Family Foundation	Niro Family Foundation	Robert and Elizabeth Weaver Fund at United Church of Canada Foundation		
Judy Palmer	Patterson Family Fund			
Juno Fund at Vancity Community Foundation	The Patterson Family Fund			

## Corporations

14908783 Canada Inc.	Acabec Inc.	Anne Woods Medicine Professional Corp.	Architect 57 Inc.	BentallGreenOak (Canada) LP
1748271 Ontario Inc. o/a easyhome Franchise	Annar Holdings Inc.	Aqua-Tech Pools	Baldachin Inn	Black Sheep Pub

Blue Sky RV Resorts	Dr. Hilary L Clark Dental Prof Corp.	Gracie's Thrift Store at Trinity-Grace United Church	Ottobock Healthcare Canada Ltd.	Seyglor Consultants Inc.
Brium Inc.	Dr. Pierre Harvey MD Inc.	High Tech Communications	PC Corp Inc.	Simple Abilities Inc.
Brown's Auto Salvage Ltd.	Dr. Sébastien Nadeau C.P. Inc.	HWMR Ltd.	Placements Durand Lafortune Inc.	SKYMAX Consulting Inc.
Canyon Plumbing & Heating Ltd.	ESP-WattMobile	J.C. Thomas Law Corp.	PowerCon Inc.	Susan Tacon Arbitrations Inc.
Carbo Kwan Criminal Law	Essco Holdings Ltd.	Kingswood Pharmacy	RB Avocats	Tabac Family Holdings Inc.
Central Steel Works	Federal Screen Products Inc.	Martyn Bassett Associates Inc.	Reactor Maintenance Consultants Inc.	Valentine Volvo
Collecdev Markee	Futureflow Consultants	Nordson Canada Ltd.	Renovation Supreme Denis Deschenes	Vérification d'Isolation Thermographique
Crane Carrier (Canada) Ltd.	Gestion Famaon Inc.	Northern Fireplace	Rousseau Marketing Inc.	VieSun Inc. (Gandalf Spirulina)
CrossNick Consulting Inc.	Gestion Immobilière Logis-Tech Inc.	Northern Harbour	SAM Inter (2024) Inc.	Wm. Groves Ltd.
Custom Door & Lock Service	Glenn Antony Ives Professional Corp.	Occudiz Inc.	Services d'Enseignes Belna Inc.	
Darling Insurance	Global Repair Ltd.	OHM Security Ltd.	SES Inc.	
Derek Wilke Radiation Oncologist Inc.		Össur Canada		

## Community Groups

1 <sup>st</sup> CAV Motorcycle Club	Defenders Motorcycle Club Chapter 12	Living Waters Ministry	Royal Canadian Legion Branch 609 Bramalea
Bullafest	Joel Holland and Alma Harlow at 902 Athletics	London Auto Modifiers	Strawberry Blonde Bakery
Champ Alaric's lemonade stand	The Lawrie Group of Home Hardware Stores	Mike Anderssen at Anderssen Wealth Management	Sully's hockey card fundraiser
Champ Bodi's lemonade stand		Parksville Lawn Bowling Club	
Champ Léa's fundraiser			