



CANADIAN CENTRE ON DISABILITY STUDIES 2013-14 ANNUAL REPORT



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About CCDS

The Canadian Centre on Disability Studies (CCDS) is a not-for-profit, consumer-directed and university-affiliated national organization dedicated to research, education and knowledge mobilization on issues facing people with disabilities. Through our activities, we promote full and equal participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of society – locally, provincially/territorially, nationally and internationally. CCDS is guided by the philosophies of independent living and community living, emphasizing human rights, self-determination, interdependence, equality, and full and meaningful participation of all citizens. With its cross-disability focus inclusive of mental health, CCDS seeks partnerships with the disability community, corporate sector, academe and government with a vision of enhancing the lived experience of persons living with disabilities, and their partners and families, in communities throughout Canada and abroad.

2013-14 Board of Directors

Executive

President:

Darcy MacPherson

Winnipeg, MB

1st Vice President:

Don Fuchs

Winnipeg, MB

Secretary:

Anne Kresta

Winnipeg, MB

Treasurer:

John VanWalleghem

Winnipeg, MB

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Heidi Janz

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Member at Large:

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Board:

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Christine Kelly

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Ottawa, ON

Sally Lindsay

Toronto, ON

Sylvie Lirette

Ottawa, ON

2013-14 Staff

Susan Hardie

Executive Director
(effective February
2014)

Olga Krassioukova-Enns

Executive Director (until
June 2013)

Allen Mankewich

Communications
Coordinator

Iryna Khomenko

International Project
Coordinator

Youn-Young Park

Senior Researcher

Eleanor Chornoboy

Policy Analyst

Carol Wiens

Accountant

Denise Desmond

Administrative Assistant
(until September 2013)

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Facebook: [CanadianCentreOnDisabilityStudies](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianCentreOnDisabilityStudies)

Letter from the CCDS President

Dear Members,

The last year has once again represented a year of transition for the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies Inc. The decisions of both Administrative Assistant Denise Desmond and Executive Director Dr. Olga Krassioukova-Enns to move on to other ventures left holes in our organization. We thank them for their service of five and 15 years respectively. But the arrival of Dr. Susan Lynn Hardie represents a different area of strength with a background in mental health as well as other types of disabilities. She has hit the ground running, and has already made an extremely positive impression on the organization. We welcome Susan, and we continue to search for a quality replacement for the Administrative Assistant position. We also have a new bookkeeper, Yi Wang, hired in the last month, to assist our Accountant Carol Wiens, who is now working out of British Columbia.

Despite all this change, at the staff level, there has also been a degree of continuity. Both Youn-Young Park and Allen Mankewich have been pillars of strength throughout this period, alongside Iryna Konstantiuk. A number of students and volunteers have been donating time to the organization, including Theresa Chernecki and Alyssa Goodbrand. All have been involved in different organizational activities and projects, and the hard work of all has been critical to all aspects of CCDS's development. Thank you all.

The Board has been a tremendous body over the last 12 months. The loss of one leader (Dr. Krassioukova-Enns) allowed room for other leaders to show their

talents in greater measure. In particular, I have to thank John VanWalleghem, who for a period was in the office seemingly every other day. Dedication and commitment are two of John's hallmarks, but he is hardly alone in that. Many members of the Board showed these attributes as well. The organization would not be the same without all of the people who have dedicated to time, energy and talent to it. Four members of the Board are not seeking re-election this year. Ian Buck, Dr. Don Fuchs, Carmela Hutchison and Anne Kresta will be leaving their current roles. Some are leaving to show leadership on our term limits initiative, to encourage a broadening of our membership and board composition to new people. Others have outside commitments that are occupying a good deal of their time. In either case, as an organization, we thank them, and we hope to welcome them back to active roles in the organization in the future.

In terms of projects, the Senior Centres project has been completed, and the Visitability project continues in a number of cities across the country. Preparations for new partnerships and proposals are already underway. The future is uncertain, but this organization has shown the ability to adapt, to adjust, and to transition to new opportunities. I am confident that we as an organization will be able to continue to do this.

Respectfully submitted,
Darcy MacPherson
Chair, CCDS Board of Directors

Letter from the CCDS Executive Director

Upon joining CCDS as the Executive Director in February 2014, I became re-immersed into a rapidly changing social, economic and political landscape for persons living with disabilities, inclusive of mental health, in Canada. With this knowledge, I knew it was essential for the CCDS to learn from the past, locate itself in the present, and envision the future with individuals and collectives dedicated to actualizing an inclusive, equitable and just society for people living with disabilities, their families, friends, partners and communities.

Over the past five months, I have had many individ-

uals and organizational representatives, diversely located, offer to meet with me to share their reflections about the past, present and future vision of CCDS in Winnipeg, Manitoba, nationally and internationally. For these conversations I am extremely grateful. I truly believe in the saying that "those who forget the past are doomed to repeat it" (Edmund Burke). CCDS will learn from its strengths and challenges historically, and collaborate with others to co-create refined organizational processes that will enable us to be a sustained presence in research, education and knowledge mobilization in disability issues, and studies, in the future.

Another pressing challenge facing CCDS is the need to infuse some hope into community, provincial, territorial, national and international dialogues. We need a new way of seeing, being and doing that fosters hope, trust and respect with partners in the transformative initiatives essential to the survival of the CCDS. The litmus test of the CCDS work will be the degree to which people living with disabilities, their families, friends, partners, and communities in Canada, and internationally, have access to the opportunities and resources so that they can aspire toward and actualize full and meaningful lives as global citizens.

CCDS has already begun to engage both historic, and new partners, in discussions exploring innovative ways of collaborating in research, education and

knowledge mobilization. If you are a person living with a disability, family member, friend, partner, service provider, policy analyst, researcher and/or interested community member, we invite you to be a part of the re-visioning process of CCDS. By becoming a member of CCDS you can become a partner in our transformative organization change, beginning with our comprehensive strategic planning process at CCDS this fall.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Lynn Hardie
Executive Director

"Be the change you want to see in the world"
- Mahatma Gandhi

CCDS Program Committee Report

During the 2013-14 fiscal year, Program Committee members included:

Neil Belanger*, Allen Mankewich (CCDS staff), Tracey Bone, Natalie Mulaire, Eleanor Chornoboy, Youn-Young Park (CCDS staff), Donna Collins, Shahin Shoostari, Don Fuchs, John VanWalleghem (Chair), Susan Hardie (CCDS staff)*, Colleen Watters, Darcy MacPerson (ex officio)

*new member in 2013-2014

The Committee met monthly until February 2014. At that time in order to allow Dr. Hardie to settle into her role as the new Executive Director, the Program Committee was made inactive pending CCDS strategic planning and possible reorganization. However, a great deal of Committee work had already occurred.

The Collaborative Knowledge Building and Action for VISIBLE Housing in Canadian Cities (the VISIBILITY Project) was successfully initiated. The three-year project (2013-2016) has three major objectives:

1. To increase understanding of VISABLE housing in terms of lived experiences, current policies and practices, impacts, barriers, and best practices;
2. To develop and implement strategies to promote VISABLE housing in concerted efforts of buyers, builders and policy makers;
3. To increase the awareness of positive impacts of

VISABLE housing, such as safety, social inclusion and active living of residents, inclusive community building and sustainable housing.

Phase 1 involved recruiting and establishing six task forces in communities across Canada – Victoria (three First Nations communities), Richmond, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Kitchener-Waterloo. Phase 2 will involve supporting those task forces to expand local knowledge about and application of the concept of VISABILITY. The CCDS roles are to support project and task force activities and collect and disseminate knowledge that supports application of VISABILITY. For more information about VISABILITY or the project and to indicate your support for VISABLE housing in Canada, please visit the website at <http://visiblehousingcanada.com> or contact Dr. Park.

The Promoting Inclusion of Seniors with intellectual Disabilities in Winnipeg Senior Centres Project continued studying the integration of senior adults with intellectual disabilities within mainstream senior centres in Winnipeg. Dr. Park arranged the connections for various adults and studied both the processes and benefits. She applied for (and received) an extension for additional data gathering.

The Small Grants Sub-Committee (Donna Collins (Chair), Natalie Mulaire, Shahin Shoostari, and Colleen Watters with support from Allen Mankewich) made a call for proposals, received and reviewed five applications and recommended two that were

approved by the CCDS Board:

- A study by Cary Brown (University of Alberta) on best sleep environments for those who have cerebral palsy.
- A study by Jennifer Leo (Abilities Centre) of the impact of social media skills development and online community participation on the experiences of youth with and without disabilities.

CCDS has greatly appreciated several years of financial support from the Society for Manitobans with Disabilities for one of the two small grants that have been awarded annually. Unfortunately, SMD informed CCDS that it will no longer provide that support. The small grants process will become inactive pending CCDS strategic planning and

2013-14 CCDS Small Grants

Since 2001, CCDS, with the support by the Society for Manitobans with Disabilities Foundation, has awarded grants to facilitate the involvement of new researchers and assist community-based disability research initiatives in Canada. Two CCDS Small Grants, funded by Society for Manitobans with Disabilities and CCDS, are awarded annually by the CCDS Small Grants Subcommittee.

In 2013-14, Dr. Cary Brown of University of Alberta received funding for the proposal *Providing the best sleep environments for children with cerebral palsy*. This study addresses the need parents have to access and apply evidence-based environmental sleep interventions (ESI) for their child with cerebral palsy

CCDS Nominations Committee Report

Anne Kresta, Majid Turmusani, Gregor Wolbring, and Darcy MacPherson (chair) formed the Nominations Committee, with staff support from Allen Mankewich, to make recommendations to the Board regarding Board membership for the elections at the September 2013 AGM.

Current CCDS Board Members Heidi Janz, Anne Kresta, and Dale Stevenson submitted for re-election in 2013-14 and were re-elected to the Board, along

possible reorganization.

Among her myriad new duties, Dr. Hardie has been integrating her own past and potential research and organizational connections within her work with CCDS. Most importantly, CCDS continues to look for new project opportunities that will further organizational objectives.

I personally wish to thank the Program Committee members for their thoughtful and energetic participation and CCDS staff for their support, with particular thanks to Dr. Park for organizational and secretarial support to the Committee.

Submitted by: John VanWalleghem,
Program Committee Chair

Jennifer Leo of the Abilities Centre submitted the proposal *Exploring the impact of enhancing social media skills on experiences of social inclusion among youth with and without disabilities*. This study will examine the impact of social media skill development and online community participation on experiences of social inclusion among youth with and without disabilities.

CCDS is currently re-evaluating its Small Grants Program. The program will be on hold until further notice. We would like to thank the SMD Foundation for their support of the CCDS Small Grants Program to date.

with Sylvie Lirette of Ottawa, and Sally Lindsay of Toronto, who were nominated through the 2013 nomination process.

Each of our past and present Board members have shown a strong commitment to CCDS and disability issues, and CCDS thanks them for their service.

Submitted by: Darcy MacPherson
Nominations Committee Chairperson

2013-14 CCDS Project Highlights

VisitAbility Project

In April 2014, CCDS launched a three-year national initiative, Collaborative Knowledge Building and Action for VisitAble Housing in Canadian Cities (VisitAbility Project). This project is funded by the Government of Canada's Social Development Partnerships Program – Disability Component.

This project intends to promote VisitAble housing for all people living in Canada, including seniors and persons with disabilities. The project objectives are:

- 1) To increase understanding of VisitAble housing by highlighting lived experiences and reviewing current policies and practices, impacts, barriers, and best practices;
- 2) To develop and implement strategies to promote VisitAble housing among buyers, builders, policy makers, and other stakeholders; and
- 3) To increase the awareness of VisitAble housing by highlighting the positive impacts, such as safety, social inclusion and active living of residents, inclusive community building and sustainable housing.

In 2013-14, the Project established the Advisory Committee of nine members and six task forces with a total of 46 members. The advisory committee and task forces are comprised of three stakeholder groups: housing consumers, professionals in the housing industry, and policy makers. Task forces are located in three First Nations near Victoria, BC; Richmond, BC; Edmonton, AB; Winnipeg, MB; Kitchener and Waterloo, ON; and Ottawa, ON. The mandate of task forces is to promote VisitAble housing in their municipalities or communities. The CCDS Project Team works closely with the VisitAbility Advisory Committee and six task forces across Canada.

In 2013-14, the CCDS Project team focused on research, networking, and resource development. We conducted a literature review, environmental scan, and policy review on VisitAble housing. Based on the results, we produced information resources, such as reports, factsheets, PowerPoint presentations, and a list of resources. In addition, the Project Team held information sessions with task forces, where we shared

information and resources about VisitAble housing and established strong working relationships. Among the notable project activities in 2013-14 were a case study on the Bridgwater Project, which is a housing development initiative in Winnipeg which incorporated VisitAble housing on a large scale.

For more information about the VisitAbility Project visit visitablehousingcanada.com, or contact Allen Mankewich at amankewich@disabilitystudies.ca.

Inclusive Senior Centres Project

The Inclusive Senior Centres Project is a two year initiative (September 2012 – August 2014). The purpose of this project is to enhance the social inclusion of older adults with intellectual disabilities by promoting their participation in community senior centre programs around Winnipeg. This research project is funded by the Winnipeg Foundation.

In 2013-14, Youn-Young examined the experiences and perceptions of those who are involved in the participation of older adults with intellectual disabilities in mainstream senior centres in Winnipeg. The project involved the participation of three stakeholder groups: older adults with intellectual disabilities, disability organizations (and support workers), and senior centres. Ten older adults with intellectual disabilities completed their participation in one or more programs at a senior centre of their choice. Youn-Young conducted individual interviews with the ten older adult participants, eight support workers, and 10 senior centre personnel and the data analysis.

In the next year, the researcher will conduct focus groups with stakeholders to discuss the results of the interviews and finalize the data analysis. CCDS will share with stakeholders the findings and facilitate the promotion of social inclusion of older adults with intellectual disabilities by producing information resources and hosting a community forum.

For more information about the Inclusive Senior Centres Project, please visit disabilitystudies.ca/senior-centres/, or contact Youn-Young Park at ypark@disabilitystudies.ca.

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Members of Canadian Centre on Disability Studies Incorporated

We have audited the statement of financial position of Canadian Centre on Disability Studies Incorporated as at March 31, 2014 and the statements of operations, net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence

about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at March 31, 2014 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

August 22, 2014

Talbot & Associates

Certified General Accountants

Statement of Financial Position - March 31, 2014

ASSETS	2014	2013
CURRENT		
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 171,460	\$ 385,447
Accounts receivable	11,622	32,620
Due from Endowment Fund (Note 6)	305,575	244,716
Due from Government Agencies	3,624	2,392
Prepaid expenses	14,115	8,956
	<u>\$ 506,396</u>	<u>\$ 674,131</u>
SCHOLARSHIP FUND - INVESTMENT	37,367	37,280
ENDOWMENT FUND INVESTMENTS (Note 5)	1,585,902	1,585,902
	<u>\$ 2,129,665</u>	<u>\$ 2,297,313</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 36,856	\$ 223,867
NET ASSETS		
Scholarship Fund	37,367	37,280
Endowment fund (Note 5)	1,585,902	1,585,902
General Fund	469,540	450,764
	<u>\$ 2,092,809</u>	<u>\$ 2,073,946</u>
	<u>\$ 2,129,665</u>	<u>\$ 2,297,313</u>

Statement of Operations - Year Ending March 31, 2014

	2014	2013
FUNDED PROJECT REVENUE	\$ 472,646	\$ 1,174,400
(Note 7)		
FUNDED PROJECT EXPENSES		
Direct expenses	408,993	1,068,186
Administrative expenses	63,653	106,214
	<u>472,626</u>	<u>1,174,400</u>
	-	-
OTHER REVENUES		
Donations and memberships	2,431	3,015
Interest income	4,908	3,540
Other	5,617	20,640
	<u>12,956</u>	<u>27,195</u>
EXPENSES		
Business taxes, licenses and Insurance	500	-
Interest and bank charges	1,433	570
Office	2,582	-
Professional fees	16,025	968
Rental	29,046	6,000
Sub-contracts	32,312	25,037
Telephone	37,978	-
Travel	3,422	292
Wages and benefits	12,470	-
Website	38,224	22,841
Expenses allocated to funded projects	1,700	-
	<u>(63,653)</u>	<u>(106,214)</u>
	112,039	(50,506)
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ (99,083)	\$ 77,701