



ALS Society of Alberta

Annual Report
2007

Message from our Honorary Chair

Honorary Chair - Mr Jim Gray

As Honorary Chair of the ALS Society of Alberta, I am very pleased to send my best wishes along to the volunteers, staff and most importantly those individuals living with and affected by ALS.

The mission of the ALS Society is to make each day the best possible day for people living with and affected by ALS. This year marks the twenty first year the Society has been active in providing supports and services across Alberta.

Thank you to all of the countless volunteers, donors and staff who have blessed the Society with their dedication and commitment to raising awareness, providing hope and finding a cure for this devastating disease.

James K. Gray, O.C., A.O.E.

What is ALS?

ALS stands for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, sometimes called Lou Gehrig's disease. It is a rapidly progressive and fatal neuromuscular disease that is characterized by the degeneration of a select group of nerve cells and pathways (motor neurons) in the brain and spinal cord. This loss of motor neurons leads to progressive paralysis of the voluntary muscles. Since breathing is controlled voluntarily by the chest muscles, death usually occurs when the chest muscles are no longer able to help the lungs achieve adequate oxygenation. Generally, there is little impairment to the brain or the senses.

Our vision

Our vision is to make each day the best possible day for people living with and affected by ALS. We achieve our vision by providing support, facilitating the provision of care, promoting awareness, helping find a cure and advocating for change.

Our services

- Quality care and support to those affected by ALS
- Information and referrals
- Equipment
- Information to build awareness and advocacy



Message from Chair and Executive Director

2007 was another year of extraordinary achievements for the ALS Society of Alberta, its staff, volunteers and all those who are connected to the Society in so many ways.

A major project of the past year is the development of our Strategic Plan, which will guide our activities and initiatives for the next five years. Thank you to everyone who participated in creating the plan. We were very humbled by your messages that identified the high level of support provided by our dedicated staff, and the need to continue and increase the support and equipment offered to those affected by ALS. In response to many comments received through the Strategic Planning process, we will also continue to increase public awareness of the devastating impact ALS has on individuals, family members and entire communities of people who interact with people living with ALS. We will also continue to support national research through our contributions to ALS Canada. Contributions that come as a result of the amazing efforts of our volunteer committees who organize the 9 Walks for ALS that take place throughout the province, and Betty's Run in Calgary. In 2007, ALS Alberta contributed over \$330,000 to ALS Research, the highest amount of any province in the country.

The skills and devotion of the volunteers of the ALS Society of Alberta are well recognized throughout the country. The ALS Canada Awards Ceremony was recently held in Toronto, in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of ALS Canada, and the National Research Symposium. Volunteers from Alberta were honoured for their work in fundraising, organizing the Walk for ALS and leadership. With this kind of skill and commitment working for and with us, ALS Alberta and the people we serve are in good hands. The ALS Society of Alberta is truly a community of staff, volunteers, donors, partners and individuals living with and affected by ALS. It is a community of people who generously share their gifts wherever and whenever it is needed. It is a community that we are extremely proud to be a part of.



Chair



Executive Director

Highlights

2007 Walks – A year to remember

The annual Walks for ALS were once again held all over the province. 8 locations participated and raised over \$300,000! Walks were held in Edmonton, Red Deer, Cold Lake, Lloydminster, Grande Prairie, Manning, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. Over 1400 people walked for ALS all across Alberta to raise awareness and funds for client services and ALS research. These Walks were made so successful by the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers in each location. Thank you so much for everything you have done!



Making Betty Proud!

The 11th annual Betty's Run for ALS was one for the record books! The Run raised over \$500,000 for client services and ALS research. It was extremely well attended, with over 1400 walkers and runners. It was a beautiful day to come together and honour those who are living and have lived with ALS. Thanks to the Betty's Run committee for making the day such a great success!

The Betty Norman Research Fellowship

In 2007, Betty's Run contributed \$216,000 to ALS research. In recognition of the significant contributions of the Betty's Run for research, in 2007, ALS Canada named a two-year Clinical Fellowship at the University of Alberta ALS Clinic in the name of Betty Norman. The two-year fellowship emphasizes ALS clinical care and research. It focuses on several areas including clinical expertise and leadership, teaching and research. This is the first ever fellowship in Alberta dedicated to ALS research.



Highlights

Good eats

Many people in the Red Deer area were treated to some extravagant dinners cooked by Bo Todd who owns Bo's Bar and Grill. Bo holds a charity event three times a year to support the ALS Society of Alberta. Bo cooks a fantastic 5 course meal that is paired with great wines!

ALS – From the heart

The first annual "From the Heart" fundraiser was held this year in Calgary. The evening was filled with great entertainment and fantastic silent auction items. The event raised over \$10,000 for the ALS Society of Alberta. Thanks to Linda McMurray for all her hard work which made the first year so successful!

Dining in style

The annual Lloydminster dinner and silent auction was held again in April. The event was incredibly well attended with over 500 people. The guests were entertained by a theatrical production and got the chance to bid on some fantastic items! Special thanks to Colleen Christie who organized this event for the 9th year in a row!

A sweet tooth for ALS

Rick Gray continues to support ALS by selling delicious chocolate covered almonds and donating proceeds to the ALS Society of Alberta! Rick raised over \$60,000 in 2007 for ALS! Thank you Rick!

Supporting our Champions

ALS Alberta has recently launched a program which allows children of parents with ALS the opportunity to participate in fun activities such as hockey camps, field trips or even university education by giving financial aid to all children under 18 who are in need. This year over \$13,000 was awarded and for the first time, two university education bursaries were granted!

Driving hard for ALS

Once again people from all over Calgary came together to tee off for ALS at the Charitee Golf Tournament. The tournament, now in its 6th year, was held once again at the Pinebrook Golf and Country Club and raised an amazing \$100,000 again! Many thanks to the fantastic committee who ensure that everyone has a great time!

Awards

ALS Canada Awards

Greg, Beth and Vince LeBlanc – Mary Pollock Walk Award

Mark LeBlanc battled ALS for 5 years and passed away peacefully in 2006. His brother and parents have been running the Walk for ALS in Red Deer ever since. The LeBlanc's, with the help of their committee, have increased the number of walkers and the amount raised exponentially. They have managed to double the profits from 2006 raising over \$100,000 in 2007! Their dedication, support and gentle nature makes them truly remarkable people. They were awarded the Mary Pollock Walk Award for outstanding Walk contributions by the ALS Society of Canada.



(Left to right—Vince LeBlanc, Beth LeBlanc, Katherine Pollock (Mary Pollock's Daughter)

Charitee Golf Tournament for ALS (Gerry Stotts and Dan Huras) – Exceptional Fundraising Award – Third Party

The Charitee Golf Tournament for ALS is an annual event that has raised in excess of \$700,000 for ALS research and the ALS Society of Alberta client services and equipment. The first tournament was held in 1998 in honour of Evelyn Bell, who was living with ALS. The tournament now boasts a large committee who help make the day such a success. In 2007 alone \$100,000 was raised! The committee won the award for exceptional fundraising in a third party event.



(Left to right—Karen Caughey—ED, ALS Alberta, Jane Rivest—ALS Alberta, Gerry Stotts, Dan Huras, Cathy Martin—Board, ALS Alberta)

Awards

Cathy Martin – William Fraser Leadership Award

In 2003, Cathy started volunteering with the ALS Society of Alberta with the Walk for ALS in Edmonton. She then stepped up to chair the committee and built a solid foundation for the Edmonton Walk to take off from. This year the Edmonton Walk raised over \$145,000. Cathy has been a member of the Board of Directors of the ALS Society of Alberta for 5 years and is now the Chair. Cathy's ability to mediate, understand and be compassionate is unmatched by anyone. Her drive and determination to support the Society, while making all those around her feel appreciated and supported is truly remarkable. Cathy was awarded the William Fraser Leadership Award for outstanding leadership in the Society.



(Left to right—Tara Pentney, Board—ALS Albert,
Cathy Martin, Karen Caughey ED—ALS Alberta,)

Treasurer's Report

Year Ended December 31, 2007

2007 was another solid year for the Society. Revenues increased approximately 7% from 2006 to over \$1.7 million for 2007 due mainly to higher revenues from Betty's Run and Walk for ALS, two key events for the Society. These, along with other significant fundraising activities that our staff and volunteers passionately and tirelessly work on, help to fund the important work that the Society does.

The Society's three highest expense categories are Client Services, Research Expenses, and Amortization, reflecting our mission of making every day the best possible day for people with ALS by providing support, facilitating the provision of care, promoting awareness and helping find a cure. At year end, the Society was in a strong financial position with almost \$1,000,000 in cash and cash equivalents which will allow the Society to meet its cash flow needs until major fundraising activities start up again in Q2 2008.

Congratulations to our staff and volunteers! Your hard work has paid off in 2007 and you make a difference everyday in the lives of people with ALS. Keep up the great work!

On another note, I am sorry to say that this will be my last Treasurer's report. I have truly enjoyed my time with the Society and would like to thank the Board for giving me this opportunity. I'd like to convey my sincere best wishes to everyone, and I am confident that a cure will be found for ALS soon.

Candice Li
Treasurer

Financial Statements

AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS
SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2007



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
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December 31, 2007

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AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of Alberta

We have audited the statement of financial position of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of Alberta as at December 31, 2007, the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations the society derives revenue from donations and fundraising, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the society and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to contributions, excess of revenues over expenses, current assets and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the contributions referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the society as at December 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Partners

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Certified General Accountants

Calgary, Alberta
May 7, 2008

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Calgary, Alberta

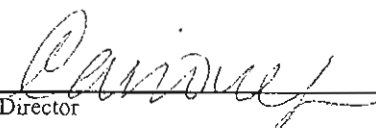
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AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
 As at December 31, 2007

	2007	2006
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash and short term investments <i>(note 3)</i>	\$ 993,572	\$ 838,942
Accounts receivable	9,734	10,728
Prepaid expenses	4,370	5,095
	<u>1,007,676</u>	<u>854,765</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT <i>(note 4)</i>	<u>430,214</u>	<u>410,248</u>
	<u>\$ 1,437,890</u>	<u>\$ 1,265,013</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 52,552	\$ 173,756
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS <i>(note 6)</i>		
Related to operations	108,627	10,994
Related to property and equipment	343,833	348,989
	<u>452,460</u>	<u>359,983</u>
	<u>505,012</u>	<u>533,739</u>
NET ASSETS		
INVESTED IN PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT	86,381	61,259
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	846,497	670,015
	<u>932,878</u>	<u>731,274</u>
	<u>\$ 1,437,890</u>	<u>\$ 1,265,013</u>

APPROVED BY THE BOARD


 Director


 Director



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
 STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
 For the year ended December 31, 2007

	2007	2006
REVENUE		
Betty's run for ALS	\$ 540,000	\$ 390,000
Donations	333,097	369,800
Walk for ALS	311,928	239,470
Other	152,859	87,052
Amortization of deferred contributions related to property and equipment	151,101	139,042
Third party fundraisers	139,300	122,534
Fundraising	91,226	214,166
Gift in kind donations	34,017	78,956
	<u>1,753,528</u>	<u>1,641,020</u>
EXPENSES		
Client services	354,164	292,569
Research	330,688	244,585
Amortization	325,971	154,521
Equipment purchases and repairs	239,976	190,828
Administration	74,722	117,152
Volunteer	70,420	24,071
Fundraising <i>(note 5)</i>	48,146	47,109
Education	47,376	51,083
Resource development	27,611	82,852
Awareness	13,718	11,598
Advocacy	11,258	10,405
Betty's run	7,874	-
	<u>1,551,924</u>	<u>1,226,773</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 201,604</u>	<u>\$ 414,247</u>



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
 For the year ended December 31, 2007

	Invested in property and equipment	Unrestricted assets	2007	2006
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 61,259	\$ 670,015	\$ 731,274	\$ 317,027
Excess of revenue over expenses	(174,869)	376,473	201,604	414,247
Purchase of property and equipment	199,991	(199,991)	-	-
BALANCE, END OF YEAR	\$ 86,381	\$ 846,497	\$ 932,878	\$ 731,274



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended December 31, 2007

	2007	2006
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) THE FOLLOWING:		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 201,604	\$ 414,247
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization of property and equipment	325,971	154,521
Amortization of deferred contributions - property and equipment	<u>(151,101)</u>	<u>(139,042)</u>
	<u>376,474</u>	<u>429,726</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital items:		
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	990	(3,014)
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	725	(1,808)
(Decrease) increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(121,204)	141,894
Increase (decrease) in deferred contributions related to operations	<u>97,633</u>	<u>(27,814)</u>
	<u>(21,856)</u>	<u>109,258</u>
Cash provided by operating activities	354,618	538,984
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property and equipment	(345,934)	(223,067)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Capital contributions received	<u>145,946</u>	<u>153,767</u>
INCREASE IN CASH FOR THE YEAR	154,630	469,684
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>838,942</u>	<u>369,258</u>
CASH, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 993,572</u>	<u>\$ 838,942</u>
CASH CONSISTS OF:		
Cash	\$ 535,495	\$ 158,978
Short term investments	<u>458,077</u>	<u>679,964</u>
	<u>\$ 993,572</u>	<u>\$ 838,942</u>



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended December 31, 2007

1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of Alberta (the "Society") is incorporated under the Societies Act of the Province of Alberta and is a registered charity. Under Section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act it is therefore exempt from the payment of income tax. The mission of the Society is to provide care and support for people with ALS and their families and to fund a cure.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and, in management's opinion, have been properly prepared within reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the significant accounting policies summarized below.

Revenue recognition

The Society follows the deferral method of accounting for externally restricted contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

Unrestricted contributions and donations are recognized as revenue when received or receivable, if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash and cash equivalents, which include term deposits with a maturity of three months or less and investments in mutual funds that can be liquidated immediately. All are carried at fair value in accordance with the Society's accounting policy for financial instruments.

Property and equipment

The Society has adopted a policy of capitalizing the acquisition of property and equipment. Property and equipment are amortized over their estimated useful lives at the following rates and methods:

Office furniture and equipment	15%	straight-line method
Client equipment	20%	straight-line method
Automotive equipment	20%	straight-line method
Software	30%	straight-line method
Computer equipment	100%	straight-line method

Contributed materials and services

The Society, in common with many non-profit organizations, makes extensive use of volunteers and donated materials in conducting its activities. Donated materials are recorded at their fair market value with a corresponding amount recorded for donation revenue. No attempt has been made to quantify the value of volunteer services in these financial statements.

Continued on page 7



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended December 31, 2007

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Continued from page 6

Financial instruments

Effective January 1, 2007, the Society adopted new accounting standards related to financial instruments that were issued by the Accounting Standards Board in 2005. These standards were adopted prospectively with no restatement. The accounting policies adopted as a result of these new standards are as follows:

The Society classifies all financial instruments as trading and they are therefore carried at their fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on trading assets, if any, are recognized as part of the excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses.

The fair value of financial instruments reported at fair value is based on current interest rates, market values, and pricing of financial instruments with comparative terms. Because the fair value of financial instruments held by the Society approximates their carrying value, the adoption of this new accounting standard did not have a significant effect on the Society's financial statements.

3. SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS

Short term investments consist of term deposits with a maturity beyond 90 days as well as a money market fund.

4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	<u>Cost</u>		<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>		<u>Net Book Value</u>	
	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006
Client equipment	\$ 1,588,582	\$1,270,458	\$ 1,187,082	\$ 869,365	\$ 401,500	\$ 401,093
Office furniture and equipment	55,028	27,215	26,314	18,060	28,714	9,155
Automotive equipment	9,500	9,500	9,500	9,500	-	-
	<u>\$ 1,653,110</u>	<u>\$1,307,173</u>	<u>\$ 1,222,896</u>	<u>\$ 896,925</u>	<u>\$ 430,214</u>	<u>\$ 410,248</u>

5. FUNDRAISING EXPENSES

	2007	2006
Salaries and related costs	\$ 48,146	\$ 46,850
Contribution solicitation	-	259
	<u>\$ 48,146</u>	<u>\$ 47,109</u>



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended December 31, 2007

6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Utilizations	Ending Balance
Related to operations				
Betty's Run	\$ 2,660	\$ 13,677	\$ (16,337)	\$ -
Edmonton Walk to D'Feet, 2008	-	2,000	-	2,000
Wild Rose Volunteer Coordinator Grant	8,334	-	(8,334)	-
Charity Golf Tournament	-	6,296	-	6,296
Anonymous Donor - IT grant	-	15,000	-	15,000
Strategic Planning Grant	-	25,000	-	25,000
Support for Champions	-	5,000	-	5,000
Casino Revenue, 2007	-	187,007	(131,676)	55,331
	10,994	253,980	(156,347)	108,627
Related to property and equipment	348,989	145,946	(151,102)	343,833
	\$ 359,983	\$ 399,926	\$ (307,449)	\$ 452,460

Deferred contributions related to operations are contributions restricted for specific purposes and are recognized as revenue when the related expenses are incurred. Deferred contributions related to property and equipment represent unamortized portions of contributions for client and office equipment received from donors, which are recognized as revenue at the same rates as the related assets are amortized.

7. LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Society has minimum lease commitments under an office lease for the Calgary and Edmonton offices over the next three years as follows. The lease on the Calgary property will expire on December 31, 2010. The lease for the Edmonton property will expire on March 31, 2010

	Calgary	Edmonton	Total
2008	\$ 34,886	\$ 9,138	\$ 44,024
2009	34,886	9,138	44,024
2010	37,642	2,285	39,927

8. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Society's financial instruments consist of cash, short term interest bearing securities, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, all of which are reported at fair value. Due to their short term nature, the carrying value of these financial instruments approximate their fair value.

Management has determined that the Society is not exposed to significant credit, market or interest rate risk.

9. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation. The prior year financial statements were audited by another firm of professional accountants.



Board of Directors & Staff

Board of Directors

<i>Chair -</i>	Cathy Martin
<i>Past Chair -</i>	Tim Stauff
<i>Vice - Chair -</i>	Tara Pentney
<i>Treasurer -</i>	Candice Li
<i>Secretary -</i>	Mark Stauff
<i>Directors -</i>	Ron Chiovetti Olga Maciejewski Jan Desrosiers Hank Geerlof Dave Williams Norm Pollock

Staff

<i>Executive Director -</i>	Karen Caughey
<i>Client Services Coordinator South -</i>	Jane Rivest
<i>Client Equipment -</i>	Lauren Milburn
<i>Manager, Resource Development and Communication -</i>	Rahael Chester
<i>Office Coordinator -</i>	Yulia Eskin
<i>Client Services, Southern Alberta -</i>	Janice Zoeteman
<i>Manager, North Region -</i>	Patricia Ordynec
<i>Administration/ Volunteer Services Coordinator -</i>	Phyllis Javorsky



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