



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

ALS Society of Alberta



Annual Report 2006

The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of Alberta is dedicated to making everyday the best possible day for people with ALS by providing support, facilitating the provision of care, promoting awareness and helping find a cure.



**AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY
OF ALBERTA**

Annual Report 2006

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ALS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

Message from Honorary Chair

As Honorary Chair, I am very pleased to send my best wishes to the ALS Society of Alberta. Since 1986 the Society has been committed to providing information and services to those living with ALS as well as supporting research towards a cure. These services would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of volunteers, donors and staff that go into raising both resources and awareness.

In 2006, Betty's Run for ALS celebrated its 10th Anniversary. This was an incredible milestone as last year the Run raised more than \$420,000 for client services and research.

Sincerely,

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

Vision

Through increased, province-wide awareness, provide hope and access to equitable levels of support for people affected by ALS.

Values

RESPECT

ACCOUNTABILITY

CARING

PASSION

SERVICE

QUALITY OF LIFE

Mission

The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of Alberta is dedicated to making everyday the best possible day for people with ALS by providing support, facilitating the provision of care, promoting awareness and helping find a cure.

Message from Chair

The staff and volunteers of the ALS Society of Alberta have made 2006 a year full of extraordinary successes. Events such as Betty's Run, Walks for ALS and our first ever Enmax Presents Elizabeth's Concert of Hope brought awareness to the needs of people living with ALS, and pride to all connected with the Society. We have also been the honoured recipient of many other fund raising events initiated by those who have been touched by ALS, and who wanted to do something positive to support those affected by this devastating disease. To all who have contributed their time, finances and expertise to the Society we are most appreciative.

2007 has started out as a year full of opportunities. Our Executive Director of nine years, Mary Hatcher shifted her position to Nova Scotia, where she is providing leadership to the emerging Societies in the Atlantic Provinces. Thank you Mary for your many contributions that have brought the Society to its current level of exemplary community leadership. Mary's departure left room for our new ED, Karen Caughey to join the ALS Alberta team. We are indebted to Karen and all the staff of the Society as they continue to provide the highest standard of care, support, equipment and education to Albertans living with ALS.

The ALS Society of Alberta is connected to Societies in nine other provinces and to ALS Canada. It is through this partnership that we are able to support world class research that is leading to better treatments, and eventually a cure for ALS. The partnerships we have with the Clinics in Edmonton and Calgary are examples of how the people whom we serve gain the maximum benefit of the support we offer. It is through working together with our local colleagues, and our national partners that we are able to fully live out our Mission of "making each day the best possible day for people living with ALS".

We are deeply indebted to all those who are living with ALS, family members and caregivers, as it is your Stories and your Spirit so generously shared that inspires us to be our best. Together, we DO make a difference.

Respectfully,

Cathy Martin

Cathy Martin, Chair, ALS Society of Alberta

HIGHLIGHTS – 2006

10th annual Betty's Run Shatters Records!



This past annual Betty's Run for ALS was an astounding success! The event raised \$426,547 which was a 76% increase in funds over the 2005 results! It was a great way to honour loved ones – by raising awareness and raising money so that those who now live with ALS in Alberta can live each day to the fullest. The event was attended by over 1,300 people, which was 18% more than last year!

Walks across Alberta!

The Walks held in June 2006 raised a huge amount of money for the ALS Society of Alberta and for research organized by the ALS Society of Canada. The total raised was over \$210,000! The walks had a total of over 1,400 walkers coming together to raise awareness, money and hope. The Walks were held in Edmonton, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Manning, Cold Lake, Lloydminster, Mountain View and Red Deer! This incredible accomplishment is the result of many very dedicated people who coordinated, led teams, walked, sponsored and pledged countless hours and generous dollars to support people living with ALS.



Corporate Calgary Charity Society's Annual "Charitee" Golf Tournament brings together golf and a great cause!

The Charitee annual golf tournament brought in a phenomenal \$100,000 again this year! The event was held at the Pinebrook Golf and Country Club on June 19. The event was very well attended and was such a success because of the commitment and support of many staff and volunteers! Thank you to everyone who helped and participated!



HIGHLIGHTS – 2006

Terry Layden Raises \$16,890 for Walks in 2006!

Terry Layden of Rocky Mountain House participated in the Mountainview Walk for ALS and raised an incredible \$16,890! This fantastic number puts him in the top 4 fundraisers across Canada! Congratulations Terry!

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 \$50,000 in 2006 for ALS! Thank you Rick!

An Evening with Morrie!

The famous book turned play, *Tuesdays with Morrie* was performed by two local Calgary actors, Richard Michelle-Pentelbury and Jay Newman all across the city in schools, community halls and at functions. The play's proceeds went to the ALS Society of Alberta, and the play raised over \$8,500!

Hitting the High Notes!



On September 17, 2006 the ALS Society of Alberta hosted an incredible evening of music, awareness and the power of possibility. The ENMAX presents Elizabeth's Concert of Hope was the second stop on a national tour honouring Elizabeth Grandbois, a former Calgarian, wife, mother and health care professional who is living with ALS. Hundreds attended the Alberta concert, held at the Jack Singer Concert Hall. Numerous staff and volunteers worked for 10 months to ensure the night would be one to remember. An impressive slate of corporate sponsors, including the significant contribution of ENMAX as lead sponsor, provided funding, resources and services. The concert raised \$142,000!

HIGHLIGHTS – 2006

CEP Automotive Honours Dieter Abraham!

Custom Engine Parts Automotive's 2006 Dieter Abraham Memorial Golf Tournament was a huge success! All proceeds were donated to the ALS Society's Equipment Program to purchase a much needed power wheelchair.

Twenty Years and Still Growing!

2006 marked the 20th Anniversary of the ALS Society of Alberta. When the ALS Society was first incorporated in 1986, it was driven purely by volunteer efforts. It is the continued effort and passion of volunteers, and our team of dedicated staff that has cultivated the success of the organization.

Client Services and the Equipment Program!

The ALS Society of Alberta's Community Services Program continues to meet the ever increasing needs of people who are living with, and those who are affected by ALS across Alberta. Our partnerships with the ALS Clinics in Alberta are critical in ensuring seamless support for our clients and their families. We are the only organization in Alberta that provides client services, support and equipment. The appreciation for this support is overwhelming and a testament to dedication of the Client Services Team.

Quotes from Families and Clients:

"When I tell people what the ALS Society has done and offered to me, they are as amazed as we are. Our family cannot thank you enough for the support and help you have provided, a real hands on approach during this difficult time. Keep up the great effort—we truly appreciate all you have and continue to do"

"We don't know what we would have done without your support both in equipment and advice and care all along the way. Your teaching sessions helped the staff to understand and care for her needs better. Words don't adequately express our gratitude."

HIGHLIGHTS – 2006

Tim Spelliscy and Global Alberta News Team Receives Award!

Tim Spelliscy, General Manager at Edmonton and Saskatchewan Region Global Television, and the Global Alberta News Team have made some news of their own as award winners. On April 28th the ALS Society of Canada presented Tim Spelliscy with the Exceptional Public Awareness Award (group) in recognition of the Global Alberta News Team's consistent and generous work over the years.

The Exceptional Public Awareness Program Award recognizes programs, by either a group or an individual, that aim to educate and increase awareness of ALS.



Peggi and Tim Spelliscy with Cathy Martin, Chair of the ALS Society of Alberta

HUMAN RESOURCES

ALS Society Board of Directors

CHAIR

CATHY MARTIN

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TIM STAUFF

VICE-CHAIR

TARA PENTNEY

TREASURER

CANDICE LI

SECRETARY

MARK STAUFF

DIRECTORS

RON CHIOVETTI

OLGA MACIEJEWSKI

JAN DESROSIERS

HANK GEERLOF

The ALS Society of Alberta would like to thank our volunteers for your dedication and valuable contribution this past year

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

— Margaret Mead, anthropologist

HUMAN RESOURCES

ALS Society of Alberta Staff

The ALS Society of Alberta staff and contract employees are a group of dedicated, talented people who have a shared passion to “make everyday day the best day for people with ALS”. Thank-you for your commitment and hard work—you are truly valued and appreciated.

It is time for us to stand and cheer for the doer, the achiever, the one who recognizes the challenge and does something about it.

— Vince Lombardi, coach



TREASURER'S REPORT

Year Ended December 31, 2006

2006 saw the Society grow its revenues by over 50% from approximately \$1 million in 2005 to over \$1.5 million in 2006. This increase is directly attributable to the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to promote and fundraise for the Society. Their efforts - from organizing and running major events such as our first Elizabeth's Concert of Hope in Calgary, our annual Walk for ALS and our most successful Betty's Run to-date - through to selling chocolates and hosting charity dinners - all help to make a difference in the lives of people with ALS. The fundraising revenues, coupled with the generous donations and bequests that the Society received in 2006, have allowed the Society to provide its clients with much-needed equipment and services.

Overall, the Society's expenses were consistent with the budget and did not rise at the same rate as the increase in revenues. This was achieved through the Society's conscious and careful management of expenditures.

At year end, the Society was in a strong financial position with over \$800,000 in cash which will allow the Society to meet its cash flow needs until major fundraising activities start up again in Q2 2007.

Congratulations to everyone on a fantastic 2006 - let's keep the momentum going for 2007!

Candice Li