

# Getting Stronger Every Day.

2007-2008 Annual Report



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Taxation Registration Number:  
10775 5837 RR0001

 **Muscular  
Dystrophy Canada**

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**CONCEPT & DESIGN**  
Switch Design Lab  
www.switchdesignlab.com

**EDITOR**  
Sajeeta Saroop  
National Director, Marketing and Communications

**Muscular Dystrophy Canada supports the independence and full participation of Canadians with neuromuscular disorders.**

**We assist individuals to participate in the decisions that affect them and collaborate with others for social change.**

**We fund research to improve the quality of life of people with neuromuscular disorders and to find a cure.**



# Board of Directors

## Officers

Rick Mills  
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(Ontario)

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Vice-Chair  
(Ontario)

Brian Keller  
Vice-Chair and Treasurer  
(Ontario)

Nancy Cumming  
Secretary  
(Alberta)

## Directors

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Christian Van Houtte (Québec)  
Kelly Zacharias (British Columbia)

## Message from the Chair of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer



When we reflect on our accomplishments and triumphs during 2007-2008, it is hard not to feel both pride and gratitude. Thanks to the tireless efforts of volunteers and staff across Canada, we've made great strides in just about every area of our organization. We've boosted fundraising outcomes and introduced new strategic initiatives. We've built relationships with new donors and supporters, and we've attracted bright, youthful energy to our team. We're truly in a better position than ever before to make a difference in the lives of families affected by neuromuscular disorders.

We're pleased to report our total revenue for the year is \$9 million—our highest amount since our founding in 1954! We reached this figure due in part to impressive contributions from our volunteer Chapters and the ever-prolific Fire Fighters at \$964,400 and \$2.742 million respectively. Our heartfelt thanks to all of our donors and supporters who helped us create this new fundraising benchmark. We can only go higher from here.

We've also greatly expanded our signature event—the Walk for Muscular Dystrophy. We're set to double the number of event locations and we just created a compelling marketing campaign to entice a wider range of participants. The bold new look is all about encouraging people to use their muscles for positive change. To learn more about the fresh approach, turn to page 12.

Canada's loyal Fire Fighters continued to pour their passion and spirit into our cause. Their ongoing efforts remain our single most important revenue source. With a history that spans more than half a century, the Fire Fighters are our constant heroes. They fill their boots with funds they donate to Muscular Dystrophy Canada, and they support

community events on our behalf. Fire Fighters across the country have participated in rallies, walks and many other fundraising activities for Muscular Dystrophy Canada. They are a big part of our success and we can't imagine working without them.

We also want to acknowledge and celebrate our 20-year partnership with Deeley-Harley Davidson. It's their 105th anniversary this year and we continue to benefit from their support. Since 1988, this motorcycle company has donated more than \$2.6 million to Muscular Dystrophy Canada. We're grateful for their belief and investments in our mission.

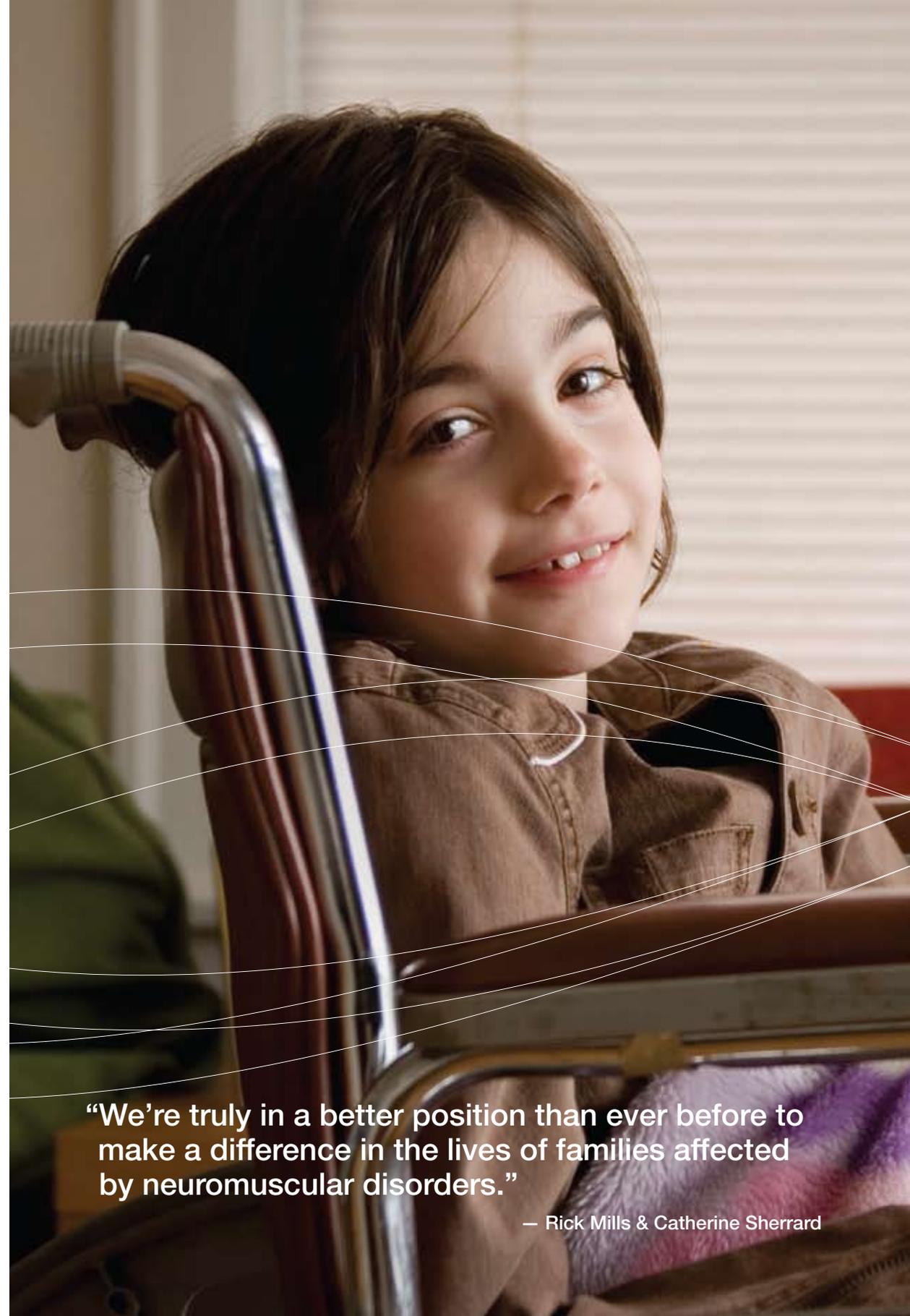
Ultimately, everything we do comes down to helping the people that need us. Our healthy revenues for 2007-2008 helped us provide families with more than \$3 million worth of equipment, make over 18,000 support phone calls and help fund over \$4 million in cutting edge research to make life richer and more rewarding for people living with neuromuscular disorders. It is with this in mind that we're confident in saying "we're getting stronger every day."

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rick Mills".

Rick Mills,  
Chair, Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Catherine Sherrard".

Catherine Sherrard,  
Chief Executive Officer



**"We're truly in a better position than ever before to make a difference in the lives of families affected by neuromuscular disorders."**

— Rick Mills & Catherine Sherrard

# Our Mission

Muscular Dystrophy Canada is a non-profit organization dedicated to finding a cure, reaching out to those in need, and educating Canadians about muscular dystrophy and its related disorders. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are able to make a real difference in the lives of people affected by neuromuscular disorders. Our funds are carefully allocated into four major areas:

## Research

We build partnerships with organizations and individuals that share our goals. Together, we can leverage higher investments than we could afford alone. We are focused on identifying the causes, treatments and an eventual cure for neuromuscular disorders. We are partners with the ALS Society of Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research in the Neuromuscular Research Partnership (NRP).

## Services

### Equipment

Wheelchairs, scooters, orthotics, hospital beds and other essential equipment can cost tens of thousands of dollars annually. We aim to reduce the burden on families by funding all or part of the cost for new equipment.

## Support

Living with muscular dystrophy can be an emotional roller coaster for families. Some people already have strong support systems in place, but others face financial difficulties and relationship problems. We provide support to families who are experiencing stress in their lives and refer them to the appropriate local resources.

## Information and Education

We offer up-to-date information about neuromuscular disorders, research, and support services. Our website at [www.muscle.ca](http://www.muscle.ca) provides links to the latest news, and research developments.

## Advocacy

Muscular Dystrophy Canada is serious about policy change. We believe all levels of government must do more to support people affected by neuromuscular disorders. We work with like-minded organizations to raise awareness on important health issues and we won't stop fighting for better funding and services for people living with neuromuscular disorders.



# Treasurer's Report

It is once again a pleasure to report on the financial results of Muscular Dystrophy Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2008.

Muscular Dystrophy Canada has maintained its stable financial position. Total assets of Muscular Dystrophy Canada were \$6.082 million at March 31, 2008 versus \$5.958 million at March 31, 2007, representing an increase of \$124,000.

Gross revenues have gone up from \$8.175 million to \$9.078 million, year over year, primarily due to additional revenues generated by the prolific Fire Fighters and Chapter members.

Chapter revenues, excluding gaming sources, which are cyclical in nature, were \$802,000 in fiscal 2008, versus \$761,000 in fiscal 2007, which is an increase that continues to reflect the outstanding efforts of all our volunteers across Canada.

Fire Fighter fundraising is still our single most important revenue source growing to \$2.742 million in fiscal year 2008 from \$2.446 million in fiscal 2007 representing an increase of \$296,000 or 12%. This remains a remarkable demonstration of the commitment of Fire Fighters that has benefited people with neuromuscular disorders throughout our history.

On the expense side of the ledger, Muscular Dystrophy Canada had total expenditures of \$8.959 million in fiscal 2008 versus \$8.124 million in fiscal year 2007 and a total surplus of \$119,342, versus last year's surplus of \$51,942. We are pleased to report that we have met our benchmark of three months of unrestricted operating reserves, in hand at March 31, 2008.

Total charitable programs increased year over year from \$4.285 million in fiscal 2007 to \$4.951 million in fiscal 2008. Research grants increased by \$222,400 over last year and direct Services increased by \$135,400 over last year.

Total fundraising and administration expenditures increased year over year by \$209,000, as we continue to measure the efficiency, effectiveness and return on investments and focus in those areas.

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the members of the Finance and Audit Sub-Committee who gave their time and support to Muscular Dystrophy Canada and those we serve.

Brian Keller,  
Treasurer

# Financial Summary

## Statement of Operations - Year Ended March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
<b>Revenues:</b>		
General campaign and donations	\$8,379,636	\$7,395,408
Direct costs	(938,840)	(810,710)
	<u>7,440,796</u>	<u>6,584,698</u>
Legacies	421,100	396,100
Investments and sundry income	140,671	199,164
Net unrealized gain on investments	43,969	65,954
Government grants	92,517	119,149
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>8,139,053</b>	<b>7,365,065</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
<b>Programs and Services:</b>		
Research programs	1,011,447	876,009
Services	2,100,189	1,877,786
Education and information services	1,539,622	1,255,089
Other programs	299,780	276,575
	<u>4,951,038</u>	<u>4,285,459</u>
Fundraising	2,023,834	1,991,508
Administration	986,530	938,191
Amortization of capital assets	58,309	97,965
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>8,019,711</b>	<b>7,313,123</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>\$119,342</b>	<b>\$51,942</b>

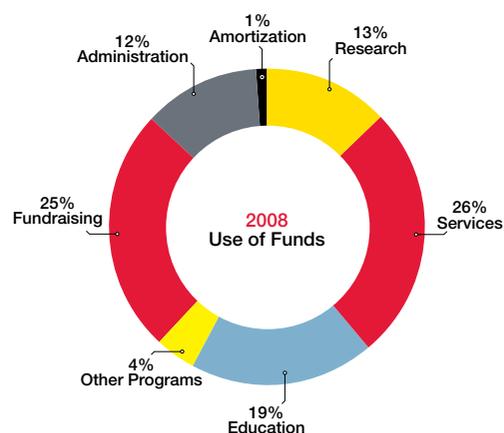
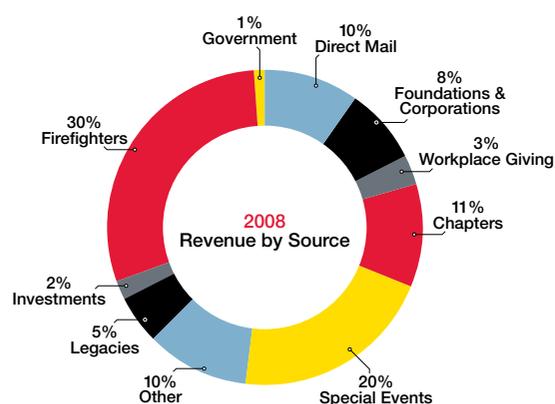
## Condensed Statement of Financial Position - Year Ended March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$6,082,435</b>	<b>\$5,958,324</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,743,906</b>	<b>\$1,720,704</b>
<b>Deferred contributions:</b>		
Neuromuscular Research	772,368	718,069
Services	430,884	554,943
Education	273,873	238,751
British Columbia Gaming	419,763	405,608
<b>Total deferred contributions</b>	<b>\$1,896,888</b>	<b>\$1,917,371</b>
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Restricted for endowment purposes	680,882	666,462
Invested in capital assets	136,875	146,749
Unrestricted	1,623,884	1,507,038
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$2,441,641</b>	<b>\$2,320,249</b>

## Disclosure in Compliance with the Imagine Canada Ethical Fundraising and Financial Accountability Code

	2008	2007
Total fundraising revenues	\$8,379,636	\$7,395,408
Total directs costs and fundraising expenses	\$2,962,674	\$2,802,218
Total donations received for tax purposes	\$3,671,962	\$3,353,298
Total expenditures on charitable activities	\$4,951,038	\$4,285,459

Complete audited financial statements available upon request



## Our Numbers

Year Ended March 31, 2008

# \$9,078,000

Total dollars raised this year.

# \$2.742M

The amount raised by Fire Fighter fundraising.

# \$7,031,000

The total amount spent on Research and Services.

# \$964,400

The total amount raised by Chapters.

## Our Impact

2007/2008

# \$4.0M

The amount invested in 2008 in cutting edge research by the Neuromuscular Research Partnership.

# \$3.0M<sup>+</sup>

Representing the amount of equipment provided to families (such as wheelchairs, walkers and scooters).

# 18,000

The number of phone calls made to support people affected by neuromuscular disorders and their families.

# 5000/100

The number of people educated at over 100 events.

# 2500

Representing the number of information kits sent to clients and their loved ones.

# Walk for Muscular Dystrophy: New Look, New Attitude!

Last year, we officially declared the Walk for Muscular Dystrophy as our national signature fundraising event. It's all about bringing communities together in support of people with neuromuscular disorders. It's a chance for families to come together, share experiences and tell stories.

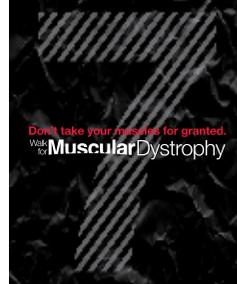
The Walk for Muscular Dystrophy is an opportunity to connect with neighbours and make new friends. It is proof that we are not alone in this fight. The warm atmosphere of the event enables people to bond in a way that ordinary life doesn't allow for. It's what makes the Walk for Muscular Dystrophy unique.

To kick things off for 2008, we developed a captivating new marketing campaign. Our goal was to promote the Walk for Muscular Dystrophy in a fun way, but also to provide people with practical facts to reflect and act upon. It's designed to promote muscle movement and get involved with a worthy cause.

Sajeeta Saroop, Muscular Dystrophy Canada's National Director of Marketing and Communications anticipates increased participation rates and higher revenues as a result of the new look. "We're confident this fresh makeover will pay off in 2008. We've already had a positive response to the messaging and people are intrigued by the ideas we've presented. We're off to a fine start."

We can't wait to obtain the results of the 2008 Walk for Muscular Dystrophy. Stay tuned.

It takes **7 muscles** to sip your half-caf-light-soy-frappuccino. Join the walk for muscular dystrophy instead.



It takes **½ a muscle** to poke someone on facebook. Join the walk for muscular dystrophy instead.



It takes **4 muscles** to sit and watch a re-run on TV. Join the walk for muscular dystrophy instead.



It takes **10 muscles** to high-five your kids after you've finished the walk for muscular dystrophy.

**Join The Walk for Muscular Dystrophy.**

There's a 5k walk and a 1k walk, so we have something for everyone. Your support will help Canadians with neuromuscular disorders. You'll also be funding important research and support services in your community.

Not only is the walk fully accessible, there's free food and refreshments, plus prizes and giveaways. We encourage people to put a team together, so you can participate with friends and family.

Here's how to get involved in your community:

**Muscular Dystrophy Canada**  
let's take muscle home

To register or make a pledge online visit [muscle.ca/walk](http://muscle.ca/walk)

# Saluting Canadian Fire Fighters

Fire Fighters are well-known for their bravery, valor and community spirit. Every time we see a fire truck or hear a siren, we automatically think of the dedicated men and women who work around the clock to protect us from harm. These are courageous souls!

Even when they're not putting out fires and saving lives, they're doing heroic acts. Fire Fighters have been supporters and fundraisers for Muscular Dystrophy Canada for 54 years and they continue to amaze us with their commitment to serve.

From community events, to boot drives to rallies, the Fire Fighters have always been passionate about helping those in need. They continue to raise money and awareness for people with neuromuscular disorders and they're always coming up with new ways to obtain donations and warm hearts at each turn. Fire Fighter fundraising is still our single most important revenue raising \$2.742 million in fiscal year 2008.

## Regional Fire Departments— Top Fundraising

We would like to recognize the following Fire Fighters in each region.

### BC & Yukon

Langford Fire Rescue

### Prairies

Edmonton Fire Rescue Services

### Ontario

Barrie Professional Fire Fighters Association

### Québec

Sherbrooke Fire Department

### Atlantic

Westphal Cole Harbour Fire Fighters Association (NS)



# Volunteer Chapters

We consider our Chapters the welcoming front door of our organization. Chapters are made up of committed volunteers, most of whom are affected by neuromuscular disorders. They work alongside families, friends and other compassionate folks. They meet regularly to support each other, educate themselves and the community, and raise funds to support our mission. They're the friendly face of Muscular Dystrophy Canada and are integral to our mission. There are almost 40 Chapters in Canada and we expect more to form. We appreciate the personal touch that Chapter volunteers offer to those in need.

## What are some of the valuable services Chapters provide?

Each Chapter tailors their approach to meet the needs of the people in their community. Whether it's through holding an education seminar or by setting up support groups, the volunteers work hard to deliver comfort, compassion and sometimes even humour.

"We're always on the lookout for new volunteers to join our team," says National Manager, Chapter Development. "Whether you're affected personally, or you know someone who lives with a neuromuscular disorder, we're keen to meet you. Volunteering is a great way to meet others with similar health concerns, make lasting friendships and acquire solid new skills. It's also a lot of fun."

We're heartened to hear our Chapters are thriving and making a difference in people's lives. A great big thank you to all of the Chapter volunteers for your community service and spirit. We are stronger because of your efforts.

## Top Chapters

We would like to recognize the following Chapters in each region for leading the way in community fundraising.

### Atlantic

Central New Brunswick Chapter  
Southeastern New Brunswick Mighty Drivers (Moncton Chapter)  
Halifax Chapter

### Québec

Saguenay Chapter  
Outaouais Chapter  
Estrie Chapter

### Western Canada

Edmonton Chapter  
Calgary Chapter  
Fraser Valley Chapter

### Ontario

Ottawa Chapter  
Windsor Chapter  
Myasthenia Gravis Chapter



# Research Grants

Thanks to the support of our generous donors, Muscular Dystrophy Canada is able to fund the work of leading-edge Canadian scientists who are investigating the causes of and treatments for muscular dystrophy and other neuromuscular disorders.

Since 2000, the Neuromuscular Research Partnership has been the cornerstone of Muscular Dystrophy Canada's research program. Muscular Dystrophy Canada partners with the ALS Society of Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis, Institute of Genetics, and the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction) to leverage higher investments in neuromuscular research than we could afford independently. By working in partnership, we are able to significantly reduce administrative costs related to reviewing and funding grants, while maintaining rigorous peer-review and relevancy grading standards. These standards ensure that our funding is awarded to the most promising neuromuscular research in Canada.

## The following broad categories are eligible for funding:

- Basic research involving muscle or nerve biology relevant to neuromuscular disease.
- Focused research directed toward an understanding of neuromuscular disease.
- Applied research encompassing research designed specifically to translate promising research advances from basic research and focused research into pre-clinical and clinical investigations relevant to treatment of neuromuscular disease, but not including drug trials.

In 2007, the Neuromuscular Research Partnership jointly invested a total of \$4 million dollars in the following 12 operating grants.

### Dr. Avijit Chakrabarty

*University Health Network (Toronto), 3 years*

- Interplay of oxidative stress and protein misfolding in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
- A genetic mutation causes an important enzyme to become toxic causing a type of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). This research will explore the mechanisms leading to this toxicity.

### Dr. Stephen Gee

*University of Ottawa, 3 years*

- Investigating the role of diacylglycerol kinase-zeta in the assembly and maintenance of the myofibrillar apparatus in skeletal muscle.
- This research will investigate myofibrils, a key component of the muscle and examine the mechanisms involved in their formation and normal disassembly, shedding light upon neuromuscular disorders related to the abnormal deterioration of these muscle structures.

### Dr. Anthony Gramolini

*University of Toronto, 5 years*

- Molecular basis of ryanodine receptor regulation and function in skeletal muscle.
- This research is designed to increase our understanding of a cluster of interacting proteins in skeletal muscle that are involved in normal muscle contraction and further, to learn about the mechanisms involved in genetic disorders involving mutations in one or more of these proteins.

**Dr. Paul Holland and  
Dr. Joséphine Nalbantoglu**

*Montreal Neurological Institute, 2 years*

- Combinatorial use of viral vectors for the gene therapy of muscle.
- This research will attempt to improve the efficiency of current techniques used to transfer genes into muscle cells—a critical step in the eventual treatment of several types of muscular dystrophy.

**Dr. Jiming Kong**

*University of Manitoba, 1 year*

- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis: Rescue of mutant SOD1-induced motor neuron death by targeting the BNIP3 death gene family.
- This research will examine the key gene involved in the regulation of cell death in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and attempt to protect nerve cells by modulating the activity of this gene.

**Dr. Jasna Kriz**

*Université Laval, 1 year*

- Live imaging and analysis of disease onset and progression in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
- This research will use live imaging to examine some of the early cellular changes associated with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and refine this technique as a new research tool.

**Dr. Guy Rouleau**

*Centre Hosp. de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM), 3 years*

- Characterization of PABPN1 for the development of an oculopharyngeal muscular dystrophy (OPMD) treatment.
- This research will focus on very early protein abnormalities produced by a genetic mutation that eventually leads to OPMD and examine several drugs that may reduce the toxicity of these proteins.

**Dr. Michael Sinnreich**

*Montreal Neurological Institute, 3 years*

- Development of therapeutic strategies for dysferlin deficiency.
- This research will help create the foundation for the eventual gene therapy for dysferlinopathies.

**Dr. Stefano Stifani**

*Montreal Neurological Institute, 4 years*

- Motor neuron differentiation, connectivity, and regeneration.
- This research examines the role played by a key protein involved in the generation of motor neuron cells and the possibility that this protein could be taken advantage of in a stem cell approach to regenerating motor neurons destroyed as a result of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.



**Dr. Tanja Taivassalo**

*McGill University, 3 years*

- Exercise-induced upregulation of mitochondrial gene expression: Therapeutic strategies for mitochondrial disease.
- This research will consider the safety and possible benefit of different types of exercise in patients with mitochondrial myopathies.

**Dr. Jacques Tremblay**

*Université Laval, 3 years*

- Improving MPC transplantation by increasing IGF-1 or MGF stimulation.
- This research will examine ways to increase the efficiency of the transplantation of muscle stem cells as a treatment in muscular dystrophy.

**Dr. Christine Diane Vande Velde**

*Centre Hosp. de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM), 3 years*

- Identification of the mechanisms of motor neuron degeneration in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).
- This research will help clarify the mechanisms leading to one type of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

**Ongoing Grants:**

In addition to the new Neuromuscular Research Partnership grants awarded this year, Muscular Dystrophy Canada continues to support 17 research projects across Canada that received grants in prior years. We also continue to fund Ph.D. Studentships with our partner, the Stem Cell Network, and the work of Dr. Mani Mahadevan through the Rachel Fund for Myotonic Dystrophy.



# Donors

Gifts to Muscular Dystrophy Canada are always needed and truly appreciated. We express our sincere thanks to all of our donors for their continued support.

## Individual

### \$1,000 - \$4,999

Kim Anderson  
Donald E. Atkins  
Stuart Bahen  
Domenico Baldesarra  
Evalyn Baranec  
Joan B. Barker  
Barry Barnes  
Gordon Barr  
Roger Benoit  
Audrey Bjornstad  
Lili Boies  
Michel Chalifoux  
Joseph Chowaniec  
J.A. Clark  
Richard Cousineau  
Margaret Cox  
Douglas D. Davison  
Michel Derome  
Mark Dickson  
Greg Diradour  
Nicholas J. Dodds  
Dave Doepker  
Jean-Guy Dubois  
Ruth Duchesne  
James Epp  
Leslie Flemming  
Joseph Franchomme  
Coleman Friedman  
Carole Gagné-  
Gervais  
Réal Gagnon  
Mary C. Gibson  
Yvon Gingras  
Francis Giroux

Paul Giroux  
Mark W. Godin  
C. W. Goldring  
Nancy Guggisberg  
Alex J. Hamilton  
Ron Heller  
George W. Henderson  
Dwayne Hokpkins  
Marion V. Holmes  
Laurent Huneault  
André Huppé  
Adam Kachanoski  
Steven Kazman  
Edward J. Kernaghan  
Suraiya Khan  
George Klein  
Hanna Kolski  
Kenneth M. Kramer  
John Kupskey  
Christian Laguë  
Janet Lamoureux  
James C. Langdon  
Bill Leroux  
Michel Lévesque  
Orest Lewczyk  
Bert Lewis  
Murray Lynn  
Paul Marchildon  
David Marple  
Jewel Marshall  
Herbert McCambridge  
Deborah McPhedran  
Valentine H. Mody  
Jeanine Moore  
Cristian Munoz

Thomas D. Murphy  
Carol D. Murray  
Christopher Peirce  
Frank R. Provenzano  
Shirley A. Russell  
Errol Saldanha  
Brian Samuel  
Bonita J. Sawatzky  
Ellen Scarrow  
Mike Sciscente  
Vern Servant  
Catherine Sherrard  
Knud Sorensen  
Jeffrey W. Sparks  
Judith Spink  
Gordon Thiessen  
Kenneth R. Thompson  
John Thomson  
Christian L. Van Houtte  
Wil Verheyen  
John Warren  
Josephine Wasney  
May Way  
Robert M. Webb  
Jim Wiebe  
Bruce M. Wilson  
**\$5,000 - \$9,999**  
Rob Collins  
Sylvia K. Dawson  
Chantal Germain  
Kristy M. Godin  
Henry Heese  
Norman M. Henderson  
Brian Keller

Allan Markin  
Nicole Michel  
Alice Rathie  
Stanley Richards  
Sid Terpstra  
Shannon E. Wilson  
John Zigarlick

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Marc Bombenon  
Nancy E. Cumming  
George & Kay Goldlist  
Daryl Kruper  
Lloyd Lawrence  
William Pringle

### \$25,000 - \$99,999

Douglas Assaly  
Karen Cox  
James K. Cumming  
James & Fiona Green

### \$100,000 & Over

Neil Camarta  
Al J. Libfeld  
**Corporate**  
**\$5,000 - \$9,999**  
Analysis Psychologie  
Organisationnelle  
Bancorp Financial  
Services Inc.  
Banque Nationale  
du Canada  
Bell Canada  
Bell Nordiq

Borden Ladner  
Gervais s.r.l.  
BPO Elks No. 209  
CAE électronique  
CCS Inc.  
CGI  
Chaud (Show)  
Communications  
Coramh  
Edmonton  
Civic Employees  
Charitable  
Assistance Fund  
Ernst & Young  
F. K. Morrow  
Foundation  
Filles D'Isabelle  
Saguenay Lac  
St-Jean (Cercle  
d'État)  
Fraternal Order of  
Eagles BC  
Provincial Aerie  
G.N. Andison  
Foundation Inc.  
Grace Parrotta-King  
Professional  
Corporation  
Groupe Conseil  
Racine-Marcotte  
Harding Medical  
Supplies  
Idées au Cube  
Imago  
Communications  
Le Grand Rire  
Le Leadership des  
Franchisés de  
McDonald's  
Manitoba  
Community  
Services Council  
Inc.  
Nortel  
Pine Falls & District  
United Appeal  
Trust Fund  
Province of Nova  
Scotia, Department  
of Finance

RBC Foundation,  
Ontario  
RBC Foundation,  
Nova Scotia  
Robert L. Conconi  
Foundation  
Rogers Telecom  
RX & D Canada's  
Research-Based  
Pharmaceutical  
Companies  
Scotiabank  
- Cornwall #82982  
Scotiabank  
- Osgoode #30486  
Scotiabank  
- St. Thomas  
#30932  
Scotiabank  
- Strathroy #67132  
Scotiabank  
- Tavistock #05686  
SITA  
Société générale  
de financement du  
Québec  
Solotech  
The Bears Children  
Fund  
The Edwards Family  
Charitable  
Foundation  
Transat A.T. Inc.  
Union No. 52  
Benevolent Society  
United Way of  
Calgary and Area  
Vincelli  
Communications  
Vision Concept  
Westminster  
Savings Foundation  
Woodgreen  
Community Center  
World Automotive  
Warehouse  
Zeller Family  
Foundation

**\$10,000 - \$24,999**  
7-Eleven Canada Inc.  
Air Canada  
Bell Canada,  
Ontario  
Bell Canada,  
Quebec  
BMO Employee  
Charitable  
Foundation  
Club Della Valle Del  
Sangro  
Corporate  
Contracting  
Services  
Deeley Harley-  
Davidson Canada  
Edmonton Oilers  
Community  
Foundation  
Hydro Québec  
IBM Canada  
Limited  
KIA Canada  
Le Devoir  
Molson Coors  
Brewing Company  
Power Corporation  
Royop Hospitality  
Corp  
SAQ  
Scotiabank-Atlantic  
Region  
Shell Canada  
Limited  
Summit Corporation  
Syn crude Canada  
Ltd.  
The Grocery  
Foundation Of  
Atlantic Canada  
The Harold  
Crabtree  
Foundation  
The Thomas Sill  
Foundation Inc.  
The Winnipeg  
Foundation  
WestJet

**\$25,000 - \$99,999**  
Alberta Lottery Fund  
Athena Resources Ltd  
British Columbia  
Human Resources  
Management  
Association  
Canada Safeway  
Limited Because  
We Care  
Deeley Harley-  
Davidson Canada  
Employees  
Environmental  
Services  
Association of  
Alberta (ESAA)  
Fédération des  
caisses Desjardins  
du Québec  
Human Resources  
Development  
NB – Fredericton  
Les Entreprises  
JMC (1973) Ltée.  
Mr. & Mrs. P.A.  
Woodward's  
Foundation  
Vancouver Foundation  
Victoria Foundation  
- Emily Elizabeth  
Stoneham Fund  
Wild Rose  
Foundation  
**\$100,000 & over**  
Ronald McDonald  
House Charities of  
Canada  
Thomas C. Assaly  
Charitable  
Foundation  
**Third Party**  
**\$5,000 - \$9,999**  
Bocce for Muscular  
Dystrophy Canada  
Course de l'Espoir  
Let's Dance for  
Muscular Dystrophy

## \$10,000 - \$24,999

All Party Party  
Amherst Auction  
for Duchenne  
Muscular Dystrophy  
Barrhaven Lions  
Club  
BCHRMA Golf  
Tournament and  
Gala  
Beachbump  
Cyclotron Relais  
24 heures (Jacques  
Desneules)  
Esaa Rem Tech  
Annual  
Conference  
Halloween Howler  
Kristy Godin's  
Fundraiser  
Tournoi de Golf  
Karl Palin  
Trehaven Muscular  
Dystrophy  
Community  
Charity Golf  
Tournament

Earle Fund  
*Fraser Earle*  
Friends of Garrett  
Fund  
*James and Deborah  
Cumming*  
FSHD Fund  
*Anne Harland and  
Lori Edwards*  
Green Research  
Fund  
*James and Fiona  
Green*  
Ilsa Mae Fund  
*Joe Chowaniec*  
Fonds Jessica Chami  
*Jeannine Choueri*  
Lawrie Goldlist  
Memorial Fund  
*Rodeen Stein and  
Family*  
Rachel Fund  
*Al Libfeld*  
Fonds Rene  
Duchesne  
*Ruth Duchesne*  
Theodore S. Wise  
Research  
Campaign  
*Theodore S. Wise*

## \$25,000 - \$99,999

Moose & Goose  
Club  
Robbie International  
Soccer Tournament  
Tournoi de Golf  
Lallier Honda  
Walter Sedlbauer  
Cougar Classic  
Golf Tournament

## Endowed Funds

Bernstein Family  
Health Research  
Fund  
*Issie Bernstein*  
Estate of Edna  
Gordon  
*Edna Gordon*  
F.W. Drummond  
Fund  
*Florence Winnifred  
Drummond*  
Kit Davison Fund  
*Kit and Douglas  
Davison*  
Mary Ann Wickham  
Fund  
*Mary Ann Wickham*

## \$100,000 & Over

Shad's R & R

## Named Funds

Fonds Arsacs  
Dr. Bonnie Sawatzky  
Scholarship Fund  
*Dr. B. Sawatzky*  
Fonds Sylvie Seguin  
*Sylvie Seguin*  
Friends of Fraser

Friends of Garrett  
Cumming  
Research Chair,  
Muscular  
Dystrophy Canada

## Realized Bequests

Donat Brule  
Therese Couturier  
Mildred Irene Dawe  
Margaret Allison  
Doak  
Edith Dion  
Charles Alfred  
Samuel Goodwin  
Margaret Gossert  
Jean Vivian Grant  
Adelaide G. Hanna  
Barclay Taylor  
Hazelton  
Alma Kunz  
Aleda Maud  
Livingston  
Watkin Eugene  
Livingston  
Margaret Elizabeth  
MacDonald  
Edward James  
McGrath  
Floyd G. McNey  
Rose Montgomery  
Susan Moser  
Jean Mildred  
Rattigan  
Clara B. Sanderson  
Evelyn Tarnofsky  
Thomas W. Tisdall  
Ethel Georgina  
Turrall  
Helen Welch  
Ernest Wheeler  
Violande Wilkinson

*We apologize for  
any misspellings or  
omissions. Please call  
416.488.0030 to  
inform us of any  
changes.*

Names appearing in *italics*  
indicate those who are  
creators of the funds.

# National Awards

## Each year, Muscular Dystrophy Canada

highlights a small handful of people and groups who have done outstanding work for the organization or who have otherwise represented us above and beyond the call of duty. Volunteers and staff put forward names and our National Awards Committee reviews many amazing applications. These awards are presented to individuals, a Chapter and a Fire Department who have done extraordinary work in fundraising, advocacy, service and creating awareness about neuromuscular disorders. We are pleased to present the 2007–2008 winners.

## The Mary Ann Wickham Award

### Yves Beaudoin; Lévis, QC

Presented to a Muscular Dystrophy Canada volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution during the past year in fundraising, public relations, services and/or advocacy work.

## The Michel Louvain Award

### Dawn Mitchell; Cornwall, PE

Presented to an individual with a neuromuscular disorder who has made an outstanding contribution to Muscular Dystrophy Canada in fundraising, public relations and/or advocacy work.

## The Chapter of the Year Award

### London Chapter; London, ON

Presented to a Muscular Dystrophy Canada Chapter that has demonstrated excellence during the past year in any or all of the following areas; fundraising, public relations, education, chapter development and advocacy work.

## Fire Fighter of the Year

### Jim (JJ) Jackson; Stoney Creek, ON

Presented to a Fire Fighter who has demonstrated overall excellence through the past fiscal year in the areas of public awareness, education, fundraising and volunteer recruitment.

## Fire Department of the Year

### Smithers Fire Department; Smithers, BC

Presented to a Fire Department that has demonstrated overall excellence throughout the past year in fundraising, public relations, services and/or advocacy work.

## Dr. David Green Award

### Dr. Louise Simard; Winnipeg, MB

Presented to a scientist or researcher who has made a significant contribution to Muscular Dystrophy Canada in the areas of neuromuscular research or the advancement of care of clients with neuromuscular diseases.

## The Rondeau Family: A Mighty Dynamic Trio

*Cheryl, Crystal and Charisse Rondeau of Winnipeg, Manitoba, have an uncanny ability to stay positive through tough times. Although this family has been touched by some serious medical issues, they've managed to transcend their challenges and emerge as strong ambassadors for our cause. Here's their story.*

Shortly after she was born, Cheryl and Steve Rondeau's first daughter, Crystal, was diagnosed with type 2 spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a form of muscular dystrophy that causes weakness in muscles used for crawling, walking, swallowing and breathing. Although the news of their daughter's condition was initially devastating to Cheryl and Steve, they slowly absorbed the shock thanks to Linda Wilton, a Muscular Dystrophy Canada staff member and pediatrician, who advised them on how to manage Crystal's life.

It was also Muscular Dystrophy Canada who provided Crystal with her very first power chair, a bright pink Barbie one. For Crystal, this wheelchair was to mark the beginning of a long and evolving relationship with the organization.

Cheryl was 6 months pregnant with her second child when she was told her unborn baby was also a carrier of SMA. She was given the option to terminate her pregnancy, but Cheryl decided against it.

The family's fighting spirit has seen them through some serious obstacles—the kind that can tear people apart. Diagnosed with cancer at 15, Crystal has spent 5 of the last 10 years in the hospital. But she hasn't let that stop her from pursuing her goals. From her first day in hospital, she got the support of her local Fire Fighters, who have been visiting her ever since.

No difficulty or challenge can stop this dynamic trio. Cheryl has been the co-chair of the Southern Manitoba Chapter since it opened its doors in 1994. Her two daughters, now 19 and 15, are actively involved with Muscular Dystrophy Canada. Crystal has become an honorary Fire Fighter for her local department. She's also busy doing presentations about neuromuscular disorders and plans to pursue a career in medicine.

Charisse says having a sister with a disability has given her a new perspective on the world. She recently organized the Winnipeg Walk for Muscular Dystrophy and helped secure the location, food, prizes and media interest. The event raised \$10,000!

Far from giving up, the Rondeaus seem to be building momentum at each turn and each member keeps discovering new personal strengths. Crystal is becoming a spokesperson and advocate. Cheryl has emerged as a strong volunteer leader and Charisse is finding her way as a fund and awareness campaign manager. And Steve is always there in the background, supporting them and loving them. Their amazing spirit is an inspiration to all.

“Having a sister with a disability has given me a new perspective on the world.”

— Charisse Rondeau



# Client Testimonials

We are touched whenever our clients take the time to write to us or tell us about their personal experiences. It is inspiring to learn how our efforts are enhancing people's quality of life. It is what we strive for each day. These stories give us reason to smile. Here are a few anecdotes from some of our treasured friends.

**“For many years now, you’ve loaned me various equipments. If you only knew what this has meant to me, both physically and morally! I don’t have much money and my disorder is newly diagnosed. Therefore, when I get assistance, it touches me deeply. It makes me very happy to be able to thank you. I appreciate your very generous gesture. It made me feel supported at a time when I really needed it.”**

— Mr. Jean-Claude Bourgault, Val-Alain.

“I have Becker muscular dystrophy and I want to extend a heartfelt “Thank You!” for your continued and generous support. The power chair has made a big impact on my life. Taking the bus is infinitely easier, as is going to public, social events and movies, cafes, musical venues and more.”

— Anonymous friend with a neuromuscular disorder from Western Canada.

**“Muscular Dystrophy Canada is very important to our family. It is not always easy to deal with the everyday stresses that face our family, but it is comforting to know that we have someone to go to when we are in need—of strength and support, of equipment, or of a friend that truly understands. (Our son) Isaac loves participating in all Chapter activities and this contact with other families helps our family cope. We would be lost without Muscular Dystrophy Canada and the Central New Brunswick Chapter.”**

— Tracy Wall, Fredericton, New Brunswick.

“On behalf of Jason Moore and his family, we thank Muscular Dystrophy Canada for their generous donation for the purchase of a ceiling track lift for Jason. As you know, having a child with a debilitating illness is very stressful and to not have to worry about the cost of necessary equipment is a tremendous help. Jason's ceiling lift will enable us to take Jason throughout the upper level of our house without having to worry about injuring Jason or ourselves. Since Jason broke his leg we have had to make quite a few changes to accommodate moving Jason about. Thanks to your donation it has become a lot easier to move Jason around, not to mention a lot safer.”

— Margaret Moore and the Moore Family, Ontario.