



2020/2021

ANNUAL REPORT

Neil Squire Society



Table of Contents

Message from the Chair of the Board	3.....
Innovation	5.....
Digital Literacy.....	10.....
Employment	17.....
Assistive Technology.....	25.....
Collaboration.....	29.....
Government Funders and Donors	35....
Statement of Financial Positions	38....
Board and Committee Members	40....

Message from the Chair of the Board

It is hard to imagine that during COVID-19, our Neil Squire team could serve even more participants on a year-over-year basis. However, amid this crisis, our team pulled together to serve even more Canadians in need of digital literacy, employment, and assistive technology, enabling them to lead fully inclusive lives.

Innovation has always been a key strength of our team, and this year the team worked hard to make sure we were on task to do even more under very challenging circumstances.

Our Digital Jumpstart program far surpassed our original goals with supply of new computers as well as training.

Our Working Together program continued to serve people with disabilities across the country. We helped 370 participants develop the skills needed to achieve their employment goals, and we assisted 180 of them to gain employment or become self-employed.

2 XU 0DNHUV 0DNLQJ &KDQJH WHDP KHOSHG SDUWLFLSDQWV ZLWK LQQRV
devices and even special PPE for people with disabilities. One of my favourite things to do is share stories of a maker group that has made a device for a person in need. Sometimes the device might look quite simple, yet the result for the recipient is life-changing. In some cases, the thinking and technology that goes into creating these devices is beyond comprehension.

To witness the changes our team makes for people across the country is proof that we're on the right track!

Furthering the theme of innovation, our team is fully involved in research to make sure that steady guidance. Our team, led by Dr. Gary Birch, has shown that they can deliver under very
G L J F X O W F L U F X P V W D Q F H V

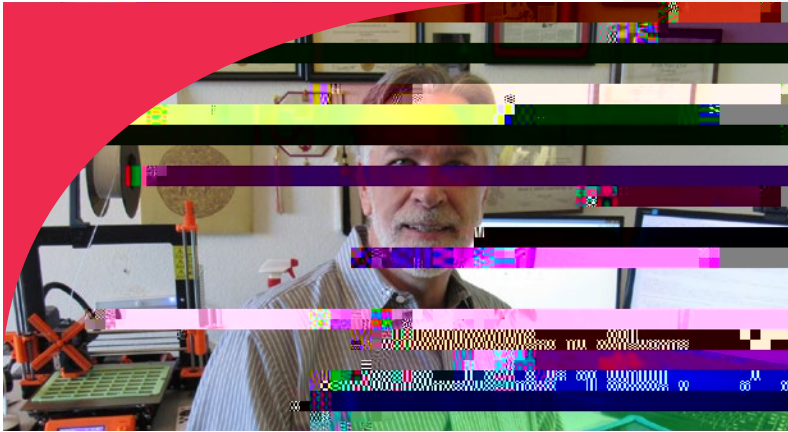
We are also very blessed with a great group of passionate volunteers that serve on our board and the various committees.

7 R H D F K P H P E H U R I R X U 1 H L O 6 T X L U H W H D P R I V W D • D Q G Y R O X Q W H H U V
your dedication to helping others across our country.

Brian Pritchard
Neil Squire Society, Board Chair 2020/21

Innovation

December 2, 2020: Makers Making Change celebrates 100th assistive device added to their assistive device library

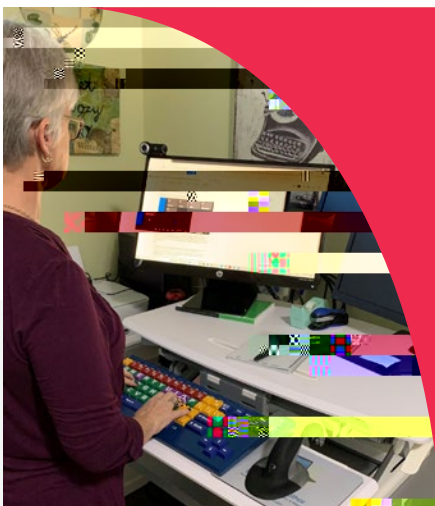


Makers Making Change
Volunteer, Ken Hackbarth

[Read more](#)

“Now, all of a sudden at 62, I can draw a straight line. That sounds ridiculous, but that is so exciting for somebody like me who hasn’t been able to do it,”

– Brenda, recipient of multiple assistive devices.



Makers Making Change Participant, Brenda,
at her computer workstation

[Read more](#)

Innovation

“It’s so wonderful to look at the plethora of solutions on the Makers ODNLOJ&KDOJHZHEVLWHDQGNQRZWKDWWKHÐUHPDNLOJKXHGLHUHQFHV in disabled people’s lives.”

– Michelle, recipient of multiple assistive devices.



Makers Making Change Participant, Michelle, with her dogs

[Read more](#)

Digital Literacy



Digital Literacy





Distance Computer Comfort

We served 7 participants nationally	We provided service to participants in 7 provinces
We provided service to participants in 6 cities	We provided over 116 hours of one-on-one tutoring
We utilized 3 volunteers	We utilized 4 Computer Comfort partner sites

Participants

Of the 7 clients taking part in the program in the past year:

6 participants enhanced their employability	13 participants	
---	-----------------	--

Digital Literacy

Tech for Good

We served 185 participants and provided 360 hours of training .

Breakdown of services provided:

Phone recommended: 28%	AT recommended: 53%	Training provided: 32%
---------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------

Types of AT recommended:

- Hardware accessories such as headset
- Software features such as voiceover and voice control

Types of training topics covered:

- Basic networking skills for calls and messages
- Specialised AT skills for using voice assistants and apps

Digital Jumpstart

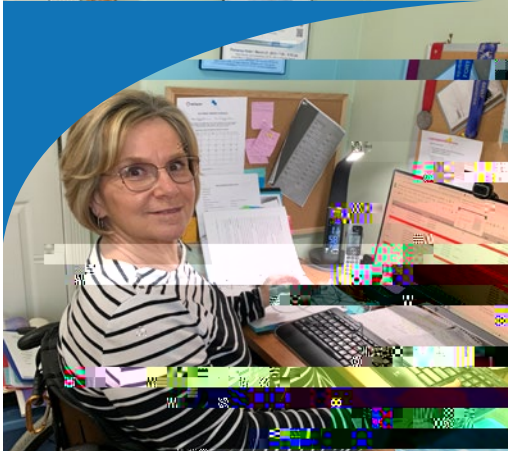
We served 222 participants nationally with digital skills enhancement activities	68 (31%) of the participants completed readiness programs	
210 (95%) of the participants enhanced their employability	40 (18%) of the participants gained employment	16 (7%) of the participants returned to school
Each participant received an ergonomic and assistive technology assessment along with delivery of associated disability supports.		
This project served participants in eight provinces across Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia) and one Territory (Northwest Territories)		



Employment

“Since the Working Together program, I have had a huge boost in my self-
HVWHHP DQG VHOI FRQ4GHQFH %HLQJ DEOH WR XVH P\ VNLOOV D
of access and inclusion is a boost as well. Being able to contribute and be
part of a team has also been great for my self-worth.”

– Lori, Working Together Participant.

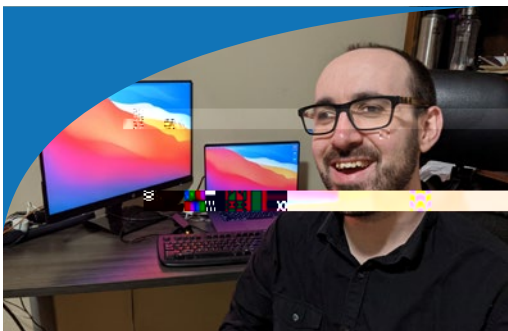


Working Together Participant, Lori

[Read more](#)

)URP KHOSLQJ PH 4QG RSSRUWXQLWLHV WR IXUWKHU H[SORULQJ
passions and wants, and resume and interview prep, they went out of
their way to set me up for success.”

– Nate, Working Together Participant.



Working Together Participant, Nate

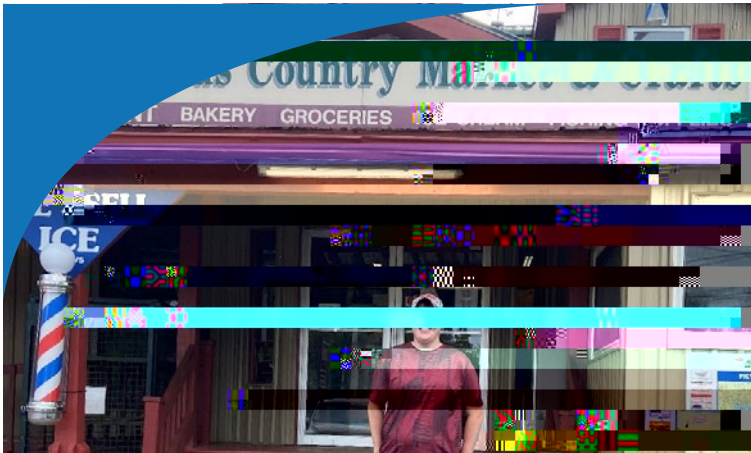
[Read more](#)



Employment

“Kathleen is a very hard worker and a delight to work with [. . .] She comes to work smiling and leaves smiling. It is our pleasure to have her. No job is too challenging for her. She dives right in and is so helpful to all
R X U V W D •

– Crossroads Country Market General Manager Aggie Barbosa, Kathleen’s Employer.



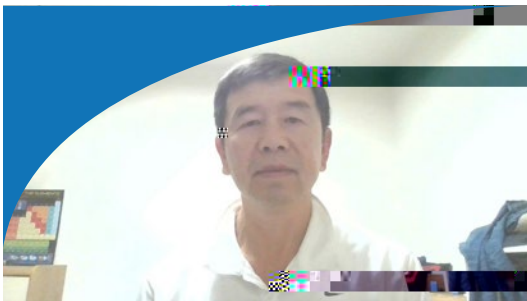
Working Together Participant, Kathleen

[Read more](#)

– W KHOSH G PH WR JDLQ VHOI FRQ4GHQFH WKHQ WR VHH DQG DS
working places. The program is very good and rich with information [. . .]

%HIRUH – ZDVQ W DEOH WR 4QG D MRE 1RZ – KDYH D VHFXUH MR

– Tson-Yu, Working Together Participant.



Working Together Participant,
Tson-Yu

[Read more](#)

Employment

– WKLQN LW LV LQFUHGLEOH WKDW WKH 1HLO 6TXLUH 6RFLHW\ Z
GLO dÄLvDQWP PH LKHO Äp 0 pö u 0,À Pµ €ôp 0 p€€Ö€ÀUÀ 0 @ P à cfU 0

Employment



Employment

Assistive Technology

“Since being a participant in the Assistive Technology Services program, my life has improved for the better. Not only do I hear my colleagues



Assistive Technology



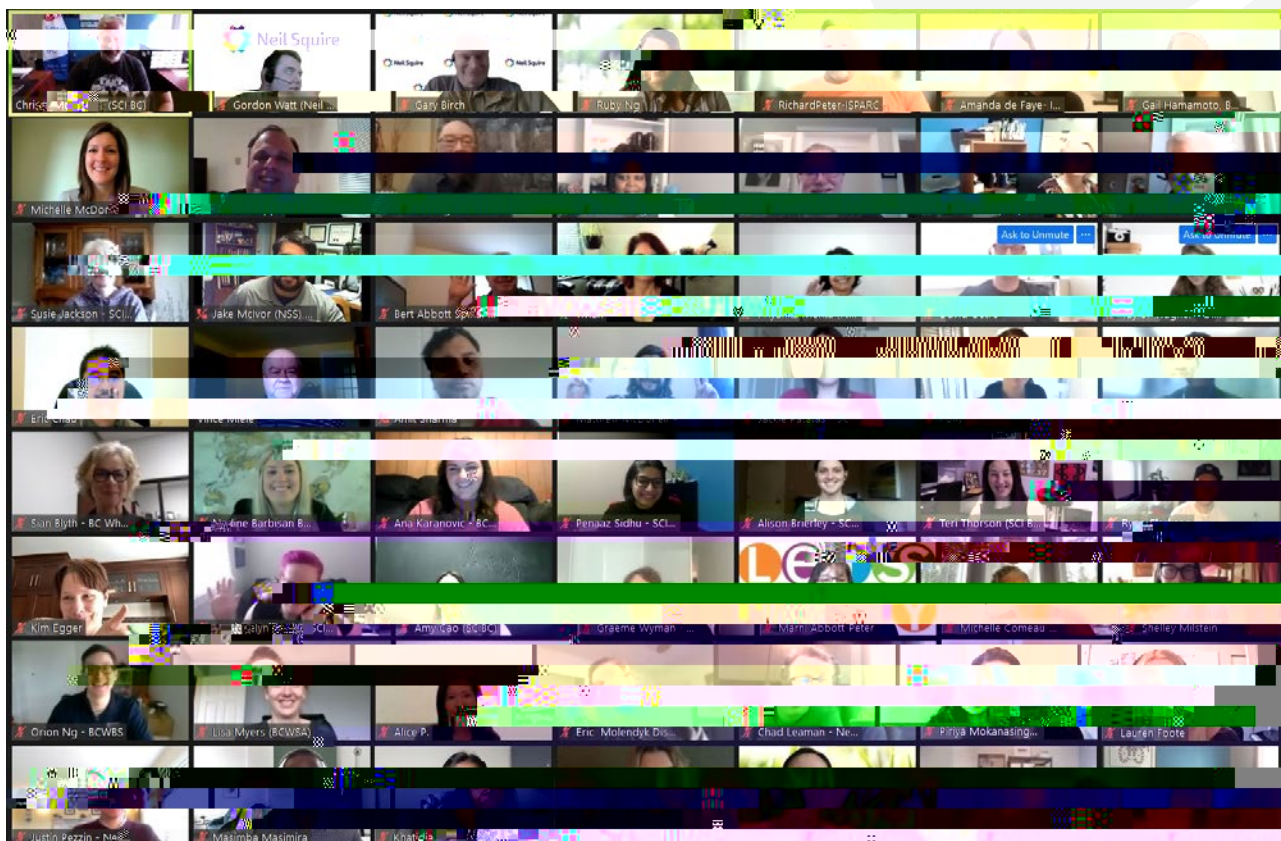
Collaboration



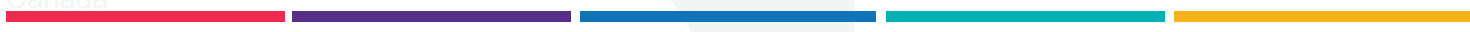
Collaboration

March 26, 2021: The BC SCI Network work together to help make BC the best place to live, work, and be active

The BC SCI Network, comprised of BC Wheelchair Basketball Society, BC Wheelchair Sports Association, Neil Squire, Disability Foundation, and Spinal Cord Injury BC, held a virtual team meeting. Together, our organizations are working to help make BC the best place to live, work, and be active.



[Read more](#)







Statement of Financial Positions

(For the year ended March 31st, 2021)

Assets

Current Assets	2021	2020
Cash	\$1,993,645	\$339,956
Accounts receivable	\$751,506	\$1,184,415
Prepaid expenses	\$152,088	2020

Board and Committee Members

Board Members

Brian Pritchard, Chair

Marie Burgoyne, Vice-Chair

Colin Bell, Treasurer

Geordie Cree, Member

Laurie Hill, Member

Judy Hutchins, Member



