



Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association  
Annual Report  
2016-2017



Saskatchewan  
Brain Injury  
Association

# About SBIA

The Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association (SBIA) is a provincial, community-based organization working in partnership with other community organizations to deliver prevention and education programs to the public.

**Save Your Melon!** Is one of SBIA's prevention programs that was launched by our honorary spokesperson, Jim Hopson, a former President and CEO of the Saskatchewan Roughriders. This program encourages people of all ages to wear a helmet when cycling and participating in sports.

**Take Brain Injury Out of Play** is a prevention program aimed at athletes, coaches, and parents. The key concept of the program is that player safety begins with awareness of brain injuries like concussion. This is followed by a commitment from individuals to take responsibility for the safety of their own brain, and those of their fellow players. Leaders within the teams are also encouraged to use their influence to promote brain safety.

**BrainLove**, is a provincial awareness campaign during Brain Awareness Month in March that encourages the public to take care of their brains and prevent brain injuries.

**Brain Injury Awareness Month** (June) is a national campaign to educate the public about brain injury and its effects. Brain injuries can happen to Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime. It is the leading cause of death and disability worldwide for people under the age of 44.

Since 1985, the Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association (SBIA), a registered charity, has been helping individuals and families deal with the effects of brain injuries. Founded by families whose children sustained brain injuries, it offers support and programs free of charge to individuals and families who are living with the effects of brain injury. Much of our work seeks to enhance services for persons with brain injury, their families, and caregivers. Although we acknowledge that every brain injury is different we believe in the value of group and individual support. SBIA gathers people together from around the province in positive environments to learn from one another as they share experiences and get on with the business of living. By looking to those who have lived with the experience of brain injury to educate the public, health care professionals, and students, we continually educate and promote understanding.

Each year, the Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association reaches out into the community offering:

- Public prevention and awareness programs for children, youth and adults. SBIA provides information on brain injury, as well as service advocacy, support, and guidance for individuals and families coping with the effects of ABI. Each month, the Provincial Toll Free Support Line receives many calls and our website receives thousands of hits. SBIA Facebook group & Twitter are gaining popularity. The Quarterly newsletter goes to more than 700 addresses.
- Referrals to and support of peer Support Chapters in Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Kindersley and Yorkton. Support Chapters meet weekly or monthly and organize regular programs for survivors. Annually, three major retreats held around the province. Annual retreats and **Brain Boogies** held in parks around the province, provide opportunities for brain injury survivors, their families and caregivers to gather as a community and to learn from one another.

# A Letter from The President



There are so many great things about participating with the Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association that it often makes it difficult to know where to start. Many good and dedicated people have made our organization so much more than it would have been. Our profile in the greater community because of that dedication along with the work of our staff and volunteers remains a testament to our success.

We have experienced yet another year of amazing growth not only with new programs, but with new faces, new board members and new volunteers. We also spent time, energy and resources on developing infrastructure behind the scenes to ensure we have the right tools in place to continue to serve the people, families and friends who have been affected by brain injury.

As is always the case with not-for-profit, we are constantly in need of new and diverse funding sources. We are tremendously grateful to the Royal Purple and other partners in our community that continue to support through the donation of time and money. We continue to collaborate and work together to improve the community for all brain injury survivors. And that is where our members and supporters can provide invaluable assistance. The greater the awareness, the better we are able to serve the survivors of brain injury.

Our Board of Directors is always evolving as well. This year we say goodbye to a few amazing volunteers that have given so much over the years and my message to them is one of enormous gratitude. Thank you for all the years of dedication, advice and passion for this great organization. It hasn't gone unnoticed and your support has made us stronger. It is now time for others to carry the torch and bring different skill sets and experience to the table and continue the work. And when I look at our board today, I have the confidence in their abilities and commitment to SBIA and I look forward to another year of working together.

On behalf of the board of directors, thank you to our donors, members, volunteers and staff for all you do in support of those with acquired brain injury, their families and friends.

With gratitude,

Lynne Back

## **Mission Statement**

The Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association strives to prevent brain injuries and to improve the lives of survivors and their families.

## **Vision Statement**

A world without brain injuries with survivors at their full potential.

# A Message from Our Executive Director

Collaboration brings so many benefits to an organization and the past year has demonstrated that as SBIA worked with a number of different groups spreading the brain injury prevention message beyond its normal reach.

High school student, Jasmine Chamberlain chose SBIA for her philanthropy project and worked to create a new flyer and event encouraging skateboarders to Helmet Up! With support from four sponsors and volunteers from her program, SBIA set up displays and handed out helmets at skateboard parks during Brain Injury Awareness month. ATV clubs and motorcycle clubs also collaborated with SBIA to encourage and support helmet use at their events.

The support of Saskatchewan Blue Cross for Brain Injury Awareness Month made possible the creation and distribution of the posters and with further support from Worksafe Saskatchewan SBIA reached school children, recreational facilities and the public attending displays and festivals around the province, reaching thousands in person. The U of R Rams ladies soccer launched their season with SBIA's Take Brain Injury Out of Play and a new video. Readings & Declarations in city council chambers and media coverage further spread the Helmet Up! message, not just for Brain Injury Awareness Month but throughout the year.

SBIA longterm partners and new sponsors for the Brain Blitz and Brain Boogie led to successful fundraisers that continue prevention education and the valuable weekly and monthly programs SBIA holds in six communities around the province. Grant funding from the City of Regina supported the drumming, youth and caregiver programs. SBIA joined Chambers of Commerce, campaigns for National Philanthropy Day, International Day of Persons with Disabilities and Giving Tuesday to increase awareness and support.

SK Royal Purple volunteers once again, increased their support during their fourth year with the BrainLove campaign, and by featuring SBIA at their National Conference in Saskatoon interested Royal Purple groups across the country to support brain injury survivors and their families. These valuable volunteers assist with SBIA events and education throughout the year, extending our reach into rural communities.

Housing is a challenge, we know but addressing the issue is complex. But this year, with the help of grants from the CRU at U of R and the federal homelessness initiative, SBIA has been able to gather more information from members and community partners to better build the case for supported housing initiatives in the future.

Other pages of this report show more results of collaborations, programs that SBIA members often tell us make an important difference in their lives.



# Annual Events

# Ready... Set... BOOGIE!

Brain Boogie 2016 was a huge success and we could not be more thankful for all of our supporters and chapters around Saskatchewan.

Attendance was up in 2016 with a total of 359 Participants, raising over **\$48,000** in sponsorship and pledges. Each year participants, volunteers, and staff, get together to raise awareness and necessary funds for brain injury survivor programming. The money raised helps fund chapter activities and provincial events for survivors and families.

Yorkton kicked off the Brain Boogie season with a fun golf tournament and steak night on August 27. 11 golfers came out to enjoy a beautiful day on the course. Organizer Lynette Strom had some surprises at some of the holes such as: driving with a pool noodle, using a tennis ball for first drive, longest drive, longest putt, and spin to drive.

Best game went to Marcus Allan; Top pledger - Sharon Pickup; Longest drive female - Jaedyn Poncsak; Longest drive men's - Reid Jemieff; Longest putt women's - Sherry Wenet; Longest putt men's - Reid Jemieff

The staff from Cherrydale put on an excellent meal for both golfers and additional guests after the tournament. A total of \$850 was raised for the Yorkton chapter!

A day later, the Moose Jaw Brain Boogie was held in the beautiful Crescent Park. We could not have asked for better weather as the sun was shining all day long. Participants arrived with a great energy and fun was had by all.

The day started out with registration. As more and more participants arrived, reunions between old friends began. Glenda James, Executive Director, welcomed everyone and officially kicked off the day. The stretch was led by local cheer group, Cheer Infinity Athletics, and then participants were on their way.



The Moose Jaw City Police joined in on the fun serving as Marshalls on the route and making sure everyone was kept safe. When everyone returned they were able to enjoy a great BBQ provided by Hub Meat Market, Superstore, and Maple Leaf Bakery. Volunteers from the Knights of Columbus were gracious barbeque masters. There was a local radio station live at the event, as well as two local newspapers providing great coverage!



During lunch, volunteers and participants were awarded prizes from local donors. Recipients included the top earning team: Prayers for Bob and the top earner: Bob Spuzak. The Moose Jaw Boogie raised more than \$2600 for the chapter!

The day finished off with an amazing performance from local teenage musician, Ethan Brentnell. As goodbyes were said, participants and staff were already looking forward to next year's event.

September 10th was a busy day in both the North and South of the province. Jeanine Hackl and her team of volunteers planned a fantastic event at the Elks' Hall and park in Prince Albert. Patti Koivisto did a wonderful job as the emcee and kept the 49 participants and volunteers on track.

Organizers got creative with fundraising efforts; the auctions and the 50/50 were a great success! Prince Albert Chapter members donated an entire table of silent auction items. Top pledge earners were Ivania Choma, raising \$1850 and Murray Taylor with \$1625! Both were recognized at the event. With all of the efforts combined, Prince Albert raised over \$10,000!

Jeanine gave a very heartfelt and moving thank you at the end of the Prince Albert Brain Boogie. In Regina, the weather was cool though sunny, but the 100 participants and volunteers had a good time and raised over \$15,000!

Executive Director, Glenda James gave a farewell/thank you acknowledgment to SBIA Volunteer Dallas Novakowski. The Brain Injury Association of Canada Award of Merit was presented to SBIA volunteer, Anna-Maria Saigeon. Thank you, Dallas! Congratulations Anna!



# Adventure to Atlantis



"Adventure to Atlantis" was the theme of the 2016 Brain Blitz Gala presented by Worksafe Saskatchewan on May 7. After a full morning of preparations, the volunteers transformed TCU Place into a beautiful underwater scene. Balloons hung from the ceiling, large faux coral was scattered around the room, and a video feed from an aquarium in Dubai was projected behind the stage.

As guests entered TCU Place, mermaids directed them to the Champagne Reception. Once inside, they were welcomed with a trio of rhythmic gymnasts from Prairie Ribbons Rhythmic Gymnastics Club performing handstands, splits, and pyramids.

VIP guests were mesmerized by an exclusive AcroYoga performance at the opposite end of the room. While guests perused an amazing lineup of silent auction items, the room buzzed with conversation and excitement. Players from the U of S Huskies Soccer Team and the Saskatoon Blades Hockey Team circulated with raffle tickets for the wine tree that was generating much of the buzz.

Before dinner began, Ken McCullough auctioned off a VIP Table in which the winner would have the opportunity to dine with Jim Hopson & Brenda Edwards as well as receive extra gifts.

During dessert, the trio of rhythmic gymnasts performed a beautiful ball and ribbon routine followed by the AcroYoga duo, Brette Crockett and Shay Crawford, performing a second time and wowing attendees all over again. The final performance was a daring and graceful routine by a silk aerialist Leandra Dumanski, from Move 'n' Soar.

After dessert, Kevin Sharfe told his story of acquiring a brain injury. It was emotional and light hearted.

The Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association was pleased to have Jim Hopson, former Saskatchewan Roughriders President and CEO, as the keynote speaker. His speech focused on his career and his journey to becoming the CEO of a professional sports team. Jim ended his talk with a short discussion on concussions in sport and how better or bigger equipment is not necessarily the answer. Sports teams need coaches who focus on teaching children and adults how to avoid concussions and other injuries in practice and games.

Before the evening ended, a 3-night fishing vacation donated by Nabess Resort, a return flight for two anywhere WestJet flies, Club Level Room at the Sheraton in Saskatoon, and an exclusive Wine Pairing at the Cactus Club for up to 5 people were auctioned off.

A thank you to the amazing committee and volunteers who work so hard on the gala year after year.





# Camp

The Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association's largest annual event is camp at Arlington Beach on Last Mountain Lake.

June is Brain Injury Awareness Month and therefore the perfect time for SBIA to host a vacation event! The weekend consists of three days of fun with many informative sessions and games.

Friday afternoon, members arrived and settled into their living accommodations at Arlington Beach Camp. The 2016 camp was SBIA's largest one yet - over 90 campers! Among them was SBIA's newest staff member, Jeanine Hackl, bringing her friends from the Prince Albert chapter.

After unpacking, everyone hurried back to the shared space to catch up with familiar faces and meet new people. The first activity Friday night was a bonfire, complete with hotdogs and marshmallows for S'mores. Ron Keck led and entertained with songs around the campfire.

After the campfire, members slowly retreated to the Lodge where they enjoyed fresh, homemade popcorn and settled in for a viewing of 'The Incredibles'.

On Saturday morning, campers were awakened to the sound of birds and the sight of the sun. The first event of the day was a hearty pancake breakfast. Afterwards, there was no time to waste! The Superhero theme continued through the weekend's educational sessions.

Robin Tresco led an inspiring session that helped empower campers to explore more about themselves and their lives. Campers talked about the heroes in their lives as well as the hero that lies within all of us!

Glenda James then led a powerful session about 5 basic needs and how people make choices that they believe will meet those needs.

On Saturday afternoon, campers enjoyed mini golf, a target challenge, and some brain games. A vision board craft, which followed up on the morning sessions, gave campers a chance to show off their artistic abilities while also focusing on some of their hopes and dreams. There was also a cribbage tournament that began, and was paused for a delicious roast beef dinner and then continued into the evening. Saturday evening campers were entertained by a very exciting and hilarious improv show. Some members got to join in on the fun!

To end the night, everyone enjoyed a fantastic firework show provided by D & S Fireworks and Bazaar & Novelty. Some of the night owls stayed up to enjoy another movie on the big screen.

Sunday morning's first session was led by Anna Saigeon and explained some smart phone apps that can help brain injury survivors.



The weekend program concluded with a personal story about the support of friendship by Regina members, Denise and Mary. Campers left for home with smiles, and promise of more to come next year!



# Fall Retreat

Our annual Fall Retreat was held on October 29th and 30th, 2016 in Regina at the Executive Royal Hotel with a Halloween theme. Members enthusiastically embraced the theme and an excited buzz filled the room as people from around the province gathered.

Psychologist, Colette Pelletier, started the afternoon sessions with a talk about mindfulness and how to stay in the present. Following the break, Dr. Nuelle Novik from the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Regina, spoke about how to 'Move through Loss & Grief after an Acquired Brain Injury.' The audience was deeply moved by the wisdom and knowledge that both presenters shared.

The late afternoon offered two options for participants. One caregiver and family member specific session was run by SBIA's Social Worker, Robin Tresco, who discussed the ABC's of supporting someone with a brain injury. Meanwhile, in the main room, some participants painted mini ornamental pumpkins while others enjoyed visiting with old and new friends.

The evening social began with a wonderful meal of turkey, stuffing, garlic mashed potatoes, vegetables, and New York cheesecake. First Nations hoop dancer, Terrance Littleton, provided some fascinating entertainment as he spun 17 hoops.

A Halloween costume party and dance topped off the evening. Laughter filled the room as Elvis, Minnie Mouse, Alice in Wonderland, Pirates, The Grim Reaper, and Pokémon characters made appearances. Everyone enjoyed the music, dancing, Halloween treats, and fabulous company.

Sunday began bright and early with coffee and a presentation by Kelsey Kilbach of Regina. Kelsey shared her story in a way that was very open, honest, and inspiring. Thank you to Kelsey for sharing your empowering message that reminded all of us to embrace life. A hearty brunch followed.

Reflexologist, Kendra Kembel delivered the final session of the weekend using a very interactive approach to teach a Brain Dance that wakes up the body, as well as showing important pressure points on the body that promote healing and pain relief.

As people said their goodbyes, there was general agreement that everyone had a wonderfully 'spooktacular' time!



# Spring Retreat

Adventure to Atlantis was the theme for SBIA's annual Spring Retreat. The retreat took place at the Parktown Hotel in Saskatoon on March 18th & 19th. It began with a welcome luncheon that had over 90 guests in attendance.

The first session was Body Positivity for EVERYBody, conducted by Nourish YXE. Attendees explored the impact of body shaming and fear-based ways of controlling our or other's bodies. Nourish also taught that body shaming can happen to anyone regardless of body size, shape, gender, race or ability. Lastly, they introduced attendees to body positivity and health at every size and provided strategies to promote health and self-compassion.

Next was an inspiring interview and performance from Sheri Turgeon. Sheri was born with Spina Bifida but has never allowed her health challenges to stop her from pursuing a passion for dance. Sheri has been dancing for over 18 years and has even had the opportunity to study under mentor, Kitty Lunn in New York City for 2 summers. Her interview was moving and her performance was powerful!

One afternoon session was specific to caregivers & family members. Attendees joined Lorraine Holtlander from the Saskatoon Council of Aging (SCOA) as she facilitated the private session.

The SCOA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of dignity, health and independence of older adults. It is a community leader in positive aging for all.

Members spent some time with local artist Holly Hanley. Hanley guided these members in painting their own interpretation of "Under the Sea, Adventure to Atlantis". The completed art pieces were absolutely stunning!

The evening social began with a delicious dinner of stuffed chicken and chocolate dessert. Following dinner, a trio of elite Rhythmic Gymnasts from Prairie Ribbons Rhythmic Gymnastics Club provided entertainment. The dancers performed a beautiful ball and ribbon routine. This was followed by the AcroYoga duo, Brette Crockett and Shay Crawford. These artists performed a mesmerizing AcroYoga routine.

The party really started when Armed with Harmony (DJ) played a groovy mix of songs that had everyone dancing, clapping, and singing along. At one point, there was a locomotion train going through the room!

Sunday morning began with coffee and fruit and was followed by a Rhythmic Gymnastics Class. Denise Sarada (SBIA Kindersley Coordinator) and Lori Morphy (Masters in Physical Education, specializing in adapted physical therapy) led the class. The group learned a routine with scarves and then had an opportunity to try out ribbons, balls and hula hoops.

A warm brunch buffet was followed by a soul warming survivor story of hope. Saskatoon's Tobias Quiring shared how a vehicle accident changed his life. His daughter Angela shared her memories as well. Afterwards, friends of Tobias shared their gratitude for his friendship & kindness. Thank you, Tobias!

As guests said their goodbyes, they had the opportunity to gather registration forms for the upcoming SBIA Family Camp (happening in June). All are excited to see everyone again at the next SBIA Event!

"This was an amazing weekend. As always, I'm going home regenerated and ready for the new days ahead in my journey. Thank you SBIA," commented one grateful participant.



# Chapter Reports

## Saskatoon

Thank you to the Board and Chapter members for a successful and active year. This year marked the first year of the Saskatoon Caregiver Support Group which was well attended by a dedicated group of caregivers. The group offers a safe place to discuss the stresses, challenges and rewards of providing care for a loved one. The Saskatoon Chapter participated in camp, spring conference, Brain Boogie, walk group, community outings and monthly support group meetings. Some of our outings included a billiard pool night at Pacific Billiards and movie night at Rainbow Theatre. We also did many crafts throughout the year and enjoyed each other's company.

Walk group runs for 30 weeks coordinated by Paul and Shelly Cory, who work with many other volunteers. The walk group is hosted at the Saskatoon Field House and is well attended by Chapter members and family. The Moving On Program members from Sherbrooke Community Center also join once a month.

Thank you to all of the Chapter's members, volunteers, board members and family and friends that supported the Chapter throughout the year. Thank you to the many that put in countless volunteer hours and those walkers that raised pledges in the community to make the Brain Boogie a fundraising success.

And lastly, thank you to the efforts of SARBI and Chapter volunteers for organizing and catering a wonderful Christmas party filled with laughter, a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus, and attended by some local wrestling celebrities.

## Kindersley

The Kindersley Chapter has continued our weekly walks and coffee on Thursday nights at 6:30pm at the West Central Events Centre (WCEC). We have just changed to Tuesday nights (same time - 6:30pm) as summer hours start at the WCEC.

Our group attended the Brain Boogie this past year and we hope to attend again in the Fall.

Throughout the year we try to meet up at community events that fall on our walk nights - for example Goose Festival for a burger.

We enjoyed a fun night of bowling and pizza for our annual Christmas Party and finished it off with a fun gift exchange for members and supporters.

Next week we have a booth at our local trade show with the Royal Purple Association in hopes of recruiting some new members and handing out information about the Brain Boogie.

We are down to two members and have their families and supporters of all ages and abilities who join us every week. All of our members encourage each other and we hope others in our area will be encouraged to join in our group as well! Everyone still enjoys the social aspect of the group - both members and supporters.

## Moose Jaw

The Moose Jaw chapter meets for lunch and activities during the year. The chapter has gone through changes due to several members moving, and unfortunately passing on.

The Brain Boogie is always Moose Jaw's biggest event. We would also like to thank the Regina chapter for inviting us to attend their thursday meetings, as well as the occasional Social Bean.

New and exciting plans are underway for the coming year!



experiences and how a TBI has affected them. Monthly sessions consist of support for grief, boundaries, stress, and remembering how important it is to take time for yourself. We welcome new members, and happy to share the strength and support the group offers.

## Prince Albert

The Prince Albert chapter had plenty of events this past year including attending each of the SBIA's retreats, went seen movies at the galaxy theatre, bowling nights, and had pizza lunches.

We are currently starting a caregivers session that will be held the following Wednesday of each of our monthly meetings which is held on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

We look forward to our upcoming summer BBQ which will be held on June 18th at Kinsmen Part and will start at 1:30pm. We have also invited our local Royal Purple members to attend the event and look forward to the upcoming Brain Boogie September.

## Yorkton

The Yorkton Chapter has been meeting for a regular coffee time once a month. Participants look forward to it and would like to meet more often, when funds allow.

There is often a need for one on one time in between these meetings as other providers have reduced quality of life services for survivors. Once a month the group also meets for an activity such as a movie night. The Brain Boogie golf tournament has been a fun and effective way to raise funds to support the chapter.

## Regina

Chapter Meetings are held weekly on Thursday from 11:00-12:00. Its great to see the SBIA family growing and give an opportunity for socializing, sharing our support to each other, and give members a chance to take the seat and give presentations on how they received their TBI and how they deal with their symptoms. Whether you are a long time member or brand new to the meetings you will be sure to feel like you belong.

The caregiver support meetings are monthly at Wascana Rehab the second Tuesday of each month from 7-9pm. Caregivers share their

# Social Groups



## Drumming Group

Drumming is one of our members' favourite programs. Our drumming facilitator brings a number of different styles of drums and instruments for the members to use and before you know it we sound like an orchestra.

We are celebrating our end of the summer session on June 7th with a pizza party and sessions will resume again September 8th and every Friday there after from 1:30-2:00 at Pioneer Village Hall.

## Social Beans

Social Beans is our support and social group for the teenage and young adult survivors. We meet every Thursday from 7-8:30 pm at various coffee shops around the city. It is a great way to have an outing, and be social.

Social Beans also has a monthly support group that is a little more structured. Our program coordinator offers support and encouragement and facilitates methods on how to help with anxiety, stress, social skills, and other symptoms brain injury survivors deal with on a daily basis.



# Prevention & Awareness



# Helmet Up!

## Brain Injury Awareness Month

June was Brain Injury Awareness Month. This year the theme for Brain Injury Awareness Month was "Helmet Up!". The campaign was focused on the use of helmets, specifically the use of helmets when on skateboards and longboards.

Schools, recreation centers, and politicians throughout the province received this year's poster and information on brain injury and prevention. Cities including Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Nipawin, and Estevan, declared June as Brain Injury Awareness Month. A statement was read in the Senate by Honourable Terry M. Mercer, Senator, Northern Halifax (Nova Scotia). The Honourable Mr. Mercer himself suffered a stroke last year from which he still continues to recover.

In addition, SBIA summer students visited local businesses and venues to hang up posters. They visited many classrooms and community events to raise awareness about brain injuries.

Anna-Maria Saigeon, Regina summer student presented to children at the North Central Family Centre. She focussed on concussions, as well as other brain injuries, and how each child can prevent them by wearing a helmet during sports and activities, wearing a seatbelt, and taking part in safe play. These kids were very interested and asked many questions.

Next was an outdoor carnival of enjoyment for families at Optimist Family Fun Day. Optimist Family Fun Day is an annual event that takes place in a quiet, yet very attractive park with a waterpark, inflatable bounce toys, mascots, food and entertainment. For this event, SBIA set up a display with information and giveaways and spoke with various kids about the importance of safety in activity and sport. Anna noted this was probably the second best promotional event she has attended on behalf of SBIA.

Sticks on Rose is a street hockey tournament for amateurs with the help of professionals, by SBIA partner, Shooting Stars Foundation. At the opening ceremony of the event, they presented a cheque to SBIA!

Sticks on Rose brings together many hockey players from teens to adults for fun in the sun! This event is an incredible opportunity for us because helmets in hockey are so crucial to the well-being of the players. Businesses raise money and then form teams and most teams get to have the opportunity to be joined by a professional hockey player from a professional team.

Also in Regina, Robin Tresco attended Bazaar with a display about brain injury prevention. The weather brought out large crowds and provided a different audience that was interested to learn about preventing brain injuries.

In Saskatoon, SBIA summer student, Annika Thiel reached 658 school age children through classroom presentations in several schools around the city. She spoke about the importance of wearing helmets with hands on activities.

At each presentation, a draw for one of SBIA's Save Your Melon helmets is made. The helmets are provided by

WorkSafe Saskatchewan and in partnership with the Saskatchewan Roughriders, bear the beloved logo. Annika also helped organize a "Save Your Melon on a Skateboard" Safety Campaign in Saskatoon at local skateboard parks. She teamed up with Jasmine Chamberlain, a Saskatoon high school student involved with the Saskatoon Child and Youth in Philanthropy group and hit four skate parks in Saskatoon to give away helmets to kids who were riding without protection. A new flyer about why helmets are important for skateboarders was given with the helmets. It was a great day to bring awareness and prevention to another new audience.

SBIA is making a difference for brain injury prevention. Increased awareness of its importance was evident at all the community outreach events SBIA participated in during Brain Injury Awareness Month.

**Helmet Up!**

**RESPECT the UNEXPECTED!**

Saskatchewan  
Brain Injury  
Association

PRESENTS

**Brain Injury Awareness Month**

POWERED BY **SASKATCHEWAN BLUE CROSS**

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Four years and going strong!

The Saskatchewan Royal Purple Association and Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association are in the midst of a four year mutually beneficial partnership.

BrainLove month was in March, coinciding with the International Brain Awareness Month. The SRPA does not limit their fundraising and awareness campaign solely to the month.

Projects were held in Beechy, Prince Albert, Outlook, Choiceland, Regina and in Shellbrook. Posters have been hung province-wide.

Lodges held pancake breakfasts, perogy sales, steak suppers, Kaiser tournaments and a number of fund and awareness raisers in their communities.

Four additional projects took place in April and several school projects will happen in May and June.

May and June will also bring a series of "Wear a Helmet" days to seven schools across the province. This campaign involves school assemblies and fundraising events to raise awareness of helmet use with our young people.

"We are proud to be a part of these awesome programs as a SBIA Partner," said Sandi Lougheed, BrainLove Coordinator.

"We are well on our way to meeting our goal of \$20,000 this year and by working with SBIA, we are attracting younger members to our lodges."

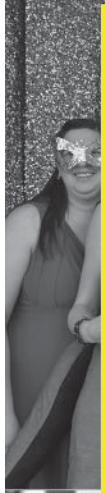
"Both the new and the existing members are telling the stories rurally too," said Lougheed.

SRPA is pleased with the provincial attention SBIA has been providing to the organization. We want to thank Glenda and the SBIA staff for the help during the month, and the Bootlegger stores across the province for teaming up with SRPA to raise funds and awareness for SBIA.





**Thank you to all of our supporters across Saskatchewan.**



# Thank you to our Partners and Sponsors!

## OUR LONG-TERM PARTNERS

### Presenting Partner



### Brain Injury Awareness Month Partner



### SOAK Partner



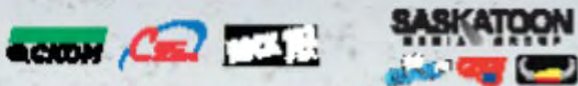
### Prevention & Education Partner



### BrainLove Partner



### Media Partners



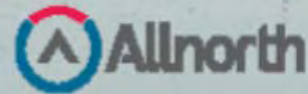
### Sports Partners



## SPONSORS

Thank-you for supporting the 2016 Brain Blitz Gala presented by WorkSafe Saskatchewan

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