

# Premier's Council on Disabilities

Annual Report  
2018-2019



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Premier's Council on Disabilities  
Conseil du premier ministre pour  
les personnes handicapées

**2018-2019 Annual Report**

**Published by:**

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October 2020

The Honourable Blaine Higgs  
Premier  
Province of New Brunswick  
P. O. Box 6000  
Fredericton, N.B.  
E3B 5H1

Dear Premier:

We are pleased to submit the annual report of the Premier's Council on Disabilities for April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Dickinson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "R".

Randy Dickinson  
Chairperson

## Message from the Chairperson and the Executive Director

We are pleased to submit the 2018-2019 annual report of the Premier's Council on Disabilities.

Council's extensive stakeholder's connections and requests for assistance continue to increase annually as the number of persons with a disability and older adult's increases.

This year has again been a busy year for Council as we continue to bring awareness and make recommendations to the Government of New Brunswick with the goal of breaking down barriers for persons with disabilities. As we bring these issues forward, the Council works closely with individuals with disabilities, their families, service professionals, community organizations, and government at all levels.

Council's mission is 'A New Brunswick where all persons are accepted, included and valued.'

Highlights of this year included Council leadership with the annual Disability Awareness Week in New Brunswick in late May and early June, and hosting an event marking the United Nations Day for Persons with a Disability in December.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all Council members and staff for their expertise and passion towards the work of the Council.



Randy Dickinson  
Chairperson



Christyne Allain,  
Executive Director

## **Council Members 2018-2019**

Andrew Daley.....	Chairperson, until June 2018
Randy Dickinson .....	Chairperson, appointed Summer 2018
Sheila Rogers, Vice Chairperson.....	Bathurst Region
Noëlla Hébert, Secretary.....	Miramichi Region
Linda Ferrier, Treasurer.....	Public-at-Large Representative
Annie Chiasson Doiron, .....	Provincial Association Representative
Dawn Stevens.....	Public-at-Large Representative
Gerald (Brent) MacPherson.....	Fredericton Region
Cheryl LeBlanc.....	Moncton Region
Christine Evans.....	Rothsay Region
Mark LeBlanc.....	Bathurst Region
Michael George.....	Saint John Region
Michèle Ouellette.....	Edmundston Region

### ***Andrew Daley, An Appreciation***

Andrew Daley has inspired all who have crossed his path in both his work life and as a volunteer.

Andrew was first appointed to the Premier's Council in May 2013 and was appointed Chair in June 2017. Andrew's passion for what he does comes from a deep empathy as a former student with a visual disability, his selflessness, and his awareness of the value of working together to help others.

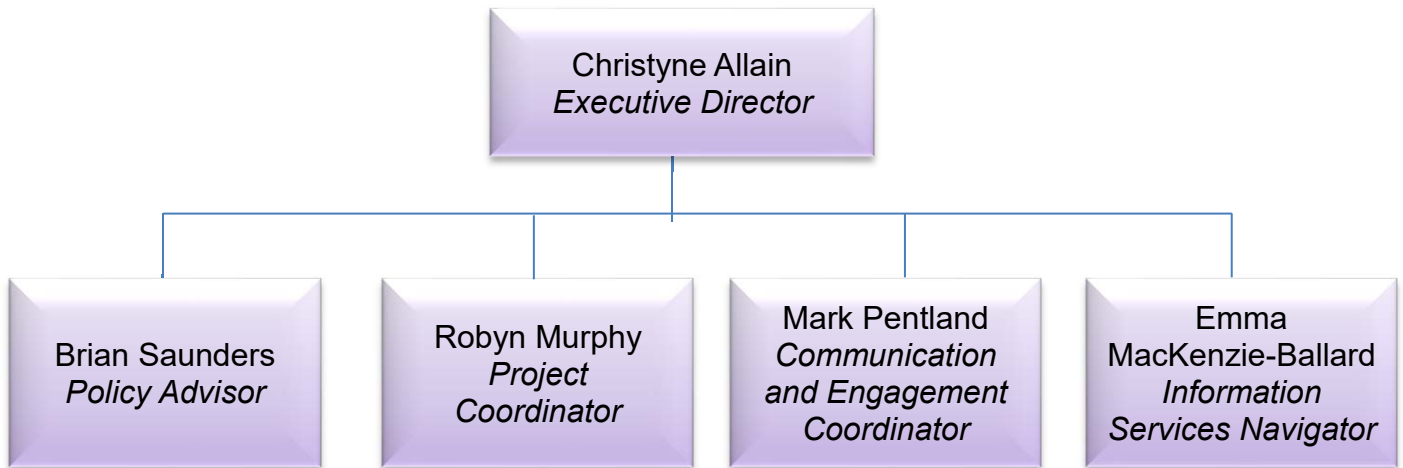
Andrew is a visionary thinker and a champion for any person with a disability. His combination of attributes combined with strong advocacy, resulted in the creation of library accessibility services at UNB that far exceeded any dreams and expectations from when this work started.

As well, through Andrew's leadership, the Premier's Council on Disabilities has pursued a strong commitment to improving the lives of every person with a disability in our province.

It was never easy for Andrew to cover as much ground as he had. He has been active outside from his position on the UNB campus, which has allowed him to develop a high profile within the community. Andrew has always been an ambassador on disability issues through his employment, as well as through his work with the government and other organizations.

Health issues compelled Andrew to resign as Chair of the Premier’s Council on Disabilities in June 2018. We would like to both acknowledge and thank Andrew for his tremendous efforts for us over many years, and to say that we look forward to working with him in the future.

**PCD Personnel 2018-2019**



In addition, please note that the following persons served on the staff of the PCD during some portion of 2018-2019:

Chelsee MacLeod ..... Project Coordinator

Kristin Colwell ..... Office Manager

Rachel Thiboutot ..... Information Service Navigator

Margaret Lyons-MacFarlane ..... Project Manager, DAW 2018

**Vision: A New Brunswick where all persons are accepted, included and valued.**

**Mission: We provide dynamic leadership to improve the quality of life for all persons affected by disABILITY in New Brunswick.**

We accomplish this by:

- Being a strong voice and role model for full community participation;
- Providing research, advice and direction to the Premier and Government;
- Educating and increasing public awareness and the profile of individual rights, abilities and values;
- Building strategic partnerships and networks;
- Facilitating support for individuals, families, caregivers, professionals and communities.

The Council's five (5) goals are based on increasing capacity, role clarity and increased awareness of PCD. Working on these goals will allow PCD to enact positive change that will increase the quality of life for persons living with a *disability*, meet their mandate, mission and vision in NB. The Council has been working towards identifying required resources to fulfill our new vision and mission as well as identifying strategies that we can start to implement right away.

## **Mandate**

The Premier's Council on Disabilities is a body for consultation, study and information sharing, which was created to advise the provincial government on matters relating to the status of persons with disabilities. The Council reports directly to the Premier of New Brunswick.

During a large provincial conference in the fall of 1981, which involved many persons with disabilities, parents, organizations serving persons with disabilities and government representatives, it was decided that a permanent body was needed to maintain the momentum generated by the International Year of Disabled Persons. The unanimous resolution of the conference prompted provincial legislation to be drafted and passed that created the Premier's Council in 1982.

The Premier's Council on Disabilities Act states that the Council shall:

- Advise the Minister on matters relating to the status of disabled persons;
- Bring before the government and the public matters of interest and concern to disabled persons;
- Promote:
  - prevention of disabling conditions,
  - employment opportunities of disabled persons, and
  - access by persons with disabilities to all services offered to the citizens of New Brunswick.



The Council in carrying out its functions may:

- Receive and hear petitions and suggestions from individuals and groups concerning the status of disabled persons;
- Undertake research on matters relevant to the status of disabled persons and recommend research areas that can be studied by governments, voluntary associations, private business, and universities;
- Recommend programs concerning the status of disabled persons;
- Make referrals to, consult and collaborate with, government agencies, voluntary associations, private business, universities and individuals on matters which affect the status of disabled persons;
- Appoint committees consisting of members and other persons who are not members of the Council;
- Propose legislation, policies and practices to improve the status of disabled persons; and,
- Publish the reports, studies and recommendations that the Council considers necessary.

### **Highlights from 2018-2019**

#### **Disability Awareness Week May 26 – June 2, 2018 – *Equal Opportunity for All***

Disability Awareness week is held annually to conduct a strategic public awareness campaign to promote enhanced supports for persons with disabilities of all types and of all ages. The campaign this year included public events, social media, radio, public service announcements, news releases, and posters to promote DAW at events in many schools and communities across New Brunswick.

Disability Awareness Week relies heavily on collaboration of staff and volunteers from the Neil Squire Society who work with the Premier's Council to stage the many activities during this week. The activities this year included a kick-off on May 27<sup>th</sup> in Bathurst co-hosted by the BEST Group and the Bathurst Municipal Committee on Disabilities, the Annual Legislative Breakfast on May 30<sup>th</sup> in Fredericton, various disability related activities, presentations, and workshops around NB undertaken to support employment for persons with a disability, and the annual provincial Walk and Roll event.

In addition to the activities organized provincially by the Premier's Council, local groups were encouraged to organize community projects to also mark the week throughout NB. In all, there were 31 local events organized with an estimated 25,000 participants during Disability Awareness Week 2018.

In addition, during DAW 2018 Alana Gullison was named the first recipient of the Randy Dickinson Scholarship. This \$2000 scholarship is awarded annually to a New Brunswick student with a disability studying in a recognized program at a New Brunswick post-secondary education institution.

This scholarship is named after the founding executive director for the Premier's Council on Disabilities, in recognition of his almost four decades of work on disability issues.

### **United Nations International Day for Persons with a Disability – December 3, 2018**

Annually, the Premier's Council hosts an event on Dec. 3 in recognition of the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The theme in 2018 was ***Empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring inclusiveness and equality.***

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities was first proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1992. Over the years, UN day events have been organized around the world to encourage people, organizations, governments, and societies to focus on issues related to the inclusion of persons with a disability and the measures needed to support greater equity.

This year's event was hosted in Fredericton and featured guest speaker Jim Kyte.

Mr. Kyte made history by being the first – and to date, only – legally deaf player in the National Hockey League. Drafted by the Winnipeg Jets in 1982, Mr. Kyte played a total of 598 games in his NHL career. In addition to playing for the Jets, he played for the Pittsburgh Penguins, Calgary Flames, Ottawa Senators, and San Jose Sharks. His playing career came to an end in 1997 after he sustained a concussion following a car accident.

The event included a well attended public presentation by Kyte, followed by a question and answer session.

### **An Employment Action Plan for Persons with a Disability in New Brunswick (EAP)**

Disability issues are complex. They affect the lives of nearly every person in New Brunswick whether those people are disability consumers, family members or friends. Disability issues are increasingly having an impact in people's every day lives as the population ages.

In 2015, the Premier's Council assumed the coordinating role for the Employment Action Plan (EAP). The EAP included 38 recommendations with 65 specific action items designed to respond to issues identified by key stakeholders.

The EAP was extended by one year from its original five-year term and implementation concluded on March 31, 2018. By this date 59 of the original action items had been completed with 6 more still in progress.

Overall, there were strong indications that with the conclusion of the EAP, more persons with a disability interested in working are successfully obtaining employment in NB. This was a very positive outcome for the *Employment Action Plan for Persons with a*

*Disability*, and more importantly, for persons with a disability who are ready, willing, and able to work in our province.

Despite a lot of progress being made in the employment of persons with a disability, thanks to the wide array of available community or government programs, and the investment of substantial amounts of money over many years, there is still more to be done. To this day, there are far too many people with a disability who are unable to find a real job with real wages in New Brunswick.

With the conclusion of the EAP in 2018, the Premier's Council will continue to work closely with the Office of the Premier, GNB departments, and stakeholders to improve employment outcomes for persons with a disability.

### **Council Board Meetings**

Throughout 2018-2019 Council held quarterly meetings to address a variety of topics relating to persons with a disability, such as:

- Strengthening and developing partnerships across the province;
- Improvements to the ADAPT Employment program;
- Recognizing inclusive employers and improving the experiences for persons with a disability in the labour force;
- Segregation of students at school in contravention of the School Inclusion policy;
- Autism issues;
- Closure of the Fredericton office for the Muscular Dystrophy Association;
- Meeting with the Premier;
- Improving the PCD logo;
- Changes to the PCD Act;
- Completion of the video project involving Council members;
- The National Accessibility Act;
- Transportation for persons with a disability;
- Funding problems for school age children who need hearing aids;
- Social media and persons with a disability;
- Improvements to accessible washrooms;
- Federal funding under the Enabling Accessibility program;
- Wheelchair sports;
- Forgotten thalidomide survivors;
- Adult transition to college and then employment for students with a disability;
- The Able Sail program in Shediac;
- Wait times for assessments for children and adults with disabilities;
- Navigation of the health care system;
- Improving stakeholder communication and engagement;
- Key disability priorities for the Council;
- Service animals;
- Municipal accessibility issues, particularly on public transportation in Winter;
- Improving employment for persons with a disability; and

- The Disability Tax Credit and its uptake in NB.

### **Clients**

During this year, staff responded to over 410 requests from individuals with a disability, parents, teachers, rehabilitation professionals, and advocates. These requests were received mostly through telephone and email, with some in-person meetings. The largest percentage of inquiries came from persons living with a disability or their immediate family members. Primarily, PCD staff assisted clients in finding the appropriate programs and services to assist in meeting their needs.

The PCD also maintains online information directories that encompass programs and services available to persons with a disability. The many categories include, but are not limited to: sports, recreation, and leisure resources; transportation services; vehicle retrofit programs; and financial aid.

### **PCD Meetings, Presentations, Collaboration with Government**

- ***Office of the Premier***
  - Declaration of and preparations for Disability Awareness Week
  - Staff attended the annual Christmas Open House
  - Discussions on new appointments to the Premier's Council
- ***Executive Council Office***
  - Monthly updates on the Family Priority Delivery Unit employment projects
  - Updates on the PCD bi-laws and policies
  - Council's logo refresh
  - PCD communications needs
  - Revisions to the PCD Act
  - PCD's full transition as a unit of GNB
  - Meetings of the Transportation Work Group
  - Attended the annual Civil Service Tour
  - Staff attended an ECO workshop on respect, rights, and responsibilities at work
  - Staff attended the "Women in Senior Leadership position" workshop
  - Staff attended the "Privacy by Design" workshop
  - Preparations for the UN Day event
- ***Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training, and Labour***
  - Environmental Scan project
  - PCD Directory of Services website
  - Two disability stakeholder events
  - Consultations on the EAS program
  - Joint meeting between PETL senior staff and NB Disability Executives Network re key disability issues in the future

- **Department of Social Development**
  - Quarterly meetings to improve the ADAPT program
  - Meetings of the inter-departmental working group on children and youth
  - Attended the SD Disability Support workshop
  - PCD staff met with SD Minister and senior staff re disability issues
  - Advocated on resolving a funding issue related to hearing aids for clients in NB
  
- **Department of Education and Earlier Childhood Development**
  - Meetings on improved disability information for teachers
  - School inclusion policy issues
  - Staff presented at an EECD Wellness Day event
  - Met with EECD staff on improvements to the Enhanced Support Worker Program
  - Met with EECD senior staff on the Autism Learning Partnership
  
- **Opportunities NB**
  - PCD staff involvement with the ONB Connector program
  
- **Department of Environment and Local Government**
  - Designated parking spots for persons with a disability in NB
  
- **Service New Brunswick**
  - Meetings on human resource issues, finance management, and related issues
  - Updates to the service agreement between SNB and PCD
  
- **Aboriginal Secretariat**
  - Meetings of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Aboriginal Issues
  
- **Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group on Disability Issues**
  - Quarterly national conference calls on disability issues
  - Met with federal staff on the Registered Disability Savings Program
  - PCD staff had conference calls with the federal Office of Disability Issues on the new Federal Accessibility Act and federal funding for NB accessibility projects
  - Monitored the release of the Government of Canada Budget
  - PCD staff participated in a pre-release conference call with Stats Can on Canadian Survey on Disabilities
  
- **Treasury Board**
  - Meetings regarding the GNB Equal Employment Opportunity Program
  - PCD staff participated in an engagement session on GNB diversity and inclusion
  
- **Department of Natural Resources**

- Processing Disabled Hunter Card applications
- ***Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation***
  - PCD staff met with ESIC staff on improving RDSP uptake in NB
  - PCD feedback on poverty issues for persons with disability
  - PCD staff attended workshop on improving poverty reduction outcomes in NB
  - Attended a press conference on the new Overcoming Poverty Together action plan
- ***Department of Finance***
  - Monitored the GNB Budget speech and Main Estimates process
  - Preparations for annual PCD audit
- ***Department of Transportation and Infrastructure***
  - PCD staff offered recommendations on accessibility with regards to covered bridges
- ***NB Human Rights Commission***
  - Met regarding Provincial Accessibility Legislation

#### **PCD Meetings, Presentations, Collaboration with Private and Non-Profit Sectors**

- NB Employers Support Services
- Neil Squire Society
- Autism Resource Centre of Moncton
- NB Association for Community Living
- The NB Ready, Willing, and Able Co-ordinator
- Muriel McQueen Ferguson Foundation
- National Forum on Accessibility
- Various schools in NB
- Learning Disabilities Association of NB
- NB Disability Executives Network
- UNB Accessibility Committee
- Woodbridge Rehabilitation Centre
- Disabled Women's Network of Canada
- Threshold Services
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- NB Easter Seals
- CDANB
- ASNB
- Ability NB
- NB Student Alliance
- STU
- NBCC

- Autism Connection NB

### **Committees and Work Groups 2018-2019**

The PCD participates on several committees and work groups to better address issues relating to persons with a disability, including:

- Family Priority Delivery Unit project on the Employment Action Plan for Persons with a Disability
- Oversight Committee for Improving the ADAPT Program
- Inter-Departmental Working Group on Children and Youth
- Inter-Departmental Committee on Aboriginal Issues
- Canadian Open Forum on Accessibility
- Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group on Disability Issues
- NB Employer Support Services Advisory Group
- Place 2000 Joint Health and Safety Committee
- Place 2000 Wellness Committee
- GNB/ECO/ESIC Transportation Work Group
- NB Disability Executives Network
- UNB Accessibility Committee
- ESIC Poverty Reduction Work Group
- Inter-Departmental Working Group on Human Rights
- Violence Against Women Living with Disabilities research team

### **Official Languages**

The Premier's Council on Disabilities recognizes its obligations and is committed to actively offering and providing quality services to the public in the public's official language of choice. We are pleased to report that there were no complaints filed with the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019.

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# Premier's Council on Disabilities

## Financial Statements

March 31, 2019



## Independent Auditor's Report

To: The Members of Premier's Council on Disabilities

### *Opinion*

We have audited the financial statements of Premier's Council on Disabilities, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2019, and the statements of operations and changes in accumulated surplus and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at March 31, 2019, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

### *Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### *Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

### *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements*

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- ♦ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

## Independent Auditor's Report, continued

- ♦ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- ♦ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- ♦ Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ♦ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

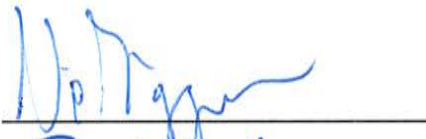
Fredericton, New Brunswick  
August 5, 2020

  
Chartered Professional Accountants

**Premier's Council on Disabilities**

Statement of Financial Position  
As at March 31, 2019

	2019	2018
<b>FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ -	\$ 149,631
Due from related party, Province of New Brunswick (note 3)	<u>170,987</u>	<u>7,673</u>
	<u>\$ 170,987</u>	<u>\$ 157,304</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 4)	\$ 7,701	\$ 9,010
Unearned revenue	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>
	7,701	10,510
<b>ACCUMULATED SURPLUS</b>		
Surplus	<u>163,286</u>	<u>146,794</u>
	<u>\$ 170,987</u>	<u>\$ 157,304</u>

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Members   
Members Randy Dickenson

**Premier's Council on Disabilities**  
Statement of Operations and Changes in Accumulated Surplus  
Year ended March 31, 2019

	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2018 Actual
<b>Revenues</b>			
Province of New Brunswick	\$ 292,000	\$ 292,000	\$ 289,000
Environmental Scan (note 6)	-	145,000	300,000
Disability Awareness Week	-	63,000	-
Miscellaneous income	-	33	27,644
	<u>292,000</u>	<u>500,033</u>	<u>616,644</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Salaries and related benefits	266,000	199,498	187,007
Environmental Scan	-	140,368	249,257
Disability Awareness Week	-	70,570	380
Council Meetings, Travel and Honoraria	6,500	20,982	16,868
December 3rd UN Day	-	15,657	1,185
Translation & Interpretation	11,000	13,037	16,493
Telephone	2,500	4,639	3,349
IT & Web	-	4,536	1,839
Miscellaneous and bank fees	-	4,279	1,425
Staff Meetings & Travel	3,000	3,927	2,482
Training and professional development	-	1,771	1,562
Office supplies	1,500	1,336	8,826
Printing	500	1,094	702
Employment Action Plan	-	895	2,544
Parking	500	657	704
Postage	500	295	425
Strategic Planning	-	-	2,468
Insurance	-	-	430
Building expenses	-	-	399
Disability Action Plan	-	-	369
	<u>292,000</u>	<u>483,541</u>	<u>498,714</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	-	16,492	117,930
Accumulated surplus, opening	-	146,794	7,694
Disability Awareness Week	-	-	21,170
Accumulated surplus, closing	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 163,286</u>	<u>\$ 146,794</u>

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## Premier's Council on Disabilities

Statement of Cash Flows  
Year ended March 31, 2019

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	2019	2018
Operating activities		
Cash receipts from Province of New Brunswick	\$ 273,686	\$ 581,327
Cash receipts from others	61,533	54,211
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	<u>(484,850)</u>	<u>(516,678)</u>
Change in cash position	(149,631)	118,860
Cash, opening	<u>149,631</u>	<u>30,771</u>
Cash, closing	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 149,631</u>

On January 1, 2018 the council's source of cash is the Province of New Brunswick. The council no longer maintains a separate bank account and all operating activities are processed through the Province of New Brunswick.

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# Premier's Council on Disabilities

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2019

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1. Nature of operations

Premier's Council on Disabilities is a body for consultation and study which was created to advise the provincial government and the general public on matters relating to the status of persons with disabilities. The Council reports directly to the Premier of New Brunswick. The council is exempt from income taxes under ITA 149(1)(d).

2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. The significant accounting policies are detailed as follows:

(a) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash held at a financial institution.

(b) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recorded on the accrual basis.

The Council follows the deferral method of accounting for grants received for operations and specific projects. Grants to be used for specific purposes are recognized as revenue in the period in which the related expenditures are incurred. When a portion of a grant relates to a future period, it is deferred and recognized in the appropriate period.

The Council currently receives 87% of their revenue from the Province of New Brunswick and related departments.

(c) Capital assets

The Council records capital expenditures under \$100,000 as current period expenses as incurred.

(d) Pension plans and other retirement benefit plans

Certain employees of the Council are entitled to receive pension benefits under the New Brunswick Public Service Pension Plan (NBPSPP). The NBPSPP is a multi-employer pension plan which targets a retirement benefit and is subject to legislation under the Provincial Pension Benefits Act and is subject to the Federal Income Tax Act. Contributions are made by both the Council and the employees at the rates established by the Board of Trustees. The Council is not responsible for any unfunded liability nor does it have access to any surplus with respect to its employee pensions.

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# Premier's Council on Disabilities

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2019

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2. Significant accounting policies, continued

(e) Financial instruments

The organization initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value, except for certain non-arm's length transactions. The organization subsequently measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost, except for securities quoted in an active market, which are subsequently measured at fair value.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

(f) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

3. Related party transactions

Beginning on January 1, 2018 the Province of New Brunswick pays all costs on behalf of the Council.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Province of New Brunswick	<u>\$ 170,987</u>	<u>\$ 7,673</u>

The amount due from the Province of New Brunswick represents the amount due to the Council for the excess of approved funding over expenditures incurred.

During the year, the Province of New Brunswick authorized funding totaling \$292,000 (2018- \$289,000). Additionally, the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour authorized funding totaling \$145,000 (2018- \$300,000).

The Province of New Brunswick also provides certain support to the Council at no cost, including office space and other support services including policy advisors, IT services, reception services, and records management. The value of these expenses cannot be reasonably determined and are accordingly not reflected in these financial statements.

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# Premier's Council on Disabilities

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2019

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4. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

	<u>2019</u>		<u>2018</u>
Vacation accrual	\$ 3,280	\$	4,635
Salary accrual	<u>4,421</u>		<u>4,375</u>
	<u>\$ 7,701</u>	\$	<u>9,010</u>

5. Economic dependence

The Premier's Council on Disabilities is economically dependent on the Province of New Brunswick as it receives a significant portion of its funding from the Province.

6. Environmental Scan

Premier's Council on Disabilities has partnered with the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour (PETL) for the completion of an Environmental Scan on Employment for Persons with a Disability. During the fiscal year PETL has provided \$145,000 under the Labour Market Research and Analysis program. The project primarily consists of expenses relating to consultant fees, research and analysis, public consultations, travel and meeting expenses, and a staff person for the 2-year period of the project from June 2016-June 2019. PETL has approved and contributed the full \$495,000.