



Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities Inc.

▶ A Voice of Citizens with Disabilities in Manitoba

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2010 – 2011 Annual Report

**37 Years of Speaking for
Ourselves...**



**Manitoba League of Persons
with Disabilities Inc.**

MISSION STATEMENT

The MLPD is a united voice of people with disabilities, and their supporters, that promotes equal rights, full participation in society, and facilitates positive change through advocacy and public education.

MLPD PHILOSOPHY

- ❖ Manitobans with disabilities have the same rights and responsibilities as any other person.
- ❖ All persons, regardless of abilities, must have access to opportunities in order to exercise these rights.

WHAT IS THE MLPD?

The MLPD is a membership-based organization representing the concerns of people with all types of disabilities in Manitoba. Since its establishment in 1974, the MLPD has developed expertise on numerous issues affecting the lives of people with disabilities. A few such issues are accessibility, education, employment, housing, income security, support services, and transportation. The MLPD supports Manitobans with disabilities with social policy research and consultation, public education programs, information and referral services, and class advocacy.

MLPD Accomplishments

1974 MLPD opens their doors

1975 MLPD was Incorporated

1977 Actively involved in the development of the City of Winnipeg's Handi-Transit

1977 Founded two agencies which assist people with disabilities accomplish employment goals

1978 Successful in advocating for the inclusion of people with disabilities in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Manitoba Human Rights Code

1980 Worked with the government of Manitoba to develop a rural transportation program

1985 Lobbied to make public buildings accessible to people with disabilities

1987 Involved in the establishment of the Manitoba Telephone System's Special Needs Centre, Message Relay Service, and other policies to make telephone services more accessible

1990 Key organization in the development of Manitoba's Self-Managed Attendant Care Program

1992 Successful in advocating for wheelchair accessible taxis in the City of Winnipeg

1996 Established a Fund with the dream of building a monument honoring Tracy Latimer and other persons with disabilities murdered by caregivers

1997 Sponsored a training program for Accessibility Consultants to train a small team of people with disabilities to be advisors on universal design to builders and architects

1997 Vigorously monitored developments with the regionalization of Manitoba's health care system.

1997 Successful in stopping changes to the Province's orthotic and prosthetic services which would have seen people pay for a portion, or all, of the costs for this service

1998 Intervened into the Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order in the Andrew Sawatsky case

1999 Initiated a partnership project with the Manitoba Federation of Labour called the Workers with Disabilities Project

2000 Conducted a ground breaking research project on the standards that exist in health care facilities and RHA's in Manitoba regarding the application of Do Not Resuscitate Orders. A final report was developed and a workshop organized to deliver and discuss the recommendations from the research.

2001 Actively pushed policies which enable children with disabilities to attend regular public schools

2001 Primary organization to lobby for the first provincial Minister for Persons with Disabilities in Canada. Minister Tim Sale was appointed.

2002 Development of MLPD's Ethics Committee

2008 Hired a Consultant to work with MLPD to develop an Operational Plan

2009 Implementing our new Operational Plan

2009 Celebrated 35 years of MLPD's work

2010 Successful in advocating to have Bill C384 An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (Right to Die with Dignity) defeated.

2010 Key organization in the planning of Manitoba Access Awareness Week.

2011 Instrumental in achieving significant changes to the Manitoba Building Code.

CO-CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

2010-2011 has been a good year for MLPD! We have a new Provincial Coordinator, who has been keeping MLPD busy and raising MLPD's profile in the community.

Some of the things MLPD has been doing include:

- We launched our Thumbs Up project to run for the next two years.
- We met with City of Winnipeg Transit and the Taxi Board regarding transportation concerns
- MLPD chaired the Manitoba Access Awareness Week Steering Committee, organized the MAAW kick-off on May 30 and held a forum on end-of-life issues on May 31 (as part of Access Awareness Week).
- We met with Manitoba Health and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA)
- We also participated in ongoing committee meetings.

2011-2012 continues to be challenging for MLPD in terms of acquiring funds in our challenging political landscape. Our direct mail campaign continues to receive donations on a regular basis. Many thanks to all of our donors. We also appreciate the funding support and encouragement from our many funders: the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Foundation, the Manitoba Community Services Council, the TD Foundation and the Jewish Foundation.

Thank you to our Council members for putting up with me and your dedication and hard work over the past year. Also thank you to the many volunteers with and without visible disabilities, who are the heart and soul of MLPD. Without your help, we could not have participated in committee work, staffed display booths or had capable office assistants. A sincere thank you to each and every one of you.

A special thank you to our staff, Diane, Josie and Bonnie for their support throughout the year. Your dedication to the organization has been exemplary.

Terry McIntosh
Co-Chairperson

This has been another good year for the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities. We continue to be a united voice of people with disabilities in Manitoba, advocating and raising awareness around disability issues. Manitoba Access Awareness Week, which recently wrapped-up, was a big success. The joint MLPD and Council of Canadian with Disabilities forum “Who Chooses: End of Life Decision Making and People with Disabilities” was well attended. The public forum was videotaped and is now available online (YouTube) for public viewing.

The MLPD continues to face a number of challenges. We’ll soon be in the final year of our funding agreement with the provincial government, and we continue to look for new and additional sources of funding.

I am proud to have served as Co-Chair. Our membership values the work of our provincial council and office staff. They are a great team and deserve our applause.

Harry Wolbert
Co-Chairperson

Provincial Coordinator’s Report

by Diane Driedger

The 2010-11 year has been a time of strengthening MLPD’s Provincial Council, Committees and presence in the community. We were most fortunate to have recruited several Council and Committee members who are under the age of 35. This was one of our goals in the Strategic Plan--include more youth.

Our staff complement has grown over the year. Daniel Halechko and Derek Legge have been working on the new Thumbs Up Neighborhood Edition since April 2011. We were fortunate to receive funding from both the Community Services Council and the Winnipeg Foundation to work on this project over the next two years.

MLPD partnered with the Community Financial Counseling Services (CFCS) and a grant was received from the TD Foundation to work on financial literacy materials for people with disabilities and people who become ill or disabled. Zanna Joyce is currently researching Financial Literacy Materials as they pertain to people with disabilities.

In addition, Bonnie Bieganski, who is also a young person, has been working with us in an administrative support capacity through a training grant from EIA, which MLPD was fortunate to receive. She has edited four issues of the newsletter, and worked with the Committees, and the Financial Literacy Project. Josie Concepcion, Office Manager, has continued to expertly run the office of the MLPD. Thanks to all our staff for their hard work and commitment!

MLPD has addressed issues around access to transportation in all areas: Winnipeg Transit, Handi-Transit and taxi cabs. We have set up the Transportation Inconsistencies Network (TIN) for MLPD to collect complaints and compliments about the three transportation systems. Please contact the MLPD office for forms to fill out, or visit our Face book and web page. We plan to submit regular reports to the systems that are involved.

MLPD has also continued to work on access to housing and end of life issues for people with disabilities. A new area of concern has been access to primary health care for Manitobans with disabilities. MLPD has met with the Minister of Health and with representatives of Manitoba Health and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority regarding this issue.

In addition, MLPD has been involved in monitoring the progress for Accessibility Legislation in Manitoba.

In terms of fundraising and public awareness, MLPD teamed up with DisAbled Women's Network Manitoba to work with jewellery designer Hilary Druxman on a disability rights pendant. This pendant will be launched at the MLPD AGM, and 100% of net proceeds from sales will be shared by MLPD and DAWN Manitoba. Thank you for your support Hilary Druxman!

I am happy to have worked with the staff, Council Members and Committees and all MLPD members during my past year at MLPD. Thank you for a good year!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ethics

The Ethics Committee deals with ethical issues related to people with disabilities as they are brought to the attention of MLPD. The roles of the committee are:

1. To monitor public policy developments in Manitoba which raise specific Ethical and Human Rights concerns for persons with disabilities.
2. To develop recommendations for the MLPD Provincial Council on ethics and public policy.
3. To share the perspective and work of the committee in ethics forums.
4. To assist the MLPD to inform grassroots consumers about ethical issues and assist the MLPD in developing opportunities to increase consumer understanding of how ethical issues impact on persons with disabilities.
5. To assist the MLPD Council to participate in national forums on ethics.

Over the past year, the committee continued to monitor developments around the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba (CPSM) Statement on withholding and withdrawing life-sustaining treatment as well as the Brian Sinclair inquest. No date for the inquest has yet been set, but MLPD members will attend the sessions to read a prepared statement and respond to media inquiries about ethical issues that may arise.

In March, 2011, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority's (WRHA) Working Group on Withholding/withdrawing Life-Sustaining Treatment (arising from the Samuel Golubchuk case) released a report recommending the establishment of a legislated end of life review panel to deal with issues of

withholding or withdrawing life-sustaining treatment for patients. MLPD believes such a review panel should consist of key stakeholders, including physicians, clinical ethicists, nurses, and members of the disability community with expertise in end of life ethics. Health Minister Theresa Oswald decided not to implement this recommendation at the present time because she feels that further research is needed and decisions are best left with doctors, families and patients. The Ethics Committee will continue to work on this issue over the coming months.

On May 31, 2011 in conjunction with Manitoba Access Awareness Week (MAAW), MLPD and CCD held a very successful forum entitled: "Who Chooses: End of Life Decision-Making and People with Disabilities" to raise awareness about the relevance of the CPSM Statement and Manitoba Health policies on the lives of people with disabilities. The session was moderated by Rhonda Wiebe (MLPD Ethics Committee member). Speakers included Jim Derksen and Dean Richert (MLPD Ethics Committee members) and Valerie Wolbert and Catherine Rodgers (People First of Canada). Following the presentations, there was an open discussion and suggestions for action were brought forward. These included further work on the CPSM and Manitoba Health policies on end-of-life issues and the possibility of holding a follow-up forum in the fall of 2011 or the winter of 2012. The forum was videotaped and is now online (YouTube) for public viewing. Thank you to Paul Graham, a media professional, for capturing the event on video. The Ethics Committee will be meeting in June to consider suggestions from the forum.

Individual members of the Ethics Committee continue to attend lunch and learn sessions at St. Boniface Hospital on various ethical issues and to participate in other activities related to ethics. For example, Rhonda Wiebe (on behalf of CCD) and Krista Flint of Inclusive Humanity (Calgary) presented a key note address at the 3rd International Symposium of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition that took place in Vancouver from June 2-4, 2011. Their session dealt with the importance of how information about living with disability is communicated through social messaging. The media and other forms of social marketing often portray outdated and untrue stereotypes, rather than using images based on the many varied experiences of people with disabilities. Movie and TV clips, advertisements and literary examples were used to challenge assumptions and celebrate the inclusion of people with disabilities in the human family.

Thank you to the members of the MLPD Ethics Committee for your work over the past year. Members include: April D'Aubin, Clare Simpson, Jim Derksen, Ronda Wiebe, Dean Richert, Valerie Wolbert, Harry Wolbert, Margot Miller and MLPD Provincial Coordinator Diane Driedger.

Colleen Watters
Ethics Committee Chairperson

Housing

The good thing about this year's report is that it won't be too hard on your eyes (or ears, depending). For many reasons, we had few get-togethers although we did have some good discussion at times when only a few of us showed up. Much of that was centred around follow-up to the survey that we conducted in the spring/summer of 2010. Our plan was to examine those findings and, combined with a few other long-term concerns, meet with Minister Kerry Irvin-Ross for a chat about long-range government thinking about accessible housing development. For a variety of reasons, this meeting did not take place.

Throughout the year, we took note of newsworthy events related to housing. Here are a couple of highlights.

The portion of the Department of Family Services related to housing transferred to the Department of Housing and Community Development. However, we don't believe this will affect the Government's commitment to working in the construction of accessible housing supply.

TenTen Sinclair is building Place la Charrette, 37 units at 3389 Pembina to be opened around the end of January 2012.

The Portable Housing Benefits program for mental health survivors got underway in this period, and the province constructed 24 social housing units in both Thompson and The Pas. Its goal of constructing dwellings for 600 households from 2009-11 is right on track. We've been monitoring the Manitoba Age-Friendly Initiative which has been providing financial resources to make communities more accessible, thereby ensuring that seniors can remain at home for longer periods.

Greenheart Housing Co-op (Portage and Sherbrook), which got up and running during this period, is currently seeking people with disabilities who could use one of their accessible units.

A problem we've been hearing about for a long time, involves landlords converting units either to condos or redeploying them to make smaller units. The issue was revisited during the consultations in connection with the new Accessibility Advisory Council Act (Bill 47). Here is something tangible for the Council to work on once it gets underway.

Beyond that, and as usual, there were plenty of other concerns brought to the table, everything from: what's the rationale for a half-dozen home care staff going to the same building simultaneously but to meet different consumers to why do they still build bungalows with one little step? And of course, we keep up to speed, as best we can on the great, ubiquitous bedbug problem.

Yet the sad fact is, all of the above pales in comparison with our current dilemma, committee membership. It really does depend on the League's membership to see that their committees flourish and meet the terms of their mandates through active participation. With only three active members—Leonore Saunders, Ken Schactay and myself—plus our esteemed recording secretary, Dan Halechko, we're just not viable as it stands. It would be a shame if we are forced to suspend activities and wait for better days. Surely there can't be a more bedrock issue for our community than safe, affordable, accessible housing.

We were saddened at the passing of our Housing Committee Co-Chairperson Don Ament in April. His contribution to the work of the Housing Committee and to universal design and affordable, accessible housing was invaluable and will be greatly missed. A tribute to Don appears elsewhere in this report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mel Graham
Housing Committee Chair

Personnel

The MLPD has focused on the hiring of staff from a number of sources and making sure we have enough room to house everyone! What a nice problem to have to deal with!

First of all, Employment Manitoba once again provided the MLPD with funds to have Bonnie Bieganski work on supporting committee activities as well as producing the newsletter. Bonnie will be leaving us on June 24 and we wish her well in her future endeavours. Derek Legge and Daniel Halechko have been hired once again to expand their good work on the Thumbs Up Project. We also have hired Zanna Joyce on a contract basis to work on the Financial Literacy Project. MLPD and Community Financial Counseling Services are partnering on this project. So, for at least one day per week, the MLPD office is bursting at the seams with potentially 6 staff persons working hard. Of course, this includes our trustworthy ongoing staff persons Diane Driedger and Josie Concepcion. All this to say that the MLPD continues to work on important issues and projects which impact the lives of persons with disabilities. As always, volunteers are very welcome to go to the office and join in!

The committee will continue to formalize procedures such as yearly evaluations, personnel policy updates, etc. Anyone interested in joining the committee is welcome to contact me at 989-1911.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Keirstead
Personnel Committee Chairperson

Transportation

Since being elected Chairperson of the MLPD Transportation Committee in December 2010, we have been very busy with both Handi-Transit, regular Transit, and taxi issues.

Members of MLPD brought a number of concerns to our committee and we looked at a number of issues such as the "first come first served" policy for

wheelchairs and baby strollers. Provincial Coordinator, Diane Driedger and I met with Transit manager, Dave Wardrop, and discovered that there is no set policy and that bus drivers use their own discretion when determining who gets on the bus first.

Another issue of concern is training of bus drivers (or the lack thereof). Currently, bus drivers only get 30 minutes of disability training as opposed to the ½ day training that the Independent Living Resource Centre used to provide. There is great concern about this as a larger percentage of the population ages and many will ‘acquire’ disabilities.

Members of MLPD have also expressed concern with the structure of the Handi-Transit Policy Advisory Committee (PAC), which is chaired by the manager of handi-Transit. No member of City Council is on the committee. The Manager of Handi-Transit began chairing this committee in 2004 due to insufficient administrative resources for the volunteer chair. Meetings are called at the discretion of the chair. Each large organization is allotted two representatives. The Handi-Transit Policy Advisory Committee has existed since October 2000 when City Council passed “Handi-Transit Policies and Guidelines”. MLPD feels that the Advisory Committee should be chaired by a volunteer with a member of city council on the committee.

MLPD met with the Taxicab Board about the lack of wheelchair accessible cabs being available at certain times. Some taxicab companies have had their accessible cabs contracted out during certain time periods in the day. As well, there was concern by visually impaired members and other people with disabilities who use service dogs about the shields used in taxicabs. The Taxicab Board assured us that they would send a bulletin out to their drivers saying that service dogs would be allowed to sit in the back seat.

There’s great news from the Winnipeg Folk Festival. All buses going to and from the Folk Festival this year will be low floor and free of charge! A great opportunity to go out and soak up the atmosphere!

Nick Ternette
Transportation Committee Chairperson

Thumbs Up for Access - Community Edition

Since we last corresponded with the membership in the May newsletter, we have been very busy carrying out the Thumbs Up project activities.

We began by mapping out the Windsor Park area in a large size, noting points of interest, such as schools, parks, stores and gas bars. We contracted with a disability group, the Trailblazer, to have them distribute our Helpful Hints handout and posters mentioning our project to area businesses.

We checked every street in Windsor Park and distributed information packages and our newsletter to twenty-one houses with wheelchair ramps. We also checked the bus routes and found that approximately 25% had benches and 10% had shelters.

We have completed assessments of the areas four convenience stores, and we are currently checking out the churches and parks for accessibility. The Canad-Inn deserves recognition and a certificate for their commitment to creating a barrier -free facility, as do two of the churches we visited.

We are waiting for clearance to inspect the schools in Windsor Park. In addition, we are trying to get someone from the city to give us access to the parks buildings and the Maginot Arena, which is closed for the summer. We still have to complete our assessments of Windsor Park apartment blocks.

Our efforts are on schedule to complete Windsor Park by the end of September. We are beginning to plan for our next area of focus, which will be "Wolseley". We will begin working in this location in July simultaneously with Windsor Park.

Derek Legge & Daniel Halechko
Co-Coordinator

COUNCIL OF CANADIANS WITH DISABILITIES

12 CCD Accomplishments in 2010-11

Introduction

CCD is a national human rights organization working for an inclusive and accessible Canada. The National Council of Representatives and CCD's Committees (Executive, Human Rights, Social Policy, Access to Technology, Transportation, International Development, and Ending of Life Ethics) , with the assistance of the organization's staff, undertake the organization's human rights agenda. For CCD, the concluding fiscal year, 2010-11, was a year of endings and new beginnings, challenges and accomplishments. This report will describe CCD's major accomplishments during the fiscal year. The efforts of the entire CCD team made possible these achievements.

A New Executive Team at CCD

At the June 2010 Annual General Meeting (AGM), long time chairperson Marie White stepped down from that position but remains involved in CCD as Past Chairperson and as Chairperson of the CCD Social Policy Committee. Numerous people ran for CCD Executive positions at the AGM and the following were elected as office holders: Tony Dolan (Chairperson), Roy Muise (First Vice Chair) Susan Ralph (Second Vice Chair), Claredon Robicheau (Secretary), Mary Ennis (Treasurer), and Terry Green (Member-at-Large on Executive Committee). Roy resigned from CCD Council for personal reasons and, during the January 2011 Council meeting, John Rae was elected as First Vice Chair to fill the vacancy left by Roy's resignation. The CCD Executive is elected for a two year term.

1. Canada Ratifies Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

At the end of March 2010, Canada ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Ratification of the CRPD, symbolizes a new era for Canadian disability rights organizations like CCD. One of the reasons that CCD formed was to promote the idea that solutions to the barriers experienced by people with disabilities should be remedied by a human rights approach rather than by medical or charitable solutions. The CRPD is confirmation that the global community endorses human rights solutions to the concerns of people with disabilities. Since ratification, CCD

has been educating various Canadian leaders about the disability community's expectations with regard to implementation and monitoring of the CRPD. CCD has shared its views on the implementation of the CRPD with the Hon. Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC). CCD has also communicated with the social policy caucuses of the Liberal and New Democratic Parties. Just as CCD has been promoting the CRPD to elected officials, it has also been undertaking education about the CRPD with Federal Government staff people who will be implementing policies and programs. On 23 March 2011, Marie White, Steve Estey and Vangelis Nikias presented at the Government Conference on the Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities for Federal government employees, organized by HRSDC.

2. New CCD Staff to Work on CRPD

Vangelis Nikias joined the CCD staff to assist the organization promote the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Vangelis has a long-standing involvement with the organization. He is a former chairperson of the CCD Human Rights Committee and was also a member of the CCD Social Policy Committee. While working for the Federal Government, Vangelis was a member of the Canadian delegation which helped to draft the CRPD at the United Nations.

3. CRPD Commitment by the Council of the Federation

In August 2010, the Council of the Federation met in Winnipeg. Jim Derksen and Laurie Beachell had the opportunity to meet informally with the Premiers when they were in Winnipeg. CCD used this opportunity to discuss the CRPD with the Premiers. At the end of their meeting in Winnipeg, the Premiers, through the Council of the Federation, made the commitment that a meeting would be held on the CRPD by their officials. On 15 March 2011, Provincial and Territorial Ministers responsible for disability and human rights met in Winnipeg and focused on the CRPD. Significantly, community members were invited to make presentations to the Ministers. Typically, Ministers meet behind closed doors without any community involvement. The following from CCD met with the Ministers: Jim Derksen, Yvonne Peters, Steve Estey, and Laurie Beachell.

4. CCD Appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada about Access to Justice

On 13 December 2010, CCD appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada in *Mowat v. Canada (Attorney General)*, an appeal about access to

justice for victims of discrimination. The case involves Ms. Donna Mowat, who filed a human rights complaint after she experienced sexual harassment at work. Ms. Mowat, whose complaint was largely successful, was entitled to only \$4,000 in compensation, although her legal fees to bring her complaint forward were nearly \$200,000. In this appeal, the Supreme Court will decide if those who experience discrimination should be reimbursed for their legal costs related to filing human rights complaints. CCD argued that human rights legislation must be accessible to people who experience discrimination. This is particularly important for people with disabilities who represent the largest proportion of complainants before the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

5. Senate and HUMA Committee Reports Reflect CCD's Recommendations

In From the Margins: A Call to Action on Poverty, Housing and Homelessness by the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology reflected CCD's recommendations on poverty as did the HUMA Committee Report on poverty, which was titled, *Federal Poverty Reduction Plan: Working in Partnership Towards Reducing Poverty in Canada*. (HUMA stands for Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities.)

6. CCD Poverty Research

CCD's research project, *Disabling Poverty/Enabling Citizenship*, successfully completed its mid-point evaluation by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. The project is directed by co-principal researchers Yvonne Peters and Michael Prince. The project has completed a number of reports such as, an annotated bibliography, a number of legal memos, a demographic analysis and an overview of the Quebec approach to poverty alleviation.

7. CCD Network Meets at End Exclusion

CCD, along with the Canadian Association for Community Living and Canada Without Poverty, brought the disability community together in November to examine how poverty impacts on people with disabilities. On hand for this discussion were the researchers from the *Disabling Poverty/Enabling Citizenship* project. Guest speaker Cindy Blackstock explained how poverty affects Aboriginal people in Canada and she also discussed Jordan's Principle, which instructs provincial and federal officials to put aside jurisdictional wrangling about responsibility when an Aboriginal

child with disabilities is in critical need of services. Another End Exclusion event will take place in November of 2011.

8. CCD Funded to Conduct Human Rights Research

A number of funders came together to resource CCD to undertake research on the duty to accommodate. This research will be conducted by Yvonne Peters, Shelagh Day and Gwen Brodsky.

9. CCD Meets Minister of Transport

After many years, CCD finally had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Transportation. Pat Danforth, Chairperson of the CCD Transportation Committee, Laurie Beachell and Vangelis Nikias met with the Hon. Chuck Strahl. During the meeting, the Minister indicated that the impact of the Supreme Court of Canada decision in the VIA Rail case, litigated by CCD, was to give the voluntary codes of practice the weight of access regulations. This is good news for travellers with disabilities. Minister Strahl also made a commitment to improve the working relationship between CCD and his department.

10. CCD Appears before CRTC

At the June 2010 Annual General Meeting, the CCD Council appointed John Rae and Gary Birch as Co-chairs of the CCD Access to Technology Committee. Under the leadership of John and Gary, CCD has begun to engage in a more robust manner on matters relating to access to information and communication technology. For example, CCD has been undertaking a research project called Evolution of Access, seeking the views of member organizations and key informants on barriers that prevent people with disabilities from using technology and how these barriers should be remedied. CCD has also made representations to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) on the license renewals for some major broadcasters supporting 100% described video and quality captioning in programming offered by these carriers. John Rae of the AEBC and 1st Vice Chair of CCD's National Council and James Roots, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of the Deaf, a CCD member, appeared together before the CRTC at a public hearing in Gatineau, Quebec on 8 April 2011 to offer oral testimony in support of CCD's position.

11. CCD Shares Its Expertise during Pilot of Assistive Voting Device

During a Federal By-election, CCD assisted Elections Canada to test an assistive voting device, which would allow people with various disabilities to

vote independently and verify their own vote. Jim Derksen was a consultant to CCD on this project. The following organizations assisted CCD with this project: Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians, People First and the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities. In the coming months, CCD expects to work further with Elections Canada on accessible voting issues.

12. New Receptivity at CIDA to Policy on Disability and Development

For many years, the CCD International Development Committee has been advancing the idea that the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) should adopt a policy on disability and development, which would ensure that a disability lens is used when Canada partners with developing countries for the purpose of international cooperation. If operationalized correctly, a disability policy would help to ensure that people with disabilities benefit from projects invested in by CIDA. Since the ratification of the CRPD, CCD has witnessed a renewed interest among CIDA officials to consider the development of this long overdue policy. During this year, CCD representatives have been meeting with CIDA officials.

Conclusion

The work undertaken by CCD in 2010-11 has laid a strong foundation for advances in the coming year in CCD's priority issues: disability-related supports, poverty, inclusion in the labour market and access, inclusion and citizenship.

April D'Aubin
CCD

Thanks to All Our Funders and Corporate Donors

Your Support is Greatly Appreciated

**The Province of Manitoba Department of Family
Services and Housing**

Human Resources Development Canada

Manitoba Community Services Council

The Winnipeg Foundation

**The Michael J. Rosner Fund
Administered by The Jewish Foundation of Manitoba**

**Manitoba Hydro Selkirk & Interlake Employees'
Charitable Donations Committee**

Emerson Milling

Fort Garry Industries

Global Innovations Computer Consultation Services

Grain Insurance & Guarantee Co.

Hi-Tec Industries Inc.

Missionary Oblate Sisters

Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 2011
(Unaudited)

Assets

Current assets:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Cash and short-term deposits | \$56,266 |
| Accounts receivable | 10,074 |
| Prepaid expenses | 1,223 |

\$67,563

Capital assets:

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Equipment | \$12,768 |
| Leasehold improvements | 12,829 |

\$25,597

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Accumulated amortization | 23,420 |
|--------------------------|--------|

\$ 2,177

\$69,740

Liabilities, Deferred Contributions and Net Assets (Deficiency)

Current Liabilities:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$13,307 |
| Deposit payable | 1,200 |
| Deferred leasehold inducement | - |

14,507

Deferred contributions 13,918

Net assets (deficiency):

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Investment in capital assets | 2,177 |
| Internally restricted | 31,041 |
| Unrestricted | 8,097 |

41,315

\$69,740

Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities Inc.
Statement of Operations
Year ended March 31, 2011
(Unaudited)

Revenues:

Grants:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Human Resource Development Canada | 56,808 |
| Province of Manitoba - Family Services and Housing | 50,000 |
| Government of Manitoba - Employment Manitoba Wage subsidy program | 10,140 |
| Jewish Foundation of Manitoba (M. Rosner Memorial Fund) | 1,082 |
| Council of Canadians with Disabilities - Evolution of Access | 4,375 |
| United Way - Project Consulting | 1,975 |
| <u>Human Resources and Skills Development Canada</u> | <u>2,988</u> |
| | 127,368 |

Other revenue:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Donations -general | 1,990 |
| Donations - direct mail | 9,812 |
| Fundraising | 2,617 |
| Honorarium | 2,764 |
| Membership | 421 |
| <u>Rental</u> | <u>15,120</u> |
| | 160,092 |

General Operating Expenses:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Amortization of capital assets | 582 |
| Consulting | 2,050 |
| Equipment lease | 4,686 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Fundraising | 3,097 |
| Liability insurance | 1,312 |
| Meetings | 1,937 |
| Memberships | 1,000 |
| Printing, postage, supplies and general office | 6,446 |
| Rent | 37,474 |
| Review engagement fees | 4,928 |
| Salaries and benefits | 84,351 |
| Sundry | 2,710 |
| Telephone | 2,893 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 166,505 |
| | <hr/> |
| Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses | <hr/> |
| | \$ 6,413 |

REMEMBERING ...

Don Ament

&

Gloria Jamerson

We will miss their

energy and

commitment to

making the world

a place of equal

opportunity for

everyone.

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEMBERS 2010—2011

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Gary Dyson | Louise McKean |
| Daniel Halechko | Carlos Sosa |
| Kevin Johnson | Nick Ternette |
| Paula Keirstead | Mindy Tucker |
| Justine Kiwanuka | Jesse Turner |
| Terry McIntosh | Harry Wolbert |

Executive Committee Members

Co-Chairpersons - Terry McIntosh & Harry Wolbert
Vice Chairperson - Paula Keirstead
Secretary - Daniel Halechko
Treasurer - Gary Dyson

MLPD Staff

Diane Driedger - Provincial Coordinator
Josie Concepcion – Office Manager
Emily Ternette – Communications/Program Assistant**
Bonnie Bieganski – Admin and Resource Support Staff

****On Leave**

This report is available in alternate media upon request.

