

# transition



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Photo: Epilepsy Matters 2019

## EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

### A Year of Transitions

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish to express my gratitude to the volunteers, associate members, and staff of Epilepsy Durham Region (EDR) whose dedication to this agency's mission and values is commendable. Many members of our community have contributed to the successful effort to build a sustainable, compassionate and knowledgeable agency that serves the families touched by epilepsy in Durham Region.

2020 has been a year full of challenge and transition for us all – the community in general, and specifically for our clients, volunteers, staff and Board members. Epilepsy Durham Region tackled each challenge, pivoted to continue servicing clients, and we continue to prepare our service delivery for 2021 and the future.

We'd like to thank Dianne McKenzie (retired) for her tireless work over many, many years. Her consistent dedication to advocacy, education and programming has help countless people living with epilepsy and their families through direct service and creating a welcoming community.

We also welcome the future as Chelsea Kerstens, with her years of experience in client services, takes leadership of Epilepsy Durham Region as the agency's successor to the Executive Director position. We are confident that people living with epilepsy will continue to receive the quality education and support they deserve. And we look forward to the fresh perspective she brings to the future.

In 2020, Epilepsy Durham Region has successfully transitioned critical client services to an online virtual delivery format. We will continue that effort for all areas of operations in 2021. The challenges we overcome today will make Epilepsy Durham Region stronger and ready for the future.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us throughout the year. We look forward to when we can service you in-person, and wish you all the best until that time.

Cris Douglas – President

*It's  
Because  
of You!*

## OUR MISSION

*We are committed to promoting independence and optimal quality of life for individuals living with epilepsy and their families through support, advocacy, and public education.*

be kind.♥

## OUR VISION AND VALUES

Creating a world where not another moment is lost to a seizure.

These serve as guidelines for our conduct and behaviour as we work towards our mission:

- Caring and empathic
- Integrity and honesty
- Accountability
- Efficient and cost effective management

I wish  
people  
understood

You're  
NOT  
Broken

You  
are more  
than what  
people say  
- stay strong

We are  
Stronger  
together  
#SCNBA strong

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cris Douglas, President  
Cindy MacEwen, Vice President  
Joseph Mauceri, Treasurer  
Melike Ceylan-Leamen, Secretary  
Ashley Bain, Director  
Randy Farmer, Director

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Logan Bloschinsky  
Lorraine Hogg  
Randy Ling  
Denise Sankey  
Cassidy Wade

### **PROVINCIAL | GOVERNMENT RELATIONS TASK FORCE**

Epilepsy Durham Region is working collaboratively with epilepsy agencies across Ontario as the Government Relations Task Force for Epilepsy. In 2019, the Task Force completed a pre-budget submission to the Ontario government which highlighted the current government healthcare costs associated with living with epilepsy, as well as how these costs could be reduced by investing in Community Epilepsy Agencies.

The Task Force continues to work with federal, provincial and regional levels of government advocating for core funding in the federal budget. While our effort continues to be received favourably, funding for community epilepsy agencies has not yet been included in the government's budget. We will continue to advocate for funding to ensure province-wide consistent and appropriate epilepsy care.

### **REGIONAL | COVID-19 RESTRICTS OPERATIONS**

In January 2020 the worldwide pandemic Covid-19 reached Canada resulting in province-wide closures starting in March. The impact on Epilepsy Durham Region's operations were felt immediately with in-person services reduced to 15% capacity. From July to September the transition to virtual service delivery was being piloted, with service delivery returning to 80% capacity by year-end. As of March 2021, the agency serviced 132% clients compared to the same quarter in 2020.

### **OPERATIONS | STAFF & SERVICES TRANSITIONS**

May 2020, Chelsea Kerstens, Client Services Coordinator succeeded Dianne McKenzie (retired) as the new Executive Director of Epilepsy Durham Region. Chelsea will resume this role after returning from maternity leave at the end of 2021. The subsequent vacancy for Client Services Coordinator was filled by Jackie Nemisz in September 2020.

In November 2020, Darryl Swain was brought onboard as Executive Director (Interim) to advance the agency's technology transition, improve operational efficiencies, fully open virtual services and assist with strategic planning for 2021 and the future.

Entering 2021 the transition to virtual service delivery for Clinic to Community consultations, UPLIFT mental health support group and Peer-to-Peer network support group is well underway.

## A YEAR IN REVIEW | 2020 IN A GLANCE

### PROGRAMMING | CLINIC TO COMMUNITY (C2C)

In November 2020, EDR celebrated the second anniversary of our local Clinic to Community (C2C) Epilepsy Clinic, located at the Oshawa Clinic. The Epilepsy Clinic provides specialized care to treat people living with epilepsy or a seizure disorder in our community. Clinic to Community Epilepsy Clinic plays a critical role in the safety and well being of people with epilepsy.

Epilepsy Durham Region's Clinic to Community (C2C) referral program consists of information, support and training tools to help navigate the different aspects of an epilepsy diagnosis; connecting individuals with a network of support services and advocates for increased availability of mental health resources and social supports. C2C also aims to reduce unnecessary hospital emergency department visits related to seizures and epilepsy.

Families and individuals come into the C2C program with by directly contacting Epilepsy Durham Region, or with referral from a doctor. Any person with epilepsy, or their caregiver, may receive a consultation by directly contacting us at [clientservices@epilepsydurham.com](mailto:clientservices@epilepsydurham.com).

### PROMGRAMMING | UPLIFT MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

Our Client Services Coordinator, Jackie Nemisz, completed training that enables us to host and facilitate an 8-week, self-managed, mental health support program called UPLIFT. Two volunteers also completed facilitator training. Epilepsy Durham Region will host 3-4 sessions of UPLIFT in 2021. All sessions can be delivered virtually using video conferencing software. Any person with epilepsy, or their caregiver, may participate in a session by directly contacting us at [clientservices@epilepsydurham.com](mailto:clientservices@epilepsydurham.com).

### PROGRAMMING | PEER-TO-PEER NETWORK (P2P)

Planning for a peer-led virtual support network is underway where new and existing clients of Epilepsy Durham Region's C2C and UPLIFT programs can support each other long-term on a variety of daily needs and topics. For more information on joining the Peer Network, please contact Jackie at [clientservices@epilepsydurham.com](mailto:clientservices@epilepsydurham.com).

## VOLUNTEER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

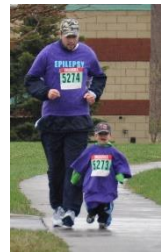
Covid restrictions affected all of our in-person activities for the majority of 2020, which greatly reduced the ability of our volunteers to engage with us and the community. We are ever so grateful for your many contributions over the years, and the value you bring is significant. We look forward to when we can be together again, serving people with epilepsy and making our community great for everyone. Until then, we reflect fondly on memories. We hope to see you all again soon.

*be kind.*

### MAKING IMPACT 2018



### MAKING IMPACT 2019





## THE CHALLENGE IS EPIC

### THE EPIC GOLF CHALLENGE Golfers Take a Mulligan then Shoot a Hole in One

Throughout the years of the Epic Golf Challenge, one very special thing remained consistent – it brings together individuals in our community, most of whom have no connection to epilepsy, that pledge to raise awareness and funds to ensure that families in Durham Region have access to the support they need. Year after year, as our Epic Golf Challenge family grew, we were introduced to amazing civic minded individuals that represent kindness in its truest form.

2020 marked our 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Epic Golf Challenge. When Covid-19 derailed our spring golf tournament in the spring, our determined golfers took a mulligan and rallied in the fall to save the tournament. In a year when bingo and many of our fundraising events were forced to close, our golfers were able to raise a budget-saving \$68,876. Way to step up to the tee and shoot a hole-in-one everyone!

It is only with the help of these dedicated individuals that we are able to continue the success of our local Clinic to Community Epilepsy Clinic, improving access to quality and specialized care in our community. Each year we are overwhelmed with the generosity and kindness that this group demonstrates. Since 2015 their passion and hard work paid has raised a grand total of **\$581,596.62**

There are not enough words to truly express the gratitude that we feel, but on behalf of Epilepsy Durham Region and all of those that are impacted by epilepsy in our community...

**THANK YOU**



**Photo: 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2019**

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS | DECEMBER 31, 2020

### Statement of Revenue over Expenses

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Bingo/Nevada	\$ 15,457	\$ 76,219
Donations	47,923	62,436
Fundraising	58,475	114,823
Grants	22,476	-
Investment Income	7,858	1,854
Other income	<u>3,745</u>	<u>7,067</u>
	<u>155,934</u>	<u>262,399</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Advertising and promotion	292	7,385
Fundraising expenses	6,639	34,799
Insurance	2,874	3,527
Interest and bank charges	334	696
Legal and accounting	3,120	2,985
Membership fees	673	299
Occupancy	17,818	17,818
Office and general	307	3,309
Professional development	182	150
Repair and maintenance	16	-
Salary and benefits	98,184	133,225
Telephone	2,039	2,253
Travel	71	181
Utilities	<u>1,745</u>	<u>1,612</u>
	<u>134,294</u>	<u>208,239</u>
<b>Excess of Revenues over Expenses</b>	<u>21,640</u>	<u>54,160</u>

### Statement of Members' Equity

Unaudited - See Notice to Reader

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Unrestricted Net Assets - Opening	\$ 473,953	\$ 419,793
Excess of revenues over expenses	21,639	54,160
Prior period adjustments	<u>4,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Unrestricted Net Assets - Closing	<u>\$ 499,592</u>	<u>\$ 473,953</u>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION | DECEMBER 31, 2020

<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
<b>As at December 31, 2020</b>		
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash	\$ 342,773	\$ 122,069
Investments, at cost	182,110	339,860
Accounts receivable	-	8,280
Due from government agencies	673	4,669
Inventory	5,150	4,974
Prepaid expenses	<u>586</u>	<u>630</u>
	<u>\$ 531,292</u>	<u>\$ 480,482</u>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Members' Equity</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable	<u>\$ 1,700</u>	<u>\$ 6,529</u>
<b>Long Term</b>		
Long term debt (Note 4)	<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>31,700</u>	<u>6,529</u>
<b>Members' Equity</b>		
Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>499,592</u>	<u>473,953</u>
	<u>\$ 531,292</u>	<u>\$ 480,482</u>

## THE IMPACT OF YOUR DONATION WITH HEARTFELT THANKS

Epilepsy Durham Region relies on the generosity of its volunteers and donors to continue its work. We thank you for your generous gifts.

### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES MADE POSSIBLE BY:

100 Men of Oshawa	OPG   Darlington Nuclear
Ajax Lions Club	OPG Corporate Citizenship Program
AWC Credit Union	Optimist Club of Ajax
BoSs'S Business Network	Oshawa West Lions Club
Burns Family	Police Services Board   DRPS
Canada Summer Jobs   Gov. of Canada	Ranfar Steel Ltd.
Cargill Deicing Technology	Rotary Club of Courtice
Corporation of the Town of Whitby	Rotary Club of Oshawa Parkwood
CRCS-DKI	SCN Industrials Inc.
Deer Creek Cares Charitable Fdn.	Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.
Deighton Associates Limited	Symcor Inc.
Durham Community Foundation	The Royal Canadian Legion
Eisai Limited	Town of Ajax Corporation
Lifelabs	Unifor Auxiliary no. 27
Mississaugas of Scugog Island	Uxbridge District Lions Club
Mount Lawn Funeral Home & Cemetery	William F. Hayball Foundation
Municipality of Clarington	

**NOTES**

Did you hear about the Peer to Peer program? Ask Jackie

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It's because \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_  
YOU!!

## HOW YOU CAN HELP MAKE AN IMPACT

Volunteers are critical to helping people living with epilepsy in our community. Can we count on you to volunteer with epilepsy Durham Region in 2021? Email Jackie at [clientservices@epilepsydurham.com](mailto:clientservices@epilepsydurham.com) to be notified when volunteering resumes. Thank you!

## CONTACT

### EPILEPSY DURHAM REGION

[www.epilepsydurham.com](http://www.epilepsydurham.com)  
[support@epilepsydurham.com](mailto:support@epilepsydurham.com)

310 BYRON STREET SOUTH, SUITE 3  
WHITBY ON L1N 4P8  
(T) 905-430-3090 | (F) 905-430-3080



### DARRYL SWAIN

Executive Director (Interim)  
[dswain@epilepsydurham.com](mailto:dswain@epilepsydurham.com)

### JACKIE NEMISZ

Community Outreach Associate  
[clientservices@epilepsydurham.com](mailto:clientservices@epilepsydurham.com)

**epilepsy**  
durham region

*Working together to improve epilepsy care in Durham Region*

Every effort has been made to recognize volunteers, individuals, foundations and corporations who have generously supported Epilepsy Durham Region and its mission in 2020. Please accept our apologies should any errors or omissions have occurred and notify us at (905) 430-3090.

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION NO. 89670-5399-RR0001

## CAN WE COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT?

Yes! I want to help people in my community that are impacted by Epilepsy. I would like to contribute to ensure that people with epilepsy know that they are not alone – Epilepsy Durham Region is here to help.

<http://epilepsydurham.com/online-donations/288-online-donations>

Please accept my monthly gift of \$: \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept my one-time gift of \$: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Your information is required for Epilepsy Durham Region to issue a tax receipt

\*We do not share your personal information

\*Please make cheques payable to **Epilepsy Durham Region** or make an online donation at: <http://epilepsydurham.com/online-donations/288-online-donations>

**epilepsy**  
durham region

Thank you for your support – making lasting impact and changing the lives of so many in our community touched by epilepsy

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION NO. 89670-5399-RR0001

