

SCI-AB | August 2024 Peer Newsletter

Summer sure seems to be rolling by quickly! July marked Disability Pride Month and it was an awesome opportunity to celebrate the successes of the community and to raise awareness about the barriers still faced by persons with disabilities.

Intro + Last Month's Recap

August marks the middle month of summer and all the warm weather and fun times spent with friends

Upcoming BBQs in August

Congratulations to Gerry Kress for winning the Red Deer Mayors Award! (more details below) and family. OOO YYC SCI-AB OOO



FREE TICKETS With the start of August upon us, our YEG and YYC BBQs are drawing near! First up will be the Edmonton BBQ on Saturday, August 3rd at Emily Murphy Park from 10am-2pm, tickets can be reserved online here: https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/spinal-cord-injury- alberta/events/edmonton-summer-bbq-party-2024/ The Calgary BBQ will take place on Sunday, August 11th from 11am-3pm at Glennfield Day Use Area C. Tickets for Calgary are available here: https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/spinal-cord-injury-alberta/events/calgary-<u>summer-bbq/</u>

us in YEG, and thank you to Coloplast and Home Health Store for sponsoring the BBQ to make it the best that it can be! Thank you to Hollister for the sponsorship of the YYC BBQ and the Red Deer BBQ!. As a bonus this year, the first 50 tickets reserved at for each event will be entered into a draw for a giftcard! (Please note you must be present in person at the time of the draw to

Community Shoutout | Red Deer Mayors Award

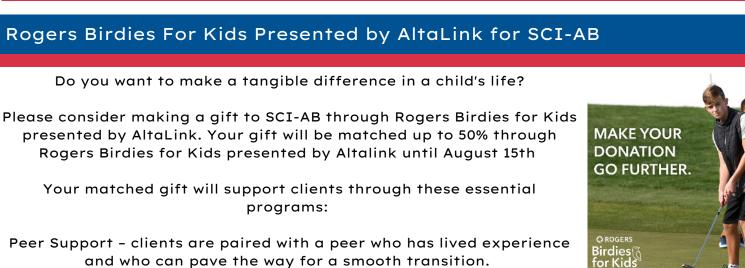
at the Westerner Park Harvest Centre. Winners of the Community Builders Award included the one and only Gerry Kress! "It's an honour to be recognized like that. You can have all the skills and talent that you can have, but if you don't use it, it's useless. It just shows

Thank you Gerry and crew for all you do to grow the community in Central Alberta!

SCI-AB August 2024 Events: **Upcoming SCI-AB Events in August:**

Aug 3: YEG Summer BBQ Aug 5: Offices Closed for Heritage Day Aug 6: Coffee + Peers at the Glenrose Aug 7: Online Peer Chat with Terry Aug 10: YYC Summer BBQ

Be sure to check out our <u>online events calendar</u> or our social media channels to keep up to date on upcoming events!



to enable them to adjust, adapt and thrive in their homes. Neuro-Rehabilitation Centre – Clients will work together with an exercise physiologist to increase strength, mobility and flexibility.

All the things needed to help people adjust, adapt and thrive after a spinal cord injury. Your donation can make a tangible difference in the lives of children and youth with a spinal cord injury or other physical disability.

Head over to sci-ab.ca/donate and click on the link for Rogers Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink to make your donation today.

SCI-AB Board Member Updates/AGM Highlights June 26th marked SCI-AB's annual AGM. A few highlights from the meeting include our new board members: Bonnie Maguffee from Grande Prairie,

> Gerhardt (Geri) Redikop from Edmonton and Michelle Mather out of Calgary.

slalom, trick, and the crowd favourite: jump! If you are in the Edmonton region and would like to give sledge hockey a try this summer, the Edmonton Adaptive Sports Association (EASA) have FREE ice times over the summer. For the month of August the ice times will be at Millennium Place Arena in Sherwood Park and will take place on August 19th from 9pm-10:30pm The next

in Sherwood Park, east of Edmonton. Please arrive 30 min prior to get equipment sorted. Contact Sharon Veeneman at 780-721-7071 for more information, or to reserve your space. No experience is necessary, and friends and family are welcome to come out and try as well! It is a great way to escape from the heat on a hot summers day! Check out the poster below for a full list of ice times for the summer. Regular season begins in September!

The Paralympic Sports Association (PSA) will be hosting a sledge hockey intensive camp from August 16-18th at the Meadows community red center on the southside of Edmonton. This is welcome to all skill levels and is a great way to build a strong foundation before regular season starts! For more information or to register, check

Check out our <u>full list of board members here!</u> Our annual report are now available on our website: https://sci-ab.ca/annual-report/ In the Community + Across the Province: Who else is excited for waterski season? Check out the Splash Adaptive Waterski Poster for waterski try it events coming soon to a lake near you! Everyone is welcome, any age, any ability. Hope to "ski" you there! There are also upcoming try it days on: August 10th and 24th in Calgary at Predator Bay, and August 13th and 24th in Coaldale. There will be more Lacombe/Edmonton dates coming soon now that we have more foundation trained coaches! Visit: www.wswa.ca/adaptive-program for more information. Registration can be found here: https://www.wswa.ca/wswamembership See the poster below for a full schedule of events across the province. If you live in Edmonton and would like to catch some adaptive waterski competition skiing, Westerns will take place from August 8-10th at Shalom Waterski Park. This is

using a ramp in order to propel a soft leather ball towards a target. Assistive equipment is available to make the sport accessible to all. <u>Ultimate Para Sports</u> and the <u>Paralympic Sports Association</u> have hand cycling programs in full swing. PSA also has adaptive kayaking and golf available.

FIRST CLINIC FREE! \$40 A CLINIC AFTER before August 30 and receive a free exclusive NERD Run tech t-shirt. For more information, or to sign up, please visit: https://raceroster.com/events/2024/89621/the-nerd-run SCI Tips | Staying Cool and Leg Bag Holder for Shorts

courage-ride/

Then on September 14th, the University of Alberta will host the The NERD Run (Neuroscience Education, Research and Discovery). It is a fun run organized by the Neuroscience and Mental Health Institute at the University of Alberta that raises

awareness and support for brain and mental health research.

Technology | Click n Push Accessibility App Check out the Click & Push Accessibility which gives real time accessibility information to those with disabilities, but also to

EASA Sledge Try It Events Everyone is welcome, come out to try sledge hocke or get some extra ice time in the off season!

 Millennium Place − Chevrolet Arena
 Monday
 May 13th
 @ 8:45 PM − 10:00 PM

 Millennium Place − Chevrolet Arena
 Tuesday
 June 11th
 @ 9:00 PM − 10:15 PM

SPLASH ADAPTIVE WATER SKI

CLINIC DATES

Register Today at wswa.ca/adaptive-program

GIVEITAGO

June 29 - Calgary, Predator Bay July 6 - Calgary, Predator Bay July 8 - Lacombe, Schacres Lake July 20 - Edmonton, Wizard Lake July 23 - Drayton Valley, Eagle Valley July 23 - Lethbridge, Stafford Lake

August 10 - Calgary, Predator Bay

Click & Push

2.0 INTERMEDIATE

June 8 - Calgary, Predator E June 25 - Coaldale, Veurink July 9 - Coaldale, Veurink

(Women on the W August 27 - Coaldale, Veurink

Thank

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM @splashadaptiveh2oski With the summer time, comes scorching temperatures. Many with spinal cord injuries have diminished sweating responses to high temps, which can lead to potentially life threatening conditions such as Autonomic Dysreflexia or severe heat stroke. Staying cool in the summer is paramount! Cooling towels or small portable fans are great options for on the go. For those looking for more heavy duty cooling, there are "ice vests" available that are a cooling wearable. Seeking out air conditioning is also a great way to beat the heat. Malls and movie theatres are great ways to spend a day/afternoon and enjoy the AC! Clothing can also be a big factor in keeping cool, lightweight breathable fabrics and moisture wicking fabrics can help keep you chill. For those with a foley catheter, it can be challenging to keep the leg bag discrete while wearing shorts. However, Urocare has a sport bag that is worn horizontally across the leg beneath shorts, skirts and swimsuits, allowing the bag to be tucked away. Check it out here: https://www.urocare.com/EN/Products/9516EN.php



Check out the all of the current research study opportunities here! https://sci-ab.ca/research-opportunities/

The Canada Disability Benefit Regulations and the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement of the proposed regulations were published in Part I of the Canada Gazette. Members of the public are now invited to comment on the documents using the Gazette's online commenting system (comments can be made <u>on this page of the Canada Gazette</u>). These proposed regulations, when finalized, will set out how the Canada Disability Benefit will be administered and delivered. The Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement is a description of the proposed regulations, rationale for the approaches, as well as an assessment of their cost and positive and negative effects. The consultation period will be open until September 23, 2024.

In addition to the documents published on the Canada Gazette, a plain language summary of the proposed regulations, as well as additional information on the proposed Canada Disability Benefit Regulations and engagement are now available on the Employment and Social Development Canada website. Members of the public are able to consult the summary of the regulations and the additional

I have been able to use this beach wheelchair twice now and I can't say enough great things about it!! What a difference it is for people who have mobility issues!! I am thrilled that this is available to use. And it's free to rent! You just have to

For the first time the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) has unveiled the IGNITE the Light virtual seats fundraising initiative. This will allow for Canadians across the country to show their support for athletes by purchasing virtual seats that will fill a virtual stadium of support and encouragement. The seats are \$25 each, and each donor will receive a customized personal seat graphic to be able to share on social media. This will allow Canadians to be a part of the Paralympic movement. Funds will go towards ensuring that athletes have essential resources they need for years to come to achieve their dreams and

opportunities. To learn more about this initiative, check out: https://paralympic.ca/foundation/ignite/ A final fun fact about the Paralympics: did you know that local legend Dr. Bob Steadward was one of the pioneers to establish the Paralympic games.. check out this interview here to learn more about how the Paralympic games were started: https://youtu.be/-XsVq6-Crb8

Nothing says summer like some fun in the sun and a day at the beach. Unfortunately, sand and wheelchairs don't mix well.. and most beaches will see wheelchair users spinning their tires and digging themselves a hole.

There will be over 500 events in 22 sports! Sports include: archery, athletics, badminton, boccia, cycling (road and track), equestrian, football, goalball, judo, paracanoe, paratriathlon, powerlifting, rowing, shooting, sitting volleyball, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair fencing, wheelchair rugby and wheelchair tennis! For the first time, Olympic Broadcasting Services will provide live telecasts for all 22 Paralympic sports (increased from 19 in Tokyo). Coverage will also be broadcast on



<u>-Sylvan Lake</u>

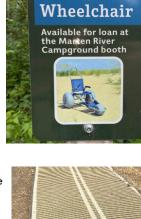
short online survey. They are also looking to speak with professionals (healthcare, housing, advocacy) involved in building, designing, finding, and advocating for accessible housing. Visit <u>www.homeaccessibilitytoolkit.com</u> or Email housingstudy@sunnybrook.ca to express interest or if you have questions. Thank you for your support!

June 27th, persons with disabilities and children under the age of 18 are now eligible to apply for the Canadian Dental Care Plan. The plan has already connected over 2 million Canadians with coverage and, as a result, hundreds of thousands of Canadians have been able to see the dentist. The portal to apply can be found here: https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/dental/dental-care-<u>plan/apply.html</u> Insist on less, and get more from your catheter! With less preparation, SpeediCath® catheters

Your medical history and have an in-person examination. If you enter the study, you will be Who can participate? involved in 2 sessions of testing with 2 week Projects approved by: What are some potential benefits? University of Alberta What about costs? participating in this study. The results will help us understand changes in the spinal cord after Pro00061817 Advocacy | Canada Disability Benefits Update Consultation Feedback

Can brief exposure to hyperoxia

spinal cord injury?



However, there is a growing movement to install beach mats and provide beach wheelchairs rentals across beaches in Alberta!

Hope to see you at the BBQs! - Kendra + Terry

The following beaches have mobi-mats and/or amphibious balloon-tire wheelchairs available! -Sandy Point Beach -Slave Lake (Devonshire Beach) -<u>Marten River Campground Beach, Slave Lake</u>

(cooler, towels, etc) to the spot. Another win win. -There are a few stairs to the office to sign out the wheelchair. And another step to where you pick up the wheelchair. But I just got my girlfriend to get the paperwork and bring it to me to fill out, sign and give ID and credit card info. And I asked them to bring out the wheelchair to the flat surface. They were happy to help and have someone use the chair! I was only the second person to use it in the two years they have had them (there are two of them available). -It's more stable than you think! Sit back, relax and enjoy! Hope this helps get more people out on the water! Again, having this wheelchair made my experience at <u>Sylvan Lake</u> so wonderful, I have already returned because of the ease of enjoying the beach experience! - Rhonda

-Kinosoo Beach, Cold Lake Corona Canada also has an initiative to nominate a beach to receive a beach mat! So if you have a local beach that is currently inaccessible. you can nominate it to be made accessible here: https://www.coronaextra.ca/ca_en/accessingparadise

AUGUST 3RD, 2024 | 10AM - 2 PM Thank you to Red Plaid Developments for sponsoring the food and grilling up the goods for

Red Deer's mayor Ken Johnston and members of city council recognized 24

win!). Looking forward to seeing you all there!

groups and individuals at the 2024 Mayor's Recognition Awards on June 19

that when people have the ability to do something, and they do it, things happen. The award shows that, I think," Kress said. Kress is the founder of Red Deer's Wheelchair Rugby Club, which he started in 2023. He played a role in starting the Steel Wheels Rugby group in Edmonton and wanted to create a similar community opportunity when he moved to Red Deer. "It means everything. It's not only physical health, it's also mental health. The community in wheelchair rugby is just so incredible and it's always super welcoming for all participants that come," shared Brent Haase, vicepresident of the club. Haase was one of the members who nominated Kress for the award.

Aug 13: Virtual Ladies Peer Chat (w/ Brandice) Aug 14: Calgary Lunch Aug 21: Online Peer Chat with Terry Aug 27: Virtual Ladies Peer Chat Aug 27: YEG Peer Dinner at Syphay Aug 28: Pizza + Peers at the Glenrose

Aug 28: YYC Peer Dinner

Client Service Coordinators – clients will receive the support they need

an action packed event with able bodied and adaptive skiers in all three events: practice will be on August 26th from 9:15pm-10:45pm, also at Millennium Place Arena

Open to all levels and abilities, the race begins in Kinsmen Park and traverses the scenic Edmonton river valley with a 2.5 km walk, 5 km walk/run, or 10 km run. Register

addition, the app collects data over time to help

https://open.spotify.com/show/3BVA1e9FKT4ApAqcWfd5Ev

Who is involved in the

out: https://www.parasportsab.com/we-offer/summer-sledge-hockey-intensive-12/ In addition, Rocky Mountain Adaptive have a variety of camps and try it opportunities upcoming for the summer, be sure to check out their website, for the most up to date resources! Check out their website here: https://rockymountainadaptive.com/ In addition to camps and try it days, they also have equipment lessons and rentals available. There are adaptive Bowhead mountain bikes, wheelchair accessible paddleboards, kayaks, all terrain wheelchairs, hand cycles, and much more! Wheelchair Sports Alberta summer programs are in full swing! They also be try it days every Thursday evening from 6:30-8pm in the Glenrose main gym, there will be opportunities to try basketball, rugby, tennis, curling and roller sledge. The ACPSA also has boccia try it days on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-7pm in the Glenrose Main Gym. Boccia is a Paralympic sport that involves throwing, kicking or Finally the Glenrose and the U of A have 2 events coming up in September that put the "fun" in fundraising! Firstly, the Glenrose Courage ride will take place on September 7th It will take place at Pigeon Lake, which supports the world-class rehabilitation healthcare at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital. A 58.5K fondo, the Courage Ride invites cyclists from beginner to avid to share in a morning filled with cycling, inspiration, and motivation. As part of your event registration, you'll enjoy a light breakfast, rider swag, and a post-ride bite. Fundraise individually or a join a team today! For more information or to sign up: https://glenrosefoundation.com/event/2024-

event organizers and venues as well. Click and Push recently partnered up with Explore Edmonton to map the K-days grounds through the ATLAS. The ATLAS, is a community-sourced navigation app that empowers digital citizens with real-time accessibility information to help them access societal spaces. This initiative aims to support individuals with mobility limitations, enabling them to plan their visit by identifying restrictive barriers and accessible alternatives. THE ATLAS allows organizations like Explore Edmonton to directly hear from people about any obstacles they encounter in public spaces. When a user reports a problem, the organization gets an immediate alert so they can take steps to fix it. In

organizations make informed decisions on how to make its public spaces accessible for everyone. Learn more about the app and initiative here: https://www.clicknpush.ca/

Research Spotlight | SCI Housing

This research study is conducted on the housing needs and

priorities of Canadian's with spinal cord injury. The research

team is hoping to hear from people living in Alberta. Please have a look at the flyer and consider participating and sharing this opportunity within your network.

They are providing a \$50 gift card to those with spinal cord injury or family caregivers in the community who are eligible and complete participation in the study, which involves 1-1.5

hour time commitment with a zoom or phone interview and

Check it Out! | SCI Showcases in the Community : Mixed Crips Podcast Looking for a new podcast to check out? Add the "Mixed Crips" Podcast to your rotation. Unfiltered talk about living life with a disability hosted by Tash and Maria. They explore the intricacies of living life on wheels and neurodivergence, along with a bevy of guests also with physical and/or cognitive mixed abilities. Conversations range from awkward, challenging, personal and intimate. Subjects range from public treatment, misdiagnosis, employment, relationships, sexual preference, and much more. The Mixed Crips believe the need for discussion will spread awareness and create camaraderie.

Check it out here:

Did You Know? | Dental Coverage Updates

Oral Health care is an essential part of overall healthcare. As of

with Triple Action Coating Technology™ provide less friction, less risk of harming your

> To request a FREE* catheter sample scan the QR Code or visit the link:

Before starting the study, a physical therapist will call you to gather information about

visit.coloplast.ca/FreeSpeediCathSample

Coloplast

What are the risks?

Do I have to take part in the

Your participation is completely voluntary. You will sign a consent form if you agree to participate. If you decide to be in the study, you can change your mind and stop at

anytime. Leaving the study will not affect your future care.

Your records relating to these studies will b kept confidential and in a secure place only accessible to the research team.

Any research data collected about you during this study will identify you only by your

urethra, and less worry about UTIs.1

Get a FREE* cupholder for your wheelchair when you sample a SpeediCath®

Catheter!

What are we studying?

How will we do that?

Trow will we du unter: If you are interested in participating, we will determine if you are eligible for our study. Eligible participants will be randomly assigned to one of two groups. All participants will be exposed once to each condition of high oxygen or room air, except the order of exposure will be opposite. Measures of muscle activity and skin sensation will be taken before and after each exposure.

Limitations apply

1. Compared to uncoated catheters.

2. Compared to uncoated catheters.

3. Compared to uncoated catheters.

4. Compared to uncoated catheters may be prescribed for use by pediatric patients (children to age 21) and adults who require bladder drainage due to chronic urine retention or post void residual volume (PVR). Before use, carefully read all of the instructions. Call your doctor if you think you have a UTI or can't pass the catheter into the bladder. For more information regarding risks, potential complications and product support, call Coloplast Corp. at 1 (866) 293-6349 and/or consult the company website at www.coloplast.ca. entify read all of the instructions. Callyour action if you talk you have to find call types the states all the behavior of the call types of types of the call types of the c **Triple Action** Research | Hyperoxia Study Looking for Participants Researchers at the University of Alberta are seeking participants for a study investigating the effects of hyperoxia on spinal cord injury recovery. See the poster below for full inclusion Can brief exposure to hyperoxia improve function after chronic spinal cord injury? **WALBERTA**

To participate in

this study,

contact:

Michelle Barnes, PT

carre@ualberta.ca

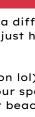
Ana Lucas Osma (780) 278-8474

information on the proposed Canada Disability Benefit Regulations and engagement. Once the consultation period for the proposed regulations is complete in September 2024, the Government will consider the feedback received and may make changes to the regulations. The final regulations will be published in Part II of the Canada Gazette in 2025, prior to the launch of the benefit. As announced in Budget 2024, the Government of Canada is committed to begin payment of the Canada Disability Benefit in July 2025, following the successful completion of the regulatory development process. Thank you for your feedback and maximizing the potential of the benefit to help peoples with disabilities in Canada. 2024 Paralympics in Paris | Cheer on Team Canada

The 2024 Summer Paralympics will be held in Paris from August 28th to September 8th. This will be the first summer paralympic games hosted by France and the first ever games in Paris.

cheer on!

provide an ID and a credit card. -Best place to park is where the farmers market is on Fridays (but obviously not when the market is on Iol). -Someone will need to push the wheelchair, you can't use it independently. I took my electric wheelchair to our spot on the beach and my friend pushed the beach wheelchair to our location. She also used it as a wagon to carry our beach stuff







Channel 4 television and Channel 4 Sport on youtube. There are lots of Canadian athletes to celebrate and to showcase the power of inclusivity in sport. Funds will also go towards athletes at all levels of sport across the country. From helping out with the cost of adaptive sport equipment, help to gain access to Paralympic sport programs and coaches, and benefit from specialized training and competition

