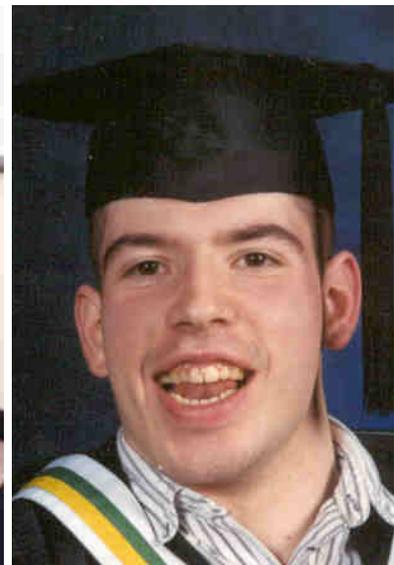


Children's
Ability Fund

Dreams for independence ...
Yesterday, today and tomorrow



Annual Report

2007/2008

Introduction

Organization's Objectives

- ★ To help create opportunities and enhance the independence for people with disabilities regardless of the type of disability
- ★ To promote awareness of the **Children's Ability Fund** of the Northern Alberta Crippled Children's Foundation
- ★ To raise funds to achieve the objects of the Society. This includes accepting gifts, donations, grants, legacies, bequests and inheritances
- ★ To promote legacies, bequests, and inheritances in pursuit of the objects of the Society
- ★ To develop a liaison with other groups and agencies in similar work with the object of avoiding duplication and thereby using the funds to maximum benefit
- ★ To use funds of the Society only according to and in pursuit of these objects

2007/2008 Board of Directors

James Banks, Chairman
Bruce Geiger, Secretary
Sylvia Herman, Director
Judy Pope, Director
Michelle Roy, Director
Ken Gulevich, Director
Brian Alguire, Director
David Dorward, Director
Linnie Tse, Director



Monica with her
Tech-Speak communications device

Staff

Carol Russ, Executive Director
Marilyn Melnychuk, Client Care
Joanne Rediron, Office Manager
Patricia Poohachoff, Communications and Special Projects

Chairman of the Board

As we close our 60th anniversary year, we continue to celebrate both our successes and evolution:

- ★ We assisted over 100 individuals and families who face daily challenges of living with a disability.
- ★ We had a very successful Tee Fore Two Golf Tournament. Jack Broadfoot of Dynateam Realty, our major Tee Fore Two sponsor, received the AAFRE 2008 Honour Role award for his outstanding support of our organization.
- ★ Wing Ding surpassed its fundraising goal of \$25,000. Unfortunately, the event has run its course and we celebrated the last event in October. Our undying gratitude goes out to all the sponsors and our “King of the Wings”, Board Member Ken Gulevich for the years of support and great memories.



The **Children's Ability Fund** is transforming internally to meet our organizational needs and we will adjust externally as the fund raising sector as a whole undergoes considerable changes. The positive news are the recently announced tax changes. The biggest Federal changes will effect wills and estates, while the Provincial changes give exceptional benefits to Albertans who make registered charitable donations.

Although the tax changes will be helpful, it still will be challenging to meet our organizational fund raising objectives. The non-profit sector is under great pressure with over 80,000 registered charities in Canada competing for the same dollars. It will be essential for the **Children's Ability Fund** to stay close to our supporters and long term donors.

I know that with the support of you, our donors, our members, our Board of Directors and the ongoing skill and dedication of our staff, we will succeed and continue to meet the challenges we face.

I look forward to working with you once again and making this the most “**uplifting year**” yet.

Respectfully Yours,
Jim Banks, Chairman

Executive Director



This year was a special year for us at the **Children's Ability Fund**. We are one of Alberta's longest serving charities and we are very proud to celebrate our 60th anniversary.

Since our inception, the **Children's Ability Fund** has been involved in many fund-raising events and activities, raising thousands of dollars each year to continue to fund equipment for those in need.

The equipment has certainly changed over the years, technology has had a dramatic impact, costs have increased, the fundraising environment has changed ... but the need still remains. This equipment makes a tremendous difference in the lives of people with disabilities, including their families, friends, co-workers, care givers and ultimately the community.

As we look to the future we are aware of the hurdles we will face and recognize the need and importance of the support of the community, loyal donors, corporate sponsors, members and our friends. We look forward to working with you and honouring our long-time mandate “to enhance the independence of people with disabilities” for another 60 years!

Yours in Community Service,
Carol Russ, Executive Director

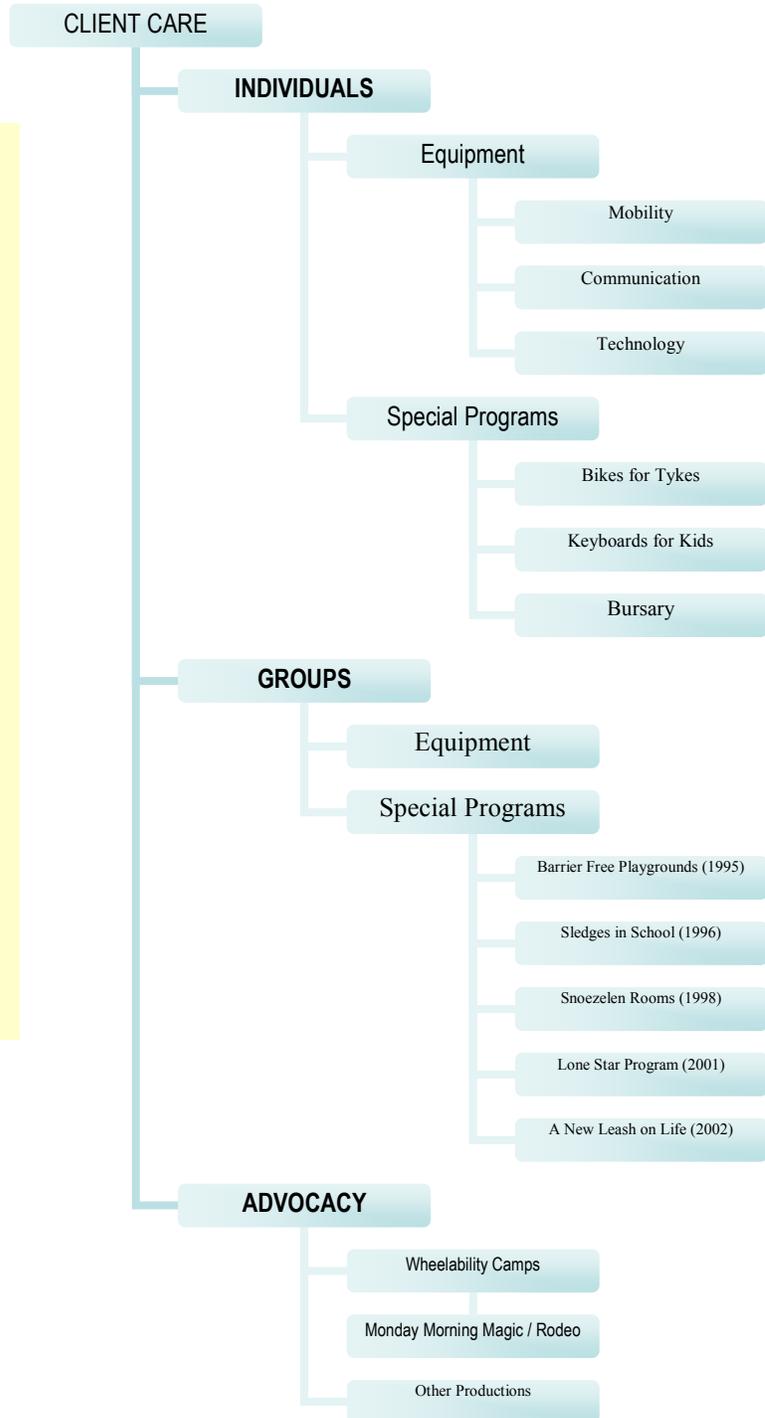
Client Care

The Children's Ability Fund goal is to create awareness and enhance independence by providing specialized equipment for people with disabilities.

Our focus is on children but age or type of disability is not a consideration when reviewing an application. Applications are accepted from individuals residing in Edmonton and Northern Alberta and are prioritized depending on basic needs, immediacy of the request and financial need

Funding is directed towards three basic areas:

Individuals
Groups
Advocacy



Individual—Equipment

Specialized equipment includes items like:

Mobility Devices – Wheelchairs, walkers, overhead lifts, porch lifts, vehicle lifts, ramps, lift chairs, hospital beds, tilt systems, standing frames, car seats, leg braces

Communication Devices – TTY's, signalling devices, voice synthesizers, FM systems

Other Technology – Alphasmarts, Braille printers, zoom text, joysticks, keyboards

Over the past 60 years we have assisted thousands of our fellow Northern Albertans, donating millions of dollars in equipment and support to help make their lives better and more fulfilled . Lat year were able to provide the following;

Individuals – Summary 2007/2008	Edmonton	Northern Alberta
Mobility Aids / Devices	(28) \$ 60,426	(26) \$ 70,739
Communication / Signaling Devices	(12) \$ 21,429	(2) \$ 9,694
Computers / Educational Assistive Devices	(6) \$ 5,872	(1) \$ 349

“Thank you, thank you Children’s Ability Fund for your gift of my Golden Tech Lift Chair. After at least a dozen operations on my joints for rheumatoid arthritis, it is hard to find a comfortable place to sit or sleep for any length of time. This chair has provided me many hours of comfort. I could never have afforded such a luxury on my fixed income. Again many thanks.”
Bruce

“Thank you ever so much for helping my son and our family! You have given hope to me and other parents who are feeling hopeless as often we are turned away with our special needs children. You have given Jamie an Alphasmart but to me you gave HOPE!!”
Jamie’s Mom

Individual - Special Programs



Melody on her modified bike

Bikes for Tykes Program

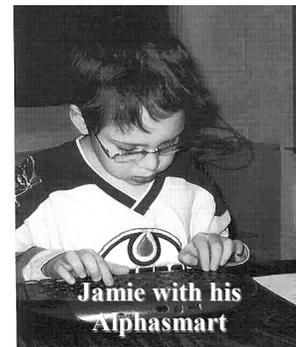
The *Bikes for Tykes* program was introduced to provide funding for the adaptation of a bicycle for the individual needs of a child with a disability. Our goal is to provide a means for a child to participate in the everyday activities that all children enjoy; riding to the park, exploring unknown territory and spending time with friends. Bikes provide an independent mode of transportation that helps build self-esteem and gives a sense of freedom. Special adaptations to a bicycle can help a child with disabilities “*delight in being a child*”.

The scope of this project ranges from minor adaptations to a fully customized bicycle to provide the necessary support for a child’s personal needs. Cost of adaptations can range from \$ 500 up to \$ 1,800 for a customized bicycle.

10 new bikes were purchased through the Bikes for Tykes program this year totaling \$10,000

Keyboards for Kids Program

The *Keyboards for Kids* program was introduced to provide funding for a portable, battery-powered, word-processing keyboard (Alphasmarts and Neos) for a child with a disability. Our goal is to provide a learning tool for a child who lacks the ability to write by hand, or who may have nearly unintelligible penmanship. A keyboard enables production of more work with less energy expenditure, giving a greater sense of accomplishment and more enthusiasm for writing and learning. Cost of keyboards can range from \$250 up to \$500.

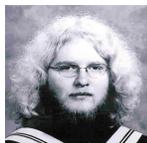


Jamie with his Alphasmart

2 keyboards were purchased through the Keyboards for Kids program this year totaling \$ 580 .

Children's Ability Fund Bursary

The Bursary was established as the Dr. GRA Rice Bursary in 1987 to recognize the 40th anniversary of the NACCF and the commitment of Dr. Rice and his support of the disabled citizens of northern Alberta. In 2002 the name of the bursary was changed to the **Children's Ability Fund Bursary**. The bursary is awarded annually in amounts up to \$5,000 at the discretion of the Board of Directors and may be allocated to more than one individual. The selection committee bases its decision on personal accomplishments and financial need.



"Thank you for your generous support. I will endeavor to prove that your faith in me was not misplaced." - Michael



"Thank you for choosing me for a 2007 Children's Ability Fund Bursary. I am currently enrolled in the Special Needs Educational Assistant program at Grant MacEwan. This bursary will help me to further expand my education in this field so that I can help children with special needs." - Natalie

The Children's Ability Fund Bursary of \$ 4000 was shared by three (3) students in Edmonton and Wainwright

Groups - Equipment

The STEPS program at the Westboro School received funding for a Rifton Pacer Walker (\$2700) to be used in a classroom for students with severe cognitive disabilities.

Groups - Special Programs

The Loan Star Program

The Loan Star Program offers a grant annually in amounts up to \$2,500 to assist organizations that provide therapeutic riding and are recognized by the Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association (CanTRA). Therapeutic riding is a form of therapy using horses to benefit persons with various disabilities.



Little Bits Therapeutic Riding Association for Persons with Disabilities was awarded the grant for 2007.



A New Leash on Life Program

A *New Leash on Life* awards funding to an accredited organization (member of Assistance Dogs International Inc.) to raise and train an assistance dog for people with disabilities. Grants are awarded annually up to \$2,500 at the discretion of the Board of Directors. This program provides funding for various types of assistance dogs including Guide Dogs, Service Dogs, Service Dogs for Children with Autism and Hearing Dogs.

Dogs with Wings Assistance Dog Society was awarded the grant for 2007

Barrier Free Playground Grants

The *Barrier Free Playground* program offers a grant in the amount of \$5,000 to groups constructing a new playground that includes a wheelchair accessible component. The accessible portion allows children with disabilities the opportunity to participate in an everyday activity that all children enjoy.

Our goal is three-fold:

- ★ to “enhance the independence of children with disabilities”
- ★ to encourage the inclusion of accessible playground equipment for children of all abilities
- ★ to create awareness about the issue of accessibility for all children at the playground and within the community

Funding was approved for playgrounds in Provost, Riviere Qui Barre, and Sylvan Lake for a total of \$14,000



Advocacy

Advocacy is the act of pleading or arguing in favor of something such as a cause, idea or policy.

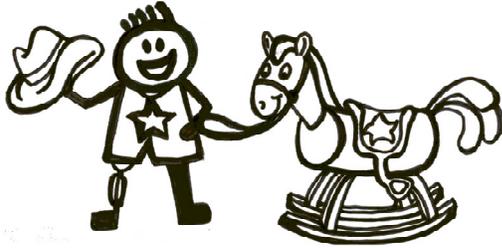


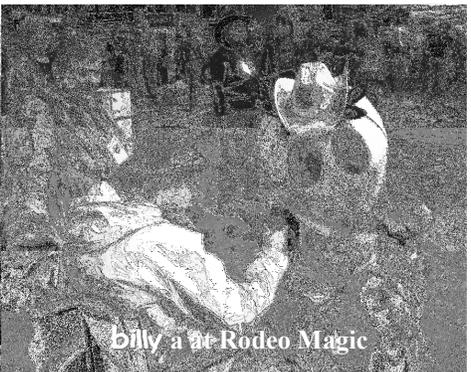
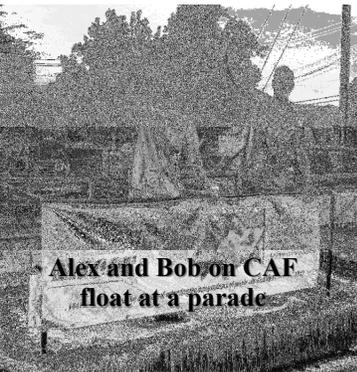
Photo credit:

coach ride, calf roping, barrel riding, face painting, butter making and pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey.

Rodeo Magic is a pre-event to the Canadian Finals Rodeo. Competing cowboys, rodeo queens and other members of the rodeo community gave of their time to make Rodeo Magic an enthusiastic morning of “rodeo” activities at Northlands for children with disabilities. There were numerous activities for over 150 young Cowgirls and Cowboys— a stage-

Monday Morning Magic is a special event that gives hundreds of children with disabilities the opportunity to enjoy Capital Ex away from the hustle and bustle of the crowds and this year over 500 children were able to enjoy the rides and a special program of entertainment and fun.

Rodeo of Smiles in Leduc Alberta is an event just for special needs students within the Black Gold School District. Over 200 kids participated in a variety of activities including the rodeo, midway attractions and arena fun and games. The **Children’s Ability Fund** was pleased to take part in this event for the first time this year.



Fundraising

*Fundraising is the gentle art of teaching the joy of giving.
-Hank Rosso*

The **Children's Ability Fund** relies solely on the generosity of our loyal donors to help provide the necessary funds to continue our goal — providing equipment to enhance the independence of people with disabilities.

Campaigns

Thank you to our many donors who helped us celebrate our 60th anniversary. Almost \$60,000 was raised from our “diamond” anniversary campaign from generous individuals, service clubs and small business throughout Alberta. Funds raised through the annual campaign are used for ongoing client requests.

Bursary Fund

The Bursary Fund was created to provide a means to award a bursary to students with disabilities . Thank-you to many donors who specified the Bursary Fund in their contributions. These will add to a solid base to continue the annual bursary awards .

Endowment Fund—A Commitment to the Future

For over 60 years, people with disabilities in Northern Alberta have benefited from the generosity of donors supporting the **Children's Ability Fund**. Gifts have been received through a variety of events and methods, with the largest gifts coming through Planned Gifts such as wills and life insurance.

In 1987, an Endowment Fund was established to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the **Children's Ability Fund** . The purpose of the fund is to ensure resources are available to meet the needs of people with disabilities for the future. We know we will always depend to some degree on the annual generosity of our donors; this fund simply provides some stability and protects us in times of shortfalls or economic downturns.

A portion of each bequest helps the Endowment Fund grow each year as well as funds the **Children's Ability Fund's** endeavors.

The Fund was fortunate to receive bequests from the following individuals:

*Reinhard Henschel
Alice Brandie
JW Hughes Trust
Ralph Buttner Trust*

Others were remembered with a memorial gift:

*Emil Walter Litzenberger
Marian Tyner
Jim Almond
Cora Marie Engberg
Frank Rigney*

Shining Star Projects

The **Children's Ability Fund's** Shining Star Projects are created and implemented by caring people in our community who want to make a difference.

Money donated from Shining Star projects is used to support our programs and help to provide essential equipment for persons with a disability. The total impact is hard to measure; not only do our clients receive the obvious benefit of mobility, communication and a little more independence but the effects continue to ripple through to family, friends, teachers, the community and onward.



Ben Moss continues to be a champion for the **Children's Ability Fund** with another corporate donation of \$ 2,123 this year from the Children's Christmas Promotion. In addition, Ben Moss continues to sponsor many of our special projects.



Thanks to the generosity of the **7-Eleven** customers, we received a donation in the amount of **\$ 3,480** from the 2008 Coin Box Collection Program.



The **Safeway "We Care"** program presented a cheque for \$10,307 to the **Children's Ability Fund** from the three Safeway promotional days and a raffle.



Marie Casey-Wells (our 1994 NACCF Volunteer of the Year) decided that this year would be her last **"Dancing from the Heart"** fundraising event and split the proceeds between the three charities she has supported over the years. We received a donation of **\$10,000**.

Some other Shining Star Projects included:

- ★ Second Cup (Calgary Trail) – Star Sales
- ★ Edmonton Dental Assistants – AGM
- ★ RAH Neonatal Unit - "Synapse"
- ★ Natasha M - Chicklit Face Painting
- ★

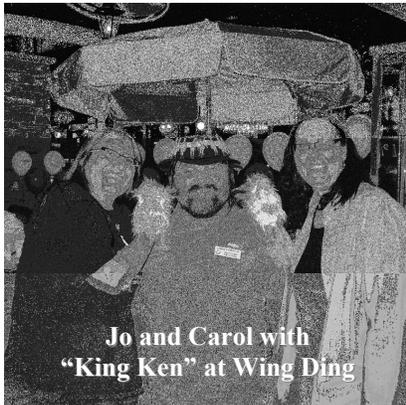
THANK-YOU to all of our Shining Stars - you make the world a brighter place

Special Events

TEE FORE TWO GOLF TOURNAMENT August 2007

All participants enjoyed the sunshine, golf, BBQ, fantastic prizes and fun at the 5th Annual TEE FORE TWO charity golf tournament.

Jack Broadfoot from Dynateam Realty with our media sponsors, CTV and the Edmonton Journal and a number of other supporters helped raise awareness and almost \$11,000 to purchase specialized equipment for people with disabilities. There were many new faces at this event and we look forward to seeing them at our fundraisers in the future.



WING DING XVII October 2007

Hot chicken wings were in short supply at Hooters on Tuesday, October 23rd, after the 17th annual WING DING took place. Rob Berg from KRock 97.3 FM hosted the evening as ten teams of four devoured almost 1,300 wings in a ten minute eat-off. The best news is that the event raised \$25,224 for the **Children's Ability Fund**.

Reigning "King of the Wings" Ken G defended his crown, raising a record setting \$15,225 in his eleventh appearance King Ken topped up \$60,000 in total pledges to help celebrate the 60th anniversary of the **Children's Ability Fund**.



Race at the Silver Skate Festival

SILVER SKATE FESTIVAL February 2008

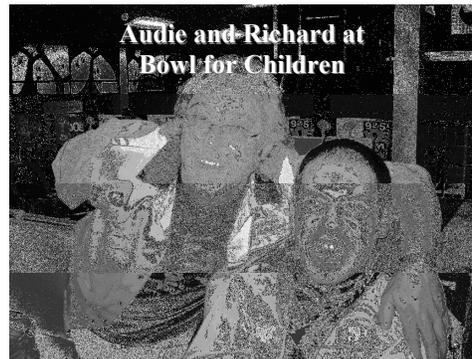
The Silver Skate Festival & Winter Celebration, is the longest running winter festival in Edmonton. The Festival is rooted in the Dutch tradition of a love for the outdoors and long blade skating.

Attendees enjoyed ice dance and theatrical performances, participated in recreational winter activities and the fun skate races, took in the snow sculptors at work and walked through the "Cessco Snow Gallery". And of course, visitors enjoyed meeting the Children's Ability Fund's mascot **billy ability**. We are pleased to be the charity of choice and meet many new friends at this event every year.

92.5 JOE FM BOWL FOR CHILDREN May 2008

The 10th Annual JOE FM Bowl for Children was successful in lifting spirits higher than ever before! With our friends help, this year's event raised over **\$15,000**. All funds raised will assist the **Children's Ability Fund** to purchase lift equipment for people with disabilities in northern Alberta.

A big "thank you" to our major sponsors : Gateway Entertainment Centre, JOE FM, Ben Moss Jewellers and Club Fit



Audie and Richard at
Bowl for Children

It is the pledge drive that truly raises the funds needed to support our charity. From the bottom of our hearts we would like to thank the following individuals for their valiant efforts to support our charity:

- Corporate Superstar: ATB Financial, \$1000**
- Top Pledge Raiser: Robin E, Humford Hazards - \$1360**
- 2nd Place: Daniel E, Billy's Stars - \$845**
- 3rd Place: Kathy T., Friends in High Places - \$502**
- 4th Place: Robby L., Strike Force - \$430**
- 5th Place: Richard O. Billy's Stars - \$380**

We look forward to enjoying another uplifting experience and continuing to increase the independence of people with disabilities at next years event.

Volunteers

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

-Margaret Mead

Volunteer Projects

Over the last year we had a myriad of volunteers donate almost 800 hours of their precious time to help us raise money and awareness.

Our largest volunteer fundraising projects were:

ACT Golf Brick	220 hours	\$ 3,665
Safeway “We Care”	169 hours	\$ 10,307

Volunteer Recognition and Appreciation

We like to recognize those individuals who so generously donate their time and energy to help us reach our goals. Over the past year the following individuals reached some milestones in volunteer commitment.

PLATINUM Star 250 + hours	GOLD Star 100+ Hours	SILVER Star 50+ Hours	BRONZE Star 25 + hours
Bob McGregor	Jim Banks	Wally Ostafichuk	Maryann Rain
Sylvia Herman		Alex McGregor ***	Helen Banks

Gerry Herman Volunteer of the Year Award

Each year we recognize a special individual who has made a significant contribution to the **Children’s Ability Fund** through their volunteerism.



This year’s Gerry Herman Volunteer of the Year Award goes to **Alex McGregor** . At only 18 years of age, Alex is a very grounded, mature and responsible individual. For the past 5 years he has given his time generously to the **Children’s Ability Fund** for a number of different events and activities. We are honoured that he has picked us as his charity of choice!

Financial

Children's Ability Fund Statement of Financial Position As of June 30

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Current Assets	248,376	242,723
Investments	3,607,768	3,675,225
Capital Assets(Net)	4,108	6,252
	3,860,252	3,924,200
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities	72,072	52,027
EQUITY		
Beckett Trust	2,442,527	2,571,731
Endowment Fund	1,151,640	1,086,717
Bursary Fund	76,800	66,100
General Fund	117,213	147,625
	3,860,252	3,924,200



Children's
Ability Fund
of the Northern
Alberta Crippled
Childrens Fund (NACCF)

Clifford & Mabel Becket Trust Fund
In 2000, the Beckett Foundation was disbanded and the Children's Ability Fund received endowment proceeds of \$ 2,281,354. This has been placed in an internally restricted fund for future use.

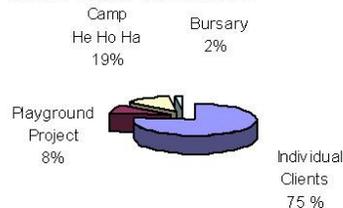
Endowment Fund
In 1987, the Board of Directors established the Endowment Fund to ensure that resources would be in place to meet the growing demand to provide the necessary funding for people with disabilities. Our goal is to reach \$10,000,000

Children's Ability Fund Statement of Operations For the Year Ended June 30

	2008	2007
REVENUE		
Interest & Royalties	128,297	403,990
Estates & Legacies	51,451	81,712
Fundraising Projects	96,461	63,069
Donations	58,095	41,055
Casino	38,626	88,314
	372,930	678,140
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	172,199	186,943
Education & Public Awareness	60,147	38,816
Fundraising Projects	32,891	11,403
Campaign Costs	18,506	6,426
GST	3,584	2,925
	287,327	246,513
DONATIONS		
Client Care		
Individual Client Requests	131,596	198,437
Playground Project	14,000	44,000
Camp Health Hope & Happiness	20,000	84,230
Bursary	4,000	5,500
	169,596	332,167
Surplus/Deficit	(83,993)	99,460

Bursary Fund
The Bursary Fund was established in 1998 to ensure a source of funds for the Children's Ability Fund Bursary awarded annually to a student(s) with a disability entering the first year of a post secondary program

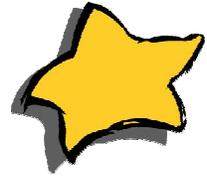
Client Care Donations



Children's Ability Fund - Financial Synopsis

Audited Financial Statements have been prepared by independent external auditors Kingston Ross Pasnak and are available for review

Thank you...



Dear Children's Ability Fund,

I am sending you a great big thank-you!!!!!!!!!!!!

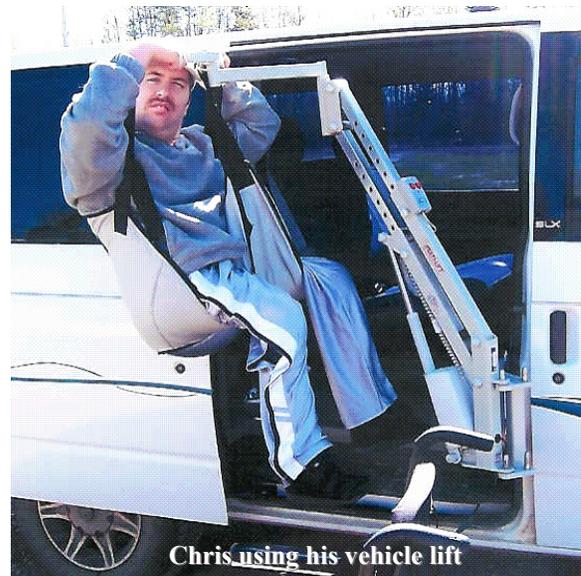
The Children's Ability Fund realized how important and necessary it was for our son to have this lift. If it wasn't for all the generous people that donated to your organization, we would still not have the much needed patient lift for our van.

When I hurt my back lifting Chris I was confined to the house even more than usual. I had to venture out on the week-ends when my husband Derwin was home, or wait until he got home from work so that he could lift Chris in and out. Chris is dead weight and the bones in his lower half are very fragile could easily be broken during a transfer.

The vehicle lift not only prevents Chris from getting injured, it also presents the rest of the family from getting injured.

Thank you again—this was a wonderful gift.

*Sincerely,
Elaine (Chris's Mom)*



Chris using his vehicle lift