
2021 Annual General Meeting

Date: June 16, 2021 **Time:** 5:00 pm

Location: 4932 Mt. Lehman Rd, Abbotsford, BC V4X 1Y3



The Center for Epilepsy and Seizure Education in BC

#112 - 32868 Ventura Ave
Abbotsford, BC V2S 6J3
Email: info@esebc.ca

Phone: 604.853.7399
Toll Free: 1.866.EPILEPSY
www.esebc.ca

A Seizure Free Tomorrow

“We would like to acknowledge the traditional ancestral unceded shared territory of the Sumas First Nation and Matsqui First Nation. These two First Nations are part of the Stó:lō Nation. The Stó:lō people have lived in the Fraser Valley for 10,000 years. It is for this reason that we acknowledge the traditional territory in which we reside.”

The Center for Epilepsy and Seizure Education in BC

A SEIZURE FREE TOMORROW

Our Mission Statement:

We are dedicated to creating and providing support, information and education to families and individuals who live with epilepsy, their support staff, educational personnel, friends, co-workers, health care providers and anyone else affected by epilepsy.

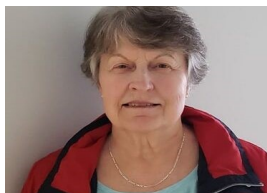
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President - **George (Ted) Downey**



Chairman - **Dr. Dayan Muthayan**



Treasurer - **Florence (Flo) Dohms**



Secretary - **Judith (Judy) Ross**



Director – **Malvinder (Fred) Grewal**

2021 Annual General Meeting



1. **Call to Order**
2. **Attendance**
3. **Introduction**
4. **Adoption of Agenda**
5. **2020 AGM Minutes**
6. **President Report**
7. **Executive Director Report**
8. **Client Support Report**
9. **Education & Awareness Report**
10. **Election of Directors**
11. **Appointment of Accountant 2021**
12. **Appointment of Legal Services 2021**
13. **Old Business**
14. **New Business: Motion to increase membership fees from \$2.00 to \$5.00**
15. **2020 Unaudited Financials**

The Center for Epilepsy and Seizure Education in BC

2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

July 22, 2020

Location: 4932 Mt. Lehman Road, Abbotsford BC, V4X 1Y3

Call to order: 5:10 pm.

Attendance:

Board: George (Ted) Downey, Dr. Dayan Muthayan, Judith (Judy) Ross, Florence (Flo) Dohms, Supriya (Geetha) Bhargavan

Members: Don Ross, Ryan Phelps, Priya Moodley, Margie Moodley, Ranjit Grewal, Manpreet Grewal, Janice Downey, Odayoth Bhargavan, Malvinder (Fred) Grewal, Gary Dohms

Staff: Laura Cherrille, Catherine Ohlsson, Rupinder Bhatti

Introductions: Dayan Muthayan mentions the weather. Dayan Muthayan introduced Board members and staff and welcomed members. Thanks everyone for coming.

Adoption of Agenda: Ted Downey moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Flo Dohms. Motion carried.

Approval of 2019 AGM minutes: Don Ross moved to adopt the previous AGM minutes. Seconded by Ted Downey. Motion carried.

President's report: Ted Downey welcomed all members and recognized the center for its efforts over the past year. He thanked BC Gaming for their support. New staff were also welcomed. Janice Downey moved to adopt the President's report. Seconded by Priya Moodley. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Flo Dohms recognized BC Gaming for their support and spoke about the need to reach out to the community for funding and support. Priya Moodley moved to adopt the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Judy Ross. Motion carried.

Rupinder Bhatti: Client Services Coordinator discussed the highlights of the Center's activities for the 2019 Purple day, client support, Mandala Rock Painting, Ketogenic Diet Presentation, and other presentations.

Election of Directors: Dayan nominated Fred Grewal and asked if there are any other nominations from the floor. Gary Dohms moved accept the current slate, Seconded by Manpreet Grewal. Motion carried.

Board of Directors

George (Ted) Downey, President
Dr. Dayan Muthayan, Chair
Florence (Flo) Dohms, Treasurer
Supriya (Geetha) Bhargavan, Secretary
Judith (Judy) Ross
Malvinder (Fred) Grewal

Financial statements: Audited Financial statements were presented by Ted with thanks to Michael Forcier, CGA, for his work. Laura Cherrille reported that the unused 2019 gaming funds mentioned in the financial statements were approved by Community Gaming Grants Division to be used in 2020. Manpreet Grewal moved to adopt the financial statements as prepared by Michael Forcier. Seconded by Gary Dohms. Motion carried

Appointment of Accountant for 2020: Ted Downey moved to accept Michael Forcier, CGA, Inc. as our accountant for 2020. Seconded by Flo Dohms. Motion carried.

Old business: No old business.

New business: Special Members Resolution for Bylaw changes: Ryan Phelps moved to adopt the Special Members Resolution for the Bylaws, Seconded by Dr. Odayoth Kada Bhargavan. Carried.

Appointment of legal services for 2020: Janice Downey moved to accept Kuhn LLP for our 2020 legal services. Seconded by Fred Grewal. Motion carried.

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm. Motion Rangit Bhatti moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Ryan Phelps. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Thanks to all our members, clients, and their families for your continued trust and support through this past year.

As our COVID-19 pandemic surpasses a year, the pressure of those living with epilepsy grows. Stepping over this obstacle we have maintained and surpassed many predictions in continued use of today's technologies.

Our staff responsible for these successes are Executive Director Laura Cherrille, Client Support Coordinator Rupinder Bhatti, Education & Awareness Coordinator Vineetha (Vinee) Nakka, and our front office Bookkeeper/Administrative Coordinator Kayleen O'Brien. They have done an outstanding job making great strides in growing the aspects of our society during such trying times. I commend all of you for your dedication and talents.

Also I would like to express my appreciation to our board members for their time and dedication as well, our Chair Dayan Muthayan, Secretary Judy Ross, Treasurer Flo Dohms and Director Fred Grewal.

In closing, recognizing the financial support from B.C Gaming and the many donors, who without all of you, our society would not operate.

Thank you for attending, as continued support is important to us and all our clients.

Sincerely,

George E (Ted) Downey

President



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A Message from Our Executive Director Laura Cherrille,

Welcome everyone, and it is with great pride that we present our 2020 annual report, and it is hard to believe that it has been a year since our last AGM. I want to take this time and thank the staff (Rupinder, Vinnie and Kayleen), all our members, board of directors and volunteers for your passion, hard work and support for the center.

It was such an honour to take on the new position of Executive Director for the center in January of 2020. After stepping out of retirement, I was excited, and admittedly, nervous to start this new chapter in my life. With vacant positions to fill and administrative tasks, fundraising, and programming to get sorted out and implemented, I was eager to take on this challenge.

Little did we know what was about to unfold. Less than three months later, Covid 19 entered our lives, and what a journey it has been. It was early March, and we were putting our finishing touches on our annual Purple Day event scheduled for March 26 at Mill Lake. A week later and the province announced that all non- essential businesses should close. We had no choice but to cancel our event and close the office.

When Covid 19 numbers were on the decline, we came back to work on June 1st. The first task at hand was to figure out how we were going to offer our much-needed programming and client support. Flexibility was going to be key to keep our services available to those affected by epilepsy and seizures. All presentations were now online, and client support was moved to email, zoom, phone, and skype.

Since the ability to host fundraising events was not an option, we had to find other creative ways to raise funds. Many grants were written, and we were thrilled to receive funding from Community Gaming, Pacific Blue Cross Foundation, Legion Foundation BC/Yukon Command, and the Federal Emergency Covid 19 funding.

With this funding, we were excited to be able to offer our Mandala Art Expression series. We also began our presentation series called Holistic Approaches for Epilepsy and Seizures. All our educational presentations to service clubs, schools, and other organizations and businesses were held via zoom. With this online format, we were able to provide presentations to many remote areas of the province that previously we did not provide services to.

*In October, we set up a series of 50/50 virtual raffle draws and we were able to raise almost **\$2500.00!** Thanks to all that assisted us in selling and purchasing these tickets. Your generosity was greatly appreciated!*

In summary, the pandemic challenges that were presented taught us that being creative, flexible, and passionate about what we do and the people we serve, enabled us to keep our programs running efficiently. It also taught us to appreciate each other and to value the ability to work together as a team during these challenging times.

Warmly, Laura



Executive Director - Laura Cherrille

CLIENT SUPPORT



Looking back at the past year, I am proud to see how our team has supported one another as we transitioned to new ways of working. The changes that ESEBC went through have pushed me to reflect on the way things were done. Beginning the year, the sheer amount of work that needed to be accomplished to work towards our vision was overwhelming. The change in leadership has inspired me to adopt a new perspective, gain confidence in my role and look for new innovative ways to support our clients. The individuals who connect with us range from the overwhelmed, newly diagnosed, to the person who has had epilepsy for a longer time but has lacked the much-needed support services.

One on One Support

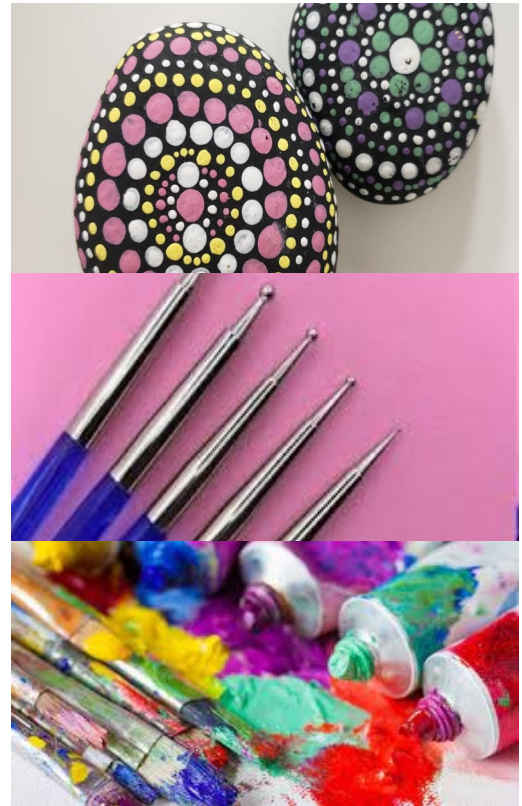
One-on-one support is offered in person, phone, e-mail, and Skype. Due to Covid-19, all appointments were held virtually and over the phone. Over the last year, we provided individual and family support, advocacy, supported clients who faced workplace harassment, discrimination, and students having difficulties within the school setting. We made referrals to other community agencies that addressed specific needs for individuals like dental, medical, and housing support. We also helped clients prepare for doctor's visits. In addition, we assisted our clients with application forms and searching out benefits tailored to their individuals needs.

Healing Hearts: The World of Epilepsy and Seizure through a Lens of Therapeutic Care Presentation

On December 9, 2020, The Center for Epilepsy & Seizure Education hosted Dr. Jassal, who led a presentation educating individuals about various holistic approaches on how to manage their epilepsy & mental health. This presentation was an interactive session that focused on 5 main aspects of holistic health (physical, emotional, social, spiritual & mental). People who suffer from epilepsy require emotional and social support in addition to medical therapy. A holistic approach means to provide support that looks at the whole person, not just their mental health needs. Holistic measures help the mind in becoming a healing tool. While there are medications that work to reduce the number of seizures a person experiences, there are also some highly effective natural support options that can work well along with these medications.

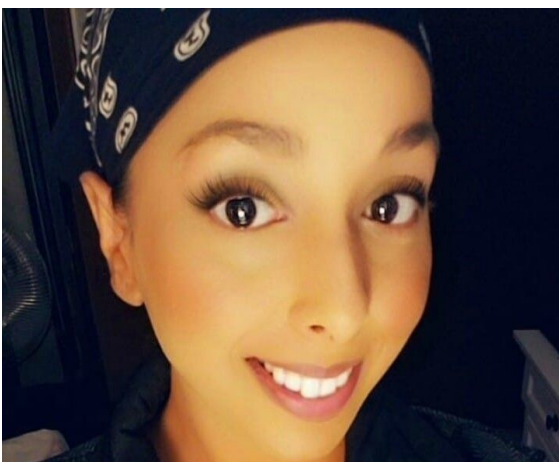


CLIENT SUPPORT



Mandala Art Series

In 2020, we began our Mandala Art Series. Due to Covid-19, how we presented this group support for our clients and loved ones was different. These sessions were held virtually by livestreaming on Facebook. We put together art packages for new clients which include all the supplies needed to participate in our online sessions. With a growing interest in ways to cope with mental health and anxiety we created the mandala art series to show that art expression can be used as a complement to traditional mental health treatment for people with epilepsy. This series combines epilepsy education and art (pointillism) to provide a creative outlet for people with and effected by epilepsy through interactive presentations on our Facebook page. Complex details of the mandala enable the brain to balance the color scheme and frequently practicing both the analytical and creative side of the brain can help enhance motor skills, coordination skills, as well as regulate vision. Individuals with epilepsy face many challenges including coping with the unpredictability of seizures, possible side effects of medications, perception or fear of stigma associated with their medical condition, and social barriers. Art groups provide an opportunity for individuals living with epilepsy to creatively explore some of their experiences — including their resources and strengths — in a safe and supportive environment.



**Client Support Coordinator -
Rupinder Bhatti**

Warmly,
Rupinder

EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Amidst the challenging year that 2020 was, it has been a privilege to take on the position of Education Program Coordinator. I was excited to begin a journey of new learning and expanding my horizons and that is exactly what this position has offered. Although the position has been a different experience from my previous positions, it has been rewarding beyond expectations. The beginning of my role required of period a adjustment to familiarize myself with the available educational materials on epilepsy, as well as finding additional materials to stay current with the expanding research in the field. Being provided with ample time to learn the content and prepare the presentations has brought me to my first presentation on September 9th, 2020.



**Education and Awareness Coordinator -
Vineetha Nakka**

With the chaos that many organizations felt with getting reorganized in 2020, it was initially challenging to find groups to schedule presentations. After contacting about over 160 rotary clubs throughout BC, our presentations were welcomed by 10 rotary clubs for 2020 and many more had scheduled for 2021. We were also invited to present to an EA class at Surrey College to equip the students with information that would prove helpful in their future careers.



The goal of the education program has been to educate the public on epilepsy and seizures to minimize the stigma and misinformation, along with promoting better understanding. This goal has evidently been achieved in each of the presentations, as they were well received with an average rating of 9.1/10, with most comments on improvements being attributed to technical difficulties. Many found the content to be informative and insightful and the delivery to be effective. There were several testimonials that were shared by the attendees, about their own epilepsy or someone they know, emphasizing the importance of providing this education.

Each presentation and feedback has assisted in altering and improving our content to be better tailored to the groups it was being presented to. Although the progress made through 2020 appears small, the momentum was set to continue the great strides we have been making through 2021.

Warmly,

Vineetha (Vinee) Nakka

PROGRAM & VOLUNTEER STATISTICS

Program	Statistics
Client Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 958 hours in client support hours for 92 clients located in 23 communities within BC. (This included in person, telephone, and email support). • Mandala Rock Painting Art Livestream <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 562 online viewers, 42 of which ordered paint kits. • The World of Epilepsy through a Lens of Therapeutic Care Presentation by Dr. Jassal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 62 online viewers.
Education & Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 25 presentations with 1120 participants provincially in 8 communities. • Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 30 Resource packages sent out to various towns in Northern BC, the Okanagan, Vancouver Island and in the greater Vancouver area.
Social Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facebook—1112 Followers • Instagram—510 Followers • LinkedIn—332 Followers • Twitter—2255 Followers • YouTube—604 Subscribers
Volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 6 volunteers providing a total of 273.25 hours In kind value of \$5465.00 • Education & Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 1 volunteer providing a total of 3 hours In kind value of \$60.00 • Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 3 volunteers providing a total of 17 hours In kind value of \$340.00 • IT Tech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 1 volunteer providing a total of 13 hours of discounted rate In kind value of \$260.00 • Repairs and Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 1 volunteer providing a total of 10 hours In kind value of \$200.00 • Total Volunteers: 12 positions providing 316.25 hours with an in-kind value of \$6325.00

JAYMIE-LYNN ROBERTSON MEMORIAL FUND

A letter from her parents:

When our ray of sunshine, Jaymie-Lynn was diagnosed with epilepsy it sure was a shock for both her and our family. The diagnosis in September 2009 came about after a tonic clonic seizure while she was living in Brooks, Alberta. We had no idea at that time the journey we were all about to begin.

Jaymie-Lynn our most amazing child who loved swimming, life guarding, dancing, music, socializing, and movies. An avid animal lover who pursued this love by studying the veterinary assistant program. Jaymie-Lynn our Miss Hollywood because she loved to have her photo taken.

Jaymie-Lynn never let epilepsy slow her down or stop her from living life on her terms. Sure, there were challenges from loss of freedom, discrimination at work and the ongoing doctor's appointments, but there was still swimming, snowboarding and a life to be lived.



We had not heard of Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) prior to Jaymie-Lynn's death, but Jaymie-Lynn passed away because of SUDEP on October 5, 2011 at the age of 23. This has been devastating for her family, friends and extended community networks.

Jaymie-Lynn wanted to be an advocate for people living with epilepsy and her death has left a legacy of support, awareness and advocacy. Jaymie-Lynn started this legacy with 4 simple words..."**raise \$ for epilepsy**" and as her family and friends we intend to honor her words.

Thank you to Chad Robertson and Belinda McIsaac for their continued support of our programs in loving memory of their daughter, **Jaymie-Lynn Robertson**. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 we were unable to send kids to Zajac Ranch this year but we were able to provide prizes to kids in a colouring contest and provide the presentation Healing Hearts: The World of Epilepsy through a Lens of Therapeutic Care.



Special thanks to The Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company for their continued philanthropy to help us support, raise awareness for and educate families affected by epilepsy in honor of Jaymie-Lynn.

FUNDRAISING



In 2020 we managed to sell **\$2210.00** in **50/50** tickets. With **\$500.00** going to our Draw 1 winner **Shea Sundaresan** and **\$500.00** to our Draw 2 winner **Olli Sovio**. With **\$1210.00** going to **The Center**.

Top 50/50 Sellers of 2020

Laura	550
Vinee	350
Kayleen	290
Ted	280
Rupinder	250
Judy	200
Flo	90
Fred	90
Dayan	80
Office	30
	<hr/>
	2210

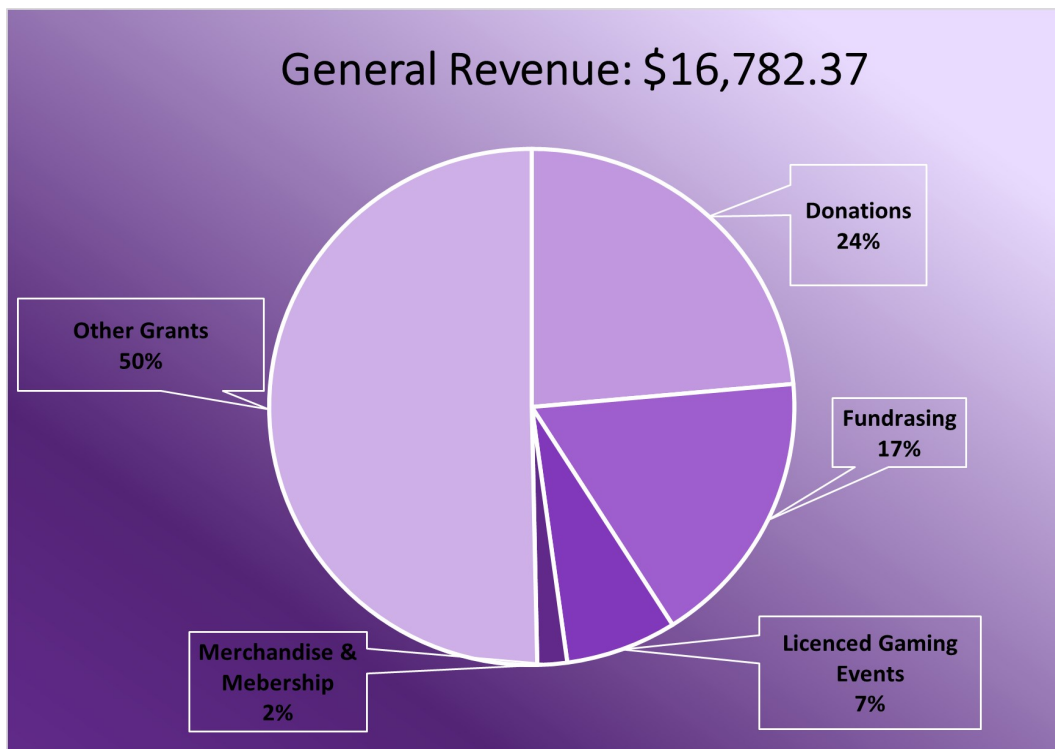


Draw 2 Winner Olli Sovio



We had one gofundme page up by a third party who raised **\$3080.00**

DONORS, GRANTS & IN KIND—With Thanks



Gaming Grant—\$136,400.00

“We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia.”

Other Grants \$8,900.00



Legion Foundation
BC/Yukon Command

Gifts in Kind—Value \$1,970.00

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| BEST BUY | LAURA CHERRILLE |
| CANADIAN TIRE—ABBOTSFORD | MAAN FARMS |
| CLAYBURN VILLAGE STORE & TEASHOP | PURDYS CHOCOLATE |
| COSTCO | RODAN + FIELDS |
| DOLLARAMA | SALON NOIR |
| ELECTRONIC RECYCLING ASSOTIATION | WILD CAT GRILL |

Proposed Slate of Directors

George (Ted) Downey

Malvinder (Fred) Grewal

Judith (Judy) Ross

Florence (Flo) Dohms

Elyssa Lockhart

Jag Sandhu



Proposed Executive

President & Chair - **George (Ted) Downey**

Treasurer - **Malvinder (Fred) Grewal**

Secretary - **Judith (Judy) Ross**

