



The ALS Society of New Brunswick is a non-profit organization consisting of dedicated volunteers across the province.

Our goal is to have a presence in every geographic area in New Brunswick so that we can fully support people living with ALS.

Our Mission is to develop the best quality of life available to each and every ALS client in New Brunswick by exceeding their expectations and contributing directly to their hope for a cure.

We will achieve this by providing timely, accurate, and professional service at every contact and by making annual donations to support research.

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ALSNB QUARTERLY

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NATIONAL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT RETREAT

As many of you know, the ALS Society of Canada has developed a support and education resource program for youth affected by ALS called als411. There are both hard copy and on-line booklets available, as well as the website for children and teens/young adults affected by ALS in their family (in particular a parent with ALS).

Part of the mission of als411 is also to facilitate peer networking/support across the country in addition to providing education and support resources. To that end, ALS Canada is planning a Youth/Young Adult Engagement Retreat in the Greater Toronto Area, September 24-26 (Fri-Sun) that will bring 12-15 young people (ages 16-24) together from various regions across the country.

There aim is to work with these key informants over the course of a weekend retreat to better understand perceived critical issues of a support and education nature among young people affected by ALS. Better understanding will enable ALS Canada to continue to develop new and refine existing als411 resources to best address those needs.

Participants will also be engaged in brainstorming ways in which the issues could be addressed and how they and the collective ALS Society could work together to make it happen. ALS Canada hopes that through face-to-face networking, the beginnings of a national youth-directed peer support network will emerge. The weekend will include fun team building activities and social events including a bonfire and BBQ.

This project is of great interest to the ALS Society of New Brunswick. Like ALS Canada, we have come into contact a number of youth with have said that they wished they had had somebody to talk to who knew what they were going through. We are excited that two representatives from New Brunswick, both with parents living with ALS will be taking part in this retreat.

We hope that you will check an upcoming issue in which both Josh and Allyson will write about their experiences at the retreat.

THIS ISSUE:

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What is ALS?

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, or ALS, is a devastating neuromuscular disease.

ALS is sometimes called Lou Gehrig's disease after the legendary baseball star who lost his battle with ALS at the age of 38.

There are approximately 2,500 - 3,000 Canadians over the age of 18 living with ALS. Death typically occurs from respiratory failure within two to five years of diagnosis.

There is no known cause, no known prevention and to date, no known cure.

The ALS Society of New Brunswick supports those living with the disease and their families in the province, with equipment funding, client services, and the Support for Champions program.

VISIT ALSNB.CA

Have you checked out ALSNB lately? Have you joined the ALS Society of NB on Facebook?

If you haven't yet - what's stopping you? Find out what is going on in the province and what's new from National.

At the facebook site, please check out the discussion area. Do you have something ALS related you want to talk about - want to know where to find a particular type of equipment or advice from your peers - start a discussion.

ALSNB is here for you online all the time so stop by and visit us today.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ALSNB is committed to supporting and nurturing volunteerism by providing guidance, resources and recognition to all volunteers in a mutually beneficial relationship.

Each year volunteers across the province provide invaluable support to persons with ALS and their families and raise funds through special events within their community to support programs and services.

Some of the volunteer opportunities currently available include:

Administrative Volunteer
Client Service Volunteer
Coordinator of Client Service Volunteers
Marketing Assistant
Board Treasurer

Whether it is important to you to solve a community problem, advance a worthy cause or to develop as a person, volunteering offers many benefits in appreciation for the gift of your time and expertise.

For more information, contact carol@alsnb.ca.

THIRD PARTY EVENTS

A third party event is any sort of fundraising campaign or event that is planned and put on by another group outside of the ALS Society of NB, and where a portion of the proceeds collected are donated to ALSNB.

When you plan a third party event, you can decide where you want the funds to go within ALSNB. You may wish to direct it to a particular program such as the Benevolent Fund, or to client services, or research, or any combination. For instance, 40% of Walk revenue supports research, while 60% are directed to provincial client service work.

Third party events can be simple like a draw for a gift basket, a garage sale or car wash. Or something a little larger like a fundraising dinner, pub crawl, or a walking or paddling event. Whether you raise \$5 or \$5,000 your support is appreciated.

Many of our dedicated volunteers hold third party events throughout the year in support of the Walk for ALS. If you are holding a third party event, or are thinking about one, give me a call and tell me all about it.

It is great to say we appreciate your support, but we also want to support you with media relations, support materials, promotion through our website, newsletter or social media like Facebook or Twitter.

Check out our Third Party Event Guidelines and Tips online at www.alsnb.ca or call Carol at 1-866-722-7700.