

Active Abilities Canada
Accessibilité active Canada

2025-2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

September 9, 2026



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activeabilities.ca

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Active Abilities Canada
Accessibilité active Canada

ANNUAL REPORT



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1.0 AGENDA

Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, September 9, 2026
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET

Join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86281561403>

1. Welcome and call to order (Chair)
2. Roll call and declaration of quorum (Chair and ED)
3. Declaration of conflict of interest (Chair)
4. Approval of agenda (Chair)
Motion: *To approve the agenda for the 2025-26 AGM*
Attachment: AGM package
5. Business arising from and approval of the minutes: Sept. 16, 2025 (Chair)
Motion: *To accept the minutes from the 2024-25 AGM*
Attachment: AGM package
6. Board Reports
 - a) Organizational report (Chair, Executive Director)
 - b) Financial Report
 - i. Treasurer's Report
 - ii. Report of Auditors
 - iii. Appointment of Auditors
 - c) Municipal Guide Project Report (Program Manager)
Motion: *To approve the audited financial statements for 2025-26*
Attachment: AGM package
Motion: *To appoint the Auditor for 2026-27*
Attachment: AGM package
7. Business
 - a) Any business?**Motion:**

8. Report of the Nominating Committee (Chris Bourne)

Re-election and election of Board members. Slate of nominees:

- a) James Kwinecki (re-election)
- b) Cecille Brown-Villiers

Motions: *(i) To re-elect James Kwinecki to the Active Abilities Canada board of directors for the term 2025 to 2028; (ii) To elect Cecille Brown-Villiers to the Active Abilities Canada board of Directors*

Attachment(s): AGM package

9. New/Other Business

10. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting

2.0 MINUTES FROM 2024-2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



2024-2025 Annual General Meeting Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Participants

Organizations: Active Aging Canada, Alberta Recreation and Parks Association, Canadian Disability Participation Project 2.0/UBCO, Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute, One Ability, Queen's University, Recreation New Brunswick, Recreation Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, Rocky Mountain Adapted, Steadward Centre, AIMPA Lab York University, Special Olympics Canada, NWTRPA, University of the Fraser Valley, RAD Society, Recreation Newfoundland and Labrador, Adaptive Paddling Solutions

ALACD Board Members: Mike Arthur, Doug Nutting, Rick Turnbull, Kelsey Fahie, James Kwinecki, Karen Natho. **ALCD Staff Members:** Moji Akande, Taryn Barry, Christa Costas-Bradstreet, Mariane Parent

Observers: Chris Bourne, Jason Dunkerley

1. Welcome, Land acknowledgement and call to order

Mike Arthur welcomed participants to the meeting, shared a land acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Christa Costas-Bradstreet, Executive Director, conducted the roll call, confirming that Quorum was established (18 organizations, six organizations representing provinces/territories), and voting privileges for organizations only.

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Mike Arthur asked that members declare any conflict of interest. None were declared.

4. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair, Mike Arthur, called for a motion to approve the agenda.
Motion to approve the agenda: Andrea Carey, Inclusion Incorporated
Second: Liza Stathokostas, Active Abilities Canada
Passed unanimously.

5. Business arising from and approval of the 2023-2024 AGM Minutes

Mike Arthur called for a motion to approve the circulated 2023-2024 minutes

Motion to approve the minutes: Chris Cameron, CFLRI

Second: Jennifer Leo, Steadward Centre

Passed unanimously

6. Board and Committee Reports

a. Chair's Report.

Mike Arthur provided an overview of the ALACD's strategic priorities and activities of the past year as per the report provided in the AGM package. Mike thanked ALACD's financial supporters: ESDC, SPARC and Sport Canada. Mike thanked members of the Board of Directors and staff for their dedication to ALACD and its mission.

b. Treasurer's Report

Rick Turnbull presented the financial report and the auditor's report, which indicated that the financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, the final position of the organization as of March 31, 2024.

Motion to approve the financial statement for 2023-24: Rick Turnbull

Second: Kathleen Martin Ginis, UBCO/CDPP 2.0

Passed unanimously

Motion to appoint William J. Murrin as Auditor for 2025-26 – Rick Turnbull

Second: Chris Cameron, CFLRI

Passed unanimously

c. Municipal Guide Project

Taryn Barry provided an update on the progress of ALACD's Municipal Guide project. Its purpose is to provide guidelines, based on best practices, for municipalities to offer inclusive recreation services. The project is led by ALACD, with its partner, Queen's University/CDPP 2.0. It is guided by a steering committee and involves the participation of a consensus panel. Through a rapid scan of existing resources, eight areas of promising and best practices were identified. The final five areas of practice will be completed by this fall with a launch date of early December.

d. What's Next

C. Costas-Bradstreet provided a brief overview of future activities for ALACD which focus on the goals and objectives of the newly created Strategic Plan.

7. Business

a) By-law change: Name of organization

Karen Natho explained the rationale for the proposed name change to Active Abilities Canada / *Accessibilité active Canada*. The members discussed the rationale for the name in French. Mariane Parent (RAP) explained that the name is not a direct translation, which is common in the French language, but rather an adaptation. The French name was finalized through consultations within Quebec.

Motion: To approve the change in name from the Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability/Alliance de vie Active pour les Canadiens ayant un handicap to Active Abilities Canada / *Accessibilité Active Canada*: Chris Gallant, Recreation New Brunswick

Second: Kerri Jack, Recreation Nova Scotia

Motion passed unanimously

b) By-law change: Membership

Karen Natho explained the rationale for re-structuring the membership of ALACD.

Motion: That the Board of Directors become the full membership of (now) Active Abilities Canada: Christine Cameron, CLFRI

Second: Kathleen Martin Ginis

Motion passed unanimously

8. Report of the Nominations Committee

Chris Bourne, Chair of the Nominations committee, presented the slate of nominees for the ALACD Coordinating Committee. Doug Nutting and Rick Turnbull will stand for re-election. Three new nominees are Shaan Lail, Alexandra Gilbert and Marina Pinto Miller. Chris noted that because no other nominees were put forward, the three candidates were acclaimed to the Board of Directors. Chris read a short bio for each of the nominees. Mike welcomed the new members who will serve a three-year term.

Motion to elect Shaan Lail, Alexandra Gilbert and Marina Pinto Miller: Jennifer Leo, Steadward Centre

Second: Tim Van Dam, NWT Recreation and Parks Association

Motion passed unanimously

9. Other Business

There was no new/other business

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m. EST

Motion to adjourn - Chris Cameron, CFLRI

3.0 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year's message features the reflections of both the Chair and Executive Director of Active Abilities Canada. The board and staff team are a very close-knit group, working together to realize the goals and objectives of the organization. This past year is no different. In fact, the collective efforts of the entire team has resulted in a number of significant achievements.

On page 16 of this report, you will find a full list of our achievements over the past year (possibly mixed with a few from two years ago as well)! Some of the highlights for us include:

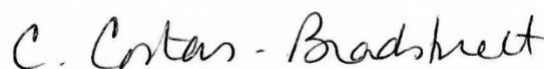
- Significant progress made on the implementation of our 2025 – 2030 strategic plan which reflects our ESDC-funded deliverables (with still a year to go!);
- Continued revitalization of our [website](#) including robust accessibility features and a new Resource Hub. The Hub includes an updated Inclusion Training resource;
- Delivery of our projects and information in both official languages and enhanced overall capacity to serve Québec and other Francophone communities in Canada through our close association with [Réseau Accès Participation](#);
- Launched the full Municipal Guide for Disability Inclusion in Recreation and Physical Activity in [English](#) and [French](#) and began the communications and engagement phase of the project, which will continue in 2026-27 and beyond;
- Increased our government relations efforts through correspondence and face-to-face meetings;
- Prepared a written submission for the Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the Upcoming Federal Budget;
- Received funding support from Economic and Social Development Canada (ESDC), Sport Canada, Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), the federal/provincial Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (SPARC) and Mitacs

We recognize that what has been accomplished this year is a direct reflection of an amazing team of people and a physical activity/recreation/sport sector keenly interested in ensuring all members of our communities have opportunities to be active.

Sincerely,



Mike Arthur
ALACD Chair



Christa Costas-Bradstreet
Executive Director

4.0 ABOUT ACTIVE ABILITIES CANADA

Active Abilities Canada (AAC) was created in 1989 (and was known as the Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability) following the Jasper Talks, a landmark think tank of organizations and individuals dedicated to the well-being of those with a disability through physical activity, sport, and recreation. At its inception, the (then) ALACD was, and remains, committed to supporting communities and organizations to be inclusive and welcoming to individuals with disabilities to be more active through sport, physical activity, and recreation (SPAR) for the purposes of health, enjoyment, and community inclusion.

The following information represents AAC's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles

Vision

All people with disabilities in Canada can be physically active and experience well-being.

Mission

Active Abilities Canada supports communities and organizations to facilitate the participation of people with disabilities in physical activity, recreation, and community sport. We will have an impact by:

- facilitating connection between organizations and communities that play a role in supporting physical activity opportunities for people with disabilities.
- ensuring research and knowledge translates into action that supports physical activity opportunities for people with disabilities.
- advocating for changes to reduce barriers to physical activity opportunities for people with disabilities.

Fundamental Principles

Seven fundamental principles will serve and guide Active Abilities Canada

1. The Language and Definition of Disability
2. A Rights-based Approach
3. The Individual's Choice
4. Dignity and Respect
5. Informed Decision-making
6. Versatility
7. Integration and Alignment

5.0 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Coordinating Committee
Active Living Alliance for Canadians with A Disability
100-85 Plymouth St., Ottawa ON, K1S 3E2

I have audited the accompanying Balance Sheet of The Active Living Alliance for Canadians with A Disability as of March 31, 2026, the Statement of Equity and the Statement of Income and Expenses for the year then ended, with comparative figures for the previous year. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Coordinating Committee. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with the General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and auditing standards in Canada. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

The audit included an examination and verification of approximately 97% of the revenues received and deposited, and in excess of 60% of the expense transactions were examined and supported by signed contracts by both parties.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as of March 31, 2026, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in Canada.



William J. Murrin CMA, CPA
6589 Des Chouettes Lane
Ottawa, Ontario, K1C 6N5

June 29, 2026
Date

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

BOOKS AND RECORDS

Observation - The books and records were well kept with a clear audit trail.

AUDIT OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are my personal and professional observations and recommendations based on best practices and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

I have reviewed the minutes of the committee meetings as provided by the Executive Director.

OBSERVATION

All the recommendations made in my 2024/25 have been addressed and implemented. There were no major issues/concerns with the minutes for 2025/26 and questions pertaining to the 2025/26 minutes were answered to my satisfaction.

The Coordinating Committee and in particular the Executive Director, have to be commended on addressing past issues regarding the actions taken.

Balance Sheet
Active Abilities Canada
As at March 31, 2026

	Current Fiscal Year 2025/2026	Previous Year End 2024/2025
Assets		
Cash - Scotiabank Chequing Account	\$ 8,209	\$ 4,197
Cash - Scotiabank - Savings account	31,873	73,072
BNS Cashable GIC	121,772	87,045
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Receivable	11,250	14,799
HST Rebate Receivable	11,204	10,291
Total Accounts Receivable	22,454	25,090
Prepays	2,780	2,288
Total Assets	187,088	191,692
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	29,881	7,794
Deferred Revenue	33,100	30,857
Total Liabilities	62,981	38,651
Equity		
Surplus - Previous Year		
Surplus - Previous : EDSC Ops	108,376	76,753
Surplus - Previous : SPARC Phase I & II Municipal Guide	2,180	-
Surplus - Previous Year: Other	42,485	20,035
Surplus - Previous Year Total	153,041	96,788
Current Income (Loss)	(28,934)	56,253
Total Equity	124,107	153,041
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 187,088	\$ 191,692

Statement of Income and Expenses
Active Abilities Canada
For the Month Ended March 31, 2026

	Current Fiscal Year 2025/2026	Previous Year End 2024/2025
REVENUE		
Grants - ESDC	\$ 199,090	\$ 199,090
Grants - SPARC	29,027	46,567
Grants - CIHR	14,330	-
Grants - Official Languages	5,000	-
Grants - Sport Canada	43,000	40,680
Fundraising/Donations	1,651	442
Other Revenue	3,111	13,584
Interest Revenue	5,258	8,673
Total Revenue	300,467	309,036
EXPENSES		
Staff Fees	119,559	96,905
Consulting Fees	72,202	66,259
WSIB Expense	102	100
Resource Development	8,794	-
Legal	200	-
Media: Branding Design	3,397	-
Writing	1,201	1,409
Internet, Website Development	43,062	25,634
Translation	12,135	8,152
Bank Charges & Interest	359	182
Training/Professional Development	225	-
Disability Supports	368	-
Gifts	215	-
Insurance	5,126	3,326
IT Hardware & Software	2,960	1,566
Membership	500	
Office Supplies	2,290	87
Cell Phones	1,100	708
Conference Fees	2,648	465
Jane Arkell Memorial Award	5,000	-
Audit Fees	1,500	1,500
Travel	46,458	46,490
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 329,401	\$ 252,783
NET INCOME / (LOSS)	(28,934)	56,253

6.0 ALACD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: REPORTS

The following reports are presented based on ALACD's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan which is comprised of three strategic priorities (Influence, Capacity Building, Governance).

Organizational Goals

To support physical activity opportunities for people with disabilities, Active Abilities Canada will strive to achieve these goals:

1. Community, organizational, and government leaders build stronger awareness of and engagement with each other through diverse, ongoing connections.
2. Community, organizational, and government leaders actively apply shared, relevant knowledge to their work and decision-making.
3. Communities, organizations, and governments adopt inclusive policies and practices that guarantee meaningful participation and choice in physical activity, recreation, and community sport activities for people with disabilities.

Organizational Objectives

1. Establish and nurture a community of practice that fosters relationship-building, networking, and meaningful knowledge exchange to advance the goals of Active Abilities Canada.
2. Encourage disability advocacy groups to promote physical activity, recreation, and community sport to and within their networks and communities.
3. Support health professionals to promote physical activity, recreation, and community sport to their patients, clients, and professional circles.
4. Facilitate the coordination of a national surveillance system, including indicators to monitor the participation of persons with disabilities in physical activity, recreation, and community sport activities.
5. Execute a five-year communications and engagement strategy to inform and engage municipal recreation directors and elected officials about the content and practical application of the Municipal Guide for Disability Inclusion in Recreation and Physical Activity (Municipal Guide).
6. Facilitate the adoption of inclusive policies and practices by the physical activity, recreation, and community sport delivery system (including government and the voluntary sector)
7. Develop and implement governance measures for the optimal performance of the organization. These include adequate resources; accessible, regular and varied communications; and the establishment of critical relationships with partners, stakeholders, governments, practitioners, and experts who support people in Canada living with a disability. Active Abilities Canada will serve English-speaking and French-speaking communities across Canada.
8. Develop a robust evaluation strategy to support the strategic plan.

Our Accomplishments

- Completed name change and re-brand of the organization;
- Developed accompanying plans to support the Strategic Plan: Operations, Communications, Revenue Generation, Government Relations, Partnerships;
- Developed internal and external evaluation strategies;
- Updated the organization's by-laws;
- Enhanced staff capacity (ED, Project Manager, Communications and Operations Manager, Communications Coordinator; less than 2.0 FTE);
- Established four standing committees: Executive, Finance and Risk Management, Government Relations, Nominations;
- Produced a Succession Plan, including emergency preparedness plan;
- Established Jane Arsell Memorial Recognitions (Brock University Award fund and CDPD Ambassador program);
- Continued to modernize website including the addition of a Resource Hub and accessibility features;
- Created an interactive community site to support the Community of Practice (to be launched in 2026-27);
- Created a Learning Management System (to be launched in 2026-27);
- Launched the full Municipal Guide for Disability Inclusion in Recreation and Physical Activity in [English](#) and [French](#);
- Secured funding: ESDC, Sport Canada, SPARC, Heritage Canada, Canadian Training Network for Parks and Recreation;
- Provided representations on committees: Canadian Parks and Recreation Association, ParticipACTION (EDI, Sector collaboration), CDPD 2.0;
- Established long-term MOU with the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute;
- Provided post-secondary student experiences in partnership with the University of Toronto and University of Waterloo;
- Explored (and continue to develop) opportunities with a number of NGO organizations in the SPAR and disability sectors;
- Participated in a number of government relations/advocacy activities including: participation in CPRA's Day on the Hill (meetings with federal government MPs, cabinet members and staff), meeting with senior staff at ESDC regarding the importance of SPAR for persons with a disability, meeting with Members of Parliament on behalf of the disability SPAR sector, and sending information packages to over 100 MPs and senators;
- Prepared a written submission for the Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the Upcoming Federal Budget;
- Significantly increased French capacity through partnership with Réseau Accès participation (RAP), a new French website and social media;
- Hosted regular Board and standing committee meetings.

7.0 ALACD PEOPLE

Active Abilities Canada Board of Directors

Mike Arthur, Chair

Doug Nutting, Past Chair

Rick Turnbull, Treasurer

Kelsey Fahie

Alexandra Gilbert

James Kwinecki

Shaan Lail

Lorelee Marin

Karen Natho

Marina Pinto-Miller

Active Abilities Canada Team

Christa Costas-Bradstreet, Executive Director

Taryn Barry, Project Manager

Moji Akande, Communications and Operations Manager

Brady Kitchen, Communications Coordinator

Chris Bourne, Volunteer Chair of the Nominating Committee

ALACD Supporters, Donors, and Partners

Employment and Social Development Canada Social Development Partnership Program – Disability

SPARC / PARC

Sport Canada

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

Réseau Accès Participation

Stratégie Résonance Inc.

Canadian Disability Participation Project

Canadian Paralympic Committee

Kathy Jackson

8.0 WHAT'S NEXT!

As we enter the final year of our ESDC funding, we have completed almost all of our deliverables. This next year will be dedicated to securing long-term funding, creating new and exciting initiatives that support community and organizational leaders striving to increase inclusion and access for persons with disabilities, and launching our new Community of Practice including the interactive community platform and Learning Management System. We have made positive strides in our government relations strategy (including continued advocacy for a physical activity and recreation pillar of [Canada's Disability Inclusion Action Plan](#) (DIAP) and will continue that important work as the voice for disability access and inclusion in physical activity. We remain committed to our mandate and excited about the future. We hope you will continue with us on the journey.

Slate of Nominees

Board of Directors

Term: September 2026 to September 2029

James Kwineck (re-election)

James is a Program Coordinator for the CNIB Come To Work Youth Pod in British Columbia. A retired national team para rower, James is passionate about physical activity and its benefits for all. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Active Abilities Canada. In addition to his work, James is currently studying at the University of Victoria.

Cecille Brown-Villiers (election)

Cecille is an experienced accounting and finance professional with over 20 years of experience in financial administration, bookkeeping, payroll, budgeting, financial reporting, audit preparation, and regulatory compliance across the non-profit, investment, audit, and corporate sectors. She brings extensive expertise in accounts payable and receivable management, financial statement preparation, funder reporting, internal controls, risk management, and board financial reporting. Through her role as Finance and Membership Administrator with Recreation Manitoba for six years, Cecille gained significant experience supporting a provincial recreation organization, including preparing financial reports for Board meetings and Annual General Meetings, assisting with budget development, managing membership systems, and supporting organizational governance and accountability. Her strong analytical skills, attention to detail, and commitment to sound financial stewardship would be valuable assets to Active Abilities Canada.