



BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION  
WATERLOO WELLINGTON

2021  
Annual Report  
May 2022

Brain Injury Association Waterloo-Wellington

**Advocate • Educate • Connect • Empower**

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## About BIAWW

The **Brain Injury Association Waterloo-Wellington** (BIAWW) is a registered charity whose mission is to provide support, education and advocacy for brain-injured individuals and their families. Since 2000, the organization has run numerous programs to serve the needs of survivors and caregivers.

The BIAWW offers a multi-pronged approach to navigating, advocating, educating and empowering those affected with/by acquired brain injury (ABI). We are growing our organization to be the central resource for Brain Injury support in Waterloo-Wellington.

### Mission

To give support, hope and answers to survivors of ABI.

### Vision

To be recognized as pioneers in meeting the needs of survivors and their caregivers and setting the standard for innovative program delivery, education and prevention of ABI.

We **advocate** for increased services for brain injured individuals.

We **educate** our communities on proactive measures to prevent brain injuries.

We **connect** survivors & caregivers to professionals and to others like themselves.

We **empower** survivors through art and other programs to allow them to deal with their injury in the best possible way.

## Message from the Executive Director and Board

BIAWW continues to provide programming to survivors, caregivers and the general public despite the continuing impact of the Covid 19 pandemic. The board of directors, volunteers and staff continue to develop and deliver innovative programs through virtual means and provide survivors with support needed to help get through these difficult times.

Our team continues to grow! We hired resources for the Brain Art and Intimate Partner Violence-Brain Link programs (more details below). We want to thank each and every volunteer who has given up your time, talents and resources for our organization. We couldn't do it without you!

Our supporters are special. We can't provide programming without the strong support of our many sponsors and donors. We rely on the generosity of many foundations, service organizations, government bodies, businesses and individuals who have entrusted their resources to us which fund our operations, programs and events.

We want to thank the Ontario Brain Injury Association (OBIA) and the other associations across Ontario for their continued support and partnership in supporting individuals with brain injuries. We were extremely pleased to be awarded OBIA's 2021 Brain Injury

Association of the year. Thank you to all of the staff and volunteers who contributed in making our organization a winner!

We look forward to 2022 and a hopefully an end to the current pandemic and it's continued impact on survivors and their caregivers. Regardless of what is ahead, BIAWW will continue to adapt and provide innovative programs to meet the needs of our members and community.

## Member Programs

Individuals and their caregivers who have an ABI are supported by our organization through a number of programs. We continue to expand our programming based on need and available funding.

### Support Group Meetings

Through the second year of the pandemic, we continue to provide support to survivors through a variety of weekly and monthly support meetings. Over 500 individuals participated in 96 chats and 21 support meetings and 22 games/yoga activities in 2021. While these don't replace face-to-face meetings, we continue to stay connected through these programs to identify emerging needs and help to support continued recovery to survivors.

### Caregiver programs

Our virtual *Care to Share* program continued virtually in 2021. Funded by the Waterloo-Wellington Local Health Integrated Network LHIN and led by a psychologist from Jett Psychological Services, this 8-week program provided caregivers the chance to meet with others in similar situations and to learn coping strategies for their everyday lives.

### Peer to Peer support program

Our Peer to Peer support program funded by OBIA provides one-on-one weekly telephone connections between Partners and Mentors across Ontario. Over 45 partnerships were established in 2021.

### Professional Directory

Our professional directory comprises over 30 businesses that specialize in brain injury, provide services to individuals with ABI. Please use our online directory when searching for local providers.

### Brain Connect

Our Brain Connect program continues with support from the City of Guelph, the Cambridge and North Dumfries Foundation and the Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation. This program provides technology devices, education and support to brain injury survivors so that they can stay connected with their families, friends and community providers. Devices were provided to 49 individuals and over 42 weekly "tech talks" were held virtually to help survivors learn and share technology tips and features about their devices.

### Brain Access

Supported by the United Way Waterloo Region, the Brain Access program was initiated late in 2020. This program provides support to survivors in the submission of their taxes.

### Brain Art

With a grant from the Canada New Horizons for Senior, we initiated the Brain Art program in 2021. This funding allowed us to engage professional community art leaders and volunteers in the delivery of art programs to over 76 unique seniors and survivors! Our plan for an art exhibition of the finished work is expected to take place at the end of March (pending pandemic restrictions). Activities included ceramic, glass, acrylic paint and other projects.

### Covid Check

Supported by the Guelph Community Foundation, we were able to hire a temporary staff to reach out via phone/email to over 175 members and participants who had been involved in our programs in the previous 2 years. We offered information about current virtual programs and helped problem-solve issues that were arising due to the pandemic.

### Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)-Brain Link

With a grant from the Civic Remedies program through the Government of Ontario, we initiated a new program aimed at helping survivors of brain injury as a result of an IPV occurrence. As part of this program, we also provide virtual seminars to first responders and service workers to educate them on the symptoms of brain injuries, provide screening tools and tips on how to support individuals with brain injuries. In the first 6 months of this program, we have presented this awareness program to over 150 people.

### Social Enterprise Program – Brain Makers

Initiated in 2020 and thanks to support from the Investment Readiness program through the Community Foundations of Canada, our Social Enterprise Brain Makers program continues to provide opportunities for survivor members to earn compensation for their crafts sold through our online store. In addition to volunteers, we now have 7 survivor “makers” creating a wide variety of products that are listed and sold through BIAWW. Products include greeting cards, magnets, t-shirts, book décor, yarn products, candles & aromas, jewellery, glass ornaments, flower pots, wood products and more!

## Public Programs

### Lidz on Kidz

Our Lidz on Kidz program includes education programs in elementary schools, helmet giveaways and community events. Even though in-person classroom visits were cancelled this year, we were able to digitize our program thanks in part to a grant from the City of Waterloo.



With support from a number of sponsors including McLeish Orlando, Deutschmann Law, Shift Concussion Management, Desjardins, Sifton Family Foundation, Dietrich Law, Rotary Grand River Kitchener, KW Kiwanis, Rotary Club of Guelph Trillium, Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada and Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation, we provided over **1,250** helmets to children in Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, Elmira, Guelph and Mount Forest.



## Community Events

Although some community activities were put on hold again this year, we were able to participating a few events including craft shows at Westhill Retirement & Hygate retirement residences, Glencarin Church, Guelph hospital, Guelph Scouts and art events.

## Fundraising Events

Due to Covid restrictions, we were unable to hold any in-person fundraising events. However, we did hold a virtual auction, held a bottle drive, had support from an Epicure fundraiser and had a pop-up craft show in November to raise funds. We also had an army of volunteers making singers cloth masks for choirs in our area.

Thank you to all who participated!

## Resources at BIAWW - 2021

### Staff

#### Executive Director

Lynda Abshoff

#### Program & Volunteer Coordinator

Clair Webster

#### Brain Maker Coordinator

Donna Henri

#### Brain Access

Ashruti Patel

#### Peer Support Coordinator

Christina Hennelly

#### Brain Connect

Emily Singh

#### Covid Checkin Coordinator

Ashley Tindall

### Volunteers

#### Governance

Doug Wetherill (Chair)

Cindy Miller (Vice-Chair)

Stephanie Woodstock (Secretary)

Grant O'Neill (Treasurer)

Mary Bozoian

Joe Cescon

Katy Counoyer

Laura Greenway-Balnar

Elizabeth Landman

#### HR, Fundraising, Covid and Events Committees

Michael Abshoff

Mary Bozoian

Joe Cescon

Katy Cournoyer

Nick De Koning

Laura Greenway Balnar

Christina Hennelly

Elizabeth Landman

Cindy Miller

Grant O'Neill

Catherine Shearer

Jennifer Spring

Ashley Tindall

Doug Wetherill

Kristin Wood

Stephanie Woodstock

Other programs, fundraising events and activities

(Excludes those named above)

Vanessa Adam	Monica Hazra	Mike Pickford
Kimberly Ainlay	Donna Henri	Sarah Ptatschek
Alexander Audekwux	Jasmin Henri	Irene Risen
Kristin Baetz	Ellen Ibele	Cynthia Russell
Linda Bateman	Amber Janics	Russell Scott
Andrew Bauer	Sharon Janics	Ingrid Schubert
Sabryna Bauer	Teodora Kostadinovska	Jacklyn Serra
Theresa Bauer	Kathryn Ladano	David Siversky
Andrea Bauman	Stephanie Lobo	Dietland Stager
Sue Bremner	Candace McCutcheon	Sue Starling
Priscilla Brown	Frances McDonald	Leila Stube
Kevin Clarke	Maurice McDowell	Martha Szabo
Julie Curry	Daena Mervyn-Fleming	Sarah Ta
Mark Curry	Margy Moorhouse	Denise Theroux
Gloria Deutschlander	Jodi Murray	Brenda Tindall
Tara Duffney	Chris O'Brien	Hannah vanDijk-Alac
Heather Ellerby	Marlene O'Brien	Dorian Walden
Kim Englert	Jason Oliver	Annette Walker
Donna Ferguson	Jenny Oliver	Ava Wilke
Hannah Gallichan	Sarah Nafziger	Lori Wilke
Darlene Garside	Marg Peterman	Katie Zitzelberger
Erica Gatten	Giselle Piccin	
Rebekah Haynes	Kathy Pickford	



## 2021 Sponsors & Donors

### Exclusive Platinum

MCLEISH ORLANDO<sup>LLP</sup>

LAWYERS

### Gold



### Community



### Programs



Club of Guelph Trillium



This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada.



**Please note:** Our membership and individual donations are not listed in our Annual Report due to confidentiality. We thank all that have contributed to the fundraising efforts of the BIAWW.

## 2021 Appreciation Awards

### Volunteer Award



We would like to recognize Ellen Ibele as the outstanding volunteer for 2021. She has provided countless hours of support for so many projects and activities.

A special thank you for a special volunteer!

### Sponsor Award

We would like to recognize the following sponsor for their support in providing sponsorship for **all six cities** for our **2021 Lidz on Kidz** helmet giveaway.

Sifton Family Foundation  
THANK YOU! For your support.



**OBI Award**

We were pleased to be awarded the 2021 Brain Injury Association of the year from the Ontario Brain Injury Association in recognition of the outstanding programs at BIAWW.



## Financial Results

These figures are from the Audited Financial Statements prepared by RLB Chartered Professional Accountants for the business year January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. To receive a complete set of statements please email [info@biaww.com](mailto:info@biaww.com)

**BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF WATERLOO-WELLINGTON**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2021**

	2021	2020
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 120,023	\$ 89,930
Investments (note 4)	110,820	100,155
Accounts receivable	<u>2,419</u>	<u>10,569</u>
	<u>\$ 233,262</u>	<u>\$ 200,654</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 8,228	\$ 8,336
<b>LONG TERM DEBT</b> (note 8)	40,000	40,000
<b>DEFERRED REVENUE</b> (note 7)	<u>75,895</u>	<u>76,530</u>
	<u>124,123</u>	<u>124,866</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>	<u>109,139</u>	<u>75,788</u>
	<u>\$ 233,262</u>	<u>\$ 200,654</u>

**BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF WATERLOO-WELLINGTON**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021**

	2021	2020
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Grant revenue	\$ 132,195	\$ 44,330
Sponsorship revenue	80,170	33,850
Fundraising	28,109	1,115
Programs	25,811	12,307
Government subsidies (notes 5 and 8)	11,336	58,665
Corporate and private donations	10,695	12,510
OBIA revenue	9,587	14,829
Interest and other revenue	3,900	238
Membership revenue	<u>3,090</u>	<u>1,490</u>
	<u>284,893</u>	<u>179,334</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Wages and benefits	163,888	97,657
Programs	56,716	23,787
Administrative	12,769	6,808
Fundraising	6,340	124
Rent	5,608	5,528
Professional fees	5,160	5,056
Board of Directors	<u>1,061</u>	<u>744</u>
	<u>251,542</u>	<u>139,704</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES for the year</b>	33,351	39,630
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, beginning of year</b>	<u>75,788</u>	<u>36,158</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 109,139</u>	<u>\$ 75,788</u>