



BC Registered Charity:
Reg. # 11881-8616RR0001
c/o PO Box 37091
Millstream PO
Victoria, BC V9B 0E8
info@bcbraininjuryassociation.com
www.brainstreams.ca

Annual General Meeting 2022

AGENDA

Thursday, September 29, 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Inn at the Quay, New Westminster BC

1. Call to Order

- a. Welcome and Introductions
- b. Approval of Agenda

2. Old Business

- a. Approval of 2021 AGM Minutes

3. Reports

- a. President's Report, Geoff Sing, Chair
- b. Treasurer's Report, Nancy Adams, Treasurer
- c. Storytelling, Juliet Henderson-Rahbar
- d. Brainstreams, Tony Mok
- e. The Journey Ahead Committee, Tina Suter
- f. Community Research, Kix Citton
- g. Community Engagement, Tori Dach
- h. BC BIA / Constable Gerald Breese Centre for Traumatic Life Losses update

4. New Business

- a. Election of 2022 – 23 Directors (Geoff Sing)
- b. Audit option for 2022 - 23 (Nancy Adams)

5. Other Business

6. Cultivating Community Videos * confirm title / topic**

7. Adjournment



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Meeting Documents

Agenda

AGM Minutes September 15, 2021

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

2021 - 2022 President's Report

I am extremely proud of the work and accomplishments of the BCBIA Board and what has been addressed over the past 12 months. We continue to meet via Zoom and despite the lack of face-to-face meetings Board members took on and carried out their duties with efficiency resulting in strong and positive outcomes for the brain injury community.

My sincere thanks to my fellow Board members – Nancy Adams (Treasurer), Juliet Henderson (Storytelling), Kix Citton (Research Projects), Tori Dach (Community Engagement), Tony Mok (Brainstreams.ca) and Tina Suter (The Journey Ahead) for their commitment and dedication to improving and supporting survivors of a brain injury, their family and friends to live the best quality of life after a brain injury. Your work has been outstanding! As well, my sincere thanks to those who are serving on various BCBIA committees.

For 2021 – 2022 the BCBIA focus on the following committees / projects:

- **Storytelling** in cooperation with support from WorkSafe BC and other community partners. We continue to produce videos and **** that tell the story of how survivors, families and their loved ones have addressed brain injury and who endure to live well after brain injury.
- **Improving Brainstreams.ca** by continuing to improve navigation and design, as well as to add expert content to our video library.
- **Addressing inquiries** in a timely, effective manner – guiding individuals, families and caregivers to resources and services they might otherwise overlook.
- **Empowering healthcare professionals** by giving them the information they need to refer individuals and families to the best possible resources.
- **Conducting essential research and projects** by helping strategic decision makers make better informed decisions geared towards a provincial vision that serves people living with brain injury more effectively. We do this by:
 - Expanding the inventory of excellent services around the province and building a repository of information and videos on Brainstreams.ca and
 - Anchoring the Provincial Service Evaluation Initiative to best practice.

Key accomplishments this year

- The initiation of reaching out to brain injury associations and BI service agencies within BC and inviting them to be associated with the BCBIA to strengthen the voice and bring about greater awareness for our brain injured community.
- Participation and collaboration with leading brain injury researcher Professor Julia Schmidt (UBC / GF Strong).
- Participation and advisory support with the BC Heart and Stroke Foundation's Rehabilitation and Reintegration Strategy. This project examines what rehabilitation supports are available to survivors of a brain injury at present and will provide suggestions of what would be ideal.
- Continued updates to Brainstreams.ca to ensure it continues to be the leading website for Brain Injury information
- Production of Survivor Journey Maps and Brain Injury Posters.



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- Production of the “Cultivating Community” video. It is a narrative that shares story of: survivor recovery, the impact to family and their vision and determination to not be deterred after a challenging brain injury. It will be premiered at this evening’s AGM.
- Determined participation to support innocent crash victims as they navigate ICBC’s “Enhanced Care Model”. This includes participation on ICBC’s Disability Advisory Advocacy Group and other community partners who are also wanting to ensure the supports for crash victims are appropriate and adequate as they recover from their injuries.

The BC BIA was also proud to announce the Strategic Partnership established with the Constable Gerald Breese (CGB) Centre for Traumatic Life Losses August 2021. This partnership will strengthen the voice for brain injury community, and we are able to share the administrative leadership of Janelle Breese – Biagoni.

The BC BIA Board will continue to strive to be the leading voice for survivors and their loved ones and to educate and bring greater awareness regarding the impact of brain injury to the general public.

Yours in service to the Brain Injury Community,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Sing".

Geoffrey Sing
BCBIA President



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2022 Brainstreams Committee Report

Committee Members

- Tony Mok (Board Lead)
- Janelle Breese Biagioni (Webweaver)
- Gina Galway (Committee Member & Educationalist)
- Jeff Van der Made (Committee Member)

The brand Brainstreams continues to be our backbone of our organization. Our website and social media platforms continue to advocate for the persons living with a brain injury throughout BC. We continue to produce and share short videos and shared and populated into our video library. Brainstreams provides knowledge and information regarding the latest news articles and research.

- Twitter currently has 1666 follower's
- Facebook currently has 747 likes

Top 3 Page Views	Aug 1, 2021 – July 31 2022	Aug 1, 2021 – July 31 2022	Difference
www.brainstreams home page	7731	12013	-35.64%
Resources	4420	3993	10.69%
Our Work	1766	2046	-13.69%
Users			
New	24111	26603	-10.34%
Returning	3122	3997	-28.03%



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Research Committee Report (Kix Citton)

BCBIA continues to work together with researchers and partners to apply for grants and engage students in studies and knowledge translation activities to improve quality of life and care for people affected by brain injury across BC.

Current research projects include:

What are the Rehabilitation and Research Priorities for Improving Quality of Life Among People with Traumatic Brain Injury? (Dr. Julia Schmidt, UBC/GF Strong)

Two-phase study to (1) review the literature on quality-of-life priorities for people with brain injury through a scoping review and (2) develop a multi-staged consensus on quality of life priorities from perspective of people with brain injury; this includes initial stakeholder meeting, questionnaires, series of focus groups, feedback session.

Exploring Meaning after Brain Injury through Acceptance and Resiliency

Construction (EMBARC) - Understanding acceptance and meaning in life after brain injury through participatory engagement (Dr. Julia Schmidt, UBC/GF Strong)

Using participatory methods (where participants in the focus group can share and benefit from the experience, not just having the researchers benefit), we want to understand the types of programs that might support acceptance and resiliency construction (and meaning / quality of life after brain injury), and also identify barriers to running these programs, and ways to help facilitate more of these programs

Understanding the Influences on Self-Identity after Brain Injury (Dr. Julia Schmidt, UBC/GF Strong)

Qualitative study, participants recruited with help from BCBIA, to explore how one's sense of self changes after brain injury, and throughout different life circumstances after the injury

Creating a Unified Community and Research Agenda to Support People with Brain Injury (Dr. Mauricio Garcia-Barrera, UVic, Dr. Erica Woodin, UVic, Dr. Julia Schmidt, UBC/GF Strong)

Three-year project to develop a Consensus Statement on Brain Injury, Mental

Health, and Addictions for the province of British Columbia.



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The Journey Ahead Committee Report – 2021 - 2022

Submitted by: Tina Suter, Chair

Committee Members: Tina Suter (BCBIA Board Member) Janelle Breese Biagioni (Senior Administrator/Webweaver), Gary Richardson, Rinni Mamman, Stacey Suter, James Taschereau.

The Journey Ahead Committee works with Senior Administrator/Webweaver and sources, defines and organizes relative material and information for *The Journey Ahead* (formerly Brain Injury Awareness) portion of Brainstreams.ca Website.

Since formation in September 2021, we have:

- Completed an introduction video
- Titled various sections & contents
- Reviewed The Journey Ahead section and published
- Reviewed and determined budget surplus will be spent on introductory videos to various sections.

In-progress/near completion:

- ▶ Introduction videos for The Journey Begins, Home & Recovery (complete), Friends & Family, Housing, Return to Activities & The Journey Continues production
- ▶ Filming will occur in August/early September
- ▶ Editing, review, and completion set for mid/late September
- ▶ Premier and launch date scheduled for September 29th, 2022



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BCBIA Community Annual Report (Tori Dach)

The Community engagement for this 2021-2022 year circled around the promotion of Brainstreams in all conference and speaking engagements (7 conferences/webinars) via The Cridge Centre for the Family Brain Injury Services. Part of community engagement role has included the groundwork planning and preparation for the next Survive-Strive-Thrive brain injury awareness event (hosted by The Cridge Centre for the Family) and the provincial Consensus Day on Brain Injury event, both to be held in October 2022. I have also consulted with the Together in Stride- Foundation for Horses in Health and Learning organization on their two-year focus on brain injury in equine-assisted programming.
Thank you for a wonderful first year on the Board.



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Treasurer's Report (Nancy Adams)

BCBIA Board approved the April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022, financial statements, included in the AGM package, by a motion, in accordance with the organization's bylaws, on August 25, 2022. The March 31, 2022, Charity Information return has been prepared and filed with CRA, the GST rebate claims for the 2021-2022 year have been prepared and filed with CRA.

The 2021–2022-year results show a deficit, drawing down on unrestricted reserves from prior years by close to \$26,000. Over the past year BCBIA has been successful in securing funding restricted to specific projects, that keep new content development and research collaborations moving forward and will continue to develop plans to seek better sources of general funding that can support the day-to-day operations of the organization. In the interim the BCBIA Board will continue operating with carefully planned and reduced budgets through the 2022-2023 fiscal year, focusing the bulk of funding toward achieving results and building on the successes of Brainstreams while seeking new fund development opportunities.



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Storytelling (Juliet Henderson – Rahbar)

“The Storytelling Committee had a quieter Fall and Winter 2021 with continued restrictions. Having emerged from restrictions in the Spring we worked towards the theme of BC BIA’s 40-year anniversary, including the printing of story cards / rack cards to share in the community (through healthcare providers and various other agencies). One goal for this year has been to expand from a committee of one to a larger committee. We have been unable to recruit more members of the committee, however, the committees have been working together to bring a storytelling component into the 40th Anniversary celebration and fundraising campaign, including 5 three-minute videos for the Brainstreams (focusing on the theme “The Journey Ahead,” and touching on several aspects of navigating life after brain injury - home and recovery, the journey ahead, housing, returning to activities, and the journey continues).”



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Strategic Partnership / CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses / BCBIA

(Janelle Breese – Biagioni)

The BC Brain Injury Association (BCBIA) and the CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses (CGB) are pleased to announce the organizations are aligning in a Strategic Partnership.

This Strategic Partnership is for the purposes of carrying out the operations of BCBIA and CGB in the Province of British Columbia, and to:

- Promote the services for those living with an acquired brain injury
- To promote and encourage public awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of the specific needs of those living with acquired brain injury
- To serve as a collaborative body of current knowledge, research, and prevention strategies for those living with an acquired brain injury
- To promote public awareness and knowledge of mental health, substance use/addiction, and acquired brain injury
- To become leaders in the intersections of mental health, addiction, and brain injury
- To advance research in the field of brain injury and in the intersections of mental health, addiction, and brain injury
- To develop strategic partnerships with all levels of government, organizations, and community stakeholders
- To maintain and promote Brainstreams as a provincial resource

Due to the similarities of the organizations' purposes, but to acknowledge the differences in mandates, a Strategic Partnership allows for both parties to remain as separate legal entities for the purposes of carrying out the charitable work as outlined in their strategic plans.

The workflow of both organizations will be carried out under the administrative leadership of Janelle Breese Biagioni, CEO and Founder of the CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses.



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Annual General Meeting 2021 MINUTES

Wednesday, September 15, 2021
6:30pm to 8:00pm, Online via Zoom

Chair: Geoff Sing (President)

Board of Directors in attendance:

Nancy Adams (Treasurer), Juliet Henderson-Rahbar (Director), Tina Suter (Director), Tony Mok (Director)

Members and Guests: Janelle Breese Biagioni (Member), Gary Richardson (Member), Julia Schmidt (Member), Andrew Harnden (Guest), Karen Horan (Guest), Carol Paetkau (Guest), Yvonne (Guest), Erin Kreiter (Guest), Janet Kreiter (Guest), Tim Krieiter (Guest)

Attendance Numbers: 15 including board members (8 eligible voting members)

Documents distributed: AGM Package (Agenda, 2020 AGM Minutes, President's Report, Treasurer's Report and Director's Reports)

Minutes: Helena Yang, Sea to Sky Meeting and Association Management

8. Call to Order

Geoff Sing (Geoff) called the meeting to order at 6:35pm and confirmed a quorum.

c. Welcome and Introductions

Geoff welcomed all in attendance to the BCBIA 2021 Annual General Meeting and introduced the Board of Directors.

d. Approval of Agenda

Geoff asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda.

MOTION: It was moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

9. Old Business

b. Approval of 2020 AGM Minutes

Geoff asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes.

MOTION: It was moved to approve the 2020 AGM Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.



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10. Reports

i. President's Report, Geoff Sing, Chair

Geoff acknowledged the Board of Directors and Committees for their outstanding work and accomplishments this past year. Please refer to the AGM package for the full President report.

j. Treasurer's Report, Nancy Adams, Treasurer

Nancy noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic there was a significant financial loss due primarily because BC BIA lost 95% of its core funding. It was noted that the Board is seeking other sources of funding. Please refer to the AGM package for the full Treasurer report.

k. Provincial Services Initiatives, Geoff Sing on behalf of Katryna Koenig

Geoff thanked Katryna Koenig for her work on addressing the changes with ICBC through the creation of videos that explained ICBC's "Enhanced Care" model which came into effect in May 2021 and will impact crash victims. Please refer to the AGM package for the full Director's report.

l. Brainstreams, Geoff Sing

Geoff thanked Janelle Breese Biagioni for stepping into the role of webmaster for the Brainstreams.ca website. He also thanked Rachel Sing for her great work in fielding questions and directing enquiries to the appropriate Board Members in a timely manner. Please refer to the AGM package for the full Director's report.

m. The Journey Ahead Committee, Tina Suter

Tina noted that the Committee has developed an introduction video to The Journey Ahead project for the Brainstreams.ca website. The video is to be launched in the middle of October. Please refer to the AGM package for the full Director's report.

n. Purposeful Partnerships, Julia Schmidt on behalf of Kix Citton

Julia noted that the committee has been applying for research grants to support her team's work. The work is designated to understand the quality of life for people with brain injuries and to look at meaningful programs that facilitate acceptance and meaning after brain injury. Please refer to the AGM package for the full Director's report.

o. Storytelling, Juliet Henderson-Rahbar

Juliet noted that the committee was not able to conduct a lot of work this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic; however, it recently started working on projects again in June 2021. The most recent project is the video about the community garden created by the Kreiter family which she noted will be shared at the end of the meeting. Lastly, she advised that in the future she hopes the Committee can focus on sharing stories of indigenous families living with brain injury and highlight the service gap for indigenous people living at higher risk, as well as the importance to learn more about indigenous culture as it relates to brain injury. It is hoped that information can be shared to develop more inclusive and culturally sensitive services. Please refer to the AGM package for the full Director's report.



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11. New Business

a. Election, Geoff Sing

Geoff introduced the Board of Directors for the 2021/2022 year as follows:

- Juliet Henderson-Rahbar
- Kix Citton
- Tina Suter
- Nancy Adams
- Victoria Dach
- Geoff Sing
- Tony Mok

MOTION: It was moved to approve the 2021/22 Board Directors as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

b. Membership Renewal, Nancy Adams

Nancy advised that she will send out communication within the next week to all current members asking them to renew their membership for the coming year.

c. Strategic Partnership - CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses, Janelle Breese Biagioni

Janelle Breese Biagioni spoke briefly about the strategic partnership plan between BC BIA and CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses. She also noted that more details about the partnership workflow and program priorities will be shared shortly.

12. Other Business

Geoff thanked Sea to Sky Meeting and Association Management for their support over the past year and for assisting with the organization of the AGM.

Lastly, Geoff shared information about the “Toss The Boss” fundraising event on October 1, 2021, in support of the Nanaimo Brain Injury Society & the Victoria Brain Injury Society. He encouraged everyone to learn more about the event and how they can support.

13. Juliet Henderson-Rahbar introduces Cultivating Community Video

Juliet introduced the Kreiter family and presented the video (Cultivating Community) that was created to share their story. (<https://www.kollaborate.tv/player?link=611c4019799a8>). Following the video, Juliet moderated a Q&A session with the Kreiter family.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm