

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT:

INTRODUCTION:

This year marks IA SENB's 36th Annual General Meeting . . .

While we have managed to weather the storm, and endured, we are still coming to terms with the impact of these past 3 years . . . the 'more uncertainty and challenges' for the charitable and nonprofit sector including:

- **recruitment and retention**, with constraints on budgets.
- **decrease in volunteers** - a critical part of our sector significantly impeding our capacity to serve the communities);
- **rising prices** further impacted by inflation revenue losses; and
- **increasing demands** for our services – which has obviously been compounded by the decreased resources and increased cost.

These struggles, noted above, are not new for us, however as, as a small charitable not for profit it continues to be significantly challenging for IA as we endeavor to adapt, **to innovate and find new ways to progress our mission** so we can better respond to the people and communities we serve.

Your Board and Staff, this past year, have continued our efforts in a number of areas, from our new location at the JHS Community Hub on 140 Joyce Avenue, we continue to forge new partnerships, with a focus on the best interests of the individuals and families we serve, advocating for, supporting, and helping to empower, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families and promoting inclusive communities.

STATS SUMMARY:

I have included my annual statistics, numbers, documenting my time and illustrating the range and number of areas, meetings, and other interventions from this past year. I encourage you to carefully review the tables and charts in the Annexes of my report, to assist you to appreciate and compare the shift in the focus of our time and efforts specifically to overseeing the operations and securing the necessary resources for this Association to

I have documented a **total of 2276** meetings, appointments, events and other activities (over the 12 month period).). (**Appendix A**) *This number represents a decrease of 158 from 2021/2022 (or an average of 13 less meetings, appointment etc. per month. It also represents an average of approximately 190 meetings ect./month or 44 meetings etc./week equally distributed over the 12 months.*

Most of the areas stay similar to the previous year, There was a slight decrease in Administration but it remains the greatest area of focus at 52%, as we continue to refocused efforts to address the challenges of sustaining the Association There was a slight increase from 15 to 18.4 % in the area of Advocacy (family, agencies) etc. as well as in the area of Board and Committees from 205 (7% to 240 (8.6%). **Appendix 'B', 'C' & 'D'**

While the total number of meetings, etc. was less than the previous year, the amount of time required to address these was greater as is illustrated in the Accumulated Time Charts, (**Appendix 'E'**).

The Accumulated time Report documents an increase of approximately an additional 870 accumulated hrs over this past year, (up 170 over the previous year) . . . (*an overall average of an additional 72.5 hours per month, within a range from +36.5 hours in a month, (the equivalent an additional day per week), to +169 hours in a, one month period (the equivalent to and additional week).*) The greatest amount of accumulated hours is related to our primary fundraiser, TREES. While we were able to realize our minimum target and kept expenses to a bare minimum, this year's event was planned, and executed primarily with the support of a very small dedicated group of 4 volunteers. There is much work involved in an event of this nature (or any other event or effort, of the scale necessary to raise the funds required to sustain and grow the association to meet the needs of the individuals and families we represent. This amount of work require many hands (many more than 1 staff and 4 volunteers. Balancing hours is very challenging under these conditions, especially as the number and range of matters continue to increase.

INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES:

Our primary purpose, informed by our History, remains, enhancing inclusive communities, and to build a Better, Brighter Future for the individuals and families we represent and serve, and our current direction, and efforts are informed by our present circumstances.

As you hopefully heard in the presentation RIGHTS, BENEFITS, & SUPPORTS, for Persons with Disabilities, we must remain diligent in our efforts to not only make progress in our mandate to enhance the lives of persons with IDD and their families but as well to safeguard the progress we have fought hard to realize. There is a real need for us to be very mindful and to stay on top of several initiatives, currently underway, which will impact people with disabilities. There is potential for some of the proposal, being made by Government, to have significant, negative impacts on the quality of life for persons with disabilities. Some of that hard fought progress we have made over the past 60 plus years could be lost.

IA continues to strive to remain viable, so we are, to be able, to effectively respond to the needs of the individuals and families we represent and serve. We continue to persevere to address these many challenges; changes and transitions, while remaining resolute in the values and vision of our founding members and families. More than ever, we need, to be proactive and resilient . . . to be “Stronger Together”!

I again emphasize that these stats give some measures of our efforts and clearly document the significant impact on IA’s ability to respond to the individuals and families we represent. These stats can help us review; assess, consider options to reduce expenses and increase our efficiencies, but the real meaning of all our efforts is still found in the individuals’ and families’ stories. Their range of experiences, emotions, barriers, struggles, successes, disappointments, dismissal, rejection, recognition, affirmation, exclusion, isolation, loneliness, connection, inclusion and friendships give us context and perspective to more fully appreciate the significance of our efforts . . . our ‘raison d’être’ . . . Enhancing inclusive communities and the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

CURRENT CHALLENGE:

In addition to managing the many challenges faced by individuals and families, (*including the new ones we now face regarding the number of proposed changes to current service and support*), our association’s financial situation continues to be precarious. We need to secure long-term funding that enables us to acquire the resources (including much needed staff, as well as cover operational expenses, so we can focus more on serving the individuals and families we represent and less on the basic survival of the Association.

The loss of funding and staff has resulted in significantly decreased programs and services, and this is felt deeply by many of the individuals and families. I continue to receive frequent inquiries, from some of our program participants, asking when we will be able to re-start programs we had been offering and initiate others, that we have not been able to. We continue our efforts to secure other sources of funding and/or other options to move forward on these important services and opportunities.

This past year, as reported by our Sustainability Committee report, primarily through the support of a summer grant student, we were able to secure some grants which have enabled us to initiate a couple of programs; (Adult Literacy Tutoring, Person Centered Planning, (PCP) and Transition Skill development for our youth, to help us recruit and train volunteers to assist in providing some services for the individuals we serve. This is not the most ideal solution, but it provides us with some opportunity to move forward. However along with the challenge of securing funds to recruit and hire much needed staff, securing volunteers, (*as is evident in with the TREE’s fundraising efforts as well as our effort to recruitment of new Board members*), remains another of the challenges we continue to struggle with.

We continue to persevere and persist however; our resources remain stretched beyond our limits and we continue to operate at this level. We cannot do this alone. We are extremely limited on how much we can juggle, and we are burning out the small group of people currently involved. We need your support! If you are able to assist in any of the many efforts currently underway, including literacy tutoring, or, PCP and transition skill development, office support, our fundraising efforts, (our BAND Together event is scheduled for August 10 or 17), our Grant writing, or becoming a Board member to name a couple, Please get involved. Even a couple of hours a week would make a difference.

We have been fortunate to again receive funding for summer staff, some of whom have joined us this evening, to get a better understanding of the impact of the work we do, and for whom and why we do it. The summer staff have several responsibilities including seeking funding sources and setting up events and activities to engage the individuals and families we serve as well as to raise much needed funds and awareness.

I want to again, recognize how challenging and exhausting, it can be for families to continue to tell and retell their stories. I express our sincerest appreciation to you for taking the time to share your lived experiences.

I remain optimistic and encouraged by the supports we do receive from our families and the community.

“Together We’re Stronger” has been a tag-line of IA for many years. It remains more important than ever for us to work together, to support each other as we continue to navigate these restless waters.

NETWORKS/PARTNERSHIPS:

We know we cannot do this alone and we are very aware that many of the individuals and families we serve are already more than maxed out. I am repeating myself, however, as the only voice for many of the individuals and families we represent and serve, we need to network with our community, and nurture opportunities for community partners, to ensure the continuation our Association’s mandate, values and efforts.

We also continue to strive to establish, nurture and strengthen our current networks and partnerships including:

Atlantic Superstore	Enridge	NBCF
Trinity	GMDSS	Oulton College
Canadian Tire	GNB CIF	Olympia Allstar
Moncton, Diepe,	John Howard Society	Cheerleading
Riverview, Shediac	Lounsbury	Rotary Moncton West
CIBC	91.9 BEND	& Riverview
City of Moncton	NBCC	Vienneau Insurance
(Comm Enhancement)		Vision’s United

THANK YOU

I want to sincerely Thank our Board and the Sustainability Committee for their efforts this year. Thank You for your commitment to carry on especially through these, demanding and stressful months. The vast majority of our current Board members have still never met face to face, adding to our challenges to grow this association. Together we continue to face some very difficult challenges and there are more difficult discussions and decisions for this coming year.

I appreciate the support you have given to each other and to me.

A number of our Board members’ terms have ended and some have reoffered to continue with the Board for this coming year. Thank You All for your Commitment.

The impact of the challenges of these past 2 years on Families is very evident as we are challenged to secure Family representatives for our Board. IA is a Family founded and driven association and currently we have 2

Family representatives', seats vacant on our Board. Along with vacancies for the Professional representatives. I hope some of you will consider joining our Board.

We sincerely appreciate the Board and Committee members, contributions, not only to this Association but more importantly to the lives of the individuals & families we represent. I hope we can count on all of your continued commitment, support and promotion of our Association's efforts.

We welcome back last year's members and look forward to some new Candidates, and new ideas. A **WARM WELCOME TO our returning and new members**. I look forward to hitting the ground running at what looks like a busy and exciting year ahead.

The support of the Board is clearly important to the direction of this Association. However, the significance of the work of our Volunteers through our Committees and Ad Hoc groups cannot be overstated. Our Sustainability Committee has been in overdrive this year, taking on the lion's share of work.

Every bit of support we receive is helpful and greatly appreciated . . . there is no amount of support too small so please I would encourage all of you to consider what contribution you can make to support this Association and our efforts on behalf of some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

In addition to the Board and other volunteers I want to thank All our sponsors. We may not have many sponsors but those we have are critical to us and we very much appreciate their support.

This year's AGM theme "**RIGHTS, BENEFITS, & SUPPORTS, for Persons with Disabilities**" Let us renew our commitment to ensuring the Rights of Persons with IDD, are respected.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS:

The City of Moncton for their Quality of Life Community Grant, which has enabled our ongoing efforts with developing and promoting Inclusive opportunities in our community.

The Government of New Brunswick; Community Initiative Fund which help us IA through a very difficult time. And SEED Funding for summer students

The Government of Canada: Covid relief funding and CSJ summer staff funding.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS & MAJOR SPONSORS:

Community Partners: We are very grateful to All our partners I want to make note of the support we have received in promoting this Association and helping us to give Voice to an often-voiceless sector of our community. I look forward to continuing to work together **with our current as well as the new partnerships** we will be forging. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU ALL for your continued support, without which we would not be able to continue our efforts on behalf of the individuals & families we serve. SEE list of Sponsors in the Report Package. (See Networks and Partners list above and Sponsors and Donors below)

FAMILIES & VOLUNTEERS:

To ALL our Volunteers: I say this often . . . 'while you are not many you are mighty, and we could not do what we do without you'.

Very importantly the Individuals & Families: I continually learn and grow from my involvement with you, and I am proud to be a part of the efforts of this Association. I continue to be **Inspired by you!**

I want to take time here to recognize and **Congratulate** this year's Graduates. The past 2 to 3 years has been challenging for most students and in particular for students with IDD. The Association understands that milestone and transitions can be at the same time exciting and overwhelming, and this year, again, maybe a little more so. I want to ensure you IA will continue to be there for support, as you embark on this next phase of your lives.

AND again to **MY FAMILY**: Anyone who has spent any time at any of our functions soon realizes how involved my family is . . . especially behind the scenes. Family is very important to me and I recognize and truly appreciate their efforts and sacrifices, that enable me to do what I do for this Association.

THANK YOU from the bottom of my HEART!

It is truly humbling for me to be given the trust of the individuals & families this Association serves. I genuinely value the significant roles of family in all our lives. I have the utmost respect for, and sincerely believe that **Families remain the most fervent ADVOCATES. Our Association (and all of us) need to ensure families receive the support they need to continue their advocacy!**

Our New Board will have the responsibility of developing our plans moving forward. The Board and I INVITE everyone: Families, Friends, Businesses, Government, and Community members to work together with us as we embark on this, journey, and embrace the opportunities these presents for us, to ensure the individuals, families, and members this Association represents, have the opportunities and appropriate supports so they can have **BETTER LIVE and FUTURES IN** our communities.

IN CLOSING: I leave you with this to help remind us what we are working towards



CANADIAN CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

Equality Rights 15.(1)

Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability. (2) Subsection (1) does not preclude any law, program or activity that has as its object the amelioration of conditions of disadvantaged individuals or groups including those that are disadvantaged because of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.

Respectfully Submitted
CA Melanson-Savoy

Executive Director
IA SENB

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES - WHERE PEOPLE AND THEIR ABILITIES ARE FIRST

THANK YOU ALL AGAIN

UPCOMING EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Check out our Website and Facebook Page for upcoming events this Summer

Date TBA	IA Board Meeting	December TBA	IA Bd Meeting
August TBA	IA Board's 1st Meeting Orientation	December 24	Christmas Eve
September 04	Labour Day	December: 25	Christmas
October: 10	THANKSGIVING	December 31	New Year's Eve
November: 11	Remembrance Day	January 01	New Year's Day
November TBA	IA Board Meeting	January 06	Little Christmas
November TBA	TREES Event	January TBA	IA Board Meeting
November 25	Santa Parade		

THANK YOU

LIST OF SPONSORS/DONORS

<i>Atlantic Superstore Trinity</i>	<i>LJFoster</i>
<i>B Savoy</i>	<i>LNBL</i>
<i>Brewing CO</i>	<i>Maritime Float and Wellness GC</i>
<i>CanadianTire-, Moncton, Dieppe</i>	<i>CMcC</i>
<i>Riverview, Shediac</i>	<i>Moncton Wildcats</i>
<i>Celtic Knot Brewing</i>	<i>NBCC</i>
<i>Charm Diamond Centre</i>	<i>OMISTA Basket</i>
<i>CMcC</i>	<i>919 The Bend</i>
<i>Crowne Plaza F'ton</i>	<i>Oulton College</i>
<i>Cook's Home Hardware</i>	<i>The Chambers Of Commerce</i>
<i>Delta Marriott</i>	<i>Resurgo Place</i>
<i>Down East Coffee</i>	<i>Rotary Club Moncton West & Riverview</i>
<i>Dooly's</i>	<i>St Bernard's (Social Justice)</i>
<i>E Boudreau</i>	<i>Stevenson Creative Graphic Design</i>
<i>Fox n Hound Colts Cold Cut</i>	<i>T&TcTH</i>
<i>GMDSS</i>	<i>The Old Triangle</i>
<i>Good Guys Brew Shoppe</i>	<i>USV SPA Nordik GC</i>
<i>Hawkeye Software</i>	<i>Vienneau Insurance</i>
<i>Jhorsman</i>	<i>Vision's United</i>
<i>Jean Coutu</i>	