

# Making a Difference For Multiples & Their Families...



*Bridny Holmes Photography*



**Multiple Births Canada**  
**Annual Report**  
**2014 - 2015**

# Message from the Board of Directors & Executive Director



## Our Mission

*...to improve the quality of life  
for multiple-birth individuals and  
their families in Canada.*

Over the past year the Board and Executive Director have been very busy as we continue to advocate for multiple-birth issues and bring awareness to Multiple Births Canada. Welcoming new Chapters like Multiple Births Network of Brantford and Area, Twins, Triplets & More Association of Calgary and Newfoundland & Labrador Multiple Births Association has given us a greater geographic range in the support and awareness that we can provide. Working together with our Chapters, we now have a louder voice for multiple-birth families across all of Canada. Our Support Networks continue to grow through social media as a primary source of support and information for parents of multiples. We are committed to research and producing fact sheets about multiple births, with six new or updated fact sheets released in 2014-2015.

As MBC moves forward, it has become apparent that we must focus our attention on other organizational matters, including seeking alternative sources of funding. In May of 2015 members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Director met to take a look back at the fiscal year that was just completed to assess the current issues confronting MBC. With the help of a PwC Leadership Grant received in the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year and a facilitator, we are making plans for the future.

The focus for the upcoming year will be primarily on the transition from an Executive Director to an Office Manager, finding new volunteers for the Board and other national positions, increasing MBC's membership base and searching for alternative funding options.

Once again it was a very busy year, and we invite you to review the 2014-2015 highlights in this Annual Report that outlines the many initiatives, developments and activities that marked this past year. Thank you to our extended multiple-birth community, our members and their families, our staff, volunteers, partners and donors. With your continued involvement and support we look forward to another rewarding year.

Wishing you the very best for 2015-2016!

MBC Board Chair

Executive Director

## Highlights of 2014 – 2015

- \* Received a PwC Canada Foundation Leadership Grant
- \* Increased exposure through Social Media
- \* Published 6 NEW Fact Sheets
- \* NEW Blog website was developed for *Multiple Moments* an online magazine.
- \* Celebrated National Multiple Births Awareness Day - “It's a multiple's choice: encourage twins, triplets and more to make individual decisions.”
- \* Conference 2014 hosted by London Multiple Births Association.
- \* Welcomed NEW Chapters - Multiple Births Network of Brantford and Area, Twins, Triplets & More Association of Calgary and Newfoundland & Labrador Multiple Births Association .
- \* Radio Public Service Announcements through Bell Media generated increased awareness of MBC.
- \* MBC Support Networks continue to expand, bringing families together primarily through social media to support one another.
- \* MBC continued their membership in the International Council of Multiple Birth Organizations (ICOMBO) and in the International Society of Twin Studies (ISTS).
- \* Provided support, background information and documentation to ICOMBO in support of their International Awareness Day theme: “*Encouraging our Multiples to Shine as Individuals*”.





# Highlights of 2014 - 2015

- \* Assisted in the development and distribution of several research surveys including the Post-Partum Mood Disorder (Depression) (PPMD) in parents of multiple birth children.
- \* Worked with researchers from McGill University to find multiple-birth families to participate in a survey on allergies in multiples called: *START (Susceptibility To Food Allergy in a Registry of Twins)*.
- \* Celebrated *World Prematurity Day* on November 17th, 2014, helping to create awareness of the needs of premature multiples and all babies during and after their stay in the NICU.
- \* Tuesday, December 2nd, 2014 Multiple Births Canada proudly joined for our 2nd year the movement called *Giving Tuesday*, a national day that celebrates the season of giving.
- \* MBC paid tribute to long-time supporter and Advisory Board Member Dr. Louis Keith who passed earlier in 2014.
- \* On May 31st, MBC held a Special Member's Meeting to seek approval from our membership to update its corporate governance documents in accordance with the new Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act.
- \* Received continuing strong support from donations to Multiple Births Canada to support our mission.



# Thank you to our Donors & Supporters...

## Donations & Sponsorships in

(April 1st 2014 - March 31st, 2015 )

Multiple Births Canada received numerous donations and sponsorships, including in-kind donations, from our national volunteers and other generous people, Chapters and companies. Thank you to everyone who helped MBC through fiscal 2015.

## Individual Donors

Cathy Barr  
Wanda Bell  
Sheila Catto  
Shirley Combden  
Tammy Crayne  
Tim & Nicole Fisher  
Angela Forward  
Sheri & Dwayne Franklin

Lisa Gertsman  
Lynda P. Haddon  
Donna Launslager  
Heather McAuley  
Elaine Nugent  
Lori Oldfield  
Victoria Riley  
Theresa Sanders

## Corporate & Chapter Sponsors

Baxter Corporation  
Beyond Your Office  
Edmonton Twin and Triplet Club  
The Storage Zone  
Telus Communications

## Monthly Donors

Karen and Tom Neilson  
Christian Martin

Bonnie Schultz  
Diane Trewartha  
United Way Donors  
Kimberley & Steven Weatherall  
...and to the many Anonymous Donors.

*Thank you!*



*Stacy Crane Photography*

## Your generosity makes a difference.



# Volunteers & Staff

## Supporting Multiple Births Canada

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Heather McAuley**, Chair & Director of Support Services, ON  
**Lori Oldfield**, Vice Chair & Director of Technical Services, ON  
**Shirley Combden**, Past Chair, Treasurer, Secretary & Director of Finance, AB  
**Sheila Catto**, Director of Communications, SK  
**Elaine Nugent**, Director of Information Management, ON  
**Wanda Bell**, Director of Conference Services, AB

### SUPPORT NETWORK CHAIRS

**Murielle Dietrich**, Francophone Support Network, ON  
**Jacquelyn Agar**, Breastfeeding Support Network, ON  
**Lynda P. Haddon**, Loss Support Network, ON  
**Sheila Catto**, Higher Order Multiples Support Network, SK  
**Eric Novak**, Father Support Network, ON  
**Theresa Sanders**, Special Needs Support Network, ON  
**Muffy McKay**, Lone Parents Support Network, ON  
**Heather McAuley**, Chapter Support Network, ON  
**Tania Zulkoskey**, LGBTQ+ Support Network, BC  
**Carolyn Leighton-Hilborn**, Preterm Birth Support Network, ON  
**Janice Desroches and Jennifer Shelswell**, Adult Multiples Network, ON

### HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Jenna Kelland (Chair)**, AB  
**Rose Czarnuch**, NL  
**Kim Krueger**, AB  
**Tania McNamara**, ON  
**Carolyn Leighton-Hilborn**, ON  
**Jennifer Stephens**, BC  
**Lindsay Patrick**, ON  
**Anna Rendell**, ON

### OTHER NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

**Theresa Sanders**, Membership Coordinator, ON  
**Olga Kutikov**, MADA Chair, ON  
**Gail Moore**, Advocacy & Awareness Coordinator, ON  
**Kimberley Weatherall**, Acting MM Editor, ON  
**Lori Oldfield**, Webmaster, ON  
**Elaine Nugent**, Website Assistant, ON

**Murielle and Pascal Dietrich**, French Translation, ON

**Tara Bedard**, MM Copy Editor, ON

**Nicole Fisher**, MM Website Reviewer & Facebook Moderator, ON

**Lindsay Patrick**, MM Copy Editor, ON

**Serena Engler**, MM Book Reviewer, AB

**Karen Neilson**, HOM Database, BC

**Mark Prechner**, Website Assistant, Brampton, ON

**Cathy Latouf**, Summer Attractions, ON

### ADVISORY BOARD

**Dr. Fiona Bamforth**, MSc, FRCPC, University of Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, AB

**Dr. Cathy Barr**, PhD., Imagine Canada, Guelph, ON

**Dr. Jon Barrett**, MBBCh, M.D., MRCOG, FRCS(C), Sunnybrook & Women's College Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, ON

**Dr. Alan Bocking**, M.D., FRCSC, Professor & Chairman, Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, University of Toronto, ON

**Laura Corbett**, R.N., BScN, PNC (C), Clinical Nurse Leader, Birthing Center II / Women's Special Care Unit, Doha, Qatar

**Jane Denton**, Director Multiple Births Foundation, London, UK

**Dr. Audrey Huberman**, Ed.D., Curriculum, Teaching & Learning, Private Practice, Toronto, ON

**Dr. K.L. Jang**, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of BC, Vancouver, BC

**Jean Kollantai**, Founder, Center for Loss in Multiple Birth (CLIMB) Inc., Anchorage, AK

**Linda G. Leonard**, M.S.N., R.N., Twin/Triplet Specialist, University of BC, Vancouver, BC

**Patricia Malmstrom**, M.A., Twin Services Consulting, Berkeley, CA

**Stephen Moreau**, Employment Insurance Advisor, Toronto, ON

**Pat Preedy**, PhD., Education Specialist, West Midlands, UK

**Cheryl Wadasinghe**, Government Advisor, Nepean, ON

### STAFF

**Kimberley Weatherall**, Executive Director, ON

**Theresa Sanders**, Finance Assistant, ON

# Volunteers Make A Difference...

The 2014 Making a Difference Awards were presented at the 2014 AGM & Conference.

Multiple Births Canada is pleased to announce the following winners.

*(For more details on each of our winners visit our website).*



Josette McCauley - Local

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Denise Cook - Local

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Lori Oldfield - National

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Cathy Latouf - Corporate

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Louis & Donald Keith - International

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CANADA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
MUSEUMS CORPORATION

AGRICULTURE - FOOD  
AVIATION - SPACE  
SCIENCE - TECHNOLOGY

Corporate Award

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## 2014-2015 Service Awards

*Service awards were presented to the following individuals for their years of service and dedication as volunteers at the national level.*



Nicole Fisher - 10 Years

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Lynda P. Haddon - 25 Years

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# Financials 2014 - 2015

**MULTIPLE BIRTHS CANADA/  
NAISSANCES MULTIPLES CANADA**

**Internal  
Financial Statements**

**Year Ended March 31, 2015**

**(Unaudited)**



# Financials 2014 - 2015

## Multiple Births Canada/Naissances multiples Canada (Incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act)

### Balance Sheet - March 31, 2015

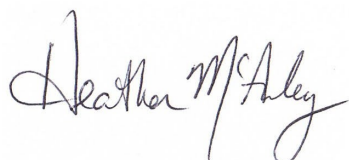
	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash	\$ 4,188	\$ 3,557
Accounts Receivable	5,738	1,820
Prepaid Expenses	1,089	1,089
Inventory	-	655
Computer Equipment	15	22
	<b>\$ 11,030</b>	<b>\$ 7,143</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$ 2,649	\$ 1,288
Deferred Revenue	3,700	-
Unearned Revenue - HOM Network	-	633
	<b>6,349</b>	<b>1,921</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>4,681</b>	<b>5,222</b>
	<b>\$ 11,030</b>	<b>\$ 7,143</b>

See accompanying notes

Approved on behalf of the Board:



(Director)



(Director)

# Financials 2014 - 2015

## Multiple Births Canada/Naissances multiples Canada Statement of Revenues and Expenses and Surplus

Year Ended March 31, 2015

	2015		2014
	Actual	Budget	Actual
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Memberships	\$ 18,682	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,949
Subscriptions	61	100	90
Conference Income	1	0	216
Sponsorships and Grants	1,300	10,000	2,000
Donation - Allocated to Honorarium	0	3,000	5,500
Donations/In-kind Donations	11,139	8,500	13,119
Advertising	190	1,000	900
Allocation from Prior Years for ICTS	0	1,000	0
Commission and Affiliate Income	283	1,000	590
Publications and Resources	286	1,000	255
	<b>\$ 31,942</b>	<b>\$ 40,600</b>	<b>\$ 38,619</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Board of directors</b>			
Interim Meetings	\$ 1,306	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,748
Conference Expense	1,889	4,000	3,502
Expenses	0	0	156
<b>Business office</b>			
Honorarium	20,000	20,000	20,000
Honorarium - Bookkeeper	1,000	1,000	750
Facilities	380	1,000	1,022
Telephone and Internet	1,370	2,500	1,425
Postage	420	500	786
Supplies	131	500	706
ED Travel	0	300	174
HST / GST Expense	768	0	0
Charitable Status	30	100	50

Cont. /

# Financials 2014 - 2015

## Multiple Births Canada/Naissances multiples Canada Statement of Revenues and Expenses and Surplus

Year Ended March 31, 2015

	2015		2014
	Actual	Budget	Actual
<b>EXPENSES continued</b>			
Advertising	50	0	4,534
Conference/Retreat	761	0	448
Grant	1,000	1,000	0
Multiple Moments	250	500	500
Electronic Communications	1,054	550	65
Project Expense	0	2,000	34
ICTS Congress	0	2,000	0
Publications	22	750	60
Insurance	1,188	1,200	1,168
Miscellaneous	248	85	216
Dues and Memberships	240	300	244
Service Charges	189	300	310
Depreciation	7	15	10
Website	180	0	384
	<b>32,483</b>	<b>40,600</b>	<b>38,292</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (541)</b>		<b>\$ 327</b>
(EXPENSES OVER REVENUE)			
<b>SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>5,222</b>		<b>4,895</b>
<b>SURPLUS, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 4,681</b>		<b>\$ 5,222</b>



# Financials 2014 - 2015

## **Multiple Births Canada/Naissances multiples Canada**

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

**March 31, 2015**

#### **1 Organization and nature of activities:**

On December 15, 2000, Multiple Births Canada/Naissances multiples Canada (hereinafter referred to as the "Organization" or "MBC") was incorporated without share capital under the Canada Corporations Act. Its objects include providing education and support for families of multiple births through a network of trained peer volunteers; providing education and increasing awareness about multiple birth issues and unique needs; and participating in, and furthering, research pertaining to multiple births. On July 27, 2012, Multiple Births Canada became a Registered Charity.

MBC operates without financial gain to its members. Any surplus is to be used in promoting its objects.

#### **2 Significant accounting policies:**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted for non-profit organizations, as follows:

##### **a) Revenue and expenses**

Membership fee revenue is recognized on a straight-line basis over the membership period of each member. Publication sponsorship revenue is recognized in the year in which the sponsored publication is issued. Funds received as an Organization Support Grant to be allocated after the balance sheet date are included as Deferred Revenue. All other revenue is recognized in the year of receipt.

Expenses are recognized using the accrual basis of accounting.

##### **b) Use of estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities (if any) at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results may vary from the current estimates. These estimates are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in operations in the period in which any such adjustment becomes known.

# Supporting multiple births together...

*Multiple Births Canada gratefully acknowledges the work of the many individuals who volunteer and make a difference in the lives of multiple-birth families across Canada. While we are unable to mention everyone within the Annual Report each year, MBC feels strongly about the support we receive from the hundreds of volunteers who work daily to support multiple-birth families in their communities and nationally. We also recognize, and thank, all the families of these volunteers for supporting the work they do in an effort to improve the lives of multiple-birth individuals and their families.*

*MBC would like to thank the following photographers for their contribution to this Annual Report: Stacy Crane Photography, Bretny Holmes Photography and all the parents, MBC members and volunteers who have shared their wonderful photos with Multiple Births Canada over this last year.*



**Multiple Births Canada**

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**[www.multiplebirthscanada.org](http://www.multiplebirthscanada.org)**