



Annual Report

May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023

The Meeting held September 23, 2023 at the
Canad Inns Fort Garry
in Winnipeg, MB

Board of Directors 2022-2023

President: Jo-Ann Lapointe McKenzie
Treasurer: Lisa Thiessen
Secretary: Dolores Krahn
Members at Large: Debbie Robitaille (Support)
Crystal Smith (Communication)
Ana Maria Rojas (Database)

Financial Report

Lisa Thiessen Treasurer

Receipts

	May 1, 2022 to April 30,2023	May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022
Donations	30,538	35,170
Grants	9,018	6,820
Total Receipts	39,556	41,990

Breakdown: 39% Walk | 23% Grants | 18% Events | 17% Memory/Honour | 4% General

Disbursements

	May 1, 2022 to April 30,2023	May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022
Sustainability	7,580	6,614
Connections	7,742	3,742
Awareness	4,885	7,669
Research	39,000	5,000
Total Disbursements	59,207	23,025

Explanations:

Sustainability

- ▶ walk and administrative expenses
- ▶ database to better manage contacts and relationships in the community



Connections

- ▶ patient support and education events

Awareness

- ▶ publication of the Bulletin

Research

- ▶ funding grant program

Cash = Reserves

- ▶ the organization maintains a cash balance (i.e. no credit line)
- ▶ financial obligations are met as they arise

Budgets

- ▶ annual operating budget is prepared based on the strategic plan for the year

Insurance

- ▶ appropriate insurance is provided for the organization and its directors

Financial Position

	At April 30, 2023	At April 30, 2022
Cash/Reserves	60,382	75,878

Database

Lisa Thiessen; Ana Marie Rojas

- ▶ CanadaHelps Data Management System: Annual Subscription fee \$1,188.00
- ▶ The system is being used for sending emails, newsletters, and for generating reports relating to donations
- ▶ Provides a central record of contacts
- ▶ Creates groupings: for example: people living with Scleroderma; family members; walk participants; donors

Ana Rojas keeps the information current.

Nominating Committee

Jo-Ann Lapointe McKenzie

Mridul Bhargava has let his name stand for Treasurer.

Linda Cassell accepted a nomination from the floor for Member at Large.

2023-2024 Board of Directors

President:	vacant
Vice- President:	vacant
Past President:	Jo-Ann Lapointe McKenzie
Treasurer:	Mridul Bhargava
Secretary:	Dolores Krahn
Members at Large:	Debbie Robitaille (Support) Crystal Smith (Communications) Linda Cassell vacant (Fundraising/Education)

Jo-Ann Lapointe McKenzie will continue as President until a replacement is found.

Committee Reports

Patient Support Report

Debbie Robitaille

The purpose of our patient support activities is to build community, create connections, and provide support to those living with scleroderma.

The meetings are held via Zoom which allows participation from across the province. Some of the meetings are educational and some are strictly about patients supporting each other. We are considering having some in-person meetings this year.

Topics from 2022/23

September 17, 2022: Facing Fear- Living with a Chronic Illness

November 26, 2022: Diet and Nutrition-what works, what doesn't

January 7, 2023: A New Year of Opportunities

April 22, 2023: Yoga for Scleroderma

Meetings planned for 2023 & 2024

November 25, 2023: Let's share tips and ideas for managing life with scleroderma!
1030 CST via Zoom

January 27, 2024: Financial Literacy

A virtual presentation about Qualifying for Borrowing, Coverages and the Registered Disability Savings Plan

The committee extends a warm "Thank you" to Jereleen Brydon for her assistance as leadership for support group's transition to Debbie Robitaille and Crystal Smith.

Thank you also to those of you who attended in the past. We look forward to welcoming your participation, great ideas, and support and encouragement!

Thank you to the entire support group team:

Debbie Robitaille

Crystal Smith

Linda Cassell

Jereleen Brydon

Monique Major

Dianne Brydon

Communication, Website and Awareness Report

Jo-Ann Lapointe McKenzie, Crystal Smith

Social Media

- ▶ Grant funding from Janssen
- ▶ Assistance and support from Scleroderma Association of BC
- ▶ Social Media messaging and images created and scheduled
- ▶ 24 months
- ▶ Instagram Account is under consideration
- ▶ X (Twitter) messaging prescheduled
- ▶ Time sensitive Twitter messages graciously posted by Pat Garrod!

Website

- ▶ Jennifer Clarke continues to do amazing work keeping our site up to date
- ▶ Site links and navigation have been fine tuned
- ▶ New educational materials and links added
- ▶ The Bulletin is posted on the website: we are no longer printing and mailing the magazine due to costs and changes due to Covid

Fundraising Report

Dolores Krahn, Jo-Ann Lapointe McKenzie, Laura Smirnov

Activities for 2023

Wing Night:

- ▶ Smitty's on Kenaston
- ▶ 93 participants
- ▶ Raffles: 3 Baskets
- ▶ 50/50 tickets
- ▶ Donations
- ▶ Total Raised (after expenses): \$3,197.30



Virtual Walk

- ▶ 8 participants
- ▶ Alex Tahimic: Marathon in Memory of his Mom
- ▶ Link to his video message on our website
- ▶ Total Raised (after expenses): \$7,952.66

Seed Campaign

- ▶ Sunflower Growers Association: Stokes Seeds
- ▶ 200 packets printed with our logo and website link
- ▶ Minimum \$25.00 donation
- ▶ Overlaps with the Walk funds
- ▶ Expenses: stamps & envelopes
- ▶ 125 packets distributed to donors

Research Report

Jo-Ann Lapointe McKenzie

Research Committee was established in 2020 to solicit and evaluate proposals to the *Scleroderma Manitoba Research Grant Program*.

Application deadline: Annually October 1

Open to graduate students, post-medical school resident/fellows, and members of allied health based in Manitoba.

Scleroderma Manitoba Research Grant

Funding research to enhance the quality of life for people living with Scleroderma and related complications. Manitoba-based research is given priority.

Scleroderma Manitoba Professional Development Grant

Funding professional development opportunities for health care professionals.

Scleroderma Research Committee: Martin Entz (Chair), Doug Watkinson, Dr. David Robinson and Jo-Ann Lapointe McKenzie.

Board Activities

The following new policies were approved

1. Recognition and Honorarium Policy
 - Provides guidance for recognizing Board members completing their terms
 - Outlines the honorariums for guest speakers
 - Creates three categories for Donor recognition
2. Guidelines for Indirect Costs for Research
 - Confirms that research grant money does not include any funds for indirect costs

3. Volunteers Undertaking of Confidentiality

- Formalizes the responsibility of Board and Committee members

Guest speakers

In addition to the business portion of our Annual General meeting we welcomed two guest speakers:

- ▶ Dr. David Robinson presented Raynaud's and Digital Ulcers in Scleroderma
- ▶ Dr. Shane Cameron presented Muscle Involvement in Scleroderma: Diagnosis, Treatment and Management