

Annual Report 2016

Amputee Coalition of
Canada

For public release

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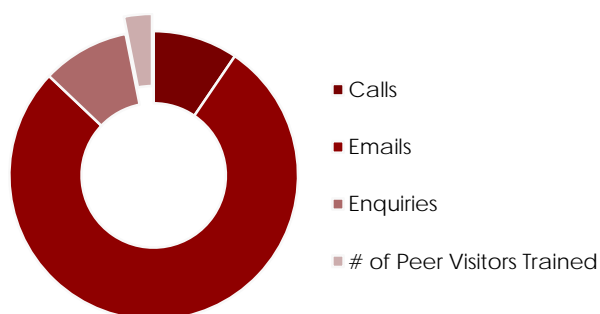
2016 Year in Review

From January to December 2016, the Amputee Coalition of Canada saw continued support from the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) Foundation. The Heroes Hockey Challenge continued its tradition of allowing our national heroes (active members of the Canadian Forces) to play our national sport with their heroes (veterans of the National Hockey League (NHL)). When members of the Canadian Forces have the opportunity to 'lace'em up' with NHL veterans, it turns into heroes playing heroes and through our Fundraising Chair and Board Member, Master Corporal (retired) Paul Franklin; the Amputee Coalition of Canada has been a grateful beneficiary.

Our three support programs – the Peer Visitor Program, the Promoting Amputee Life Skills (PALS) program and the Freedom Through Sport program continued to make a difference to Canadians with limb loss. We are grateful to our volunteers, trainers, and Peer Visitors for the high quality of work, their tireless dedication and the innovation that is truly inspiring. This year we partnered with *Thrive Magazine* as a Forum Partner which allowed us the opportunity to have a voice within Canada's amputee community and we look forward to continuing this partnership as *Thrive* brings new partners online, which will include the Family Military Resource Centres and ParaGolf. We can send free issues to our membership, and this benefit will continue throughout 2017.¹ If you are not on our mailing list, please send an email with your full address details to info@amputes-amputee.org

The Amputee Coalition of Canada welcomed two new members to the Board of Directors in 2016. Camille Poulin (based in Edmonton, Alberta) took on our Freedom Through Sport Program, and Charles Bélanger (based in Québec City) accepted the role of our new Treasurer. The Amputee Coalition of Canada thanks the hard work, dedication and efforts of our outgoing Board Members – Vincent Tam and Alexandra Kulik.

| | Number of enquiries |
|--|---------------------|
| Calls | 70 |
| Emails | 571 |
| Enquiries | 72 |
| Number of Peer Visitors Trained ² | 23 |



Going Forward

The next twelve months brings an exciting time to the Amputee Coalition of Canada as we look to sponsor a number of our Peer Visitors and certified Trainers to participate at the National Conference of the Amputee Coalition of America (ACA) conference in Louisville, Kentucky from August 3-5, 2017. The ACC will be seeking feedback from our members on the conference particulars, specifically:

1. Conference Agenda - what worked well, what did not? What did you find the most valuable aspect of the conference? Were the speakers knowledgeable? Were there any aspects you did not find useful?

¹ If you are not receiving your complimentary issues (Four per year) of Thrive Magazine, please call the ACC at 866-611-2677 or send us an email at info@amputes-amputee.org

² Number includes Trainers trained

2. The format of the conference - Did the topics flow together well? How was information presented and communicated to the attendees? Did you have an opportunity to ask questions and interact with experts? Were you able to attend all the sessions you wanted to attend?
 3. Participation of sponsors – what type of sponsors were present? Did you find interacting with the sponsors valuable?
 4. Social events - Did you participate in scheduled (or informal) social events? Was there anything that worked particularly well, or something that promoted networking and making new connections? Did you make any new connections that will benefit you in the long term?
 5. Media availability - was there media in attendance? If so, how did the media identify themselves? Are you aware of any issues with media coverage?
 6. Suggestions for Canadian content - Do you have suggestions for topics that might be valuable for a Canadian conference? Please identify any issues specific to Canada or Canadian amputees that you feel should be considered for any similar event hosted in Canada.
- Furthermore, we would be interested to hear any ideas on how to improve networking, communication and support for our population within Canada.

The Board of Directors has approved funding for these volunteers and will provide a short report that will help form the decision investigate some Canadian event in the future.

The ACC has had initial conversations with the ACA on bringing the pilot of the on-line version of the Promoting Amputee Life Skills (PALS) course to Canada in both French and English. We have established the baseline requirements and will be looking to have ePALS available in both languages to all Canadians. This online version will help bring the distance that many Canadians with limb loss would have to travel to attend the eight-week PALS course in person.

Our mission is to ***"improve the lives of amputees."*** We do this by:

Creating a Canada-wide network of peer support;

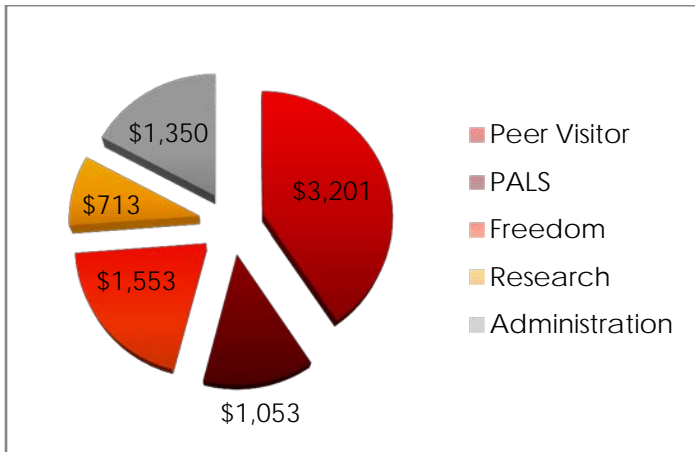
Working with other organizations to teach and develop new skills; and

Focusing on the power of sport and social integration it can bring.

- Peer Visitor Program – in 2016, we saw a couple of Support Groups established in central Ontario and the West Coast;
- Promoting Amputee Life Skills (PALS) – going forward, the ACC will continue to work with the ACA to develop the ePALS program Canadians (in both French and English); and
- In 2016, we developed a new relationship with Athletics Canada to promote track and field events to our members as we as 'Give It a Try' days to learn new skills. In collaboration with the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in Edmonton, AB, the ACC hosted a bicycle clinic to teach new skills and the pleasure of riding.

Expenses in 2016

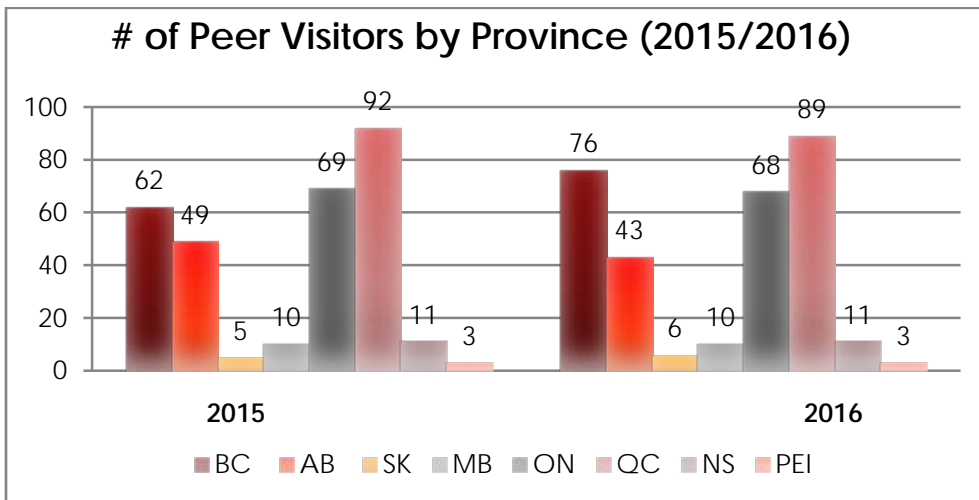
The Amputee Coalition of Canada had expenses of \$7,870, of which \$1,350³ were administrative in nature accounting for 17% of total in 2016 expenditures.



| <u>Program</u> | <u>Spend</u> | <u>% of Spend</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Peer Visitor | \$3,201 | 41% |
| PALS | \$1,053 | 13% |
| Freedom Through Sport | \$1,553 | 20% |
| Research | \$713 | 9% |
| Administration | <u>\$1,350</u> | <u>17%</u> |
| Totals | <u>\$7,870</u> | <u>100%</u> |

Peer Visitor Program

Of all the programs and services offered by the ACC, the Peer Visitor Program remains the flagship of our organization. The strength of the program remains our dedicated Peer Visitors, the time and effort that they make to those and their families who are under going amputation or have just under gone amputation. The chart below depicts the number of certified Peer Visitors by Province.



³ The majority of administrative expenses were accounting fees of \$1,264.73 or 94% of the administrative total.

