

Children's
Healthcare
Canada

Santé
des enfants
Canada

Children's Healthcare Canada 2021 Impact Report



A Message from Emily:

There's no doubt that 2021 marked another difficult year for many Canadians as we navigated prolonged uncertainty related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The roll out of safe and approved vaccines for adults over the age of eighteen brought great relief and hope in the early months of 2021, but left millions of children and youth still vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus and variants of concern. Beyond the direct impacts associated with infection of the virus, children and youth were also subject to lengthy school closures in some jurisdictions; delays in access to essential services, including health and healthcare services; and, of course, social isolation as the result of public health measures to curb the transmission of COVID-19.

As trusted sources of information and expertise, Children's Healthcare Canada and our members have played an important role communicating information and evidence (as it emerged) related to strategies to prevent COVID-19 transmission to kids, to support ongoing essential healthcare service delivery, and eventually related to increasing confidence to vaccinate children and youth against COVID-19.

In addition to managing the virus itself, throughout 2021, and almost consistently from coast to coast, Children's Healthcare Canada members experienced a measurable increase in emergency department visits and admissions related to children's mental health, delayed access to routine or follow-up care, and towards the end of the year, RSV and other seasonal viruses.

As we reflect on the year that has passed, you will notice that a great deal of Children's Healthcare Canada's time and attention was invested in supporting our members and the children and youth they serve navigate the pandemic, but also to set Canada on course to make children, and their health and wellbeing, the focus of our collective recovery efforts.

New relationships and partnerships emerged to advance shared goals, new learning events were created to meet the need for just-in-time information, and new roles identified to support the mobilization of knowledge and evidence from bench to bedside and beyond.

It has been a busy but rewarding year on many fronts. We are honoured to serve a community so dedicated to improving the lives of Canada's 8 million kids. Thank you for everything you do to enable healthy, vibrant children and youth.

Emily Gruenwoldt
President & CEO
Children's Healthcare Canada



In This Year's Report

COVID-19 and Canada's Kids

- Immunizing Children with Confidence

Inform the development of innovative and integrated health systems

- Inspiring Healthy Futures
- Convening System Leaders

Share evidence and accelerate implementation of high-quality child, youth, and family centred care, wherever it is delivered

- SPARK | Shared Platform for Advocacy, Research, and Knowledge
- Let's Get Social
- Transitions4Youth: It's about Growing Up
- Complex Care for Kids: It's all about partnerships
- From Crisis to Catalyst: The Next Chapter for Children's Healthcare
- Peer to Peer Learning and Support
- Solutions for Kids in Pain - SKIP

Unite strategic partners to foster excellence in children's health

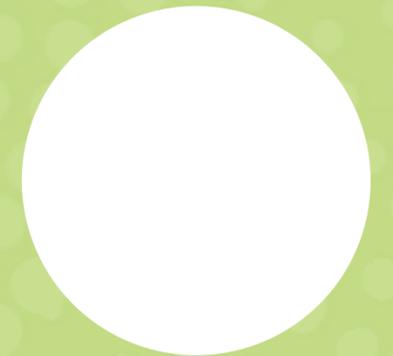
- Building Relationships for Better Futures
- A Historic Gift for Canada's Children

Advocate to improve children's health and health systems

- Brave Policies Today for Bright Futures Tomorrow.
- Children's Healthcare Canada in the Media

About Children's Healthcare Canada

- Children's Healthcare Canada Board of Directors
- Children's Healthcare Canada Staff
- Financial Reporting





Our Members:

In 2021, Children's Healthcare Canada welcomed five new members: Canuck Place Children's Hospice, Canadian Air Ambulance Network, Canadian Children's Literacy Foundation, Maltby Centre and Emily's House. These new members are an example of the diversity and inclusion of organizations and services that make up the child and youth healthcare system.

Children's Healthcare Canada represents healthcare delivery organizations serving children and youth. Our members include all 15 children's hospitals, but also community hospitals, rehabilitation/children's development centres, and home care, respite and palliative care organizations. For more information about membership, [please visit our website](#).





Children's Healthcare Canada

Our Vision: Healthy, vibrant children and youth.

Our Mission: Through purposeful partnerships, we accelerate excellence and innovation in health systems caring for children and youth.

Strategic Priorities and Actions



Inform

the development of innovative and integrated health systems.



Share

evidence and accelerate implementation of high-quality child, youth, and family centred care, wherever it is delivered.



Unite

strategic partners to foster excellence in children's health



Advocate

to improve children's health and health systems

COVID-19 and Canada's Kids

2021 was another challenging year for Canada's kids because of the COVID-19 pandemic. For healthcare providers and organizations caring for children and youth, Children's Healthcare Canada delivered just in time information to support members respond to new public health guidelines, and to adapt service models to meet new and growing demands. Children's Healthcare Canada also mounted a number of public campaigns to bring awareness to the direct and indirect impacts of the pandemic on children, youth and families. 2021 closed out on a hopeful note with the approval and distribution of a safe and effective vaccine for children between 5 and 11 and youth aged 12-18. This news spurred Children's Healthcare Canada and our members to double down on efforts to support the vaccination of Canada's children, bringing us one step closer to getting kids back to being just kids again.

In this section:

- Immunizing Children with Confidence



Immunizing Children With Confidence

With support from the Public Health Agency of Canada, Children's Healthcare Canada and Solutions for Kids in Pain launched a new initiative called Immunizing Children with Confidence. Through tailored interventions and development of new resources, Immunizing Children with Confidence has been working to build the capacity and confidence of Canadian healthcare providers as vaccinators and vaccine promoters serving children and youth. This project will continue to improve access to, awareness and use of knowledge and resources available to front-line child and youth healthcare providers who are responsible for vaccine communication and vaccine provision with children, youth, and families.

*Financial contribution from
Avec le financement de*



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
publique du Canada



RESOURCE HUB

The Immunizing Children with Confidence project has been curating trusted resources on our Resource Hub to ensure access to helpful tools to support vaccine communicators and vaccine providers.

[View the Resource Hub.](#)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Project oversight is provided by leading experts, organizations, and families from across Canada. The Advisory Committee provides guidance on project activities and co-develops resources to promote the safety and efficacy of Covid-19 vaccines.

[View the Advisory Committee.](#)

Inform

the development of innovative and integrated health systems.

In this section:

- Inspiring Healthy Futures
- Convening System Leaders



Inspiring **Healthy** Futures

A Vision for Canada's
Children, Youth and Families

In May 2021, Inspiring Healthy Futures (a collaboration between Children's Healthcare Canada, UNICEF Canada, CIHR Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health and Pediatric Chairs of Canada) launched **A Vision for Canada's Children, Youth and Families**. This final report followed 9 months of consultations with over 1,500 Canadian leaders and organizations passionate to measurably improve children's health and wellbeing. Five integrated priorities emerged that are helping organizations like Children's Healthcare Canada collectively sharpen the focus of policy and advocacy efforts on behalf of Canada's 8M kids.

The full report can be found at www.inspiringhealthyfutures.ca.



#WeCANforKids

Convening System Leaders

The Children's Healthcare Canada Executive Network was established in 2019 and is comprised of the most senior executive leader responsible for children's health (typically CEO or equivalent) at each member organization. This forum provides an opportunity to connect with peers through focused conversations on emerging issues or systemic challenges in children's health and healthcare.

In 2021 we hosted two interactive discussions with children's health leaders from across Canada. The first, in October, welcomed Dr. Jaason Geerts, Director, Research and Leadership Development at Canadian College of Health Leaders to discuss The Healthcare Leader's Roll in COVID Recovery. In December, our second discussion welcomed Mark Wietecha, CEO at Children's Hospital Association (USA) and Barb Vernon, CEO at Children's Healthcare Australasia to discuss Health System Resilience: Navigating the impacts of COVID19 on children's health systems.

We look forward to continuing these discussions with child and youth health leaders in 2022.



Share

evidence and accelerate implementation of high-quality child, youth, and family centred care, wherever it is delivered.

In this section:

- SPARK | Shared Platform for Advocacy, Research, and Knowledge
- Let's Get Social
- Transitions4Youth: It's about Growing Up
- Complex Care for Kids: It's all about partnerships
- From Crisis to Catalyst: The Next Chapter for Children's Healthcare
- Peer to Peer Learning and Support
- Solutions for Kids in Pain - SKIP



SPARK

Shared Platform for Advocacy, Research, and Knowledge

Children's Healthcare Canada launched a refresh of the SPARK Knowledge Mobilization Program in the Fall of 2021. SPARK curates and showcases knowledge and expertise in an effort to spark conversations, ideas and action. This program is designed to ensure that research reaches and engages the intended audience in a meaningful and digestible format, to in turn, accelerate the research to practice pipeline.

Stay up to date on all things SPARK!
[Sign up for the SPARK: News email.](#)



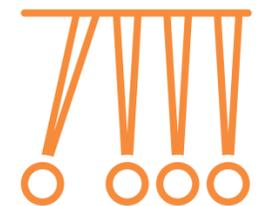
SPARK: Live

22 Webinars
38,542 Views
46 Invited Experts



SPARK: Conversations

11 Podcast Episodes
755 Downloads
13 Invited Experts



SPARK: Impact

27 Letters of Support
\$63,000 of in-kind
support pledged

Let's Get Social

Social Media has been an integral way for Children's Healthcare Canada and our community to access and share trusted information and resources throughout the year. With the information landscape constantly changing, we are proud to be a source for up to date knowledge related to pediatric healthcare and health systems in Canada.

This year our networks grew across all channels, and we look forward to finding new and novel ways to engage with our audiences online over the next year.

FOLLOW US:



1265
New
Followers

2.4 Million
Impressions

16
Campaigns
& Events



260

Delegates

17

Speakers

24

Posters

9

Unique Learning Opportunities

Transitions4Youth: It's about Growing Up

Children's Healthcare Canada and the Transitions Health Hub hosted the first ever Canadian Transitions Pop-up event, #Transitions4Youth, on January 26-27, 2021. The event focused on how to collectively build bridges to promote the best possible health outcomes for youth and families in Canada.

The event kicked off with a vision of a Shared Humanity Framework with three central pillars of sharing trust, sharing power, and sharing humanity. as a foundation for all work with transitional aged youth.

Four young adults who have transitioned through the health system to adult services provided guidance and advice for health transitions and life transitions.

From individual to system challenges and solutions the two-day pop-up was a successful inaugural event, building momentum in the community for research and collaboration.

What is a pop-up event?

Pop-Up events are virtual events that focus on a specific priority within children's health. They present an opportunity for members to share research, new or promising programs and services, convene thought leaders, identify gaps in research or services, and build national relationships and networks with colleagues across the country. In 2021, Children's Healthcare Canada convened two pop-up events.



Complex Care for Kids: It's all about partnerships

Children's Healthcare Canada, together with Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH) and Alberta Health Services, hosted "All In: Creating Synergy in Pediatric Complex Care" on March 25, 2021. The event focused on how to collectively create synergies to support children, families, and healthcare providers to promote the best possible health outcomes for children with medical complexity and their families.

Through a mix of plenary and concurrent sessions we heard from leaders in complex care from across the country and beyond. Health care professionals and families discussed subjects like system navigation and care coordination that will strengthen health systems, improve health outcomes, reduce the burden of care for families, and decrease healthcare costs. Precision health genomics, pain management and Jordan's Principle were among other hot topics explored.

165

Delegates

17

Speakers

7

Unique Learning Opportunities

"When we partner together with organizations, families, and government agencies that's when solutions - really exciting solutions - happen and there's a ton of promise again. Our stories are powerful and valuable. Our communities are strong. There's a huge appetite for reform in the system."

Dr. Eyal Cohen

Staff Physician, Co-Founder,
Complex Care Program, SickKids



From Crisis to Catalyst: The Next Chapter for Children's Healthcare

In a continued effort to keep our delegates and their families safe and closer to the patients they are caring for, our 2021 Annual Conference was held virtually and closely planned with our “local” co-host, the Children's Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre. The Conference theme of “From Crisis to Catalyst: The Next Chapter for Children's Healthcare” saw 431 delegates join online for content that included Member Spotlights, Poster Tours, Physician Leadership Institute courses and a new opportunity to connect emerging leaders with senior leaders for small group mentorship.

431

Delegates

52

Speakers

78

Posters

26

Unique Learning Opportunities

Thank you to our 2021 Co-Hosts, the Children's Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre



Peer to Peer Learning and Support

One of the greatest benefits for our members is the opportunity to connect and share with peers from across the country through our Practice Networks and Child Health Hubs.

Throughout 2021, the Child and Youth Mental Health Network and the Connecting Care for Children with Medical Complexity Network have met virtually to share challenges, innovations, program changes and to support one another through the pandemic.

The Child Health Hubs have continued to focus on their individual priorities and goals while also contributing to our SPARK Program. You can learn more about the Hubs [here](#).

This year we welcomed a new Pediatric Transport Hub to the table. They have already been able to convene the community for a national dialogue on priorities for pediatric transport.

Amidst the challenges of home schooling, lockdowns, and interruptions in health care services, the Family Network took some time this year to hone their healthcare advocacy skills.

Driven by Strategy
Child Health Leaders
Senior Support Staff
Knowledge Sharing
Families
Continuum of Care
Goals Driven
Solutions Focused



SKIP's mission is to improve children's pain management by mobilizing evidence-based solutions through coordination & collaboration.

Children's Healthcare Canada is home to one of SKIP's five regional hubs.

In partnership with SKIP, Children's Healthcare Canada co-hosted seven Spark: Live webinars focused on pediatric pain, hosted by SKIP Knowledge Broker Paula Robeson. These included "Championing pain within your organization in the time of COVID" featuring SKIP Patient Partner Jenny Sun, and "Comfort in pediatric critical care: a challenging new priority in the management of pediatric critical illness" featuring SKIP Patient Partner Marie-Claire Shanahan. Recordings of these webinars can be found on the Children's Healthcare Canada [YouTube channel](#).

Children's Healthcare Canada has also been intricately involved in the development of a new national standard for pediatric pain management with Health Standards Organization. The draft Pediatric Pain Management Standard underwent a public review from November 22, 2021, to February 4, 2022. Feedback from that public review is now being incorporated to create the final Pediatric Pain Management Standard, due to be published in Fall 2022.

Learn more about what SKIP has been up to in the past year in their [2020-2021 Impact Report](#).

2020-2021

SNAPSHOT

5 REGIONAL HUBS

3 AFFILIATE INSTITUTIONS

100+ PATIENT PARTNERS

3800

SOCIAL MEDIA followers

97 TOOLS & RESOURCES

100+ Canadian and International SKIP Partners

27 Institutions with pain champions identified and engaged

48

Media engagements

9 Institutions pursuing ChildKind certification

18 CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

...more than 1,942 participants!

1.4 million KNOWLEDGE USERS REACHED

Unite

strategic partners to foster excellence in children's health.

In this section:

- Building Relationships for Better Futures
- A Historic Gift for Canada's Children



Building Relationships for Better Futures

Throughout 2021, Children's Healthcare Canada built new – and strengthened existing – relationships with organizations and networks across Canada and beyond. Ensuring alignment across sectors and finding opportunities for collaboration, support, and strategic partnerships is integral to the success of all efforts to improve Health services for children, youth, and their families. We look forward to continuing to work toward shared goals with organizations and networks like:

UNICEF Canada • Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health • Canadian Institute for Health Information • Goodman Family Pediatric Formulations Centre • Immunize Canada • Government Relations Institute of Canada (GRIC) • HEAL, Organizations for Health Action • Solutions for Kids in Pain • Maternal Infant Child and Youth Research Network (MICYRN) • The Sandbox Project & The Young Canadians Roundtable on Health • Canadian Paediatric Society • Health Standards Organization • HealthCareCAN • CHILD-BRIGHT Network • Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations • Healthcare Excellence Canada • Health Canada • Public Health Agency of Canada • Children's Hospital Association US • Children's Healthcare Australasia • European Children's Hospitals Organisation (ECHO)

Making Canada's 8 Million Children a Priority

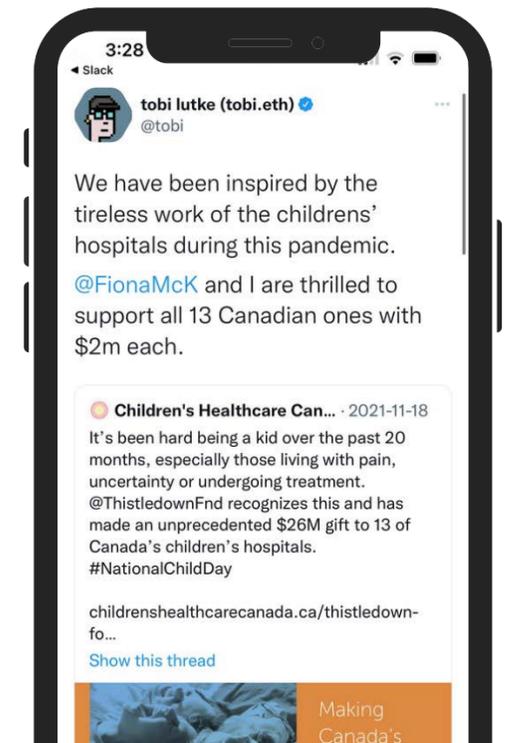
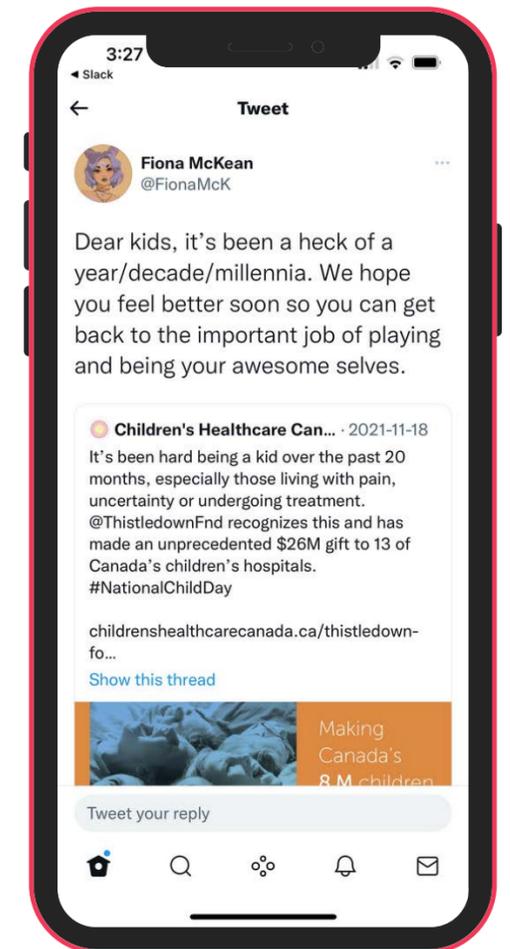
Children's Healthcare Canada and Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations were thrilled to announce a \$26 million gift to thirteen of Canada's children's hospitals on behalf of the Thistledown Foundation in November 2021. This gift was intended to support the local, urgent healthcare needs of children, youth and their families in the wake of the COVID19 pandemic. Children's Healthcare Canada extends our deepest thanks to Fiona McKean and Tobi Lütke for their generous gift to Canada's kids.

A GIFT THAT LETS KIDS GET BACK TO BEING KIDS.

Let's make Canada's 8M children a priority.

Learn more about an unprecedented \$26M gift by the Thistledown Foundation to 13 of Canada's children's hospitals. Join Children's Healthcare Canada and Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations to help kids get back to the important job of being kids

Visit childhealthcan.ca/thistledown-foundation-grant to learn more.



Advocate

to improve children's
health & health systems

In this section:

- Brave Policies Today for Bright Futures Tomorrow
- Children's Healthcare Canada in the Media

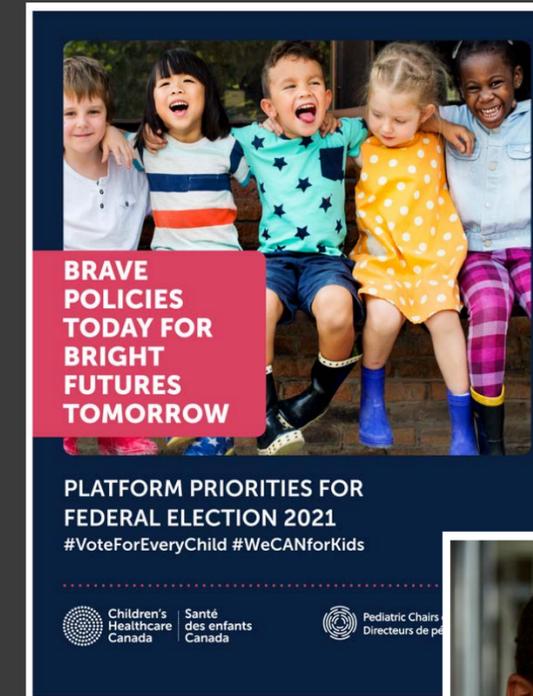


Brave Policies Today for Bright Futures Tomorrow.

Throughout 2021, Children's Healthcare Canada made substantial gains in elevating national discussions to include the impact that COVID-19 and related policies were having on the physical and mental health of children and youth. Children's Healthcare Canada led non-partisan conversations with parliamentarians, sharing evidence collected from members and via national opinion research. We worked to articulate the challenges and realities children, youth and their healthcare providers were facing through action-oriented priority briefs, and public awareness campaigns using social media and traditional radio and print media opportunities. Seeing children's priorities reflected in the speech from the throne and mandate letters is a positive step forward for Canada's kids.

25 Media Appearances related to Children's Healthcare Canada work and collaborations.

17 Meetings held with members of government, staff, bureaucrats, and key policy makers.



About Children's Healthcare Canada

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- Children's Healthcare Canada Board of Directors
- Children's Healthcare Canada Staff
- Financial Reporting



Board of Directors

In 2021 Children's Healthcare Canada welcomed two new Directors to our Board, Dr. Robert Barnes from Montreal Children's Hospital, and Mr. Scott Fortnum from Children's Health Foundation. Dr. Barnes and Mr. Fortnum began their terms on September 14, 2021.

Children's Healthcare Canada would like to thank Dr. Jackie Schleifer Taylor (London Health Sciences Centre) and Ms. Margaret Ruddy (Montreal Children's Hospital) for their time and dedication serving on our Board of Directors. Both have closed out their terms in 2021. We wish them all the best.

Executive Committee

Chair | Bruce Squires (President, McMaster Children's Hospital; Hamilton, Ontario)

Vice Chair | Julia E. Hanigsberg (President & CEO, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital; Toronto, Ontario)

Treasurer | Margaret Fullerton (Senior Operating Officer, Alberta Children's Hospital - Alberta Health Services; Calgary, Alberta)

Past Chair | Dr. Maureen O'Donnell (Associate Deputy Minister, Health System Innovation, Ministry of Health; Executive Vice President, Provincial Clinical Policy, Planning & Partnerships, Provincial Health Services Authority; Vancouver, British Columbia)

Members at Large | Dr. Marc-André Dugas (Chef du département de pédiatrie, Centre mère-enfant Soleil du CHU de Québec-Université Laval; Québec City, Québec)

President and CEO (ex-officio) | Emily Gruenwoldt (Children's Healthcare Canada; Ottawa, Ontario)

Members at Large

Dr. Robert Barnes (Associate Director of Professional Services, Montreal Children's Hospital; Montréal, Québec)

Sarah Bell (Chief Operating Officer, BC Children's Hospital and Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children, and Interim Chief Nursing Officer & Head of Professional Practice; Vancouver, British Columbia)

Jacques Boissonneault (Administrator; Shriners Hospitals for Children - Canada; Montréal, Québec)

Eric Breton (Family Partner; Ottawa, Ontario)

Isabelle Demers (Assistant President and CEO, CHU Sainte-Justine; Montréal, Québec)

Carrie Dornstauder (Executive Director, Maternal and Children's Provincial Programs; Saskatchewan Health Authority; Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

Scott Fortnum (President & CEO, Children's Health Foundation, London Health Sciences Centre; London, Ontario)

Amy Howard (Regional Director, Children's and Women's Health Program, Eastern Health; St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador)

Dr. Krista Jangaard (CEO, IWK Health Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia)

Alison Quigley (Senior Vice President, Patient Care Services; Trillium Health Partners; Mississauga, Ontario)

Dr. Lindy Samson (Chief of Staff and Chief Medical Officer; CHEO)

Nicole Sneath (Director Health Services, Child Health, Children's Hospital, Health Sciences Centre; Winnipeg, Manitoba)

Judy Van Cleef (Vice-President, Clinical and Chief Nursing Officer, The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids); Toronto, Ontario)

Christine Westerlund (Senior Operating Officer; Stollery Children's Hospital; Edmonton, Alberta)

Our Team



Emily Gruenwoldt
President
and CEO



Lisa Stromquist
Associate Director,
Strategy & Engagement



Paula Robeson
Senior Advisor,
Knowledge Mobilization



Marion Williams
Government Relations
Specialist



Ann Watkins
Communications and
Engagement Specialist



Kerri-Ann Mainville
Manager,
Member Engagement



Logan Carter
Executive Assistant to the CEO;
Coordinator, Governance
and Pop-Up Events



Rachel Van Woezik
Program Coordinator, SPARK
Knowledge Mobilization Program



Corey Fortier
Project Management and
Evaluation Specialist



José Gauthier
Production Manager,
Knowledge Mobilization

Financial Reporting

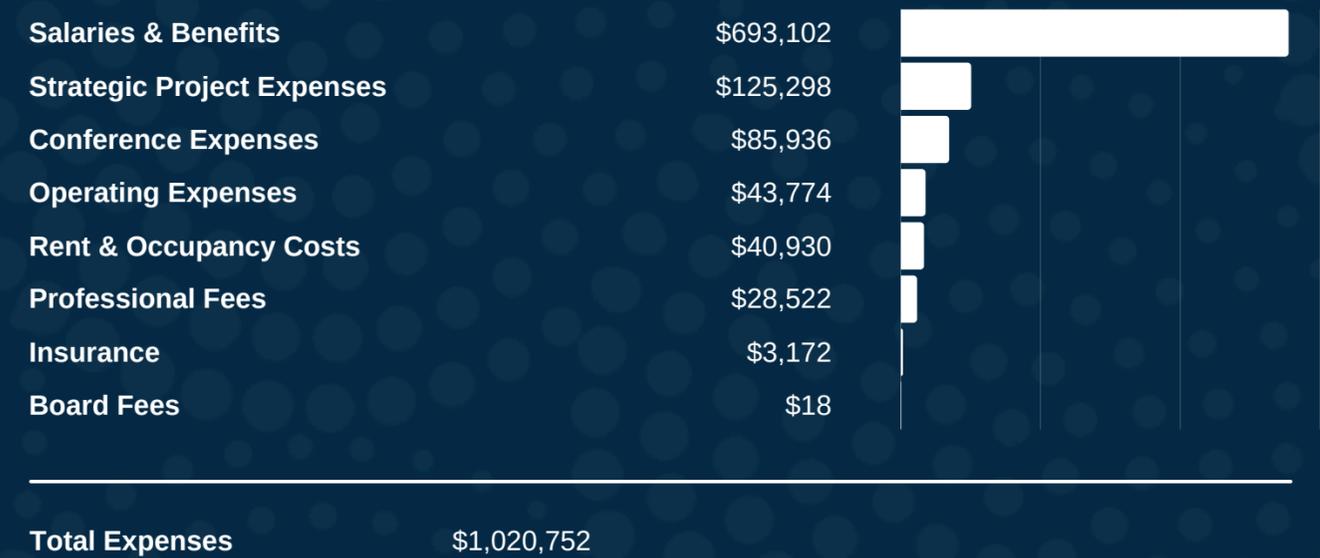
September 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021 *

[Click here to view the audited statements.](#)

Revenue



Expenses



**This reporting period is seven months in duration. As of April 1, 2021, Children's Healthcare Canada's fiscal year will run April 1st to March 31st.*



Children's
Healthcare
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Santé
des enfants
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