

Darryl Neighbour

Darryl has been a paraplegic since falling off a roof in August 2000. After rehabilitation, Darryl was introduced to the sport of curling. He is now a Skip in 4 leagues and has competed in National and International Championships. Darryl is active as a speaker for the BC Paraplegic Association, an Ambassador with the Rick Hansen Foundation and as a spokesperson with BC Wheelchair Sports. He is also a current board member at the Marpole Curling Club.



Nick Perry

Nick was working in a lumber yard in Victoria, in 2001, when he was hospitalized with a severe spinal cord injury. Nick is now a T12/L1 incomplete paraplegic. After three years, Nick was able to get out of his wheelchair and walk again. Now almost 7 years post-injury, Nick speaks on behalf of WorkSafeBC to young workers and employers about the importance of workplace safety. Nick is also a volunteer for the BC Paraplegic Association's Speakers' Bureau.



Johanna Johnson

Johanna Johnson was struck by a car while crossing a street, at the age of 12. This accident left her as a ventilator dependent, c2-3 quadriplegic. Johanna returned to school, eventually receiving her BA and BEd from UBC, as well as a diploma focusing on special education. Since then, Johanna has been working as a teacher for the Delta and Vancouver school districts. Johanna is an executive board member of the BC Coalition of Persons with Disabilities and a peer volunteer for the BC Paraplegic Association.



James Sanders

James has a bachelor of fine arts in theatre from Simon Fraser University. His professional career includes acting, writing, and producing for the stage and screen. Quadriplegic from a spinal cord injury incurred on New Years Eve of 1990, James is committed to positive and accurate representations of disability in media. James first became involved with the BC Paraplegic Association in 1991. James and his wife Barbara run a theatre company named Realwheels.



Norman McCaffrey

Norm was 19 years old when he was injured in a motor vehicle accident in 1999. In 2002, Norm received an Access Ability Computer Programming Certificate from the BC Open University. Currently, he is an undergraduate student at Simon Fraser University, working on a sociology and psychology degree. In between his studies, Norm has worked for HSBC as a Database Architect and Administrator. Norm plays wheelchair rugby for B.C.'s provincial team and hopes to make Team Canada.



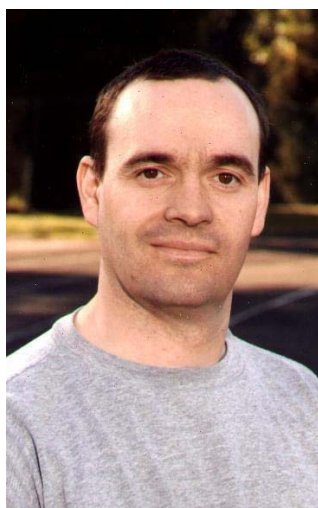
Paul Gauthier

Paul Gauthier has worked with the BC Paraplegic Association since November 2005. Paul is a member of the Personal Supports Program Working Group. He also had a large part in the creation of the Choices in Support for Independent Living (CSIL) program. Paul, who has Cerebral Palsy, has been an athlete in three Paralympic Games, in the sport of boccia. He recently won a gold medal at the 2007 World Cup of Boccia which was held in Vancouver.



Sherry Caves

Sherry has been a paraplegic since being hit by a drunk driver at the age of 7. Over the years she has become a peer, an advocate and a resource volunteer for the BC Paraplegic Association and other related organizations. She is a past president and public speaker of the Greater Vancouver chapter of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). In addition, Sherry co-founded a support group for women with spinal cord injuries called Girl Talk.



Jean Potvin

Jean worked as a mechanic until 2003 when a work related accident left him with a spinal cord injury. Now a paraplegic, Jean started volunteering with the BC Paraplegic Association in 2005. He joined the Association as an employee in August 2006 and now organizes social and educational events for people with disabilities in the Fraser Valley with the BCPA Peer Program.



Bert Abbott

Bert Abbott was 36 years old when he sustained a spinal cord injury from falling out of a tree. Prior to his accident, he was a chef. Bert has worked as a Rehabilitation Consultant for the BC Paraplegic Association since 1997. He is a founding member and president of the Mid Island Wheelchair Sports Club. Additionally, he sits on the Community Access and Awareness committees throughout his region.





Gerry Price

Gerry worked in Engineering and Environmental Services on Saltspring Island before his workplace accident in 1995. After becoming a quadriplegic, he started volunteering on a variety of committees and boards including the Islands Trust Building Design Panel. In 2005 Gerry moved to Parksville, where he serves as a BC Paraplegic Association volunteer Board member and develops assistive devices for wheelchair users.



Teri Thorson

In 1996, Teri Thorson became a quadriplegic after acquiring a spinal cord injury in a motor vehicle accident. Teri later returned to the work force in various capacities and was introduced to many different sports including wheelchair racing. Teri later competed at the 2004 Athens Paralympic Games. She joined the BC Paraplegic Association team in 2005 for a year and continues to volunteer with the peer support program. Teri is currently the president of the Wheelchair Race Series; an Ambassador for the Rick Hansen Foundation; a volunteer with BC Wheelchair Sports; and a volunteer with Power to Be in Victoria. She has also started her own line of clothing for people that are seated.



Lynn Turner

Lynn was 42 when she was injured in a 2002 motorcycle accident. This former provincial government worker is now a C5/6 incomplete quadriplegic. Lynn has volunteered with the Suicide Prevention Crisis Line, One to One Reading Program in Elementary Schools, and is a speaker with the PARTY Program [Prevent Alcohol & Risk Related Trauma in Youth]. Lynn moved to Quesnel from Cranbrook in the fall of 2006.



Brandy Stiles

At the age of 17, Brandy Stiles became a paraplegic due to a spinal cord injury sustained in a motor vehicle accident. Shortly after moving to Prince George, Brandy started volunteering with Rick Hansen's Wheels In Motion event and with the Caledonia Adaptive Snow Sports Association. This led to her current position as the BC Paraplegic Association's Northern Peer Program Associate in 2006.



Jay Douglas

Jay has been using a wheelchair since 1985, when he was injured in a motor vehicle accident. In 1986, while Jay was living in Vancouver, he started helping other newly injured people to find contacts for wheelchairs, ramps and medical supplies. He continues to do so today. Jay has been a BC Paraplegic Association member since 1987, and is also a volunteer. He now lives in Kelowna and sits on the board of COAAT (Central Okanagan Access Awareness Team) which deals with disability issues in the Okanagan area.



Patrick Harris

Pat was injured at the age of 10 in a river bank cave-in. He has been living with a spinal cord injury (SCI) for 41 years now. Pat has lived in Prince George for 26 years, working for the BC Paraplegic Association for 25 of those years. Previously, he was employed as a goldsmith and did inside sales and inventory control for a hydraulic company. He is the Regional Coach for the local wheelchair basketball team.



Bob Thorpe

Bob acquired a spinal cord injury at the age of 31 when he was injured in a car accident in 1982. After his hospital stay and rehabilitation, Bob returned to work at Alcan in Kitimat, B.C. where he worked for 28 years. Bob, now retired, moved to Kamloops in 2004. Bob volunteers at Volunteer Kamloops and is involved with the local Measuring Up committee. He is now also a volunteer with the BC Paraplegic Association's Speakers' Bureau.



Dan Bauer

Dan was working in the oil fields in Alberta when he was injured in a car accident at the age of 23 and is now a T-12 paraplegic. In 1992, he started volunteering as a motivational speaker, eventually making public speaking his occupation. Dan moved to BC in 2004 from Alberta to take advantage of the milder winters. He recently moved to Nanaimo from Osoyoos with his wife Judy, where they owned and operated a successful cleaning business. In the future, their goal is to build a wheelchair accessible and senior friendly wilderness resort.



Dean Stone

Dean became a paraplegic on August 28, 2007 when his spinal chord was compressed in a motorcycle accident. Dean had worked as a professional driver with the Langley School Board and with the Teamster Union in the movie industry. He had his pilot's license, was a certified sailboat Captain, and had owned a motorcycle shop and a bussing company. Dean now lives in Langley with his wife and daughters. He is active volunteering with BCPA's Peer Program in the Fraser Valley.



Jamie deChamplain

Jamie deChamplain became a paraplegic at the age of 18 after she was injured by a rare spinal cord tumor. She has developed her leadership skills through the Rotary Youth program and uses these skills to benefit her community. She also volunteers her time with several groups including Pacific Assistance Dogs (PADS), Special Olympics, B.C. Wheelchair Sports and a variety of Rotary Programs. In her spare time, Jamie enjoys painting and photography.