Welcome to our first newsletter. The Canadian Burns Survivors Community (CBSC) is a community of burn survivors, firefighters, burn unit staff member and advisors who have come together to offer support and education to any person or people that have been affected by the trauma of burns. We have been working since 2007 to offer support to burn survivors and family members of survivors in a variety of ways. Our main work is to ensure that biennial conferences for burn survivors take place across the country; we select the host groups and help with the planning and execution of the conferences. We also maintain a website that is often used by Canadians who have experienced burns to help them get connected in their own communities to local organizations or survivors.

The 8th Biennial Canadian Burn Survivors Conference was held June 27th to June 30th at the Prince George Hotel in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Many thanks to our major sponsors and host’s the Cape Breton Burn Treatment Society and the Nova Scotia Burn Treatment Society for hosting this year’s conference.

We had 125 attendees from across Canada, the USA and England in attendance.
The CBSC Board approved our first awards program to recognize outstanding contributions in support of burn survivors and their family members following a burn injury. The three categories were as follows:

**Peer Support Award**
- To recognize a person(s) and or group who have gone above and beyond with supporting of other burn survivors and their family members.
- Target - Burn Survivors and family members of burn survivors.

**Burn Care Award**
- To recognize person(s) in the health care sector staff who have gone above and beyond with support of burn survivors and their family members.
- Target - Doctors, Nurses, Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists.

**Fire Fighters and Builders Award**
- To recognize person(s) in the Firefighters and Builders sector staff who have gone above and beyond with support of burn survivors and their family members.
- Target - Firefighters, Builders from public and private sector.

**Nomination Process for All Awards**
- CBSC board members – will nominate an individual or group – closing date December 31 prior to each conference the following year. (i.e. December 31, 2017 for 2018 conference).
- Board executive will review and determine the winner during a conference call in the spring, to be announced at the next Burn Conference.
- Winner to be advised by the CBSC Board in writing and asked to keep it confidential until announced at the conference.
- Winner to be given an engraved plaque – 8 x10.
- List of recipients to be kept on CBSC website along with description of each award.
- Winner of each award to have their registration fees covered for the next conference.
Peer Support Award - John Hart

- John Hart was burned in September of 1994 while working for Manitoba Hydro in Churchill. He was working on a power line and was electrocuted, which resulted in a long hospitalization, many surgeries, and the eventual amputation of his right arm and leg.
- At the time, John and his wife and 4 small children were living in Thompson Manitoba, and they were soon relocated to Winnipeg. John faced his devastating injury with bravery and grace.
- In the early years of his recovery, he was asked by Burn Unit staff to meet with new burn survivors at the hospital to offer peer support.
- He started attending the burn conferences held in Winnipeg, the first one taking place in 1998, and he soon joined the planning committee for these annual events. This committee eventually became what is now the Mamingwey Burn Survivor Society.
- John is the proud dad of his 4 now grown kids and their partners, and is grandfather to 3 little ones, and he and his wife Karen continue to live in Winnipeg.

Burn Care Award - Barbara-Anne Hodge

- Barbara-Anne Hodge is an occupational therapist who worked in Winnipeg at the Health Sciences Centre from 1986 to 2015, most of that time on the Manitoba Firefighters Burn Unit.
- When some of the burn unit staff decided to hold a gathering for burn survivors in 1998, she attended.
- As soon as she returned to her part-time position on the Burn Unit, she joined the planning committee for the next burn survivor event.
- The group had burn survivors join the planning, and when in 2003, this group became the Mamingwey Burn Survivor Society, and they have been holding annual conferences for survivors ever since. Barb has been the chair of this group since its inception.
- In 2005, Mamingwey decided to host a national conference, and in 2007, the Canadian Burn Survivors Community was established, and Barb has been a part of this organization ever since. She is also on the board of the Manitoba Firefighters Burn Fund and has been on the board of the Canadian Skin Patient Alliance for 10 years, where she represents all Canadian burn survivors.
- She is currently enjoying an early retirement from her profession and spends her time volunteering, as well as with her rather large family, and she particularly enjoys babysitting her 2-year-old twin grandchildren 4 days a week.

fall newsletter 2018
• Joined DND Fire in August 1980, NSFFBTS started in 1982 but was incorporated in 1983, Dave started getting involved in the Society’s fundraisers very early on but became prominent in 1986 during the annual Conquer all Bank Fishing Derby.

• Was elected Chairman of the Society in approximately 86/87.

• In 1998, influenced by the IWK and QE2 burn units Dave was instrumental in establishing the first successful summer camp for burn survivors in Atlantic Canada and the only one in North America today that accepts BOTH youth/child and adult burn survivors as campers.

• First held at historic Sherbrooke Village in 1998, the camp moved to Camp Kidston in 1999, and then in 2000 to Scotia Glenn in Thorburn where it was formally named Camp Connect and has been held ever since.

• Dave quickly earned the nickname “Camp Dad” and still affectionately maintains that moniker today, even though he has not been the Camp Director for many years.

• Dave has also played a key role in many of the Society’s fundraisers, primarily the annual bowl-a-thon which, initially had been given a lifespan of approximately 5 years, has just completed its 36th successful year.

• Dave has seen many individuals come and go during his tenure with the Society, but he has remained the steadfast anchor. Both he and his wife, Joan, have generously given numerous years to promoting both the Society and Camp Connect, neither of which would likely have been as successful as they are today without his leadership and guidance.
Thank You

Thanks again to our sponsors, Nova Scotia Burn Treatment Society and the Cape Breton Firefighters Burn Care Society.

Peggy’s Cove

The Halifax area provided many night spots for dining in the evening and side trips such as to the world-famous Peggy’s Cove.
To firefighters, there is no greater measure of courage than burn patients struggling to survive devastating injuries.

The heroism of burn survivors inspires the men and women of Manitoba’s Fire Service to volunteer their time and effort in raising funds to support exceptional burn care, treatment, rehabilitation and research.

The Firefighters Burn Fund was created in March 1978 and is a registered charitable organization, duly incorporated in the Province of Manitoba. Originally organized by Winnipeg firefighters, the Burn Fund now involves and is supported by members of the Fire Service throughout Manitoba.

The Firefighters Burn Fund is a volunteer run organization. No salaries are paid to any Board Member or volunteer. The Burn Fund is not a member agency of The United Way, nor does it receive government grants. Therefore, we rely entirely on donations and proceeds from fundraising activities.

The Burn Fund supports ongoing educational opportunities for members of the Burn Team (Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists). This includes continuing educational seminars, conferences, developing research skills, etc.
Featured Burn Care Organization

Firefighters Burn Fund
Victoria, BC

The Fire Fighters Burn Fund Victoria, BC is a non-profit volunteer society dedicated to the treatment, support, prevention and education of burn and fire injuries. The “Burn Fund” has been serving Vancouver Island for over 33 years. The Fire Fighters Burn Fund Victoria, accompanied by dedicated doctors, nurses and support personnel in our hospital will assist you through the entire process from injury to recovery, and we don’t stop there. Fire Fighters Burn Fund Victoria has raised Millions of dollars since its inception to help support burn victims and their families in the greater Victoria area, and as one of the major burn units in BC, we service all of Vancouver Island. If you require assistance you can contact us anytime and we will help you. Thanks to the citizens of Greater Victoria as we have a residence which families can use while their loved one is in our burn unit. We have a network of reliable professionals who can address any worries you have if you or your loved ones have suffered a severe burn injury, and we support children by education, prevention and peer support.

What We Do

1. Support the treatment of patients with burn injuries by funding the purchases of necessary medical equipment for their care at the Royal Jubilee Hospital.
2. Provide a fund at the Royal Jubilee Hospital to cover the costs of pressure garments for burn patients not covered by ICBC, WSBC, or medical insurance coverage.
3. Provide family support to burn patients by providing the Burn House as a home away from home. This allows the family members to stay close to the Royal Jubilee Hospital to be there to provide support as needed through the burn patient’s recovery.
4. Provide educational materials for burn awareness as requested by the public. We can provide educational materials or provide a display with burn awareness information for fire prevention/education teaching sessions.
5. Provide sponsorship for burn survivors or Doctors, Nurses, support staff caring for burn patients to attend Educational sessions in burn care or recovery.

Contact Us
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Next CBSC Conference – Vancouver, BC 2020

Mark your calendars May 20 to 23, 2020 for our next conference at the Pinnacle Hotel Harbourfront in Vancouver, BC as hosted by the BC Professional Firefighters Burn Fund.

More details to follow as they are available.

Newsletter Submissions
Please submit any submissions for our quarterly newsletter to Michael and Sandy Cook
michaeldcook@shaw.ca