



2024 Annual General Meeting

April 24, 2024

2023 Impact Report



Telephone: 519-981-1329 / Email: info@biawe.com
Website: www.biawe.com





Annual General Meeting Agenda

April 24, 2024 5:30 pm Hungarian Cultural Centre

Light meal served starting at 5:30, Meeting to Follow

1. Welcome – Anna Jurak, Executive Director
2. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda – Joanne King, Chair of Board
3. Declaration of Quorum– Joanne King
4. Presentation of Annual Financial Report— Joanne King
5. Appointment of Financial Reviewer
6. Approval of the Acts and Deeds of Officers and Directors for 2023
7. Approval of change to By-Law (attached)
8. Volunteer Acknowledgements—Volunteer of the Year Award
9. Presentation and Election of 2024—2025 Board of Directors
 - To be elected for a second two year term: Theresa Wunder, Ann Marie Keough, Lauren Fields, Alix Khanafer.
 - To be elected for new two year term: Allison Kivisto, Danielle Ferri
 - Continuing into second year: Joanne King, Sara Pender, Suzanne De Froy, Marcus Niessen
10. Introduction of Annual Report for 2023 and Chair’s Remarks.
11. Adjournment



Annual General Meeting Minutes

April 26, 2023 5:30 pm Hungarian Cultural Centre

1. Welcome – Anna Jurak, Executive Director
2. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda and Minutes – Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Joanne King, Chair of Board
MOTION: To approve the agenda. Moved by Marcus Niessen, Seconded by Alix Khanafer...passed.
3. Declaration of Quorum- 20 members present – quorum achieved as per the Bylaws which states must have 25% of Membership (58).
4. Presentation of Annual Financial Report—Joanne King, Treasurer
MOTION: To approve the financial report as presented for December 31, 2022 year end. Moved by Kathryn Edmunds, seconded by Debbie Boose...passed.
5. Appointment of Financial Reviewer.
MOTION: To appoint Grant Thornton LLP as financial reviewers for 2023. Moved by Marcus Niessen, Seconded by Alix Khanafer...passed.
6. Approval of the Acts and Deeds of Officers and Directors for 2022.
MOTION: To approve. Moved by Sara Pender, Seconded by Wayne Roszyl...passed.
7. Election of Officers –Three new board members were brought on earlier in the year to fill in vacancies. As per the bylaws they are now up for election for a two-year term.
MOTION: To approve the election of Directors for 2023-2024: Joanne King, Marcus Niessen, Rachel Olsen, Alex Carson, Sara Pender, Lauren Fields, Suzanne DeFroy, Alix Khanafer. Moved by Kim Spirou, Seconded by Debbie Boose...passed.
The Board of Directors includes the above and Kim Spirou, Anna Marie Keough and Theresa Wunder completing the slate.
8. Special Presentation- Volunteer of the Year Award 2022 was presented to Debbie Boose. Debbie was an original director of the corporation in February 2001 and has been one of BIAWE's most active volunteers, serving the most hours of the year from bingos to Butterfly Lane events, the Golf Tournament, Digital Safety sessions and more. She comes with a smile, excited to volunteer and ready to work. She has been reliable, enthusiastic, compassionate and motivated. She was presented with the volunteer of the year trophy.
9. Annual Report and Chair's Remarks. The report was circulated at the meeting. Joanne King remarked on the how much the organization has grown over the last few years, particularly in 2022, with more members of the support team providing more services to more clients. She thanked board members, staff and volunteers.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25.

Attendance – Suzanne De Froy, Kathy Worotny, Gail Roszl, Wayne Roszl, Rob Lauzon, Lauren Fields, Alix Khanafer, Theresa Wunder, Ali Caputo, Sara Pender, Marcus Niessen, Debbie Boose, Alan Boose, Simarjeet Sahota, Anna Jurak, Rachel Olsen, Joanne King, Ann Marie Keough, Kim Spirou, Kathryn Edmunds.

The mission of the Brain Injury Association of Windsor and Essex County (BIAWE) is to enhance the lives of those affected by an acquired brain injury through education, support and awareness.

Education

BIAWE provides education not only to its clients through its support programs, but also through its public education programs.

Digital Safety Program— IT Specialist and Security Advisor, Kevin Cosgrove presented a four part series on digital safety with over 100 participants attending. The sessions were taped and are available on the BIAWE website. This was made possible through a \$20,677 New Horizon's Seniors Grant to provide technology and training to seniors. Several sessions were held for clients to learn to set up email, use the web and other apps so they could attend BIAWE's on-line programs.

Helmets for Kids—This is one of our most popular programs and continues with the assistance of volunteers and a generous sponsor—McCarthy Engineering. At a fitting at Assumption Middle School we received media coverage on CTV and CBC news. Helmets were fitted and provided to students at bike rodeos throughout the season. Several hundred bicycle helmets were provided to children who otherwise could not afford a helmet. Presentations of helmets and bicycle safety information were provided at several city libraries.



Healthcare Professionals Training—This is a program about the physiology of the brain, about brain injury, how it can affect a person and managing some of the challenging behaviours that may arise. This is a presentation offered to front line staff at long-term care homes, St. Clair College students, and other organizations.

Music Program -A quartet from the Windsor Symphony played music in the spring and again during the winter holidays as part of their Music for Health program. People in the Day Program at ALSO attended as well as BIAWE clients.

STAR Program—Presentations were made to students at elementary and high schools about the need to tell if a responsible adult if they have hit their head. They learn about the brain, how an injury affects it and the possible outcomes. Brain injury prevention is highlighted in this 60 minutes presentation.



Annual ABI Conference

BIAWE's annual ABI Conference for Healthcare Professionals was held in October at the Hotel Dieu Grace Healthcare Brown's Auditorium.

Conference Chair Theresa Wunder and organizing members Renee Cantarutti, Patricia Fleet, Rachel Olsen, Niina Lobbestael, Laura Wilkie, Claudia Town, Alex Carson, Ann Marie Keough and Anna Jurak welcomed participants from southwestern Ontario to learn from distinguished speakers. They included Dr. Saadia Ahmad, neuropsychologist and Dr. Charles Tator, neurosurgeon through the wonders of technology on the big screen. Dr. Keith Sequeira, physiatrist, Dr. Michael Rathbone, neurologist, Dr. Patrick Quaid, optometrist, Niina Lobbestael, dietician and Tim Brady, pharmacist rounded out the full day education conference.

The overwhelming success of the conference was due to the hard work of the whole committee, but especially Theresa Wunder and Rachel Olsen. Not only was the conference highly rated by the participants, this conference has set new standards for excellence, and enhanced BIAWE's reputation in brain injury education.



Awareness

Anna Jurak was interviewed by Sean Pickard on "Voices 4 Ability" (v4radio.com), Canada's internet radio station for those living with a disability. It was an opportunity to tell people throughout the country about the work of BIAWE.

BixZ and Windsor Star printed articles about the IT program and Kevin Cosgrove's involvement with BIAWE in instructing on the proper use of passwords, updates on scams and other important information about the safe use of technology.

Videos of our clients were produced and uploaded to our website on YouTube. Clients speak about their brain injury and how BIAWE has helped them on their journey to wellness.

BIAWE held its first Social Workers Information Session. Social Workers attended and heard presentations from our social workers as well as client stories. This was organized by Lauren Fields, herself a social worker and BIAWE board member. Since the session BIAWE has been receiving more referrals for service for their clients.

Support

We continue with our programs “You are Not Alone” for caregivers and survivors, the Young Adult Peer Support Group, the Caregivers Peer Support Group, the OBIA Peer Support Program, GOALS, weekly zoom Coffee Chats and biweekly in-person Kingsville Coffee Chat, Art Sessions, Cooking Classes and the Sunshine Program.

As a result of our new office at ALSO, we are now able to meet clients during intake. We designed a new client package each new person receives to welcome them to BIAWE.

Each year BIAWE accepts a 4th year nursing placement student to complete their community nursing training. This year Maddie Jones prepared and presented a four session series designed to exercise the brain and encourage social interaction.

Volunteers

BIAWE is fortunate in having a dedicated group of volunteers who help us with the bingos, socials our fundraising events, our committees and our board of directors. We rely on them to hold our BIAWE community together. They are connected to the community and makes BIAWE a better place. Many volunteers put in many hours in promoting BIAWE. Some volunteers help out in small ways, but each makes a real difference to the lives of those affected by an acquired brain injury. And for that we are truly grateful. 2022’s winner of the “Mission Possible” volunteer award was Debbie Boose.



Volunteer Isabelle Kolodziej organized the cleanup of Butterfly Lane and planting of butterfly attracting perennials at Butterfly Lane. We held an event there in June with the public invited to attend. Signs about BIAWE and what we do are installed in the lane, so the public can read about what BIAWE does. Our local MPP—Andrew Dowie dug into the dirt and planted a few perennials too.



Partnerships

BIAWE is fortunate in having community partners who provide us with in-kind services that allow us to provide more programs and services. We are able to use their facilities at no charge.

Our use of the facilities at ALSO, 1100 University Ave. W increased not only for our programs and a storage space, but we were also given an office. This has helped tremendously in doing in-person intakes and meeting clients who require assistance.

Hotel Dieu Grace Healthcare provided the venue for BIAWE's annual conference but also support in many aspects of holding a conference and for that we are truly grateful.

Anna Jurak met with politicians to keep the work of BIAWE on their radar and to make a case for funding and support. She met with the provincial Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Hon. Michael A. Tobollo and federal Minister for Seniors, Hon. Kamal Khera. The E.D. was invited to make a presentation to the Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy on its upcoming provincial budget discussions on behalf of BIAWE.

BIAWE is increasing its national networks through an agreement with the Canada Brain Injury Association Network of over fifty brain injury associations across Canada.



Fundraising

The Duelling Pianos fundraiser in February at the Windsor Yacht Club had 117 attendees and raised \$4,819 towards our programs and services.

The Caboto Club has approved BIAWE as one of its fundraising recipients and June as the month we hosted the All-You-Can-Eat Pasta Fundraiser. We sold home baked goods and made \$600 profit. Overall the Caboto Club donated \$1,027.85.

We are the beneficiaries of money raised at All Star Bingo. A group of very dedicated volunteers work two hours each session, three times per month to raise these funds. In 2023 we were fortunate in receiving \$28,435.

Our annual golf tournament was our best ever, thanks to the Co-Chairs Stuart Galloway and Luis Mendez. A dedicated team of volunteers helped raise \$30,000 at the Kingsville Golf and Country Club. Our annual ABI conference raised \$30,000.



A Message to our Donors

On behalf of the Brain Injury Association and all the clients we serve, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to all our donors, large and small for your generous contributions. Your support is invaluable in helping us provide essential services and support to individuals affected by brain injuries and for our ongoing public education programs.

Thanks to our donors like you, we can continue our mission to improve the lives of those living with brain injuries by offering programs, assistance services, educational resources, public education and much more. Your donation truly makes a difference in the lives of our clients, empowering them to overcome challenges and thrive in their journey towards recovery.

Once again, thank you for your kindness and generosity. We are profoundly grateful for your commitment to making a positive impact in our community.

BIAWE received a federal New Horizons Grant for Seniors for \$20,677 to provide technology and training on computers, tablets and smart phones for our senior clients.

BIAWE completed an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant that was approved in 2022 and completed in March 2023.



The Solcz Family Foundation is providing BIAWE with a three year grant of \$103,860 to pay for the project entitled: Empowering Families with Children Affected by Acquired Brain Injury. This includes the two new programs, Pediatric Caregiver Support Group and the Children's ABI Peer Support Group. It also includes the presentations of the STAR program in schools.

What our Clients Said.....

"The mentor program was the most helpful thing at first, knowing someone would call once a week and they understood and had good tips. Always thankful for tips from members who found what worked for them. The computer class was excellent and had lots of advice on passwords and not getting scammed. Zoom meetings are really helpful because it's hard to have enough energy at the end of the day to go out. I'm thankful for even the programs I haven't been able to go to because I might get to them in the future." -S

"There is not enough I can say for the association and the support provided to my husband and I with the monthly social and caregiver meetings, along with the peer mentoring program. This association was a vital support bridge before getting any government funded treatment (ABI Clinic) which was almost a year wait. It is difficult to believe that is BIAWE solely funded by donations and fundraisers, as I believe it is a mental health bridge for brain injury survivors as it was for me." -B

"Before I attended the Goals group I struggled with loneliness, hopelessness and lack of support, there was no one who understood what the last 5 years has been like since my diagnosis. The Goals group means I have something to look forward to, to be with people who have the same struggles as me, to learn to stay focused on my goals, socialize. I appreciate the tremendous efforts of the Brain Injury Association of Windsor Essex and their supporters, without them I shudder to think where I would have ended up." -B

OUR TEAM 2023

Executive Director

Anna Jurak

Volunteer Coordinator

Carolyn Basily

You Are Not Alone Support Group

Danielle Bridges

Young Adult Peer Support Group

Rebeca Robinet

Peer Support Coordinator

Ali Caputo

Survivor Social Group

Rebeca Robinet

Caregiver Support Group

Danielle Bridges

Graphic Design

Donna Ntumba

Client Services Coordinator

Robyn Hodge, Ali Caputo,
Mooku Hser

Community Engagement

Coordinator

Sandra Herrera

Healing Arts Classes

Christine Paris

Rachel Olsen

Cooking Classes

Niina Loebbestael

GOALS Group

Danielle Bridges

Board of Directors

Joanne King (Chair)

Dr. Marcus Niessen (Vice Chair)

Dr. Sarah Pender (Treasurer)

Rachel Olsen (Secretary)

Theresa Wunder

Kim Spirou

Alex Carson

Alix Khanafer

Suzanne De Froy

Ann Marie Keough

Lauren Fields

Message from the Board Chair

Welcome to the BIAWE Annual meeting. It has been another year of significant growth. We are so fortunate to have so many people involved in this organization who continue to help us.

I do want to thank all of the volunteers who help in any way possible. But of particular note, I want to thank Theresa Wunder who did an absolutely amazing job chairing the conference committee. Our conference was not only sold out – but is a conference to attend in the future. I would also like to thank Stuart Galloway and Luis Mendez who chaired the golf tournament committee. Again, it was another sold out event, and they have elevated this event to a new status.

As COVID is now becoming part of our rear view mirror, so is the generous grant funding that was available to many not for profit organizations to keep them afloat during the difficult days of COVID. Although we still continue to apply and receive grants, the fundraisers such as the conference and the golf tournament become an important part of our fundraising so that we can continue our mission.

I want to thank our Executive Director Anna Jurak and her team (yes we are now a team of many), that continue to keep this organization moving forward.

Finally, my sincerest thanks to the Board of Directors. You are an amazing group of individuals and I am so grateful that you have dedicated your time and energy to BIAWE.

Joanne King,
Board Chair



STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS (Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)			STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)		
Year ended December 31, 2023			December 31, 2023		
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
REVENUES			ASSETS		
Fundraising	100,253	58,174	CURRENT ASSETS		
Grant and Social Enterprise	83,074	83,900	Cash	147,434	141,107
Donations	74,876	51,127	Short-term investments	156,439	152,318
Ontario Brain Injury Assoc. Grant	5,468	5,824	Accounts receivable	12,835	5,475
Other revenue	5,322	2,814	Prepaid expenses	2,228	2,228
	<u>268,993</u>	<u>201,209</u>		<u>\$318,936</u>	<u>\$301,128</u>
EXPENSES			LIABILITIES		
Wages and Benefits	112,504	105,417	CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Programs- Support Groups	31,014	24,696	Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	10,329	7,661
Outreach/Education	26,325	11,847	Deferred Grant Revenue	43,032	71,364
Fundraising	21,313	16,583		<u>53,361</u>	<u>79,025</u>
Professional Fees	10,970	11,612	Long Term (CEBA)	40,000	40,000
Subcontract	10,592	-		<u>93,361</u>	<u>119,025</u>
Office Supplies	4,222	8,267		<u>225,575</u>	<u>182,103</u>
Telephone	2,687	2,471			
Insurance	2,327	1,323	SURPLUS	<u>\$318,936</u>	<u>\$301,128</u>
Board	2,325	778			
Interest and Bank Charges	1,242	343			
	<u>225,521</u>	<u>183,337</u>			
Other Income—Gov't Assist		9,041			
REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	43,472	26,913			
SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	182,103	155,190			
SURPLUS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$225,575</u>	<u>\$182,103</u>			

On the basis of information provided by the organization, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Brain Injury Association of Windsor and Essex County as at December 31, 2023, the statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year that ended.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, Compilation Engagements, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist the board of directors in the preparation of the financial information.

We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

April 16, 2024 Grant Thornton, Chartered Professional Accountants