

**Children's
Healthcare
Canada**



2022 IMPACT REPORT

It has been another extraordinary and unpredictable year for Canada's children and youth, and the healthcare delivery organizations who serve them. In the midst of some of the most difficult circumstances imaginable, Children's Healthcare Canada and our members worked together to ensure the unique considerations for children and their families were not overlooked.

To support Children's Healthcare Canada members in navigating a third year of the COVID-19 pandemic and an unprecedented viral surge, we created opportunities to connect our community through Practice Networks and Child Health Hubs. A particular highlight in 2022 included a series of consultations with children's mental health leaders from across the continuum of care, to define criteria to improve how we collect child and youth mental health data, identify new models of care to deliver child and youth mental health services, and to make policy recommendations to strengthen child and youth mental health systems of care.

We continued to leverage SPARK (Children's Healthcare Canada's knowledge mobilization platform) to share just-in-time research, evidence and information with front line healthcare workers and family partners. Webinars, pop-up events, the annual conference, social media and bi-weekly newsletters provided members with ample opportunities to connect and learn from one another.

This year, a significant focus included the roll-out of a pediatric COVID-19 vaccine, working to build confidence to maximize uptake of this safe and effective immunization. Uptake of our podcast series tackling wicked challenges in children's health also continued to grow, with the addition of Dr. Katharine Smart as host.

To ensure children and youth were not overlooked by elected officials and other decision makers, Children's Healthcare Canada ramped up efforts to engage Parliamentarians and policymakers through a series of private meetings with child health experts and family partners. We hosted an inaugural Child Health Hill Day, connecting over thirty pediatricians, hospital leaders and parents with federal MPs, Senators and their staff. For the first time, Children's Healthcare Canada was invited to appear before the House of Commons Committee on Health after inspiring a timely study focused on children's health. We also leveraged earned and paid media to help underscore the impacts of years of under-investing in children's health and the urgent need to rebuild and right-size health systems serving kids.

This past year has underscored the value of purposeful partnerships – with members, with families, with policy makers, and with other children's champions. It is only together that we will succeed in measurably improving children's health outcomes. Thank you to our members and the child health community for everything that you do to enable healthy, vibrant children and youth. We are honoured to serve and unite a community dedicated to improving the lives of Canada's 8 million kids and look forward to 2023 to drive meaningful and sustained action.



Julia Hanigsberg
Chair, Children's Healthcare
Canada Board of Directors
President & CEO
Holland Bloorview Kids
Rehabilitation Hospital



Emily Gruenwoldt
President & CEO
Children's Healthcare Canada

Values

- Collaboration
- Courage
- Fresh Thinking
- Inclusiveness
- Focus

Mission

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

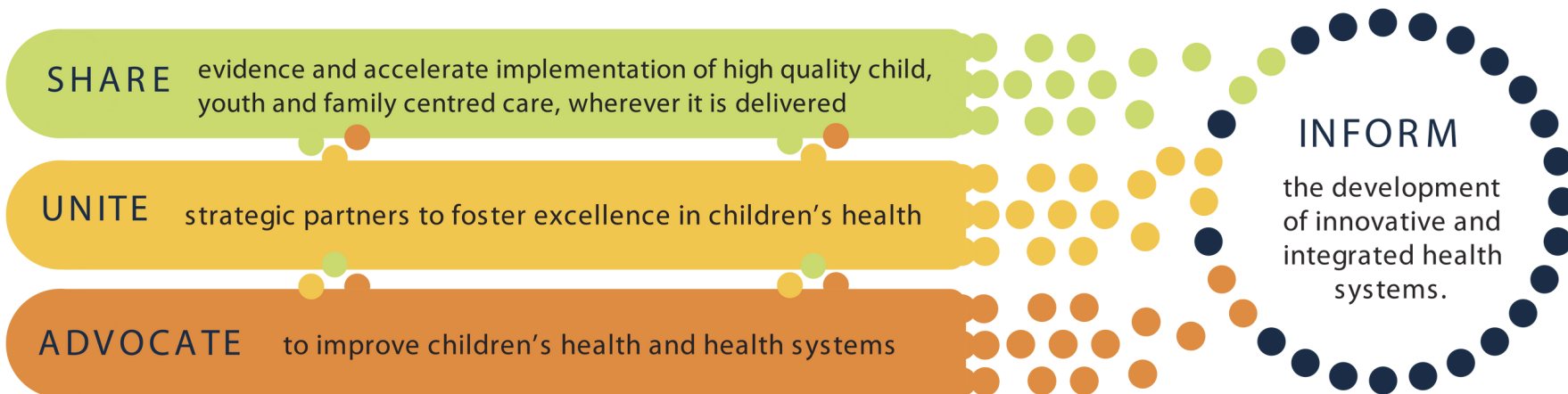
Vision

Healthy vibrant children and youth.

Strategic goals

1. Be a trusted source of information and evidence for members, strategic partners, and policy makers regarding children's health, healthcare and health systems.
2. Maximize the impact of Children's Healthcare Canada by growing and activating our membership and strategic partnerships.

Strategic priorities and actions



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

INFORM

the development of innovative and integrated health systems.

SHARE

- Co-create and disseminate evidence and resources to inform practice, programs and policy, and accelerate the implementation of quality improvement initiatives.
- Seek out and facilitate forums for knowledge exchange between family partners, healthcare providers, the child health research community and policy makers.

UNITE

- Develop and/or nurture relationships within organizations and networks with interest, influence and capacity to advance a vision for healthy, vibrant children and youth.
- Convene a forum for leaders to address complex child health issues to build capacity for strategic solutions.

ADVOCATE

- Raise awareness and catalyze action regarding emerging and enduring health system priority issues affecting children's health.
- Broker subject matter expertise to inform public policy and legislation that impacts child and youth health and health services.
- Develop policy recommendations to address emerging issues related to child and youth health services.

INFORM

- Convene thought leaders from across sectors to identify and advise on key health system opportunities.
- Curate, then showcase examples of successful innovations in system design across healthcare settings.
- Advance and advocate for the role of families in the co-design of health systems and care delivery models serving children and youth.
- Convene health system partners to advocate for the collection and integration of data to inform service planning.

Our members

Children's Healthcare Canada is the national association representing organizations providing health services to children and youth across the continuum of care. With the combined strength of our members, we advance collective strategic priorities to inform the development of innovative and integrated health systems for Canada's 8 million children and youth.

Welcome KidsAbility!

This new member supports nearly 14,000 children and youth in southern Ontario to reach their communication, social, physical and behavioural goals each year.

Using a blended model of virtual and in-person services, [KidsAbility](#), helps children, youth and families to achieve great things at home, at school and in their community.

To meet all of our members, please visit our [website](#).

[LEARN MORE](#)



Convening Health System Leaders

Children's Healthcare Canada regularly convenes Executive leaders in child and youth health to identify emerging issues and facilitate peer-to-peer learning.

In 2022, the Executive Network focused on:

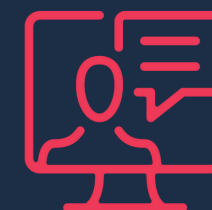
- Supporting COVID recovery
- Building emergency capacity in the wake of a historic viral season
- Managing the health human resource shortages
- Creating a wellness culture among teams
- Responding to Health Canada requests for real-time data and expert input related to emerging child health issues (e.g., supply chain issues related to children's analgesics and antipyretics; capacity and wait times)

We look forward to continuing discussions with the [Executive Network](#) in 2023.



2

Workshops



5

Webinars



12

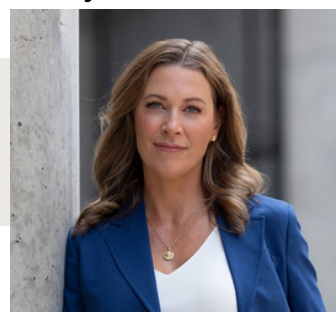
Virtual meetings

SPARK

Shared Platform for Advocacy, Research, and Knowledge

Children's Healthcare Canada's SPARK Knowledge Mobilization Program aims to curate and showcase knowledge, evidence (from research, practice, policy, and lived experience), and expertise to spark conversations, ideas, and action. SPARK offerings and content reflect our strategic plans and priority populations, which are defined by the Board and membership, as well as emerging child and youth healthcare issues.

In October 2022, we were thrilled to welcome Dr. Katharine Smart as our guest host for the SPARK: Conversation podcast series.



Let's get social



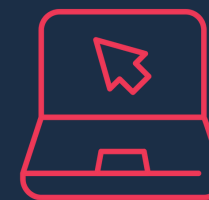
- 2299 New followers
- 1.8M Impressions
- 16 Campaigns & Events

Follow us



[SUBSCRIBE](#)

Stay up to date on all things SPARK! Sign up for the SPARK: e-bulletin



SPARK: Live

10 Webinars

15.345 Views

21 Invited Experts



SPARK: Conversations

10 Podcast Episodes

10 Invited Experts

1470 Downloads



SPARK: Impact

30 Letters of Support

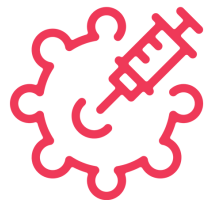
Pop-Up Events

To offer additional interactive knowledge mobilization opportunities, Children's Healthcare Canada hosted virtual Pop-Up events. Through these focused mini-conferences, our members share relevant and timely content with each other and the broader child and youth health community.

In 2022, these Pop-Ups focused on:



Mental Health



Immunizations



The environment

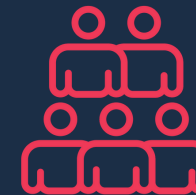
Through keynote and panel presentations, poster halls, focused discussions, and town halls, delegates gathered together, shared the latest research and programs, identified and prioritized health system issues, and responded to questions from family partners and other child and youth healthcare professionals.

[LEARN MORE](#)



7

Pop-up events



27

Partner Organizations



900

Delegates



Mental Health Leadership Summit Series:

Children's Healthcare Canada, together with the IWK Health Centre convened leaders from across the country with a shared interest in child and youth mental health for a series of discussions regarding the impact of the pandemic on the mental health of children and youth and the systems supporting them. Our goals were to:

1. Understand the impact of the pandemic on the longstanding issues in access, data sharing, and human resources.
2. Identify positive areas of innovation throughout of the pandemic.
3. Develop policy recommendations to guide transformation to a resilient child and youth mental health system.

Key Calls to Action:

1. Strengthen relationships and foster multi-sectoral collaboration and action
2. Create a national child and youth mental health strategy to:
 - Improve data collection and sharing
 - Design diverse and inclusive education programs
 - Create a positive learning culture to recruit and retain talent
3. Engage people with lived experience to inform the national strategy
4. Adopt a system of continuous quality improvement
5. Align partners to advocate with a united voice to influence policy and investment in a robust mental health system for children and youth

The Mental Health Network is using the outcomes of these discussions to frame recommendations that will be shared in 2023.

National Kids and Vaccines Day



On January 27, 2022, Children's Healthcare Canada, together with collaborating partners, ScienceUpFirst, the Young Canadians Roundtable on Health, and Solutions for Kids in Pain, hosted the first National Kids and Vaccines Day, the goal of which was to increase vaccine confidence and uptake among children and youth and their families.

312K

Tweet Impressions

21.2K

Profile Visits

2,167

Mentions

#KidsVaccinesDay

5,379

Posts

2,800

Authors

37.19M

Followers

NATIONAL

KIDS &

VACCINES

JANUARY 27

DAY



Immunizing Children with Confidence

Children's Healthcare Canada, in collaboration with Solutions for Kids in Pain and with funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada, hosted the Vaccination Conversations Pop-Up event on September 13, 2022, for healthcare providers who are vaccine providers and promoters.

This event addressed:

- The safety and efficacy of the COVID vaccine for children and youth
- A review of vaccine science in the context of COVID and the Omicron variant
- Needle fear and pain management
- Guide to discuss hesitancy with families

The Federal Minister of Health, the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, and Dr. Theresa Tam, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, lent their voices in support of the event.

The program and recordings from the event can be found online.

[WATCH NOW](#)



Energy, Optimism & Leadership: A Bright Future for Child Health in Canada

Together, in Ottawa, we celebrated the achievements of our members through the lens of collaboration, strategy, transformation, partnership, innovation, and leadership. We gathered and reconnected, held focused discussions, and learned from leaders and each other.

Speaker Spotlights:

- Internationally renowned leader in system transformation, Helen Bevan, identified actions to navigate the complex situations we face today to create a different child and youth health system for the future.
- The Honourable Jean Yves Duclos spoke candidly with child and youth health leaders about how we can build stronger health systems for children.
- Dr. Brian Goldman shared his experiences as a caregiver navigating the health system. He also joined a father, a nursing leader, and a youth to talk about building trust and the essential role of families as part of health teams.
- Dr. Katharine Smart bookended the event sharing the importance of community collaboration and hope for the future of child and youth health through a focus on teamwork, reliable data, a safe environment, and strong leadership.



We are grateful for the generous support of our sponsors, our members and the speakers who helped to create this successful event.





Connecting Care
for Children with
Medical Complexity

Family
Network

Child and Youth
Mental Health

Practice Networks

Children's Healthcare Canada facilitated three networks, which discussed child health system integration, data, human resource challenges, and purposeful family partnerships - all with a commitment to improving health systems for children and youth.



Reimagining Family Advisory Spaces: Claiming our Place in Healthcare

This powerful presentation by Children's Healthcare Canada's Family Network was a conference highlight. These family leaders shared knowledge and expertise to inform their development of recommendations for the future of family advisories in Canada.

Child Health Hubs

Children's Healthcare Canada's Child Health Hubs are member-led communities that bring together individuals from child health organizations to collaborate on research, tackle common challenges, share and co-create solutions, and create strong networks.

Learn what they achieved in 2022 and how you can become involved.

Choosing Wisely
and Resource
Stewardship in
Pediatrics

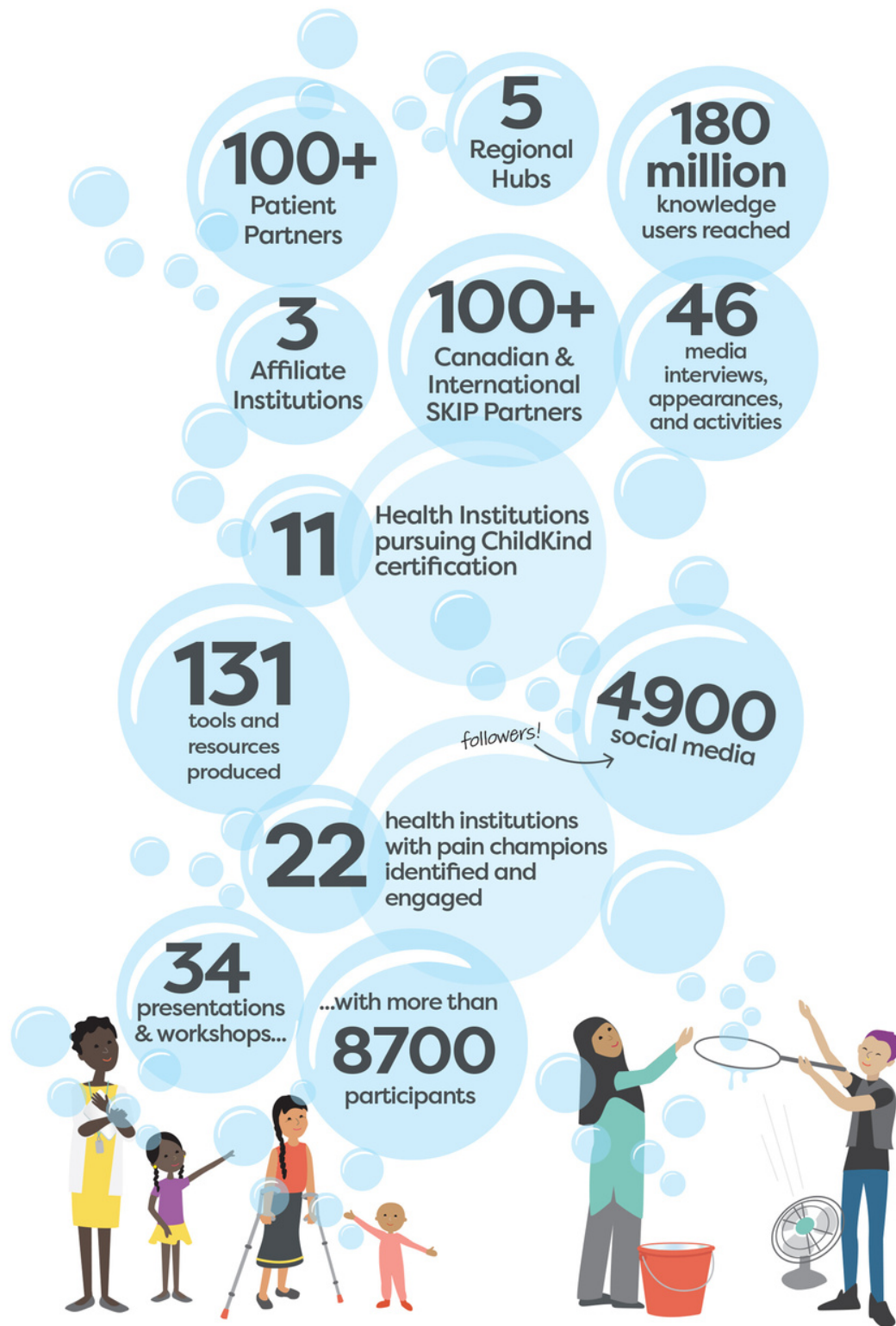
Pediatric
Inpatient
Research
Network
(PIRN)

Clinical
Genetics and
Genomics

Pediatric
Transport

Transition
to
Adult Care

PICU:
Data Sharing
and Quality
Improvement



Children’s Healthcare Canada is proud to be SKIP’s knowledge user Co-Director and home of one of its five regional hubs.

Immunizing Children with Confidence



SKIP was a collaborating partner in Immunizing Children with Confidence, the PHAC-funded initiative led by Children’s Healthcare Canada, SKIP was a key partner in building this evidence-based initiative to support parents, vaccine communicators, and providers. Collaborative activities included: webinars; a pop-up mini conference; videos with Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer; and an online resource hub.

Collaborating to promote evidence-based practices



Leveraging Children’s Healthcare Canada’s SPARK knowledge mobilization program, SKIP co-hosted 3 pediatric pain related SPARK Live webinars with Children’s Healthcare Canada; 2 Ask-Me Anything events with The Rounds; 1 Conquering the Hurt conference with the Central Canada Hub; and 1 new online learning module, Pediatric Pain in Low to Middle-Income Countries.

National Shortage of Children's Analgesics

When Canada experienced a shortage of children's pain and fever medications, triggered by both supply- and demand-related dynamics, children and families turned to primary care, pharmacists, and emergency departments as they struggled to manage their child's fever or pain symptoms at home.

Together with Solutions for Kids in Pain, we issued a joint statement recommending that the Federal Government:

- Immediately address the shortages of analgesics
- Establish strategic reserves of essential children's over-the-counter and prescription medicines
- Provide clear and timely communication to Canadians and child health systems related to supply and a national response to address current issues

As a result, the Minister and Deputy Minister of Health initiated routine calls with Children's Healthcare Canada members and then took informed action to improve access to these essential medications.





Call to Action for Canada's Kids

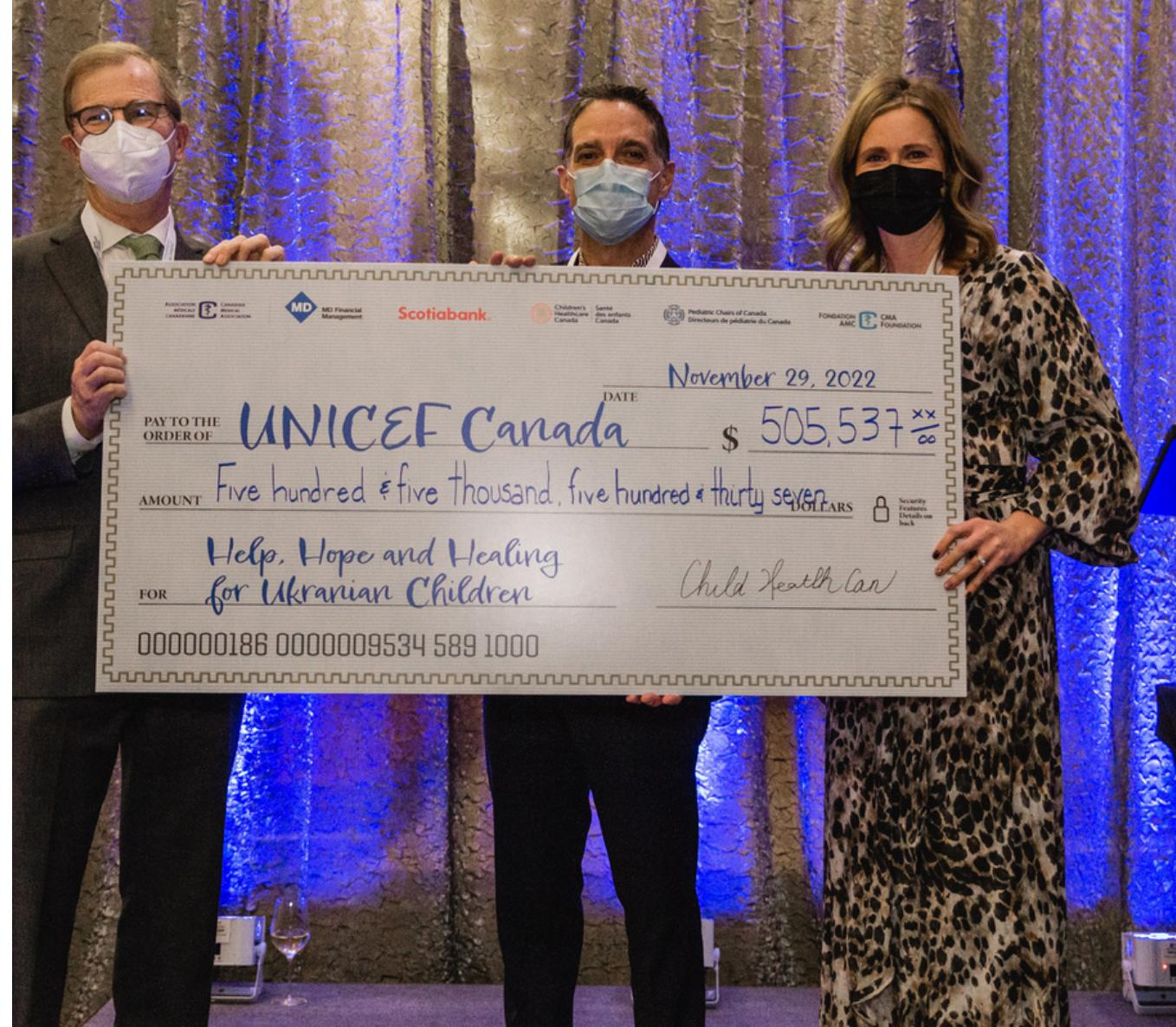
In 2022, Children's Healthcare Canada partnered with the Canadian Paediatric Society and the Canadian Association of Pediatric Nurses to issue a joint call to action to address the children's healthcare crisis and prioritize children's health.

Together, our three organizations urged provinces and territories to meet with the Prime Minister to take meaningful action to solve the growing health crisis in hospitals and community settings. The call to action garnered national media coverage and highlighted the united voice for children and youth health in Canada.

Hope, Help and Healing Campaign

Children's Healthcare Canada and the Pediatric Chairs of Canada collaborated with UNICEF Canada to address urgent Ukrainian children's healthcare priorities resulting from the conflict in Ukraine.

With commitments from the CMA Foundation, Scotiabank, MD Financial Management Inc., and the Canadian Medical Association, we were thrilled to donate over \$500,000 to UNICEF to improve the urgent flow of resources to support children, youth, and their families and healthcare providers living in Ukraine.





Addressing the crisis in children's healthcare

Children's Healthcare Canada actively engaged parliamentarians, policymakers, and health officials in national dialogues on children's health and well-being in Canada.

Together with child and youth health partners, we identified urgent and emergent challenges, solutions, and opportunities requiring federal, provincial, and territorial leadership, including calling for a National Child and Youth Health Strategy, with three broad priorities for improvement:

- Access to essential healthcare services and medications
 - Health system management
 - Health system performance and outcomes
-

12

Discussions with Parliamentarians, including the Minister of Health, and government officials

34

Advocacy meetings, including our successful inaugural Child Health Advocacy Day

2

Presentations to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health (HESA)

4

Formal submissions to government

In the News

During the past 12 months, Children's Healthcare Canada participated in over 35 regional and national media interviews. By fostering relationships with media, we were successful in having our key messages amplified, bringing recognition to Canada's "undersized pediatric healthcare system" as well as the need for a comprehensive National Child Health Strategy.

We look forward to bringing this strategy to life in 2023.



35

Media appearances
by Emily Gruenwoldt
on behalf of Children's
Healthcare Canada

Children's health organizations want funding tied to improving kids' access to care

By next year, almost half of children will be waiting longer for planned and scheduled care, including surgeries, than is medically safe, CHEO's Alex Munter says.

B.C. Children's Hospital activates emergency overflow amid respiratory illness surge

'We are so overwhelmed': Children's hospitals across Canada stretched as RSV cases, flu-like illness spike

'It's just chaos in here all the time': IWK emergency department sees record number of patients

Children's pain and fever medicine en route to hospitals from Australia, U.S. to alleviate shortage.

Children's Healthcare Canada Board

- Amy Howard
- Dr. Lindy Samson
- Dr. Krista Jangaard
- Margaret Fullerton
- Isabelle Demers
- Julia Hanigsberg
- Emily Gruenwoldt
- Judy Van Cleef
- Bruce Squires
- Alison Quigley
- Christine Westerland
- Carrie Dornstauder
- Nicole Sneath
- Eric Breton
- Dr. Marc-Andre Dugas

Missing

- Jacques Boissonneault
- Scott Fortnum
- Dr. Robert Barnes
- Sarah Bell







[Learn more](#)









Financial Reporting

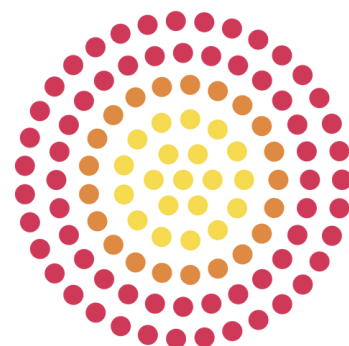
April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022

Revenue

Membership	\$424,397	
Strategic Projects	\$407,732	
Annual Conference	\$347,572	
Keystone & KT partners	\$317,333	
Other Revenue	\$130,108	
<hr/>		
Total revenue	\$1,627,142	

Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	\$975,296	
Strategic Project Expenses	\$265,815	
Operating Expenses	\$97,913	
Conference Expenses	\$74,793	
Rent & Occupancy Costs	\$69,594	
Professional Fees	\$18,328	
Insurance	\$6,776	
Board Fees	\$138	
<hr/>		
Total Expenses	\$1,508,653	



**Children's
Healthcare
Canada**

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