



**FOUNDATION**

Role:

**Board of Directors**

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## ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

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The CNIB Foundation is a non-profit organization driven to change what it is to be blind today. CNIB Foundation delivers innovative programs and powerful advocacy that empowers people impacted by blindness to live their dreams and tear down barriers to inclusion. Their work as a blind foundation is powered by a network of volunteers, donors, and partners from coast to coast.

CNIB Foundation's mission is to change what it is to be blind through innovative programs and powerful advocacy that enables Canadians impacted by blindness to live lives they choose. CNIB Foundation's Strategic Plan has been focused on boosting participation in the world of work, unleashing the power of technology, and driving achievement and equality.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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- Founded in 1918
- More than 6 million Canadians aged 15+ have a disability
  - Less than 60% of those aged 25-64 have jobs
  - Canadians with milder disabilities earn 12% less and those with more severe disabilities earn 51% less and are more likely to live in poverty
- Values; Empowerment, Inclusiveness, Innovation, Passion, Collaboration, Integrity
- 2017: CNIB launched a new brand for rehabilitation services: Vision Loss Rehabilitation Canada
- 2017: CNIB launched its CNIB Guide Dog Program, designed to raise and train guide dogs
- 2020: CNIB launched CNIB SmartLife, a social enterprise that brings hundreds of cutting-edge technologies and home automations to people with sight loss
- 2021: joined forces with Moneris Solutions to provide accessibility of in-store payment terminals
- 2022: launched CNIB Mobile Hub, a way to reach people with sight loss in a whole new way, right in their own backyards

## OPPORTUNITY – Board of Directors

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- CNIB's Board of Directors is made up of some of Canada's brightest minds and most successful industry leaders across the country
- Board Directors develop strategic partnerships, raise awareness, and drive significant fundraising on behalf of CNIB
- Board Directors oversee the areas of enterprise risk management and compliance
- Establishing the mission and values, approving the strategic plan and related fundraising
- Ensuring the strategic plan is consistent with its mission and mandate
- Ensuring realistic goals and objectives are consistent with the strategic plan that is set & monitored
- Approve the strategic plan and its related fundraising, and ensure the mission is delivered
- Developing governance policies and procedures; assesses and addresses risk
- Managing the hiring, termination, motivation and remuneration of the President and CEO
- It is expected the President and CEO will draw upon the expertise of Directors to assist in meeting his/her responsibilities
- Approving organizational strategy, budget, and financial statements to ensure sound policies are in place
- Serving as enthusiastic ambassadors for CNIB, Board Directors open new doors to potential supporters and partners

## EXPECTATIONS – Conduct and Participation

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- Directors are expected to attend meetings (minimum 4x/annually)
- Must be familiar with the materials provided prior to
- **Must serve on at least one Standing Committee and/or Sub-Committee**
- Directors are expected to provide financial support to the organization (whatever is personally meaningful, at a level at which they are comfortable)
- CNIB Board Directors are elected for a term of three years for a maximum of two terms
- With 100% participation and support for CNIB's annual fundraising goals and with a view to building a culture of philanthropy, each CNIB Foundation Board Director serves as an advocate, ambassador, fundraiser, and friend-raiser for CNIB
- While Board Directors are not required to be formal fundraisers, they must each appreciate the call-to-action and the culture of philanthropy CNIB Board Directors embody and support

## ABOUT YOU

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- CNIB Board Directors are senior business and community leaders
- Previous board and/or professional experience to decision making
- Expertise in strategy, governance, finance, enterprise risk management, compliance, legal, advocacy, government relations, M&A, digital technology, national fundraising, cyber security
- Experience developing and implementing provincial advocacy and fundraising strategies
- Entrepreneurial and innovative by nature
- Members are influential business and community leaders who lead provincial advocacy, fundraising, and engage their networks to support CNIB's mission in their individual provinces
- Courageous, innovative, and enthusiastic about the goal of changing what it means to be blind in Canada
- CNIB's senior leadership volunteers are dedicated advocates for the rights of Canadians who are blind or
- Members are well connected to regional governments, businesses, and the diverse communities CNIB proudly serves, by implementing marketing, communications, fundraising and friendraising strategies
- High EQ, strong self-awareness, and empathy for others

## LINKS TO LOOK AT

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- [CNIB: A Century of Change](#)
- [CNIB – Our Ambitions](#)
- [CNIB Strategic Plan 2018-2022](#)
- [CNIB 2021-2022](#)
- [Partnership with Brand Ambassador Ben Mulrone](#)
- [CNIB Mobile Hub](#)
- [CNIB Executive Leadership Team](#)
  - [John M Rafferty, President and CEO](#)
  - [Angela Bonfanti, Chief Operating Officer](#)

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**VISION LOSS  
REHABILITATION**  
CANADA

**RÉADAPTATION**  
**EN DÉFICIENCE VISUELLE**  
CANADA

Role:

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## ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

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Vision Loss Rehabilitation Canada (VLRC) is a not-for-profit national healthcare organization and the leading provider of rehabilitation therapy and healthcare services for individuals with vision loss. Their services are tailored to the unique needs and goals of each person who comes to them for help. Every individual who experiences vision loss is different, and so are the things that they are working to achieve in life. Some may need help with basic daily tasks, while others are pursuing university, careers, family planning, etc.

Services are offered through tele-practice (virtually), on in person at a clinic, local community centre or client's home. VLRC is a team of outstanding health care professionals across Canada who bring exceptional training & expertise to the table. They work closely with ophthalmologists, optometrists, and other health care professionals

They are a proud partner organization of CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind) and work closely with CNIB team members to ensure Canadians who are blind or partially sighted have the skills, confidence, and opportunities to lead independent lives.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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- Annually, they receive 8000+ new referrals
- They provide services to over 102,000 Canadians of all ages
- Their staff is over 270 certified specialists delivering services across the country
- 44+ clinic locations across Canada
- New VLR brand launched by CNIB in 2017 to help Canadians better understand & access essential health care services
- Values; Empowerment, Inclusiveness, Innovation, Passion, Collaboration, Integrity

## OPPORTUNITY – Board of Directors

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- The Board operates at all times with a national perspective, not in the interests of any particular region or constituency.
- Directors shall be elected or appointed under the terms of VLRC's Bylaws.
- Ensuring the strategic plan is consistent with its mission and mandate
- Ensuring realistic goals & objectives are consistent with the strategic plan approved by the Board
- Managing the hiring, termination, motivation and remuneration of the President and CEO
- Monitoring progress towards the achievement of VLRC's goals through the receipt and review of reports from committees and subcommittees and from the President and CEO
- Bearing the ultimate responsibility for the assessment of risk to which the organization may be exposed
- Detailed reviewing of VLRC's policies, operations & activities to bring to its attention any areas of significant risk
- Involvement and the subsequent approval of the vision, mission, and values for VLRC
- Accountability for ensuring VLRC carries out its mission

## EXPECTATIONS – Conduct & Participation

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- Directors are expected to attend meetings
- Must be familiar with the materials provided prior to
- Supporting VLRC's mission and contributing your expertise and experience to the work of the board
- Serving on at least one Standing Committee of the Board
- Conducting yourself in an ethical and professional manner at all times

- New Directors shall receive a thorough introduction to the operations, mission, and strategic direction of the organization (Board Orientation Policy)
- Directors shall not be remunerated by VLRC
- Directors must adhere to VLRC's Conflict of Interest policy
- Meetings may be held, and business conducted either in person or virtually
- All Board Directors meaningfully contribute to long-term strategy and annual financial and operating plans

## ABOUT YOU

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- Previous board and/or professional experience to decision making
- Expertise in health care, life sciences, education, finance, law, risk management, governance, labour/workforce development, digital innovation, marketing, advocacy
- Knowledge of the strategies required to ensure crucial health care services remain adequately and sustainably supported by governments and the medical community across Canada
- The VLRC Board of Directors comprises influential leaders who appreciate the strategies needed to ensure the ongoing support by Canada's governments and its medical communities
- Professional demeanour and ability to build rapport with key stakeholders
- Entrepreneurial and innovative by nature
- Ability to initiate corporate partnerships, leverage marketing, digital tools, and social media channels to amplify the organization's mission
- High EQ, strong self-awareness, and empathy for others

## LINKS TO LOOK AT

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- Their Partners: <https://visionlossrehab.ca/en/about-us/partners>
- Reports & Publications: <https://visionlossrehab.ca/en/about-us/reports-and-publications>
- National Board: <https://visionlossrehab.ca/en/national-board>
- New President & CEO: <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/vision-loss-rehabilitation-canada-vlrc-announces-new-president-and-ceo-834262656.html>
- <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/vision-loss-rehabilitation-canada-brings-ai-driven-diabetic-eye-screening-to-rural-and-indigenous-communities-897512091.html>
- <https://visionlossrehab.ca/en/programs-and-services-0>

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**CNIB**  
**DEAFBLIND  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

Role:

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## ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

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The CNIB Deafblind Community Services (DBCS) is one of Canada's leading providers of specialized support and emergency services for people who are Deafblind. DBCS's services enable people who are Deafblind to maximize their independence and engagement with the world around them.

Their dedicated professionals work with people who are Deafblind both one-on-one and in group settings to facilitate communication, access, independence, and participation in all parts of daily life. The services range from intervenor services to literacy and basic skills training to emergency intervenor services in critical situations.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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- DBCS dates back to 1943 and was created when parents approached CNIB for support to advocate for their children who were Deafblind
- CNIB Deafblind Community Services has over 100 employees and provides services to over 200 clients
- DBCS offers a range of intervenors and literacy programs and services to people located in Ontario and Saskatchewan
- An estimated 466,000 Canadians over the age of 15 are living with some degree of dual sensory loss and in many parts of the country, they don't have access to Deafblind services
- Each June, people who are Deafblind, service providers, and supporters come together to make a difference and raise awareness in honour of Deafblind Awareness Month.

## OPPORTUNITY – Board of Directors

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- DBCS Board Directors are individuals who are passionate about supporting the essential needs of individuals with multi-sensory disabilities
- Ensuring all efforts are guided by the current and future needs of the people who are Deafblind
- Providing insights into supporting an organization with the objective to expand across the country
- Board Directors meaningfully contribute to long-term strategy and annual financial and operating plans
- Identifying both potential and risk, capitalizing on opportunities that others often miss
- Initiate corporate partnerships, leverage marketing, digital tools, and social media channels to amplify the organization's mission, cyber security, and privacy expertise, and help to drive the growth
- Overseeing management objectively while maintaining the Board and management's strong relationship
- Responsible for receiving, reviewing, and voting on recommendations received from any Committees of the Board

## EXPECTATIONS – Conduct and Participation

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- Directors are expected to attend meetings (minimum 4x/annually)
- Must be familiar with the materials provided prior to
- Serving on at least one Standing Committee of the Board
- Convey information eloquently, constructively participate in discussions
- With DBCS's growth ambitions, DBCS Board Directors also provide insights into supporting an organization with the objective to expand across the country
- The DBCS Board consists of 3-15 Directors elected for a three-year term up to a maximum of two terms
- Understand priorities, confront colleagues with respect, tact, and diplomacy, and support the decision of the majority
- Any business coming before the Board is confidential and is not to be disclosed to outside entities without the consent of the Board



- Meetings may be held, and business conducted either in person or virtually
- All Board Directors meaningfully contribute to long-term strategy and annual financial and operating plans

## ABOUT YOU

---

- Expertise in health care, social support, sensory disabilities, gerontology, law government relations, policy, and/or marketing
- Previous board and/or professional experience to decision making
- Professional and community leaders who bring a deep understanding of the Deafblind and/or other multisensory disability communities
- Professional demeanour and ability to build rapport with key stakeholders
- Entrepreneurial and innovative by nature
- Passionate about supporting the critical needs of individuals with multi-sensory disabilities
- Ability to initiate corporate partnerships, leverage marketing, digital tools, and social media channels to amplify the organization's mission
- High EQ, strong self-awareness, and empathy for others

## LINKS TO LOOK AT

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- [CNIB Deafblind Community Services: Our History](#)
- [Executive Leadership Team](#)
  - John M. Rafferty, President and CEO
  - Sherry Grabowski, Vice President
- [DBCS Board of Directors](#)
- [CNIB Strategic Plan](#)
- [New funding supports Deafblind people in B.C.](#)
- [Saskatchewan government commits to new funding for Deafblind services](#)

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