



Board Membership Information

Our Vision

To empower people with acquired brain injuries to maximize their quality of life.

Our Mission

To support, educate, and advocate for adults with acquired brain injuries and their families; and to increase community awareness about acquired brain injuries.

Overview

Approximately 4% of people in the Capital Regional District are living with a brain injury that's over 15,000 people living with a brain injury.

Demand for Victoria Brain Injury Society's services keeps growing; it has nearly tripled in the last 4 years.

Whether it's caused by a concussion or a car accident, a tumor or trauma, a stroke or some other cause, brain injury can have a severe impact on a person's life. In an instant people's lives are changed as well as the social, emotional and physical effects of brain injury, survivors often struggle with economic, housing and health challenges.

With early intervention; compensatory strategies, and connection to a caring community, crises can be prevented and survivors of brain injury and their families can adapt to the challenges of life with a brain injury and in time can thrive.

Victoria Brain Injury Society is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. We employ six full and part-time staff to work with brain injury survivors and their family and friends.

Victoria Brain Injury Society is funded through Island Health's Brain Injury Program as well funding from grants and individual and corporate donations. Last year, our operating budget was over \$350,000.



Our Board

The Victoria Brain Injury Society board consists of a President, Secretary and up to ten additional members. Board members attend monthly board meetings and sit on one of three standing committees in order to provide strategic management and organizational oversight of the organization.



Board Member Requirements

Board members are required to come prepared to eleven monthly board meetings per year and take part in the discussions and decisions of the board. This involves volunteering for approximately 4 hours per a month. Annually, the board has a strategic planning day with staff members to agree on the direction of the organization and there is the opportunity to sit on a committee to help steer a particular area of the organization such as governance, recruitment, human resources and finance.

Board Member Support

Board members come from a variety of backgrounds and share their skills with each other. Victoria Brain Injury Society also funds training for board members if they are interested to help them in their role. We maintain sufficient insurance for the organization including board members.

Rewards of Serving on the VBIS Board

Board members volunteer their time for a variety of reasons including:

- It's Fun – Board meetings are lively, good humoured discussions.
- Making a Difference – It is a rewarding experience seeing the goals of VBIS come to fruition and hearing stories of the difference that VBIS services have made in the lives of brain injury survivors.
- Making Decisions – Board members can have real influence over the way VBIS is managed and the directions the organization takes.
- Leadership Development – Taking on a leadership role within a board is a great way to gain experience that can be useful preparation for professional responsibilities.
- Gaining New Knowledge – Becoming involved in not-for-profit community organizations can help you gain an appreciation of how these organizations operate, as well as current governance standards and issues.
- Gaining New Skills – Successfully meeting the challenge and responsibilities of board service can lead to a new set of useful skills.
- Meeting New People and Expanding Your Networks – The connections, relationships and friendships with other Board Members and organizational stakeholders developed through VBIS Board can last a lifetime.

To find out more about the benefits and responsibilities of serving on the Board of Victoria Brain Injury Society or to apply to be on the board please contact our Executive Director at ed@vbis.ca or by phone at 250.598.9339.

