HISTORY OF PHA CANADA



- PAH patient Lynda Beriault starts Canada's first patient support group at The Centre for Pulmonary Vascular Disease at Montreal's Jewish General Hospital.
- Ontario lawyer Leon Paroian founds the Pulmonary Hypertension Societies of Canada (PHSC) and Ontario (PHSO). Leon becomes a champion for PH research, raising funds and advocating for patients in honour of his daughter Sherri Lynn Oliver.



Québec

The family of Québec patient Isabelle Cormier found the Fondation Hypertension artérielle pulmonaire du Québec (Fondation HTAPQ) to provide support to PAH patients.

A first step ...

Beginning in 2006, in a series of pivotal meetings, leaders from across the country set out the framework for a renewed national organization that would unify the Canadian PH community and bring Canada into the worldwide PH movement

New Brunswick

Jennifer Gendron founds the New Brunswick Pulmonary Hypertension Society (NBPHS), after the diagnosis of her young son with PAH.

Birth of PHA Canada

The Board of Directors of PHSC resign their posts and a new Board of Directors with representation from across Canada is elected. The Pulmonary Hypertension Society of Canada is renamed the Pulmonary Hypertension Association of Canada (PHA Canada). Angie (Slubowska) Knott is hired as National Manager.



First Conference

Connections

The first issue of *Connections*, the official magazine of the Canadian PH community, is published in both English and



The second National PH Conference is held in Toronto, Ontario. Over 200 people attend.





1996 - 1999

2000 - 2007

PAH patient Sharon Proudfoot begins Calgary's first support group. In Edmonton, a group of patients led by Lynn-Marie Cox also begin meeting, and eventually form the Edmonton PAH Society



2009

2010

2011



British Columbia

PAH patient Elizabeth McCall starts the BC Pulmonary Hypertension Society (BCPHS) in order to meet others living with PH.

Alberta

(EPAHS).

Take Action PAH

PHA Canada and Scleroderma Canada hold a Day of Action at Queen's Park to advocate for access to new PAH therapies. Soon after, the two organizations launch the Take Action PAH campaign.



PAH Advocacy

The community successfully advocates against the implementation of a "stepped approach" to PAH therapy in Ontario.

Over 150 patients, caregivers, and health care

National PH Conference in Montreal, Québec.

providers participate in PHA Canada's first



Lend-a-Hand for PH

A new awareness campaign for November Awareness Month educates people about the symptoms of PH, encouraging supporters to Lend-a-Hand for PH.

6-Minute Walk for Breath

November Awareness Month is celebrated with 6-Minute Walk for Breath events in Vancouver, Edmonton, Bradford, Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal.



Third National PH Conference

240 people attend the third National PH Conference in Ottawa, Ontario.



Ambassadors

The first cohort of Ambassadors is recruited to help expand PHA Canada's reach in communities across the country.

CPHPN

The Canadian PH Professionals Network is formally established.

First Research Scholarships The first two \$10,000 PHA Canada Paroian Family PH Research Scholarships are awarded to young researchers in London, ON and Québec City, QC.



First Eastern Regional PH Symposium

230 people attend the first *Eastern* Regional PH Symposium in Toronto.

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

Pediatrics Committee

The Pediatrics Committee is formed to help create resources and programming for families of children with PH.



Sometimes It's PH

A new education campaign is launched with the goal of raising awareness of PH amongst medical professionals and reducing delays to diagnosis.

Burden of Illness Survey

Results of PHA Canada's Burden of *Illness Survey* reveal the serious health, social, and financial impacts of living with PH.

Fourth National PH Conference

230 people attend the fourth National PH Conference in Montreal.



First ED

Jamie Myrah becomes PHA Canada's first Executive Director.

More Research Scholarships ...

Two more \$10,000 research scholarships are awarded, including the new Mohammed Family PH Research Scholarship.