



**Canadian Mental
Health Association**
The Battlefords
Mental health for all

2026 Annual Report



About Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA)

CMHA Battlefords Branch is a non-profit organization, which supports and promotes the rights of persons experiencing mental illness to achieve their full potential; and supports the mental health and well-being across The Battlefords and surrounding communities.

Our Vision

A Canada where mental health is a universal human right.

Our Purpose

People in Saskatchewan can rely on CMHA to promote mental health and well-being for everyone by,

- ♥ Fighting to reduce the stigma of mental illness and promoting inclusion;
- ♥ Providing tools and educational resources to help the public understand mental health issues;
- ♥ Providing programming and services to schools, communities and individuals and
- ♥ Advocating for timely, adequate and accessible mental health and addictions services.

Our Values

- ♥ Advocacy: we embrace and amplify the diverse voices of people with mental health issues.
- ♥ Diversity & Inclusion: we focus on mental issues of all people.
- ♥ Safety: we provide a welcoming, non-judgemental and psychological safe space for those seeking support.
- ♥ Social Wellbeing: we support the social determinants of health (e.g. housing, justice, etc.)
- ♥ Work Collaboratively: we nurture mutually beneficial partnerships working to move the issues of mental health forward.
- ♥ Evidence Based: we use the evidence to inform our work and to innovate.
- ♥ Transparency & Accountability: we are transparent and accountable to our funders, partners, and those we serve.

Annual General Meeting Agenda

October 1, 2026 6:30 pm

Royal Canadian Legion, Sloan Auditorium

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement
3. Moment of Silence
4. Voting Process & Member Responsibilities
5. Adoption of Agenda
6. Review & Adoption of Preceding Annual General Meeting Minutes
7. Reports
 - a. Board President
 - b. Management
 - c. Financial
8. Directors
 - a. Introduction of Board of Directors - Current
 - b. Introduction of Board of Directors – Nominee(s)
 - c. Approval of Board of Directors – New
9. Appointment of Auditors
10. Open discussion
11. Adjournment

Canadian Mental Health Association Battlefords Branch Inc.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, October 2, 2025 6:33 pm

Membership Present:

Quorum met with 39 members present (15 members required). See 2025 AGM member list.

Guests Present

19 guests present. See 2025 AGM guest list.

Regrets:

Joyce Salie, Amanda Markmeyer

Agenda Items

1. Board President, Katherine Gerbrandt called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.
2. Kathy Gerbrandt welcomed attendees. Councillor Kent Lindgren represented the City of North Battleford and shared a land acknowledgement.
3. Kathy Gerbrandt led attendees in a moment of silence.
4. **Motion** to accept the agenda presented by Julie Orr, seconded by Raefe Mahadeo. Carried.
5. **Motion** to accept the October 10, 2024 AGM minutes presented by Joseph Galloway, seconded by Lakota Villebrun. Carried.
6. Reports
 - a. **Motion** to accept Katherine Gerbrandt Board President Report presented Erin Katerynch, seconded by Myles Hanson. Carried.
 - b. **Motion** to accept Michele Winterholt Management Report presented by Maxime Picard, seconded by William Smallboy. Carried.
 - c. **Motion** to accept Auditor's Report & Financial Statements presented by William Smallboy, seconded by Joshua Lange. Carried.
 - i. Board Treasurer, Sandra Bennie presented the auditor findings and financial report.
7. Directors
 - a. Board President, Katherine Gerbrandt led the introduction of current board members, followed by other board members present. Mentioned those current board members who were not in attendance (Joyce Salie & Amanda Markmeyer). Also shared the departure of Kent Lindgren from the board.
 - b. Board President had Michele Winterholt (Management) introduce the board member nominees.
 - c. **Motion** to accept Board of Director nominations presented by Raefe Mahadeo, seconded by Jennifer Karpenko. Carried.
 - d. Open the floor for board nominations. No nominations presented.
8. **Motion** to engage Lois Skinner, CAP for the 2026-2027 fiscal year presented by Julie Orr, seconded by Maxime Picard. Carried
9. Open Floor (nothing presented for discussion)
10. Board President, Katherine Gerbrandt adjourned the meeting at 6:56 pm.

Board President's Message

CMHA Battlefords is shaped by the people we serve, the team behind our programs and the partnerships that make this work possible. At the heart of our organization are the people who walk through our doors every day. CMHA Battlefords provides a place where people living with mental illness can find purpose, connection and a sense of belonging.

This year, approximately 130 members received more than 4,000 hours of programming and support through CMHA Battlefords. Members accessed transitional and vocational employment, individual and group Peer Support, recreation and wellness programming, learning opportunities, social activities and opportunities to engage in the broader community. Through these programs, members can earn income, develop employment skills, form relationships and participate meaningfully in their community.

On behalf of the Board, we thank our Executive Director, Michele, and the CMHA Battlefords staff for the compassion, consistency and commitment they bring each day. Their ability to listen, adapt and respond to the changing needs of our participants is essential to the work of this organization. We also thank our participants and members. Your involvement, ideas, feedback and lived experience help us understand what is working, where gaps exist and how our programs can continue to evolve.

A highlight of this past year was our second annual CMHA Battlefords Champions of Mental Health event, Threads of Resilience. We are proud to carry forward the foundation established by the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan and continue a long standing Battlefords tradition of recognizing individuals and organizations making a difference in mental health. The event celebrated local champions across mental health care, housing, employment, advocacy, volunteerism and community service while creating space for conversation and reducing stigma around mental health. We look forward to carrying this legacy into the third annual CMHA Battlefords Champions of Mental Health event in 2027.

Our funders, sponsors and community partners are essential to what CMHA Battlefords is able to provide. Their investment, collaboration and willingness to step forward allow us to respond to needs and provide programs and support that would not be possible without them. We are grateful to the organizations, businesses and individuals who continue to invest in the people we serve and the work of CMHA Battlefords.

As a Board, we remain committed to the sustainability of CMHA Battlefords through responsible governance, strong partnerships and a clear focus on the needs of the people we serve.

We look forward to continuing this work together in the year ahead.



Elissa Parker, President, Board of Directors
CMHA Battlefords Branch

Executive Director's Report

Community

The support of our funders, partners, donors, sponsors and community members enables us to sustain and enhance our services and is a testament to the generosity, spirit and belief our community holds in the work we do. Community events such as the Meota 5KM Walk, The Push Up Challenge, Champions of Mental Health, POS campaigns, purchasing raffle tickets brought people together in support of mental health and raised essential funds for our programs. Thank you for making a difference!

Whether it's a school, partner, business, public or our own event to support mental health & addictions - we love being out in the community!

Membership

We were proud to serve over **130 members** through program and service delivery in The Battlefords and engage in our community as a mental health & addictions recover advocate. Membership provides access to our programs and services, supporting one on their wellness journey.

Vocational, Training Employment Program - 40+ Members Enrolled, 2800+ Hours Delivered

This program provides meaningful work, connection, skill development, community engagement, and the opportunity to earn money. There is a large demand for participation in this program. We are thankful to our customers and partners who use our services, creating these opportunities for our members.

Social, Recreational and Wellness Program - 60+ Members Enrolled, 910+ Hours Delivered

Our participants enjoy a variety of outings and activities throughout the year; shopping, suppers and coffee are highly popular. We have designated days for senior outings and keep active through swimming, walking, curling, and bowling. A group of members journeyed to Moose Jaw & Regina creating memories through their tour adventures together. These activities promote social connections, a sense of community and help build one's confidence and self-esteem.

Housing Program - 310+ Tenant Visits

Independence Commons Housing continued to be at full capacity until March 2026 when we lost a long-time member of our community, Jerry Burnett Scrimgeour. Jerry was always helping wherever he was able and brought a lot of value to the tenant community. The Tenant Support Worker is there to coach, guide and support them in maintaining their abilities to live independently.

Living Wells Learning Centre

This year our tenants engaged in attending some HOPE Learning Courses at the Living Wells Learning Centre.

Peer Support Program - 10+ Individuals Engaged, 330+ One on One Hours, 75+ Group Hours

Group Peer Support sessions are open to all and it's an opportunity to engage in conversation with others in the community led by our Peer Support worker or peer-to-peer led. One-on-one sessions, support individuals living with mental illness and/or addictions recovery, to set and

achieve goals in their wellness journey. This is self-driven by the individual and the worker shares their experience and journey as the way to support.

Thanks to the board for their leadership and the staff for their continued commitment in supporting those we serve. Our success is a direct result of your contributions!


Michele Winterholt, Executive Director, CMHA Battlefords



Board of Directors, Current



Elissa Parker

Board Executive – President, Board Director since 2024



Charlotte Hamilton

Board Executive – Secretary, Board Director since 2018



Sandra Bennie

Board Director since 2017



Michael Moloff

Board Consumer Representative, Board Director since 2012



Ceilidh LaFreniere

Board Director since 2023



Amanda Markmeyer

Board Director since 2024



Dana Lavoie

Board Director since 2025



Alexandra Weekes

Board Director since 2025

We acknowledge & extend our appreciation to outgoing board members for their service & dedication.



Katherine Gerbrandt



Marion Palidwor



Joyce Salie



Erin Katerynch

Board of Directors Nominees

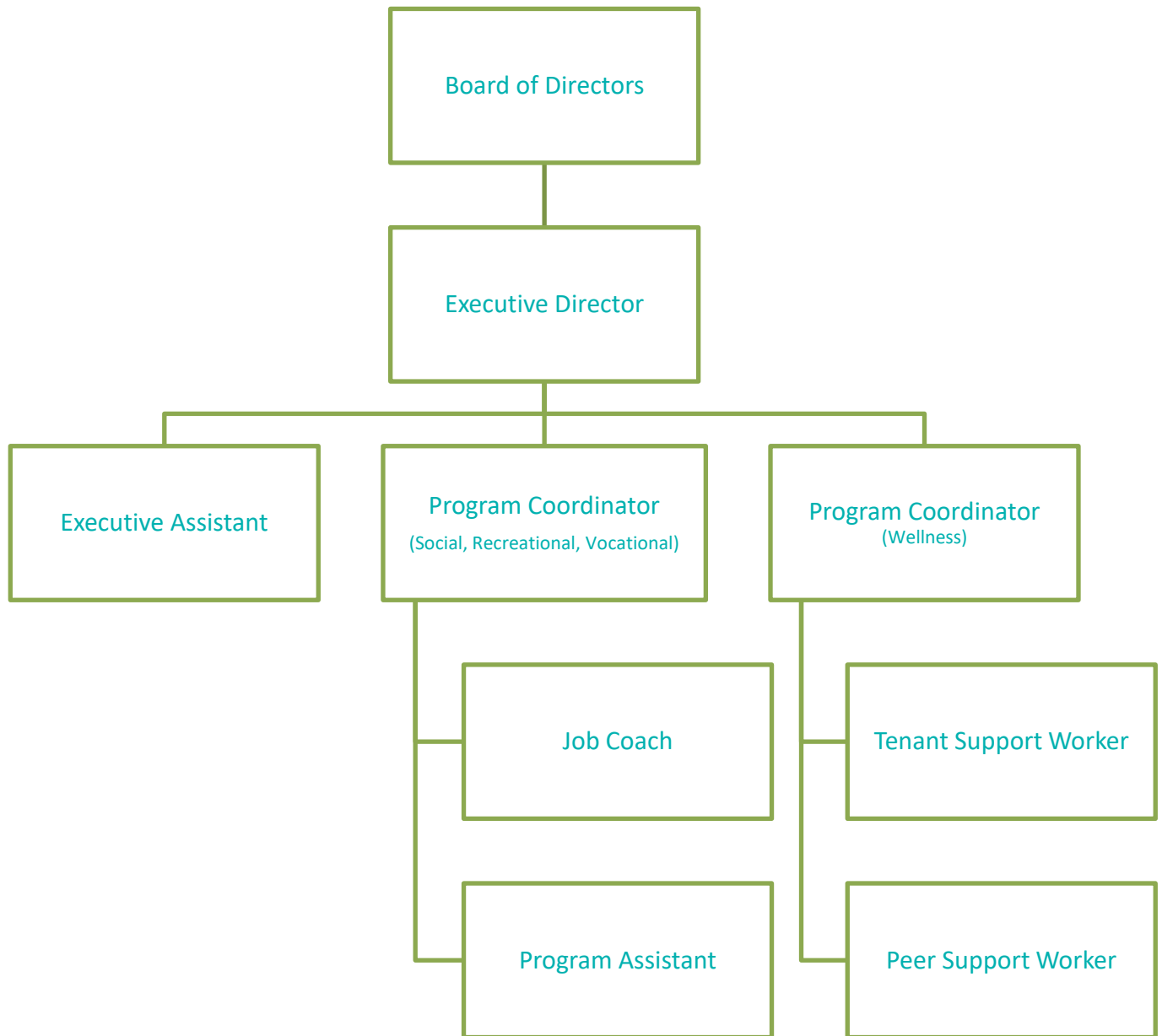
Ashley Fleming, Battlefords Interval House, Executive Director

I would like to volunteer my services to help make positive changes. I bring experience and knowledge from working with various organizations throughout my career in Mental Health and Addictions. I am excited to be given the opportunity to be a part in collaborating and making changes that will benefit those who are struggling with mental health challenges.

Sauna Kennon, Saskatchewan Health Authority, Saskatoon Public Schools

I am passionate about mental health and client centered support for individuals. I believe as we continue to raise awareness and educate; the stigma will continue to diminish.

Organization Structure



Thank You to Our Supporters



Thanks to all those who made donations, supported fundraising events and all our customers supporting mental health. Because of the support from others, we are able to do what we do! 💙