

NABIS Brain Injury Society Staff Directory February 2010

Executive Director
Wendy Williams



Wendy gained her reputation as a proficient leader by heading the community development department of BrainTrust Canada. Her career in rehabilitation spans more than 20 years providing support and rehabilitation services for persons with brain injury. Wendy brings skills to NABIS that include: successful fund development management, relationship building and strategic visionary planning.

Operations Manager
Louise Jensen , B.Sc., B.Ed., M.Ed.



Since 1998, Louise has served as NABIS' Office Coordinator and lately, Operations Manager. Always keen to support NABIS' growth in any way possible, she has helped developed many database tools, provided solid financial management, adopted new technologies and attempted to build awareness of brain injury and NABIS' services through the library, publications and web page. Louise's background includes biological research, teaching and international development education.

Program Development Manager
Barb Baer Pillay, B.Ed., M.Ed.



Barb has been on staff at NABIS since September of 1998 and has had various titles over the years but her main areas of responsibility have been around supporting NABIS' volunteers and growing funds and friends for NABIS. With a Master's degree in Educational Administration and teaching experience, Barb is very interested in growing healthy communities through program and people development and believes that knowledge is key. She also believes in fun and encourages its practice at NABIS!

Office and Fundraising Coordinator
Amy Krautt, B.Comm.



Amy joined the NABIS team in July 2009, taking on the role of office and fundraising coordinator. The main areas of focus for Amy at NABIS are fund development, office administration, and volunteer coordination. Amy graduated from the University of Alberta in April of 2009 with her Bachelor of Commerce degree and truly enjoys working with the NABIS staff to help support individuals, families and caregivers living with brain injury.

Team Leader – Client Services

Mike Ryan, B.A.



As some of you may know, I have been a Service Coordinator with NABIS for the past 3 years. I have indeed relished the unique challenges that service provision to the brain injured community has provided.

Now as Team Leader - Client Services, a refreshing new challenge has been placed in my path. With much vigor, I look forward to leading a service team of highly gifted, intelligent and passionate professionals.

Do not be afraid to seek me out if you need assistance; my door is always open.

Intake / Service Coordinator

Carolyn Biron, B.Sc.



Carolyn graduated from the University of Alberta in 2004 with a B.Sc. degree in Psychology and Genetics. During a 3 year move to Calgary, Carolyn worked as a Services Supervisor in support of people with developmental disabilities at the Vocational and Rehabilitation Research Institute. There, she also spent two years as a research assistant working on a project that sought to better understand the psychosocial effects of medical genetic testing. In 2008, Carolyn returned to Edmonton with her family and in October of 2009 began her career with NABIS. Carolyn is currently working as a Services Coordinator and managing intake and referral for NABIS services.

Service Coordinator

Nicholas Hillier, B.Sc.



Nicholas Hillier graduated from the University of Alberta in December 2008 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology with a minor in Biological Sciences. Much of his education was focused on understanding how the brain works, through neuroscience, physiology and psychology courses. He was first employed by the Edmonton Brain Injury Relearning Society where he first met and became introduced to the brain injury community. Since then he has become very interested and dedicated to this field and is the newest Service Coordinator for NABIS.

Service Coordinator

Sean Quinn, B.A.



Sean graduated from York University in 1994 with a B.A. in History, Psychology and Physical Education. After a number of years in Ontario, marriage in 1997 and the arrival of two wonderful children in 2002 and the 2004, Sean and his family moved to Red Deer, Alberta. When another move brought Sean and his family to Edmonton, there was opportunity to work for NABIS which Sean jumped at with both feet. Now employed as a Service Coordinator he is committed to supporting his clients in achieving their utmost potential.

Service Coordinator

Ashley Eddy, B.A.



Ashley Eddy joined NABIS in June of 2010 as a Service Coordinator. She graduated from the University of Alberta with a BA, major in psychology and minor in biological sciences. Through her past experience as a housing outreach worker in the inner city, Ashley has gained a greater understanding of mental health, addictions, and the effects of poverty and homelessness. Ashley is excited about the opportunity to get to know the clients of NABIS and their families, while working closely with them to effect positive change and experiences in their lives.

**Young Adults
Support Facilitator/Service
Coordinator**

Jaimie Schmidt, B.S.W.



Jaimie, who began at NABIS in December 2009, is the new Young Adult Service Coordinator/Support Facilitator. She will be working with survivors aged 18-30 years old. As a Service Coordinator, she will be supporting clients access different community resources to achieve their utmost potential, and in her role as a Support Facilitator, she will be leading the Young Adult Group and providing short term counseling for survivors. She graduated from the University of Calgary in April of 2009 with a Bachelor of Social Work Degree and is excited about starting her social work career within the brain injury field.

Support Facilitator

Teresa LaRocque-Walker, B.A., M.C.



Teresa is one of the Support Facilitator's at NABIS, having started with the team in the fall, 2009. Teresa graduated with a Master of Counseling in 2009 and has experience working with families in crisis and in counseling. At NABIS, Teresa facilitates a number of groups for survivors and caregivers and offers short term counseling for individuals, couples and families. Teresa has been delighted to sign on as part of team NABIS, supporting individuals, families and caregivers living with brain injury.

**Edson Service Coordinator/
Clients in Continuing Care
Coordinator**

Tannis Arsenault, R.S.W.



For the past eight years I have worked in the Edson AB office serving the community from Jasper through to Drayton Valley. I continue to assist Survivors and Caregivers with tools to support those with acquired brain injury. I feel fortunate to have a job that makes such a difference in people's lives. I am also very grateful for the team I work with at NABIS and all the positive energy. On a personal note my family husband, David and son Carter, are truly my heart and I enjoy spending a lot of time with them and choose not to take family for granted.

Edson Service Coordinator

Laura See



Laura is a Service Coordinator for the Edson Region. She is new to Edson, but not to the great people at NABIS. She served as Vice-President on the Networks Activity Centre Board of Directors in 2002. She had been involved with Networks Activity Centre since 2001, first as a caregiver and then as a volunteer. In 2008, she and her family made the move to Edson from Edmonton, leaving the hustle and bustle of the city behind. She really enjoys the quiet, friendly community of Edson. At NABIS she feels she's found her niche where her previous experience and her desire to learn helps her to be an effective Service Coordinator.

Victoria Butzer (nee Williams)



Young Adults Support Facilitator/Service Coordinator on maternity leave until 2011