

About Parkinson's Disease

- Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive neurological disorder with no known cure.
- There are approximately 15,000 people in British Columbia living with Parkinson's, and over 100,000 across Canada.
- Common motor symptoms include tremor, slowness of movement, muscle stiffness, and impaired balance. Other symptoms often include fatigue, speech and writing difficulties, sleep disorders, cognitive changes, and more.
- Parkinson's causes dopamine-producing cells to die off, resulting in the onset of motor symptoms. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter important for nervous system functioning.
- Parkinson's is the second most common neurodegenerative disease after Alzheimer's. The worldwide incidence of Parkinson's is expected to double by 2040.
- Since there is no cure, treatment is focused on symptom management. Exercise and medication are the two most common ways to treat Parkinson's.

About Parkinson SuperWalk

Parkinson SuperWalk is the largest and most important provincial and national awareness and fundraising event for Parkinson Society British Columbia and the event licensor, Parkinson Canada. This summer, SuperWalk returns to British Columbia, with walk weekend taking place September 9 and 10. The event will help us provide the programs, support services, educational resources, and advocacy that people with Parkinson's, and their loved ones, rely on.

Funds raised across the province support Parkinson Society British Columbia's efforts to empower the Parkinson's community, including:

- Advocating for issues important to the Parkinson's community. Learn more at parkinson.bc.ca/advocacy.
- Supporting local research, in partnership with the Michael Smith Foundation and Parkinson Canada.
- Connecting our community to leading authorities on Parkinson's, through educational events and publications.
- Reminding people with Parkinson's that they are not alone, by providing free, accessible front-line services.

About Parkinson Society British Columbia

Established in 1969, Parkinson Society British Columbia (PSBC) is a not-for-profit charitable organization that serves to empower people with Parkinson's in British Columbia through providing resources and services to enable self-management, self-reliance, and self-advocacy. The Society is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, and is supported by donations from individuals, members, corporations, foundations, and the efforts of our volunteers.

Our services include:

- Educational materials for people with Parkinson's, their carepartners, and healthcare professionals.
- Free, short-term, confidential counselling services for anyone affected by Parkinson's.
- Over 50 volunteer-led support groups in communities across the province, and online.
- PDLINK, a peer support program for individuals with Parkinson's and carepartners.
- Education events, including workshops, conferences, webinars, and community talks.
- Access to specialized Parkinson's-specific therapies through our Virtual Physiotherapy service.
- The Healthcare Navigator service, which helps individuals better navigate the healthcare system.
- PD Connect®, a referral program for healthcare professionals treating people with Parkinson's.
- Information, consultations, and referrals through our toll-free information line and email.

QUESTIONS?

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