

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR ANNUAL REPORT



LIFESAVING SOCIETY

The Lifeguarding Experts

Working to prevent drowning and reduce water-related injury.

The Lifesaving Society is a full-service provider of programs, products and services designed to prevent drowning. We save lives and prevent water-related injury through our training programs, Water Smart® public education, drowning research, aquatic safety management and lifesaving sport.

We are a national volunteer organization and registered charity composed of ten provincial/territorial branches, tens of thousands of individual members, and over 4,000 affiliated swimming pools, waterfronts, schools and clubs.

The Lifesaving Society is a leader and partner in the delivery of water safety education throughout Canada and around the world. (The Society operates globally in over 25 countries.) We represent Canada in the Commonwealth Royal Life Saving Society and we are Canada's Full Member in the International Life Saving Federation. The Lifesaving Society takes lead responsibility for drowning prevention in Canada.

We have been teaching swimming, water safety and water rescue in Canada since 1896.

Teaching Canadians to save themselves and rescue others

Annually, over 1.5 million Canadians participate in our swimming, lifesaving, lifeguard, first aid and leadership programs. As Canada's lifeguarding experts, we set the standard for lifeguard training and certify Canada's National Lifeguards.

Making Canadians Water Smart

The Society focuses its public education efforts on people most at risk or on those who can make a significant difference. Our Swim to Survive® program provides the skills to survive an unexpected fall into deep water.

Drowning research

The Society conducts research into drowning, aquatic injury and rescue interventions to support the Society's training programs and drowning prevention education.

Setting the standard

The Society establishes aquatic safety standards and consults on aquatic safety issues for the aquatic industry, governments and the judiciary.

Lifesaving sport

The Society is the Canadian governing body for lifesaving sport – a sport recognized by the International Olympic Committee and the Commonwealth Games Federation. Our Lifesaving Sport Fundamentals program offers a recreational introduction to lifesaving sport skills. Age-group, senior and masters athletes compete provincially, nationally and internationally.

Registered Charity No. 13237 8134 RR0001
All donations gratefully received. Tax receipts issued for donations of \$25 or more.

* Lifesaving Society, Water Smart, Swim to Survive, Swim for Life and National Lifeguard Service are registered trademarks of the Royal Life Saving Society Canada.

Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador
11 Austin Street, PO Box 8065, Station "A"
St. John's, Newfoundland A1B 3M9
Tel: 709-576-1953
Fax: 709-221-1475
info@lifesavingnl.ca
www.lifesavingnl.ca
www.lifeguarddepot.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In 2025, I was delighted and honoured to have the opportunity to continue my role as President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Branch of the Royal Lifesaving Society Canada. I am so appreciative of the faith placed in me by the Board of Directors and all of our membership.

I am proud to highlight the efforts of members of our branch working on drowning prevention priorities at the national level, notably our VP Training Programs, **Christopher Mercer**, and our First Aid Chair, **Robyn Noseworthy**, whose work on the National Training Programs Commission included extending the National Lifeguard re-exam pilot and preparing an accommodation guidelines for instructors, along with outreach at the local level in our province to members and affiliates to discuss revision needs for Canadian Swim Patrol.



I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the appointments of **Dr. Stephanie Field** as the new Commissioner of the National Public Education Commission, and **Leslie Hiscock** as a member of the National Safety Standards Commission. It is truly a badge of pride to see the contributions members of our Branch are making on the national stage and the respect they garner among their peers across the country.

On an ongoing basis, we prioritize connecting with our members and providing consistent updates on news and developments in the lifesaving community. The primary focus for this is the consistent circulation of our *Currents* newsletter, which reaches countless members. We also engage with our community through regular social media. Our provincial office sets the standard on the ground to assist our members and ensure there is always someone available to speak to and help with anything they may need.

We have continued our practice of obtaining a *Newfoundland and Labrador Drowning Report*, providing statistics specific to our province. This data is crucial to help us drive initiatives, focus our public education strategies, and spread awareness on drowning prevention in a manner that effectively serves Newfoundland and Labrador.

Our Board of Directors remained in place in 2025, and I express my gratitude for the dedication you all bring to the Lifesaving Society. Board membership is one of many ways in which volunteers can help bring their skills to aid the Society, and we always have room for new voices and fresh ideas. I encourage anyone interested in sharing their perspective on our cause to reach out.

I am pleased to report to our members that our Society maintains a strong and stable presence in Newfoundland and Labrador, thanks in large part to the excellent work of our CEO, **Raegan Wiseman**, whose unfailingly steady hand keeps our office running smoothly. Further thanks to the ceaseless work of our highly dedicated volunteers and affiliates, whose passion and commitment continue to advance our mission of delivering crucial drowning prevention efforts for the citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador. Anything we do and accomplish is due to the time and energy we are so fortunate to receive from each and every one of you.

Gary Nolan

FINANCIAL REPORT

The summary financial information presented here is derived from the financial statements of the Royal Life Saving Society Newfoundland and Labrador Branch Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2025. The Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador is a provincially incorporated entity and a registered charity. Detailed audited financial statements are available upon request.

In 2025, the Society's expenditures of \$138,970 exceeded net revenues of \$115,200, resulting in a loss of \$23,772 compared to a surplus of \$1,691 in the previous year. Net revenues decreased by \$6,852 to \$115,200, while expenses increased by \$18,609 to \$138,970.

The Society's core revenue streams from training programs remained stable in 2025. Leadership decreased \$3,285 over the prior year, and merchandise sales also decreased by \$2,649. Literature sales also saw a decrease of \$2,456. This is attributed to a lower amount of leadership programming being offered in the province and to course availability.

Total expenditures increased by \$18,609. This increase was attributed to higher salaries, higher shipping costs, travel, office operations and higher National Levies paid during this period. Additionally, higher insurance premiums and higher audit fees were accrued, reflecting the hardening of the insurance market and the increased cost of professional fees due to above-average inflation.

Moving into 2026, core revenue streams have remained stable, and the Society is working to support its ongoing mission to prevent drowning and water-related injury in Newfoundland and Labrador. In addition, the Society is working to help safeguard against revenue shortfalls as experienced in 2025 by supporting affiliates to expand program offerings. In turn, this will help ensure that quality programming, public education and services remain accessible across the province while supporting the stability of the Society.

Operations

Net Revenue	2025		2024	
	\$		\$	
Training programs	66,260	58%	64,299	53%
Literature	17,265	15%	19,721	17%
Grants & Donations	340	0%	466	0%
Affiliation fees	12,340	11%	12,637	10%
Leadership	9,347	8%	12,632	10%
Merchandise	9,648	8%	12,297	10%
	115,200	100%	122,052	100%

Expenditures

Admin, salaries & occupancy	114,089	82%	101,391	81%
Member services	12,996	9%	9,001	11%
National levy	11,886	9%	9,970	8%
	138,970	100%	120,361	100%

Net Surplus/loss for the year

(23,772)	1,691
----------	-------

Balance Sheet

Net Assets

Net working capital	70,776	94,904
Capital assets	615	1,096
	71,391	96,000

Fund Balances

71,391	96,000
71,391	96,000

AWARDS REPORT

TOP LINE SUMMARY		2025	2024	2023
	Swimming	2,178	1,458	5,944
	Lifesaving	1,577	896	928
	First Aid	1,779	2,067	2,175
	Lifeguarding	595	600	719
	Leadership	442	528	433
		6,571	5,549	10,199
SWIMMING	Swim for Life	2,178	1,458	5,944
	Swim to Survive	0	0	0
		2,178	1,458	5,944
LIFESAVING	Canadian Swim Patrol	1,247	574	584
	Bronze Star	67	77	64
	Bronze Medallion	263	245	280
		1,577	896	928
FIRST AID	First Aid	1,556	1,752	1,981
	CPR	223	315	194
		1,779	2,067	2,175
LIFEGUARDING	Safeguard	0	0	0
	Bronze Cross	216	212	266
	National Lifeguard	379	388	453
		595	600	719
LEADERSHIP	Instructor	332	387	289
	Examiner	85	104	102
	Trainer	35	37	42
		442	528	433

TRAINING PROGRAMS

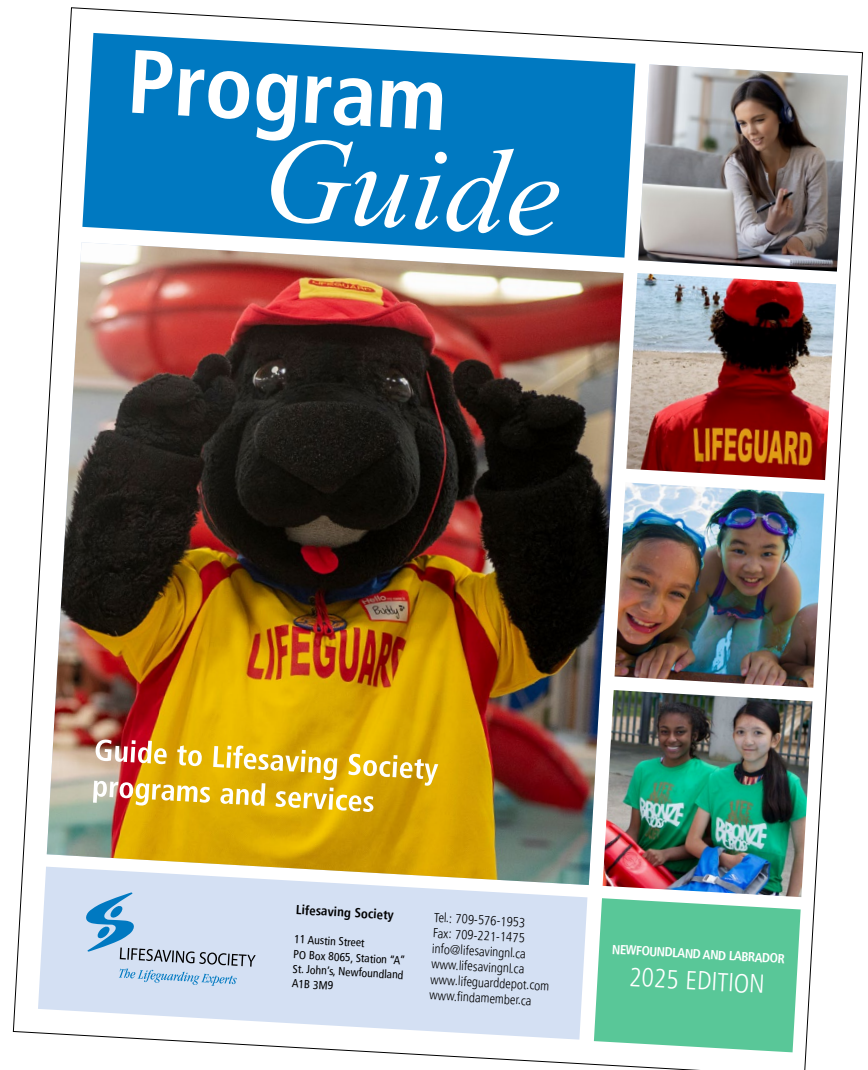
Training Programs contributes to the mission of the Society by teaching Canadians the skills and the knowledge they need to enjoy water safely and to save themselves and rescue others in an emergency. The Society's National Lifeguard certification is the standard for professional lifeguards in Canada.

Looking back at 2025

In 2025, we saw an increase in our Swimming and Lifesaving programs. This increase continues to strengthen our programs, and we are hopeful that it will grow participation in other programs across the board. All other programs in Lifeguarding and First Aid have seen a slight decrease or have remained stable.

At a national level, we continue to progress with our Swim for Life and Canadian Swim Patrol revisions initiated the year prior.

This year, we've completed the overhaul of our *Program Guide*. In the 2025 edition, we've made the *Program Guide* available exclusively online, improving its accessibility and functionality for all. Throughout, you'll find bookmarked text (allowing you to quickly jump to specific sections or pages), hyperlinks back to our website for detailed information, and improved ease of use for our members with accessibility needs.



PUBLIC EDUCATION

Public Education activities contribute to the mission of the Society by increasing awareness of the risks associated with activities in, on, and around water. The aim is to modify at-risk behaviour to eliminate drowning and water-related injuries.

July 20-26, 2025
National Drowning Prevention Week
LIFESAVING SOCIETY

National Drowning Prevention Week

The Lifesaving Society designates the third week in July as National Drowning Prevention Week (NDPW) to focus community and media attention on the drowning issue and drowning prevention. NDPW provides a focus around which community educators can plan news releases, do television and radio interviews, and deliver public demonstrations and other events.

In 2025, many successful community events were launched across Canada with mayoral proclamations, flag raisings, and community events led by community coalitions, affiliates, facilities, and individuals.

World Drowning Prevention Day

The UN General Assembly Resolution on Global Drowning Prevention designated July 25 as World Drowning Prevention Day to be observed globally every year. Activities in Canada varied by province and the Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador was active on its social media channels sharing international water safety messages.

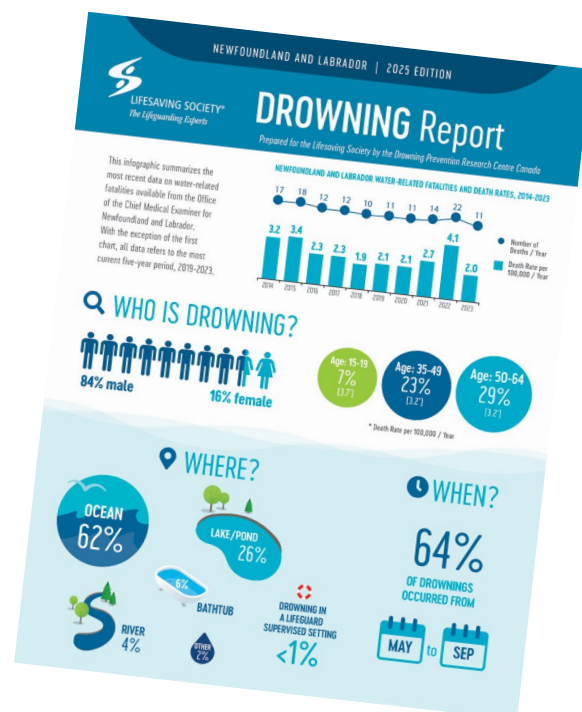
Drowning Report

In June, the Society published the *2025 Newfoundland and Labrador Drowning Report* prepared by the Drowning Prevention Research Centre Canada. The most recent data showed the number of drowning deaths in the province decreased. The report indicated that the drowning rate decreased from 4.1 per 100,000 in 2022 to 2.0 in 2023 (the most recent year for which data is available).

Despite the reduction in the drowning death rate in past years, the factors contributing to increasing rates remain largely the same. Fishing in Newfoundland and Labrador is the most common occupational or recreational activity when drowning occurs, and not wearing a lifejacket remains the single largest contributor to drowning deaths.

The Society has been researching and reporting on water-related deaths in Canada for over 30 years. The Society uses the drowning data to ensure its training programs and public education activities are properly focused and guided by a comprehensive fact base.

The *2025 Newfoundland and Labrador Drowning Report* is available at lifesavingnl.ca.



AFFILIATE RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Lifesaving Society recognizes affiliate members who deliver the Society's training programs. Awards are presented on the basis of points earned in the calendar year. Point values reward affiliates who offer a full menu of Lifesaving Society programs and reflect the relative degree of difficulty or amount of training and effort required to achieve each level including the programming time commitment.

Largest Lifesaving Program

Awarded to the affiliate member with the largest lifesaving program.

1 st	City of St. John's	9,247
2 nd	The Works	7,536
3 rd	City of Mount Pearl	3,573
4 th	Horwood's Homecare	3,528
5 th	New Depth	2,418
6 th	Ches Penney YMCA	2,326
7 th	Marystown YMCA	1,914
8 th	Jonathan Mayo	1,861
9 th	Peter Cameron	1,525
10 th	City of Corner Brook	1,365

Kean Award

Awarded to the municipal affiliate with the largest lifesaving program in a community with a population between 10,000 and 30,000.

1 st	City of Mount Pearl	3,573
2 nd	City of Corner Brook	1,365
3 rd	Exploits Valley YMCA	1,164

Anniversary Award

Awarded to the municipal affiliate with the largest lifesaving program in a community with a population of less than 10,000.

1 st	Town of Port aux Basques	1,204
2 nd	Town of Wabush	1,020
3 rd	Town of Deer Lake	990

Osmond Award

Awarded to the seasonal affiliate with the largest lifesaving program.

1 st	Town of Bay Roberts	806
2 nd	Town of Springdale	695
3 rd	Gros Morne Cooperative Association	564

Point System

Affiliate recognition awards encourage and recognize the use of the Society's training programs. Point values reward affiliates who offer a full menu of Lifesaving Society programs and reflect the relative degree of difficulty or amount of training and effort required to achieve each level including the programming time commitment. Recertifications are assigned half the point value of original certifications

Water Rescue Awards

Canadian Swim Patrol	7
Junior Lifeguard Club	10
Safeguard	10
Bronze Star	10
Bronze Medallion	15
Bronze Cross	20
Distinction	30
National Lifeguard	40

First Aid Awards

Anaphylaxis Rescuer	2
Basic First Aid	4
CPR-A /-B /-C	4/6/8
CPR-HCP	8
AED	10
Emergency/Basic First Aid	12
Airway Management	15
Standard/Intermediate First Aid	25

Leadership Training

Assistant Instructor	20
Swim Instructor	40
Lifesaving Instructor	40
Examiner Clinic or Course	15
Update Clinics	15
Lifesaving Sport Coach	30
Specialized Instructors	30
Trainer Course	30

MEMBER SERVICES

Member Services develops and maintains the corporate functions, systems and infrastructure required to support and service the membership of the Society.

Governance

The National Society (Lifesaving Society Canada) is governed by a Board of Directors nominated by Branches and elected by the members at the Society's AGM. National commissions are led by volunteer commissioners who report to the Board of Directors. These commissions are: Public Education, Training Programs, Lifesaving Sport, Aquatic Safety Standards and International Relations. A management team comprises of senior staff of the 10 provincial/territorial Branches.

Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors

A volunteer Board of Directors governs the Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador in accordance with its mission and bylaws. Directors are elected for a two-year term by the Society's membership at the annual general meeting (The 55th Annual General Meeting was held at City Hall in St. John's on June 7, 2025). No person or body external to the Society is entitled to appoint any directors.

Barry Fordham, VP Public Education, resigned from his position in 2025. We thank Barry for his time on the Board of Directors and his contributions to the Society.

Activity Centre Councils

Activity centre councils are composed of chairs, appointed by the Board of Directors for a two-year term, who oversee specific portfolios necessary to manage the work of the activity centres. Chairs recruit and develop committee members. A vice president, or another individual appointed by the Board of Directors, chairs each activity centre council.

Robyn Noseworthy - First Aid Chair

Navada Miles – National Lifeguard Chair

Volunteers serving nationally

In 2025, Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador volunteers continued to contribute to the National Society. **Christopher Mercer** represented Newfoundland and Labrador on the National Training Program Commission and the national board member. **Gary Nolan** continued on the national board as Corporate Secretary. **Barry Fordham** continued as the Society's Member Representative until June 2025.

Information and communication services

The Society continued to keep members informed with the quarterly distribution of the *Currents* newsletter. The Society remains committed to improve communications that will better serve members throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

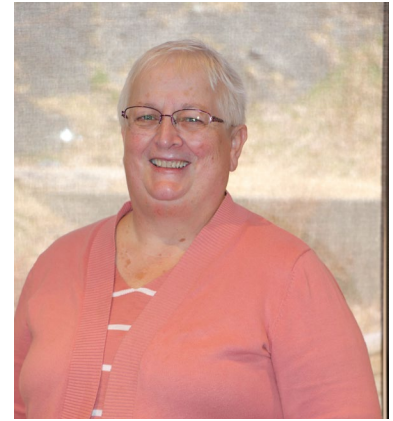
Headquarters and office staff

Raegan Wiseman continued as CEO. The Society continued its lease at 11 Austin St. in St. John's.

Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors

From the top, left to right:

Gary Nolan, President
Corinne Wright, Past President
Crystal Stokes, VP Member Services
Christopher Mercer, VP Training Programs
Ryan Gosse, VP Finance
Raegan Wiseman, CEO (ex officio)



Council chairs

Training Programs Council

Robyn Noseworthy, First Aid
Navada Miles, National Lifeguard



FUNDRAISING

Fundraising activities contribute to the mission of the Society by raising money to support our drowning prevention priorities.

Donor clubs

The Society's donor clubs acknowledge individuals who donate funds to the Society's work. In 2025, the Society received donations from the following:

Distinction Club (\$500 or more):

Merit Club (\$300 to \$499):

Bronze Club (\$100 to \$299): **Anonymous Donor, Corinne Wright**

Friends of the Society (\$25 to \$99): **Andrea Herrmann**

Partners and supporters

The work of the Lifesaving Society is made possible in part by the generous support of our partners and supporters.

We thank LifeguardDepot.com for its continued generous support of the Society in Newfoundland and Labrador. All proceeds from LifeguardDepot.com sales in Newfoundland and Labrador support drowning prevention and the development of young leaders through lifesaving sport. In 2025, LifeguardDepot.com provided the Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador with over \$9,100 for its drowning prevention work.

We thank the Lifesaving Society Ontario for its continued contributions.

Support drowning prevention in Newfoundland and Labrador

Donate to the Lifesaving Society online. Visit lifesavingnl.ca and click the Donate Now button. A new window will open where you have options to direct your donation to specific funds or causes.



