



# Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus Association of Canada Association de spina-bifida et d'hydrocéphalie du Canada

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## Living With Spina Bifida—Jaxon’s Adventure

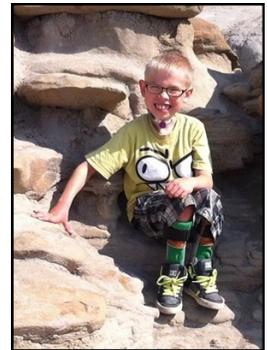
Chera and Aaron were having their scheduled 20 week ultrasound and they were thrilled to be seeing their baby for the first time. After routine blood work had gone as expected, they thought everything would be normal for the delivery of their first child. But their world was turned upside down when the ultrasound revealed that baby Jaxon would be born with spina bifida.



The young parents-to-be had no idea what spina bifida was so they reached out to the Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association for education and to be reassured about plunging headfirst into the frightening world of parenting a child with special needs. Through this connection, Chera and Aaron were able to learn about the many faces of spina bifida and hydrocephalus.

Jaxon was born just one week ahead of his due date. On Day Two, he endured a six hour surgery to close the opening on his back. During his first year, Jaxon had a tracheostomy and had several operations for the installation and replacement of shunts to control his hydrocephalus. He has been under anesthesia well over 30 times during his short 9 years of life.

There have been many struggles, but Jaxon has demonstrated true courage and determination as he forges into the future. Jaxon’s joyous attitude has allowed him to learn to walk and gain some level of bladder and bowel function, both of which he should not have been able to do. He is blessed with the gift of gab and will chatter with whomever will listen. Along with his little brothers, Jaxon loves playing sledge hockey and will try any sport he can. And in the true spirit of good sportsmanship, he enjoys cheering others on at all sporting events and through any challenges they may face. With the help of medical professionals, and the love and attention of friends and family, Jaxon continues to improve.



Spina Bifida is the number 1 physically disabling birth defect in Canada. There is no cure. Support systems and resources are what make life more “normal” for kids with spina bifida. Your support will make life richer for children like Jaxon.

***The mission of the SBHAC is to advocate for people with spina bifida and hydrocephalus.***

Through your generous support, SBHAC can continue to raise awareness, support research programs and provide educational materials to individuals, schools, clinics and hospitals. Together, we can make it happen.

***Please donate today and help SBHAC continue our vital work  
by raising awareness and offering support to children like Jaxon and their families.***

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**I want to help Jaxon and others like him by supporting the important work of SBHAC!**

Enclosed is my donation of:      \$250     \$100     \$50     \$30     I prefer to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your cheque payable to SBHAC.

I prefer to donate through my: Visa  Mastercard  Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



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