


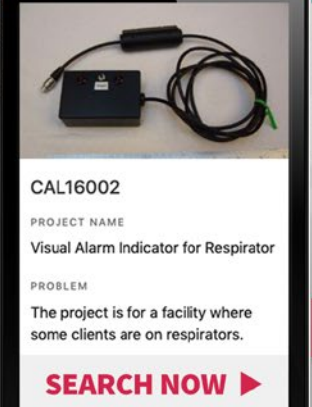





# gizmo

THE TETRA SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA: CUSTOM ASSISTIVE DEVICES

TETRASOCIETY.ORG

 <p><b>CAL17075</b> PROJECT NAME On/Off Switch for a Oral Suction D...</p> <p><b>PROBLEM</b> Client had a C4 spinal injury. He has limited head movement only. He is looking for a way to turn on and off his suction machine so he ...</p> <p><b>SOLUTION</b> Motor in suction machine is only 12VDC. Put a 1/8" jack in the suction machine tied to the motor +ve leads so that a switch would ...</p>	 <p><b>CAL18003</b> PROJECT NAME Toilet Flush-Handle Extension</p> <p><b>PROBLEM</b> The client requested an extension that would allow him to flush the toilet while seated upon it. Reaching behind himself to do so i...</p> <p><b>SOLUTION</b> A handle extension was fabricated from 1/4" steel rod and other small pieces, and affixed to the toilet tank handle via hose clamp. In order to...</p>	 <p><b>CAL15076</b> PROJECT NAME Gutter Crutch and Push Up Block ...</p> <p><b>PROBLEM</b> The client occasionally works with paraplegic patients that are non-weight bearing on the upper extremity (hand or wrist) and ...</p> <p><b>SOLUTION</b> A gutter crutch, supplied by the client, was combined with a push up block using an adjustable (telescopic) post. The telescopic ...</p>	 <p><b>CAL16002</b> PROJECT NAME Visual Alarm Indicator for Respirator</p> <p><b>PROBLEM</b> The project is for a facility where some clients are on respirators.</p> <p><b>SEARCH NOW</b> ▶</p>	 <p><b>CAL16006</b> PROJECT NAME Bowling Ramp</p> <p><b>PROBLEM</b> The client runs a bowling league for people with disabilities and needed some collapsible bowling ramps.</p>	 <p><b>CAL15081</b> PROJECT NAME Wheelchair Cupholder</p> <p><b>PROBLEM</b> The client is a nine-year-old with cerebral palsy and spastic quadriplegia, who has insufficient ...</p>	 <p><b>CAL14072</b> PROJECT NAME Enclosed Bed</p> <p><b>PROBLEM</b> The client has Pitt Hopkins syndrome. This delays several aspects of development, and for his ...</p>
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Thousands of assistive devices and gadgets

## NEW LOOK TETRABASE

WE'VE MADE IT EASIER TO SEARCH FOR AND ADOPT ONE OF THE MANY SOLUTIONS THAT HAVE ALREADY MADE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE.

## New Year, New Beginnings! Our Brand New, User-friendly TetraBase!

WE STARTED the new year with an exciting initiative! Our brand new database of assistive devices is much more informative and user-friendly.

Now you can find detailed information about the innovative devices created by Tetra volunteers, including how they were built and materials used. Of course, a picture says a thousand words, so we made sure to include as many images as possible. To find the database, simply go to tetrasociety.org and click Solutions to access TetraBase.



### Find Your Local Chapter or a Virtual Coordinator for Help

The new Tetra website has a map function which makes finding a local chapter easy!

Visit our website and click the Chapters tab. Local contact information is available either by clicking on icons in the map or scrolling down the sidebar where all chapters are listed.

### Help is available for neighbouring communities too!

The power of having chapters and volunteers across the country is that we can help nearby neighbours or remotely. Volunteers in Vancouver have helped clients in Smithers with an adapted foot-rest and Hamilton volunteers assisted a client in Guelph who needed an adapted crib. Simply contact the chapter nearest you or reach out to our head office and we'll connect you with a volunteer!

## TETRA NATION

TetraNation is back! We're gearing up to celebrate all the amazing people who make Tetra possible.

The **TETRANATION 2019** campaign will run from April - October to showcase what Tetra is all about and inspire individuals with disabilities to re-imagine what is possible. Join us to celebrate the volunteers behind the inventions that make a big difference in people's lives.

Stay tuned on our social media for more information!

**TETRANATION.ORG**

# Regina Tetra Chapter

## Committed to creating great gizmos and assistive devices

IN 2003, **TERRI SLEEVA**, an avid CBC radio listener heard that Tetra Society was looking for a Chapter Coordinator in Regina. Terri explains, “in my involvement with the University of Regina students, the Regina chapter began to establish its presence in the community. Professor David deMontigny, an Engineering Professor at the University of Regina provided valuable encouragement and assistance.” Word has definitely been getting out because there are some great gizmos being created in Regina.

Identifying Tetra as a highlight in her life, Terri has hopes to make Tetra a household name in Regina! She says that the Tetra Regina team is addicted

**“THE TETRA REGINA TEAM IS ADDICTED TO WARM AND FUZZIES, THE FEELING THEY GET FROM IMPROVING A PERSON’S LIFE AND THE GRATITUDE THEY RECEIVE FOR THE GIZMOS THEY PROVIDE.” — TERRI SLEEVA**

to warm and fuzzies, the feeling they get from improving a person’s life and the gratitude they receive for the gizmos they provide. “Gerry Wurtak, our longest-serving volunteer, taught me that showing kindness and helping people has its own reward.” She adds, “shortly after Gerry joined, we were on our way to becoming a viable entity.



THE TETRA REGINA TEAM

# Taking control of his game



TETRA REGINA VOLUNTEERS

In addition to other projects, he made five sled/wagons for children, both the children and guardians were very appreciative. One towable wagon/stroller was taken to Whitehorse by Damien Bolingbroke, one of the Engineers in our group.”

The Tetra Regina team is stellar in many ways! Last year, a sound emitting Easter egg for children with vision impairments was completed. Even though only a prototype was requested, Tetra volunteer Frank made 100 of these eggs! Currently Tetra Regina volunteers are working on a tricycle for someone recovering from brain surgery, an automatic barbecue cover, and an automatic page flipper. These are just some of the projects under way!

Terri indicates that making videos of projects to showcase their value is the next item on their agenda! “Media like the CBC plays a crucial role to advance the paramount goals of the Tetra Society of North America and together, we will make a difference in the lives of many people with disabilities.”



## VIDEO CONTROLLER PROJECT FROM UBC ENABLE TEAM

The University of British Columbia’s ENABLE team worked on a video controller project with Caleb, a Tetra client who is unable to press some of the buttons on his Xbox controller due to muscular dystrophy. Josh French, a 4th year Electrical Engineering student has been involved with the ENABLE team since late 2017 and worked with Caleb on this project.

Josh explains that it was an iterative process. They started with buying a controller to open it up, and explore their options. “One of the challenges we faced was securing wires onto the existing board of the Xbox controller. Since these are commercially finished products they are not meant to be opened up and tampered with,” Josh says. “The second challenge we faced was determining the correct button placement for the client.

**“I REMEMBER HIM SAYING MULTIPLE TIMES HOW HE WAS FINALLY ABLE TO DO ALL THESE THINGS WITHIN THE GAME THAT HE HADN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO BEFORE. OBVIOUSLY IT WAS A GREAT FEELING TO SEE THIS FIRST HAND.” – JOSH FRENCH**



TETRA CLIENT CALEB WITH HIS ADAPTED VIDEO CONTROLLER

Once the project was completed, Caleb seemed pretty excited about the final version of the controller.

To Josh, the most rewarding part was to get to see how the device made a difference in Caleb’s life: “I remember him saying multiple times how he was finally able to do all these things within the game that he hadn’t been able to do before. Obviously it was a great feeling to see this first hand.”

While talking about Tetra’s impact to the community, Josh indicates that, it is a great chance for undergraduate students to be able to work with a client as it serves to build hands-on skills through a unique experience. “Furthermore, when the project is complete, you truly have worked to make someone’s life better.” Josh explains, “as undergraduate students, this is an unprecedented opportunity that we are very grateful for.”

## INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM & ACCESS

Tetra is a registered charity that enables people with disabilities to overcome barriers in the physical landscape. We recruit technically skilled and compassionate volunteers who work one-on-one with individuals requiring custom engineering solutions. The completed gizmos empower people with disabilities to live independent and active lives.

## TETRA *Thanks!*

- Allard Foundation
- Alice and Murray Maitland Foundation
- Alliance Pipeline
- Al Roadburg Foundation
- Anna and Edward C. Churchill Foundation
- BC Rehab Foundation
- Brampton and Caledon Community Foundation
- Burgenlaender Club
- Burlington Community Foundation
- Cadillac Fairview Corporation
- Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation
- Canada Post Community Foundation
- Craig H. Neilsen Foundation
- Community Foundation of Mississauga
- The Edith Lando Charitable Foundation
- Edmonton Civic Employees Charitable Assistance Fund
- Face the World Foundation
- Five B Family Foundation
- Georgina Foundation
- Government of Canada
- The Greygates Foundation
- The Guelph Community Foundation
- Halton Region
- Hamber Foundation
- Hamilton Community Foundation
- Harold E. Ballard Foundation
- J.P. Bickell Foundation
- K+S Potash Canada
- Lagniappe Foundation
- Leonard Foundation
- Quickturn Production Machining Ltd
- Pilkington-Henniger Charitable Trust
- Province of British Columbia
- Servus Credit Union
- Shoppers Drug Mart
- SurreyCares
- Telus
- UMC Charity

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## TETRA SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

DEDICATED TO ASSISTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO ACHIEVE AN INDEPENDENT AND FULFILLING LIFE, ONE ASSISTIVE DEVICE AT A TIME

Have an idea for a project? Want to know what's possible? Want to overcome a barrier?

Here's how to reach us...

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