PROJECT PURPOSE
The SCI Community Survey was the largest ever consumer survey of its type undertaken in Canada. Conducted with the participation of people with traumatic and non-traumatic spinal cord injury (SCI) living in the community, the purpose of this nationwide survey examined whether or not the needs of people with SCI are being met by existing health and social service programs.

PROJECT STATUS
Recruitment for the survey ended in August 2012. The recruitment of 1,549 people was due to the tremendous support of organisations such as SCI Canada and its affiliated provincial partners, Rick Hansen SCI Registry sites, the Rick Hansen 25th Anniversary Relay, and publication in Solutions (RHI) and SPIN magazines (SCI-BC) as well as publications in Quebec newspapers.

UPCOMING MILESTONES
Based on the survey results a project is in progress to implement some of the ‘promising practices’ in several Canadian provinces. This project involves a partnership between researchers and SCI community organizations. In addition, the data will soon be available for the SCI research community to answer additional research questions and inform community planning.

PROJECT TEAM
Principal Investigator
Luc Noreau, PhD
Université Laval
Contact
Vanessa Noonan, PhD PT
Rick Hansen Institute
vnoonan@rickhanseninstitute.org
Learn More
www.rickhanseninstitute.org

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The Rick Hansen Institute is a Canadian-based not-for-profit organization with the goal of creating a world without paralysis after spinal cord injury. It works towards this goal by accelerating research and translating clinical findings into practical solutions to develop new treatments, improve health care outcomes, reduce long-term costs and improve the quality of life for those living with spinal cord injury. www.rickhanseninstitute.org

*Traumatic and non-traumatic results from the SCI Community Survey can be downloaded from the RHI website in English and French.