

Lindsey King

Lindsey was leaving her job at the mall and walking to the transit station to go home.

She waited for the signal to change and stepped out onto the crosswalk on Hardin Street. She remembers realizing she was about to be hit by a vehicle and then nothing until she woke up on the pavement spitting out chipped and bloody teeth. Witnesses told her that she had been thrown like a rag doll at least 10 feet before hitting the pavement.

Lindsey was taken to the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre where she was admitted and assessed for 2 days. She had internal bruising of her lungs, ribs and liver. As well, her left leg was badly injured and the resulting scarring has left her in constant pain which sometimes affects her ability to walk or bear weight on that leg.

The driver of the vehicle tried to leave the scene of the collision but bystanders prevented him from doing so. He was operating a company vehicle at the time of the collision and had no license. This begs the question: why would a company not confirm a driver has a license prior to allowing them to operate a vehicle? This point still infuriates Lindsey who realizes that she would be healthy today if the company had taken due diligence to ensure their drivers were registered and licensed.

The driver was charged with operating a vehicle without a license. He was charged \$800 and the lawsuit took 3 ½ years to settle.

As for Lindsey, she has been unable to return to work and lives with the pain on a daily basis. As a young family, she and her husband have suffered both

emotional and financial pain from this collision.



Lindsey King
Struck and injured by a
distracted driver

Lindsey and her husband had just merged on to Hospital Street

and were sitting at a red light waiting to turn left on a bright and sunny July 7, 2008. A driver on a cell phone drove up behind and rear-ended them. The distracted driver was in a truck which completely demolished the back of Lindsey's car.

Lindsey was 8 ½ months pregnant and went immediately to the Northern Lights Health Region to have her baby assessed. The stress test indicated everything was OK but an ultrasound showed a black spot (blood) on her uterus. The health team admitted Lindsey for 24 hours to evaluate and assess the black spot to see if it was old blood that had healed or new blood as a result of the collision. At the end of the 24 hour assessment, the ultrasound showed that her uterus was now completely filled with blood and the baby was at high risk. They induced labour immediately and, thankfully, baby Sophie was born alive and well. The blood and resulting endangerment to the baby was caused from Lindsey's seat belt tearing her placenta during the collision.



Lindsey King & Sophie
Baby delivered prematurely as
a result of a distracted driver

In a series of bad luck, 2 weeks later Lindsey and her mother were involved in another collision at the intersection of Hospital Street & Franklin Avenue. Heading south on Franklin and waiting to make a right on to Hospital Street on the green light, Lindsey noticed a vehicle run a red light. The vehicle impacted Lindsey's car on the driver's side and pushed it across two lanes of traffic. Lindsey's car was totaled.

Both Lindsey and her mother received back injuries which still linger today. The ensuing physiotherapy, massage and health care appointments have cost them time and money.

The occupants in the other car were having a ferocious argument in the vehicle and were completely unaware as to their surroundings. They were completely distracted and had no recognition that they should not be driving while in that state. Even after the collision the occupants continued fighting, became verbally abusive to Lindsey, and argued with the police officer. The driver was charged with driving through a red light.

Lindsey is bothered by the lack of accountability in both collisions. Both drivers got off with a small fine that took years to settle. Their lives go on but Lindsey is left with the pain and emotional trauma of unsafe drivers. She is afraid and anxious to drive or walk in our community. This fear is not acceptable in our community – we all need to be accountable for our driving behavior and

respect that everyone needs to get home safely.