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Vibrations

December 2016

► PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello BCASLPA Members!

I'm delighted to write this first letter as your President.

First, I have many BCASLPA volunteers to thank on behalf of all of us. Nathan Hoffart, now Past President, has brought an infectious enthusiasm and community building ability, and can take extensive credit for the diverse and engaged Provincial Council we have serving you this year. Julia Hodder, outgoing Past President, has provided thoughtful dedication and leadership which has been much appreciated.

Our 2016 BCASLPA Conference, with the theme of Inter-professional Collaboration, featured many thought-provoking and engaging presentations. A highlight for me, and I think for many others, was Lynne Sinclair's morning keynote on inter-professional collaboration. This was a fun, insightful take on a topic that affects all of us. There were many other big hits including local clinicians and creative practitioners from elsewhere. Huge congratulations to the 2016 conference committee for bringing together such an interesting array of presentations on what can admittedly be a thorny topic!

Exciting work lies ahead over the next year,

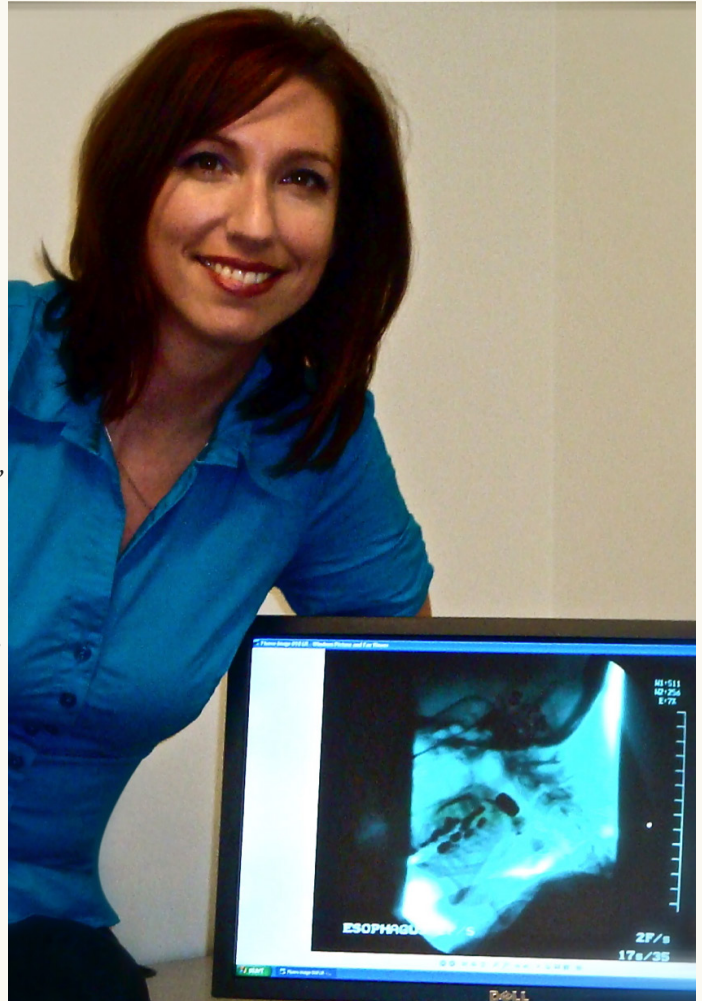
- BCASLPA's 60th Anniversary!
- As I write, the federal government is conducting consultations on federal disability legislation. BCASLPA is taking an active role, with members attending meetings in Victoria and Vancouver. It's not too late to participate and help make sure Canadians living with communication related disabilities are represented – [follow this link to the online survey](#).
- A variety of advocacy initiatives are underway across the province under the guidance of our new Public Education Director, Becca Yu, as well as VP Sherri Zelazny. Is there something you and your colleagues need support with? BCASLPA can help provide you with the resources you need to take action.
- Many exciting professional development opportunities are being planned with the support of BCASLPA area funds. Have an idea for a great workshop in your area? Consider applying for a grant through your [BCASLPA Area Rep](#).
- The 2017 Conference committee is already hard at work on a fabulous conference program to mark our diamond anniversary – mark your calendars now for October 20 and 21, 2017.

Thanks to all of you for your hard work on behalf of our professions, and BCASLPA – I look forward to many conversations with you this year. Until next time,

► UBC SASS UPDATE

Spotlight on new faculty of the UBC School of Audiology and Speech Sciences

Dr. Stacey Skoretz is a medical Speech-Language Pathologist and was recently appointed as Assistant Professor (tenure-track) with the School of Audiology and Speech Sciences in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver. She is also Assistant Clinical Professor with the Department of Critical Care in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. She completed her doctoral training at the University of Toronto under the supervision of Dr. Rosemary Martino. Stacey's research program focuses on artificial airways and their impact on upper airway physiology with an emphasis on swallowing function following cardiovascular surgery, organ transplantation, and critical illness. She was awarded the Dysphagia Research Society New Investigator Award in 2012 for her work on dysphagia following cardiovascular surgery. For many years, she has worked and continues to work as a clinician in quaternary-level cardiovascular, neuroscience, and critical care units. This guides her work in the advancement of evidence-based practice in the field of swallowing and its disorders. She has been an invited speaker on many occasions throughout North America and lecturer at both the University of Alberta and the University of Toronto. In addition to conducting research in both British Columbia and Alberta, she will be teaching graduate-level courses in the areas of swallowing and motor speech at UBC-Vancouver.



Save the Date for a Fundraising Initiative for the School!

The school is planning to host a one-day symposium on February 4, 2017, in the school's premises on the UBC, Point Grey Campus in Vancouver. The theme of the symposium is: "Hot topics in Speech, Language and Hearing: from Research Lab to the Clinic, and the Other Way Around". All clinicians are invited to join us for this symposium. Further details about the symposium will be announced as they become available.

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**DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE SUBMISSIONS: FEBRUARY 10, 2017
TO SUBMIT, EMAIL MARIANNE.BULLIED@GMAIL.COM**

▶ 2016 BCASLPA AWARD RECIPIENTS



Shelagh Davies



Janet Harder



Deborah Pugh

Honours of the Association

Honours of the Association are awarded to Members who have made an outstanding contribution to speech-language pathology and/or audiology in education, research, organization services, administration and other areas deemed appropriate.

Awarded to:

Shelagh Davies

Nominators: Sherri Zelazny and Susan Edwards

Speech Language Pathologist of the Year

This award is given to individuals who have been nominated by clients and/or client families. This award is presented to those individuals or groups that have contributed to the growth of the professions of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology exemplifying the vision or mission of the professions for client outcomes and care.

Awarded to:

Janet Harder

Nominator: Dr. Anne-Marie Warner

Distinguished Service Award

This award is presented to individuals who are not speech-language pathologists or audiologists but who have made outstanding contributions to the professions and/or the communities they serve.

Awarded to:

Deborah Pugh

Nominators: Julia Hodder and Kate Wishart

▶ SAANICH SCHOOL DISTRICT SLPS ARE HOSTING A FULL-DAY WORKSHOP!

Friday, February 24, 2017

Parkland Secondary School, Sidney, BC (easy access to and from BC Ferries)

Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS): Building Confidence in your Skills and Implications for Literacy

Presented by Sue Caspari, the workshop will provide clinicians with a foundation of knowledge in the assessment and treatment of CAS with a focus on understanding CAS as a 'movement disorder' not a 'sound-based' disorder. Participants will learn to identify breakdowns in a child's speech, how to assess a child, and learn a practical treatment method. The implications of CAS and other speech sound disorders on literacy learning will also be addressed.

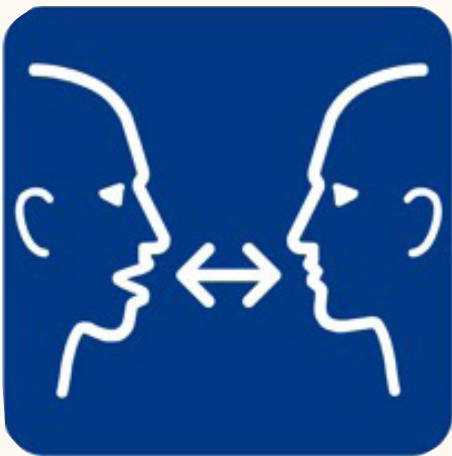
Friday, February 24, 2017

Parkland Secondary School, Sidney, BC (easy access to and from BC Ferries)

Visit <http://bit.ly/sd63slpworkshop> for more information and to register.

Please note that this workshop is being supported by BCASLPA Area Funds.

▶ COMMUNICATION DISABILITIES ACCESS CANADA SURVEY



Communication Disabilities Access Canada (CDAC) was successful in getting a small grant to engage people with communication disabilities, speech-language pathologists, educators, and disability advocates to provide input on their communication access needs to the emerging federal government's accessibility legislation.

This is the first time that the federal government has recognized the need for input on accessibility from the communication disability sector and we must take the opportunity to have our needs known and embedded in the new law. To do that, we have developed a survey. The fast, multiple choice survey may take 10-15 minutes. There is the option to add examples and make suggestions. We need as many people as possible to complete the survey so that we can have a strong voice in the roll-out of the federal government's accessibility legislation.

Please share this survey with at least five other people—anyone who is interested in improving access to services for people with communication disabilities. We really need to bang the drum on this one! Numbers do matter.

Please find more information and to complete the [survey](#) by January 1, 2017.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

INTERIM FEDERAL HEALTH PROGRAM (IFHP) POLICY ON COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

November 2016

This bulletin is to confirm that in accordance with the IFHP Policy, the IFHP is a payer of last resort, meaning that it provides benefits to those who lack public health insurance and comprehensive private health insurance.

The IFHP does not cover the cost of health-care services or products that a person may claim (even in part) under a public or private health insurance plan/program. The IFHP does not coordinate benefits with other insurance plans/programs therefore co-payments are not possible.

Please share this information with the members of your Association.

Should you or your members have any questions or concerns, or require more information regarding the IFHP, please call our Customer Information Centre at 1-888-614-1880 or e-mail CIC_Inquiry@medavie.bluecross.ca.

You may also access the Medavie Blue Cross website at <https://provider.medavie.bluecross.ca> to view Guides, Bulletins and other important information regarding the IFHP.



► RECRUITMENT FOR ASD STUDY

We are students and researchers at the occupational therapy department at UBC. We are recruiting clinicians and families of children with autism spectrum disorder ASD to give us feedback on the content of a virtual reality gaming program addressing perspective taking and socio-emotional skills among children with ASD.

We hope that you will be able to help us reach out to parents of children with ASD. We would like to invite families of children with ASD to participate in our project and share their knowledge and perspectives with us on the content of the virtual reality gaming program. Participation in this project is voluntary and will entail filling out two online questionnaires regarding “social stories” that will be used in the game. Participants will have the opportunity to give us feedback on the socio-emotional scenarios of this gaming program.

For more information please see our [study poster](#) or contact us as kristin.mow@alumni.ubc.ca or akrowe@alumni.ubc.ca. Thank you very much.

Alyssa Rowe & Kristin Mow
UBC Occupational Therapy Mater Students

► I'M ON A MISSION TO END DYSLEXIA IN CHILDREN IN B.C.

What led me to this?

I experienced the impact of untreated dyslexia in my own family. Using my own resources, I started the End Dyslexia campaign in 2015 knowing that we have the neuroscience-based knowledge to end dyslexia and we have evidence-based programs to do that. I feel that speech-language pathologists are the best trained professionals to accomplish this. We understand the neuroscience/speech perception/speech/language/phonological awareness/literacy continuum better than anyone.

Here is the latest [webinar on Dyslexia Research and Remediation](#). I invite you to watch and share this with [your colleagues and administrators in the schools](#). If you would like me to speak to your group at no charge, please contact me at info@end-dyslexia.com.

Marlene M. Lewis, M.A.
Registered Speech-Language Pathologist



THANK YOU FOR READING VIBRATIONS!