

### ► **President's Message**

Dear Members,

Happy 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! The summer has passed amazingly quickly and I am looking forward to seeing many of you at this year's conference in Burnaby. For many of you, this summer has been, and continues to be, a challenging one due to the terrible wildfire season we have been experiencing. I hope that all of you affected by the fires find yourselves, your families, and your homes safe and sound.

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In preparation for this anniversary newsletter, I asked Janet Campbell, BCASLPA's Operations Manager, to dig up a bit of information on our history. When we registered in 1957 as the BC Speech and Hearing Association, we had five directors: Elaine Clemons (Speech Therapist), Henry Minto (Teacher of the Deaf), Robert Sinclair (Teacher of the Deaf), Margaret Slind (Housewife), and Dorothy Washington (Speech Therapist). By 1970, we boasted a membership of 20, and our annual budget was a grand total of \$170! Fast forward to 1981, and our membership had grown to 240, and our annual Fall Conference began. In 1984, the BC Speech and Hearing Association became BCASLPA, and in 2017, we have an active, thriving membership of 1199!

For over 40 years, much of the work of our organization centred on working towards licensure for our professions, and until 2010, BCASLPA acted as the regulatory body for SLPs and Audiologists. Now, with the College firmly established, BCASLPA has refocused on supporting the professions through professional development and public education. Our members are active throughout the health and education systems of BC, have an incredible commitment to ongoing professional development, and are constantly working to provide public education to ensure British Columbians can access the services they need.

This 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year has brought several developments that will renew our organization for the decades to come. One of the most important changes we are introducing is a proposed bylaw amendment to extend the President's term to two years. Members will have the opportunity to vote on this motion at the AGM – I am very hopeful that we will pass the amendment, as it will provide a much needed increase in stability and leadership in our organization! This fall, it will be my great pleasure to hand the President's role to Sherri Zelazny, SLP. Sherri has been an enormously hard-working contributor to Provincial Council since she joined us 3 years ago. It has been a pleasure to serve as President and I have been constantly amazed at the work that so many SLPs and Audiologists are doing on behalf of our professions. See you at the conference!



Kate Chase

# ▶ Past President Reflections

In preparation for this special edition of Vibrations, we thought it would be appropriate to give past presidents the opportunity to reflect on their time serving on Provincial Council. A set of questions was sent out to all the contacts we had. Some answered the questions one by one while others chose to write out longer responses. Thanks to all those who contributed.

**Christy Faraher-Amidon, President 1978-1981**

**Mark Hansen, President 2006-2008**

**Barbara May Bernhardt, President 1974-1975**

**Lisa Prokopowich, President 2000-2001**

John H. Gilbert

Linda Rammage, President: 1986-1987 and 2002-2003

Jennifer Moll, President 2008-2010

Julia Hodder, President 2014-2015

Amy Fleming, President 1984-1985

## How long did you serve on Provincial Council?

**Christy:** I don't really remember, but it was something like 4 or so with VP, Pres, Chair of Standards Committee for a couple of years, and rep to Working Group for Licensing for 5 years prior to the formation of our regulatory College.

**Mark:** I was on the Provincial Council for several years, starting off as the private practice audiology counselor.

**Barbara:** 1 year as president, 1 year as secretary, and maybe 2 more years. One as SLP chair maybe and another one? it is hard to remember now exactly how many years I served - over 40 years ago.

**Lisa:** 1995-2002

## Where are you now?

**Christy:** I "retired" in 2015 to Comox, BC - the summer camp for retired folks!! I retired from my full-time position at The Centre for Child Development in Surrey, BC, but continued on with them as an Accreditation Consultant, returned to the College Board, continued to perform accreditation surveys at North American outpatient rehab centres, and worked in a casual position with VIHA from April - August 2017 serving children under 5 in the Port Hardy, BC, area. Semi-retired is probably more accurate!!

**Mark:** I am still in the midst daily clinical practice in Vancouver. I have, however, taken a few steps back, and have relented to having 2 other Audiologists work with me in clinic as well. Having others in clinic makes owning a private practice fun, and certainly less stressful.

**Barbara:** In Vancouver, having just "retired" from a professorship in SASS at UBC since 1990... Although, I may still be doing some private practice for pay (i.e. I don't get a pay cheque anymore from UBC even though I am still doing research and consulting on curriculum).

**Lisa:** Kelowna, BC

## Who was most influential in your career as an SLP/Aud? Why?

**Christy:** I think Fraser Health Medical Health Officer, Dr. John Blatherwick, Director of Special Education in New Westminster Schools, Doreen Hoath, and Delta Principal, Mike Molloy, were most influential for me as they were health and education leaders for me early in my career in BC who modeled the type of leadership I respected and encouraged me to encompass



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leadership in my speech-language pathology career.

**Mark:** Years ago, when I first started my career path and was employed in Southern Ontario, an SLP (Marianne MacLean) was my supervisor, mentor, and the person I admired most. She ran the department effectively, efficiently, and with respect for everyone. She showed interest in me as a person, not just a member of a working team. I often think, “What would Marianne do in this situation?”

**Barbara:** John Gilbert, Carolyn Johnson: Approaches to SLP and audiology based on critical thinking, research, and linguistics (theory and practical application). My children Carmina and Travis: Language acquisition mentors; arts approach to life. Jessica Ball (UVIC), Tiare Laporte (Métis, First Nations community learning coordinator, SASS for 5 years): The criticality of culturally safe and relevant service delivery to First Nations, Métis and Inuit people in Canada and elsewhere in the world.

**Lisa:** My Dad was the most influential in my career. He was diagnosed as a young school age child with a profound hearing loss. In the mid-1940s, he probably lost his hearing as a toddler due to illness. His parents were new Canadians and health care as we know it was nonexistent. Because of his hearing loss, he faced many hardships. I originally thought I would pursue audiology as a career but realized that my chatty side needed more of an outlet, so speech-language pathology was the logical choice.

### What motivated you to become president?

**Christy:** I was motivated to become President to immerse myself professionally in my adopted home province and country, to learn about the association and the field in my new place and to bridge a divide at the time between health and education in our profession in BC.

**Mark:** I caved to sweet talk and flattery from Maureen and Yvette! And have never regretted that I did! I also saw the work that Janet did in the office and knew that with her working for all of us, that I and council would not be alone.

**Barbara:** There were many political struggles in our fields in the 1970s and I was a young and energetic rabble-rouser who liked to “organize” for change! (Whether I succeeded or not).

**Lisa:** I had spent several years on council being amazed by previous presidents. I thought there were so many tools I could learn that would help in my career. I was so right! I greatly appreciated the presidents before me so that I could copy and add to their successes. I used so many things I learned in my role as President when creating partnership with the community that I served.

### What did you enjoy most about your time on Provincial Council?

**Christy:** As is typical, the friendships and working interactions that develop through working on Provincial Council keep the work enjoyable and fun and provide contacts that last your career.

**Mark:** Working with people on Council (Janet at the office of course) in the belief that we were dealing with issues of the time,

## BCASLPA PAST PRESIDENTS

Kate Chase	2016 - 2017
Nathan Hoffart	2015 - 2016
Julia Hodder	2014 - 2015
Brent Clayson	2013 - 2014
Melanie Houston	2012 - 2013
Kate Wishart	2011 - 2012
Marlene Lewis	2010 - 2011
Jennifer Moll	2008 - 2010
Mark Hansen	2006 - 2008
Yvette Thompson	2005 - 2006
Maureen O’Connell	2004 - 2005
Karen Derry	2003 - 2004
Linda Rammage	2002 - 2003
Leslie Mah	2001 - 2002
Lisa Prokopowich	2000 - 2001
Michelle Smits	1999 - 2000
Michele Horncastle	1998 - 1999
Wendy de Graaff	1997 - 1998
Carolyn Tuckwell	1996 - 1997
Monika Bernhauer	1995 - 1996
Kate Reilly	1994 - 1995
Janet Harder	1993 - 1994
Chuck Fuller	1989 - 1993
Rosemary Park	1988 - 1989
Collette Mochan Massie	1986 - 1988
Linda Rammage	1985 - 1986
Amy Fleming	1984 - 1985
Thais Turner	1982 - 1984
Christine Harrison	1981 - 1982
Christy Faraher-Amidon	1978 - 1981
Monika Brekelmans	1977 - 1978
Patience Towler	1976 - 1977
Margaret Roberts	1975 - 1976
Barbara Bernhardt	1974 - 1975
Monika Brekelmans	1973 - 1974
Marianne Gilbert	1972 - 1973
Joyce Edwards	1971 - 1972
Dr. J Gilbert	1970 - 1971
Elaine Clemons	1969 - 1970
Mrs. Margaret Slind	1968 - 1969



# ▶ Past President Reflections (continued)

and making the world for Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists a better place. I had a great time being President at the time of BCASLPA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and celebration in Whistler. We celebrated with First Nations dancers and the Lieutenant Governor of BC. I also loved the AGM and giving out Awards!

**Barbara:** The colleagues I met across agencies and disciplines.

**Lisa:** I thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many wonderful people especially those such as Michelle Smits and Anthony Intas. Anthony Intas was very committed to our group as the Executive Director. He fostered a lot of relationships in the province which were so vital before the social media era. I learned so much about audiology and how to be President from Michelle. I am totally grateful to her for that.

## What was your legacy as president?

**Christy:** I don't have a clue what might be the legacy of my term as BCASLPA President!!

**Mark:** I was the first Audiologist President in quite some time and I'd like to think that I had some influence in creating a more inclusive environment for Auds and SLPs to work together.

**Barbara:**????? Maybe the struggle to keep going on licensing!??? The will to fight for justice.

**Lisa:** I think it was during my time that we had very few people attending the AGM. Similar to the "Field of Dreams" quote, I said, "feed them and they will come". I continue to see the AGM as a well-attended event during the provincial association conference. I think those of us that work in the profession, work hard and need to feel cared for and supported. Providing something to nurture us, whether it be through food or knowledge is such a benefit.



## What would have been your alternative career?

**Christy:** I think I have been on the path to my career since just after high school and can't imagine doing or being anything else!! It has been a fantastic career of life-long learning and diversity of work opportunities and experiences that has allowed me to work with people across the lifespan with a wide range of reasons for their communication difficulty. The detective work and data analysis leading to developing an intervention plan has always been stimulating and invigorating!! When not doing this directly, it has been stimulating and invigorating to guide and support others to do this incredible human connection work!!

**Mark:** Hmmm ... Speech Language Pathologist perhaps.

**Barbara:** Something in music or the dramatic arts or interpreter at the UN.

**Lisa:** I love to bake and had thought about throwing in the SLP towel and baking for a career. It didn't take much to wipe that thought from my mind.

## What advice would you have for new grads?

**Christy:** I encourage new grads to look for ways to give back to their profession and continue its advancement. It earns you dividends you never thought imaginable!

**Mark:** Strive for excellence, don't settle, define yourself and your goals.

**Barbara:** Keep the spirit of the speech fairy alive wherever you go.

**Lisa:** Find an SLP buddy and stick with them throughout your career. Peer support is so important in our jobs and sometimes a peer from outside your workplace can provide a good sounding board.

## What has been the biggest change in Aud/SLP or in BCASLPA since you started working?

**Christy:** One of the biggest changes in the field since I started working is the shift from direct therapy as the sole method for creating change in communication behaviour to manipulating the environment and the people in the environment to create a more enduring and encompassing change in communication behaviour. The sadness is that funding sources for this health and education service does not recognize the amount of time required to most effectively bring this change in behaviour to children and adults receiving and needing to receive this service. The availability and access to this service for the public seems to get leaner and leaner as time goes on.

**Mark:** I do think the working world is a different place now than when I was released from Grad school. I think that the professional distinction that Audiologists once enjoyed is being eroded by elevation (right or wrong?) of non-Audiologist HIPs. I also think that to keep ourselves and our profession relevant, we need to take a stand for protection of our scope of practice, define ourselves to the public as the premier professional in hearing care, and promote that to the consumer. For me, I define my work as owner of an Audiology clinic, not owner of a hearing aid clinic.



**Barbara:** Dysphagia as part of practice.

**Lisa:** I think it all has to do with the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder. Back in the early 90s no one was getting assessed. There were no psychology services for this population. There was no early intervention outside of the few SLP hours we could offer. It is great to see this population getting the support they deserve. I am hopeful that in the future, the large group of children who end up with language learning disabilities will also get more intensive and early intervention. There are so many of them out there that in adulthood continue to struggle.

## Other Responses:

### John H Gilbert

It was such a long time ago, and in the late '60s there were only about 15 members of the association. We rotated the President's role. We were a very happy and collaborative group of folks. There was no Provincial Council. I was the founding director of the School of Audiology and Speech Sciences at UBC - my proudest achievement - and a story unto itself. Vibrations started in my office. I left the field 20+ years ago.

BCASLPA (and I could tell you the story of why it is called that) the association has come a million miles since my time. I am proud of what the association has achieved and all that it continues to do.

### Linda Rammage

Hello colleagues. It is with abundant pride that I share our 60<sup>th</sup> birthday with you. I was asked to reflect on my volunteer time with BCASLPA. It has stretched across almost four decades, so you may need some caffeine. I was invited to join the "Speech Pathology Committee" while I was metaphorically "still in diapers" professionally, in 1980. As a newbie to the world of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (SLP), this opportunity was a warm welcome and opened my eyes to the broad scopes of our professions



# ▶ Past President Reflections (continued)



and the incredible breadth of talent among my colleagues. Very soon, I was swept up in BCASLPA energy, chairing annual conferences and committees, and preparing for my first six year term on Provincial Council (PC), which culminated in a nomination for Vice President in 1985. Little did I know, as my Presidential term loomed, that BCASLPA would be invited to submit the (2<sup>nd</sup>?) of at least 3 submissions to the BC Ministry of Health to form a regulatory body for Audiologists and SLPs. I remember several frantic weeks of commuting straight to the one-room BCASLPA office on West Broadway after my clinical day ended and spending evenings working on our application, to meet a tight deadline. Soon after we submitted the deadline, a provincial election extinguished

our dreams of licensure, but provided a concession to protect our professional titles, rendering BCASLPA a “para-regulatory” body. Despite our collective disappointment, the period of consultation with colleagues was enriching and prepared us for the next opportunity. We put our energy instead, into strengthening our relationships with key provincial ministry officials.

After a brief BCASLPA sabbatical to finish my PhD and some time on the CASLPA Board of Directors, I found myself once again lured to the intrigue of our provincial association. Having participated in a major governance review and re-structuring with our national association, I decided to consult with my colleagues on PC about optimizing our BCASLPA governance structure. We adopted a policy governance model similar to that recently developed by our big sister in Ottawa, and renovated our strategic planning process. The

Appreciative Inquiry (AI) initiative was launched to ensure our members were at the core of our activities. The BC Ministry of Health was again making health profession regulatory noises and we needed to take this into account as we planned our future. During this four-year term on BCASLPA





# ▶ Past President Reflections (continued)

PC, I found myself again involved in negotiations for professional regulation, this time in collaboration with government officials and hearing instrument dispensers. A working group was struck and things moved relatively quickly (for government, that is!). PC recognized that the AI initiative was critical to helping members understand the professional changes looming and the important role that BCASLPA would continue to play in their lives once a Regulatory College was established.

We have done ourselves proud, fellow BCASLPA members. Not only have we emerged from the Regulatory storm relatively unscathed, but we have talented and wise leaders taking the gavel, and a young professional energy that will hopefully keep the flame burning into our professional eternity. To our most seasoned members, thank you for hanging in there through the storm. To our newest members, thank you for joining our movement to keep our professions strong and build bridges to the rest of the world for our clients. I hope you will still love your chosen profession after almost 40 years of practice, as I do!

## Jennifer Moll

I was BCASLPA president when the college was formed. I wanted to ensure members valued remaining in BCASLPA. In the lead up, we had done a lot of work through the appreciative inquiry process to identify what members wanted from the association once the college existed. We gathered information from member meetings in each area to create goals. This led to visible benefits, such as free access to professional journals (Electronic Health Library), discounts, UBC student scholarships, updated website, bus ads, and free membership in 2010.

I was nervous at the annual general meeting that year. I was working in Alberta and at the AGM the year ACSLPA was formed. A member made a motion to eliminate joint membership with CALSPA, and there was a lot of support from the floor. That council was not expecting it and were sent scrambling! I was worried we would have a similar response. It didn't happen, and I credit the work our council and CASLPA's did. I still remember Barbara Burnet, who was the CASLPA rep at that time, giving a calm and thorough presentation on the benefits of membership. At renewal time, almost all members saw the value of our associations.

## Julia Hodder

I served on Provincial Council for 5 years. First, I was the Northern Area Representative, then Vice President, and President in 2014-2015, and then I served as Past President. I am now working with Provincial Council as a member of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference Committee. I came to Canada in 2007 and settled in Williams Lake. I have enjoyed volunteering for BCASLPA as it has afforded me the opportunity to meet members from across the province and develop my team working skills. During my time as President, I consider that I helped to build on the foundations set down by previous presidents in terms of policies and procedures and helped to foster a more dynamic and active association. For new graduates working in BC, BCASLPA is a member organization that is there to support you and I would encourage new graduates to join BCASLPA. Here's to a great 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference and many more to come!

Thank you to all our Past Presidents  
who contributed to this special, 60th anniversary feature!



## ► BCASLPA Conference



Don't forget to [register](#) for the 2017 BCASLPA Conference being held at the [Delta Hotel](#) in Burnaby, British Columbia, October 20 and 21.

This year's BCASLPA Conference will bring together Speech Language Pathologists, Audiologists, educators, support personnel and allied health professionals from across the province. The BCASLPA Conference provides the latest evidence based research, which results in improvement of clinical skills and techniques which enhances our professional abilities. To register, plan your conference, learn about the fabulous speakers and topics, please visit our [conference website](#).

2017 marks BCASLPA's 60th Anniversary. As part of this celebration, there will be an organized Brewery tour with round trip transportation to Port Moody's Brewery Row from the Delta Hotel departing shortly after the Awards Reception. Save Friday October 20, 2017 to catch up with friends and colleagues, new and old, while sampling some of the finest beer! You can purchase [your ticket online](#) with your conference registration or contact [Janet](#) at BCASLPA at 604-420-2222. Hurry, space is limited! Tickets are \$30 and include your travel to and from Brewery Row and beer tasting.

Calling all Vintage SLP and Audiology materials and assessment tools! We will also be displaying a 'throw back' table of therapy materials and assessments from the past. Please contact [Julia Hodder](#) if you are interested in bringing something that was once used in your toolkit!

Looking forward to seeing you at the conference for our 60th anniversary celebration!

## ► Stuttering Community Social Events



Every month there is a social event for the stuttering community and their friends and family. These events are to build a sense of community and we don't need to talk about stuttering but it is wonderful to bring everyone together for family friendly activities for children, teens and adults. For more information about these monthly events please visit [www.speakingupbc.com](http://www.speakingupbc.com) or the Facebook Page of Parents Stutter Support in Canada or [Stuttering Adventures](#)'s Facebook page.

These groups are organized and facilitated by Kim Block, Past President of the British Columbia Association of People who Stutter. First social outing is September 9th, at Central Park 3pm - 4:30pm.

**Kim Block**



# ► SASS Update: New Director

There has recently been a change in leadership at the UBC School of Audiology and Speech Sciences, as Dr. Valter Ciocca's term as Director has come to an end. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Ciocca for his service and to welcome our new Director, Dr. Jeff Small.

## Director Bio

Dr. Jeff Small joined the School of Audiology and Speech Sciences in 1997 as a professor of acquired language and cognitive-communication disorders. Prior to this he received his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in applied psycholinguistics, followed by postdoctoral fellowships in geriatric psycholinguistics at the University of Kansas and Simon Fraser University. Dr. Small's previous leadership roles in and beyond the School include chairing committees (Admissions, Doctoral Studies, Peer Teaching), serving as the School's Acting Director, and as CJSJLPA journal editor, and leading a number of team-based research grant projects as the principal investigator.

Dr. Small's research and teaching are grounded in a "Dynamic Systems" perspective on human communication, in which the building blocks of communication (e.g., language, sensation, memory, emotion) are interdependent, interact dynamically across moments of time, and are modulated by interpersonal contexts and system processing capacity constraints. Dr. Small's current research investigates novel applications of cognitive-behavioural therapies in Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. He and his collaborators have also developed evidence-based communication training programs for family and professional carers of persons living with dementia.

## Message from the New School Director



I am honored to be the School's new Director! I have a strong commitment to the vision and mission of the School, which emanates from my 20 years of service as a faculty member. As Director, I will support and advocate for the current needs, strengths, and opportunities in the School and the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. I look forward to collaborating with academic and clinical colleagues in building our capacity in promising new directions.

I am preceded by Dr. Valter Ciocca, under whose dedicated and capable leadership over the last 10 years the School experienced considerable growth and innovation. Two major milestones were 1) the School's move from the outgrown quarters of the Mather building to the spacious and renovated Friedman building in 2008, and 2) an expansion in 2015-2016 in the number of Speech-language Pathology M.Sc. student seats, in faculty/instructor positions, and in infrastructure and educational initiatives.

These and other recent achievements favorably position the School in carrying out its strategic plan over the next five years. Several specific priorities and objectives that we will pursue as I begin as Director include:

1. Evaluate the impact of the SLP seat expansion (e.g., on presence of audiology and SLP professions in underserved communities throughout BC; on clinical education)
2. Foster innovative educational practices (e.g., development and implementation of integrated case-based learning curricula; community-School learning experiences)

3. Increase opportunities for graduate students and the clinical community to participate in research and knowledge exchange activities and events (e.g., colloquia/symposium; mentoring)
4. Evaluate the impact of School initiatives on building faculty research capacity (e.g., grant facilitator; seed grants)
5. Promote faculty and staff retention and professional development (e.g., advocacy; peer support)

I am very excited to be leading our School's outstanding faculty, staff, students, and clinical community partners in accomplishing these objectives, which are integral to carrying out our School's mission. Through our collective passion and efforts we will advance knowledge of human communication, its disorders and related areas in order to improve health and quality of life for all individuals within their communities.

## **Feeding and Swallowing Assessment Services for Pediatric Populations in Canada**

How do we support best practices in pediatric feeding and swallowing assessment in Canada? What are these best practices, how are they carried out, and who is involved? In what ways can we support the needs of these children in hospital and community clinics, or through telerehabilitation?

Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children's Child Development & Rehabilitation Evidence Centre recently partnered with speech-language pathologists and occupational therapists throughout Canada and the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) to answer these questions by collaborating on an environmental scan of feeding assessment practices in pediatric health centres. CADTH conducted the environmental scan, which included a pan-Canadian survey, stakeholder consultation, and the publication of a [CADTH Environmental Scan Report: Feeding and Swallowing Assessment Services for Pediatric Populations in Canada: Service Provision, Practice Models, and Assessment Tools](#) (March 2017).

The goal of the environmental scan was to identify and to summarize Canadian pediatric feeding and swallowing assessment services. Key topics covered by the scan included:

- Practice models in place at the health centres surveyed
- Populations served
- Organization of services (e.g. feeding team-based vs. clinical program-based)
- Health professional involvement and scope of practice
- Assessment procedures in use and under consideration
- Practice guidelines, policies and procedures in use
- Outcome measures in use
- Required service provision for inpatient, outpatient, rehabilitation and teleconsultation populations


The full findings can be accessed on the [CADTH website](#).

The scan was preceded by the generation of three CADTH Rapid Response Reports that synthesized related evidence.

**Key messages are summarized below:**

### 1) [Assessment of pediatric feeding and swallowing](#)

- No evidence-based guidelines were identified in the reviewed literature for assessing feeding and swallowing in children;
- One systematic review suggested limited evidence about the validity and reliability of non-instrumental measures of pediatric dysphagia (i.e. those that do not require specialized equipment).



2) [Fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing \(FEES\) for pediatric patients with dysphagia: Clinical effectiveness](#): Two non-randomized studies were found that had conflicting evidence on the clinical effectiveness of FEES. One concluded that FEES was a useful management tool in children with dysphagia, while the other did not find a significant improvement of long-term feeding status in children with dysphagia evaluated by FEES. A third non-randomized study supported the use of the FEES to address the high error rate observed during clinical assessment.

- 3) [Three-ounce water swallow challenge for oropharyngeal dysphagia: Diagnostic accuracy and guidelines](#)
- No relevant pediatric literature was identified.
  - One non-randomized study of 25 male adults compared the water swallow challenge to videofluoroscopic swallow studies (VFSS). The authors concluded that the water swallow challenge was useful and valid for determining aspiration risk, with 100% sensitivity, 64% specificity, a 78% positive predictive value, and a 100% negative predictive value.
  - A second non-randomized study of adults concluded that a combined approach to screening for aspiration risk that included the water swallow challenge and the Clinical Predictive Scale of Aspiration (CPSA) was useful and more efficient than relying on VFSS alone. The diagnostic accuracy of the water swallow challenge was determined to have 87.3% sensitivity and 42.3% specificity.

A new toolkit, the [Optimizing Feeding and Swallowing in Children with Physical and Developmental Disabilities Handbook](#) has also been developed by Holland-Bloorview's Evidence to Care Team, which incorporates the findings of the environmental scan along with other key evidence. This toolkit was developed specifically for clinicians, and provides a framework to help guide decision making about the clinical assessment and management of feeding and swallowing issues in children with physical and developmental disabilities.

Together, these resources form a foundation for understanding more clearly how feeding and swallowing assessment is and can be carried out across the country. This information can inform the development and refinement of feeding and swallowing assessment services in a range of clinical contexts, and will be of high interest to occupational therapists and other clinicians involved in this area of practice.

## References

1. Feeding and swallowing assessment services for pediatric populations in Canada: Service provision, practice models, and assessment tools. Ottawa: CADTH; 2017 Mar. (Environmental Scan; no.61). <https://www.cadth.ca/feeding-and-swallowing-assessment-services-pediatric-populations-canada-service-provision-practice>
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5. Optimizing feeding and swallowing in children with physical and developmental disabilities handbook. Toronto: Holland-Bloorview Rehabilitation Hospital, Evidence to Care; 2017 June. <http://www.hollandbloorview.ca/TeachingLearning/EvidencetoCare/knowledgeproducts/feedingandswallowinghandbook>

by Karen Derry, M.Sc. RSLP: Sunny Hill Health Center for Children



# BC's Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists are in the process of learning about the particular communication needs of indigenous peoples *from indigenous people.*

Join us for this unique learning opportunity during BCASLPA's annual conference (October 20-21): [bcaslpaconference.ca](http://bcaslpaconference.ca)



## Fostering Resiliency with Indigenous Children and Families

**Monique Gray Smith** is a mixed heritage woman of Cree, Lakota, and Scottish descent and is the proud Mom of twelve year old twins. She is an award winning author, international speaker and sought after consultant. Monique has been running her business, Little Drum Consulting since 1996.

## Honouring Oral Traditions & Using Appropriate Resources to Support the Language & Literacy Development of the Aboriginal Child

**Sharla Peltier** is from the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, Ontario, a member of the Loon Clan, and holds a PhD Interdisciplinary Human Studies from Laurentian University. Her dissertation research is an exploration of Indigenous traditions of educational and cultural thought and experiences and the negotiation of space for Aboriginal perspectives within the school context.



## Conversation and Collaboration: Development of a Community-Based Family Program

**Deanne Zeidler** is a speech-language therapist who has worked with the Lil'wat Nation for over 20 years. She also provides services to remote and rural First Nations Schools in BC through the First Nations Education Steering Committee.

## Lessons Learned in Working with Indigenous Children and Families.

**Carly Quinlan** is a proud Finnish and Native American women who is from the Bear Clan, Black River Band at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe in Michigan, USA. She is currently the Early Years Program Manager at Spirit of the Children Society and continues to strive to be a champion for Indigenous children and families in her new role.

**Kate Wishart** is a long term Early Intervention Pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist. Until recently Kate was employed at the Early Childhood Development team at Spirit of the Children Society providing services in Burnaby, New Westminster and the Tri-cities. She is on contract with the Southern St'at'imc Health Authority providing services in 4 communities as part of their Early Childhood Team.



## Culturally Safe Aphasia Services for Aboriginal Adults

**Barbara Purves, PhD, RSLP, S-LP(C)** is a speech-language pathologist and associate professor emerita in the School of Audiology & Speech Sciences at the University of British Columbia. Since 2016, she has been collaborating with colleagues from Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa as part of a research working group on the topic of management of aphasia in Aboriginal peoples.

## Audiology Services in Northern Indigenous Communities

**Shannon Osmond** is a Metis Audiologist whose family originates from the Whitefish Lake first nation in northern Alberta. She currently works at the Enhanced Hearing Centres servicing 4 northwestern communities in remote and northern areas of Manitoba. Shannon received a M.Sc., Audiology at the University of British Columbia. She is currently an Au.D. student in the Doctor of Audiology program at the University of Florida.





## ▶ A Note From A Fellow BCASLPA Member

Hello BCASLPA Members!

I hope that this month's Vibrations Newsletter reaches you at a time when you are able to enjoy some sunshine and much deserved relaxation.

As many of you know, this year is BCASLPA's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and we will be hosting this milestone conference in Burnaby on October 20th and 21st. This year's lineup includes an exciting list of SLP and audiology speakers from across Canada and the United States. We are particularly enthusiastic about our Indigenous stream that will touch on topics from audiology services in Northern Indigenous communities to incorporating oral history into speech and language programming. We're really looking forward to seeing as many current, past, and future members in attendance this year.

When I first moved to British Columbia in 2013, I was excited by the prospect of joining BCASLPA to meet new people, become involved in professional activities, and learn about Speech Language Pathology and Audiology services in the province. In the two years that I've been a member, I've had the wonderful opportunity to participate in several BCASLPA committees, including the conference planning committee. It's been truly inspiring to see the tireless and "off the side of the desk" work that so many members do to contribute to BCASLPA and our profession on a larger scale. I know that life is busy and lives are hectic, but I encourage you to consider joining this wonderful group of dedicated people in building our association and professions across BC. For me, it has been a truly fulfilling experience to connect with so many others from around the province in order to work towards exciting goals. Any little bit of your time and effort will be gratefully accepted!

The important and exceptional work currently happening within BCASLPA has inspired me to consider applying to join the Provincial Council in the coming year. Moving forward, I look towards the 2018 conference in Victoria, BC, with anticipation, as well as to the results of continual hard work of the BCASLPA team.

I hope everyone enjoys the rest of their summer, and I'll be thinking of our colleagues in the Interior during this challenging fire season. Stay safe! I hope to see many familiar faces as well as meet new members at our upcoming conference October.

All the best,

Alyssa Dixon, M.Cl.Sc.  
Registered Speech-Language Pathologist  
Powell River, BC

## ▶ Credits

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**Deadline for December Edition: November 10, 2017**

# ▶ Happy Anniversary, BCASLPA! SAC-OAC Comments



On behalf of Speech-Language & Audiology Canada's (SAC) members and associates, I would like to congratulate the British Columbia Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (BCASLPA) on your 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. SAC and BCASLPA have a long history of working together to advocate for the professions and SAC greatly values the strong connection between our two associations.

## World Congress of Audiology (WCA)

Last September, SAC co-hosted the World Congress of Audiology (WCA) in Vancouver bringing together audiologists from around the world. Canada had a strong representation at WCA, with many BCASLPA members in attendance for this once in a lifetime event.

## SAC Board of Directors

In 2014, SAC adopted a competency-based model for selecting our Board of Directors. We currently have two directors on our board from British Columbia, Linda Rammage, M.Sc., PhD, RSLP, S-LP(C), who serves in a leadership role on our Board Executive Committee as our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair and Andrea Bull, M.Sc., Aud(C) who joined our

board in May.

## The Pan-Canadian Alliance (PCA)


Another connection between SAC and BCASLPA is our joint work on the Pan-Canadian Alliance of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Organizations (PCA). Established in 2008, PCA brings together the majority of provincial and territorial speech, language and hearing professional associations in Canada. SAC serves as PCA's secretariat, working closely with the members of PCA on joint projects raising the profile of communication health across Canada. Former PCA chair, Julia Hodder, S-LP(C), spearheaded many of these joint projects during her time as chair and recently chaired the PCA Speech and Hearing Month working group which launched the #communicateawareness challenge in May 2017.

## Advocacy and looking ahead to 2018

In addition to marking this significant milestone and recognizing the close ties between our associations, I would be remiss if I did not share with you information on our ongoing advocacy efforts as well as some of what SAC has planned for 2018.

As part of our Speech and Hearing Month 2017 advocacy, SAC's Executive Committee (Jerri-Lee MacKay, M.Sc., Aud(C), 2016-2017 Chair, Jennifer O'Donnell, M.Sc., S-LP(C), CCC-SLP, 2017-2018 Chair and Colleen Braun-Jansen, MA, S-LP(C), 1st Vice-Chair) joined SAC staff on Parliament Hill on May 8 for meetings





with Members of Parliament from all major federal political parties.

In recognition of Canada's aging population, the meetings focused on the crucial role speech-language pathologists and audiologists play in supporting seniors' health.

SAC staff are planning follow-up meetings this fall to continue our advocacy on this important issue.

We are also busy preparing for our 2018 SAC Conference in Edmonton, Alberta, May 2-5. We are planning a dynamic and educational program. I hope many of you will consider attending.

In addition, SAC ad-hoc committees and staff are preparing several position statements and position papers for release in 2018 focusing on a broad range of issues affecting the professions.

We will also be launching our new salary survey in 2018. We look forward to sharing the results of the survey with our members and associates.

Once again congratulations to BCASLPA on your 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. BCASLPA and SAC make a strong team and will continue to work together to jointly represent and strengthen the professions in British Columbia. Together, we can use our collective voice to raise awareness about communication health, not just in BC but right across Canada.

Joanne Charlebois, Chief Executive Officer, SAC-OAC

## **RECRUITING SLPs FOR INTERVIEW STUDY: Confidence in Communication for People with Aphasia**

Participants needed!

We are seeking SLPs who are working/have worked with people with aphasia (PWA) for at least one year in any professional setting to talk about their experiences with and thoughts on confidence in communication for PWA. Individuals with aphasia have been found to experience changes in confidence post-stroke, which may impact upon their well-being and quality of life. However, there has been little research on this topic to date. This qualitative interview study will explore SLPs' perspectives in this area to help inform future clinical practice with PWA.

### **The study will involve:**

- an interview at a place that is convenient or over the telephone with Alicia Tonello (45 - 60 minutes)
- completing a brief demographics questionnaire (5 minutes)
- providing written feedback on a de-identified summary of the study findings once the data analysis has been completed (15 minutes).

For more information, please contact us at [a.tonello@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:a.tonello@alumni.ubc.ca) or [thowe@audiospeech.ubc.ca](mailto:thowe@audiospeech.ubc.ca). Thank you very much.

Alicia Tonello (UBC SLP M.Sc. candidate) & Dr. Tami Howe PhD, RSLP, UBC Assistant Professor

## Call for Nominations to Provincial Council

### 2017 BCASLPA AGM

The following positions are vacant and available for election at the October 21, 2017 BCASLPA AGM:

**Vice-President**

**Secretary**

**Director Social Media**

**Director Professional Education**

**Director Early Intervention Speech-Language Pathology Practice**

**Director Adult Services Speech-Language Pathology Practice**

**Director Audiology Public Practice**

**GVRD Area Representative**

**North Area Representative**

**Kootenays Area Representative**

#### **Some great benefits of joining Provincial Council:**

- BCASLPA Conference Registration Fee paid if you attend at least 75% PC meetings
- Earn up to 5 CEU's per year for being involved
- Free Travel and accommodation expenses to Vancouver for 2 Provincial Council Planning meetings
- Experience being involved with an enthusiastic, dynamic organization; network with other professionals
- Chance to help steward your professional organization
- Acquire skills in leadership and management

#### **No experience necessary!**

#### **Some Comments from Past PC Members about Joining**

#### **Provincial Council members have noted many benefits from their experience on the Council:**

"...making professional and personal connections around the province...being part of a community of practice...boost to my career...hearing from professionals in other settings...creating ideas for change and being part of that change...energizing

and stimulating...complimentary conference registration...free trip to Vancouver and to the conference."

## Join Provincial Council!

If you would like to stand for election or wish more information please contact Janet Campbell at the BCASLPA  
Office: [bcaslpa@telus.net](mailto:bcaslpa@telus.net) or 1.877.BCASLPA



# ▶ 60 Jokes for 60 Years

## You know you are an Audiologist or communication health assistant when...

1. Eh! Is more than just being about Canadian.
2. Kenneth knows what the frequency is and so do you.
3. When you march to the beat of more than one drum.
4. The stirrup does not relate to horse riding.
5. 'Being masked' does not refer to wearing a blindfold.
6. You tell people what you do for a living, do they often say, "What?"—and expect you to laugh.
7. You are standing behind an elderly person in the supermarket checkout line, you have to resist a powerful urge to push his ear mold properly into his ear?
8. You find battery stickers on the bottom of your shoes and in your hair?
9. You give your card to the guy in the car next to you with his speakers blasting and tell him to call you in a few years.
10. You're not grossed out by cerumen.
11. You find yourself talking loudly for no reason.
12. You cringe when someone mentions using Q-tips in their ears.
13. You have a random copy of hearing aid software in the trunk of your car.
14. You bust out your sound level meter app..... in a public place.
15. You have alcohol swabs hidden in every pencil case and otoscope bag you own.
16. Ears are the first thing you look at on a person.
17. You're drunk and feel like the world is spinning, and you grab someone and ask them to look at your eyes to see if you have nystagmus.
18. You have ever used the term "externship".
19. People ask you if you've seen the light on the other side.
20. You have a pair of ETY plugs on your keychain.
21. In public places, you try guessing what kind of BTE a person is wearing like you're on a game show.
22. You look at what type of earphones people are using at the gym as they walk by you.
23. You understand hieroglyphics ] [ o x > <

## You know you are a Speech-Language Pathologist or communication health assistant when...

24. You are the only adult you know who still plays with bubbles on a daily basis and enjoys it.
25. To impress your friends, you casually drop the words "diadochokinetic rates" at parties.
26. You write your child's first words phonetically.
27. You get excited about flavoured tongue depressors.
28. During informal conversations with friends, you often interject "Good Speech!" or "Nice Talking!"
29. You take disfluency data during speeches and sermons.
30. Children seem to gravitate to you during social events.
31. Instead of saying to your friends "What a cute baby!" you say, "Does he vocalize in two or three syllables?"
32. You can recite the Ling 6 sound test backwards.





## ▶ 60 Jokes for 60 Years

33. You make eye contact with people's mouths during casual conversations.
34. You know that SOAP is not just about being clean.
35. You constantly think about whether what you are eating is made of a mixed texture and how easy or difficult it is to manage for swallowing.
36. You would like to be a schwa as they are never stressed.
37. You think it's cool to hear someone swallow.
38. Speech Language Hearing Resonance Voice Swallowing Fluency Pragmatics Cognitive Coamunications Modalities Pathologist won't fit on your ID badge.
39. You know about the Communication cookbook. [http://www.childrenspeechtherapy.com/media/uploads/Communication\\_Cookbook.pdf](http://www.childrenspeechtherapy.com/media/uploads/Communication_Cookbook.pdf)
40. You find typically developing children to be geniuses. I mean, really, HOW ON EARTH did they pick up all those words AND learn to negotiate with peers on their own!?
41. You speak the SLP secret language (including all the acronyms as well as IPA).
42. You can legally brainwash people by making them repeat the same phrase over and over again.
43. You have a collection of newspapers you keep meaning to bring into work to use as therapy stimuli.
44. You've seen closets larger than your office (if you have an office...).
45. You see a new memory card game/flashcard set in the dollar section at Walmart and can't resist the need to throw it in your cart.
46. You reach into your bag and find a collection of toothettes, and packets of ThickIt tongue depressors that would last for days.
47. You see a brewery advertisement with the letters IPA, you automatically think of the "International Phonetic Alphabet".
48. Placement means getting on a practicum as well as sound production.
49. You find grammatical errors to be akin to nails on a chalkboard.
50. Your Type A personality leads you to organize your spouse's belongings... but you're too overworked to find time to organize your own closet... erm... office.
51. You can't help but internally diagnose various speech, language, and cognitive disorders while watching TV.
52. You wear earplugs at concerts (gotta protect those cilia!).
53. You find yourself internally questioning your own pragmatic judgment daily.
54. You are into blogging <http://blog.asha.org>.
55. You choke and immediately envision the current path the aspirated liquid is taking... and can't help but comment on it to your non-SLP friends, who of course are really confused.
56. You inevitably have to explain that you don't just work with small children with lisps and /r/ trouble whenever someone actually delves into asking what you do as an SLP.
57. You find you have to explain that you don't actually live in the same place as your office even though it may feel like it sometimes.
58. You know what the name of the little thing that hangs in the back of your throat is called.
59. You couldn't imagine a more rewarding career.
60. You know what BCASLPA means!!!

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