



Speech and Hearing BC  
speechandhearingbc.ca

# Vibrations

March 2019

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## President's Message

### ***The makeover continues!***

First the name, then the branding, now Mission/Vision, and website!

It is a great honour to work with this incredible team of volunteers that is Speech and Hearing BC Provincial Council. We spent Friday evening and Saturday, February 1 and 2, together for the benefit of the Association and our members. After a productive PC meeting Friday evening, we spent Saturday revising our Mission and Vision, developing our key strategies and expanding last year's very successful Talk Spot campaign for another go-round this May!

Did you know that the best mission and vision statements explain why we exist, are one sentence, and are easy to explain! The process of creating new statements was dynamic, educational, and cohesive among PC. The discussion was smart and compassionate. It was a great exercise to understand our role as an Association and our role as members of PC.



OUT WITH THE OLD	IN WITH THE NEW
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**Mission**  
 BCASLPA works to ensure all British Columbians can experience their human right to communicate. Through support, education and advocacy we help residents of all ages to reach their communication potential. We provide tools and support to member Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists. We share resources for the public to better understand communication disorders and their treatments. We advocate for accessible communication support for all. Through all our activities we strive for increasingly improved circumstances for communication professionals and those they help.

**Vision**  
 Everyone in British Columbia is empowered to effectively communicate with easily accessible, professional support from Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists.

**Mission**  
 Supporting the professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology in BC.

**Vision**  
 Optimal communication and swallowing health for all British Columbians.

We also spent time creating a new approach to a strategic plan. It is easy to get wrapped up in operational details when talking about strategy but getting to an overall strategic approach to the mission will help Directors with their roles, projects, and goals.

Sustaining organizational strength is likely the most important strategy. Without volunteers to take leadership roles in the Association, there is not a lot we can do. One goal is to have volunteers for Director positions come from respective committees. Coming onto PC with committee experience helps to keep projects going and strengthen organizational history. And while we greatly appreciate many who have stepped into leadership positions (you know who you are!), ultimately a flow from committees will be in the best interest of the Association. There are many opportunities to be involved. Want to find out where you will fit in best? Contact [Speech and Hearing BC](#) for volunteer opportunities!

Stay tuned for more information on the strategic plan and Director initiatives.

We have survived another winter with varying degrees of snow and cold temps around the Province. Bring on Spring and May Month! Be on the lookout soon for May Month materials for your workplace and community...and of course, volunteer opportunities!

## Speech and Hearing BC 2019-2024 Strategic Plan

*Educating*

- ▶ Members
- ▶ Public

*Advocating (chosen based on the member survey)*

- ▶ Early Intervention
- ▶ Access to Care

*Fostering Relationships*

- ▶ All community and provincial stakeholders

*Sustaining organizational strength*

- ▶ Succession planning
- ▶ Member engagement

  
 Sherri K Zelazny, MA/RSLP, CCC-SLP  
 President

# Greetings from Members of Your Provincial Council



**Mary  
McKenna**

**Secretary  
Registered SLP, BCBA**

I am the new secretary for Speech and Hearing BC.

I live and work in the Comox Valley on Vancouver Island. Mostly you will find me working as an early intervention SLP at the Comox Valley Child Development Association. It is such a pleasure working directly with children and their families! I also do a bit of work privately.

I am an Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) certified therapist and trainer, a coach trainer for the Parent and Child Early (PACE) Coaching research project, and a Board Certified Behaviour Analyst. Last year I was fortunate to travel to Taipei, Taiwan, to present the advanced ESDM workshop to a great group of therapists and physicians.

I am looking forward to my year ahead on Provincial Council to learn more about the issues that SLP and Audiologists in our province face.

Hello from your Schools SLP Practice Director.

I am proud to announce our Speech and Hearing BC schools SLP Facebook group is 188 members strong! There is so much useful information and resources shared via this social network.

Thank you to those who have joined the group, thank you to those who post on the page and most of all, thank you to those who have taken the shared information and integrated it into the work you do, helping students in your schools reach their speech and language goals.

If you're a school based SLP, come find us on Facebook!

**Abby  
Brooks**

**Schools SLP  
Practice Director**



**RHE** RICE  
HARBUT  
ELLIOTT

## INJURY TRIAL LAWYERS

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**We have over 50 years of experience representing victims with serious injuries including trauma to the brain and spinal cord, fractures, soft tissue injuries and chronic pain, and post traumatic stress disorder. We work with medical professionals, rehabilitation clinicians and caregivers to ensure your clients receive early and maximal treatment to speed their recovery. We have the expertise, the resources, and the relentlessness to:**

- Advocate for your clients' rights to the maximum treatment available through our public health system;
- Demand insurance companies like ICBC fully fund the rehabilitation benefits they are obliged to pay;
- Arrange for timely private diagnostic, medical and paramedical care; and
- Ensure financial resources are in place for necessary but unfunded treatments and therapies.

As staunch advocates for injured parties, we then hold defendants and insurance companies accountable for harm done.

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*Please contact us if you would like to learn more.  
We are here to help.*

604-683-3771 or [rhelaw.com](http://rhelaw.com)

**RHE**

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TRUTH. ACCOUNTABILITY. RESULTS

# Talking about Telehealth:

## A Speech and Hearing BC Special Interest Group

The Telehealth Special Interest Group held their inaugural meeting via videoconference in April 2018. This small group of members includes clinicians working in both public and private practice with a shared interest in all things Telehealth. This group meets approximately once per month and offers a forum to discuss a wide range of clinical topics including service-delivery, assessment and therapy, benefits and downsides of programs, professional collaboration, data storage, accessibility, etc. This monthly meeting offers a great opportunity for clinicians to brainstorm new ideas, share their experiences, and support one another in their clinical practice. Stay tuned for more information about Telehealth practice in BC in upcoming *Vibrations* newsletters.

For more information about the Telehealth Special Interest Group, or if you would like to join, please contact **Alyssa Dixon**, Director of Professional Education at the email below:

[professionaleducation@speechandhearingbc.ca](mailto:professionaleducation@speechandhearingbc.ca)

# Your Feedback Requested:

## Proposed Graduate Certificate in Primary Health Care

As you may be aware, the Government of British Columbia has recently mandated the Minister of Health to prioritize the provision of team-based primary care to be delivered by formalized, collaborative, and interprofessional teams.

In support of this initiative, UBC's Faculty of Medicine is proposing the development of a Graduate Certificate in Primary Health Care aimed at healthcare professionals who are in or considering healthcare leadership positions in primary health care, and those wishing to be effective health care providers on an interprofessional primary health care team.

Since you are a member of a profession that has extensive experience in providing primary health care, we would appreciate your feedback on our proposal experience in this area. We have developed a short survey to collect your responses. You can access the survey at [https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_e9HL5LsZANiKR7v](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e9HL5LsZANiKR7v).

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey by **March 7, 2019**. Thank you in advance for providing your feedback and suggestions.



# Mark Your Calendars:

## 2019 Speech and Hearing BC Conference October 25th and 26th at the Burnaby Delta Hotel

We have many of our conference speakers already confirmed! Here is look at the line-up so far:

**Introduction:** Pippa Rowcliffe – Human Early Learning Partnership, UBC

### Preschool and School

- ▶ Gail Van Tatenhove - Creating Core Vocabulary Environments for Students with Complex Motor and Communication Needs
- ▶ TBA- Selective Mutism

### Audiology

- ▶ David Moore – Auditory Processing Disorder; Toward Universal Screening, Diagnosis & Intervention for Hearing Loss
- ▶ Janet Jamieson - Social-Emotional Wellbeing for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and their Families

### Adult

- ▶ Jeff Small - Improving Functional Communication in Individuals with Dementia; Facilitating Communication between Individuals with Dementia and their Communication Partners
- ▶ Mardi Lowe-Heistad - Advanced Practice for Speech-Language Pathologists: Advanced Certifications, Authorizations and Standards
- ▶ Tammy Hopper - Functional Communication and Psychosocial Intervention for People with Dementia Based on Relevant Conceptual Models and Other Factors that Influence Response to Intervention.

### Indigenous

- ▶ Sharla Peltier – Story Circle; Panel Discussion
- ▶ Selena Prost and Barbara Stewart – Little Voices Speech and Language Group
- ▶ Jo Chrona - First Peoples Principles of Learning and Curriculum Planning; Panel Discussion
- ▶ Diana Elliott - Aboriginal Infant Development Programs; Panel Discussion
- ▶ First Nations Health Authority – Jordan's Principle and New Service Provider Transition

### New This Year

**Conference App: our own Speech and Hearing Conference App!** You will have all things conference at your fingertips: your schedule, printable CEU certificates, maps of the venue, and much more.

**SASS UBC 50th Anniversary:** We will be joining with SASS, UBC, to celebrate the School's 50th anniversary.

# What We're Doing

## Alyssa Dixon, SLP

**Don't tell my real cats that I might love *Pete the Cat* more than them...**

I'm not sure how I was able to get through most of my life without reading a *Pete the Cat* story. However, they now make an appearance in my therapy room at least once a week, sometimes ten. These wonderful stories, written by Eric Litwin and illustrated by James Dean, are charming, fun, light-hearted and colourful. Making them perfect for any speech and language activity. I love including literacy into each speech and language session as it promotes both early literacy skills for the children and encourages parents to use books in new ways and to encourage their child's speech and language skills.



Here are just a few of the goals I've targeted with *Pete the Cat*:

- **Sentence Structure & Length:** As these books are repetitive it's a great opportunity to practice increasing MLU and grammatical targets with a repeated phrase.
- **Speech Sounds:** As I work with preschool children, I often will only read a line or two on each page or point out important pieces. This allows me to choose the target words that are often repeated throughout the book.
- **Multi-syllabic Phrases:** For those little ones that are working to coordinate new motor speech movements in single words or short phrases, singing "My buttons, my buttons..." fifteen times is great practice. Warning: you will never get this song out of your head.
- **"Wh" Questions:** Books offer a great opportunity to practice responding to "wh" questions as the pictures are natural visual prompts. These *Pete the Cat* stories are great for open-ended questions such as "What might happen next?"

I recently had the opportunity to collaborate with the local children's librarian to create an early literacy and language event for preschool children. Stay tuned for a later article about this event, when I remember to take pictures!

### **Alyssa Dixon**

Speech-Language Pathologist  
Powell River, BC

***Submissions for What We're Doing are welcome from any member.  
Please email to inquire about your clinical share idea.***



## Orofacial Rest Posture Program

### ***Looking for professional development in the area of myofunctional therapy?***

ORPP is here to meet your needs: Canadian therapists meeting the needs of Canadian SLPs. ORPP was developed and is taught by two practicing speech language pathologists. Functional and clinically relevant assessment and treatment materials developed in a practical manner for the ever busy SLP. We offer both a 1-Day Screening and Preliminary Intervention for the Pediatric SLP course and a 3-Day Comprehensive Assessment and Treatment course. Coming to Richmond September 2019- registration is now open. Find out more at [www.orppcanada.com](http://www.orppcanada.com) and follow us on Facebook for the latest course listings [www.facebook.com/orppcanada](https://www.facebook.com/orppcanada).

## NOTICE

### CDAC Has a New Resource

Communication Disabilities Access Canada (CDAC) has created a new resource. This document, “Guidelines for Making Services Accessible for People who have Communication Disabilities”, is intended to support those working with people with speech, language, and communication disabilities who are not Deaf, deafened, or have a significant hearing loss. Visit the [CDAC website](#) to access the [guidelines](#) and other resources.



# Speech and Hearing BC Journal Club

## An Update by Anna Crauford, SLP

The Speech and Hearing BC Journal Club had its first meetings in November 2018 and is continuing to gain momentum in 2019. It is an exciting new forum to facilitate evidence-based practice for SLPs and audiologists in a shared, collaborative setting. Members sign up to participate in monthly teleconference meetings in five clinical interest groups: Preschool Age Journal Club, School Age Journal Club, Adult Journal Club, Audiology Journal Club, or Special Topics Journal Club. All Speech and Hearing BC members are welcome to participate.

In January 2019, the Preschool Journal Club members discussed a 2018 article by McLeod and Crowe, 'Children's Consonant Acquisition in 27 Languages: A Cross-Linguistic Review.' This comprehensive international review reported that 90% of the world's phonemes are acquired by five years of age. Discussion topics around this study included, rethinking target selection, using the percentage of consonants correct tool for evaluating speech, and advocating towards early intervention policies.

In 2018, an Editorial from The Hanen Centre was discussed. For members, the article affirmed that targeting expressive language facilitates improvement in both expressive and receptive language domains in preschool age children. Members discussed the challenges of assessing receptive language impairment and read about the lack of sufficient evidence to support targeting receptive language exclusively.

Also, in 2018, School Age Journal Club members discussed two articles on Narrative Intervention for School Age Children with Autism. Methods in the studies were described in detail and members shared and gained new ideas that they might utilize in clinical practice. Some considerations from the meeting included, using sticky notes sketched by the clinician to present personal narratives, as well as the amount of therapy required to result in long term maintenance of narrative skill.

To learn more about the Journal Club and participate in future meetings, the Journal Club website can be found [here](#).

Teleconference meeting sign up can be found [here](#).

Please sign up to share any articles you would like to share with the Journal Club [here](#).

### References

Boaden, D. (2018). [Receptive Language: To treat or not to treat? That is the question.](#) *Hanen Early Language Program*, Retrieved from <https://www.hanen.org>

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Peterson, D.B., Brown, C. L., Ukrainetz, T. A., Wise, C., Spencer, T.D., Zebre, J. (2014). [Systematic individualized narrative language intervention on the personal narratives of children with autism.](#) *Language Speech and Hearing Services in Schools*, 45, 67-86.

# Sechelt-based Telehealth Program

## Jenna Beaumont, SLP

When the Sunshine Coast-based TIDES program launched in May 2015, residents living in rural and remote areas got easier access to allied health services (physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology) without the need to leave their home community.

The Telehealth Innovation Deployment Education & Sustainment (TIDES) rehab team, located in Sechelt, provides service to Vancouver Coastal Health Rural/Remote communities including the Sunshine Coast, Powell River, Bella Bella, Bella Coola, and Sea to Sky communities.

### What do we do?

The team provides short-term goal directed rehabilitation for adults following stroke or brain injury. Patients are referred to the program from the hospital before they are discharged home.

### How do we do it?

Telehealth is the primary platform of service delivery:

- Clients attend appointments at Powell River, Squamish, Bella Coola or Pemberton Health Care Centers
- The rehabilitation assistant (RA) meets the client in person.
- The clinician joins the session from their desktop computer in Sechelt. Clinicians also travel to main centers to conduct sessions in person whenever it is necessary. This is termed a 'hybrid' model of telehealth.

There are many benefits of a hybrid model of telehealth. Having an assistant present enables us to support those who are not "tech-savvy" or have cognitive difficulties. It also reduces risk as there is always a person present in an emergency. A hybrid model also allows for face-to-face sessions with a therapist when needed.

### What are some requirements for Telehealth practice?

Providing speech and language therapy services via telehealth requires a shift in practice and some creativity at times. Key factors for success include:

#### Videoconferencing Tools:

- ▶ Hardware, software, and a good network connection with adequate bandwidth. TIDES uses Skype for Business videoconferencing application over the secure Vancouver Coastal Health Network
- ▶ Peripheral devices such as a headset and USB speaker to enhance audio signal. An additional camera can be helpful when doing table work or for a closer visual.



- ▶ Applications that allow screen sharing, interactive whiteboards, and text messages will enhance virtual therapy interactions.

**Materials:**

- ▶ Select assessment and treatment materials that are appropriate for virtual use. A tablet and apps have proven very helpful!

**Careful client selection:**

- ▶ Consider physical, behavioural, communication and cognitive characteristics as well as willingness and motivation for virtual therapy.

**Ethics, privacy and security:**

- ▶ Compliance with provincial and federal privacy acts for safe storage, retrieval and transmission of client information.
- ▶ Encrypted software to ensure client information is confidential.

Telehealth is a growing area of practice. It requires clinical and technical adjustments to provide effective and safe services. However, the rewards of virtual therapy are great. Web-based services allow SLPs to engage with clients, families, and other practitioners without the burden of travel. This is especially valuable for underserved communities in our province. If you are interested in learning more, consider joining the BC Speech and Hearing Telehealth Special Interest Group. Contact [Alyssa Dixon](#) for more information.



# Submit Your Story

**Next Deadline: May 10, 2019**

Please contact Janet Campbell, at [janet@speechandhearingbc.ca](mailto:janet@speechandhearingbc.ca), or Marianne Bullied, at [marianne.bullied@gmail.com](mailto:marianne.bullied@gmail.com), to inquire about submissions.

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*The information and views set out in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of Speech and Hearing BC.*



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