

Canadian Hard of Hearing
Association – Edmonton Branch

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CHHA-Ed Board of Directors:

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OVERHEARD

In the Fall 2017



**CANADIAN HARD OF
HEARING ASSOCIATION**
EDMONTON BRANCH

"Let Your Voice Be Heard"

President's Message – October 2017

Welcome to Autumn! There has been a chill in the air so brace yourself for the winter.

It's been a busy time over the last few months. I'm sure you received several notices pertaining to the October 14th CHHA National Special meeting that took place online. A letter has since been emailed to all CHHA National members from Myrtle Barrett, our new president on the board of directors at National, as a result of the Special Meeting. On behalf of CHHA-Ed and the new CHHA board we thank you for caring and participating by voting for the motion put forth in the Special Meeting.

On another note, CHHA-Ed had two presentations in the Heritage room at City Hall about hearing loops in Edmonton let by Dr. Juliette Sterkens. These presentations will be broadcasted with captioning on a website in the very near future. Those who attended will benefit significantly from Dr. Sterkens' information and once on the website it can be accessed by everyone.

Lee Ramsdell, President

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Loop Information

Fall 2017 Main Feature

Hearing Access in Edmonton: Looping Canada Presentation

September 14, 2017 at City Hall

Juliette Sterkens' presentation was inspirational. It made those present realize they are able to attend functions where speech is the essence of the production and be able to hear.

Looping is happening and makes hearing access available to hard of hearing persons as long as they wear hearing aids with a T-Coil. No longer do you have to smile while not really being able to hear and enjoy the activity; now you can participate and be part of the event.

To view and hear the presentation keep checking CHHA-Ed's website as it is almost ready to post.



Guest speaker, audiologist Juliette Sterkens, Panel for discussion - Richard Hatfield (Walterdale Theatre), David Flannigan, Heather Crowe and CHHA-Ed Program Director Cindy Gordon

LOOPS IN EDMONTON AND AREA

Edmonton City Hall

River Room
Heritage Room
Service Counter
Portable Loop System
Council Chambers (Soon to be looped)

Edmonton Business Tower

17 Kiosks on Floor 2 and 3
6 Meeting Rooms on Floors 2 and 3

Theaters and OTHER

Walterdale Theatre both the box office and audience area
Maclab Theatre –Audience area
Citadel-Box Office
The TD and Bank of Montreal in Mill Woods

(continued)

City of Edmonton Library FRONT COUNTER Loops

Abbotsfield	3410 118 Ave NW
Calder	12522 132 Ave
Capilano	200 Capilano Mall 5615-101 Ave
Castle Downs	15379 Castle Downs Road NW
Clareview	3808-139 Ave
Highlands	6710-118 Ave
Idylwyld	8310-88 Ave
Jasper Place	9010-156 St
Lois Hole	17650 69 Ave NW
Londonderry	110 Londonderry Mall 137 Ave 66 ST
MCConachie	16607-50 St NW
Meadows	2702-17 St
Riverbend	460 Riverbend Square Rabbit Hill Rd & Terwillegar Dr
Sprucewood	11555-95 St
Strathcona	8331 104 th St
West Henday Promenade	818 Webber Greens Dr
Whitemud Crossing	#145 WMC Shopping Center 4211 106 ST
Woodcroft	13420-114 Ave NW

City of Edmonton FRONT COUNTER Loops at Recreation Centers

A.C.T. Aquatic and Recreation Centre	2909-113 Ave
Bonnie Doon Leisure Centre	8648-81 St
Central Lions Recreation Center	11113-113 St
City Arts Centre	10943 - 84 Ave
Clareview Community Recreation Centre	3804-139 Ave
Commonwealth Community Recreation Center	11000 Stadium Road
Confederation Leisure Centre	11204-43 Ave
Eastglen Leisure Centre	11410-68 St
Grand Trunk Leisure Centre	13025-112 St
Hardisty Fitness and Leisure Centre	10535-65 St
Jasper Place Leisure Centre	9200-163 St
John Janzen Nature Centre	7000 - 143 St
Kinsmen Sports Centre	#101, 9100 Walterdale Hill
Londonderry Fitness and Leisure Centre	14528-66 St
Millwoods Recreation Centre	7207-28 Ave
Muttart Conservatory	9626 - 96A St
O'Leary Leisure Centre	8804-132 Ave
Peter Hemingway Fitness and Leisure Centre	13808-111 Ave
St Francis Xavier Leisure Center	9240-163 St
Terwillegar Leisure Centre	2051 Leger Road
The Meadows Community Recreation Centre	2704-17 St
Valley Zoo	13315 Buena Vista Road

HEARING ACCESS-LOOPS IN ST. ALBERT

Currently in St. Albert, there are a number of places where T-coils IN YOUR HEARING AIDS can be used. There are counter loops at City Hall, the Arden Box Office, the City Library, Fountain Park Recreation Center, The Servus Recreation Center, The Royal Bank on Belrose, and coming in a few weeks the Tudor Glen ATB venue. As well, the Arden Theatre has an Infra Red (IR) system with neck loops. While this is not as convenient as the wide area loop system that exists at the Citadel Maclab Theater and the Walterdale, it functions quite well.

As you are well aware, hearing aids, regardless of how well they are engineered and set up are only truly effective up to a distance of 2 meters and for many of us, we do not go out in public as we cannot hear well. Properly designed and calibrated loop systems allows us to hear very clearly in public areas where there is an audio system.

TRY THEM OUT, EXPERIENCE CLEAR HEARING, AND REMEMBER TO THANK THE VENUE FOR CONSIDERING OUR HEARING ACCESS NEEDS!!!



Counter Loop

Hearing loops are available in portable and installed induction systems that readily transmit the voice clearly and directly to a hard of hearing person with hearing aids that are equipped with a T-coil.

There are options available for those with out T-coil equipped hearing aids.

Loops come in various forms such as Loop Amplifiers, Loop Receivers, Counter Loop systems and Installed Loop Systems.

For more information on Loops and Loops systems please contact CHHA-Ed by

Email: chha-ed@shaw.ca

or

Phone: (780) 428 6622

Help Get Edmonton in the (Hearing) Loop

Hearing loops help clients hear better than they ever have, will change the way you practice while creating *priceless* goodwill for your practice.



1. Install a small loop in the waiting room with a TV for demonstrations, or hook up a computer to a small portable loop driver and loop pillow. Email me for a how-to installation handout.
2. Support a loop in your personal place of Worship – good PR if you know several hearing aid users.
3. Share the list of hearing loops in Edmonton. For the most updated list: see www.chha-ed.com/Edmonton-Hearing-Loops.pdf Consider keeping a list area houses of worship and venues and the patients that frequent them. (Obtain permission to share names with parishioners and clergy).
4. If you would like to give community presentations, email me for my slides or educational handouts.
5. Be sure to let hearing loop installers know you are interested in doing house of worship hearing loop dedications – email me for a “How to do a hearing loop dedication” handout.
6. Send a letter/news-release to the newspaper or seniors page regarding the new “Wi-Fi for hearing aids” technology in the community and list your name/email as a person willing to help.
7. Share hearing loop information, links to loop videos and website of interest on your office website or in newsletters. Publicly recognize clients who have personally fostered hearing loops.

If your clients are successful wireless TV device and/or streamers users, explain hearing loops work *much the same way*, are used the world over, and send pure sound via magnetic signals wirelessly to telecoils in hearing aids. If a client does not use a streamer, or MFi technology but has a telecoil, demonstrate the loop (and to a family member) in your waiting room. It only takes a minute to demo a loop and the experience is jaw-dropping for many. After a demo, offer a list of looped facilities in your area and encourage clients to try a loop. If there are none in the direct area, explain you and your practice want to change this.

In 2008 there was *not one* hearing loop in Oshkosh WI, today there are nearly 60, including the major churches, convention center, three retirement centers and 600+ venues in the state have installed one. The process accelerated once I realized that my clients were willing to carry the torch. After a positive experience in a loop (be it in a waiting room or a looped house of worship) I'd ask clients if they would be willing to do *one thing* to move hearing loops forward. Requests were usually answered with a: “It depends”, or “Sure.” I would then hand them an advocacy pamphlet to share with their favorite venue in need of a loop. I used to compare loops to curb cuts for wheelchairs - and explain many loops around the country happened because *one person* took a brochure to the minister/library/senior center/theater requesting a loop installation, and that they could be that person!

Websites of interest: hearingloop.org or for “How to start looping” tutorial & handouts: loopwisconsin.com
For smartphone app and for Loops installations in the USA: LoopFinder.com or aldlocator.com
For practice resources: audiology.org/publications-resources/consumer-information/get-hearing-loop
For HLAA consumer oriented resources: hearingloss.org/content/loop-resources
Join a Facebook Hearing Loop Advocates group: facebook.com/letsloopamerica and share postings

For questions about telecoils, or for additional support to loop your community:

Juliette Sterkens, AuD - HLAA National Hearing Loop Advocate jsterkens@hearingloss.org

Scholarship Report

Scholarship Committee

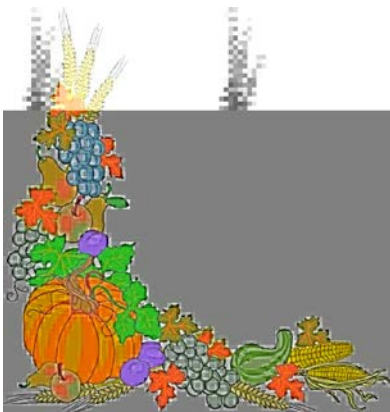


Scholarship Committee Report

Unfortunately, this past year we did not receive any applications for the two CHHA-Ed scholarships. We have one scholarship available in the amount of \$1,000 for a post-secondary hard of hearing student in northern Alberta. We also have one scholarship available for a NAIT student in the Court Reporting and Captioning Program in the amount of \$1,000. We do ask that scholarship applicants provide some evidence of their volunteer involvement in the hard of hearing community. Please help us spread the news that these scholarships are available. For more information on the application process and the criteria, please visit the CHHA-Ed website at:

<http://www.chha-ed.com/funds/funds.html>

... Marilyn Kingdon



HAAF Report

September 28, 2017

The Hearing Aid Assistance Fund (HAAF) committee continues to be busy with fundraising, application reviews, and form revisions. To date we have collected over \$400.00 in refundable container donations since January 1st. The Golf Tournament did well raising funds for the Hearing Aid Assistance Fund, bringing us back into the black and allowing us to invest some of the money to ensure our fund has a healthier future.

We continue to seek people willing to donate either refundable containers or cash to fulfill the needs for hearing aids to those who have financial challenges. We have received 3 applications so far this year. Unfortunately, none of the applicants qualified, due to incomplete paperwork. Efforts were made to reach out to those applicants to encourage completion, but no responses have been received.

Susanne Martin

Office Report

Your CHHA Edmonton office had a busy summer and the work has continued into the fall.

- Many contacts have been made with respect to the Hospital project and we are almost ready to start the process.
- Your Third Ear sessions continued through the summer with good attendance, and the fall sessions are booking quickly! Please check the website for upcoming dates.
- Looping Canada continues its efforts. Our president and I have been meeting with a variety of facility managers, and interest is increasing! It was hectic getting the Sept. 14th event off the ground for the public and Audiologists. With the headway we're making we will soon see much better access for those who have t-coils in their aids, and for those who wear Cochlear Implants. Dr. Sterkens left a lasting impression!
- Frances has been busy fielding calls and emails at the office as well as attending the Millwoods and West Edmonton Mall Senior fairs.
- We have two ASL classes running with one that started in September and the other in October. The Speechreading Classes were cancelled due to limited registration.
- November 1st Frances and Gary will be at WEM representing CHHA-Ed at the 50+ Social.
- Frances and Gary will be at 50+ Seniors Social at WEM on November 1st
- Drop-in Speechreading will start on November 15th until December 20th from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. at our office in the Commonwealth Building, #52 9912 106 Street.

Special note: I have spent a significant amount of time, as most of you know, embroiled with the affairs of our National President and board. Please trust that with these endeavors I had the best intentions for CHHA at heart, and strongly desire its continuation as an important part of supporting the lives of people who are hard of hearing. Sincere thanks, to all who have supported the upcoming special meeting and I thank you for having a strong voice. We welcomed members to the office on **Oct. 14th at 11:30** to use our computers and be part of the meeting being as it was a virtual venue and not all have internet access.

Respectfully,
Cindy Gordon

Upcoming Events!

Event: **General Meeting**

Date and time: Monday, November 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital

Event: **CHHA-Ed Christmas Potluck Dinner**

Date and time: Monday, December 4th at 6:00 p.m.

Location: Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital
Private Dining Room south



**Be sure to register with the office, so we know numbers to prepare for!*



Canadian Hard of Hearing Association – Edmonton Branch

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is open to any person interested in supporting our mission and vision.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Volunteers Needed!

We appreciate and value the support of volunteers.

Please contact us if you would be interested in volunteering for events such as bi-annual casinos, yearly fundraisers, committees, or serving as a Board Member.

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