



Overheard

October - November 2014

President's News:

Hello Members. At the time of writing this newsletter, the leaves are falling. Where did the summer go? As we gear up for another active year, please keep in mind the following items: 1) CHHA-Ed casino on November 21 & 22, 2014. If you haven't signed up for a shift yet, please consider donating your time. The funds raised from the casino go towards the operation of the CHHA-Ed Branch. 2) Mark your calendars for CHHA-Ed's next mini-conference scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2015. We appreciate your help in organizing this worthwhile community event. Lastly, please let the Branch know of any guest speakers or topics you would like to see at our general meetings because we value your input. See you in November.

—Marilyn Kingdon

Points of

Interest:

- Words from your President
- T-911 Information for Edmonton
- Calling all volunteers! CHHA-Ed needs your help
- Upcoming events
- News from the office

Your 2014 Board of Directors:

President:

Marilyn Kingdon

Vice President:

Lee Ramsdell

Secretary:

Susanne Martin

Treasurer:

Joanne Mckenzie

Directors:

Gerda Alexander

Leslie Colby

Ryan Gordon



General Meeting & T-911

The September General Meeting included a presentation provided by Inspector Erik Johnson and Lyne Eaker. The presentation was informative, and helpful in bringing us up to date on exactly what T-911 is and what we need to do in order to be able to use it. First and foremost, you require a mobile phone and need to be registered through your provider. At this moment there is limited availability to use it in Canada, but more access is becoming available. Edmonton will be ready for use starting early in 2015.

So now is the time to register by clicking on the link below and following the instructions they have provided. If you are registered, you will have access to the service if you travel to other parts of the country where the service is up and running. Each service provider, looks after the registration for their customers.

You can register by going to this page – <http://textwith911.ca/wireless-service-providers/> Click on your service provider's name and just follow the steps to register.

Gerda Alexander, chairman of the Scholarship committee, awarded Joanne Smillie with the **CHHA-Ed Academic** Scholarship and a cheque for \$1 000.00, the Academic Scholarship Certificate, and a one year membership to CHHA-Ed. She also awarded Sarah Jean Doll with the **CHHA-Ed Captioning and Court Reporting Program** Scholarship Award certificate and a one year membership to CHHA- Ed.

A committee was formed regarding the 2015 Mini Conference to be chaired by Vanessa Van. This was followed by round table discussion about issues of concern brought up by members and then the meeting was adjourned.



T-911 Talk

Inspector Erik Johnson
& Lyne Eaker

Using T-911

- 1) In an emergency, dial 911 on your phone.
- 2) Do not send a text message to 911 as you have to have an open line.
- 3) The operator will get a notification that this is a T-911 call. No need to speak. This allows the operator to hear the emergency happening.
- 4) Return to to homescreen to text the operator, but leave the call open.
- 5) When you are done with the call, you may hang up the phone.

News from the Office

The office staff have been very busy with a number of activities that even included adding donated shelves and cleaning the office to make it more inviting to those who visit. We also have been attending workshops and doing presentations for organizations throughout the city including:

- Presentation on Loop Systems to TELUS Space Science Center
- Meeting on Visual Fire Alarms with Fire Marshall Russell Croome
- Edmonton Seniors Council – Role of Boards/Aging/Services
- Hearing Aid Practitioners – MacEwan University
- Edmonton Public Schools – Education Fair

In the little spare time that was available, we were able to set up two Conversational ASL classes starting the first week of September. August and September have been very busy and interesting months. CHHA-Ed sweaters and t-shirts are still available through the office.



Zeni Power
Batteries:

Sizes A10,
A312, A13,
A675,
A675P

6 FOR 3.00
or 10
packages of
6 for 30.00

Contact
chha-
ed@shaw.ca
for more
information

CHHA-Ed Scholarships 2014

Joanne Smillie is the recipient of the **CHHA-Edmonton Academic Scholarship**. She is enrolled in a Bachelor of Science Program at MacEwan University, with a major in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, and a minor in Anthropology. She is now entering her second year of study, and will also begin working on an undergraduate research project with her mineralogy instructor. Her career goal is working in the geosciences with lab or fieldwork components.

Sarah Doll is the recipient of the **NAIT Captioning and Court Reporting Program Scholarship**. She graduated this spring from NAIT as a Court Reporter. Sarah was involved at the CHHA national conference in May of last year volunteering as a student for NAIT, and has been volunteering in the CHHA-Ed office assisting Frances Tallon, being instrumental in putting together the Spring, Summer and Fall issues of the CHHA-Ed newsletter. Her career goal is doing CART work wherever possible. She plans to stay involved with the hard of hearing community and continue to work with CHHA-Ed.



Myths about Tinnitus

Article Courtesy of CHHA-Hamilton.

Myth 1: Tinnitus is a disease.

Tinnitus is not a disease, but a condition that can result from a broad range of causes such as a build up of earwax, certain medications, otosclerosis, Ménière's Disease, or exposure to excessive noise.

Myth 2: There is no effective treatment.

This is the most dangerous myth of all. While there is currently no cure for tinnitus, research has led to the development of better treatments for sufferers. Hearing clinicians who specialize in tinnitus can help individuals determine how severe their tinnitus is and advise them of treatment options.

For more information on this topic visit our website or phone the office.

Hearing Aid Assistance Fund

We have had two applications this year. Unfortunately, one of those applications did not provide all the required information for us to assist her. We are holding it until further notice. The second applicant was very thorough, and we were able to assist them with a full subsidy and have received a lovely thank-you letter.

It's great to know our efforts are appreciated! Thank you, R.B.
Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

The HAAF is still seeking donors for the returnable containers project. If you are living in an apartment or condo, consider putting up a notice for the tenants to pool their collections for us to pick up. Contact our office, and we will supply the notices. Last year by this time, we had gathered more than double the amount we have this year. Two of our major corporate donors have transferred their funds to other projects, and we need to find other resources. Call us if you have bottles or if you have contacts for corporate donors. Don't hesitate to bring your bottle donations to the office or to the meetings.

-Susanne Martin

All
donations
made to
CHHA-Ed
are tax
deductible.
Contact
the office
for your
tax
receipt!

Calling all Volunteers:

“CHHA-Ed has great need of volunteers!” Thanks to all who have volunteered for our upcoming casino at Baccarat Casino, 10128 104 Ave NW, Edmonton, on November 21 & 22 of this year.

This is a very big event for CHHA-Ed, and the money raised is instrumental to the running of CHHA-Ed for the year.

We now have 40 GREAT volunteers who have signed up for one or more shifts for our Casino and look forward to working with them.

If you are interested in volunteering for CHHA-Ed at the casino we do still require volunteers to be on call just in case someone has to change their plans for those dates.

Two spares for each day:

- Available for any shift on short notice if required
- Only contacted if someone isn't able to attend or doesn't show

Please contact the office if you are able to help.

Can't help with the casino but still want to help?

- Donate to CHHA-Ed's ongoing bottle drive.
- Submit something to our newsletter.
- Join the 2015 Mini Conference committee.
- Help out with CHHA-Ed's growing social media presence.

THANK-YOU to all our GREAT VOLUNTEERS



Upcoming Events:

1. General Meeting: November 3, 2014 7 p.m.
Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital 10230 111 Avenue Northwest
2. 2. Speechreading Course: November 6 - December 9, 2014 for info call the office
3. Seniors Social Club at West Edmonton Mall on November 5, 2014
4. CHHA-Ed Casino: November 21-22 2014 Baccarat Casino 10128 104 Ave NW
5. CHHA-Ed Bottle Drive: Ongoing. Please contact the office for more info
6. Speechreading Instructor Course Part 2: June 8-10, 2015

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association - Edmonton Branch

#10, 9912 - 106 Street

Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1C5

Phone: 780.428.6622 Fax: 780.420.6661

Email: Chha-ed@shaw.ca

Upcoming Class Information

CHHA-Ed had several members participating in a Speechreading Instructors course offered by CHHA National from October 1 – 5, 2014. This was the first part of two sessions that instructed participants on how to speech read and instruct speechreading. Now that we have instructors that have completed the first course we are able to offer speechreading classes in Edmonton and surrounding areas.

Conversational ASL Level A is running during August and September. For more information of future ASL classes contact the CHHA-ED office or refer to the ***Overheard*** December – January Newsletter for classes to be offered that will start the beginning of February.



WHY JOIN CHHA-Ed?

- We host events that help build community amongst hard of hearing individuals
- We are advocates for those with hearing loss
- We raise funds to assist hard of hearing persons in our region
- We offer American Sign Language and Speechreading classes to assist in communication

All of these projects help us to fulfill CHHA's mission to make the community a better place for the hard of hearing people. Please renew your membership or join us for the first time and find out what CHHA is all about.

To keep our association strong we have to know that you are supporting us. Become a member!

CHHA - Edmonton Membership Application & Renewal Form

Is your Membership is due effective now?

Please mail this form with your payment to:
CHHA Membership, #10, 9912 – 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1C5

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

I hereby apply for one of the following memberships (please check one):

Individual Membership: \$45.00/year Family Membership: \$80.00/year

Make cheques payable to: CHHA – Edmonton

I would like to volunteer _____

I would be interested in working on the _____ committees

(CHHA-Ed Committees include: Mini-Conference, Fundraising, Hearing Aid Assistance Fund, Scholarships and Young Adults)

Remember . . . You are not alone!

Donations to CHHA – Edmonton maybe made in memory of loved ones and friends.
Tax receipts will be issued and announcements sent to the family.