

Canadian Hard of Hearing
Association – Edmonton Branch

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CHHA-Ed Board of Directors:

President – Lee Ramsdell
Past President – Marilyn Kingdon
Vice President – Gary LeClair
Secretary – Susanne Martin
Treasurer – Diane Sperling
Directors – Leslie Colby
– Ryan Gordon
– Gerda Alexander

OVERHEARD

in the Summer 2017



**CANADIAN HARD OF
HEARING ASSOCIATION
EDMONTON BRANCH**

"Let Your Voice Be Heard"

President's Message

Summer is here and CHHA - Edmonton wishes every one a wonderful season. We had a great golf tournament, as you will read in the report. City Council Chambers as well as the Heritage and River Room will be looped thanks to a \$30,000.00 grant that CHHA-Ed received from the Rick Hansen Barrier Buster Fund. The best part is we get to do some significant Loop Advocacy and will bring in Juliette Sterkens as part of the process and fall event on loops.

I did a presentation in Yellowknife on the 12th and 13th of June and bring back wishes from Yellowknife. Unfortunately, I experienced some health issues recently and will be enjoying a little quiet this summer. I should be ready to resume full activities in the fall.

We look forward to catching up with everyone in the September.

Lee Ramsdell, President
July 2017

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CHHA-Ed's 2017 Charity Golf Tournament

June 14, 2017

We are proud to announce another successful tournament with 84 golfers. Ice cream treats to keep us cool, delicious smokies, and refreshment holes were appreciated and kept us golfing our way around *the LINKS* course in Spruce Grove and spirits were not dampened by the sprinkling of rain. The afternoon of golf was followed by a barbecued steak/salmon dinner. Emceed by Seanna Collins, and stories told by Jed Roberts and Katrina K. provided awareness and advocacy for Hard of Hearing. Prizes were awarded, draws were made and a live auction brought our tournament to a close. A great event was enjoyed.

The **Top Team** with a -7 score was Rick Bronson's "The Comic Strip" team.

The **Most Honest** team was the "Forever Young Ladies" team. Other winners of the day were:

Ronda Nedelec: **Ladies Longest Drive**

Shawn Bhojani: **Men's Longest Drive**

Kelsey Nuttall: **Sand Hole**

Robin Laurie: **Closest to the Pin**

Meg Pierzphajilo and Baerach Anderson: **Water Hole**



(continued)



Life is a great canvas, and you should throw all the paint you can on it.

- Danny Kaye

CHHA-Ed's 2017 Charity Golf Tournament: Sponsors

Our amazing sponsors are who have made this year a resounding success, "Thank - you!" John Pinsent from St. Arnaud Pinsent Steman Chartered Accountants entered 5 teams!! (A challenge to other sponsors- hint-hint) Here is a list of our **sponsors**, also visible on our website at www.chha-ed

Platinum

The Comic Strip

St. Arnaud Pinsent Steman Chartered Accountants

Gold

WestJet

Marilyn & Doug Kingdon

Silver

Investors Group- Dan Hague

Living Sounds Hearing Centre Ltd.

National Captioning Canada

Sawmill Prime Rib & Steak House

Craft – Canada's Premium Craft Beer Importer

Scott Wallace – Sun Life Financial Advisor

ATB Financial

Kerr Interior SYSTEMS Ltd.

Big Rock Frewery-BrYan Schmidt

Gill & Bird LLP Accountants

Hard Knocks Fighting

Bronze

Stantec

BBQ Country

Avonair Curling Club

*Alberta Blue Cross
Cleanit Greenit Composting*

*The Melting Pot
the Links-Spruce Grove*

Edmonton Airports

Confetti Sweets

Marvel College

Citadel Theatre

Nicole Goehring

Edmonton Eskimos

Bar C Electric

Dalzell's Auto Repairs

Cindy & Doug Gordon

Kuhlmann's Greenhouse Garden Market

Uptown Wine Distributors

Frances Tallon

Zenith Dental

Scott McKenn – City Councillor

MLA David Eggen

N.E.W Concept Massage-Nancy Hilker

Tony Caterina-City Councillor

MLA David Sheppard

MLA Richard Feehan

Alberta Job Corps

The City of Edmonton

Pro Hockey Life-Ryan Gordon

Andrew Lee-Freedom 55

Dyer Financial Strategies-Bill Dyer

Investors Group-Dwayne Johnson

RBC-Private Banking #1400

Holes Greenhouse

Urbanex Contracting INC

Evoolution

Cold Cause

Green Tea Hawaii

Crazy Dash Digital

MGS Company

Hathaway's Diner

Varscona Theatre

MLA Bob Turner

Hearing Loops Canada

Sport Chek

CRYSTAL GLASS CANADA

STANELY SECURITY

SEVENINE GRAPHIC DESIGN

Northern Alberta Curling Association

4IMPRINT

Dr. John Birzgalis

RPAP-Health Workforce for Alberta

Visions Electronics

Walterdale Playhouse Theatre

This year's golf tournament was a successful day all around, as we raised awareness of CHHA-Ed and the "Hearing Aid Assistance Fund." Our 2 guest speakers talked about their aids and one of them was a recipient of our fund. Thank you, Katrina!!

Special thanks to WestJet for their donation of a trip for 2 to a WestJet destination of their choice.

The winning ticket, #464, was drawn at the golf Tournament. Helen Karbovanec of Edmonton as the lucky winner and received her prize at the CHHA-Ed offices.



All in all just over \$14,000 was raised and we are looking forward to 2018.

Save **June 13, 2018** on your calendars!!!

Congratulations to our Members and CHHA-Ed

We are very proud of the recognition and acknowledgement given to CHHA-Ed, Members and staff by Voice of Albertans with Disabilities and CHHA National.

Meet the Voice of Albertans with Disabilities Award Recipient: Cindy Gordon

The VOICE of Albertans with Disabilities, June 2017

The Voice of Albertans with Disabilities Award is given for dedication and integrity in the continuing pursuit of full participation in society by Albertans with disabilities.

In 1995, Cindy, co-founded the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association – Edmonton Branch (CHHA-Ed), a self-help and self-advocacy organization. Cindy has served in various capacities on the CHHA-Ed board of directors and is currently working in the CHHA-Ed office as Program Coordinator. Cindy has been very active in the Edmonton community and has held volunteer positions on various boards and committees.

In 2004, Cindy was awarded the Gary McPherson Award of Excellence, recognized throughout Alberta as befitting only those who go “well beyond the call of duty” towards establishing accessibility and equitable treatment for people with disabilities in Alberta and Canada.

In addition, Cindy has been instrumental in the development of the City of Edmonton’s Communication Policy highlighting the availability of captioning at all public events, TTY accessible emergency contact at 911, and the training of city staff regarding communication and access for people with hearing loss and deafness.



Meet the Charles Lazlo Award Recipients: Lee Ramsdell & CHHA-Ed

*Presentation made at the CHHA National Conference
May 2017*

The Charles Lazlo Award of Technical Excellence is given each year by CHHA National to encourage and recognize Branches, Chapters and Members who offer the best possible accessibility to its members, and stimulate participation.

Lee Ramsdell, president of CHHA-Ed, and staff were the recipients of this award by actively promoting loops through presentations. Many return visits have been the driving force in looping the Greater Edmonton area.

Contact the office for a list of facilities looped.



Charles Laszlo presented the award to Lee Ramsdell and CHHA-Ed (Gary LeClair represented CHHA-Ed)

Meet the Marilyn Dahl Award Recipient: Marilyn Kingdon

*Presentation made at the CHHA National Conference,
May 2017*

The Marilyn Dahl Award was awarded to CHHA-Ed's past president Marilyn Kingdon for her continued dedication and many contributions to both our local branch and CHHA national. An entire newsletter could be written highlighting Marilyn Kingdon's involvement with CHHA-Ed and CHHA.



Marilyn Dahl and Marilyn Kingdon

Edmonton Municipal Election – October

We would like you to be aware that The City of Edmonton will be holding an election this October. Edmonton Elections would like to make sure that Edmontonians know about the election and how to vote. They have created a set of 8 articles that go through the steps a person needs to know. To ensure Edmontonians know their options for voting, as well as the steps for how to vote, the city has taken steps to make voting as barrier-free as possible, to ensure votes will be cast.

The City of Edmonton will provide captioning at all forums, as long as you phone and ask to have a CART provider there. You should also check if they have counter loops or FM systems available to ensure you are able to hear when spoken to by those working at the election. If you require assistance with this, please contact CHHA-Ed at chha-ed@shaw.ca or phone the office at 780-428-6622. You can also contact the city at mayja.embleton@edmonton.ca or 780-496-6324. They would be happy to address any questions you have.

Following are hyperlinks to documents found on the City of Edmonton website for your use:

Article 1: Voting step-by-step

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8NbCj1SyocgZUJBSWRLX2IzNjA/view?usp=sharing>

Article 2: Voter Accessibility and Accommodations

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8NbCj1SyocgelJsc1VGY1VWeWM/view?usp=sharing>

Article 3: Voting Opportunities

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8NbCj1SyocgNUJMUnBoTGUtZ0k/view?usp=sharing>

Article 4: All About Candidate Forums

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8NbCj1SyocgTUVVSjdWb0x1ems/view?usp=sharing>

Article 7: 2017 Edmonton Election Guide

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8NbCj1Syocgbi03TWc2TXRoRms/view?usp=sharing>

Edmonton Elections is non-partisan and solely looking to inform the public. They also hold the capacity to set up their information booth at any event and can offer a variety of presentations to any community organization that would like to host them throughout the summer. Please let Edmonton Elections know if these opportunities are of interest to you. To request a presentation and/or to have Edmonton Elections at one of your events, please do so through the following link <https://goo.gl/forms/KCg8ouuZwy0oLk943> or by emailing them.

Thank you for staying informed about elections-related information!

2017 CHHA National Conference Sidney, B.C.

The 2017 CHHA Conference "Hear by the Sea" that was held in the beautiful Sidney, British Columbia was a great success! We had over 175 delegates in attendance over the course of the conference and many new faces.

Registration and opening night was kicked off with an Exhibit Fair featuring 20 Exhibitors specializing in Hearing Loops, Assistive Listening Devices, CART, Cochlear Implants, Hearing Aids, Advocacy and more. An open bar complimented by hot and cold hors d'oeuvres provided a great opportunity to meet old friends and delegates from across Canada and the United States. The mingling and sharing was great.

Friday morning has a very early start with the "Spotlight on Invisible Disabilities" Panel Discussion Breakfast and Live Webcast. This followed by Keynote Speaker, Dr. Marshall Chasin (Hearing Loss: Getting the music back), Plenary Speakers- Dr. Douglas Beck (Issues in Tinnitus for Consumers) and Dr. Kathy Pichora-Fuller & Dr. Paul Mick (News for CHHA members about the Canadian Longitudinal Study of Aging). Providing a great start to the conference and intro to workshops that followed.



Along with many informative workshops there was the AGM and a very spirited Town Hall meeting. In all a good time was held by all CHHA-Ed delegates who attended.

CHHA YAN (Young Adult Network) held its annual retreat, with a record 24 young adults attending! This year, the YAN board decided to be all-inclusive and invited hard of hearing and Deaf young adults. CHHA Yan fund raised and made the retreat fully accessible with Cart and ASL interpreters for the duration of the retreat.



The YAN Retreat is a great event for young adults to learn, grow, network, share experiences & ideas in a safe environment and make lifelong friends.

Tara Metrovic, member

Office Report

CHHA-Ed's 2nd Annual Golf tournament kept us busy planning and preparing. It was a great success and we collected over \$14,000. The day turned out great. Even the sprinkling rain could not dampen the fun for the golfers. A huge thanks to all the volunteers, sponsors and golfers for helping to make this a success! Please check the website for pictures of the day and a list of our amazing sponsors.

We turn our focus now to hosting an exciting LOOP Awareness Event in conjunction with the City of Edmonton, which is scheduled for September 14th. The event will include Loops and most importantly, accessibility. Look for more information to come soon on this event. We hope you plan to attend!

As usual, office staff is busy by being visible at community events, trade shows, and meetings, providing information to the public about our services and benefits. St. Albert's Senior Fair, Older-Bolder-Better in the west-end, and of course West Edmonton Mall's senior events are just a few of the recent activities. If you think we should attend something, please let us know.

"Your Third Ear" sessions continue across the city and Speech Reading Classes will start again on September 13th. ASL classes run consistently, so please check out the website for new dates.

Remember, if you would like to help in the office, we have opportunities for you! This is *your* organization and we want you to feel a part of it. Feel free to contact me any time with ideas, suggestions or offers to help. Email me at: chha-ed@shaw.ca

Cindy Gordon
CHHA-Ed Program Director

News & Coming Events

Your Third Ear Workshops – Ongoing

Speechreading 1 & Coping Skills Classes – Beginning September 13th

Beginner Conversational ASL Classes – Beginning September 9th and 12th

General Meeting – September 11, 2017 at GRH 7:00 p.m.

Be sure to check the website at www.chha-ed for more news & information

Want to learn more about hearing loss?

Check out Canadian Hard of Hearing Association – Edmonton Branch **shares on Facebook**

Or

Articles posted to our website at www.chha-ed.com such as the following:

- **Hearing loss on the rise in young adults, expert warns**
“The tough part about hearing loss is that it's really insidious,” Melanie Campbell says
[CBC News](#) Posted: May 16, 2017 11:38 AM MT Last Updated: May 16, 2017 11:38 AM MT
- **Get in the Hearing Loop** A program of the Hearing Loss Association of America
found on our website under FAQs_ Hearing Loops .pdf

Visit www.chha-ed.com and you will be able to find information on many topics as well as information on classes and workshops that we offer throughout the year. ENJOY!

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association – Edmonton Branch

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is open to all interested in full inclusion for Hard of Hearing persons. A full membership to CHHA National & CHHA-Ed is \$45.00.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

PLEASE DETACH & MAIL TO:

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Commonwealth Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 1C5

Phone: (780) 428-6622 (Voice / TTY)

Fax: (780) 420-6661

Email: chha-ed@shaw.ca

For more information, please visit:

www.chha-ed.com

We appreciate and value the support of members and volunteers. Volunteers are welcome and needed!

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