



Alberta Deaf News

A Publication of Alberta Association of the Deaf
<http://www.deafalberta.org/ADNews>



November 9 & 10, 2007

An Important Message About Deaf Alberta Expo

Dear Deaf Community Members in Alberta and Others,

There is an alliance between the Albertan Association of the Deaf, the Canadian Association of the Deaf (CAD), and the Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf (CCSD), to collaborate on the Deaf Children's Education International Rally on Friday, September 28th, 2007. We need to reschedule the Deaf Alberta Expo from the original date to a new date on November 9-10, 2007. We will keep sending updates about the Deaf Alberta Expo through the Alberta Deaf News Newsletter and on the www.deafalberta.org website of Alberta Association of the Deaf.

Sincerely,
 Diane Underschultz,
 Chairperson of Deaf Alberta Expo

Health Help!

If you have a problem or a question about health, please phone Health Link Alberta at these **TTY** phone numbers: for the Edmonton area - 780-496-8822 and for the Calgary area - 403-943-1552. They can help you with finding a list of doctors who are accepting new patients, water advisory, or problems with your city, new mom and baby help, information about travel and shots, places to go for counseling, all health problems, for example diabetes, baby rash, cuts, etc. They are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. **OR** you can use your webcam and call one of these video relay service numbers:

- CSD VRS...800-538-9881
- HIP VRS...866-498-4777
- HO VRS...877-467-4877



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ACRID's last two bingos are Oct. 17 and Nov. 13, 2007.

Both bingos are at 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the West Edmonton Mall. If you are able to volunteer for either of these bingos, please contact ACRID's bingo chairperson, Alicia Ponciano at

haicherta@yahoo.com or 780-965-9093 (V/text).

Lunch (up to \$8) is included with volunteer work for the events.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alberta Deaf Newsletters

A publication of Alberta Association of the Deaf

Fax:

Mail:

P.O. Box 56026
 RPO Commerce Place
 Edmonton, AB T5J 4N9

Email:

deaf.news.editor@gmail.com

Our Mission: The primary purpose of the Alberta Association of the Deaf is to promote equal rights for Deaf Albertans while endeavoring to improve the quality of life for Deaf people in general.

Edmonton Association of the Deaf President's Report



Greetings Albertans,

I as the President of the Edmonton Association of the Deaf (EAD) would sincerely like to summarize all that the EAD has really been very busy with in its regular and special projects since last June as follows:

- 1) The EAD has installed our newest board members. Two terrific new staff persons are starting their respective jobs on August 1st, 2007. We should have a superb year. The next board election will hopefully be on May 5th, 2008. Congrats to both guys! We present our special notes of thanks to **Dale Hergott**, Vice President and **Grant Underschultz**, Treasurer for handling the interviewing and hiring process on our behalf.
- 2) The EAD board and members are eagerly looking forward to a special evening of eye-listening to a presentation. The presentation will include an Information Update about the Senior Citizen Club's fabulous 3-day field trip to the Waterton Lakes by private charter coach on June 14th - 16th and an Information Update about our 11 EAD female members and 2 SCC Reps that attended the Deaf Women of Canada Conference in Vancouver, BC on August 13th - 18th.
- 3) The EAD board executives have been working together with **Dave Mason**, Chairman of the EAD By-laws Committee and his committee members, Sonya Moyer and Marshall Danyluk. They have been busy with developing, revising, and updating its by-laws, especially its outdated **organizational chart**. Other by-law issues covered were volunteer management, governance over the growing operation, and high demands/expectations from EAD members and from the general public. We will have an open discussion on this urgent matter and make motion(s) for a one-year trial basis before finalizing the by-laws sometime in May - June 2008 during the Annual General Meeting & board election.
- 4) I have been very pleased with the positive outcome of the EAD - EDDBS Interveners Workshop/ Training week-end camp at Gull Lake on August 3rd - 5th, 2007. There were 10 Deaf adults registered to attend the camp. As an Instructor/Facilitator, Cynthia Pominville-Jaafar of Medicine Hat College did superb introductory lessons and increased awareness upon the varying degrees/losses of eyesight, kinds/types of diseases/causes, and so forth. These 10 registrants received Certificates of Attainment - Level One. Most of them planned to attend the follow-up week-end camp at the Pigeon Lake for their Level Two workshop/training program on September 7th - 9th, 2007. I welcome anyone interested in taking a combined Level One and Level Two week-end camp at the same site on the same dates.
- 5) For your info, I am having a difficult time settling our 1-year calendar plan that is starting in September 2007 and ending in June 2008. Several organizations in Calgary and Edmonton are having board changes during their upcoming meetings in September. So, I am now focusing only on the EAD's 2.5-month schedule plan for September, October, and early November 2007 for time being. Our one-year board and regular monthly meeting dates have already been approved and are ready for the EAD's home-page via the AAD's website.
- 6) The upcoming Deaf Alberta Expo (DAE) is now officially re-scheduled for November 9th - 10th. The EAD board executives decided to give full support to the CdnAD National Deaf Education rally on Friday, September 29th. This support will not adversely affect our commitment toward hosting the DAE 2007. For more info, please feel free to contact Diane Underschultz, DAE 2007 Coordinator or Corinne Carberry, who is responsible for handling DAE registrations.

A Message from the President of the Calgary Association of the Deaf

We, the new board of the Calgary Association of the Deaf (2007-09), would like to thank the previous CAD board (2005-07) for their hard work and effort. They have been very supportive to the Deaf Canada Conference which will be held in Calgary in July 2008. They also contributed funds to the Deaf projects across Calgary, Alberta, and Canada including the Deaf Culture Centre. The CAD board members appreciate the previous board's dedication and contributions toward the association.

As you may know, the following new board members that have been elected for 2007-09 are:

President **Cindy Pilz**
 Past President **Laurie Hughes-Lerner**
 Vice President **David Poffenroth**
 Secretary **Silva Notland**
 Treasurer **Jonathan Guinta**
 Social Director **Werner Pilz**
 Sports Director **Elaine Schuh**
 Member at Large **Frank Lilley**
 Member at Large **Robert Schuh**



We are looking forward to seeing the CAD become a better organization. Our main goals for this term are to find a building to host the CAD organization and to improve services and access to technology for Deaf Calgarians.

There will be a several big events happening this fall:

Halloween Party, **October 27**
 CAD's 72nd Anniversary Banquet, **November 3**
 New Year's Eve Party, **December 31**

Flyers for these events above will be released in the near future. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact the new board at the following email address: deafcalgary@yahoo.ca.

Sincerely,
 Cindy Pilz,
 CAD President



Calgary Real Estate - Realtor: Fernando Aramburu

TTY: (403) 201- 3229
SMS: 1403- 6121515
Voice: (403) 225- 5000
Fax: (403) 271- 2353
Email: MyFriendFernando@shaw.ca





Editor's Den

Welcome back to our reading stage where we have been talking about the Deaf Education

Movement. There will be a November rally to increase awareness of the movement. We Deaf Canadians have a PROBLEM! We still have to spend our energy educating hearing people in the provincial and the federal levels of government about the proper way to teach Deaf children. Heather Gibson, the system principal at Ernest Drury School for the Deaf in Milton, Ontario, Canada, advocates the bilingual approach to Deaf education. She is a role model for Deaf and hearing teachers across Canada. We need more teachers who know how to teach with a bilingual approach.

Dr. Steve Nover, the director of the Center for ASL/English Bilingual Education and Research (CAEBER) at Gallaudet University (<http://caeber.gallaudet.edu/staff.aspx>), has told the world in ASL that Deaf Education has NO map! This means that there is no road map for Deaf Education teachers to use. There are no standards for a bilingual approach to Deaf Education. Specialists in Deaf Education develop their own way to teach.

Deaf Education

Most of these specialists are located in just one Deaf school. Nover advocates language planning to help all Deaf schools to develop a bilingual learning environment. Nover supervises eight Deaf schools.

We also have to show the government that Deaf teachers can teach deaf or hearing children in either deaf or hearing schools. For example, one of the moderators of DREN - Deaf Rights Equal Now, [bluenorthernstar](http://bluenorthernstar.com), said the following comments on this website address:

http://groups.msn.com/DREN-DeafRightsEqualNow/education.msnw?action=get_message&mview=0&ID_Message=453&LastModified=4675548761140753758

How is it possible that we live in an age where hearing teachers with one or two semesters of ASL classroom experience, or trained in special education but never taught Deaf children before end up in our Deaf schools?

How is it possible that Deaf teachers who can instruct using any type of medium, blackboard, overhead, written outlines, paper handouts, text-to-speech, VOCAL, ASL interpreters, etc., cannot teach hearing children. Is our education system missing the point?

Please read next page

Attention! Attention!! Attention!!!

The deadline for article submissions is on September 22nd for the October issue.



Letters to the Editor:

Questions and comments are always welcome.

Send your contributions to "Letters to the Editor" via email to deaf.news.editor@gmail.com; via fax to (780) 433-0957; or by mail to P.O. Box 56026 RPO Commerce Place

Edmonton, AB T5J 4N9 Canada

We reserve the right to edit letters, which typically run 50-300 words.

Editor in Chief:

Abbas Ali Behmanesh

Proof Reader:

Mary Lee

Contributors:

Cindy Fraser Jonathan Guinta

Gary Malkowski

Don McCarthy Lucy Ross

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More information and opinions, both pro and con, can be found on this website address:

<http://www.alldeaf.com/deaf-news/9731-deaf-teacher-argues-discrimination.html>.

“Deaf Education has NO map” Dr. Steve Nover, Director of the Center for ASL/English Bilingual Education and Research

By the way, Gary Malkowski mentioned that in Denmark, there are no deaf children in elementary school. One Danish family moved to Stockholm, Sweden because there is a Deaf school to provide for their deaf children’s needs. Sadly, attendance at our Alberta School for the Deaf in Edmonton is slowly decreasing.

Gary Malkowski’s predication that this school will diminish is very possible.

Thumbs up,

Abbas Ali Behmanesh

Editor-in-Chief

School plan for the deaf sparks outcry

Milton proposal reignites debate over sign language versus ear implants

Aug 09, 2007 04:30 AM

LOUISE BROWN

EDUCATION REPORTER

Canada needs its own new sign language college – preferably on free land being offered by the town of Milton – to ease the "crisis in deaf post-secondary education," says the head of the Canadian Association of the Deaf.

Yet some wonder who would use it. So many deaf students now have surgical implants to help them hear that enrolment at sign language public schools is dropping.

Toronto's only full sign language elementary school, the Metropolitan Toronto School for the Deaf, has just nine students enrolled for September, down from more than 100 a decade ago, and will be phased out in the coming years and merged with other special education programs, officials say.

"But this is a good news story, because new technologies mean fewer children need the intensive support of American Sign Language to be integrated into a normal setting," said Rauda Dickinson, superintendent for the Toronto District School Board.

To sign language advocates, those are fighting words. The very notion of a deaf campus in Canada points to the touchy debate between oral and sign language supporters in the deaf community.

"If there were to be a new sign language college, we'd want to make sure deaf students would maintain the right to go to mainstream universities with support and not be told they had to attend the `deaf college,'" said Norah-Lynn McIntyre, executive director of VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children. It represents deaf children whose parents want them to learn to listen and speak, usually with small electronic cochlear implants that allow the profoundly deaf to hear. "We would want educational choice to be maintained."

But what choice is best?

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For too long, Canada's deaf students have had no choice but to travel to the United States for full sign language campuses, said Jim Roots, executive director of the Canadian Association of the Deaf, which represents 300,000 deaf Canadians and uses American Sign Language as its official language.

He said some deaf leaders were excited to learn that Milton is offering free land for a college or university to help cope with the GTA's enrolment boom, especially because Milton has a school for the deaf. "This has been our dream for decades – to finally build the first deaf college in Canada where the language of education would be sign language. What could possibly be better than to have Canada's only deaf college next door to Canada's best deaf school?"

Yet enrolment at the provincially run E.C. Drury School for the Deaf in Milton and its counterparts in London, Belleville and Ottawa has slipped slightly in recent years to a total of about 400, as more deaf children receive the implant and attend mainstream schools where they do not use sign language. More than 2,400 deaf and hard-of-hearing students in Ontario attend local schools with special help.

Enrolment at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., which operates in English and American Sign Language, has slipped to about 1,800 last year from 2,350 in 1990.

Since Ontario began screening all babies for hearing loss in 2001, more than 800 have been identified and about 94 per cent have chosen to have cochlear implants.

Ariel Baker-Gibbs is a severely deaf Toronto student heading off to Yale University this fall with the help of an ASL interpreter.

"I considered Gallaudet. I went to a young scholars' summer camp there and for the first time I realized exactly how furiously my brain works every day just to be surrounded by my hearing family and my hearing peers and my hearing friends," said the 18-year-old. "There it was just so easy to be with people. I hadn't realized it was possible for it to be that easy, ever."

Still, she decided it would be "silly to sacrifice the quality of education that I would get at Yale or Stanford even for the personal growth that Gallaudet had to offer."

Gary Malkowski replied back to the superintendent about his article

Dear Editor, Toronto Star

Re: School Plan for the Deaf Sparks Outcry dated August 9, 2007

Toronto District School Board's Irresponsible and Harmful Comments on Sign Language

I am dismayed and appalled at the outrageous and irresponsible comment by Rauda Dickinson, Superintendent, Toronto District School Board ... "But this is good news story, because new technologies mean fewer children need the intensive support of American Sign Language to be integrated into a normal setting..."

Despite the positive announcement of Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education on new amendment to regulation 298 of the Education Act regarding the use of American Sign Language (ASL) and Langue des signes québécoise (LSQ) on July 12, 2007, Toronto District School Board (TDSB) seems not to be in support of the new ASL initiatives announced by Minister of Education and this is clear to me that TDSB

Please read next page

Continued....

adopts an ASL cleansing policy to achieve the development and implementation of downsizing and wiping out sign language initiatives that put deaf and hard of hearing children's healthy mental health and linguistic development at serious risk.

In reality, according to PAH Mental Services for Deaf Children's document, there are over 600 deaf and hard of hearing children in Ontario with serious mental health problems mainly due to huge cultural and linguistic barriers facing deaf children.

In truth, that is really tragic news to see that fewer and fewer deaf and hard of hearing postsecondary students enrolling in American post-secondary education institutions (i.e. Gallaudet University or National Technical Institute for the Deaf) and even postsecondary education institutions in Canada. Toronto District School Board is fully aware of the low literacy levels, un- and under-employment, poverty, mental health and other challenges that continue to grow for deaf individuals including deaf youth with cochlear implants. Many new parents of Deaf and hard of hearing children are not aware of these facts. The TDSB must do something to prevent these tragic problems.

Therefore it is necessary to call upon TDSB to adopt an anti-audism policy that addresses and removes inappropriate beliefs and attitude systems that are based on the ability to hear and which result in differential treatment of Deaf people/students. It is highly recommended that TDSB have Rauda Dickinson, Superintendent, to attend anti-audism awareness training and withdraw her inappropriate and insensitive comments.

Sincerely,

Gary Malkowski

Former MPP York East

Former Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Education and Training

Technology can't replace sign language

<http://www.thestar.com/article/245916>

Aug 9 and 14, 2007

By Joyce Lange, Whitby

The statement "new technologies mean fewer children need the intensive support of American Sign Language to be integrated into a normal setting" is straight from old-school thinking.

Technology is not automatically the healthiest, best or only choice for anyone – let alone a deaf child. Adding technology to the mix of the "normal setting" has been done for decades, and it has never been a runaway success. Technology cannot change attitudes; only people can do that.

I am proudly deaf and I am proficient in both English and ASL, but given a choice I would stick to ASL any day. The language is indescribably beautiful and goes where English cannot. But that does not mean I am unable to respect the English language, too. I would like to see the favour returned.

Either/or proposition for deaf children

Aug 12, 2007

Re: School plan for the deaf sparks outcry

Please read next page

By Joanne DeLuzio, Vice-Chair, The Canadian Hearing Society Board of Directors, Toronto

Government initiatives, particularly infant hearing screening programs, have resulted in earlier diagnosis of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. The subsequent use of cochlear implants at younger ages has resulted in more age-appropriate speech and oral language outcomes.

However, this does not change a deaf child into a hearing child. At night, when the cochlear implant is unplugged, the child hears nothing.

Unfortunately for deaf children, the issue of spoken language versus American Sign Language (ASL) is presented as an either/or proposition: if you choose a cochlear implant and oral communication, ASL is no longer offered as an option and parents are led to believe that if they use sign language with their child, the cochlear implant will be less than effective. However, there is nothing in research literature to suggest that a child cannot use both spoken language and ASL. With time set aside for each language to be learned individually rather than simultaneously, a deaf child can successfully acquire both languages.

With good spoken language skills, a deaf child can more easily access the hearing world and with ASL proficiency, the child can have a healthy deaf identity and access the rich culture associated with ASL.

Good News!!!!

I've received a letter dated July 19, 2007 from Edmonton Community Foundation. I am proud to share the great news to the Deaf community that they will add a plaque in our honor to the sculpture "Return."

In 2001, the Edmonton Community Foundation unveiled a magnificent piece of art to honor their many generous donors. The sculpture, "Return" is situated in the Telus Plaza on Jasper Avenue between 100 and 101 Street in Edmonton. There are several hip-height curved walls beside the sculpture where they have affixed brass plates of different sizes simply naming the donors who have established endowment support here.

While a variety of plaque sizes acknowledge different cumulative giving levels, **no dollar figures are publicly revealed**. In honor of the gifts the AAD has made, they will create our plaque as follows: **Alberta Association of the Deaf**. The AAD donates \$2,000 to Edmonton Community Foundation every year for the Charmaine Letourneau Scholarship.

The Charmaine Letourneau Scholarship:

Charmaine Letourneau's mission in life has been to show the world that Deaf people can do anything hearing people can do except hear. She has enjoyed success in achieving this goal. On the occasion of Charmaine's retirement from 30+ years of service to the Deaf community and in honor of her induction into the Order of Canada in May 2001, the Charmaine Letourneau Scholarship Fund has been established at the Edmonton Community Foundation to provide scholarships to Deaf students wishing to further their education. Each year, a grants panel which has been appointed by the Founders of the Fund, reviews applications and recommends recipients to the Board of the Edmonton Community Foundation. The scholarships may provide for tuition, books and other learning tools necessary for the student to succeed. For more info, see <http://aad.deafalberta.org/Pages/Scholarship.html>

Sincerely,
Grant Unterschultz,
AAD president

Deaf Education and Sign Language Rights

Vibes Fall 2007

By Lucy Ross

The World Federation of the Deaf established the fourth week of September each year, to recognize, promote, and celebrate the achievements of the Deaf populations around the world. This year International Deaf Awareness Week will take place from September 24-30. In addition, WFD plans to support political rallies hosted by National Deaf Associations in their countries around the world on Friday September 28 and 29, 2007.

On Sept 28, in a number of Canadian cities, including Toronto, Deaf people and their colleagues will join together to send their messages to government about access to sign language and quality education for Deaf children.

Despite education being long available for residents of Canada, Deaf children were often kept at home, sent away, or institutionalized. Some families that could afford to do so sent their deaf children abroad to schools for deaf students in Europe or the USA, or hired private tutors.

The first school for Deaf students was founded in 1817 in Hartford, Connecticut, by Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet and Laurent Clerc, a young deaf teacher from France. The earliest known school for deaf children in Canada was opened several years later in Quebec City in 1831.

The beginnings of Deaf education in Ontario came in 1858, when the Upper Canada Institute for the Deaf and Dumb was opened in Toronto. This school moved to Hamilton, and then upon a recommendation to the government that a provincial school be established, it was decided that Belleville would house the new school. This was the Sir James Whitney School for the Deaf, which opened in 1870.

Ontario's other three provincial schools include the Ernest C. Drury school in Milton (est. 1963), the Roberts School in London (est. 1970), and Centre Jules Léger in Ottawa (est. 1991).

While these four provincial institutions continue to exist (many other schools for deaf students in other provinces have closed down), a number of factors continue to threaten their survival:

- declining enrollment
- increase in mainstream programs
- increase in number of children with cochlear implants using auditory-verbal therapy
- government cutbacks to programs and services at the schools
- lack of positive role models and deaf teachers
- poor fluency in American Sign Language (ASL) and langue des signes québécoise (LSQ) by hearing faculty and administration staff

There has been longstanding debate about the methods of teaching Deaf children: sign language vs. an oralist (spoken language) approach. In 1880, at the Congress for the Deaf in Milan, Italy, it was voted that sign language be banned in the schools. Only two of the 180 voting delegates were Deaf.

Fast forward to 1988: the student protests at Gallaudet University marked the beginning of an era when Deaf people began to speak out and take matters into their own hands. The world stopped and took notice when students staged a week-long protest opposing the University's selection of a hearing President when there were well-qualified Deaf applicants. The students were successful in their demands, and I. King Jordan was installed as the first Deaf President in Gallaudet's 124-year history.

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Deaf Education and Sign Language Rights

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Deaf Education

Despite education being long available for residents of Canada, historically, Deaf children were often kept at home, sent away, or institutionalized. Some families that could afford to do so sent their deaf children abroad to schools for deaf students in Europe or the USA, or hired private tutors.

First Deaf Schools in Canada and the USA

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Ontario Deaf Education

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Oral vs. Sign Debate

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Continued....

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Ontario Deaf Advocacy History

CHS staff members and representatives from community organizations of deaf people had been advocating and lobbying the Ministry of Education and Ontario's legislature for better standards and supports in education, recognition of ASL and LSQ, and the hiring of Deaf teachers and administrators. Following the spirit of Gallaudet protests, Deaf Ontarians set the stage for a protest of their own. The Ontario Association of the Deaf (OAD) Education Task Force was established and the Deaf Ontario Now (D.O.N.) Action Committee came together with people from the OAD, the CHS, and the Deaf Community. The Deaf Education Task Force adopted a six-point policy outlining their demands. On May 12, 1989, a rally was held at Queen's Park in Toronto. Over 1,500 people attended to support the long overdue demands. Eighteen other cities across Canada also held rallies at the same time. Gallaudet University's Canadian Club held a rally at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC. At that time, there were only eight Deaf teachers, no Deaf administrators, and no ASL or LSQ used in the classrooms in Ontario. Several results came out of the D.O.N. rallies in Ontario. A law was passed allowing ASL/LSQ as languages of instruction in the classroom. More than 95 Deaf teachers and five Deaf administrators were hired. A teacher training program was established at York University, and Deaf professors were hired to teach in the program. The provincial schools for Deaf students remained open. One of the leading activists behind DON went on to become the first elected Deaf MPP.

Ontario Deaf Advocacy Today

In February 2007, the OAD held a community forum to address several issues related to access to sign language and quality education for Deaf Ontarians. The OAD articulated an eight-point policy to be presented to the Ontario Ministry of Education. On May 11th, 18 years after the original and most memorable rally, another was held at Queen's Park outlining the OAD's eight-point policy. On July 12, the Honorable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education, announced more support for Deaf students, allowing ASL and LSQ to be used in schools in Ontario in a step towards "ensuring that deaf students receive an education that helps them reach their full potential." The Ontario government further announced that it is committed to implementing a sign language curriculum, increasing the number of colleges that offer ASL and LSQ classes to teachers and interpreters, helping staff to improve their ASL and English skills, and working with the Ontario College of Teachers to set up a requirement that teachers have some ASL/LSQ training before teaching Deaf and hard of hearing students. In the words of the Madeline Meilleur, the Minister responsible for Ontarians with Disabilities, "A more accessible Ontario is a stronger Ontario. Providing more opportunities for children who are deaf to fully participate in their education will ensure a more prosperous future for them and for the province".

WFD

In July, the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) held its 15th World Congress of the Deaf in Madrid, Spain.

Please read next page

Continued from first page... "Health Help!" ...

Please be sure to give them Health Link Alberta's **voice phone #**

Edmonton 780-408-5465
Calgary 403-943-5465
Toll free 1-866-408-5465

Please note that video relay services are generally open between 5 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Continued from second page ... "EAD President's report"

In conclusion, I am sure that our board members are ready for a 2nd-year status as executives for August 31st, 2007 to August 31st, 2008. The EAD should hopefully be able to reach the goal of 300+ members. The EAD's record is 282 members. If we break the record, the EAD would have its wonderful vibrating floor music system completed and ready for our members. Hearing visitors or members would enjoy having music played at a lower volume. It would not be necessary to crank the music up for vibrations to appear. The full EAD board is making special efforts to work together with the Deaf community and reach a 2-year goal. This goal is EADCC. For 2006/2007, E is for Equality, A is for Attitude, D is for Diversity, C is for Communication, and the second C is for Citizenship. For 2007/2008, E is for Empowerment, A is for Achievement, D is for Dignity, C is for Creativity, and the second C is for Charm. We hope that you will enjoy the fall season!

Sincerely,
Donald Mc Carthy,
EAD President

Continued from page 11... "Deaf Education and Sign language Right"

WFD was established in 1951 as an international non-governmental organization that works closely with the United Nations. There are currently 128 member countries working together to serve the 70 million Deaf people worldwide. According to the WFD, it is estimated that 80% of them live in developing countries, where services and access to services are severely limited. The goals of WFD are to protect the human rights of Deaf people around the world. This includes the right to sign language, access to education and information, self-determination, employment, and community life.

Four Point Policy to Meaningful Access to Education: Sign Language Rights for Deaf Children

Forwarded by Gary Malkowski

- 1a. To sign and ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- 1b. To modify Canadian educational legislation to follow this UN convention
- 1c. To legalize sign language (i.e. official national, regional, provincial/state, and local sign language)

- 2a. To lift the prohibition against sign language for Deaf children with cochlear implants
- 2b. To change the policy established by existing Auditory-Verbal Therapy (AVT) providers - The policy is to refuse to see Deaf children and students with cochlear implants who are using sign language.

3. To reaffirm the position of the World Federation of the Deaf on Education Rights for Deaf Children - This position is that all Deaf people, including Deaf children, have the right to full access to quality education through visual modes, including indigenous sign languages. This position is supported by several international conventions of the United Nations.

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- 4a. To require educational institutions to provide mandatory staff training in sign language proficiency, anti-audism education, and anti-discrimination training
- 4b. To provide access to the services of educated, trained, and qualified sign language interpreters in educational settings
- 4c. To provide other needed educational support services and Deaf role models
- 4c. To facilitate full participation in both the educative and co-curricular processes



WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

15th WFD CONGRESS RESOLUTION

Forwarded by Gary Malkowski

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD), its Members and the participants at the 15th World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf in Madrid, Spain, 16-22 July 2007, are

Reaffirming that deaf people are entitled to the same human rights as all social groups and that diversity is an intrinsic factor in the Deaf Community,

Recognizing the importance of children and youth; deafblind; deaf with disabilities; immigrants; Indigenous peoples; Lesbians, Gays, Transgenders and Bisexuals; people in rural areas; religious minorities; senior citizens; and all deaf people as citizens of society with the same rights and obligations as other citizens,

Emphasizing that by adopting positive actions, equality among all will be accelerated,

Emphasizing that sign language is a human right for all members of the Deaf Community, including those who use assistive devices and implants, and

Reaffirming that multi-lingual education in sign language gives deaf and hard of hearing people the best opportunity to achieve full citizenship and enjoyment of all human rights.

WFD and its Members:

Have an obligation to work together to promote government ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities thus assuring deaf people full attainment of all human rights on an equal basis with other citizens.

Must work together as a collective group, and those from developed countries must work in close partnership with those from developing countries.

Must adopt measures to educate and to sensitize the Deaf Community about the diverse variety of peoples and cultures within the larger Deaf culture.

Must promote gender-equality programs and policies to ensure the full development and empowerment of women, and adopt measures that combat violence and abuse against deaf women.

Have responsibility to preserve, promote and protect sign languages and cultural heritages; and to formulate language policies to empower sign language, including indigenous sign languages.

Have an obligation to co-operate closely with schools and educational authorities to promote deaf children's right to receive a multi-lingual/multi-cultural education and to implement training programs to develop healthy identities for all deaf children, their families, and CODA children.

Should also protect the rights of children with cochlear implants and other sensory modification technologies to an education in sign language.



Please read next page

Continued from WFD...

Are responsible to sanction the employment of Deaf professionals in all fields that have an impact on the lives of Deaf people.

Must promote the development of appropriate training programs and qualifications for sign language interpreters, and follow WFD principles of cooperation with interpreters.

Must incorporate the principles of consistent application of universal design with technological innovations of new products and services.

Must formulate a statement of Deaf bioethics concerns and priorities, and quality medical and surgical care for deaf people, based on human rights principles.

Have obligation to establish mentorship and positive leadership programs for deaf youth, and involve them actively in political decision-making and implementation.

Have a responsibility to promote employment and self-sufficiency through Deaf economic empowerment.

Are responsible to promote equal access to mental health services for all deaf people.



Programs and actions developed by WFD and its OM's must take account of all deaf people. Special attention should be given to education in both developed and developing countries in order to eliminate any further disadvantage, which brings as a consequence unemployment, poverty, poor health, and the lack of self-determination.

Education for deaf people, especially in developing countries, must be an initiative of Deaf persons from that country in order to include and impart their native sign language(s) and culture.

The linguistic and cultural rights of deaf immigrants must be respected as well as assistance provided in learning the language and culture of their new country.

Sign language interpreters are a fundamental resource in achieving human rights and full access. The term sign language interpreter is a concept inclusive not only of hearing sign language interpreters but also Deaf sign language interpreters and interpreter guides for deafblind people.

Technology and e-learning offer access to information, are vital for structured and informal learning, and promote independence. The principles of universal design will ensure full communication access and fulfillment of deaf persons' human rights.

Equal and appropriate access to mental health services, through sign language and Deaf culture and by the provisioning of Deaf professional staff, is a basic human right of deaf people.

In reference to the growing demographic of an aging population, attention must be given to programs and services for deaf senior citizens.

Sign languages serve as vital instruments to transmit culture and knowledge. The status and recognition of sign languages around the world will be strengthened through language policies, sign language research and preservation, and the teaching of sign languages. Sign languages should be a part of all national curricula.

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD), its Members and the participants at the 15th World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf agree to promote and implement this Congress Resolution to all governments and authorities, demanding respect for the realization of human rights through sign languages.

Good News for Albertan Deaf Community from Hands On VRS

By Alberta Association of the Deaf

Hands On VRS is expanding to provide service from the USA into Canada's territory. One of their regional Outreach Supervisors will provide their company's service this September.



Norman L. Chan, Regional Outreach Supervisor, West, will lecture about his company's exciting news announcement, updates to business/service plan, and so forth.

Edmonton Association of the Deaf will host a special Town Hall meeting for Deaf community members to attend Norman Chan's presentation. The meeting will be held at the Alberta School for the Deaf in the "**Sun Room**" on Thursday, September 20th. Time: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

Calgary Association of the Deaf will book a room in the basement of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services in Calgary on Wednesday, Sept 19th for Norman Chan's discussion, too.

JOB Advertisement from Hands on VRS

Location: Cities of Alberta
Position: HOVRS Representative
Date posted: 09/05/07
How to apply: nchan@hovrs.com
Brief summary of duties:

Hands On is strategically located in a highly competitive market. Our objective of providing communication services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing gives us the opportunity to employ motivated and sincere ambitious professionals. This is an outstanding opportunity for individuals who are motivated to work for the best.

Minimum Qualification Requirements

This is a contract opportunity for someone with the following skills:
Self Starter, Punctuality, Creativity, Accuracy, Deep desire to achieve the goal, Technical Knowledge required, Ability to install D-Link and Web cam, and Understands Router and Firewall issues

What will you receive:

Great income and incentives, Flexible schedule, and Professional Growth opportunities

Contact:

Please submit your resume:

FAX: 888 900 9477

EMAIL: nchan@hovrs.com

Alberta Deaf Sports Association's

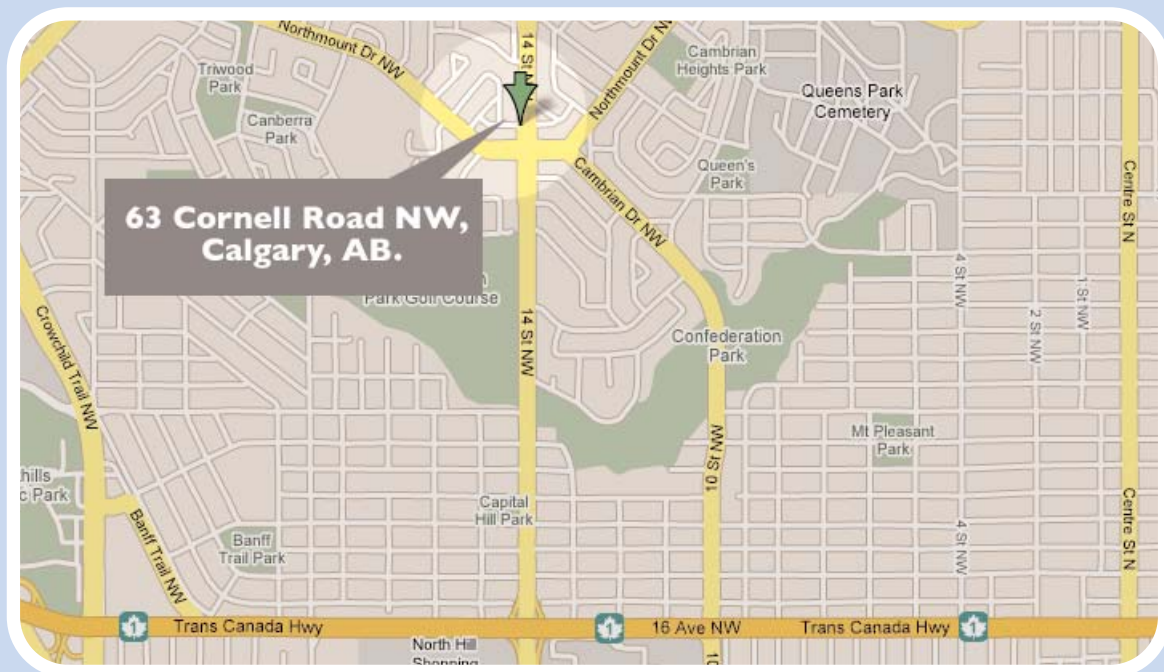
Annual General Meeting & Election Day

on Saturday, September 15, 2007

@ 1:00 PM at DHHS

(Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services)

63 Cornell Road NW, Calgary, AB.



Alberta
Deaf Sports
Association

T E X A S

S C R A M B L E

FOR EVERYONE!

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2007



INNISFAIL, ALBERTA

<http://www.innisfailgolf.ab.ca>

Tee Time - 1:30 p.m.

\$50.00 per person*

Green fees, power cart, & prizes

Limit to first 28 golfers - Hurry!!

DEADLINE - SEPTEMBER 7, 2007

After September 7th - \$80.00

ADGC Members - (non members add \$10)

Please send check/money order to

ALBERTA DEAF GOLF CLUB

c/o Grant Unterschultz, ADGC Treasurer

18916 - 46 Ave,

Edmonton, Alberta T6M 2S8

gudu@shaw.ca

Tournament Director

Ryan Bercier

For more information,

contact:

r_bercier@hotmail.com





November 9 & 10, 2007

Schedules of Deaf Alberta Expo

Friday, November 9, 2007

9:00 am to 10:00 am	Keynote Speaker	
10:00 am to 10:15 am	BREAK	
10:15 am to 11:00 am	A	B
11:00 am to 11:15 am	BREAK	
11:15 am to 12:00 pm	C	D
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	LUNCH	
1:00 pm to 1:45 pm	E	F
1:45 pm to 2:00 pm	BREAK	
2:00 pm to 2:45 pm	G	H
2:45 pm to 3:00 pm	BREAK	
3:00 pm to 3:45 pm	I	J

Saturday, November 10, 2007

9:00 am to 10:00 am	Keynote Speaker	
10:00 am to 10:15 am	BREAK	
10:15 am to 11:00 am	K	L
11:00 am to 11:15 am	BREAK	
11:15 am to 12:00 pm	M	N
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	LUNCH	
1:00 pm to 1:45 pm	O	P
1:45 pm to 2:00 pm	BREAK	
2:00 pm to 2:45 pm	Q	R
2:45 pm to 3:00 pm	BREAK	
3:00 pm to 3:45 pm	S	T



Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

TTY/Voice: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please make the cheque or money order payable to:

DAE 2007

#11404-142 Street

Edmonton, Alberta T5M 1V1

Attn: Cori Carberry, Registration Chairperson

A receipt or an email message will confirm your registration.

\$35.00 for NSF charge.

	Member	Non-Member
Program Book	\$5.00 x _____ = _____	\$5.00 x _____ = _____
Friday Night Event	\$10.00 x _____ = _____	\$10.00 x _____ = _____
EAD Banquet	\$50.00 x _____ = _____	\$70.00 x _____ = _____
	Total: \$ _____	Total: \$ _____
Dance 9:00 pm (After banquet)	\$20.00 x _____ = _____	\$30.00 x _____ = _____
	Member	Non-Member
Full Combo	\$50.00 x _____ = _____	\$70.00 x _____ = _____
	Total: \$ _____	Total: \$ _____



Deadline for Banquet Sales: Friday, October 26, 2007

DEAF ALBERTA EXPO 7

Dare to Lead

November 9 & 10, 2007

Free Admission for Booths and Workshops

The Alberta Association of the Deaf, Alberta Society of the Deaf and Alberta Deaf Sports Association are proud to present the **3rd Deaf Alberta Expo 2007** in Edmonton from Friday, November 9 to Saturday, November 10, 2007.

Experience the Deaf Alberta Expo 2007 events at the Delta Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel, one of Edmonton's finest hotels.

Booths and Workshops will present a variety of displays promoting their services. There will be much to benefit from the informative and interesting two-day expo.

Need a place to stay in Edmonton? The Delta Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel is offering visitors to the Deaf Alberta Expo 2007 special pricing for their stay at our hotel. Located in the heart of downtown Edmonton, the Delta Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel is a short walk to fine dining, shopping, and all that downtown Edmonton has to offer!

One Bedroom Suite:	Premier One Bedroom Suite:	Delta Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel 10222 102 Street - Edmonton, AB, Canada T5J 4C5 Toll Free: 1-800.661.6655 Fax: 780.428.1566 Email: dech@deltahotels.com Deadline Reservation October 9, 2007 Put the words Deaf Expo on the fax or email.
Single Rate \$154.00	Single Rate \$174.00	
Double Rate \$154.00	Double Rate \$174.00	
Triple Rate \$164.00	Triple Rate \$184.00	
Quad Rate \$174.00	Quad Rate \$184.00	

PRINT



ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF



ALBERTA CULTURAL SOCIETY OF THE DEAF



Alberta Deaf Sports Association



November 9 & 10, 2007

Deaf Alberta Expo Booth Information

Deaf Alberta Expo 2007 (DAE) will host its third conference on November 9 and 10, 2007 in conjunction with the Alberta Association of the Deaf, the Alberta Cultural Society of the Deaf and the Alberta Deaf Sports Association.

The theme will be “Dare to Lead” and the purpose of this event is to take action that will make a difference.

Booth space will be based on a first-come, first serve basis, according to the date upon the application and deposit are received. In this event, if we are overbooked when we receive your application, your application fee will be refunded. DAE will also take into consideration the type of business or organization when booth assignments are made.

Booth Set- Up	November 9, 2007 at 9:00 am
Booth Hours	10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Booth Tear Down	November 10, 2007 at 4:00 pm

Each booth includes a table and two chairs. Each booth person will receive one program book and badge.

No signs or other articles are to be fastened to the walls. Please refrain from using materials that may damage the facility e.g. double sided tape, scotch tape, masking tape, nails, screws, etc.

Both the Delta Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel and the DAE committee will not accept any claim for loss due to fire, theft, and damage of exhibits, nor will be held liable for any personal injury caused by the exhibitor. The exhibitor will accept full responsibility for any damage or injury caused to either the facility or others. The exhibitor is also responsible for the interpreting cost.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me via email: gudu@shaw.ca



November 9 & 10, 2007

Deaf Alberta Expo Booth Application Form

Company or Organization:	
Name/Title:	
Address:	
Phone Number: (please include your area code)	
Fax Number: (please include your area code)	
E-mail:	
Type of products or services to be displayed or sold or provided:	

Non-profit organization table	\$75.00	X		=	
Business	\$ 150.00	X	_____	=	_____
			_____	TOTAL	=====

Do you need an interpreter for your exhibit? Yes or No

Make a certified cheque or money order payable to: Deaf Alberta Expo 2007 and mail to:
DAE 2007- Booths c/o EADCC 11404 – 142 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5M 1V1.

NSF cheques - in the event, if the exhibitor's cheque is returned by a bank due to insufficient funds, a \$35.00 administration fee will be charged to the exhibitor.

PRINT

Big Friday Night Event of the Year!

Friday, November 9, 2007



ASL Karaoke Night at EADCC



**Location: 11404—142 St.
Edmonton, Alberta**

**Please BRING
DAE Combo Ticket
for Admission**

Start at 8:00 PM

**To buy a combo ticket, contact
DAE Registration Chairperson,
Cori Carberry
carberr5@shaw.ca**

**For more information, contact
DAE Coordinator, Diane Underschultz
gudu@shaw.ca**

*A wide variety of Karaoke
music will fit all tastes! Plus NEW
vibrating resonators on the floor
will give a new beat to the music!*

Come feel the beat!

Come on and enjoy the FUN!!!

*Refreshments
will be provided.*



56th Anniversary Banquet Night

Saturday, November 10, 2007

5:00 PM - 2:00 AM

At DELTA Edmonton Centre
Suite Hotel

10222 - 102 Street

Midnight GRAND
Prize Draw:
20" Flat-Panel
LCD HDTV

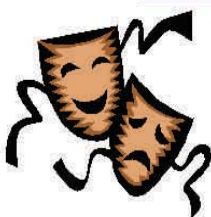
50/50 Ticket
CASH Draws

- 5:00 PM - Cocktail
- 6:00 PM - Buffet Dinner
- 7:30 PM - Awards
- 8:00 PM - Comedy Show
- 9:30 PM - Dance
- 11:00 PM - Chocolate Fountain Refreshment
- 12 Midnight - Prize Draws

EAD/ACRID's
Silent Auctions

* Please bring DAE
Ticket for Admission *

Dress: Semi-Formal
NO Jeans are permitted!



True Comedy by David Burke From Winnipeg, Manitoba

He is winner of both the ASL Storytelling Literature Awards: Ladder I & II contests. He is involved with the Winnipeg International Storytelling Festival June 2006 and 2007.





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Fax 403-225-0027

jcoultman@sutton.com

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Alberta Deaf Youth Leadership Camp 2007

By Jonathan Guinta

The Alberta Deaf Youth Leadership Camp was founded by the Alberta Association of the Deaf in the fall of 2006. The purpose of the camp is to equip Deaf campers aged 13 to 17 years old to become strong and effective Deaf leaders. The first ADYLC was held at Camp Woods in Sylvan Lake, Alberta from July 15th to 21st, 2007. There were 13 youths registered for camp. They participated in the workshops, fun activities (swimming, obstacle courses, wall climbing, archery, outdoor games), and social gatherings. They discussed a variety of topics on leadership, teamwork, communication, and Deaf issues. Based on their feedback, it was very valuable experience for both the campers and the staff.

A special thank you is given to the wonderful ADYLC Camp staff for their excellent work. We would like to give a big thanks to the Alberta Association of the Deaf for being our host and sponsor. The 2nd Alberta Deaf Youth Leadership Camp will be held in July 2007.



Directory Information

Alberta Association of the Deaf

Mail: P.O. Box 56026
RPO Commerce Place
Edmonton, AB T5J 4N9
President: Grant Unterschultz
Fax: (780) 484-3554
Email: AADPresident@shaw.ca
Website: www.deafalberta.org/aad

Alberta Deaf Sports Association

Mail: PO Box 34286
RPO Westbrook
Calgary AB T3C 3W2
President: Mark Kusiak
Office: TBA
Email: adsa@shaw.ca
Website: www.deafalberta.org/adsa

Alberta Cultural Society of the Deaf

11404 142 St.
Edmonton AB T5M 1V1
President: Laurie Hughes-Lerner
TTY/Fax: (780) 453-5053
E-mail: acsd@interbaun.com
Website: www.deafalberta.org/acsd

Alberta School for the Deaf

6240-113 St.
Edmonton AB T6H 3L2
Principal: Kathy Dolby
TTY: (780) 439-3323
Fax: (780) 436-0385
Email: Kathy.Dolby@epsb.ca

Calgary Association of the Deaf

Ste. #512, 3545-32 Ave. NE
Calgary AB T1Y 6M6
President: Laurie Hughes-Lerner
Email: lauriehughes@shaw.ca

Calgary Board of Education

Student Service Support
728 32 St. NW
Calgary AB T2N 2G5
System Principal, DHH: NJ Taylor
Voice: (403) 777-7240 x2323
Fax: (403) 777-6016
Email: njtaylor@cbe.ab.ca

Edmonton Association of the Deaf

11404-142 St.
President: Donald Mc Carthy
Fax: (780) 436-4639
Email: eadeaf@interbaun.com

Alberta Chapter of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

6240-113 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 3L2
Voice mail: 438-2319
President: Jody Morrison
Email: interpreterjm@yahoo.ca
Email: acrid@telus.net
Website: www.acrid.ca

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf

11460-60 Ave.
Edmonton AB T6H 1J5
TTY: (780) 435-7788
Fax: (780) 435-7788 before 9:30 am and after 6 pm
Phone: (780) 434-1671
Pastor: Rev. R.A. Bauer

Outreach program:

PAX Natura Society for Rehabilitation of the Deaf
Rev. R.A. Bauer, Executive Director
11460-60 Ave.
Edmonton AB T6H 1J5
Voice: (780) 434-1671
TTY: (780) 435-7780