

CHHA-BC CHATTER

#1 FEBRUARY 2015

Our New Year Information...



Marilyn Dahl

President

● Follow up from the Recommendations flowing from the April 2014 Forum on Hearing Aid Costs and concerns: Drs. Charles Laszlo and Marilyn Dahl met with the newly appointed Seniors Advocate, Isobel MacKenzie. We are happy to report that she confirmed that the priority concerns of her office for seniors will be Hearing, Vision, and Dental. She expressed interest in architectural access for people with hearing problems, and what that would include. (See also Marilyn Dahl's upcoming column in Allied Hearing Health about Architectural Access for People with Hearing Loss. This should be published online in February).

● CHHA-BC Chapter Board held a Board meeting via Skype in late January and decided that the Chapter AGM will be held in early June, along with a one day conference, in the Conference Rooms of Vancouver Public library downtown. Watch for further information as to exact date, times and conference content.

● **Coming up:** Marilyn Dahl will be a guest lecturer at Kwantlen College, Richmond Campus in the TALK Program. TALK stands for Third Age of Learning at Kwantlen.

TOPIC: Some basics about hearing loss from the consumer point of view, on questions which frequently arise. **Time: 10-11:50 am Date: February 6, 2015.**

A preliminary meeting was held January 14, 2015 in Abbotsford, BC to discuss the possibility of forming a CHHA Branch in Abbotsford. There was a branch there years ago but, it closed. The next meeting will be mid-April. If you know of anyone in the Abbotsford area who might be interested, please contact us at the CHHA-BC office for more information. *Thank you.* Sharon Perry, Administrator, CHHA-BC.

info@chha-bc.org or Toll Free: 1-866-888-2442 or Phone: 604-795-9238

♥
The grand
essentials of
happiness
are:
Something
to do,
something
to love,
and
something
to hope for.

-Allan K. Chalmers



CHHA National Conference-May 21-23, 2015

To learn more about the 2015 CHHA National Conference:
Conference Information, Keynote Speaker, Hotel/Travel,
Exhibition Information and to register,
please visit our website at www.chha.ca/conference/registration2.php.

CHHA
NATIONAL
CONFERENCE

MAY 21 TO 23, 2015
THE WESTIN NOVA SCOTIAN
1181 HOLLIS STREET, HALIFAX

REGISTRATION
WWW.CHHA.CA
1 800-263-8068

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association
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Let's Talk Level 1 Speechreading Training by Leslee Scott

The CHHA National Speechreading Program has completed its round of Instructor Training for Let's Talk in Chilliwack, BC. A description of this program and the two levels of training may be found at <http://www.chha.ca/sren/description>

A new set of Instructor Training workshops for the Let's Talk Level 1 speechreading training will be offered in Nanaimo this spring in order to meet the interests of those who wish to provide speechreading training in their community and were unable to attend the first course.

The program offered in Nanaimo runs for 5 days. Once completed and passed, participants may be eligible for training in the Level 2 Let's Talk Some More workshops (3 days of training) for which funding will be provided by the Government of Canada. Once certified for either Level 1 or Level 2, you may offer these programs in your community through your CHHA Branch, school district, college, or clinic.

The fee for the training in Nanaimo is \$300 per person + texts (approx. \$85 per manual) and materials (\$10); travel, meals & accommodation will be at the participants' own expense. For those that pass this training, a Certificate will be provided, and promotion will be offered through CHHA National to help advertise your services to the public.

For more information or to register for this course, please contact Leslee at leslee@hearinglosseducator.com

Veterans and Hearing Loss by Myrtle Barrett, President of CHHA



In the month of November, the media comes alive with stories of people and their combat-related sacrifices that have helped keep Canada safe. Many of us have had the honour of knowing these people, and others have heard stories passed down through the generations.

While we are and will be forever grateful, we sadly admit that these wars are not just in the past, and there are current stories of tragedy and sacrifice affecting us as a nation and as families. Most of our military are lucky to come home and others, we can only keep them in our hearts.

I grew up hearing stories from my great-uncle and grandfather who went to war as young men. As a child they seemed so exciting, but as an adult I realize the reality was unbearable and the sacrifices

were huge. Those who came home often brought the battle scars, both mental and physical. My great-uncle lost an eye. His friend lost his hearing.

Today, the injuries are still happening and many of our young men and women return from the battlefield, forced to cope with tinnitus or life with noise-induced hearing loss, the number one combat-related disability. It is not just in Canada; at the recent Hearing Loss Association of America convention I attended a special session for veterans and it was shocking to see how the young veterans out numbered the older ones. CHHA needs to find a way to provide support to military to help military personnel, both past and present, deal with their communication challenges.

So, if you know a young soldier or veteran who could benefit from our help let them know about us. We may not be able to fully appreciate their life on the battlefield, but we understand the life with hearing loss.



Sharon and Courtney preparing tax receipts and mail-outs before the Christmas break.

CHHA-BC Staff
are enjoying our
new office...
please visit us at:
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Chilliwack, BC V2P 4M9