



CHHA-BC Chatter...

CHHA-BC President Marilyn's Matters:

Marilyn Dahl



The Public Forum on Hearing Aid Costs and Concerns was a great success. The forum was co-sponsored by CHHA-BC Chapter; CHHA-VAN and CHHA-NS Branches.

Keynote speaker Gael Hannan, 'told it like it is' for the hard of hearing consumer. She stressed the absurdity of having

to 'save up to buy a hearing aid' the way one saves up to buy a car or house. Prices are out of reach for many, and subsidies largely non-existent, in BC.

Short presentations by the representatives of each of the stakeholders in the hearing aid industry helped to give the audience a broader view of the resources which exist to help us. This included the hearing aid provider; the manufacturer who produces the device; the Health Professions College which regulates professional performance of audiologists and hearing instrument practitioners who fit and sell hearing aids. The government Ministries (Health and Social Services) who set policy and oversee hearing health care also had one seat at the table.

Following a nutrition break, the audience had their chance to talk back and ask questions. Important issues were raised, and responded to by the panelists. Parents of hard of hearing children; young adults in the workforce and academe; older adults; the multi-handicapped; - all were represented in that audience. In their responses, the focus taken by those who manufacture and sell hearing aids was on getting subsidies, either from government, or third party sources, not on reducing prices for aids.



What comes next?

1. The committee is at work preparing recommendations to submit to appropriate targets. More on this later.
2. The forum was video-recorded and will appear with captions on a UBC website. Watch CHHABC sources for the link to be provided.
3. At the CHHA-BC AGM June 7th, 2014 a World Cafe will be held, to discuss next steps following on the recommendations from the Forum. You are invited.

Special thanks to members of the Organizing Committee for the Public Forum on Hearing Aid Costs and Concerns: Mike Hocevar, President CHHA North Shore Branch (publicity); Ruth Warick, President CHHA Vancouver Branch; Miron Gazda, Treasurer, CHHAVAN Branch; Charles Laszlo, CHHAVAN Branch (technical accessibility). Marilyn Dahl, President, CHHA-BC Chapter, (Chair, organizing committee).



Back by Popular Demand! The 2014 Hearing Health Fair, a FREE workshop open to the general public. Hosted by the Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WIDHH), this unique event will focus on hearing health care issues.

Features:

- Special Guest: Gael Hannan, www.gaelhannan.com, Hearing Loss Consultant and Advocate
- Free Hearing Screenings, Lectures, and Exhibit Hall
- Fully Hearing Accessible (Sign Language Interpreters and Real Time Captioning)
- Registered Audiologists on hand to answer questions - all day!
- Light refreshments
- Q & A Session: The Cost of Hearing Aids and Current Funding Options in BC

2014 Hearing Health Fair

Holiday Inn Vancouver Centre - Ballroom
711 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC

Wednesday, May 28, 2014 9:00am to 3:30pm

Come out and learn about your Ears and your Hearing! *Pre-Registration preferred, email info@widhh.com with the number of guests attending.*

For updates see the Events & News section of our website: www.widhh.ca



Join us May 22-24, 2014 in Toronto, ON for the CHHA National Conference. For more details visit: <http://chha.ca/conference/>

June 7, 2014

AGM

CHHA-BC is having their Annual General Meeting on June 7th, 2014.

If you are interested in joining us on that day please register online - <http://chha-bc.org/agm> or call the office at **1 886 888 2442** and let us know that you are going to attend.

Hope to see you there!

Stephanie's Speech reading classes are doing well each Tuesday afternoon from 1:30 PM—3:30 PM...

Are you interested in reducing stress and obtaining coping skills because of your hearing loss? Please contact us anytime for further information on further plans for speech reading.
info@chha-bc.org



MIX N' MINGLE EVENT

May 31st, 2014 - Saturday
11am to 2pm

A networking opportunity for D&HOH youths between ages of 13 and 18 to meet with D & HOH young adults

Children's Hearing and Speech Centre
3575 Kaslo Street
Vancouver BC, Canada V5M 3H4

Register at: <http://goo.gl/hhJfGr>

Contact: Bowen Tang & Joy Gong
chhayanpsp@gmail.com

* Food & refreshments provided

Speech reading course in Courtenay, BC

June 7th - 8th and 13th - 15th, 2014...

with Instructor; Linda Scarlett-Hauck

Please contact us for more information: info@chha-bc.org