



Canadian Hard of Hearing Association British Columbia Chapter

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The Loop Newsletter

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Welcome to the electronic version of The Loop Newsletter! This two page newsletter is emailed on a bi-monthly basis, thus please keep the office advised of any changes to your email address.

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A Perfect Companion

For many individuals with hearing loss, important everyday sounds may often go unheard. The chime of a doorbell or the buzz of an alarm are noises we all hope to hear yet often miss. Sharon Davis, long-time volunteer and member of CHHA-BC, now experiences these sounds a little differently. A recent graduate of the Lions Foundation of Canada's *Hearing Ear Program*, Sharon is now accompanied by a second pair of ears in the form of hearing ear dog, Eden. Having received extensive training, Eden is able to recognize important sounds in Sharon's environment, alerting her with a physical tap to the ringing of the telephone, a smoke alarm and the presence of others nearby (among other sounds). Sharon is very grateful to the Lions Foundation for providing her with a guide dog and to the Chilliwack Steller's Jay Lions Club for getting her started on her journey. "The impact [of having Eden] has been immediate and for the better," she shared. "Walking is so much easier. I sleep better. There is less strain and tension to hear or be more alert. It is a much calmer lifestyle." The support that the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides provides is ongoing, through different mediums, to ensure a successful experience. The training Sharon received with Eden as well as travel, room and board during this training were provided at no cost. This May, Sharon and Eden will be participating in the Walk for Dog Guides which raises funds to help train dog guides for Canadians. If you would like to show your support, please consider donating to this cause: <https://goo.gl/o65Dty>.



Sharon and hearing ear dog, Eden.

The Lions Foundation of Canada's mission is to assist Canadians with a medical or physical disability by providing them Dog Guides at no cost. To do this, the Foundation operates Dog Guides Canada, a preeminent national training school and charity that assists individuals with disabilities through specialized Dog Guide programs. For more information, please visit their website: <https://www.dogguides.com/>.



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CHHA “Hear by the Sea” Conference

May 25-27th 2017

Join us in celebrating CHHA National’s 35th Anniversary by attending the 2017 CHHA “Hear By the Sea” Conference in beautiful Sidney, BC!

The conference will take place at the lovely Mary Winspear Centre and participation is open to anyone interested in hearing loss or working in the field of hearing loss or hearing health related disorders.

You can look forward to Keynote Speaker Dr. Marshall Chasin (Hearing Loss: Getting the music back), Plenary Speakers—Dr. Douglas Beck (Issues in Tinnitus for Consumers) and Kathy Pichora-Fuller and Paul Mick (News for CHHA members about the Canadian Longitudinal Study of Aging), Exciting Workshops, AGM, Town Hall, Banquet Dinner and a special post-banquet performance of “I’m Hearing as Hard as I can!” a show about Living with Hearing Loss by Gael Hannan along with musical guests.

REGISTER TODAY: <http://www.chha.ca/conference/>

Hard of Hearing SAFETY VESTS

are now available at the Provincial Resource Centre courtesy of Assistive Listening Devices Systems (ALDS)! These vests provide visibility when walking, biking, or on the job. Vests come in either adult or child size. For more information and to place an order, please visit:

<http://chha-bc.org/donationsstore>



CHHA-BC Annual General Meeting

You are invited to also take part in the CHHA-BC AGM while attending the “Hear by the Sea” Conference.

Join us on **Friday, May 26th, 2017** at the Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney, BC!

Please note the change in time for our AGM which is now scheduled to begin at **4:45pm**.

Additional Resources:

- ⇒ “Horns, Hisses & Hugs (Activation)” by Gael Hannan. **READ MORE:** <https://goo.gl/YTboKb>
- ⇒ “Whazzat?” by Gael Hannan. **READ MORE:** <https://goo.gl/9FnHAQ>
- ⇒ “5 Things a Person With Hearing Loss Wants From an Audiologist ” by Shari Eberts. **READ MORE:** <https://goo.gl/OMBeCi>

Thank you for your continued support!