



# Canadian Hard of Hearing Association BC Youth Peer Support Program

## Eighth Annual Report – May 2021 to June 2022

**Mission:** To create a platform where DHH youth can be empowered to foster active leadership, provide peer support, advocate, and promote hearing awareness in their communities

### Family Weekend Camp – September 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021



After a hiatus in 2020 due to COVID, we were able to offer a smaller version of the Family Weekend Camp. 7 families with 25 participants altogether joined us for another weekend filled with fun memories. Even the pouring rain did not dimmer our energy!

### BC Buddies

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association  
Association des malentendants canadiens

BC Buddies presents

## Winter Wonderland

When: 2:30-4:30pm 11th December (Sat)  
Who: Kids age 6-12  
What: Games, penguin making & more!!  
How: Virtual via Zoom

Sign up with the link in the post or with this QR Code!

In July 2021, we hosted a special summer activity held in Queen Elizabeth Park. Participants were thrilled to see each other again and enjoyed the games, painting activities and picnic lunch. Due to the Omicron variant, we went back to virtual format for October, December 2021, and February 2022 with event themes: Halloween Party, Winter Wonderland and Games Hangout.

In the Okanagan region, 3 in-person activities were held in the Fall and Spring. Altogether 60 participants registered for the BC Buddies events. We will have an upcoming in-person event on May 28<sup>th</sup> in Surrey where participants will play mini-golf.

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association  
Association des malentendants canadiens

Photos from

### Girls art & yoga workshop

We collected nature items, and arranged these items on light-sensitive papers

With the use of sun and water, the areas of the exposed paper became activated!

Okanagan BC buddies

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association  
Association des malentendants canadiens

Photos from

### Boys art & slackline workshop

We found trees that were straight and 60 feet from each other, and the boys helped set up the slackline between the trees!

In the workshop, we learned that our vestibular system is part of our balance system and it is right beside our hearing organ!

Okanagan BC buddies

Last Saturday April 30th, we got together with a wonderful group of youth from the Okanagan region to create art to display at the Vernon Public Art Gallery.

Their art along with work from many other artists will be on display at the exhibit themed "What does hearing loss look like to you?" from May 26th-June 29th 2022.

We explored this concept in depth starting with a discussion about what comes to mind when we think about hearing loss.

## **Post-Secondary Transition Networking Night – May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Back by popular demand, we are pleased to host an online networking night for Grades 11 and 12 students who seek information about what to expect in post-secondary education. We will also have a panel portion of current post-secondary students sharing their experiences.

## **Family Fun Picnic – June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

In partnership with BC Hands & Voices, Family Network for Deaf Children and Provincial Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, we are bringing back the annual Family Fun Picnic. The PSP is represented by two volunteers, Renee and Sophia, to sit on the planning committee.

## **Program Transition**

As Bowen and Joy plan their transition out of the Peer Support Program, they developed an orientation guide which will be a reference for the successor. The guide includes information such as overview of services, planning and running events, safety protocols, conflict resolution, communication etiquettes, event marketing strategies, communication with CHHA-BC, and partner contacts. Budget, social media and website management have been handed over to CHHA-BC office to allow streamlining of information from one main channel.

## **SUMMARY OF SERVICES**

<b>Activity</b>	<b># of DHH population served (2021/22)</b>	<b># of DHH population served (2020/21)</b>
BC Buddies	60	45
Family Weekend Camp	25	N/A
Workshops	20	18
Referrals & Requests	10	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>83</b>

## **Acknowledgements**

We would like to recognize the volunteers and donors whose contribution have made all the activities possible:

### **Volunteers**

- Renee Fong
- Shahnaz Khan
- Sarah Lim
- Sophia Mincheva
- Cora Nelson
- Tyler Proctor
- Rishika Selvakumar
- Lisa Yu
- Ian Yuen
- Vivian Zhang

### **Donors**

- BC Gaming Grant
- Caldor Foundation
- CHHA Foundation
- CHHA North Shore Branch

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Gong & Bowen Tang  
Co-Founders & Directors  
May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022