

THE NORTH SHORE HARD OF HEARING BRANCH

March 10, 1995

Bulletin 1

**NEXT MEETINGS**

Thursday March 16, 1995 at 7:30 PM

There will be a presentation on "Development of Resource Centre for the Hard of Hearing on the North Shore". This should prove most interesting because this is an integral part of our VISION, as projected by our Branch.

We meet at the North Shore Disability Resource Centre located at 3140 Mountain Highway in North Vancouver. This is close to the corner of Mountain Highway and Lynn Valley Road.

May we see you there if you can make it. Call Mrs. Erica Barrett for transportation. She may perhaps be able to give you a lift or arrange for one.

Thursday April 20, 1995 at 7:30 PM

On that evening we will have a presentation by the North Vancouver Fire Marshal on the question of fire alarms and safety in various buildings for hard of hearing persons. This should be most informative and should not be missed.

Thursday May 18, 1995 at 7:30 PM

Read about the presentation for this meeting in our next bulletin. For now please mark your calendar.

**MEMBERSHIPS**

Recently at a regular business meeting, our Branch embarked on a modest membership drive during which it was discovered that some North and West Vancouver members of the national organization, (CHHA), were also members of the Vancouver Hard of Hearing Branch and were crossing the bridges to attend these meetings. We are encouraging these members to come and see us and perhaps undertake a membership with our Branch, as there is no need to cross a bridge to attend meetings with us.

Here is what we told these members in our letter among other things:

"As a self help group, we try to help ourselves with current information and to assist others. For instance we are planning to offer at some future date a speech reading (lip reading) course. A membership in our Branch would provide a grass root approach to what we are trying to do.

We meet about 10 times a year. 5 or 6 of these meetings are devoted to presentations, seminars, equipment displays, etc. by ENT physicians, audiologists, speech therapists, health care givers, and others, and the remaining meetings are for business purposes. We meet at the North Shore Disability Resource Centre which has a hearing loop system. If you have a T-Swith on your hearing aid, you would be able to hear all.

There is of course no compulsion to attend all of these meetings. However, if you do come to one of these presentations, it would give us an opportunity to share with you the result of our work and to listen to your comments and suggestions."

As you can see, we very much value your coming at these presentations when you can. Also if you know of someone who is hard of hearing, please direct that person to us, so that we can offer a membership in our branch.

#### DISABILITY TAX CREDIT

As mentioned by Sigi at the January 1995 meeting, it is quite difficult to obtain a disability tax credit. Revenue Canada limits the tax credit exclusively for those who "are markedly restricted in at least one of the basic activities of daily living". And then a Disability Tax Credit Certificate has to be signed by a physician certifying that the "impairment is severe enough to restrict the basic activity of daily living identified (hearing), all or almost all the time, even with the use of appropriate aids, devices, ...". Our national office in Ottawa, CHHA, has made some representation with our government to change the requirements for hard of hearing people.

#### RESOURCE PEOPLE

President	Monica Craver	980-2040
Vice President	Erica Barrett	980-6671
Memberships	Alfred Kobbeltvedt	985-2822