

# ((( SPEAK )))

## CHHA - NORTH SHORE BRANCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #7

DECEMBER 1995

### SEASON'S GREETINGS

This past year, the North Shore Board of Directors has initialized several ideas in order to succeed. but needs your input to implement and put these ideas into reality!

The last newsletter was issued with the hope of contributions and ideas, and also a form to help with various tasks in 1996

Please return these forms to:

Jean Taylor  
#115 - 145 West Keith Road  
North Vancouver, B.C.  
V7M 1L3

*Every little bit helps in order to succeed*

### NOTICE

The next meeting of the North Shore Branch will be held at the North Shore Disability Resource Centre, 3158 Mountain Highway, North Vancouver, BC  
**January 25 at 7:30 PM**

The featured speaker for this meeting will be Mr. Sipke Pijl, Director of Audiology, St. Paul's Hospital

Dr. Pijl will give a informative and interesting presentation on Cochlear Implants

Please attend this meeting! Invite your family and friends!  
An assistive listening system will be available

For Further information: Evan Hamilton at 987-3415  
If you require transportation, Lorna Calvert at 980-9135

### CHHA BC CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 17 & 18, 1995

Several members of our Branch attended the conference held at the Best Western Inn in Twassawen, BC which included six workshops by the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association - BC Chapter and the Elks Family Hearing Resource Centre of BC.

The first day of the conference included the following topics and speakers:

#### **"How To Help Your Hard of Hearing Child Develop A Positive Self-image"**

Chaired by: Lloyd Dahl, CHHA-BC  
Presenters: Marilyn Dahl, Consultant, Researcher  
Paul Costello, Family Counsellor,  
Teacher of the Deaf and  
Hard of Hearing

This workshop dealt with the importance of taking about your problems, finding meaning in your life, encouragement and praise and how to feel powerful over self and feel capable

#### **"A Panel Discussion With Teens and Adults: Living with a Hearing Loss"**

Chaired by: Dana Brynelson,  
Provincial Advisor. IDPBC  
Presenters: Ruth Warick, President, CHHA  
and Teens who are Hard of Hearing

Discussions and feedback during this workshop included the need to express your concerns about what is happening in your life to your friends and family

**" Parenting Challenges: Panel Discussion  
with Parents of Hard of Hearing Children  
and Youth"**

Chaired by: Susan Lane, Director,  
Elks Family Hearing  
Resource Centre

Presenters: Parents of Children and Youth  
who are Hard of Hearing

It was expressed by the parents to encourage social activities outside the home, how to schedule your time to reduce fatigue and pressure and do not talk about your child's deficiencies

**"What Parents, Consumers and Educators want  
from Government Services for the  
Hard of Hearing In B.C."**

Chaired by: Marla Gilsig,  
Vice-President, CHHA-BC

Presenters: Government Representatives,  
parents, educators and consumers

Hard of Hearing consumers need to lobby the Government for improved accessibility in public places and to reduce the price of items and to take responsibility to get the listening devices to reach the full potential of their skills and attributes

During the second day of the Conference, the following workshops were presented:

**"Access: What Does it Mean to Children and  
Adults Who are Hard of Hearing?"**

Presented by: Dr. Charles Laszlo, Director,  
Institute for Hearing Accessibility,  
University of British Columbia

Dr. Laszlo spoke on the vital need to provide an environment to enhance communication and the problems that the Hard of Hearing face in a hearing society. New technology also faces the challenge of electromagnetic interference, including improvement in public places.

**"Access: How Do We Get It?  
Working Together to Overcome Barriers for  
People Who are Hard Of Hearing"**

Presented by: Ruth Warick, Director,  
Disability Resource Centre,  
University of British Columbia  
Frank Jonasen, Director,  
Office for Disability Issues on  
Government Issues

During this session, Mr. Frank Jonasen spoke about the development of groups to coordinate disability issues within the New Directions of Health Care and the need to improve building codes with enforced safety guides and providing acoustical designs

Ms. Ruth Warick presented the difficulties in Post-Secondary Education such as when Hearing Instructors have when communicating with Hard of Hearing students, instructors are new, have accents, face the blackboard and group discussions. To resolve these problems, explain to the instructor that you are hard of hearing, seek help from the Disability Service and recruit a notetaker or tutoring service.

Ms. Ruth Warick expressed her appreciation that mothers of hearing impaired children were present at the Conference to voice their concerns and the urgent need to be active in the field of hearing impaired children

Following the workshops, the Annual General Meeting of CHHA-BC was held and members have passed the amendments of the Bylaws and presented them to Victoria to request that CHHA-BC come under the BC Society Act. If accepted, CHHA-BC will be notified by September of 1996

CHHA-BC has not heard yet from New Horizons as to whether they have received a grant to carry out their project "Managing Your Hearing Loss"

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is NISL?

Noise Induced Hearing Loss - Sounds of sufficient intensity and duration will damage the ear and result in temporary or permanent hearing loss. The hearing loss may range from mild to profound and may also result in tinnitus. The effect of repeated sound overstimulation is cumulative over a lifetime and is not currently treatable. Hearing impairment has a major impact on one's communication ability, and even mild impairment may adversely affect the quality of life. Unfortunately, although NISL is preventable, our increasingly noisy environment places more and more people at risk.

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### **DID YOU KNOW?**

That donations to the North Shore Branch are appreciated from any member or organization

All donations can be sent to:  
 Alfred Kobbeltvedt  
 1127 Lillooet Road  
 North Vancouver, B.C.  
 V7J 3H7

A tax receipt will be issued for all donations to the Branch

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### **SOUND FAMILIAR?**

"You say "YES" or "NO" in one or a few words. While many hearing people say "YES" or "NO" in a few hundred words, making it the most difficult task to comprehend and follow"

From "Hazards of Deafness"  
 by Roy K. Holcomb.

The publisher grants the rights to reproduce portions of this book without permission for the purpose of entertaining and educating deaf, hard of hearing and hearing persons.

## **INTERNATIONAL NOISE AWARENESS DAY**

**April 24, 1996**

On this day, a minute of silence would be appreciated, not only to commemorate the victims of noise, but also to experience at least for one minute, The feeling of *SILENCE*

Watch for more details in the next edition of this newsletter

### **SEA SITES AND SOUNDS**

CHHA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Victoria, B.C.

MAY 30 - JUNE 2, 1996

Registration kits are being mailed out to all CHHA members.

For further information,  
 please contact the CHHA Victoria Office  
 at (604) 388-6854 or the  
 Conference Coordinator,  
 Bob Sochowski at (604) 389-0825

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### **PLEASE SEND YOUR IDEAS FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO:**

EVAN HAMILTON  
 Upper Suite - 240 West 5th Street  
 North Vancouver, B.C.  
 V7M 1K1

All submissions for the newsletter must be received by the 15th of the Month in order to be announced

Without your input, the newsletter will not survive!!!

You can write about anything, perhaps a poem, a suggestion for a name for the newsletter, or an idea for a speaker.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MARCH 21**

**WATCH FOR DETAILS IN  
 NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER**