



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

2019

ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION

Supporting and empowering our members and associates to maximize the communication health for all people of Canada.

VISION

Ensuring all people of Canada achieve optimal communication health.



**Linda Rammage,
PhD, RSLP, S-LP(C)
SAC Chair**

***SAC is not an institution, SAC
is all of us as professionals
working together. We all have
something to offer.***

What advice do you have for members and associates who would like to become more involved in SAC?

Remember that members and associates are SAC! SAC is not an institution, SAC is all of us as professionals working together. We all have something to offer. Newer members of the professions are our future and we rely heavily on their enthusiasm to help us shape the future of our association and professions as a whole. Those of us who are not as new to the profession have clinical, educational, administrative and life experiences that cannot be replaced by book learning.

If you feel passionate about what you do, look for opportunities to share that passion with your colleagues by volunteering for a committee that focuses on your special area of interest and expertise, presenting a paper at SAC's conference, publishing your work in CJSLPA or suggesting topics for SAC's Professional Development Program. I encourage you to approach your colleagues who have worked on an SAC Committee, or approach a member of SAC's Board of Directors and let their enthusiasm motivate you! There are so many opportunities to get involved, regardless of where you are at in your career.



Where would you like to see the association in 10 years?

I think SAC has come a long way in the past 10 years and I look forward to what the next 10 years will bring for the association. As the national professional association for speech-language pathologists (S-LPs), audiologists and communication health assistants, SAC serves an important role in developing a common sense of pride in the professions across Canada. I would love to see every S-LP, audiologist and communication health assistant in Canada be a part of SAC. There is tremendous potential in all of us working together as one to advocate for communication as a basic human right.

It is important to remember that provincial regulators are focused on protecting the public in their respective provinces, but SAC represents you and your fellow professionals across the country. Over the next ten years, I would like to see SAC increase its contributions to policy development federally and provincially in areas that affect the professions. I would like the association to continue to be led by the grassroots membership and strengthen our role as a hub for information on communication health. Lastly, I would love to see SAC be able to expand our Career Development Program to include more opportunities for mentorship and peer-to-peer learning.



Joanne Charlebois
Chief Executive Officer

I am continually impressed by the calibre of our Board Directors and other volunteers and their commitment to their profession.

You will be retiring from SAC in 2020 after 9 years with the association. What were some of the highlights for you during your time at SAC?

The first highlight that comes to mind are the association's amazing members and associates. I am continually impressed by the calibre of our Board Directors and other volunteers and their commitment to their profession.

Your Board of Directors over the past 9 years have made some big decisions to future proof the association. Through it all, they remained committed to making the best decisions for their fellow members and associates. I want to recognize their valour and willingness to embrace new ideas.

In addition to our federal advocacy work, I am proud of our response to professional issues facing our members and associates across the country. For example, advocating for dedicated funding for S-LP positions in Nova Scotia, releasing official statements in support of S-LPs and audiologists in Saskatchewan and most recently providing a submission to the BC government on the impact of potential regulatory changes to the professions. Lastly, I would like to recognize SAC's expanded collaboration with like-minded associations nationally and internationally. Whether it is nationally at meetings with other Canadian health associations, or internationally through the International Communication Project and World Hearing Forum, SAC is seen as the national voice for communication health professionals in Canada.

The association has accomplished a great deal over the past 9 years thanks to our dedicated members and associates and I look forward to what the future brings for SAC.

The background of the page is a faded, grayscale image of a city scene. In the foreground, there's a bridge with a railing. In the background, a large, ornate castle or cathedral with multiple spires and towers is visible. The sky is bright and hazy. The overall tone is professional and serene.

Why do you think SAC is important to the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology in Canada?

SAC really is the voice of S-LPs, audiologists and communication health assistants. As an association we are constantly reframing our objectives to evolve with the changing needs of the professions and the changing professional landscape. At our 2018 Members and Associates Engagement Luncheon and through online surveys we heard that many members and associates had difficulty accessing affordable professional development, so we made all of our online professional development free for members and associates. Our audiology members told us that they were looking for in-person professional development focused solely on the profession of audiology. This feedback led to the first ever SAC Audiology Event in 2019. As the professions move towards a single entry to practice exam, SAC is using our three decades of experience administering exams to administer this brand new exam on behalf of the provincial regulators.

In terms of advocacy, SAC represents the needs of the professions by providing tools such as our SAC position statements and papers, to help members and associates advocate in their own community with the full weight of their national professional association behind them. Our 2019 Vote Communication Health Campaign is another example of SAC adapting to changing technology by providing online tools for our members and associates to advocate with one clear voice for issues that matter to them and their profession. To continue this advocacy we need the support of professionals across Canada. The more members and associates we have the greater our ability to advocate for the changing needs of the professions.

STRATEGY



Promote communication as a basic human right by advocating for access to optimal communication health services and supports across the lifespan.





I just received and reviewed the new position statements and am truly thankful! These are so valuable and will really help when advocating for funding and services for my clients with concussions. Just wanted to give positive feedback to SAC and the committee who created the statements. Well done!

SAC Member on the importance of SAC's position statements on concussion.

Input into the
Canadian Paediatric
Society's Guidelines on
Autism Spectrum Disorder

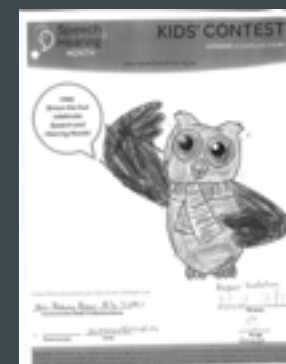
Joined
WHO's
World Hearing Forum

NEW
resources developed for
Speech and Hearing Month



255

submissions to our annual
Speech and Hearing Month
Kids Contest



VOTE
COMMUNICATION
HEALTH CAMPAIGN

- 3 areas of focus
- 1 online advocacy hub
- 122 social media posts across
- 4 social media platforms

2016 Report Card on Canadian Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Programs		
COUNTRY GRADE: Insufficient		
PROVINCIAL/TERMINAL	GRADE	REMARKS
Alberta	SUFFICIENT	Alberta has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
British Columbia	SUFFICIENT	British Columbia has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Manitoba	INSUFFICIENT	Manitoba's early hearing detection and intervention program needs improvement.
New Brunswick	INSUFFICIENT	New Brunswick's early hearing detection and intervention program needs improvement.
Newfoundland and Labrador	INSUFFICIENT	Newfoundland and Labrador's early hearing detection and intervention program needs improvement.
Northwest Territories	SUFFICIENT	Northwest Territories has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.

PROVINCIAL/TERMINAL	GRADE	REMARKS
Alberta	SUFFICIENT	Alberta has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
British Columbia	SUFFICIENT	British Columbia has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Manitoba	SUFFICIENT	Manitoba has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
New Brunswick	SUFFICIENT	New Brunswick has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Newfoundland and Labrador	SUFFICIENT	Newfoundland and Labrador has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Northwest Territories	SUFFICIENT	Northwest Territories has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Ontario	SUFFICIENT	Ontario has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Prince Edward Island	SUFFICIENT	Prince Edward Island has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Quebec	SUFFICIENT	Quebec has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Saskatchewan	SUFFICIENT	Saskatchewan has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.
Yukon	SUFFICIENT	Yukon has a strong early hearing detection and intervention program.

EHDI
REPORT CARD

- 1 Insufficient grade overall for Canada
- 7 insufficient grades for individual provinces and territories
- 13 unique report cards for each province and territory

Check out this great noise induced hearing loss brochure by @SAC_OAC, based on public health limits <70 dB avg daily exposure limited recommended by World Health Organization 2018.

SAC member sharing new Noise Induced Hearing Loss Brochure on social media.

STRATEGY



Champion
professional
excellence and
quality in service
delivery.



An aerial photograph of a city street, likely in New York City, showing a mix of historic and modern buildings, cars, and pedestrians. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing white text. The text is a quote from a SAC member, praising a committee and congratulating its members. The quote is in a bold, italicized font. Below the quote is a short horizontal line, followed by the attribution text in a standard font.

This was very well done and is a long time coming! So glad this committee was created. Good job and congratulations to you all.

Feedback from SAC member on Classroom
Acoustics Position Paper.

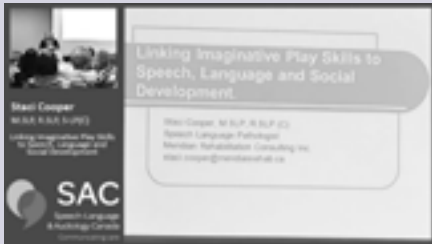


***Thanks for sharing this fantastic resource
with us and big congrats to the
team for this work which is of
international importance.***

Feedback from a Professor of Communication Disorders at the University
of Sydney after receiving a copy of SAC's Position Statement on the
Role of S-LPs in Concussion Management.

MOST VIEWED WEBCAST

Linking Imaginative Play Skills to Speech,
Language and Social Development, presented
by Staci Cooper



MOST VIEWED S-LP WEBINAR

Classroom-Based Language Intervention: Review
of Current Evidence, presented by Lisa Archibald



MOST VIEWED AUDIOLOGY WEBINAR

The Role of Audiologists in Concussion
Management: Position Statement, presented
by Greg Noel



1,530

registered participants for
SAC online professional
development events



4,622

videos viewed through
SAC's Webcast Library

3 SAC POSITION STATEMENTS

1 SAC POSITION PAPER

3 SAC CLINICAL RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED

First-ever **SAC AUDIOLOGY EVENT**

**2
DAYS**

of discussion on the
future of audiology

**28
SPEAKERS**

from around the world



The SAC
AUDIOLOGY
Event



CHARTING THE FUTURE OF THE PROFESSION

In about 10 years, this is the first conference that I feel catered to business owners in Audiology and tips for clinical practice / where the industry is going / what else can we do / what should we do! Please please please keep doing this!

SAC member after attending the SAC Audiology Event.

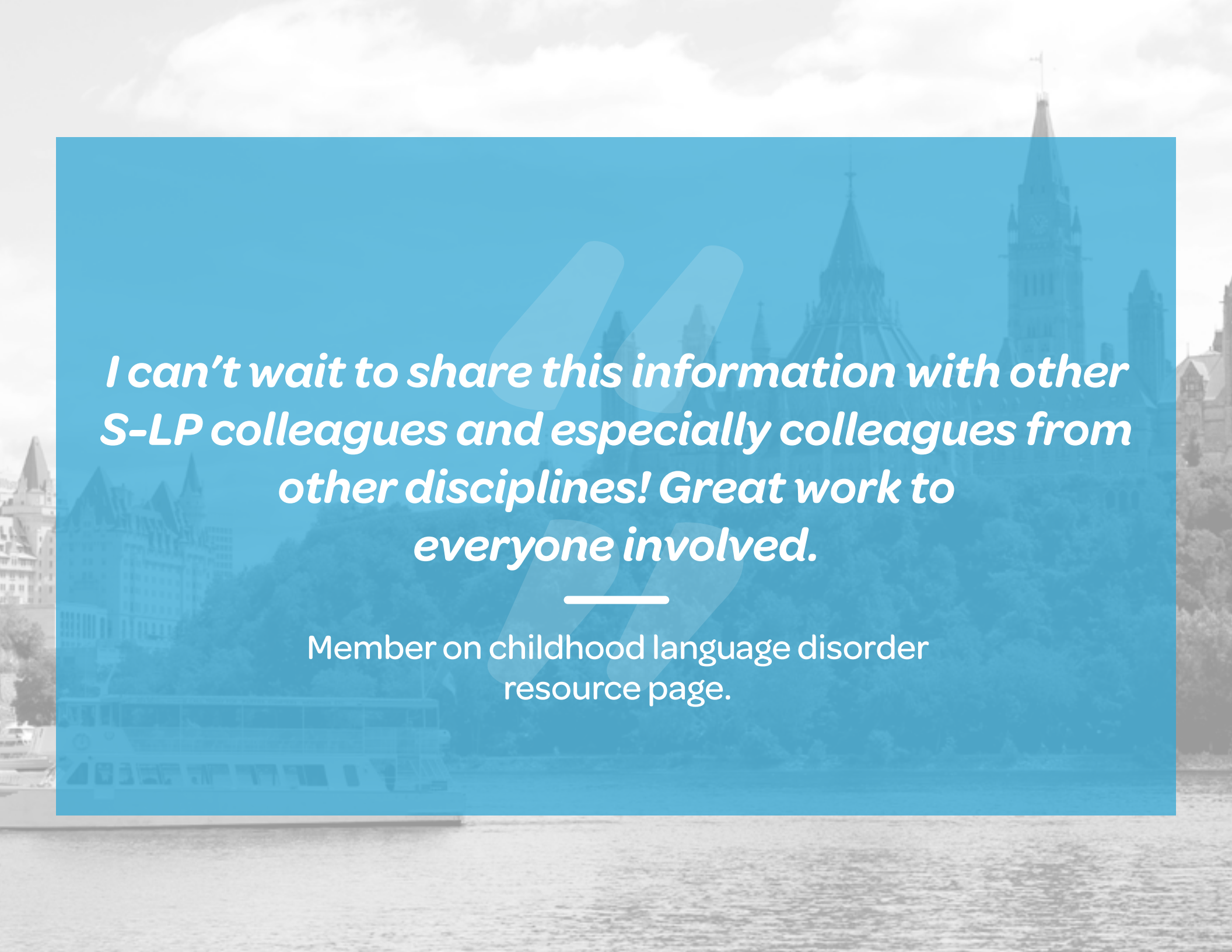
***I would absolutely attend this if it happens again over any other Canadian conference. Well thought out, novel, interactive, new speakers, different format, location, easiness all so very welcome.
Loved keynote!***

SAC member after attending the SAC
Audiology Event.

STRATEGY



Establish Speech-
Language &
Audiology Canada
as the central hub
for communication
health in Canada.

The background of the slide is a grayscale photograph of a city skyline, likely Toronto, featuring prominent Gothic Revival architecture with tall spires and a clock tower. A large, semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the image, covering most of the frame. In the center of this blue area, there is white text. A faint, large, stylized 'W' or 'U' shape is also visible behind the text.

I can't wait to share this information with other S-LP colleagues and especially colleagues from other disciplines! Great work to everyone involved.

Member on childhood language disorder resource page.

A black and white photograph showing the upper portion of a large, ornate building, likely a university hall. A tall, slender clock tower with a pointed roof and a clock face is visible on the right side. The building's architecture features multiple gables and decorative elements. In the foreground on the left, there is a large, leafy plant, possibly a tree or a large bush, which partially obscures the view of the building. The sky is a uniform, light gray, suggesting an overcast day. The overall tone is academic and historical.



2 NEW

Online resource pages
focusing on childhood
language disorder and
classroom acoustics

SAC Resource Page

New Criteria and Terminology for Childhood Language Disorder in Canada

This resource was developed by SAC members:

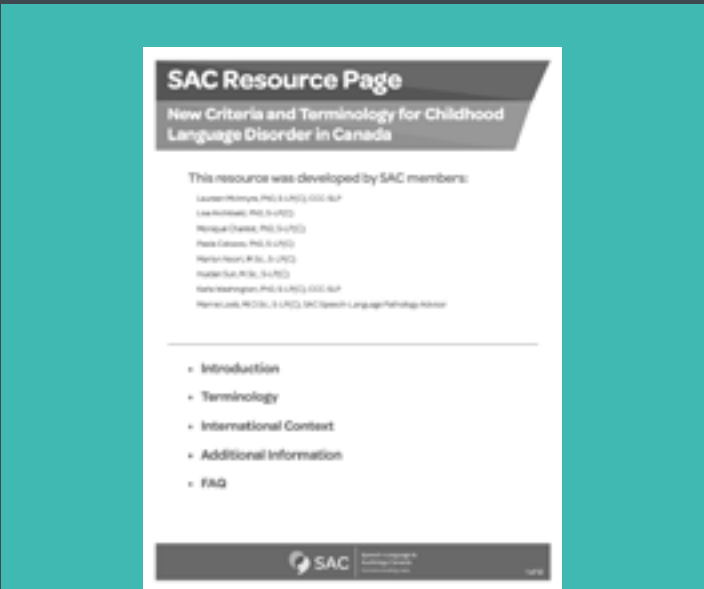
Lucette Plomin, PhD, CLS, CCC-SLP
 Lisa Archibald, PhD, CLS, CCC
 Monique Charney, PhD, CLS, CCC
 Peter Colvins, PhD, CLS, CCC
 Helen Heath, MSc, CLS, CCC
 Heather Gao, PhD, CLS, CCC
 Kate Manning, PhD, CLS, CCC-SLP
 Helen Cook, PhD, CLS, CCC, SAC Speech-Language Pathology Advisor

- Introduction
- Terminology
- International Context
- Additional Information
- FAQ



Speech-Language Association of Canada
 Association canadienne de la
 orthophonie et de la audiologie

1-877-303-3030



MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES IN THE NEWS

Regina Catholic School Division eliminating speech instruction positions

CTV News Regina



Featuring SAC member Cari Thiele, S-LP(C)

Ontario builds first-of-its-kind screening program to help children with hearing loss

The Globe and Mail



Featuring SAC member Marlene Bagatto, Aud (C)

Researchers say new technology helps some patients with neck and tongue cancer relearn how to swallow food

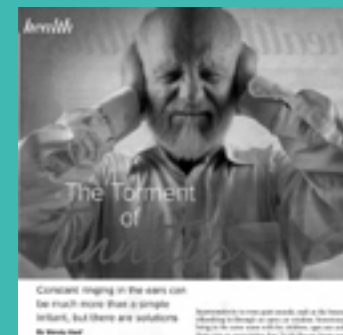
The Globe and Mail



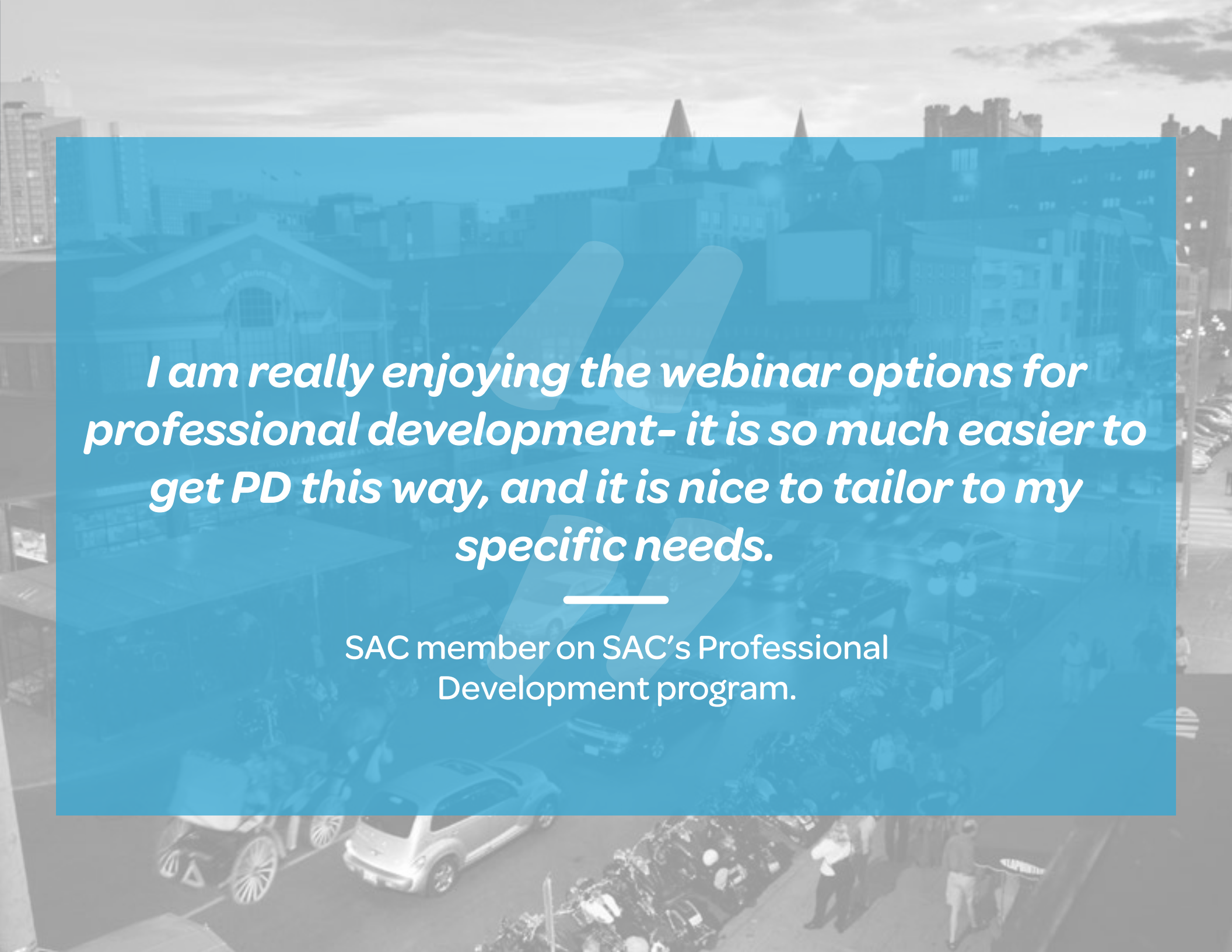
Featuring SAC 2nd Vice Chair Jennifer Cameron-Turley, S-LP(C) and SAC members Jana Rieger, S-LP(C) and Gabriela Constantinescu, S-LP(C)

The Torment of Tinnitus

Goodtimes.ca



Featuring SAC member Rodney Taylor, Aud(C)

An aerial photograph of a city street, likely in New York City, showing a mix of historic and modern buildings, parked cars, and pedestrians. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing white text and a large white number '4'.

I am really enjoying the webinar options for professional development- it is so much easier to get PD this way, and it is nice to tailor to my specific needs.

SAC member on SAC's Professional Development program.

STRATEGY



Ensure a resilient
and sustainable
Speech-Language
& Audiology
Canada.





I would again like to express my heartfelt thanks for the SAC's support in helping to realize my plans for future participation in professional issues. Thank you again for financially contributing to my research and personal development through this generous award.

SAC Scholarship Recipient.

67

**SAC Career Development
Program mentor/mentee
pairings**

233

**SAC student associate New Grads
became members or associates
of SAC**

62

**Applications for SAC Ad
Hoc and Standing
Committees**

61

**Applications for SAC
Scholarships**

\$4,850

**Donated by SAC members and
associates to help support SAC's
Clinical Research Grants Program,
SAC Scholarship Program
and CJSIPA**

**SAC members and
associates live in**

67

different countries

96%

**Of SAC members and
associates renewed with
SAC for 2019**

3%

**Growth in SAC
membership**

6963

**SAC members
and associates**



The background of the slide is a grayscale photograph of a city street with multi-story buildings and parked cars. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the image, and a large, light-blue number '4' is centered behind the text.

Thank you for organizing such a program. These types of opportunities are very helpful for new graduates, as we can learn so much from others with experience in the field who are willing to share their time and knowledge.

Career Development Program Mentee.

SOCIAL

MEDIA

Statistics on our
Twitter, Facebook,
Instagram and
LinkedIn from
2019.

—

TWITTER

4.62%

increase in Twitter
Followers

262

New Followers

354

Tweets mentioning
@SAC_OAC

Average
Impressions/month:

28.7K

TOP TWEETS

Top Tweet earned 2,090 impressions

Early identification of speech, language and communication challenges can prevent subsequent problems in literacy and learning. Canada needs a national approach to the delivery of s-lp services
bit.ly/2IB4FwO
#votecommunicationhealth #slpeeps
#audpeeps #ItsOurVote
pic.twitter.com/WQ3Vsihqkp

Children in Canada deserve access to timely and affordable speech-language pathology services.



votecommunicationhealth.ca

13 9 10

← **Liked**
by Julie Sorhaitz and Dr Tricia McCabe

 **Leanne Togher** @LeanneTogher · 5h
Congrats to my wonderful #slp colleagues in Canada who have worked to produce this important document and to @SAC_OAC for supporting this work

 **Dr Tricia McCabe** @trcmc · 17h
One for you @daniellebstone and @ElliottUSyd
twitter.com/sac_oac/status...

💬 ↻ ❤️ 2 ↗

FACEBOOK

7,928

Facebook followers
in 2019

13%

increase in
Facebook Likes

TOP POSTS

Post Details

Speech-Language & Audiology Canada
Published by Emily Goucher-Sarrett · 14 · 13 September 2019 · [Like Page](#)

We need a national approach to the delivery of speech-language pathology services for children and adolescents that will help address service delivery gaps and improve the educational, social, emotional and financial prospects for children in Canada.

As many as
60%
of young offenders have
speech, language and
communication difficulties.

votecomunicationhealth.ca

SAC

Performance for your post

26,477 People Reached

889 Reactions, comments & shares

Reaction	On post	On shares
Like	474	375
Love	26	19
Wow	37	44
Tot	41	38
Comments	57	52
Shares	295	3
Photo posts	119	955
Like video	2	
Other video		

1,076 Post Clicks

6 Hide post

2 Hide all posts

0 Report as spam

0 Leave Page

Reported stats may be different from what appears on posts

Hyperacusis Research

8 May at 10:11 · [Like as your Page](#)

This nice graphic showing decibel levels comes from Speech-Language & Audiology Canada. Notice that 70 dB is listed as the "safe noise threshold," which is more accurate than the 85 dB level often cited. The 85 dB number is an industrial standard that is often misapplied and misinterpreted. 85 dB is far too high for most people.

Noise risk is a complex equation also involving duration of exposure and individual susceptibility, which is often neglected as an important factor.

SCALE OF NOISE EXPOSURE

60 dB: Normal Conversation

85 dB: Motorcycles

90 dB: Lawnmower

94 dB: Electric Blender

106 dB: Rock Concert

112 dB: Noise Threshold of an adult's ear

110-120 dB: Loud Computer Speaker

120 dB: Ambulance Siren

140 dB: Jet Engine

70 dB: Safe Noise Threshold (WHO, 2000)

Increasing risk of hearing loss (WHO, 2000)

Chantal Kealey, Niall Anthony Brunton and 9 others

1 Comment · 6 shares

[Like](#) [Comment](#) [Share](#)

INSTAGRAM

Launched in August 2019

387

Instagram Followers

43

New Posts

TOP POST



TOP 9 OF 2019



LINKEDIN

4,658

**Linkedin
Followers**

1,548

**visits to SAC's
Linkedin Page**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

CHAIR

Linda Rammage, **S-LP(C)**

1ST VICE-CHAIR

Jennifer O'Donnell, **S-LP(C)**

2ND VICE-CHAIR

Jennifer Cameron-Turley, **S-LP(C)**

DIRECTOR

Colleen Braun-Janzen, **S-LP(C)**

DIRECTOR

Andrea Bull, **Aud(C)**

DIRECTOR

Janet Campbell, **S-LP(C)**

DIRECTOR

Amanda Reindorp-Young, **Aud(C)**

DIRECTOR

Merrill Tanner, **S-LP(C)**

DIRECTOR

Sharon Walker, **S-LP(C)**

DIRECTOR-UNIVERSITY

Andrea MacLeod, **PhD**

DIRECTOR-COMMUNICATION HEALTH ASSISTANT

Gillian Purdy

DIRECTOR-STUDENT

Keara Boyce, student at Dalhousie
University