



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CASLPA Applauds Re-introduction of Private Member's Bill on Noisy Toys

OTTAWA (April 6, 2009) – The Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA) praised Member of Parliament, Judy Wasylycia-Leis today for her proactive steps to help ensure the health of our children's hearing.

The current *Hazardous Products Act* bans toys emitting noise levels exceeding 100 decibels. Audiologists feel that this level is too high. Ms. Wasylycia-Leis' Private Member's Bill would see this piece of legislation revised to allow only 75 decibels as the maximum level.

"CASLPA has worked hard over the past few years, informing the public and Members of Parliament of the dangers of noisy toys," commented CASLPA Executive Director Ondina Love. "Ms. Wasylycia-Leis is a proven champion for this issue. She first announced last May that she would be taking proactive steps to ensure the health of our children's hearing through her tabling of a Private Member's Bill."

On April 2nd, Ms. Wasylycia-Leis introduced Bill C-357, *An Act to amend the Hazardous Products Act (noise limit for children's products)*. "This is thrilling news for CASLPA," continued Love. "The re-introduction of this Bill will lead to the protection of the hearing health of Canadian children."

The announcement will come just as health and education professionals prepare to celebrate Speech and Hearing Awareness Month, which begins May 1st. Thousands of professionals involved with the treatment of speech, language and hearing disorders such as audiologists, speech-language pathologists and supportive personnel come together to participate in public awareness campaigns that encourage early detection and prevention of communication disorders.

"CASLPA continues to appreciate Ms. Wasylycia-Leis' dedication to the hearing health of Canadian children and we are excited to support her as she moves forward with this very necessary Bill," concluded Love.

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CASLPA, with more than 5,400 members, is the only national body that supports and represents the professional needs of speech-language pathologists, audiologists and supportive personnel inclusively within one organization. Through this support, CASLPA champions the needs of people with communications disorders. Visit CASLPA at www.caslpa.ca.

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