

May is Speech and Hearing Awareness Month

Many of us take our hearing and ability to speak for granted. Whether we are talking with a group of friends, playing a sport or listening to the radio, our ability to communicate is vital in our everyday activities. For one in ten Canadians however, speech, language or hearing problems are a daily challenge. These communication disorders significantly affect the work, school and social aspects of the lives of tens of thousands of Canadians, of all ages. Few of us could ever know the isolation and frustration they face.

The Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA), and our 4,600 members across the country are working together throughout the month of May to raise public awareness concerning the professions and the many issues surrounding speech, language and hearing disorders. Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists work daily with Canadians of all ages to help them deal with many different types of communication disorders. As reflected in this year's theme, these professionals **"Care About Communication!"** Whether working with an autistic child, or a person recovering from a stroke, they strive tirelessly to help improve the quality of life and health of the people they serve.

May Month promotes and celebrates both the professions and the contributions made by speech-language pathologists and audiologists to the health of our country. Watch for exciting events in your community such as hearing screenings, speech clinic open houses, contests, radio talk shows and other activities.

CASLPA is a not-for-profit association supporting the professional needs of its members through a wide variety of services, programs, and personal benefits, including a national certification program for individuals and accreditation for facilities. If you would like to know more, please visit our website www.calspa.ca or contact your provincial Speech and Hearing Association.

One in ten Canadians has a speech, language, or hearing disorder. If you suspect a problem, contact a professional. Check the yellow pages or visit our Web site www.caslpa.ca to find a speech-language pathologist or audiologist near you.

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Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists -Caring About Communication!