



CHHA Vancouver 2013-14 Annual Report: Highlights

The event highlight of the year was the Hearing Aid Forum on April 26, 2014. The one day public Forum, was held in conjunction with the BC Chapter and North Shore Branch of CHHA, at the Vancouver Public Library Square Conference Centre. Keynote speaker was Gael Hannan who was followed by a multidisciplinary panel of representatives, including a hearing aid dispenser, a manufacturer of hearing aids, a BC Government representative, and the registrar of the College of Speech and Hearing health Professionals.

The event was videotaped which can be viewed by going to the BC CHHA Chapter website or [Chttp://mediasitemob1.mediagroup.ubc.ca/Mediasite/Play/e8975fb848d542c4b863e7d4a2e891631d](http://mediasitemob1.mediagroup.ubc.ca/Mediasite/Play/e8975fb848d542c4b863e7d4a2e891631d) for Part 1, and to the following site for CHHA Part 2: <http://mediasitemob1.mediagroup.ubc.ca/Mediasite/Play/4bc421719fc843a78fddab156c61381b1d>

Following the Forum, recommendations were forwarded to the BC Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation, BC Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists, Hearing Instrument Practitioners Society of B.C. and the College of Speech and Hearing Health Professionals of B.C.

A media article was published in the Georgia Straight Forum based on interviews with Gael Hannan, Marilyn Dahl and Charles Laszlo.

In other events of the year, the Branch held a Chinese luncheon social occasion to welcome in the New Year on January 18, 2014. On February 14, 2014, we were hosted by Janet Weil, Director of Children's Hearing and Speech Centre and toured the facility

Representatives from the Branch attended the CHHA BC AGM and World Café on June 7, 2014 in Surrey; as well representatives attended the CHHA National Conference in Toronto from May 22 to 24, 2014.

CHHA Vancouver continued its support for hard of hearing youth and donated \$2,500 to enable young people to attend the CHHA National Conference. Again, British Columbia had the largest contingent of young people attending the national conference.

Members of the CHHA Branch Executive

Ruth Warick, President
Rosalind Ho, Vice-President
Miron Gazda, Treasurer
Shirley Coomber, Secretary
Tasha Cox, Member-at-large
Marilyn Dahl, Past President

Our thanks to Suzan Zagar for maintaining the CHHA Vancouver website and to Accurate Realtime Captioning for their continued excellent service.

Report respectfully submitted on November 15, 2014
Ruth Warick on behalf of CHHA Vancouver Branch Executive

Appendix A



Raising Awareness and Funds for Hearing Loss Prevention

Thanks to all of our wonderful supporters, the fourth annual CHHA Vancouver Walk2hear on September 28th, 2014 at Vancouver's pristine Jericho Beach raised \$10,600 for Hearing Loss Awareness and Prevention.

Organizers for the walk are thrilled with the outcome and feel the funds raised will make it possible for the Branch to raise awareness about hearing loss and the importance of hearing loss prevention. Prevention is crucial whether you currently have excellent hearing, or have a hearing loss and wish to retain the hearing you have. Members of the walk organizing committee from CHHA Vancouver included Ruth Warick, Shirley Coomber, Tasha Cox, Marilyn Dahl, Miron Gazda, Rosalind Ho, and Elissa Robb.

Close to 100 people participated in the walk including the CHHA Young Adults Network which had a virtual Walk2Hear but also walked in solidarity with CHHA Vancouver on September 28th.

Competition for top place for raising funds was stiff with the UBC School of Audiology and Speech Sciences team edging out the Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for the top team prize. Ruth Warick (1st) and Dorothy Ng (2nd) were neck-and-neck for the most funds raised by an individual.

A key feature was the draw by Miron Gazda for the grand prize from the Air Canada Foundation for two Economy Class return tickets for travel to any Air Canada scheduled destination in North America. Susan Hua Tang was the winner of the grand prize!

The Triple A Team of sponsors/contributors included Accurate Realtime Reporting Inc., which donated captioning services for the event and Advanced Bionics, which had an information table at the walk. The Air Canada Foundation rounded out the Triple A Team.

A brochure about the impact of noise on hearing was unveiled by the CHHA Vancouver Branch at the event. The brochure noted that normal conversation is at a comfortable 60 decibels. A drill is at 120 decibels and dangerous after just a few seconds.

Respectfully submitted on Nov. 15, 2014
Walk2Hear2014 Organizing Committee
Ruth Warick
Shirley Coomber
Miron Gazda
Rosalind Ho
Tasha Cox
Elissa Robb
Marilyn Dahl