



### **Annual Report 2016-2017 of the CHHA Vancouver Branch**

CHHA Vancouver is a self-help, consumer group which provides advocacy, support and educational activities for successful living with a hearing loss. During the past year we continued our active engagement in hearing loss issues at national and local levels as well as offered a range of educational and awareness activities for our membership.

#### **Walk2Hear**

We held our seventh annual Walk2Hear campaign, on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Jericho Beach Park. Approximately 60 walkers participated in the community engagement and fundraising event. Once again we were blessed by favorable weather. A new web platform was used for the Walk, and thanks to the work of Rosalind Ho our Vice-President for adapting the Canada Helps platform for our use. We were able to save significantly on web costs and to retain most of the close to \$5,000 raised from the event. Accurate Realtime Inc. sponsored captioning services and the Air Canada Foundation provided two travel tickets to anywhere in North America for our featured draw garnered by Treasurer Miron Gazda. Doreen Laszlo was the winner of the grand prize. Ruth Warick and Rosalind Ho were top individual fundraisers and top teams were the Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the UBC School of Audiology and Speech Sciences. The CHHA Young Adults Network also participated in the walk and used the same website for their event.

Our thanks to Mark Johnstone for the Walk2Hear photos on this and the subsequent pages.





## Educational Programs

**Dr. Joanna Cannon**, Associate Professor in the Department of education and Counselling Psychology & Special Education at The University of British Columbia was our guest speaker at the 2016 Annual General meeting held on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. She spoke about language: form content and use, addressing the question of how focusing on these elements increases language and literary acquisition.



**Dr. Kelly Tremblay**, Professor at the University of Washington in Seattle and a member of the Board of Trustees for the Hearing Loss Association of America was the guest speaker on the topic of Hearing Aids and the Brain on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. She discussed communication difficulties experienced by people with age-related hearing loss and the difference that auditory rehabilitation can make to their well-being.



**Susan Flynn**, Audiologist and Trainer for GN Resound, Western Canada discussed Connectivity and the Future of Hearing on February 20, 2017. She discussed the changes in design and development of hearing aids and benefits to the consumer of advances in the auditory field.