



Winter 2022



SDHHS

Saskatchewan Deaf and
Hard of Hearing Services

Bridging the Gap

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Check us out on:

Facebook



Instagram



Social Media
Handle

@sdhhsinc

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Phone

306-665-6575

Skype

saskatoon@sdhhs.com

Emergency Interpreter

Can contact an *Emergency Interpreter **after hours**.

Emergencies such as:

- Arrested or charged by the police
- Emergency health issue at hospital
- 911

Toll Free Phone

1-800-667-6575

Facetime

sdhhsapple@icloud.com

Text or Facetime: 1-306-514-7644 or

Skype: sdhhs911

Text

306-229-2010

Fax

306-665-7745



www.sdhhs.com

REGINA OFFICE

#2343 Broad St. Regina, SK S4P-1Y9

SASKATOON OFFICE

#3-511 1st Ave N. Saskatoon, SK S7K 1X5

Vision & Values

SDHHS has been serving Saskatchewan since 1981

OUR MISSION

To support the independence of Deaf, Deafened, and Hard of Hearing people by providing services which enhance their quality of life.

OUR VISION

A world without barriers for people who are Deaf, Deafened, or Hard of Hearing.

OUR VALUES

- Communication with respect, dignity, and cultural sensitivity.
- Collaboration and cooperation among individuals and communities.
- Self-determination, empowerment, and choice.
- Operational integrity and accountability that inspires trust.
- Accessibility.



Who we are:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Paulette Smith..... President
Michelle Grodecki..... Vice President
Jessica Tiefenbach..... Secretary
Art Hillcox..... Treasurer
Mustafa Alabssi..... Director
Fatima Nafisa..... Director
Gale Estell..... Director
Leslie Dunn..... Director
Shelly Carver..... Director
Allard Thomas..... Director
Patti Trofimenkoff..... Director
Gord Hein..... Past President

REGINA OFFICE:

Karen Nurkowski..... Interpreter

Patti Spicer..... Vocational Worker &
Early Childhood and
Family Services

Rae-Mairi Richardson..... Sign Support Professional

SASKATOON OFFICE:

Nairn Gillies..... Executive Director
Kami Harbidge..... Executive Assistant
Human Resources
Finance

Ren Perra..... Office Coordinator

Sue Schmid..... Interpreter
Brandie Radcliffe..... Interpreter

Jody Thompson..... Vocational Worker &
Youth Worker

Robyn Holmes..... Early Childhood, Youth
and Family Services

Krissy Haines..... Sign Support Professional

Nicole Musey..... 4C Preschool Teacher
SonJa Van Ee..... Education Assistant
Ashley Bucknall..... Education Assistant
Robyn Holmes..... Substitute EA
Adam Stratychuck..... Substitute EA

A BIG Thank you to the Board and Staff of SDHHS for all your work!

Thank You!

FREELANCE CNS PROVIDERS

Donna Whitelaw
Rhonda Leier
Heather Reynoldson

FREELANCE INTERPRETERS

Carla Klassen
Maureen Stuart
Krissy Haines
Barb Froese

ASL Facilitators

Janet Dittrick
Burton Bird
Adam Stratychuk
Nicole Musey

ASL INSTRUCTORS

Twyla Chartrand
Caroline Bergbusch
Rae-Mairi Richardson

JANITORIAL STAFF

Evan Auger
Huda Kayed

VOLUNTEERS

Rebecca Read
Bron Nurkowski
Burton Bird
Keith Zimmerman
Kainat Wahid
Mustafa Alabssi
Fatima Nafisa
Eva Spicer
Isaac Marsden
Bob Hutchinson
Lucille Hutchinson
Madison Harbidge
Dianne St. Pierre
Dorothy Ackerman
Lydia Storey
Betty Hall
Adam Stratychuk
Nicole Musey
Madison Harbidge



Executive Director's Message

Nairn Gillies

Covid-19 has struck our province in a fourth wave and this one showed up in our office. In consultation with Staff and Board, we went to remote services for 3 weeks and were able to reopen as of February 7. I am currently back in office while others are self-isolating. Staff who test positive, are still working from home.

The 4C Preschool in Saskatoon had several meetings and discussions about how best to ride out the fourth wave. These discussions included the 4C Preschool Staff, Parents, Kami, and myself. We decided to follow the Saskatoon greater Catholic school division procedures.

The SDHHS staff has developed a greater cohesion and is working effectively as a team. The work our Staff have been doing to be inclusive for all d/Deaf and Hard of Hearing has been spectacular. The team has produced accessible videos and resource materials for d/Deaf and Hard of Hearing to access literacy online. Our ASL children's stories have caught the attention of agencies nationwide, from Vancouver Island to Nova Scotia. And we have been working with many other organizations across Canada to raise the standards of service. The Canadian Association of the Deaf (CAD) has been supportive and responsive to the need for teacher training and ASL proficiency screening for Teachers and Interpreters. SDHHS continues to host a Deaf Book Club, youth events, senior's coffee, and promote inclusion for language and literacy access for everyone.

We have taken on two Interpreter Training Program students so far this year, one is Rachel who is doing fabulous. She is from Saskatchewan so there is a good chance she will make her home here in the province. She is very gifted and would be an asset wherever she goes. The second student will start in Regina soon.

I want to recognize all of the Staff for their flexibility; they were able to pack up and provide services remotely in an instant and then reopen the offices, with no troubles. Each staff has gone above and beyond to support the community.

When I asked, "What were the positive things that happened this quarter?" most staff talked about how we were able to provide services no matter what the circumstance. The youth have been very active. There is a growing feeling of hope that soon, the pandemic will be over.

It is again an honour to serve such a wonderful community.

Sincerely, Nairn Gillies

Interpreting

Karen Nurkowski (Regina) - Sue Schmid (Prince Albert)
Brandie Radcliffe (Saskatoon) - Rachel Hildebrand (Student)

Happy February to everyone from the SDHHS Interpreting team,

*No situation is too small or too big for our
interpreting team.*

*In-person or online ASL interpreting
is available*



During the chaotic spread of covid our office will close from time to time, this does not affect the interpreting department. There will be interpretation available for anyone requesting interpreting.

For interpreting, please contact Ren, our Office Coordinator at the front desk with the details. The office is open 8:00am – 4:00pm, Monday to Friday. To get the contact information, please go to page 3 here, in the Newsletter. Ren will process the requests.

We are happy to have the technology to support our community. The team here at SDHHS is working daily to ensure that we can continue to provide support and services.

SDHHS is excited to introduce **Rachel Hildebrand**! She is an ASL Interpreting student attending the Red River College Interpreter Training Program located in Winnipeg. Rachel is completing her 7-week practicum with SDHHS and has been working in both Regina and Saskatoon. She is from a community just north of Saskatoon. Give her a warm Saskatchewan welcome if you see her around. We are privileged to have this opportunity to support new up and coming Interpreters in a safe and welcoming environment.

We look forward to warmer weather and all the opportunities ahead.

The **best** and most
Beautiful things
in the **World** cannot be
seen or even
Touched. They must be
Felt with the **heart**

-Hellen Keller

More about the Interpreter Service: <http://sdhhs.com/2020/12/02/interpreting/>

Vocational Education & Employment

Patricia Spicer (Regina) - Jody Thompson (Saskatoon)

We are very excited to begin the new year with consumers on adventures. A dream written down with a **DATE** becomes a goal. A goal broken down into **STEPS** becomes a plan. A plan backed by **ACTION** makes your dreams come true. This is exactly what we are working on with our consumers!

We wanted to share a success story with you!

Burton's lifetime career dream was to drive a skid steer. A skid steer is a small, versatile piece of construction equipment used primarily for digging. It's light and maneuverable, and its arms can attach to a range of tools for various construction jobs, snow moving, and landscaping!

Through the individualized funding we receive from the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training (MICT), SDHHS was able to provide ASL Interpreters and a Sign Support Professional for his two-day training. The Sign Support Professional assisted him in reading and studying prior to his training so that he was comfortable and familiar with the knowledge learned from his two-day training course. He has now successfully completed his skid steer training and is certificated! We are so proud of you, Burton! Congratulations!



The ASL/ESL classes for registered consumers will be starting soon and will run as 3 or 4 day sessions depending on the focus topics. Also, we will provide workshops later this year – rules and regulations permitting. If you would like to get information on classes, workshops, job searching, or other education or employment supports, please email one of us to get registered with the Vocational Counseling department here at SDHHS!

We are looking forward to working with you on your goals!

Sincerely,
Patricia Spicer & Jody Thompson

Contact e-mails: patti@sdhhs.com or jody@sdhhs.com

Sign Support Professional

Rae-Mairi Richardson (Regina) - Krissy Haines (Saskatoon)

The journey to empower and encourage individuals on Team SSP continues!

The need for barrier breaking in 2022 is huge. For our d/Deaf and Hard of Hearing community all over the province facing isolation is real, and we are brainstorming to find ways to reach out and pitch in where we can.

As an advocate and support team, Rae-Mairi and Krissy have a unique set of skills that when combined, create a holistic support approach where they can formulate a specific plan that best accommodates the need to fill gaps, while empowering individuals to seek out and walk their own path.

Providing specific supports, whether it be in ASL, adapting with PISL, SEE, other sign languages, or the need to have English broken down and clarified/Sign Language adapted to English, the collaboration creates a positive environment to learn, grow, and retain language. Krissy's background in interpreting and Rae-Mairi's background as a DI shows different businesses how we model full access to language.



Early Childhood & Family Services

Patricia Spicer (Regina) - Robyn Holmes (Saskatoon)

The Early Childhood & Family Services staff hope you all are taking it one day at a time!

I, Robyn, have enjoyed working at the 4C Preschool and thank you Nicole for giving me the experience working with you. I'm continuing to work with families that are registered with ECFS. Things are still challenging with the freezing weather, Covid-19 & flus going around and I hope things will become better - taking it one day at a time! I am very thankful to have the technology to keep us connected.

The December Holiday Cheer event was truly successful in Regina and Saskatoon. It was wonderful to see many faces that we haven't seen for awhile. Lots of people also hashtagged the photos from their adventures on our Social Media. Many thanks to Santa for flying back and forth to Saskatoon and Regina. Also, many thanks to our elves for wrapping the gifts and being drivers too! After we hosted the Holiday Cheer, we had a Magician, Magic Morgan, on Zoom from Florida. Here's a sneak-peak of the day on our Facebook:

<https://fb.watch/aTOx5rXZOv/>



Robyn started working on a new Parent Handout for new referrals, and a presentation for future meetings with Teachers, Audiologist, college/university students. With this, we are hoping to continue to meet new people, to create awareness, and continue to educate about Deaf and Hard of Hearing children's needs. If you know anyone who you think needs support from us, please refer them to SDHHS.

Keep your eye on our Facebook, Instagram, and Website for ECFS events.

Warm Regards,

Robyn Holmes & Patricia Spicer

robyn@sdhhs.com (Saskatoon) patti@sdhhs.com (Regina)

ASL Activity Kit Games!

Take a peek of our games we made!



We are excited to have created some new tools to work with Deaf/HH children - in person or remotely!

ASL Activity Kit Sneak Peek Video:

https://youtu.be/g_VRn44viH4



Bee Signing Game

Created: May 27, 2021



Spork Who

Created: March 31, 2021



ASL Activity Kit Games!

Here are a few more games we made, take a look!



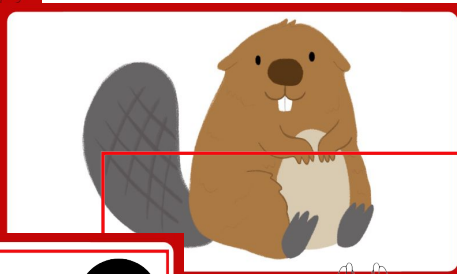
Spin Your Emotions!

Created: May 26, 2021



Where in Canada?

Created: May 30, 2021



1



2



Handshape Animal Matching

Created: May 26, 2021

CCCC Preschool

Saskatoon

Nicole Musey - SonJa Van Ee - Ashley Bucknall

Happy February!

What an amazing time it has been since September when we returned to in-person learning! It is wonderful being present for the lovely and diverse group of students. Each one of them is so unique, and even though we are teaching them, we learn things from them as well. The parents have been so very supportive and we appreciate all of it.

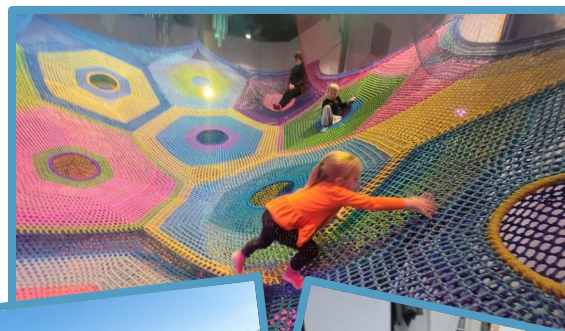
The program has grown so much – we are excited to announce there are two additional students joining us! We have 9 students in total and SonJa has returned to work with us as well! We now have a Staff of three at the 4C Preschool; Ashley, Sonja and myself are working together to provide a quality learning environment for the students. We have covered various themes since September such as Fall, Apples, Halloween, Community Helpers, Christmas, and Winter. We are currently focused on Personal Identity and Emotion. Next fun topic will be.... *drum roll*Outer Space!

As usual, we operate the program from Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, and we have Family Day every Friday. The 4C Preschool is now located at St. Augustine Elementary School on Boychuk Drive. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions and don't forget, we welcome registrations any time.

If you know any parents of children under the age of 5, who are d/Deaf or Hard of Hearing or are connected to our community, and who may be interested in the 4C Preschool program, let us know!

We will be posting pictures and resources to social media soon so you all can have a peek at what we have been doing since the beginning of this school year!

Sincerely,
Nicole Musey
4C Preschool Teacher



ASL Class

Rae-Mairi Richardson - Caroline Bergbusch - Twyla Chartrand

ASL Classes at SDHHS are off to a great start in 2022!

There are currently 43 students enrolled for the online Zoom courses. Right now, we are running two ASL 101 courses (both full!), an ASL 102 course, and for the first time in quite a while, we are running an ASL 201 course (also full!).

The ability to run online ASL courses has been great for people in smaller communities. We are able to reach students from the far south in Saskatchewan, all the way to top of the province in Fon Du Lac. It has been a rewarding opportunity to bring ASL classes to places where they were previously inaccessible.

A very big thanks to our three Instructors, Caroline Bergbusch, Twyla Chartrand, and Rae-Mairi Richardson for making such a strong semester of classes possible!



SDHHS' Upcoming Events:

SENSORY ACTIVITIES RHYTHM STORYTELLING ...AND MORE!

LITTLE BUTTONS

Want to learn more American Sign Language (ASL) with your little ones through hand-on and visual activities? If **yes**, then join us!

Location: Channel Performance (Sutherland)
Bay D - 119 105th Street East, Saskatoon

Date: Every Thursday for the month of March, April and May!

Time: 9:30am to 10:30am

Who: Parents and their young children (Ages 0-5)

Cost: \$20.00 per family (all classes) or \$5.00 per Drop-in.
Free for D/HH

**Please email at least 24 hours before
class time to reserve your spot.**
SASKATOON@SDHHS.COM



Play and grow your language like an apple tree!



SDHHS
Saskatchewan Deaf and
Hard of Hearing Services
Bridging the Gap

We are hoping to host
Camp Dragonfly this **May 2022**



Check SDHHS' Social Media for updates!

www.sdhhs.com



SDHHS
Saskatchewan Deaf and
Hard of Hearing Services
Bridging the Gap



SASKATCHEWAN DEAF ASSOCIATION

VIRTUAL  ZOOM!

BINGO

N I G H T

14	29	32	52	71
27	42	55	64	
7	23	FREE	58	69
1	28	34	72	
5	25	33	53	66

FAMILY GAMES

BIG PRIZE

FEATURING DAWN BIRLEY

APRIL 2022 | 6:30 PM
 MORE INFORMATION TO COME! | \$5.00 PER CARD

• REGISTER AND E-TRANSFER TO: •
 SPICERPA@HOTMAIL.COM

COMING SOON

SDA AGM

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 2022 AT 1:00PM - 3:00PM

SASKATCHEWAN DEAF ASSOCIATION

 **VIRTUAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

REGISTER BY WEDNESDAY MARCH 9TH, 2022
 \$5.00 MEMBERSHIP

SEND E-TRANSFER TO PATRICA SPICER, OUR
 TREASURER: SPICERPA@HOTMAIL.COM

QUESTIONS?
 PRESIDENT TWYLA CHARTRAND
 TWYLACHARTRAND@GMAIL.COM



THIS DEAF & HARD OF HEARING FAMILY CAMP
IS HAPPENING ON

August 7-13 2022

For more information, please go the website at:
www.camposhkidee.com/dhh-family-camp



**LOTS OF ACTIVITIES
TO DO HERE!**

SOCIAL, SWIMMING, BOATING,
GAMES, CRAFTS, VBS,
PRESENTERS AND MORE!

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE
JUNE 30, 2022**

STILL GOT SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS DEAF AND
HARD OF HEARING FAMILY CAMP?

E-MAIL SHELLY CARVER:
SCARVER506@GMAIL.COM



Link to Camp Oshkidee
DHH Family Camp
www.camposhkidee.com/dhh-family-camp

Outside of SDHHS Events:



Forest Grove Community Church Attridge is excited to be providing ASL (American Sign Language) interpretive services during their 10am Family Experience (FX) and 11am Corporate Worship service to serve those who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. They are excited for the ways that offering this will help a segment of our population understand the good news.

Please do invite your family and friends who may be Deaf or Hard-of- Hearing to join us on Sundays!



**AMERICAN SIGN
LANGUAGE**

THANK YOU!

to our
FUNDERS, SPONSORS, & DONORS!



The Saskatoon Collaborative Funding Partnership

