



**SDHHS**

Saskatchewan Deaf and  
Hard of Hearing Services

Bridging the Gap



*Spring*

**NEWSLETTER**

**2023**



**NEWS | EVENTS | SOCIAL MEDIA**

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# CHECK US OUT ON:

Facebook



Instagram



Website



Social Media  
Handle

@sdhhsinc

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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**Facetime**

sdhhsapple@icloud.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.



SDHHS Staff, Board, & Freelance Interpreters October, 2022.



# WHO WE ARE:



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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

## 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  
Brandie Radcliffe.....Interpreter  
Jody Thompson..... Vocational Worker  
Youth Worker  
Robyn Holmes..... Early Childhood, Youth  
and Family Services  
Krissy Haines.....Sign Support Professional  
Alanda McLeod..... Sign Support Professional  
Nicole Musey.....4C Preschool Teacher  
Ashley Bucknall..... 4C Preschool EA

## REMOTE OFFICES:

Sue Schmid.....Interpreter  
Barb Froese.....Interpreter

# THANK YOU!



## **FREELANCE CNS PROVIDERS**

Donna Whitelaw  
Rhonda Leier

## **FREELANCE INTERPRETERS**

Carla Klassen  
Rachel Janzen

## **DEAF INTERPRETERS**

Rae-Mairi Richardson

## **ASL Facilitator**

Janet Dittrick

## **Office Cleaners**

Dena Johns  
Kainat Wahid

## **ASL INSTRUCTORS**

Alanda McLeod  
Caroline Bergbusch  
Nicole Musey  
Rae-Mairi Richardson  
Twyla Chartrand

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Bron Nurkowski

## **CONTRACT WORKERS**

Adam Stratyчук  
Burton Bird  
Denny Maurice  
Fatima Nafisa  
Leslie Dunn  
Shawn Stratyчук  
Shelly Carver  
Sheri Chambers

# Executive Director's Message

## Nairn Gillies



Springtime is amazing.

Slowly the snow cover gives way to green grass, trees begin to bud and form leaves, and huge lines of geese form in the sky. Many exciting things have happened in this last quarter and like the arrival of the springtime, some of them happened with lots of flash and flare and others happened quietly. On Wednesday May 17th, Bill 103, "The Accessible Saskatchewan Act" was passed to Royal Assent and officially recognizes American Sign Language as the language of the Deaf in Saskatchewan.

The fact that Canada and Saskatchewan have moved forward to pass this kind of legislation is evidence that Canada's Deaf and Hard of Hearing community has been able to advocate for themselves and for future generations of Deaf and Hard of Hearing citizens. I have been to many meetings over the years with numerous Deaf and Hard of Hearing spokespersons, and I am so thrilled that I have seen this day finally arrive.

I am also very happy to see so many happy smiling young people from preschool age to young adults being served by our staff. We have built relationships all around the province for sign language supports, we have record numbers in our sign language classes, and the community is growing. Our sign language support outreach team has made contact with eight northern communities, and provides services for clients living in remote areas both in person and online.

Our language and literacy objectives are being met. As a follow-up to our pilot project with ASL Activity Kits, we have been making story books available online, in ASL, signed by Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers from 4 to 84 years old. This exciting project has many spin-offs of language, learning, and access to literacy for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children all over the province who can access these books at any time.

The interpreting team and the video experts on staff are in the process of making the SGI Saskatchewan Government Insurance driver training materials accessible in American Sign Language. We have met with the leadership at SGI and showed them this project. We are looking forward to a continued relationship with other agencies to make their work accessible as well.

Deaf role-models have been very active in supporting Deaf and Hard of Hearing young adults to become active on boards, and in learning how to participate in our Saskatchewan community. I see leaders develop new ideas and programs that bridge gaps in service everyday. I am very proud to be part of this vibrant and growing Deaf community.

Sincerely,

Nairn Gillies



# Front Desk Ren



**Hi everyone!**

Working as the Office Coordinator at SDHHS, there is always something to do! Scheduling interpreting assignments, working on fundraisers, ASL classes...I'm always busy with something, but always happy to do it!

If you need anything, don't be afraid to reach out. You can connect me on Facetime, Skype, Google Duo, Text, Email, Phone Calls –  
**I'll always do my best to help!**

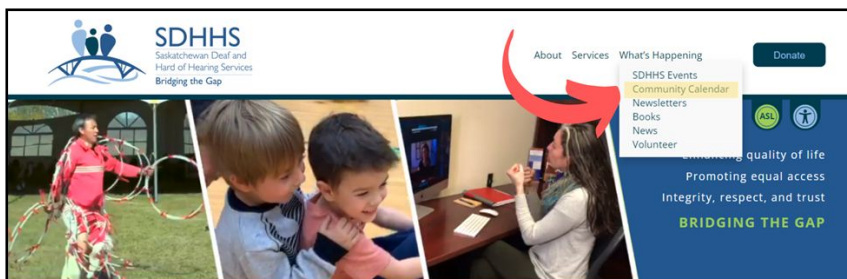
[saskatoon@sdhhs.com](mailto:saskatoon@sdhhs.com) (email/facetime/skype/google duo)

306.229.2010 (text) 306.665.6575 (voice)

## Did you know?

I created a new “**Community Calendar**” for our website! This calendar is for any event in the DHH community – **Not just SDHHS events!** Be sure to check it out so you can find events going on in our province! If you have an event you want to add, follow the link below the calendar on the SDHHS website.

You can find the Community Calendar under the “What's Happening” menu on our website:



## Year 2022 In Review

Are you curious about how the year 2022 went? Well come and have a look at it in this video, and enjoy!

[https://fb.watch/ix8Av48\\_Wd/](https://fb.watch/ix8Av48_Wd/)





# Interpreting

## Karen, Sue, Brandie and Barb



The staff Interpreting team consists of Karen, Sue, Brandie and Barb (Regina, Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Swift Current).

Welcome spring, sunshine, and warmer weather. We have been patiently awaiting your arrival.

The team has been very busy these last three months with in-person and virtual assignments, as well as travel around the province. It is so great to get out and to see people in person, and to be in your home communities.

Just a gentle reminder, please book your appointments as soon as possible. This holds true for individuals, business and organizations requiring interpreting services. Advanced notice allows Ren, our Office Coordinator, to schedule interpreters, to have all the appropriate details in place, which in turn allows the interpreter to confirm and obtain any prep time required for the interpretation process. Interpreting assignments can occur during office hours 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday - Friday, as well as after 4 pm, and on weekends as long as they are booked in advance.

If it is after 4 pm or is a weekend, and there is a **legal or medical emergency**, please **phone, text or FaceTime** the emergency number, **306-514-7644**

**Or**

**Skype – sdhhs911**

We have an emergency interpreter on call who will be able to provide services.

To clarify: **emergency interpreting** is limited to:

- Being questioned, arrested, or charged by the police
- 911 calls
- Emergency health issue at the hospital emergency department.

Please use the QR code to see this information in ASL.



Website: <https://sdhhs.com/2020/12/02/interpreting/>

# Vocational Education & Employment

Jody & Patricia



A long, difficult winter has finally ended. We are so glad to see Spring, at last! It means that we are preparing for driver training season! We have a few clients who are interested in taking driving training. We are excited that our new contract staff, Adam Stratyckuk, is working on filming the SGI Driver's Handbook in ASL. When someone is taking driving training, they will be able to watch the video in ASL and reference the SGI Driver's Handbook at the same time.

Our new contract year with the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training started in October 2022. For the past 8 months, we have been working closely with clients to ensure they are receiving the supports they need in their education and employment goals. Recently, Patti was able to head to Saskatoon so both she and Jody could have an in-person meeting with our contract holder, the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training. It was great to be able to meet in-person instead of virtually.

In March of this year, one of Regina's VC clients received a full-time job offer from a manufacturing/packaging company. Patricia worked closely with the employer of the company to make sure that the new Deaf co-worker received support and services. We provided ASL/English interpreters for job orientation and training on the first 4 days of a new hire's employment. Recently Patricia received a call from this client stating that the new job was going well and they really appreciated her support.

On April 26, Winston Knoll Collegiate hosted an event called "Student Interest Conference". They had so many interesting guest speakers such as Costume Design and Theatre, Therapy Doggos, Fashion Design, Financial Literacy, Forensic Sciences, and MORE. They invited SDHHS to their conference. Rae-Mairi, Burton Bird and Patricia Spicer presented on 10 reasons why you should learn American Sign Language. They showed a list of careers that request and encourage people learn American Sign Language for their future. Then they taught the high school students some basic American Sign Language. About 30 high school students participated. The event was a HUGE success.

Now, in May, we have offered an ASL interpreted First Aid/CPR/AED class in Saskatoon. The company, BasicPlus Training has been wonderful to work with and is very accommodating for us. SDHHS is hoping to partner with another training company to offer Forklift and Skid Steer training while the weather is nice outside. Watch our Facebook and Instagram for advertisements about the upcoming training sessions and then let us know if you want to join!

If you have any questions or require supports related to education or employment, be sure to contact Patricia Spicer or Jody Thompson. They'll do their best to help you achieve your goals!





# ASL & EQUAL ACCESS MOVING FORWARD IN SASKATCHEWAN!

## SDHHS VOCATIONAL SPOTLIGHT



The need for the SGI Training Manual to be interpreted into ASL came from an emerging need from various places in Saskatchewan wherein D/deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) individuals that were not in High School, needed to take their Driver Training. The SGI Driver Training is not available in ASL currently.

The Vocational Department at SDHHS was in contact with 6 residents across the province in regards to taking the SGI Driver Training. We are confident that there are many other Saskatchewan residents that would like to take this training as well, if it were available in ASL.

SDHHS has a limited number of qualified ASL Interpreters in Saskatchewan. Therefore, we needed to come up with a creative solution to providing the SGI Driver Training, in ASL, to these 6 people in 4 different locations. As we all know, having a Driver's License increases employment opportunities by more than 50%! So it was imperative for us to figure out a way to get equal access to the SGI Training Manual. Normally, SDHHS would book 2 Interpreters for each day of training, pay for travel and accommodations, meals, and wages, to provide in-class training to our DHH clients. As you can see, this would be costly to accomplish in a variety of locations.

Through some of the Vocational Department project funding provided by the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training, SDHHS was able to hire, on a short contract, a Deaf individual with a vast amount of experience in the driving/towing industry, and who has advanced knowledge with filming and video editing. This person's name is Adam Stratyckuk. Adam has the exact skills and qualifications that we need for this project! He and our Staff Interpreters are currently working on translating the written English to ASL, from which he will film those translations and then edit the videos to ensure a professional-looking, finished project for DHH Saskatchewanians to learn from.

Adam was born profoundly Deaf and had very supportive parents who encouraged him to learn ASL throughout his childhood. They even committed to attending a Deaf Preschool in Burnaby BC to give him every opportunity for success. They wanted Adam to grow and flourish! Adam has a Cochlear Implant but stopped using it when he was about 4 years old. It was too much stimulation for him to handle and was creating health concerns. Adam developed a strong English structure in his High School years, and started his career in the towing industry while still in High School as well. Recently, Adam left his driving/towing employment of 11 years, because he felt he needed a change.





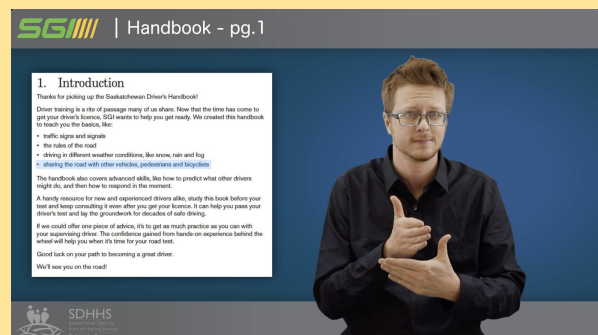
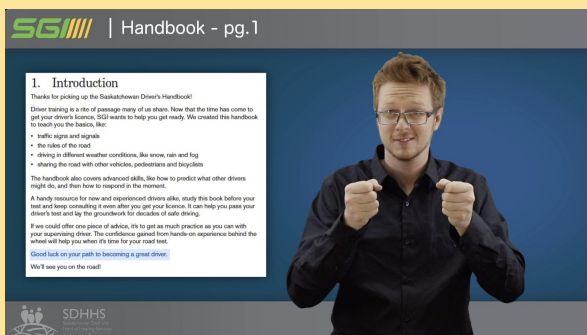
# SDHHS VOCATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

## Continued...

Adam wrote the following to include in this article: "I left a high-paying job because I feel despair for the D/deaf and Hard of Hearing people in our community. Many do not get to experience the enriching life I had growing up in Saskatchewan. One major distinction between Deaf people and other linguistic minority groups, is that Deaf people do not enjoy automatic access to much needed life solutions through their parents. In spite of their minority status, in almost all other linguistic minority groups, families speak the same language within the household.

The purpose at SDHHS is to give people the access to the needs in their life. The purpose of the SGI project is because of the recognized need, and because equitable accessibility is the right thing to do. SGI's online practice quiz provides translation of 152 languages (if I counted right). There is no ASL on the translation list even though ASL is a true and provincially recognized language. It is important to the D/deaf and Hard of Hearing community in Saskatchewan to have this kind of access in their lives. Being that we are car-dependent in most of Canada, people are more likely to be hired for a job if they hold a valid driver's license. Current job listings have approximately 54% of advertisements requiring a valid driver's license. A driver's license is not only good for employment, it is a milestone achievement giving the freedom and independence people require to drive around to meet their needs. Drive to appointments if they are not within transportation service areas, visiting their beloved relations, the list goes on.

We believe that giving full ASL access to the SGI's handbook will give our clients even more opportunity and free them of some of the frustrations they may struggle with because more often than not, English is not their first language or their English is weak in structure. While an Interpreter in-person provides access to ASL, it may still confuse Deaf individuals coming from a Hearing Interpreter. That's where I'd pop in, breaking the barrier for the D/deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals where 'by Deaf for Deaf' in ASL provides full access."



**(screenshots of Adam working on to providing equal access to the SGI Driver Training Manual for DHH in Sask!)**

The SGI Driver Training Manual, once available in ASL, can be easily distributed via an internet link, on a USB, or pre-loaded onto a tablet for all DHH to have equal access to the information. Thank you for joining our team here at SDHHS Adam. We are excited to have you here and look forward to viewing the SGI project once it is completed!

Jody Thompson & Patricia Spicer  
Vocational Employment/Education Workers SDHHS

# Sign Support Professional Alanda



My name is Alanda McLeod. I have volunteered with SDHHS for many years and have gained many experiences in the Deaf community. I was given the opportunity to work as a Sign Support Professional starting last March. It has been thrilling for me to be a part of the SDHHS team! I am feeling very welcomed working here at SDHHS.

My world has changed a lot because I have access to full communication with my co-workers and the clients that I work with, as sign language is my language.

As a Sign Support Professional, I have a variety of duties. It has already been a great opportunity for me to further develop skills and begin with community relationship-building. I love learning and being in a learning environment. I understand how important it is to serve the community as individuals participating in charitable activities, and by helping people in need.

So far I have helped with the preschool, and watching the students' skills grow inspires me. I thought it would be a challenge to communicate with children under 5 years old but sign language helps us to understand each other well! One of the students came to the 4C Preschool with no language and they had high levels of frustration. I started working one-to-one with them, teaching sign language in hopes of improving their ability to better share their experiences with us. Communication helps strengthen the bond with the students.

I became an ASL teacher last January and I wanted to motivate ASL students to be involved in our community because of their desire to learn ASL. Since then, I have started hosting community Deaf Social Nights. The ASL students have really enjoyed connecting with and meeting Deaf and Hard of Hearing community members, as well as others who are learning, or are already fluent in ASL!

Currently I am supporting a variety of clients ranging from children to adults. I am teaching ASL and Life skills. The clients enjoy the baking and crafts I plan for them!

I have given presentations to the Medical Students at the University of Saskatchewan, and to the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation (Wounds into Wisdom group) at PrairieLand Park.

I look forward to continuing to improve myself and others through ongoing, wonderful experiences with SDHHS. I am excited to start working with editing ASL children's stories, attending camps to learn and assist, and so I can work with a camp team in the future for the Deaf community. I will continue to utilize my knowledge and fulfill the duties and responsibilities assigned to me in the best possible manner. This will result in a relationship of mutual development as we explore our journeys together!





# Sign Support Professional

## Rae-Mairi

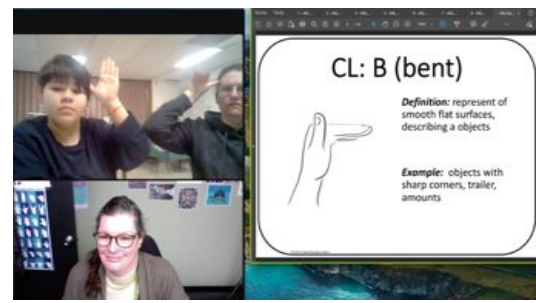


**SSP – Northern Community Work:** I have been working and traveling several thousand K.M to provide support to many schools, students, and their families from across Saskatchewan. The number of people has increased throughout Northern Saskatchewan communities. I have been developing good relationships with the communities and am starting to develop Deaf-friendly land-based learning opportunities, as well as both PISL and ASL video story projects with Indigenous Deaf/Hard of Hearing youth. There has been an increase of registrations for Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Deaf/Hard of Hearing youth clients. It is wonderful to see the Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing people are so satisfied with our service that they are spreading awareness and helping grow our community, as well, they are seeking knowledge to create a signing environment in their lives.



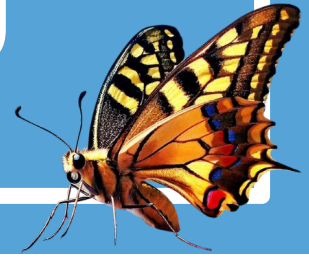
**SSP – Southern Community Work:** I've had some new additional youth to work with and continue to build ASL resource support systems for my clients.

**ASL instructor:** In the Winter 2023 season, I taught both ASL 201 and 202 online, and it was a lot of fun! This Spring season, I am teaching level 102 online. I can see that 2023 ASL classes have increased in registration numbers which is *CHAMP!* I hope it will continue through this year and next.



I'm looking forward to continuing my work with all of the teams in Saskatchewan, and at SDHHS. I have learned a lot about your beautiful province and diverse cultures. I have enjoyed seeing both the Deaf/Hard of Hearing, and the Hearing communities continue to learn our beautiful sign languages. I can see them glow while they learn, and when they socialize and communicate with us in our language.

# Youth Programming Regina



The Regina Youth Program has been successful as they continue to plan and participate in activities. We are happy to announce that, finally, a Saskatoon Youth Program is starting too!



Youth, please sign up and have fun! I am hoping that Regina, Saskatoon, and Northern youth will be able to come together one day.

SDHHS Youth Programming is sponsored by: The City of REGINA

**MINI GOLF**  
Indoor

WEDNESDAY  
MAY 24  
6 PM - 8 PM  
TICKETS: \$5 PER PERSON

Blacklight Glow in the dark mini golf  
2223 Victoria Avenue East Regina, SK

AGES : 13 - 25

EMAIL : [raemairi@sdhhs.com](mailto:raemairi@sdhhs.com) to register  
Before Wednesday, May 24 @ 4 pm

SDHHS Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Bridging the Gap

Max's AmniGolf 3D glow-in-the-dark  
609 1ST AVENUE N SASKATOON

**PIZZA PARTY & MINI GOLF**

WEDNESDAY  
MAY 31ST 2023  
6PM - 8PM  
COST: FREE FOR DHH YOUTH!

SASKATOON DHH YOUTH!  
AGES 8 - 18

please email [jody@sdhhs.com](mailto:jody@sdhhs.com) to register  
\*\*email your name, age, and contact information for you & your parents\*\*

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY EMAIL BEFORE FRIDAY, MAY 26TH

SDHHS Saskatchewan Youth Programming is funded by: Saskatoon Community Foundation Quality of Life Grant

For more information, please contact:  
Regina: [RaeMairi@sdhhs.com](mailto:RaeMairi@sdhhs.com)  
Saskatoon: [Jody@sdhhs.com](mailto:Jody@sdhhs.com)



# Early Childhood & Family Services

## Robyn & Patricia



With a loooo-ng blink of an eye, spring is here! With that, it has given us an opportunity to meet many more people since it's now easier to get out of the house. We have noticed a number of clients are registering for our program (ECFS) in Regina, Saskatoon and around Saskatchewan. We're very pleased to give our service and join their journey with their Deaf child.

Robyn, and the Preschool teacher Nicole, went to the Saskatoon Family Expo on March 18th, and it was truly-truly a success! We first really want to say thank you to Austin Carroll for building a wood backdrop for our booth section. This has given us an opportunity to literally 'bring out' information for people to learn Sign Language.

We had a Pizza Theme, where the kids learned sign language vocabulary for the pizza toppings we had available, and then they 'cooked' it in the oven. While doing that, one of us would talk to the parents about our programs and what ASL is! We think we met about 300 people in total that day. Our next Saskatoon Family Expo is scheduled for February 24th, 2024! Hope to see you there.



While working for SDHHS, the staff is not limited to only one role. We all try to do more to benefit the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. For example, doing presentations about Deaf Awareness to the medical students at the Saskatchewan University in Saskatoon and at the University of Regina on Zoom. In addition to this, Robyn went to a day camp in Saskatoon to educate students that were participating about ASL and DHH Culture. SDHHS now offers translating services, so we have all been busy translating ASL on to videos to make workplaces and websites more accessible.

# Early Childhood & Family Services

## Continued



Robyn attended the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly Chamber for the Budget Address on March 22nd. She had the opportunity to meet several Ministers and MLAs to talk about situations in our Deaf Community and what she hopes will benefit all of us.



A few SDHHS staff members took the VCSSL (Visual Communication and Sign Language) training with other staff from other organizations across Canada on Zoom. The SDHHS staff who took it together really felt the impact, and felt that we're not so isolated. We look forward to connecting more in the future!

Little Buttons has been SO much fun at the Saskatoon Early Learning Family Centre. Robyn hosted a session every Tuesday, last March and hosting sessions again for the month of May on Tuesday mornings. It's lovely to see people we know that are our clients and students in the ASL Classes too! This has given parents an opportunity to learn some Sign Language to reduce frustrations in communication, to connect more with their child and explore!





# CCCC Preschool Nicole



What a busy Spring for 4C Preschool as we gained three more students! The group is full of diverse students, which is amazing for us to see. All the students support each other with a range of skill levels and ages. We are fortunate to have great support and volunteers to engage a group of students with similar skill levels. We strongly believe in a play-based approach in our program while we, adults, expose them to both languages naturally.



We typically start our morning with free play for an hour as we have many activities for them to complete with their target language learning until snack time. During snack time, we typically chat about what they eat, what they do and so forth, to expand their vocabulary and language skills. Then we go to the bathroom, and then the gym. Plenty of physical activities including Duck Duck Goose, Ring Around the Rosie, and Go Go Stop. Oh my goodness, they LOVE the car-wheeler thingy (not sure what they're called) for thirty minutes before returning to the classroom. We typically do stories and crafts at the end of the class before the students are picked up by their caregivers. We had two themes this Spring: Ocean and Fairy Tales. The students enjoyed both of them very much.



A very exciting thing happened during the springtime, CBC came into our school and interviewed us. We discussed the unique part of our program as we provide full access to both languages.

We're very excited about the Royal Assent for Bill 103 - The Accessible Saskatchewan Act, officially recognizing ASL as a primary language for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people!

Have a great summer!

Teacher Miss Nicole



# ASL Classes



## Spring ASL classes are in full swing!

We run classes both online and in-person, depending on registration totals. This season we are very excited to report that we are running 7 classes – **5 Online** and **2 In-Person**. Across all 7 classes we have a total of **93 students!** There are currently 5 instructors in the province. Caroline Bergbush, Twyla Chartrand, and Rae-Mairi Richardson from Regina, and Nicole Musey and Alanda McLeod from Saskatoon.

It has been great working with students from across the province to get them registered for ASL classes, everyone is very eager and motivated to learn a new language, and to learn all about Deaf/Hard of Hearing culture.

The 2023 Fall ASL classes are expected to start in late September, with registration opening mid-late July. Keep an eye out for more information about Fall ASL classes on our website and social media. If you want to add your name to the class mailing list, send your email address to [saskatoon@sdhhs.com](mailto:saskatoon@sdhhs.com)



Rae-Mairi's ASL Students



# Government Training Event



The Government Relations and Advocacy Training took place in Regina this spring, and it was very informative. Joel Peterson provided us with an overview of how government works, how to advocate and lobby the government for change for our community, as well as a bit about legislature. As Dan D’Autremontt called it Legislature 101. One of the takeaways from the day was the importance of relationship building. Through these relationships with our MLA, and Cabinet Ministers we are able to step into the culture and language of the legislative process, and begin to engage in critical conversations about what is important and necessary for the quality of life for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Saskatchewan, and what it means to live in Saskatchewan as a Deaf and Hard of Hearing person without barriers. We have a lot of work ahead of us to continue to formulate and cultivate these relationship. Inviting the right government officials into our community events may be more impactful than a protest or a rally. This will give an opportunity to experience communication while interacting at a Deaf/Hard of Hearing event. We need to be solution focused. What are the change we desire? Start small and think big; have short term goals and long term goals. If we frame our desired change in line with government’s vision, “Saskatchewan is a great place to live, work and do business,” we are then communicating in a language this government understands. Advocating for the best interest of the Deaf community is our goal. Communicating what we believe in can be difficult, and emotional at times. Through this training, we have a better understanding of the process to be able to advocate and lobby the government for positive changes for the lives of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community!

Thank You to Joel Peterson and Dan D’Autremont for sharing your time, experience, and wisdom in government relations and advocacy.





# SDHHS Upcoming Events:



**SDHHS**  
Saskatchewan Deaf and  
Hard of Hearing Services  
Bridging the Gap



**WANT TO REGISTER?**  
**CONTACT:**  
306.229.2010 (Text)  
306.665.6575 (Call)  
saskatoon@sdhhs.com

## 2023 AGM

**Registration Deadline: June 14!**

**Saturday June 17 2022**  
(In-Person Only)  
**Sign-In: 9:30am**  
**Meeting: 10:00am - 12:00pm**  
**Lunch: (Free, if registered!) 12:00pm - 1:30pm**  
**Family Get-Together and Games Until 3:30pm**

**Mayfair United Church**  
902 33rd St W  
Saskatoon, SK

**HOW TO NOMINATE:**  
Board Nominations can be taken to the SDHHS office, or emailed to saskatoon@sdhhs.com or art.afh@saskatel.net



## SK DEAF EXPO 2023

RECOGNIZING SK DEAF & HARD OF HEARING PEOPLE

Vendors including homemade items, businesses, organizations, baking, and more!  
Kids crafts & games, door prizes, and an opportunity to socialize with the community.


Door Admission fee: \$2.00 per person  
Children 12 & under are free!

**Saturday**  
10 June 2023  
**10:00am to 3:00pm**  
Saskatoon INN  
2002 Airport Dr, Saskatoon, SK

More Information:  
[saskatoon@sdhhs.com](mailto:saskatoon@sdhhs.com)



**SDHHS**  
Saskatchewan Deaf and  
Hard of Hearing Services  
Bridging the Gap



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## TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

**JUNE 28 2023**

**TICKETS: \$30 EACH**

**WHERE?** CAPITOL MUSIC CLUB  
244 1ST AVE S. SASKATOON





**WHO?** ANYONE 19 YEARS OR OLDER

**WHEN?** DINNER: 6PM / TRIVIA: 7PM

**INCLUDES:**  
BURGER AND BEER/POP COMBO  
PUB TRIVIA EVENT (ASL INTERPRETED)  
DOOR PRIZES, 50/50, RAFFLE TICKETS

**CONTACT THE SASKATOON OFFICE TO PURCHASE TICKETS:**  
[SASKATOON@SDHHS.COM](mailto:SASKATOON@SDHHS.COM)  
306.229.2010 (TEXT) 306.665.6575 (CALL)

FUNDRAISING PROCEEDS GO TOWARD  
SDHHS EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY SERVICES PROGRAMMING


**SDHHS**  
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Hard of Hearing Services  
Bridging the Gap

**TICKETS \$40 EACH**

**SAVE THE DATE**

## FALL FUNDRAISER

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH 2023**

**WATCH SDHHS' SOCIAL MEDIA FOR ALL THE DETAILS!**

**TICKETS ON SALE IN AUGUST!**





# SDHHS Upcoming Events:



**SDHHS**  
Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services  
Bridging the Gap

## SDHHS Coffee Time

MORNING COFFEE

Come for a tea or coffee and for a visit!  
DHH individuals, CODAs, ASL Students,  
Moms, Dads, Aunts, Uncles; **Everyone is welcome!**

Coffee Time is in-person at the Saskatoon SDHHS office.  
#3 - 511 1st Ave. N. Saskatoon SK

When? **9am -11am** on the **first Thursday of each month.**



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**SDHHS is hosting a Spring raffle!**

3 prize packages are available to win!

Tickets are available at either of SDHHS' offices and from all employees of SDHHS.

**TICKETS**  
**1 for \$5**  
**3 for \$10**

Prizes will be drawn for at the SDHHS 2023 Deaf Expo  
The afternoon of Saturday, June 10th, 2023.  
Ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

To purchase tickets please contact SDHHS:  
☎ Phone toll-free 1-800-667-6575  
@ E-mail saskatoon@sdhhs.com

Tickets are bought and sold in accordance with our SLGA Lottery Licence #SR23-0143

**It's time to FUNdraise!**



SDHHS Youth Programming is sponsored by:  
The City of REGINA

**SDHHS**  
Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services  
Bridging the Gap

## MINI GOLF

Indoor

WEDNESDAY  
MAY 24  
6 PM - 8 PM

TICKETS: \$5 PER PERSON

Blacklight Glow in the dark mini golf  
2223 Victoria Avenue East Regina, SK

AGES : 13 - 25

EMAIL : raemairi@sdhhs.com to register  
Before Wednesday, May 24 @ 4 pm



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Bridging the Gap

**Mat's mini golf**  
3D glow-in-the-dark

609 1ST AVENUE N SASKATOON

**PIZZA PARTY & MINI GOLF**

WEDNESDAY  
MAY 31ST 2023  
6PM - 8PM  
COST: FREE FOR DHH YOUTH!

**SASKATOON DHH YOUTH!**  
AGES 8 - 18

please email jody@sdhhs.com to register  
\*\*email your name, age, and contact information for you & your parents\*\*

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY EMAIL BEFORE FRIDAY, MAY 26TH

SDHHS Saskatoon Youth Programming is funded by:  
Saskatoon Community Foundation  
Quality of Life Grant



# More Upcoming Events:

**CAMP OSHKIDEE**  
AUGUST 6-12, 2023

**DEAF + HARD OF HEARING FAMILY CAMP**

- Relax and enjoy unforgettable views of Jeanette Lake
- Gather together at the chalet
- Enjoy the outdoor activities

**REGISTER NOW**

<https://www.camposhkidee.com/deaf-hard-of-hearing-camp> | Registration Deadline on June 20, 2023 | [scarver506@gmail.com](mailto:scarver506@gmail.com)

COME CELEBRATE 75 YEARS WITH US!

1 GLASS OF WINE OR 1 BEER + CHEESE PLATTERS + YOU

**WINE & CHEESE NIGHT**

**June 10th 2023**  
7:00pm to 1:00am  
8:00pm Entertainer

**Saskatoon INN**  
Ball Room A  
2002 Airport Dr. Saskatoon SK

**ADMISSION: \$30.00 PER PERSON**  
Deadline to Register: Thursday, June 1st, 2023

**E-Transfer to:** [monique.bowman27@hotmail.com](mailto:monique.bowman27@hotmail.com)

**Mail a Cheque to:** Saskatoon Deaf Contingency Fund  
c/o 447 Sebestyen Court  
Saskatoon, SK, S7K 6S4

DOOR PRIZE + 50/50 + CASH BAR

**DEAF SOCIAL NIGHT**

Open to Deaf, Hard of Hearing, people learning to sign or who are already fluent in ASL.  
An opportunity to connect in person and have fun!

**Friday, May 26, 2023**  
7:30pm 'til 11:00pm

**Snooker Shack**  
3421 8 St E  
Saskatoon

Have questions? Contact  
Alanda McLeod: [alandamcl@gmail.com](mailto:alandamcl@gmail.com)  
Lisa Lowry: [countrywind95@gmail.com](mailto:countrywind95@gmail.com)

**MAY 28 2023**  
**2:00 PM TO 3:00PM**  
BRIGHTON CORE PARK  
SASKATOON, SK  
(THEATER AREA)

**FREE!**

**CLUB ASL 8585 IS FOR DEAF OR HOH FAMILIES (DEAF/HOH/KODA/SOD) TO IMPROVE ASL SKILLS, GAIN CONFIDENCE, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, AND EXPLORE ASL CULTURE TOGETHER.**

GROUPING WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE AGES AND THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING.

**JOIN US!**

For More Information,  
email Gale Estell:  
[gale.estell@hotmail.com](mailto:gale.estell@hotmail.com)



# More Upcoming Events:

**SK**

**DHH**  
Learn to Waterski/  
Wakeboard

Blackstrap Lake

June 17/18

for more details/register  
Contact [wswsask@gmail.com](mailto:wswsask@gmail.com)

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and our proud supporters  
[www.wswsask.ca](http://www.wswsask.ca) 306-202-6033

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**SK**

**DHH**  
Learn to Waterski/  
Wakeboard

Rowan's Ravine

June 24/25

for more details/register  
Contact [wswsask@gmail.com](mailto:wswsask@gmail.com)

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[www.wswsask.ca](http://www.wswsask.ca) 306-202-6033

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Université d'Ottawa | University of Ottawa

## Les enfants ayant une surdité et vivant en contexte minoritaire francophone au Canada



Notre équipe de recherche à l'Université d'Ottawa mène une étude pour mieux comprendre les expériences des enfants francophones ayant une surdité qui vivent en contexte linguistique minoritaire dans le pays. Si vous êtes un parent ou tuteur d'une famille francophone (ou bilingue/multilingue) et vous avez un enfant ayant une surdité, nous aimerions votre opinion! Pour remplir le court questionnaire en français ou en anglais, veuillez cliquer sur le lien suivant: <https://redcap.cheori.org/surveys/?s=ARFYAXX8NP>



Pour toutes questions ou plus d'informations, veuillez contacter Flora Nassrallah: [fnassrallah@cheo.on.ca](mailto:fnassrallah@cheo.on.ca)

uOttawa

Université d'Ottawa | University of Ottawa

## Francophone children with hearing loss living in French-minority settings in Canada



Our research team at the University of Ottawa is conducting a study to better understand the experiences of francophone children with hearing loss who live in a linguistic minority context in the country. If you are a parent or guardian from a francophone family (or bilingual/multilingual) and you have a child with a hearing loss, we would love your opinion! To complete the short questionnaire in French or in English, please click on the following link: <https://redcap.cheori.org/surveys/?s=ARFYAXX8NP>



For any questions or to get more information, please contact Flora Nassrallah: [fnassrallah@cheo.on.ca](mailto:fnassrallah@cheo.on.ca)

uOttawa

# More Upcoming Events:



**Family Summer Camp**  
SAND CASTLES  
GAMES  
CRAFTS

Come & join our **2nd** annual camp for exciting outdoor activities and fun adventures with friends!  
[prairiedeaffest@gmail.com](mailto:prairiedeaffest@gmail.com)

**JULY 13-16**  
Echo Valley Provincial Park, Saskatchewan  
**2023**

PRAIRIE DEAF CAMPFEST

## DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE POSTS FROM THE DEAF/HH SASK DISTRIBUTION LIST?

Approximately once a week, the Deaf/HH Community receives e-mails from the Sask Announcement Distribution list of different posts related to events happening in Saskatchewan, and which Social Media pages to check out, or news that someone feels are important to share in the community.

To sign up, please E-mail to [saskannouncement@gmail.com](mailto:saskannouncement@gmail.com) to subscribe

If you have something you want to share with the community, please E-mail and it will be shared when available.



 **FOREST GROVE**  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
SASKATOON, ATTRIDGE

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**

**Website:**

<https://www.forestgrovecommunitychurch.com/attridge/>





**THANK YOU!**  
to SDHHS'  
**FUNDERS, SPONSORS, & DONORS!**



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City of Regina

