



connect.

CONNECTING VANCOUVER ISLAND & THE GULF ISLANDS

In 2021, IDHHC is excited to be celebrating 30 years as a non-profit Incorporated Charitable Organization.

Throughout this celebration year we plan to use our newsletters, communication and outreach, website and Facebook to share interesting pieces of history, stories from the front line, campaign goals and needs, snapshots back then, and the years ahead.

In this edition we will share the history of IDHHC back to the original volunteers in 1969 up to our incorporation in 1991, as well as information about our 30th Anniversary Campaign "Building Inclusive Communities".

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Building Inclusive Communities

UPCOMING IDHHC EVENTS

JAN 26: Hearing Loss Prevention for Musicians

FEB 10: Virtual Information Interviews

MAR 17: Paint Night

MAR 23: Balance & Dizziness

SEE PAGES 7 - 10 FOR MORE INFO

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WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS!

We would like to introduce our newest volunteers at IDHHC who will be working out of our Victoria and Nanaimo offices.



Gwen Burton: Gwen's teaching career included 12 years as director of a pioneering rural NGO School for the Deaf at Lake Chapala in Mexico. It was there that she fitted children with free, used hearing aids at the school and later around the state in Mexico. Returning to Vancouver Island in 1997, she worked as a hearing clinician in private clinics until retirement, with yearly visits to Lake Chapala to continue the hearing aid project. Gwen is excited to be able to use her professional background to assist the new audiology clinic in our Nanaimo office, refurbishing hearing aids for the Sound of Change program.

Gwen is also the author of "New Worlds for the Deaf", her recently published book about the school in Mexico, available in print and for Kindle

on Amazon.ca. (Proceeds to the Hearing aid project in Mexico)



Kate Lawrence: Kate has a varied work background which includes mostly administrative/office experience but she has also had some fun creative jobs like running a movie theatre and she is a certified wedding planner. She is currently working in an administrative position at Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) and recently completed a Medical Office Assistance Program.

Kate is fascinated with ASL and wants to improve her skills. She is committed to volunteering with IDHHC as she wants to put her administrative skills to good use. In her free time she enjoys watching movies and working on craft projects.

We look forward to working with Gwen and Kate and thank them for their commitment to IDHHC.

**Time to renew your annual Membership! Not a Member? Join us!
Email idhhc@idhhc.ca to sign up or renew! Only \$25!**

We cannot do this without you. Our Members are a combination of clients, donors, volunteers, and supporters – a diverse mix of individuals that we rely on to help fulfill our mandate and provide valuable feedback. **Annual membership (Jan - Dec) benefits include:**

- + Free or discounted program or services/workshops/events
- + Attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting and vote in elections
- + Be elected to the Board of Directors
- + Submit program and service ideas
- + Volunteer on internal committees or special ad hoc committees

IDHHC is a member based organization and it becomes stronger when we have a greater number of members! So go online and renew your membership today or give us a call at 250.592.8144

(*Associate Membership also available)

www.idhhc.ca/you-can-help/become-a-member/



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

IDHHC welcomes individuals from diverse backgrounds to apply to our Board of Directors. Enquiries accepted throughout the year with elections taking place at the AGM every June. As a small non-profit we cannot do this work alone. Everyone wants to be a part of a story of success, and now, more than ever, we need to expand support from the broader community to continue this work. Seeking individuals with backgrounds in policy writing, finance and legal. Deaf, Deaf-Blind, Hard of Hearing, LGBTQ2+ and BIPOC individuals are encouraged to apply.

INTERVIEW WITH ANNE MINNINGS, TREASURER



Why did you join IDHHC's Board of Directors? When I retired from the Provincial Government after 20+ years my plan was to do volunteer work by joining the board of a charitable organization that aligned with my values and priorities where I could contribute my skills as a strategic leader and professional accountant. The IDHHC board recruitment committee approached me in the spring of 2018 and we agreed that I'd be a good fit for the board and the organization for me, so I joined the board in June 2018.

What do you enjoy about being a Board member? There are many things that I enjoy about being a member of the IDHHC board. A few key items are:

- + It's very satisfying to be part of an organization that provides services that are critical to so many people.

- + My interactions with staff, clients and other board members are positive and constructive, and there's a nice social element to participating along with getting the work done.
- + The actual work of being a board member is stimulating and engaging. It's a policy board and there's lots to do in terms of strategic planning, financial monitoring, developing policies and supporting senior managers in their roles. The pandemic has been an interesting challenge as well.

Would you encourage others to join the board and if so why? Yes, absolutely! For anyone who feels that IDHHC's vision of strong inclusive communities built on equal access and empowered individuals resonates with their own values, this board could be for them. We need people with varied skills, backgrounds and perspectives, as any strong and effective board does. Helping a small organization that provides critical services is worthwhile on many levels, both professional and personal.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!

- + Are you looking to give back to the community and care about people?
- + Are you enthusiastic about working towards goals and reducing barriers?
- + Are you motivated by opportunities that empower others?
- + Are you committed to finding solutions towards accessible and inclusive communities?

Then we want you!!!! Board and Committee members needed. Please reach out to communication@idhhc.ca for more information.

To learn more about becoming a board or committee member, check out our brochure by clicking below!



HEARING HEALTH SERVICES

AUDITORY TRAINING

While an Aural Rehabilitation program is centered around quality of life with hearing loss, auditory training focuses on teaching individuals with hearing loss to listen more effectively so that their ability to recognize speech sounds may be improved. Computer-based auditory training programs are widely accessible and consist of listening exercises that range in difficulty levels. Consistency and repetition are key; doing one hour of training several days a week, or shorter sessions over consecutive days for 6-8 weeks has been shown to be effective. Listed below are some free computer-based Auditory Training programs.

The Listening Room

- + Includes activities and resources to support the development of speech, language and listening skills of children, adolescent, and adult cochlear implant recipients
- + Sponsored by AB (Advanced Bionics)
- + www.thelisteningroom.com

Angel Sound

- + A self-paced rehabilitation program that allows you to practice and perfect your listening skills at home.
- + Includes basic to advanced training modules. The functional hearing test module provides a perfect tool to self-assess your functional hearing with a variety of speech and music recognition tests, including auditory resolution, phoneme, music, speech in quiet and noise,

and auditory cognition (short-term memory) etc.

- + www.angelsound.tigerspeech.com

Audio Concentration/Matching Game

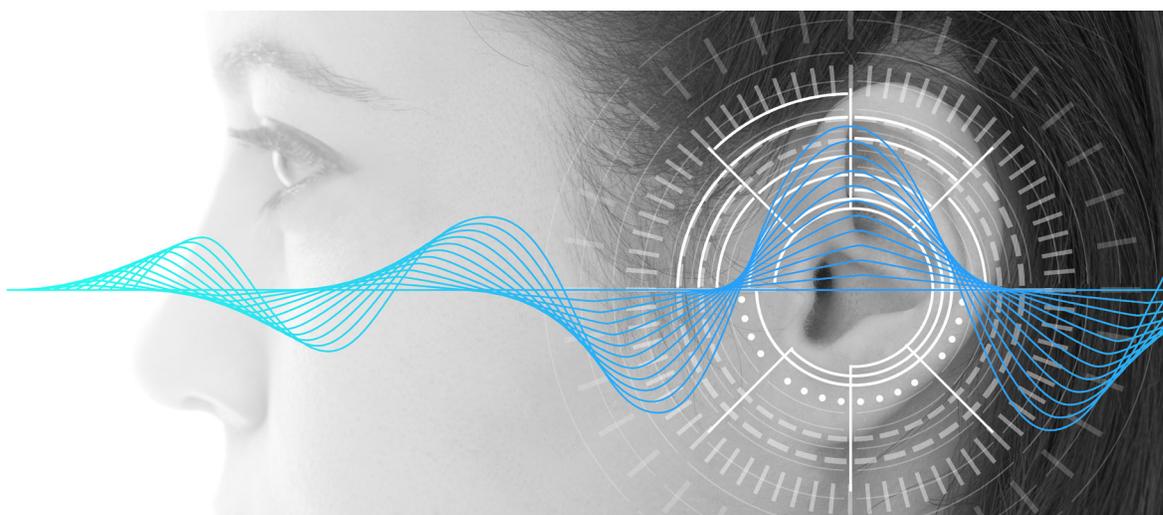
- + Concentration / Matching game with words (no text or pictures)
- + “Audio-only” version requires you to depend on your ears only
- + Timed and challenging
- + www.manythings.org/ac

Daily ESL: Conversation Starters for ESL Students

- + Audio recordings of various topics that user can listen to as well as and read along with written text
- + Vocabulary quizzes and discussion questions provide listener opportunities to check understanding or comprehension of audio recording
- + www.dailyesl.com

Communication Practice and Telephone with Confidence:

- + Provides listening exercises to be completed with a partner
- + Telephone line to call (1-800-458-4999) to practice listening with written text provided online
- + Sponsored by Cochlear Americas
- + www.cochlear.com/wps/wcm/connect/us/communication-corner/program-selection/adults.htm



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Assistive technology plays an important role in supporting successful communication for Deaf, Deaf-Blind, hard of hearing and hearing individuals.



- + Make those phone calls easier for all family members with an amplified telephone.
- + Dinner table conversation is much easier with the use of a Pocket Talker
- + Alert systems that will flash lights/vibrate if someone is at the door or to notify you of a fire alarm
- + Vibrating alarms to wake you up in the morning - never be late for work again!
- + People complaining about your television volume? A TV listening device will help with that by amplifying the sound for your ears only

We also have a lending library with many items to try out before purchasing. All equipment is fully sanitized between uses.

For all Assistive Technology purchases please contact our staff at IDHHC in both our Victoria and Nanaimo offices and they can help you select the right device for your needs.



These items can be shipped directly to your home, usually within 2-3 days for a safe, no-contact purchase!



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY, AVAILABLE BY DONATION: Are you looking for an amplified telephone, TV listening system, a receiver for your church/community Centre's sound system, or a new bed shaker for your alarm clock? IDHHC is clearing out their technology cupboards and we have an assortment of used devices available for members, clients, friends, and family. The cost of all items will be by donation but no one will be denied if they are not able to make a donation at this time. Items will be available on a first come-first serve basis.

SATURDAY, JAN 30 @ 11AM - 1PM

SATURDAY, FEB 27 @ 11AM - 1PM

SATURDAY, MAR 27 @ 11AM - 1PM

IDHHC Victoria Parking Lot - 1555 McKenzie Avenue





CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

OUR HISTORY

The history of the agency dates back to 1969 when a group of concerned parents on Vancouver Island met to discuss the education needs of their Deaf children. These devoted parents laid the groundwork for a preschool class and an elementary class in Victoria School District. In 1971 they established the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Institute of Vancouver Island.

In 1978, Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (based in Vancouver) established a Victoria Regional Office. To streamline community services, the two societies amalgamated in January 1982, to become the Western Institute for the Deaf – Vancouver Island Branch (WID-VIB).

The organization continued to operate as a branch of WID until August 30, 1991. Following lengthy negotiations and with the approval of the Island membership, Island Deaf and Hard of Hearing Centre Association (IDHHC) was registered as an incorporated society and charitable organization and took over operations on September 1, 1991.



30TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

To celebrate our 30th Anniversary, IDHHC is launching our Building Inclusive Communities campaign with a goal to raise \$30,000 in new donations in 2021. As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic we recognize that support for non-profits from corporations and foundations will change in dramatic ways. Many granting dollars we use annually for service delivery will not be available. IDHHC has a strategic plan in place to grow our social enterprise to provide core funding where none exists. But to maintain and grow our much needed services we rely on grants and donations to continue the important services we provide to individuals, families and communities across Vancouver Island.

To support “Building Inclusive Communities” we invite everyone to make donations (including monthly gifts, donation of shares, as well as legacy and estate gifts) of \$3.00, \$30.00, \$300.00 and \$3000.00 to ensure that IDHHC can maintain and build on the 30 years of excellence and service for the years ahead.

For more information about the campaign or making gifts and donations please contact Denise Robertson at 250.592.8144 or via email at denise@idhhc.ca

All workshops and events will be conducted using Zoom. To register and for further information, please contact idhhc@idhhc.ca.

GENERAL

PAINT NIGHT

WED, MARCH 17 @ 6:30 - 8:30PM

Presenter: Janet McDonald



Join local artist and IDHHC Employment specialist, Janet McDonald, and fellow fun seekers in an interactive, virtual 2 hour PAINT NIGHT! You will end up with a new take on this classic painting by Henri Matisse to hang on your wall or give as a gift!

ASL and captioning provided. Register by February 19 to secure your spot, limited space available. To register and for further info, please email idhhc@idhhc.ca.

EMPLOYMENT

Captioning and ASL will be provided for all employment workshops.

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 15.

VIRTUAL INFORMATION INTERVIEWS

WED, FEBRUARY 10 @ 1 - 2:30PM

Presented by Kim Dillon & Janet McDonald



Practice online information interviews to increase your networking skills! 1 out of every 200 resumes results in a job offer. 1 out of every

12 informational interviews, however, results in a job offer.” -livecareer.com

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 3.

LINKEDIN FOR BEGINNERS

FRI, FEBRUARY 19 @ 1 - 2:30PM

Presented by Kim Dillon & Janet McDonald

Start or build a profile on LinkedIn to increase your online networking power for job search and career growth.



LINKEDIN INTERMEDIATE

WED, MARCH 3 @ 1 - 2:30PM

Presented by Kim Dillon & Janet McDonald



Learn 5 hacks to make your LinkedIn Profile get noticed. 80% of jobs are not posted online, but are available through networking. LinkedIn is an effective tool to network in the digital age.

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 25.

INTERVIEW SKILLS

TUE, MARCH 9 @ 9:30 - 11AM

Presented by Kim Dillon & Janet McDonald

Practice answering the tough questions in a small, safe setting.

REGISTER BY MARCH 4.



FAMILY & COMMUNITY

ASL CLASSES

For individual families (up to 6 classes per family). We will tailor these classes to meet your family's communication needs and schedule.

ASL COFFEE & CHAT

MONDAYS AT NOON - 1PM
FEBRUARY 1 - MARCH 15
(except for February 15)

Six online conversation meet-ups for parents! Foundational ASL skills are required to participate. Our ASL instructor will guide the conversations through topics and activities.

REGISTER BY JANUARY 20.

COFFEE/TEA CHAT WITH DR. FRANCHI ON THE TOPIC OF DEATH DEAF COMMUNITY

MON, FEBRUARY 1 @ 6:30 - 7:30PM
HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY
MON, FEBRUARY 8 @ 6:30 - 7:30PM

Presenters: Dr. Lisa Franchi,
Felicia D'Amato, & Tammy Gray



Dr. Franchi is a Death Doula which means she supports people who are dying. She invites us to think about death in the future: how we can prepare, and what are our thoughts and concerns about death.

FEB 1 - DEAF: Presented in ASL.

Captioning can be provided upon request.

REGISTER BY JANUARY 27.

FEB 8 - HOH: Captioning provided.

ASL can be provided upon request.

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 4.

ASL BINGO WITH SUSANNE

WEDNESDAYS AT 4 - 5PM
FEBRUARY 3 - MARCH 10

For children aged 5 - 10. Parents will need to be available for set-up and participation with the young ones.

REGISTER BY JANUARY 22.

VALENTINE CRAFTIN' TIME WITH NINA

TUE, FEBRUARY 9 @ 4:30 - 5PM

Create beautiful rainbow heart suncatchers for your window with Nina, Deaf artist. For children up to 8 years old. Parents will need to be available for set-up and participation with the young ones.

REGISTER BY JANUARY 29 TO GET CRAFT
SUPPLIES IN TIME FOR SESSION!



VALENTINE STORY TIME WITH NINA

THU, FEBRUARY 11 @ 6:30 - 7PM

Four wonderful love-filled books will be signed in ASL by Nina, Deaf artist. For children up to 8 years old. Parents will need to be available for set-up and participation with the young ones.

MY VOICE®, ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

MARCH DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

Presenter: Felicia D'Amato and Tammy Gray



March date to be announced; please keep an eye on our website, www.idhhc.ca, or Facebook.

Presented in ASL. Captioning or voice can be provided upon request.

HEARING HEALTH

Captioning and ASL will be provided for all workshops below.

HEARING LOSS PREVENTION FOR MUSICIANS

TUE, JANUARY 26 @ 5 - 6PM

Presenter: Marshall Chasin,
Doctor of Audiology

Are you a musician or music lover who is concerned about your hearing? Dr. Marshall Chasin will discuss topics such as loudness exposure, temporary and permanent hearing loss, and hearing protection from a musician's perspective. In addition to exploring a variety of interesting and even unexpected factors that can impact your hearing, he will present a toolbox of hearing loss prevention strategies for musicians.



Dr. Chasin is the Director of Audiology and Research at the Musicians' Clinics of Canada, Associate Professor in the School of Communication Disorders and Sciences at Western University, and author of over 200 articles and 8 books, three of which are on musicians and the prevention of hearing loss.

REGISTER BY JANUARY 21.

COCHLEAR IMPLANT Q&A

TUE, FEBRUARY 16 @ 5 - 6PM

Presenter: Stephanie Renaas
& Leslee Scott

Join IDHHC staff members Stephanie and Leslee who are both cochlear implant recipients, for a Q&A session over Zoom. They will be providing an overview of cochlear implants, a short description of each of their CI journeys and answering any questions.



REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 11.

AURAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM

EVERY TUESDAY FROM

FEB 16 - MAR 16 @ 10:30 - 11:30AM

Presenter: Stephanie Renaas
& Edward Storzer



Hearing loss affects an individual's quality of life, as difficulties with communication affect interactions with others. At its core, aural rehabilitation focuses on those communication challenges that results from deprivation of sound over time, such as:

- + Decreased auditory-processing ability
- + Reduced participation or withdrawal in activities
- + Stress, fatigue, and difficulty focusing
- + Diminished ability or stamina in relation to listening

The primary goal of an aural rehabilitation program is to help individuals integrate or re-integrate into a world full of sound, assisting them in developing skills to hear their best and more confidently navigate various listening situations.

Adult aural rehabilitation can be offered in individual or group settings and encompasses these main points:

- + Improving communication skills for greater engagement and participation
- + Learning to effectively self-advocate in various situations
- + Learning how to cope with the social and emotional aspects of hearing loss

Costs are: \$75 for IDHHC members, \$125 for non-members. Annual membership is \$25.) Interpreting and captioning will be provided.

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 11.

TROUBLESHOOTING HEARING AIDS

WED, MARCH 10 @ 10:30 - 11:30AM

Presenter: Stephanie Renaas
& Edward Storzer



Do you want to learn how to keep your hearing aids clean? Are you wondering how to adjust your hearing aid settings?

Do you have questions about your hearing aid accessories? Are you getting feedback from your hearing aids or finding they are coming out of your ears? If you answered yes to any of these questions, or if you just want to learn more about the basics of successful hearing aid use, please join IDHHC audiologists Stephanie and Edward for an online Zoom session where they will go over common hearing aid issues and answer your troubleshooting questions!

REGISTER BY MARCH 5.

BALANCE & DIZZINESS

TUE, MARCH 23 @ 5 - 6PM

Presenter: Erica Zaia



Join us for a Zoom presentation to learn about common balance and dizziness disorders and how to manage them!

Erica has performed vestibular testing and rehabilitation for 25 years. She has worked in a variety of settings, including St. Paul's Hospital (Vancouver), the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital (London, England), and public and private practices in Brazil. Erica is on the clinical faculty at the School of Audiology and Speech Sciences at UBC. She is also a director of the Canadian Academy of Audiology (CAA) and of the BC Balance and Dizziness Disorders Society.

REGISTER BY MARCH 18.

ZOOM BINGO

Looking for some online social fun? Join us for some virtual Bingo! We play every Tuesday from 2 - 4 PM between January 12 - June 15.

Please contact Susanne who can provide you with more information and the Zoom link.

E: susanne@idhhc.ca TXT: 250.818.5738

FT: susanne@idhhc.ca VRS: 778.817.0437



ONLINE WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS

Provided by Provincial Family Services in collaboration with Family Network for Deaf Children and Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, BC – Youth Peer Support Program

Listening Fatigue within the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community

WED, JANUARY 27 @ 6:30 - 8PM

Presenter: Dr. Natalia Rohaty-Martin

Register at FS@gov.bc.ca by January 20

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in K-12 Schools

WED, FEBRUARY 24 @ 6:30 - 8:30PM

Presenters: Barb Mykle-Hotzon, Program of Sign Language Interpretation at Douglas College
Alana Haller, Provincial Outreach Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Bobbi Taylor, Family Support Institute

Register at FS@gov.bc.ca by February 17

SVIAD BOTTLE DRIVE

South Vancouver Island Association of the Deaf (SVIAD) will be having a bottle drive in the upper parking lot of IDHHC at 1555 McKenzie Avenue. Please come by and drop off your bottle recycling and assist them in raising much needed funds for SVIAD annual activities.

SATURDAY, JAN 30 @ 11AM - 1PM

SATURDAY, FEB 27 @ 11AM - 1PM

SATURDAY, MAR 27 @ 11AM - 1PM

Check out their Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100012067141217



NEW APP HELPS BC PARAMEDICS COMMUNICATE WITH PATIENTS WHO ARE DEAF & HARD OF HEARING



DECEMBER 20, 2020 - BY CBC NEWS, www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/paramedics-app-deaf-1.5848563



A new app is available in B.C. to help paramedics communicate with people who are deaf and hard of hearing.

Leon Baranowski, a paramedic practice leader with B.C. Emergency Health Services, says the app connects paramedics to live American Sign Language interpreters within 20 to 30 seconds.

It will be available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, on their B.C. Emergency Health Services-issued iPhones.

“What’s really innovative about this app is the video aspect and being able to connect with somebody and have that face to face and it just makes it more human,” Baranowski said.

The impetus for the project came from Scott Jeffery, a sign language service coordinator at the Provincial Language Service, which provides

interpreting and translation services to B.C. health authorities.

“[He] really kind of brought forward voices of patients in B.C. that have experienced 911 calls from our paramedics and really were looking to kind of improve the way that we offer our service,” said Baranowski.

“[And] the patient is why we’re all here —that’s the voice that we need to shine through.”

COVID-19 also pushed things forward, he said, noting that personal protective equipment such as masks and face shields were leading to communication challenges with some of these patients.

Baranowski said paramedics are “extremely flexible people” and will find ways to communicate in any situation, often utilizing friends and family, facial and body expressions or pen and paper to get through to a patient.

“But that also has a lot of kind of anxiety for the patient as well, not really truly understanding what’s happening,” he said.

“And so to be able to utilize this app and really open up two-way communication and let people know that they are going to be OK is invaluable.”

While different types of interpreters have been used in the past, the Provincial Health Services Authority says this project marks the first time such video remote interpreting has been used across B.C. and Canada.

REGINA WOMAN NAMED FIRST CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR IN DEAF EDUCATION

REGINA LEADER-POST

JANUARY 11, 2021 - BY REGINA LEADER-POST,
www.leaderpost.com/news/local-news/regina-woman-named-first-canada-research-chair-in-deaf-education



Growing up deaf and struggling through the mainstream education system, Joanne Weber thought academia was a world she would never enter.

Supports in schools for students like her were non-existent at the time, she said. That was in the 1960s, and Weber said she was part of the first generation of deaf children in Saskatchewan whose parents wanted them to go through the mainstream education system rather than through a separate program.

From her first day of kindergarten to the day she graduated high school, Weber — who was born profoundly deaf — said she never understood what her teachers or classmates were saying.

Instead, she took her education upon herself.

“I read my way through school. I just read. I just took books home and I studied,” Weber said in a recent interview.

“What that did for me was it cultivated a love for learning that was independent of marks ...

I always thought that I would never be in that category of being an accomplished scholar so I just thought, ‘Well, I’ll just read.’”

She completed a bachelor of arts in English literature at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) in this way, reading her way through textbooks because she couldn’t understand her professors. A master of library sciences from the University of Alberta (U of A) followed, even though that was not where her passion lay.

What Weber really wanted was to be a teacher, but she didn’t know how she could do that without being able to hear her students.

At the age of 25, Weber hit a breaking point and realized she was trying to be a hearing person, which led to what she called a “solitary existence.” But a few years later, she met a woman who challenged her to accept her deafness and encouraged her to learn American Sign Language (ASL).

Weber did, and in doing so, discovered a community to which she felt she belonged.

“That was a journey toward being immersed in real life, being involved in the community,” she said.

“That’s when I decided to become a teacher of the deaf.”

After learning ASL, Weber returned to the U of S and completed a bachelor of education degree. For nearly two decades since, she has worked as a resource room teacher with Regina Public Schools, working with teens who are deaf or hard of hearing.

She also became the artistic director for Deaf Crows Collective and received her PhD in language and literacy education from the University of Regina (U of R).

Now she’s adding another achievement to her resume: being named the first Canada Research

Chair in Deaf Education, a position she said makes her feel like a kid in a candy store.

In this newly created research chair, Weber plans to explore how inclusive education can incorporate more dialogue and self-expression for deaf students, particularly through the arts.

“In the education system, I really saw over and over again the problems related to language deprivation. Language deprivation is when you are exposed to language ... but you don't necessarily understand it,” she said, noting she plans to continue her work with the Deaf Crows Collective as part of this work.

Having this research chair established is a step forward for the entire deaf community, Weber said, and she attributed its creation to the decades the deaf community has spent fighting for recognition and support in the academic world. She also expressed gratitude to the U of R and U of A for supporting her in her research.

“This is really, really significant and I think the deaf community is just really pumped by all of this because it's a big step forward, not only for me, but all of the deaf community across Canada and the world,” she said.

A \$150 GRANT TOWARDS RDSP FOR BC RESIDENTS



The Endowment 150 grant offers eligible people with disabilities a one-time grant of \$150 to help their Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) grow.

Plan Institute, Disability Alliance of BC, and the British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society have united to launch a new program designed to help British Columbians with

disabilities learn about and access tax benefits that will help them save for the future. As part of this initiative, Plan Institute is distributing a one-time \$150 grant to help low-income British Columbians to start growing their RDSP, thanks to the support of the Vancouver Foundation.

Endowment 150 grants are available for all children in BC with RDSPs, and individuals and families with low-incomes who are residents of BC and have an RDSP. Read the requirements and make sure you send in all the items on the checklist with your Application Form.

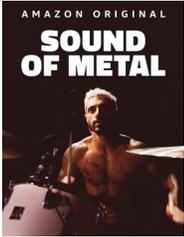
www.rdsp.com/endowment-150/



THINGS WE LOVE

THESE COME HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

FILMS



Sound of Metal (2020)

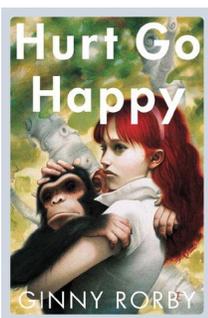
Metal drummer Ruben begins to lose his hearing. When a doctor tells him his condition will worsen, he thinks his career and life is over. His girlfriend, Lou, checks the former addict into a rehab for the deaf hoping it will prevent a relapse and help him adapt to his new life. After being welcomed and accepted just as he is, Ruben must choose between his new normal and the life he once knew. *Available on Amazon Prime.*

American Culture: The Deaf Perspective (1984)

A Four-Part Series Exploring the Culture and Heritage of Deaf Americans (Deaf Heritage, Deaf Folklore, Deaf Literature, and Deaf Minorities)

sfpl.org/locations/main-library/deaf-services/american-culture-deaf-perspective

BOOKS



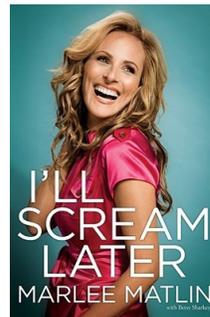
Hurt Go Happy, written by Ginny Rorby: The Schneider Family Book Award-winning novel is inspired by the true story of a chimpanzee raised as a human.

Thirteen-year-old Joey Willis is used to being left out of conversations. Though she's been deaf since the age of six, Joey's mother has never allowed her to learn sign language. She strains to read the lips of those around her and often fails.

Everything changes when Joey meets Dr. Charles Mansell and his baby chimpanzee, Sukari. Her new friends use sign language to communicate, and Joey secretly begins to learn to sign. Spending time with Charlie and Sukari, Joey has never

been happier. But as Joey's world blooms with possibilities, Charlie's and Sukari's choices begin to narrow-until Sukari's very survival is in doubt.

Hurt Go Happy is the unforgettable story of one girl's determination to save the life of a fellow creature - one who has the ability to ask for help.



I'll Scream Later, written by Marlee Matlin:

From Children of a Lesser God to Dancing with the Stars, to Switched at Birth, Academy Award- and Golden Globe-winning actress Marlee Matlin shares her incredible life story in a moving and often surprising memoir,

I'll Scream Later.

More than twenty years after becoming the youngest woman to win a Best Actress Oscar for her stunning performance as Sarah Norman, the pupil-turned-custodian at a school for the Deaf in Children of a Lesser God, Marlee Matlin continues to be an inspirational force of nature. A working mother, wife, activist, and role model, she takes readers on the frank and touching journey of her life, from the sudden and permanent loss of her hearing at eighteen months old to the highs and lows of Hollywood, her battles with addiction, and the unexpected challenges of being thrust into the spotlight as an emissary for the Deaf community. With uncompromising honesty, she reveals the shocking incidents of molestation that took her years to reconcile; her passionate and tumultuous relationship with Oscar winner William Hurt; her romances with Rob Lowe, Richard Dean Anderson, and David E. Kelley; and much more. As fresh and invigorating as her memorable television roles on Seinfeld, The West Wing, The L Word, and her dazzling turn on Dancing with the Stars, Marlee Matlin's self-portrait captures the chutzpah and humor of a celebrated actress who continues to defy all expectations.

THE FUNNIES

HAVE A LAUGH



THAT DEAF GUY

BY MATT & KAY DAIGLE



PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE

