

2026 SYMPOSIUM

May 6 to 8, 2026

Fallsview Casino Resort
Niagara Falls Hilton



WELCOME

Welcome to the 2026 Symposium. We're excited to bring together professionals from across Ontario for a day of learning, connection, and fresh perspectives. This year's sessions are designed to challenge thinking, share practical insights, and highlight the evolving landscape of hearing care. Together, we have an opportunity to learn from one another and continue improving the experiences of those who are Hard of Hearing. Thank you for being part of it.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2026 AHIP Symposium.

This is one of the best events on the hearing health calendar. A room full of people who care about this profession, gathered to learn, reconnect, and push things forward together. That doesn't happen by accident.

Maggie Arzani and the AHIP office have put in months of work to make these three days as valuable as possible for you. The lineup of speakers, the sessions, the conversations you'll have in the hallways have all been built with you in mind.

Come in ready to engage. Ask the questions, make the connections, and leave with something you can use. That's what this community does best.

Enjoy the Symposium.

Chris Arnold, H.I.S.
AHIP President

FROM THE SYMPOSIUM CHAIR

Welcome to the 2026 AHIP Symposium!

We have an exciting lineup of seminars and renowned speakers planned for you. This year's conference offers 14.5 hours of continuing education credits, providing you with flexibility to meet your annual AHIP membership requirements. Additionally, you'll have the opportunity to connect with industry leaders at the Exhibit and Networking Halls, as well as during our new Professional Social event on Thursday afternoon. We hope you'll take advantage of these opportunities to network with your colleagues and enjoy some fun along the way.

On behalf of all AHIP members, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Symposium sponsors. Their support is greatly appreciated!

Wishing you an exciting three days in beautiful Niagara Falls. It's a pleasure to spend this time together and connect with you. Enjoy the 2026 AHIP Symposium!

Maggie Arzani, H.I.D.
AHIP Symposium Chair



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BEFORE YOU BEGIN



1. Seminar Etiquette

Please be respectful of speakers and fellow attendees. To minimize disruptions, each seminar includes a 15 minute break for comfort and networking.

2. Badge Requirement

Badges must be worn at all times during the Symposium. For the Friday night Gala, badges will be exchanged for a wristband upon entry.

3. CEU Scanning

CEU scanning will take place at the end of each seminar. To receive credit, please ensure your badge is scanned before leaving the room.

4. CEU Certificates

CEU hours will be automatically applied for AHIP members. Certificates are available upon request following the Symposium by emailing office@ahip.ca.

5. Gala Dress Code

Semi formal attire is required for the Gala (for example: suit and tie, cocktail dress, or long dress).

6. Gala Seat Booking

Gala seating must be reserved by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2026. If a seat is not reserved, it will be assumed you will not be attending.









7. Gala Ticket Policy

Tickets are non transferable. Please bring your ticket to the Gala for entry and to be eligible for prize draws.



SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

12:00 - 6:00 PM	 Registration + Gala Tickets Grand Hall Foyer
1:00 - 1:45 PM	 Monika Nazair, M.Sc.: Real-world Benefits of Hearing Care and Hearing Aids, from Audibility to Quality of Life Grand Hall B
2:00 - 2:45 PM	 Kari Smitsky, M.CL.Sc. & Anne Marie Langlois: Cochlear Implant Don't Wait! Grand Hall B
2:45 - 3:00 PM	 Coffee Break Grand Hall Foyer
3:00 - 3:45 PM	 Jenn Schumacher, Au.D.: Becoming an Auracast Advocate: Bringing Next-Generation Hearing Accessibility to Your Community Grand Hall B
4:00 - 4:45 PM	 Chantal Belanger, M.Sc.: Factors Associated with Hearing Aid Adoption Grand Hall B
5:00 - 6:30 PM	 Ted Venema, PhD: Anatomy of Speech Grand Hall B
6:35 PM - 12:00 AM	 Networking Dinner Grand Hall C & D









Thursday, May 7, 2026

7:15 - 8:45 AM	 Breakfast BRASA (HILTON)
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM	 Registration + Gala Tickets Grand Hall Foyer
9:00 - 10:30 AM	 Steve Aiken, PhD: I Can't Hear Myself Think: A Look at Hearing Loss, Cognitive Decline and Dementia Grand Hall B
10:30 - 10:45 AM	 Coffee Break Grand Hall Foyer
10:45 AM - 12:15 PM	 Oli Luke: The New Marketing Playbook: What's Working to Attract and Keep Patients in 2026 Grand Hall B
12:15 - 1:30 PM	 Lunch + Ann M. McSweeney, MSW. CHHA National Executive Director Address Grand Hall C & D

Thursday, May 7, 2026 Continued

1:30 - 2:30 PM	 Andreas Seelisch, MBA, M.Sc.: Audiology Case Files: The Complex, The Curious, The Correctable Grand Hall B
2:40 - 3:40 PM	 Bobbi-Jo Marlatt, M.Ed, M.Cl.Sc., H.I.S.: Helping People Change: Navigating Ambivalence Grand Hall B
3:45 - 4:45 PM	 Exhibit Hall - Yellow Group Grand Hall A
3:45 - 4:45 PM	 Networking Hall - Green Group Grand Hall E
4:45 - 5:45 PM	 Exhibit Hall - Green Group Grand Hall A
4:45 - 5:45 PM	 Networking Hall - Yellow Group Grand Hall E
4:30 - 5:45 PM	 Professional Social Grand Hall Foyer

Friday, May 8, 2025

7:00 - 8:30 AM	 Breakfast BRASA (HILTON)
8:45 AM - 12:00 PM	 AHIP's AGM - Members Only Grand Hall B
10:15 - 10:30 AM	 Coffee Break Grand Hall Foyer
12:00 - 1:30 PM	 Lunch + Leslie Holden, BC-HIS IHS Canadian Governor Update Grand Hall C & D
1:30 - 2:30 PM	 Thomas J. Aleo Sr., BC-H.I.S.: Best Practices with Clinical Integrity Grand Hall B
5:45 - 6:30 PM	 Presidents' Reception Grand Hall Foyer
6:30 PM	 Gala Dinner Grand Hall C & D
6:30 PM - 1:00 AM	 DJ Grand Hall C & D

OTICON | Zeal

The first hearing aid to do it all – unseen.

Give your clients the world's most complete discreet solution. With innovative **encapsulation technology**, Oticon Zeal encloses the entire device in a single solid structure delivering durability, reliability, and performance in a remarkably discreet design.



The power of 3, perfected.

Three advanced hearing solutions. One intelligent platform designed to help you confidently fit more patients with the technology and solution that best matches their needs.

Powered by Oticon's Sirius™ platform, Oticon Intent and Zeal hearing devices offer Oticon's second generation Deep Neural Network (DNN) sound processing in a compact device. **Always on and proven to perform.**



Step Into the Hearing of Today and the Future

Bluetooth® LE Audio + Auracast™ broadcast audio

The next generation of wireless hearing technology is here. Powered by **Bluetooth LE Audio**, Oticon Intent and Zeal hearing aids deliver **clearer streaming, longer battery life, and access to the growing world of Auracast**.

Why LE Audio? Designed for Modern Audio Streaming

Unlike older Bluetooth technology, **Bluetooth LE Audio** was built specifically for **next-generation sound quality and connectivity**.



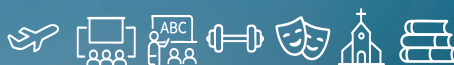
High-quality
sound
experience

More
efficient
power use

Modern
multi-device
connectivity

Auracast™ technology is here

With **Auracast broadcast audio**, Oticon Intent and Oticon Zeal hearing devices can **receive shared audio streams in public spaces**.



More and more locations are rolling out Auracast-enabled systems today, making hearing access simpler and more inclusive.



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SPEAKERS

Monika Nazair, M.Sc.

Monika obtained her Master's degree in Audiology from the University of Ottawa in 2010 and worked in various clinical settings before joining Sonova Canada in 2016. Her current role within the organization is Audiology Support and Specialty Training Manager, and she especially enjoys facilitating Roger product training sessions. She joined the Better Hearing in Education for Northern Youth (BHENEY) project as a volunteer, and has helped train educators in several Canadian arctic communities over the last decade.

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Real-world Benefits of Hearing Care and Hearing Aids, from Audibility to Quality of Life

Grand Hall B - Wednesday, May 6, 1:00 - 1:45 pm

In this session, we will review the evidence supporting the positive impact of hearing aids beyond audibility and speech understanding. By using a holistic approach that aims to frame counselling and technology around real-world benefits, we hope to demonstrate how effective hearing care can positively impact multiple dimensions of health and well-being, including social wellness.

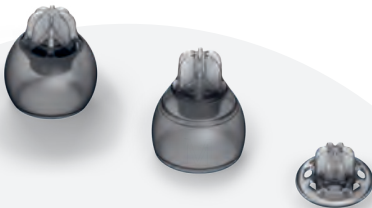
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A Sonova brand

Phonak Infinio Ultra.

Adaptive. Connected. Easy. Clear.


Say hello to simpler care
with **EasyGuard**.



Infinio Ultra




Kari Smilsky, M.CL.Sc.



Kari Smilsky is the Senior Audiologist in the Cochlear Implant Program at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. She has a Masters of Clinical Science from Western University in Communication Disorders and a Bachelor of Science from McMaster University. Kari is a lecturer in the Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Toronto. Her research interests include bilateral cochlear implants, single-sided hearing loss, and hearing preservation.

Anne Marie Langlois



Anne Marie is a consultant and coach who has been supporting the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association (CHHA) in various capacities since January 2022. She fulfilled instrumental roles on two employment and upskilling initiatives - the Employment Access Framework (EAF) Project and the Accessible Navigation to Employment (ANTE) program. Anne Marie's role expanded to Manager Programs & Services – Education and Inclusion which she continues to fulfill on a part time basis. Anne Marie applies her lived experience with hearing loss, along with her 25+ professional years in the human resources field, to the work she does. She educates and builds rapport through storytelling and believes strongly that curiosity lends itself to knowledge-building and change.

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Cochlear Implant Don't Wait!

Grand Hall B - Wednesday, May 6, 2:00 - 2:45 pm

Curious about the latest guidelines for cochlear implant referrals in 2026? Join this insightful presentation, hosted by Cochlear Canada, to explore the updated 60/60 referral criteria for adult patients. You'll also gain a clear understanding of how to refer patients to cochlear implant programs in Ontario

We will help you identify the hearing aid users that are meeting the Cochlear Implant candidacy evaluation criteria.

You will understand the importance of your role in the hearing health of your patients.

We will review how Cochlear can help you help your patients for their lifetime of hearing.

We will review how to use the 60/60 referral criteria for adults in your practice.

We will review the process for referring patients to the Cochlear Implant Programs in Ontario.



SPEAKERS

Jenn Schumacher, Au.D.

Jenn Schumacher, Au.D. is an audiologist and manager of medical communications with over a decade of experience in the hearing aid industry. Jenn joined GN Hearing in 2014. Her current focus is on creating communications related to hearing aids and audiology for current and potential hearing aid users, hearing care professionals, and physicians. She has prior experience in conducting hearing aid research and clinical trials, in fitting software development and with diagnostic audiology and hearing aid fittings in hospital clinics. Jenn received both her BA in Linguistics and her Au.D. at Ohio State University.

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ReSound GN

Becoming an Auracast Advocate: Bringing Next-Generation Hearing Accessibility to Your Community

Grand Hall B - Wednesday, May 6, 3:00 - 3:45 pm

Auracast is poised to transform how people with hearing loss access sound in everyday public spaces. Its success will depend on the technology being understood, adopted, and championed at the local level. This session will equip audiologists to become effective Auracast advocates in their own communities. After a brief overview of Auracast and how it differs from traditional assistive listening systems, we will focus on why it matters for accessibility, participation, and quality of life in settings such as places of worship, schools, transportation hubs, and public venues. Participants will identify priority local environments where Auracast can make a difference and learn practical strategies for initiating conversations with venue managers, decision-makers, and hearing aid users. Attendees will leave with clear talking points and a concise advocacy plan to help move Auracast from promising technology to everyday accessibility.



Coffee Break Thoughts

I tried talking to my hearing aid about my problems... it said, 'I'm all ears!'

Why did the sound wave go to school? To improve its amplitude!

What did the hearing aid say to the ear? 'We make a great pair!'



Chantal Belanger, M.Sc.

Chantal Belanger is an Audiologist with Sonova Canada, where she provides both audiology and product launch support. She obtained her Master's degree in Audiology from Dalhousie University and has worked with both pediatric and adult populations in a variety of clinical settings prior to joining Sonova Canada. She is a passionate advocate for early identification and management of hearing loss in the pediatric population. Chantal recently volunteered with the Hear the World Foundation, training clinicians on infant threshold ABR testing in Cambodia, where access to audiological training is limited. She continues to promote best practices in audiological care through her professional and volunteer work.

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Factors Associated with Hearing Aid Adoption

Grand Hall B - Wednesday, May 6, 4:00 - 4:45 pm

In this session, different factors that drive hearing aid adoption will be explored, including self-perceived hearing ability, social relationships, emotional factors, and more. Specific strategies will be discussed that can be implemented into clinical practice to predict and improve hearing aid adoption.

SUDOKU

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4		8						
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How to Play

Fill in the grid so that:

- Each row contains the numbers 1 to 9
- Each column contains the numbers 1 to 9
- Each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9

Correct answer is on page 26

SPEAKERS

Ted Venema, PhD

Ted Venema earned a BA in Philosophy at Calvin College (1977), an MA in Audiology at Western Washington University (1988), and a PhD in Audiology at the University of Oklahoma (1993). He was a clinical Audiologist at the Canadian Hearing Society in Toronto early on in his career, and more recently at NexGen Hearing in Victoria BC. Between those years he was with Unitron, where he conducted field trials on new hearing aid products and gave many presentations, domestically and abroad. He taught Audiology at Auburn University in Alabama, and later on at Western University in London Ontario. Ted has also taught in the Hearing Aid Practitioner programs at four different colleges: George Brown College in Toronto, Conestoga College in Kitchener, Ontario, Ozarks Technical Community College in Springfield, Missouri, and most recently at Douglas College in BC. Ted is the author of a textbook, *Compression for Clinicians*. Yeah, yeah, yeah, enough on that. It's my pleasure and privilege to be invited to speak at AHIP once again.

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Anatomy of Speech

Grand Hall B - Wednesday, May 6, 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Hearing is a receptive sense; speech is what is produced. Our profession is all about enabling better hearing, and the most important sound of our focus is speech. Here, we take a closer look at speech, its acoustics, and how it is produced. Speech is a whoppingly comprehensive thing. It begins with the larynx, that piece of anatomy responsible for creating voice in the first place. Above the larynx is where we literally sculpt and shape the voice, by means of rapid snaps of the tongue, sputtering lips, as well as by the resonating cavities of our mouths and nasal passages. The fascinating physiology of speech production is truly amazing. In the whole of the animal kingdom, speech is a unique activity performed only by humans. Speech is the basis and foundation of all oral language. Speaking of language, can one even form concepts of thought without language? It's an old philosophical chestnut, but let's not get ahead of ourselves. The purpose here is simply to learn a bit more about the production of speech; after all, it's the main sound we strive to help our clients hear!



Coffee Break Thoughts


Why did the hearing aid break up with the ear? It couldn't handle all the feedback.

I asked my hearing aid to play hide and seek... it still can't find the bass.





Steve Aiken, PhD



Dr. Steve Aiken is an Associate Professor in the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders as well as the Departments of Surgery, Psychology and Neuroscience at Dalhousie University. He has a PhD in Medical Science from the University of Toronto and an MSc in Audiology from Western University. He has practiced as a clinical audiologist and a consulting audiologist in the hearing industry. His research is primarily in the area of human auditory electrophysiological responses and noise-induced damage to the auditory system. Dr. Aiken has presented over 40 invited lectures and keynotes. He is a past president of the Canadian Academy of Audiology, associate editor of Canadian Audiologist, and a member of the Canadian Infant Hearing Task Force, the Knowledge and Implementation in Pediatric Audiology translational research group, and the Hearing Health Alliance of Canada.

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I Can't Hear Myself Think: A Look at Hearing Loss, Cognitive Decline and Dementia

Grand Hall B - Thursday, May 7, 9:00 - 10:30 am

Hearing loss is associated with cognitive decline and has been identified as the largest potentially modifiable risk factor for dementia. What likely drives this relationship and what can we do about it? Can hearing aids help? This talk will explore possible mechanisms behind the relationship based on the latest evidence, including common pathologies, social isolation, and changes to brain structure and function. Recent work investigating the effects of hearing aids will be explored. The session will discuss how we should understand the relationship, with a focus on guidance for clinical practice.



Coffee Break Thoughts

Ear-onomy Wordplay

Ear-mazing - Something you hear that blows your mind or makes you smile.

Ear-prise - A surprising sound that catches you off guard.



SPEAKERS



Oli Luke

Oli Luke is the co-founder of Orange & Gray and the strategist behind many of North America's leading private practice hearing care clinics. Before entering the hearing care industry in 2017, he led marketing campaigns for global brands including Gucci, B , and Virgin. That experience shaped his belief that small, independent businesses can achieve extraordinary results through smarter strategy, not bigger budgets.

Today, through Orange & Gray, he helps private practice owners build trusted brands, grow sustainably, and stay ahead in a changing industry - empowering them to become locally iconic businesses that stand strong as the hearing care landscape evolves.

He also hosts The Business of Hearing Podcast - the field's leading marketing podcast - and is soon to release his first book on how small businesses can thrive on limited resources.

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The New Marketing Playbook: What's Working to Attract and Keep Patients in 2026

Grand Hall B - Thursday, May 7, 10:45 am - 12:15 pm

Marketing is changing quickly. Google is shifting to an AI-Search platform, the boomers have drastically different buying habits to previous generations, and the foundational marketing playbook that has attracted patients for the past decade has become increasingly redundant. In this session, Oli will share what's working now and how the best-performing practices in the world are growing their reputation, recognition and revenue.



Why Starkey ?

At Starkey, we are uniquely positioned to help you help your patients hear and live their best lives — through leading-edge technology, quality products, and industry-best independent clinic support and services.

It's time to ask: **"Why Not Starkey?"**



Andreas Seelisch, MBA, M.Sc.

Andreas graduated from Western University with a Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) in 2006 and a Master's in Communication Sciences and Disorders in 2008. He recently earned his Master of Business Administration from the Jack Welch Management Institute in 2024. His thesis work at the National Centre for Audiology examined the sound quality impact of frequency compression technology, and he has published on this and other topics. He regularly lectures at conferences, scientific meetings, and in the media, as well as at post-secondary institutions including the University of Toronto, Western University, Conestoga College, Humber College, and St. Lawrence College, where he is faculty. In addition to over a decade of clinical experience as an audiologist, Andreas serves as Director of Audiology at Hearing Solutions, Ontario's largest independently owned hearing healthcare network. In 2025, he completed his term as President of the Canadian Academy of Audiology, where he continues to serve on the Executive Board.

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Audiology Case Files: The Complex, The Curious, The Correctable

Grand Hall B - Thursday, May 7, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Clinical audiology is rarely textbook. Between the subtle tympanic membrane that "just doesn't look right," the unusual presentation that challenges pattern recognition, and the everyday best practices that quietly drift from routine, our decision-making is constantly tested.

This session explores real-world case files drawn from complex pathologies, curious otoscopic findings, and correctable clinical habits. We will examine uncommon presentations that sharpen diagnostic reasoning, revisit subtle visual and audiometric cues that demand closer scrutiny, and identify practical refinements in workflow and technique that meaningfully improve patient outcomes.

Attendees will leave with a renewed clinical lens, greater confidence when confronted with atypical findings, and immediately actionable strategies to elevate day-to-day practice.



Hearing Aid Donation Drop-Off

with Canadian International Hearing Services (CIHS)



Drop off your used hearing aids **BEFORE Thursday at 1:30 pm.**

SPEAKERS



Bobbi-Jo Marlatt, M.Ed, M.Cl.Sc, H.I.S.

Bobbi-Jo is a passionate Hearing Instrument Specialist (H.I.S.) who has worn hearing aids since childhood. She holds a BA in Psychology, a Master of Applied Health Sciences and a Master of Education. She is currently doing her Ph.D at Western. For 14 years she has been working for Demant supporting HCPs in various capacities. She is also a professor and course designer for the H.I.S. Program at Humber Polytechnique, specializing in clinical theory and patient counselling. Her dedication to hearing care excellence extends to her role on the Board of Directors for A.H.I.P. in Ontario and to the Canadian College of Health Leaders (CCHL).

Bobbi-Jo hopes that by teaching MI skills we can better equip HCPs to increase hearing adoption, thereby treating hearing loss sooner. In collaboration with Pacific Audiology Group, she created a six-week course on MI for hearing care, as well as several educational blogs and videos. Her work on MI has also been published in the Canadian Audiologist and her book "Motivational Interviewing for Hearing Care Professionals" just came out in November 2025.

Sponsored by  helpmehear.ca

Helping People Change: Navigating Ambivalence

Grand Hall B - Thursday, May 7, 2:40 - 3:40 pm

This interactive session will introduce the basic psychological mechanisms behind Motivational Interviewing (MI). MI is a way of talking to patients about change that empowers them to decide in favour of treating their hearing loss. Bobbi-jo will illustrate how our desire to help can sometimes hinder and introduce the basic skills behind this evidence-based approach to increasing adherence to treatment.

Mindful Moment: Reset Between Sessions

Drop your shoulders and unclench your jaw

Take a slow breath in through your nose

Exhale gently through your mouth

Now, notice:

1 thing you
can **see**

1 thing you
can **hear**

1 thing you
can **feel**

Let everything else pause for a moment

Thomas J. Aleo Sr., BC-H.I.S.

Thomas J. Aleo Sr. NBCHIS, brings more than three decades of experience in hearing healthcare and a deep commitment to patient-centered care. Mr. Aleo is a National Board-Certified Hearing Instrument Specialist and a clinic owner with over 30 years of leadership in the field. Throughout his career, he has dedicated himself to advancing clinical integrity, ethical practice, and best standards of care in hearing health.

Mr. Aleo is passionate about helping hearing care professionals strengthen patient trust through clear communication, strong clinical protocols, and a commitment to doing the right thing for every patient. He will share practical insights on professionalism and clinical integrity that can elevate both patient outcomes and the overall standard of care in our profession.

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Best Practices with Clinical Integrity

Grand Hall B - Friday, May 8, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

This presentation highlights best practices that strengthen clinical integrity and professionalism in hearing healthcare. Thomas J. Aleo, Sr., BC-HIS, shares practical strategies for conducting thorough evaluations, communicating results clearly, making confident patient-centered recommendations, and building trust through ethical care, professional communication, and evidence-based verification techniques.



Presenting the Most Intelligent Portfolio

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ReSound **Savi**™



SPEAKERS

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association (CHHA) National Executive Director Address

Grand Hall C & D - Thursday, May 7, 1:10 - 1:25 pm

Ann M. McSweeney, MSW



Ann is the National Executive Director of the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association (CHHA) since May 1, 2025. For the past 35 plus years, Ann has successfully led non-profit organizations in the Ottawa and Champlain District. Namely: iSisters Technology Mentoring Inc., Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa and the Good Companions Seniors Centre. She is strengthened by a lifelong passion for improving the lives of individuals in the community, and a belief of people supporting each other to enact positive change. A senior leader with demonstrated success in relationship building and creating change within not-for-profit organizations, Ann believes that when Canadians with hearing loss are thriving, everyone benefits.

Ann has received numerous commendations on her work: Mark Sutcliffe (Mayor of Ottawa), Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario) and numerous MPs. She received the Award of Excellence from the Champlain Community Access Centre. Ann was a co-author of Information Systems for Patient Care and Health Informatics (hard cover publications) while employed by the Canadian Medical Association. She helped pioneer in Canada, the first computerized appointment scheduling, accounting, and medical records software that is used in physicians' offices today. Her development of new and unique programs has assisted many individuals to move forward and gain success in their lives.

International Hearing Society (IHS) Canadian Governor Update

Grand Hall C & D - Friday, May 8, 1:15 - 1:30 pm

Leslie Holden, BC-HIS



Leslie Holden, BC-HIS has dedicated over 45 years to the hearing healthcare profession. In 1998, she and her husband, Kent, opened Polo Park Hearing Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba, which now operates in the city's largest shopping mall. From the very beginning, Leslie has fostered a strong sense of community within her practice—two staff members have been with the clinic since its opening, and today, her two daughters have joined the team, making it a true family endeavor.

Leslie's commitment to the hearing industry extends far beyond her practice. She has served as President of the Manitoba Society of Hearing Instrument Practitioners, President of the Canada Hearing Instrument Practitioners Society, and currently holds the roles of Secretary and Canada Governor for the International Hearing Society (IHS). Her passion for the profession is evident in her advocacy for membership and support of IHS. Leslie states "It is vital that we support our profession and our Society. IHS has been a strong supporter in advancing communication and helping us make our association soar.

One of the most meaningful aspects of Leslie's career has been her involvement in humanitarian work. She has participated in 15 Starkey Missions, providing hearing care to individuals in developing nations—experiences she counts among the highlights of her life."

EXHIBIT HALL



Grand Hall A
Thursday, May 7, 2026

3:45 - 4:45 PM - Yellow Group

4:45 - 5:45 PM - Green Group

We're taking it up a notch this year with a brand-new Professional Social.

Designed for meaningful connections, great conversations, and a chance to unwind and linger with peers.

Thursday, May 7
4:30 - 5:30 pm

Floor Map

amplifon

Hearing Care Experts

300
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Oto
hearing products

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WSA

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WAVEFRONT
CENTRE FOR
COMMUNICATION
ACCESSIBILITY

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Starkey

Hear better. Live better.

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**Audiometric
Services
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Inc.**

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Cochlear
Hear now. And always.

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Cowan®

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**Connect
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EXHIBITORS INFORMATION

Ahead Simulation | 206



Ahead Simulations is a technology company within hearing healthcare dedicated to providing tools for simpler and more approachable learning. Through CARL, clinical training becomes safer, repeatable, and easier for both educational institutions and clinics. Through ALEX, hearing aid manufacturers and hearing clinics can provide simple, impactful hearing aid demos to highlight and compare hearing aid features and models to clinicians and patients.

www.aheadsimulations.com

Amplifon | 300 & 301



Amplifon is a global leader in hearing care and one of the largest independent retailers of hearing care solutions, partnering with leading manufacturers to offer a diverse range of devices from advanced technology to simple, accessible solutions. Guided by our mission to help people rediscover the sounds of life, we deliver compassionate, personalized care tailored to individual lifestyle, comfort, and hearing goals, ensuring a supportive and empowering experience. Recognized as a Global Top Employer and certified as a Top Employer in Canada, Amplifon is committed to excellence as an employer and community partner.

<https://www.amplifon.com/ca/>

Audiometric Services Ontario Inc. | 103



Audiometric Services Ontario Inc. has been a leader specializing in the audiology hearing professional marketplace for over 7 years. Our products lines come from the leading edge manufacturers of audiological instrumentation.

Audiometric services Ontario Inc. is dedicated to our customers and in addition to the proven track record of quality and durability offered by our products, Audiometric Services offers a dedicated and experienced service staff. Scott Lawson is a trained professional with more than 43 years of industry experience and uses only the latest factory and industry benchmarks in all the repairs, service, installations and calibrations.

www.audiometric.ca

Audioscan | 204



Audioscan is the global leader in hearing instrument verification, empowering hearing care professionals with the world's most trusted real-ear and test box measurement systems.

Founded in 1983 in Canada, Audioscan's innovative, clinically proven technology helps deliver precision fittings that boost patient satisfaction and reduce return rates. Used in clinics worldwide, Audioscan sets the gold standard for accurate, confidence building verification, because better measurement means better hearing outcomes.

<https://www.audioscan.com/>

Cochlear | 102



As the global leader in implantable hearing solutions, we have helped over 700,000 people to hear with one – or two – of our implantable solutions.

Cochlear has hearing implants for many types of hearing loss. Learn more about the Cochlear Nucleus Implant system, the Cochlear Osia system and the Cochlear Baha system. Learn about the different treatment options available from Cochlear and why we have been the leader in implantable hearing solutions for over 40 years.

We innovate and bring to market a range of implantable hearing solutions that deliver a lifetime of hearing outcomes.

<https://www.cochlear.com/ca/en/home>

Conversation Starters

Who have you enjoyed connecting with today?

If you had to give one piece of advice to someone in my position, what would it be?

What's the most interesting project you're working on right now?

The logo for Connect Hearing, featuring the text "Connect Hearing" in a bold, sans-serif font next to a green speech bubble icon containing a white exclamation mark.

Connect Hearing | 205

Connect Hearing has been earning the confidence of those who matter most for nearly five decades. We value our workforce and recognize that every client journey is unique. Our organizational culture is built around service excellence, integrity, collaboration, and innovation. With over 180 clinics across Canada, we are proud to support communities from coast to coast while providing clinicians with the tools, support, and structure they need to thrive. Together, we are leading the way to better hearing - where every sound matters, and every story is heard. Whether you're early in your career or ready for your next chapter, we'd love to connect.

<https://www.connecthearing.ca/>

The Costco Wholesale logo, featuring the word "COSTCO" in a bold, red, sans-serif font above the word "WHOLESALE" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font, with a red and blue horizontal bar below.

Costco | 207

Costco is a dynamic member of the Canadian hearing aid dispensing community. There are Hearing Aid Centres in 73 Costco locations across Canada and we continue to expand to better serve members. Costco has been recognized as a leader in the marketplace and is dedicated to quality in every area of business. Additionally, we are respected for our outstanding business practices and take pride in our career-oriented employee focus. We believe employees are the company's most important asset, we strive to provide the highest standard of care and seek passionate professionals to help Costco exceed industry expectations.

<https://www.costco.ca/hearing-aid-centre.html>

The Cowan logo, featuring a green circular icon with a white arrow pointing right, followed by the word "Cowan" in a bold, green, sans-serif font.

Cowan Insurance Group | 100

Proudly independent and Canadian-owned, Cowan Insurance Group has an award-winning client centric approach that has established us as a true market leader. Cowan advisors have worked with Hearing Service Providers for over 30 years, creating custom solutions that meet our clients' unique circumstances.

Service providers for hard-of-hearing individuals need both general business insurance and professional liability coverage to safeguard profits and patients. Endorsed by the Association of Hearing Instrument Practitioners of Ontario, we are dedicated to saving you time and money on your insurance and risk management needs. Our easy-to-obtain coverage and cost-effective solutions meet all Ministry of Health requirements.

<https://www.cowangroup.ca/home/programs-and-associations/hearing-service-professionals/>

The Diatec logo, featuring a blue stylized 'd' icon followed by the word "diatec" in a blue, sans-serif font.

Diatec Canada | 202 & 203

Diatec Canada is a premier supplier of diagnostic and audiology equipment, catering to the needs of hearing healthcare professionals nationwide. Renowned for their precision and reliability, Diatec's products empower practitioners with advanced tools for accurate assessment and diagnosis of hearing impairments. Committed to innovation, Diatec continually enhances their offerings to meet evolving industry standards and clinical requirements. Trusted by clinics and audiologists, Diatec Canada plays a vital role in optimizing patient care and facilitating informed treatment decisions, ultimately improving outcomes in the field of audiology.

<https://diatec-diagnostics.ca/en/>

The Electro-Medical Instrument Co. logo, featuring a blue stylized ear icon with white concentric circles representing sound waves, and the letters "EMI" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font below.

Electro-Medical Instrument Co. | 101

Electro-Medical Instrument Co. has been providing and servicing quality instrumentation to Hearing Health Care Professionals for over 50 years.

We represent the following companies in Canada: GSI - Grason Stadler, Interacoustics, Benson Medical Instruments, Maico, IAC Acoustics, Grason & Associates, Bionix
emi-canada.com

EXHIBITORS INFORMATION



HearingLife | 200 & 201

HearingLife is Canada's largest hearing care provider, with over 350 clinics nationwide. Our regulated hearing care professionals deliver personalized hearing care using advanced diagnostic tools and the latest hearing technology. We offer flexible access to care through in-person appointments, virtual services, TeleSupport, and walk-in hours. From hearing assessments to ongoing aftercare, we provide consistent, professional support tailored to each individual.

With our extensive network, you can rely on trusted care that helps you stay connected to the activities and conversations that matter most.

<https://www.hearinglife.ca/>



OTO Hearing Products | 108

OTO Hearing Products is a Health Canada–licensed lab specializing in custom earmolds and audiology supplies for more than 900 clinics across Canada, including Costco, HearingLife, Connect Hearing, and BC/Alberta Children's Hospital. Oto is renowned for its quick turnaround time, combining traditional craftsmanship with advanced 3D printing technology to ensure precision, consistency, and timely patient care. OTO is also the only provider in Western Canada offering Skin Flex (PVC), a specialized hypoallergenic material designed for pediatric patients. With customizable styles and colors for BTE earmolds, ear defenders, and more, OTO delivers innovation, quality, and dependable service to hearing healthcare professionals.

<https://otohearing.com/>



Hear better. Live better.

Starkey Canada | 104

Starkey Canada is a leader in hearing healthcare, dedicated to transforming lives through innovative hearing technology. Our industry-leading Omega AI hearing aids feature DNN 360, the world's first DNN-powered directionality system, and the industry's longest-lasting rechargeable battery, delivering up to 51 hours of power. Backed by a legacy of innovation and a strong dedication to patient-centered care, Starkey Canada proudly supports hearing professionals across the country in delivering life-changing outcomes—helping Canadians hear better and live better every day.

<https://www.starkeycanada.ca/>



Wavefront Centre | 106

Wavefront Centre for Communication Accessibility
Canadian Non-Profit Social Enterprise

For over 70 years, Wavefront Centre has been a leader in communication accessibility. Wavefront centre is a trusted leader of emerging technologies, bringing innovated accessibility solutions to the communities we serve. We are a Canadian not-for-profit – by choosing Wavefront Centre to provide your audio accessibility solutions such as Auracast , you are helping us reinvest this revenue into our community programs.

www.wavefrontcentre.ca



WSAudiology | 107

WS Audiology (WSA) Canada is a leading hearing aid manufacturer and partner to hearing care professionals, focused on elevating patient outcomes through innovation, choice, and local support. Its unique "One Partner, Two Leading Brands" approach unites Signia's multi-speaker conversation enhancement technology with Widex's renowned natural sound quality to meet diverse hearing needs. Backed by over 140 years of global expertise, WSA Canada provides cloud-based fitting tools, streamlined ordering and repairs, training, and business development support to help clinics grow. Purpose-driven and sustainability-minded, WSA delivers Wonderful Sound for All.

<https://www.wsa.com/en-ca/>

Stop letting settings speak for patients.

Start fitting to their sound preference.

85% of HCPs agree: no single hearing aid technology can be best for everyone.

WSA Sound Preference offers you two distinct sound approaches:

- Enhanced speech clarity in noise
- Natural, seamless sound experience

When patients help lead the choice, confidence and adaptation improve.



WSA Wonderful Sound for All

Empower your fittings.
Visit us at **Booth #107** to hear the difference.

WORD SEARCH

G N I N I A R T S O W E Q F M
 E C B R A I N U P W U V N R A
 D X M B S F Z H E U S Q C A R
 Y G O L O N H C E T L O N N K
 N O I T P O D A C A C G S I E
 M P F M F E T J H H R M A M T
 A D I C P I D A L R Z I E E I
 W U Z D B L I E M U H I N S N
 T H R I O T A C Q V X G Y G G
 W N H A N R B N Y T I L A U Q
 T X M E C J J E T A C O V D A
 E H M F L A C I N I L C I E T
 M E V Z J V S O T N E I T A P
 D G D E J J Y T I N U M M O C
 K N E T W O R K I N G R N I C

HEARING
AURACAST
COCHLEAR
IMPLANT
SPEECH

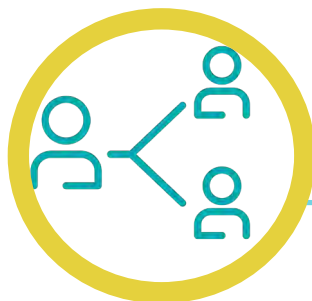
PATIENT
CLINICAL
MARKETING
NETWORKING
EXHIBIT

SEMINAR
ADOPTION
DEMENTIA
BRAIN
TECHNOLOGY

TRAINING
QUALITY
COMMUNITY
ADVOCATE



NETWORKING HALL



Grand Hall E
Thursday, May 7, 2026

3:45 - 4:45 PM - Green Group

4:45 - 5:45 PM - Yellow Group

Floor Map

104

103

102
 Love the experience

101

100

203
 Hear better. Live better.

202
 life is on

201
 Hearing Care Experts

200
 life-changing technology

304

303

302

301

300

NETWORKING INFORMATION



AHIP | 303

At this year's AHIP Symposium, be sure to visit the AHIP table to learn about the exciting work being done to raise awareness of Hearing Instrument Specialists across Ontario. From our new Google and Facebook advertising campaigns to expanded social media outreach, AHIP is actively working to educate the public about the vital role H.I.S. professionals play in hearing healthcare. Stop by to see what's been launched so far, learn about upcoming initiatives, and discover how members can get involved in helping amplify our profession.



Amplifon | 201

Amplifon is a global leader in hearing care and one of the largest independent retailers of hearing care solutions, partnering with leading manufacturers to offer a diverse range of devices from advanced technology to simple, accessible solutions. Guided by our mission to help people rediscover the sounds of life, we deliver compassionate, personalized care tailored to individual lifestyle, comfort, and hearing goals, ensuring a supportive and empowering experience. Recognized as a Global Top Employer and certified as a Top Employer in Canada, Amplifon is committed to excellence as an employer and community partner.

<https://www.amplifon.com/ca/>



Beltone Canada | 301

Beltone Canada is a leader in hearing care, recognized with numerous awards for its innovative hearing aid technology. With 85 years of experience, Beltone is committed to improving lives through advanced, user-friendly hearing solutions. Our state-of-the-art hearing aids offer superior sound quality, wireless connectivity, and rechargeable options. Supported by a nationwide network of hearing care professionals and over 100 clinics across Canada, we provide personalized solutions tailored to individual needs. Award-winning innovation, exceptional care and better hearing begins with Beltone.

<https://www.beltone.com/en-ca/>



Bernafon | 100

Bernafon Canada delivers state-of-the-art devices designed to address diverse hearing needs. Renowned for their expertise in sound processing technology, Bernafon products prioritize natural sound perception and speech clarity. With a focus on user comfort and aesthetic appeal, their solutions seamlessly integrate into daily life. Trusted by hearing care professionals across Canada, Bernafon empowers individuals to fully engage in conversations and activities, fostering confidence and well-being.

<https://www.bernafon.ca/>



Canadian Hard of Hearing Association | 103

The Canadian Hard of Hearing Association (CHHA) is the leading consumer advocacy organization in Canada representing the needs of the nearly 4 million Canadians living with hearing loss. As a leader in the sector, we work collaboratively with professionals, service providers, governments, and people with hearing loss to provide life enhancing information, support, programs, and advocacy initiatives to ensure people with hearing loss can overcome barriers in all aspects of their lives. Our Mission: is to create accessible, connected, and equitable communities for Canadians with hearing loss.

<https://www.chha.ca>

NETWORKING INFORMATION

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association Hamilton | 205



CHHA-Hamilton is one of many Branches of the Canadian HARD of HEARING Association (CHHA). It is a non-profit organization led by hard of hearing and deafened individuals with varying degrees of hearing loss.

CHHA-Hamilton advocates the rights and needs of hard of hearing and deafened persons at the municipal level to break down social barriers, create awareness and fully integrate hard of hearing and deafened persons into our city.

CHHA-Hamilton has come together to share our problems, needs, experiences, and strategies for coping. . . and we are 100% volunteer run.

www.chha-hamilton.ca

Connect Hearing | 101



Connect Hearing has been earning the confidence of those who matter most for nearly five decades. We value our workforce and recognize that every client journey is unique. Our organizational culture is built around service excellence, integrity, collaboration, and innovation. With over 180 clinics across Canada, we are proud to support communities from coast to coast while providing clinicians with the tools, support, and structure they need to thrive. Together, we are leading the way to better hearing - where every sound matters, and every story is heard. Whether you're early in your career or ready for your next chapter, we'd love to connect.

<https://www.connecthearing.ca/>

Hear Right Canada | 302



Hear Right Canada operates over 80 clinics where many Hearing Instrument Specialists are both employees and partners. In addition to salary and benefits commonly offered in the industry, partners share in clinic profits—often earning more from profit than salary. Clinics operate without sales targets, allowing specialists greater autonomy and true ownership in their workplace. Hear Right only succeeds financially when its partners do, aligning incentives. As an experienced and proven clinic operator, the organization provides stability and support. When a partner decides to step away, their ownership can be purchased, potentially resulting in a significant payout.

<https://hearrightcanada.ca>

IHS | 304



The International Hearing Society unites hearing healthcare professionals who specialize in hearing aids worldwide to magnify our voice, set standards, and champion access to care—empowering these professionals through education, networking, and advocacy to deliver exceptional hearing healthcare for every patient.

<https://www.ihsinfo.org/>

Oticon | 200



Oticon Canada, a premium hearing aid brand, offers cutting-edge solutions tailored to enhance the lives of those with hearing impairments. Renowned for innovation, Oticon pioneers advanced technologies, including BrainHearing™, ensuring optimal sound processing and clarity. With a commitment to customer-centric design, their products prioritize comfort and discretion. Trusted by hearing healthcare professionals nationwide, Oticon empowers individuals to reconnect with the world around them, promoting independence and improved quality of life.

<https://www.oticon.ca/>



Phonak | 202

Swiss-engineered with precision and innovation, Phonak is committed to providing innovative hearing solutions, best-practice clinical resources and exceptional customer service. Our mission, "Life is On", reflects our dedication to empowering individuals with hearing loss to live active and fulfilling lives. Phonak's latest innovations from the Infinio Ultra platform include the second generation of our DNN-powered Audeo Sphere, and our first rechargeable custom hearing aid, Virto R Infinio. Innovation designed to empower better hearing in the real world.
www.phonak.com



ReSound | 300

ReSound is a part of The GN Group, the global leader in intelligent audio solutions. Since 1943, we've led the way in hearing aid innovation. We challenge conventions, striving to excel in audiology and R&D, and are present in over 80 countries. Our mission is bringing people closer to one another and what matters most to them. Our Organic Hearing philosophy ensures tailored solutions that seamlessly integrate into diverse lifestyles. It's about delivering natural sounds, all-day comfort, and fostering intuitive connections. With ReSound, experience hearing that fits you, naturally.
<https://www.resound.com/en-ca/>



SoundGear | 203

SoundGear is a leader in hearing protection and enhancement, built on over 50 years of Starkey's custom hearing instrument expertise. Our advanced technology enhances surrounding sounds to deliver situational awareness and directionality without compromising protection. A solution for every environment, SoundGear serves hunters, competitive shooters, motorsport and music professionals, law enforcement, construction workers, and beyond — including the flagship SoundGear Phantom, a custom, rechargeable, and Bluetooth® compatible device that sets the standard for hearing protection and enhancement.
<https://soundgear.com/>



Unitron | 102

Unitron is your proudly Canadian hearing aid manufacturer headquartered in Kitchener, Ontario. Unitron is committed to developing technologies, services and programs that offer extraordinary levels of personalization. Everything we do is founded on our belief that people should feel really good about the entire hearing care experience. That's why our motto is Love the Experience – flexible, impactful, and easy, from start to finish. Now there are even more reasons to make you and your clients Smile - discover Moxi Smile RIC and our new rechargeable ITE Inera Smile.
www.unitron.com



Don't miss the 360 photo booth at the gala sponsored by

oticon
 life-changing technology

3	4	5	1	2	6	7	9	8
6	8	9	5	7	4	3	2	1
1	2	7	8	9	3	6	5	4
7	3	6	4	1	5	2	8	9
4	9	8	2	3	7	5	1	6
2	5	1	6	8	9	4	3	7
8	7	3	9	6	2	1	4	5
5	1	2	7	4	8	9	6	3
9	6	4	3	5	1	8	7	2

Answer from page 10

helpmehear.ca | 26



GALA DINNER & DJ Anthony

Friday, May 8, 2026

We Value Your Feedback!

We'd love to hear about your experience and how we can make next year even better. Scan the QR code to share your thoughts with us!



#AHIPSYMPOSIUM2026