



Hearsay



Editor's Note

by Janine Ennis

Inside this issue:

<i>Editor's Note</i>	1
<i>Executive Director's Corner</i>	2
<i>Two Honoured at AGM</i>	3
<i>Getting the (wrong) Word Out There</i>	4
<i>Communication Devices Program for Adults</i>	4
<i>Audiology Bits and Pieces for the Masses</i>	5
<i>The Five Petitioners: The 1962 MSHA Legislation Part II</i>	6-9

Hello MSHA!

Here it is May, and we are quickly coming upon the annual conference! I am consistently amazed at the members in our association who give it their all to bring us opportunities, advancements, and modernization. Thank you to the conference committee in advance for your efforts. This kind of undertaking makes me think about the Annual general meeting in January. It was a moderately attended event, which was smoothly organized, highly productive, and certainly frustrating. I write this because I wished that there were more people there to see how many issues that were voted on and passed. I was sobered by the sheer amount of work that the various committee volunteers have accomplished.

The night of the AGM was frigid, the hotel was far from my home, and I was exhausted. It broke my heart to leave my family and head out to the meeting... but I was the chair of Hearsay, so I should show up and give my report. These were the sentiments running through my head I must admit. However, after settling in and seeing familiar faces I focused on the task at

hand. I quickly discovered that there were committees and individuals who have been working extremely diligently to better our professions as a whole. I sat there humbled and embarrassed at my earlier selfish thoughts, because I was very thankful that these souls were acting on my behalf and the least I could do was show up and vote! I am serious when I say that the evening had a very good effect on my soul and my professional ideals. I thank all of you for working so hard for my benefit.

In this edition of Hearsay you will meet the highly deserving recipients of the Association Awards, Candace Myers and Tim Thorne-Tjomsland. You will also find Part 2 of the article on the Five Petitioner's. There is an informative article by Nicole Miller describing her misrepresentation in an interview, and more from the Audiology Chronicles. In a future edition of Hearsay I am hoping to contribute an article pertaining to the continuum of collaboration and antagonism which impacts our professions and the other service providers with which we work. Please email me any anecdotal or detailed experiences that

you have had working with doctors, teachers, or allied health team members (for example) which have been a collaboration success, or alternatively, a downward spiral fraught with conflict. I can be reached at tray@shaw.ca

The Hearsay committee is sad to say good-bye to long-time member Kelly Tye-Vallis. Kelly is stepping down after more than nine years. She has been a supportive and enthusiastic member. Kelly you will be missed for these reasons and more... one of them being that there are only three members left! This may be a good time to mention that we would love to have some new members on board. Thank you for your time Kelly, and we wish you nothing but the best.

Hearsay welcomes contributions and feedback from the membership with giddy excitement. Thanks for taking time out of your busy days to give us a read. Let's keep connected.

Many Thanks to...

Nicole Miller

Virginia Martin

Tara Perchaluk

For your contributions to this issue of Hearsay!

Newsletter Committee

Editor

Janine Ennis

Members

Laura Lenton

Victoria McLeod

Executive Director's Corner

by Frank Pisa



Frank Pisa, Executive Director of MSHA

The days are getting longer, the sun is noticeably warmer, there appears to be “honeycombing” on the snow banks”!! Can that possibly mean this brutal winter might soon be

one for the history books and spring is literally “around the corner”?? Of all the seasons, I love **SPRING** the best!! Most people (especially those with young children) think I’m nuts – but even when our own children were young and we had all the messes dragged into the house, it was still the best!! It’s the season of **new life**, tulips peeking out from under their snow cover, the sap running up the willows, leaves soon to be appearing on the trees and it makes you so happy to just be **alive!!** Soon, we will witness our first “robin” of 2009! In my mind, Manitoba is just the greatest place to be – well at least until November – but that’ll be subject of yet another HearSay issue! In the meantime, **HAPPY SPRING!!**

We’ve had a busy winter – from introducing our new website, to the Annual Conference preparations – and everything in between! We had a successful launch of our new website in late Fall which included the new member security password system. If you have not taken the time to go to the website to create your own unique password, I would encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The new system will permit members to update selected items of personal information which will allow members to keep their personal profiles current and updated. A huge thank you goes out to Laura Lenton and the Public Relations/Website Committee along with Admin. Assistant, Paul Scarth, who worked closely with our Webmaster to develop the new website!

January 1st actually saw the implementation of two membership changes that all mem-

bers should be aware of. The new membership categories that were approved at the 2007 Annual General Meeting, held January 23, 2008 became effective January 1, 2009. Two new membership categories were implemented namely, **“Inactive Member”** and **“Teaching/Research Member”**. The major change to existing categories was to the **“Non-Practicing Member”** category which now has a limit as to the length of time a member can remain in that category. The category is intended for members with short term absences from active practice, such as maternity leaves, short term health leaves, etc., and cannot exceed the maximum two-year limit. Members who do exceed this limit, will automatically be changed to the **“Inactive Member”** category. **“Inactive Members”** are not required to maintain Continuing Education credits however, should a member wish to return to a Fully-Registered Practicing Member status, the member will be required to apply for Provisional registration and will be required to undergo a supervision period. The **“Teaching/Research Member”** category was implemented to accommodate audiologists or speech-language pathologists, licensed in other jurisdictions, to practice in Manitoba for a limited time not exceeding one year.

The second major change is the implementation of the Criminal Record and Child Abuse Record searches. Effective January 1, 2009, all new applicants must provide documented written proof to the Examining Committee, obtained from official Police records, relative to their status pursuant to the Child Abuse Registry and Criminal Record searches. Using the existing member’s date of full registration, we will be requiring existing members to provide documented written proof pursuant to the Child Abuse Registry and Criminal Record searches over a five-year implementation period. All members will be required to provide updated searches every five years. The first “group” of members to be impacted by this new initiative will be those whose Full Registration year ends in a “1” or a “6”. This group will be receiving a letter during the month of April 2009, in-

forming them of the requirement to have their Child Abuse Registry and Criminal Records Checks completed prior to October 31, 2009. As you have probably already guessed, those with registration years ending in a “2” or a “7” will be required to file next year and so on until we’ve reached year 5 when those with registration years ending in a “5” and “0” will complete the initial phase. In year 6, the cycle will begin to repeat itself. Should you have any questions regarding this process, please contact either Paul or me at 453-4539.

The HearSay and Public Relations/Website Committees have asked me to include a few comments on this year’s Annual General Meeting (AGM). As this is the first year that we had to hold our AGM as a stand-alone function, concern was raised regarding attendance. Just under 50 members attended on a frosty Friday January 23rd. As an attendance incentive, the Board had offered a “free 2009 membership registration” to one lucky member attending the AGM. The lucky member drawn at the meeting was Joanna Blais! Congratulations Joanna! The meeting went off as planned with good discussion raised on various issues. There were a number of resolutions presented for consideration, many of which were related to work undertaken by the Standards and Guideline Committee. Assorted “fancy” sandwiches were served during the course of the meeting and there was an open bar preceding the meeting. Members were encouraged to stay following the meeting to visit and renew old acquaintances.

Finally, work is well underway for MSHA’s Annual Conference, scheduled to be held May 21 – 22, 2009. Excellent speakers for both Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, have been contracted for the event and it’s looking like another excellent Conference!! Registration brochures have been mailed out.

In closing, I hope you have a wonderful Spring season and I sincerely wish you a safe and happy summer.

Two Honoured at AGM

by Tara Perchaluk

Tim Thorne-Tjomsland was this year’s recipient of MSHA’s ‘Honours of the Association’ award. The purpose of the award is to recognize audiologists or speech-language pathologists currently working or retired, who have 20 years or more of MSHA membership. They need to have demonstrated multiple achievements in the field and have a history of dedicated service to MSHA and the profession.

Tim was presented with the award at this year’s annual general meeting. He was nominated by Joanna Blais (Coordinator, Student Services Unit, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth), along with other supporting letters of nomination from Allan Hawkins (Manager, Student Services Unit, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth) and Marilyn Taylor (Coordinator, Student Services Unit, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth). There were nu-

merous achievements noted in the nomination letters, and the following was excerpted from Joanna Blais’ nomination letter to highlight why Tim was selected as this year’s recipient of ‘Honors of the Association’ award.

“Tim has a unique role in our province. He has a Masters degree in both Speech Language Pathologist and Audiology and this training and his experience in schools, led him to specialize in working in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). He has had a leadership role in supporting schools in programming for students with ASD and in fulfilling that role he has provided literally hundreds of workshops for educators, clini-

cians, and parents. He was the lead on the development of the document *Supporting Inclusive Schools: A Handbook for Developing and Implementing Programming for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. It is not just knowledge that makes Tim a clinician worthy of recognition. It is the way he works with parents, educators, and clinicians. He is and has always been an example of true collaboration. Tim is a past President of MSHA and he has continued that commitment to the Association by chairing the Discipline Committee. He exemplifies what we should value as an organization: professionalism, integrity, innovation and dedication to our clients.”



Tim Thorne-Tjomsland received the Honours of the Association at this year’s AGM

Candace Myers was this year’s recipient of MSHA’s ‘Professional Achievement’ award. The purpose of the award is to recognize audiologists or speech-language pathologists who have made a remarkable contribution at any point in their career.



Candace Myers received the Professional Achievement award at this year’s AGM

Candace was presented with the award at this year’s annual general meeting. She was nominated by Lorraine Lesiuk, a Speech-Language Pathologist who works at the

Health Sciences Centre. The following was excerpted from Lorraine Lesiuk’s nomination letter to highlight why Candace exemplifies such a high standard of professional achievement.

“While devoting most of her career to the needs of individuals with head and /or neck cancer, for many years Candace has taken periodic one to two week leaves of absence from work to travel to remote northern communities to service children with speech and language disorders. Most recently she joined Operation Smile. It is a volunteer organization devoted to providing medical and rehabilitation services to cleft palate children in impoverished countries throughout the world. Using her holiday time, as well as a leave of absence from work, without pay, Candace

traveled to Kenya to provide speech and language therapy to cleft palate children. In the last two years, she has also taken time to teach courses abroad in head and neck cancer rehabilitation and cleft lip and cleft palate. Her contributions to the profession also include numerous journal article publications, a chapter-contribution in a book entitled “Contemporary Considerations in the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Head and Neck Cancer” (ed. By Phillip Doyle), a guest lecturer on an international level, co-founder of the Manitoba head and neck cancer support group “A Head Above”, a member of the board of directors of Hospice and Palliative Care Manitoba, and a chair of the national Head and Neck Interest Group. She has always been an excellent mentor, supervisor, and colleague to those who seek her expertise.”

Stuttering: Getting the (wrong) Word Out There

by Nicole Miller

Some of you may have read the article on stuttering that appeared in the January/February 2009 edition of Health Magazine. I agreed to participate in the article, to have the opportunity to educate Manitobans on stuttering, and try and reduce misconceptions about the disorder. Despite numerous requests, I was not given the opportunity to

review the article prior to it being published. I was excited to read the article, but my heart sank as soon as I began reading it. As you may have noticed, much of what was printed was inaccurate or misleading. What was even more frustrating was that some of the article contained information that I did not discuss. I immediately wrote to the editor and manager of the magazine,

and am pleased to report that a retraction will be printed in the upcoming issue (March/April). I encourage all of you to exercise caution if approached by someone with this magazine, or any other publication. Regardless of what you may report, it is very easy for the wrong word to get out there!

New Communication Devices Program for Adults

In December 2008 the Department of Family Services and Housing announced funding for a new Communication Devices Program (CDP). The CDP will provide service to adult Manitobans (18 years and over) with severe communication disorders assessed as benefiting from a speech-generating device (SGD). The CDP will be part of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) Assistive Technology Products and Services found at Deer Lodge Centre.



The Communication Devices staff will also provide consultation, support and education for clients who use SGD's from the program and their caregivers.

The CDP will have devices available for free trial during the assessment process.

Once a device is prescribed by a speech-language pathologist, a low rental fee will be required to continue using the device. The Employment and Income Assistance (EIA)

program will cover the rental fees for their participants.

Equipment will remain property of the program, and may be reused when it is returned to the program. The program will also be available for clients to borrow an alternate SGD if their equipment requires repairs, or the client's communication needs and abilities change and a different SGD is prescribed.

The mandate of the program is to ensure



speech generating devices are available and affordable to all individuals in need.

Planning and space renovations are underway for the program at this time. Additional information will be sent out in the coming months, including the referral process and rental fees.

Please share this notice with any individuals you feel may be interested.

If you have questions or comments please contact:

Shelley Irvine Day, MSc, SLP (C)

Regional Manager,

WRHA Assistive Technology Products and Services at:

Phone: 1-204-831-2579

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Fax: 1-204-831-2953

Audiology Bits and Pieces for the Masses

by Victoria McLeod

Having had the good fortune to just return from AAA Dallas, thus missing this last onslaught of winter, I thought I would jot down a few of the interesting points I picked up during some of my sessions.

- Did you know that there is no good evidence based study that proves that adaptive directional microphone technology gives a better SNR in noise OR that patients prefer it strongly over a fixed directional response?? Strange that most manufacturers tout adaptive directionality of all their aids, yet there is no evidence supporting it!

- Frequency transposition aids are available from 2 manufacturers now and the HOW of it is fundamentally different between them. One of them, Widex, does a linear transposition, while Phonak employs a compression transposition. The

research has not been done to show which method might be preferable but both companies will tell you that transposition should be used only if a loss is truly unaidable. Achieving audibility thru amplification is always preferred to transposition.

- Do you have an office with more than one real ear system in it? Have you ever had the situation where you met prescriptive targets on one system, only to use a different system on a follow up and not be anywhere close to that system's targets??? What's that about? Well, the variability between systems has to do with many many factors, but a couple to think about are: what software measurement signal are you using? Each system generates different tones at different intensities, resulting in different gains on screen! Here's another one: different systems assume correction factors like the RECD or the REDD. Unless you really understand the fine points of your system you likely will be bamboozled by the variability

you see.

- There is more and more evidence showing that the ANL test is able to accurately predict (85% of the time) which hearing aid candidates are going to be more successful in using aids. Wouldn't it be nice to add a simple test to your tired old battery of tests that would better allow you to know who is going to need more counselling and support??

Although many manufacturers are advertising the extended bandwidth of their aids, 4 out of 5 researchers are unable to measure any bandwidth about 4600 Hz. Odd.

So there you have it! Musings from the mind of a fellow audiologist. Any comments, please do forward them along. Enjoy your summers!



Opportunities for Employment Now Has Pre-Employment Supports Available for Persons with a Disability

Do you have clients that are feeling *unsure* or *unmotivated* about working? job searching? training?

Have them visit us at **2nd Floor-352 Donald St. (at Ellice Ave.)** to explore their options without risk of losing their benefits.

If they are:

- 18 years of age or older & living in Winnipeg
- Receiving EIA disability benefits and/or
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Let proven *Stages of Change* counselling methods support them.

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The Five Petitioners:

The 1961 MSHA Legislation—Part II

by Virginia Martin

This is Part II and the final one in a series on the women who are listed on the 1961 legislation, “An Act Respecting the Practice of Speech and Hearing Therapy in the Province of Manitoba” as ‘petitioners’. The women profiled in the preceding article were Idell Neville Brady, Mary Jane Sterling Cairns and Muriel Lyons Meadows. This section will discuss Angela Shirliff Murphy and Isabel French Richard. The order is dictated by the order on the MSHA registration list. The first 12 members were listed in alphabetical order.

The Hall Report published in 1965 estimated that in 1961 there were between 100 and 125 ‘speech therapists and audiologists working in Canada. It did not differentiate the two professions. Twelve of them, we know were working hard in Manitoba.

A personal note: I knew all of the women and worked with four of the five. I worked at the Child Guidance Clinic (CGC) with Idell, Mary Jane and Isabel. I also worked with Mary Jane on many MSHA and Canadian Speech and Hearing Association (then CSHA, since 1985, The Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, CASLPA) activities. We were close personal friends as well as colleagues until her death in 1992.

In addition, I spent time with both Idell and Isabel after each retired, discussing the history of the professions in Manitoba and Canada. Of course I never called Isabel by her first name when I was with her. Along with all her staff, I called her ‘Mrs. R’. A different time and a different level of formality prevailed in the staff’s relationship with her as head of the department.

Although I never worked directly with Muriel, I knew her through MSHA activities. She attended the January conferences as did virtually all members until the mid 80s. After she retired I interviewed her via phone a number of times. I also sent her history material to read for accuracy and/or to add comments.

I knew Angela after she left Manitoba. She was active on the CSHA/CASLPA membership committee, contributed to The Saskatchewan Speech and Hearing Association (now the Saskatchewan Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists), attended national conferences and was coordinator of “The Clinicians’ Turn” a clinical exchange column in Human Communication Canada when I was editor.

Later when the CASLPA conference was in Saskatoon, Chuck Dunham, then Chair of the MSHA Archives Committee, and I interviewed her on tape about the beginnings of MSHA. Chuck also took photos. The tape and photos are in the MSHA Archives.

Recording the History of the Profession in Manitoba

MSHA is fortunate in that the early members, especially Isabel and Muriel had a sense of history. Shortly after MSHA was founded, it was recorded in the minutes that a history of the profession in Manitoba needed to be written.

In 1964 Teresa Murphy, now Teresa

Burke, wrote a history of speech therapy in Manitoba for a graduate course at The University of North Dakota. She interviewed a representative from each agency that provided services in Manitoba and one from the MSHA. The information in this document is invaluable today. MSHA also established an Archives Committee in the first few years. The committee recorded information, kept scrapbooks, clippings, minutes, position papers and other documents. In 1983 in a survey of provincial associations done by Mary Jane, MSHA was the only one with an archives committee. The material in the MSHA archives has been requested by other associations, and individuals and has provided a historical basis for the ongoing activities of the MSHA.

Recognizing that the material saved earlier is invaluable now, MSHA needs to insure that current files, membership information and material is recorded and preserved for future research. A records management program with regular additions into the archives is necessary. A records management program was recommended to the Board in 1997 by an ad hoc committee. The Board accepted the recommendations and even budgeted funds but the program was never implemented.

It was estimated that in 1961 there were between 100-125 SLPs and Audiologists working in Canada. Twelve of them were working in Manitoba.



Angela Shirliff Murphy

Angela is the only one of the petitioners who did not work at CGC. She attended Kent State University studying speech therapy and joined the staff at Children’s Hospital in 1952. Margaret Chown had started the program there in 1951, the second speech therapy service in the province.

Angela later said that in Winnipeg, during the first years of the MSHA, when anyone attended a seminar or conference, the entire group would gather to hear a report.

She became president of MSHA in 1961 after the passage of the legislation. She remained interested in MSHA and sent a letter of congratulations to the members when we celebrated an anniversary. She wrote in 1996:

“Best wishes and congratulations to the Manitoba Speech and Hearing Association on the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the legislation which initiated a long and successful role as the voice of the profession in Manitoba”.

“The legislation in 1961 was the culmination of many hours of work which started as early as 1955 when clinicians came together to share their expertise and help their colleagues with puzzling cases. Informal meetings were held to exchange information gleaned from conferences, summer courses in the United States and to discuss articles we had read in foreign journals.”

“Since our basic commitment was to provide communicative competence for those with speech, language and hearing problems, a number of problems had to be addressed: We were concerned with the transient ‘quick cure’ people who visited the province and who had few educational qualifications; we needed better means of communicating with clinicians who were working in total isolation in rural Manitoba; and most importantly, we needed to institutionalize a structure to provide ourselves with the most current information on assessment tools, intervention strategies and commercial materials.”

“The need to formalize these concerns and informal arrangements became evident, as the group grew larger. Similarly as a legitimately recognized professional group we realized we would have much more influence in educating people about

the association and the role of the clinician/therapist.”

“We should all feel proud that the Manitoba Speech and Hearing Association has led the way in providing a climate for professional growth and excellence in Canada. I am proud to have been a part of its formation.”

Angela continued at the hospital until about 1964 when she moved to Saskatoon. She worked there until her retirement. She was active in the Saskatchewan association. She joined the Canadian association in 1964 and is listed in the first Directory in 1965. She served for many years on the membership committee of CSHA when the criteria for membership were being updated and standards were changing. This was a difficult and time-consuming responsibility.

She was interested in clinical procedures and as coordinator of “The Clinician’s Turn” in 1982-84 served to facilitate the exchange of clinical information across Canada.

She wrote a wonderful article in 1989, “Reflections on my Early Days in Speech Therapy” published in Canadian Journal of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (December). Several quotations from this article are as follows.

“...What were the motivations that brought Canadian pioneer speech students studying in the United States back to Canadian obscurity? ...perhaps the desire to contribute, to a small but significant aspect of the profession, the uniqueness of the work and the awareness that there was so much to be discovered and charted about both speech and hearing were some of the influences...”

She goes on to say, “I often found myself ill equipped to answer the most common concern, ‘Why isn’t this child talking?’. I was motivated to see if answers were available. My further studies with Myklebust introduced me to the emerging con-

cept of language, the power of making a differential diagnosis based on language and the importance of the language behaviour brought to the therapy situation by the child. My whole outlook was significantly influenced by this approach...”

Note: Helmer Myklebust was an early pioneer in language disorders and learning disabilities. Most of his career was spent at Northwestern University.

Her concluding thoughts in 1989: “Thus my 37 years have seen many desirable changes... We have become more interested in how adequately the child as a social being uses communication to express needs and desires, to make requests and to control behaviour. We want the child to interact effectively with the environment.”

She ended with: “It has been stimulating to be a member of a profession which has so changed over the years but has retained its basic commitment to communicative competence for those with speech, language and hearing problems. I have enjoyed being a part of evolution and I look forward to the continuing search for new and better ways to help those who need our assistance.”

Angela retired to Victoria and still lives there.



Isabel French Richard

Isabel French Richard was active in the professions and on the staff of what became CGC from 1942 until her retirement in 1972. Her influence on the profession in Manitoba and Canada was profound and far-reaching. She was a founder and president of both the Manitoba and Canadian Speech and Hearing Associations (CSHA now CASLPA)

She too obtained a bachelor’s degree from the University of Manitoba; hers was awarded in 1930. Subsequently she took an extra year of teacher training. She

taught elementary school in Winnipeg until 1942 when she joined Phyllis Middleton to work in 'speech correction and lip-reading'. Initially she took short courses in London, Ontario and Minneapolis, Minnesota.

As new head, appointed in 1950, Isabel received a master's degree (MA) in speech therapy from Kent State University in Ohio in 1952, "...thus making her the first speech therapist in Manitoba to hold an official degree" in the professions. She attended on a provincial bursary that was obtained by the superintendent of schools. He agreed with her that to extend the work in what was now 'speech therapy', staff with more education was needed.

She received an MA rather than the MED of Idell and Muriel, probably because she submitted a thesis. The other Kent State graduate students did not write a thesis. Her early degree may have been in 'speech correction' as the terminology was changing about that time.

In 1955 during a study leave, she traveled to observe other programs. She returned convinced the interdisciplinary model was best for providing services. Forward looking, professionally informed, she established the CGC Speech Therapy Department in a leadership role. (Although services in the Winnipeg School Division began in 1938, the next one in the province did not begin until 1951 at Children's Hospital.

A pioneer in special services, in 1952, she started the first program for providing a classroom and dedicated therapy time to language-disordered students. She began the Hearing Conservation program in 1956. Programs for these students have continued in the Winnipeg School Division although with different names and organization.

In 1964 Mrs. Richard discussed CGC department's growth and the development of the profession, then speech and hearing therapy, now speech-language

pathology and audiology, in Manitoba: (She was much too modest to take personal credit) "The reorganization of the Speech and Hearing Department employing the inter-disciplinary approach was a progressive and important step in the development of the speech and hearing services...This reorientation of the program implied that professional training of the therapists at the degree level would now become mandatory, that the therapists would have a smaller caseload to allow time for full interdisciplinary activity and that a more refined recording system would be necessary and possible. The other professions could now look for more accurate assessment and diagnosis of cases by reason of the additional information from speech and hearing findings.

Furthermore this change aroused awareness of the need to extend speech and hearing service to pre-school children and adults resulting in the establishment of a program at Children's Hospital and later at "(other sites in the province)...." "Public demand for speech and hearing services in the province has thus manifested a sharp increase."

Along with her clinical and administrative responsibilities, she began her activities in professional associations. She joined ASHA in 1952 and remained a member. In 1958 she was at the founding meeting of the Manitoba Speech and Hearing Association. There were a number of outstanding professionals involved in MSHA in the early days but all agree that Isabel was the driving force. In a speech at the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Manitoba legislation, regulating the profession, another founder, Mary Jane Cairns said: "No discussion of the founding of MSHA would be complete without a tribute to Isabel Richard whose vision, organizational skills and Scottish determination provided the impetus and morale that kept everyone going. One of the things she instilled into us was the expectation that everyone who was

licensed by MSHA would go to meetings and take an active part in the operation of the association".

"Initially we had no choice since there were so few of us, but even later as the membership grew, it was impressed upon each new member that support of MSHA was part of his or her job. Supervisors reminded their supervisees of each upcoming meeting

and we had to have a good reason for being unable to attend. Mrs.R. set the tone with her own good sense of professional responsibility and dedication to the association."

In 1952, Isabel French Richard started the first program for providing a classroom and dedicated therapy time to language-disordered students

For the CSHA's twentieth anniversary, a special edition of Human Communication Canada was published. Along with other past presidents Isabel sent a message: "It is rewarding for me as a founder and first president

to view the growth and strength of the organization as it exists today. Your achievement reflects some of the zeal and intent of purpose demonstrated by the founding members who worked for 12 years to achieve their goal in establishing the Canadian Association. ...In reviewing the years of my presidency 1964 to 1966, I recall the objectives we set for ourselves knowing that these were critical years and that our performance would decide the future development of the association."

Isabel edited (with the help of MSHA member Margaret Mitchell) the first CSHA directory that included a bilingual forward and history. She insisted that time spent on the directory be after work hours. Of the 149 members listed, the largest number of members from one agency was 14, from CGC. One staff member recalled that the entire staff was expected to join and did! All MSHA members at the time were CSHA members as well.

Isabel Richard received A Centennial Medal from the Government of Canada in 1967. The newspaper announcement called her "a pioneer in speech pathology

and audiology in Canada.” In 1981 she received the Medal for Outstanding Professional Achievement of the Canadian Association (now the Eve Kassirer Award) for her contributions. In 1987 she received a special award as a founder from MSHA.

The CGC Communication Disorders Department office is named The Isabel Richard Room.

Bright, informed, bilingual, reserved, always meticulously groomed, poised and elegantly dressed, she could in her polite way state firmly department guidelines to principals, inspire staff, (who usually left a supervision session vowing to do better) or confront administrators to obtain money for staff professional development.

As forward looking as she was about the future of the profession, she was conservative in other ways. About 1970, I recall her lamenting the fact that women in the department were wearing the then fashionable ‘pantsuits’ to work!

Her energy, commitment to professional standards, concern for services and vision

of our professions continue to inspire all of us who worked with her. The professionals she recruited and influenced have contributed in many settings across the country. The history of the professions in Canada would have been far different without her contributions.

The Isabel Richard Student Paper Award given annually by CASLPA is an appropriate continuing recognition of her commitment to professional standards in education and clinical practice. She would have been pleased.

Summary

Now forty-seven years after the passage of the legislation, the MSHA should consider establishing an award to honour and recognize the petitioners. When the new legislation is passed, their names will no longer be on the public record. An award in their names, as well as an award to each of them would serve to record their very special contribution: The first legislation in North America to regulate the professions. Each of us, the current members of MSHA owe a debt of gratitude to their foresight, their commitment and their dedication to the professions’ future. We should pledge to insure that their contributions will be remembered.

Note: The author is indebted to the Archives of MSHA, the Members of the Archives Committee, and especially to the five members who were petitioners on the legislation for the information in this article. There is more detailed information in previous issues of *Hearsay* and in the MSHA Archives on each of the women profiled. References are available from the author.



Virginia Martin, author of many important articles detailing the history of MSHA.
Photo courtesy of CASLPA

Open Access Resource Centre Accepting Applications for Board Members

The Board of Directors of the Open Access Resource is announcing an exciting volunteer opportunity. We are currently accepting applications for volunteer committee participation and/or to join the Board of Directors for the 2009-2010 year.

The Open Access Resource Centre (OARC) is dedicated to enriching the lives of Manitobans with speech impairments through the use of communications devices. The Centre provides information on the types and functions of various devices, and operates an extensive equipment loan program.

For more information checkout our website at www.oarc.ca or call our office: 949-2430.

Manitoba Speech and Hearing Association

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Fax: 204-477-1881
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Do you have a story idea or have written an article you would like published? Please send us any ideas, suggestions, or articles!

Next submission deadline is September 15, 2009

Please email your attached article to the MSHA office at office@msha.ca or to the Hearsay committee chair at tray@shaw.ca.

There is no maximum or minimum length!

Please note editors reserve the right to remove or revise submissions.



We're on the web!
www.msha.ca

Free pencils are available to help celebrate May is Speech and Hearing Month! Drop by the MSHA office today to pick up some promotional pencils to give to patients, clients, co-workers and friends. Maximum 25 pencils per member. Hurry while supplies last!



Save the Date!



The 2010 MSHA Annual Conference has been confirmed for May 6 and 7, 2010. Hope to see you there!

May is Better Speech and Hearing Month!

What are you doing to celebrate?

The MSHA Public Relations/Website Committee would like to announce that we are once again challenging you and/or your colleagues to submit your May month ideas and campaigns to win cash. This year is a little different from previous years. Instead of the baby basket campaign, we will be having a new category of prize for **first place rural**. In order to encourage our rural clinicians to participate, any SLP or audiologist working outside the city of Winnipeg has an additional chance to win cash for submitting their May month campaign ideas.

First place - \$150

Second place - \$125

Third place - \$100

And a new category

First Place Rural - \$150

Please let us know what you did to promote May is Speech and Hearing Month.

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Types of promotional materials used. Please enclose any PR materials you used so that the materials can be shared with the membership.
2. What was the purpose of your event and who was your target audience?
3. How many May Month events did you participate in or organize?

Please submit a detailed description of your event by June 15, 2009 by mail, email, or fax to:

MSHA Public Relations/Website Committee
#2 – 333 Vaughan Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 3J9
Fax: (204) 477-1881
Email: prwebsite@msha.ca

The MSHA Public Relations/Website Committee would like to thank you in advance for your hard work and creativity. We will contact the winners by July, 2009. Please watch the website for the winners and the many ideas that were submitted.