

## FACT SHEET



### Who We Are & What We Do!

**We make a difference!** One out of ten Canadians lives with a serious communication disorder. Early diagnosis and treatment is vital. Speech-language pathologists and audiologists can help people make their lives richer, more productive and enjoyable through improved communication skills.

- Speech-language pathologists and audiologists are professionally trained. There are graduate level programs offered at nine Canadian universities. Three of these programs are offered in French.
- **What we study:** acoustics, anatomy, assessment, counseling, hearing disorders, hearing aids, language development, disorders, linguistics, neurology, neurophysiology, non-vocal communication, parent training, psychology, phonetics, voice, speech and voice disorders, statistics, stuttering and research methods.
- Speech-language pathologists and audiologists work in private practice, child development centres, pre-schools, schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centres, government agencies, health units, industry, colleges, universities and research centres throughout the world. We are often part of teams which include physicians, psychologists, social workers, nurses, teachers, counselors, occupational therapists and physical therapists.
- **What we do:** identify, assess and rehabilitate children and adults with hearing difficulties and communication disorders. We counsel clients and families and provide referrals to other professionals. We are committed to ongoing research, public education, and training of new speech-language pathologists and audiologists.
- **Audiologists**
  - assess hearing difficulties
  - select and fit hearing aids
  - design and implement (re)habilitation strategies for hearing impaired clients
  - consult regarding noise exposure and hearing conservation
- **Speech-Language Pathologists**
  - assess communication disorders
  - plan and implement treatment in language, speech, voice and/or swallowing disorders
  - design and employ augmentative and alternative communication
  - facilitate accent reduction
  - consult regarding language stimulation and inclusion strategies and teach adaptation for language impaired students



**Early detection is vital! If you suspect a problem consult your yellow pages or visit our website to find a speech-language pathologist or audiologist near you.**

[www.caslpa.ca](http://www.caslpa.ca)