

# FAMILY NETWORK FOR DEAF CHILDREN



March 17, 2002

No. 02-01

## FNDC UPDATE

Well here I am madly trying to get this newsletter finished as "Spring Break" officially starts in 2 hours - when the kids arrive home from school!

FNDC has been busy planning new projects and finishing up old ones! Read on in our newsletter to mark some important dates on your calendar.

### Money, Money, Money!

Fundraising - we all cringe when we think about raising money! If your family is like mine - fundraising becomes a part of our lives (school, clubs, sports, church - the list is endless). And now, here is FNDC bringing up the Fundraising word!

FNDC has our first Fundraising Golf Tournament (Monday, June 3rd) - and the good news is that we are targeting business associates. The Board of FNDC felt that, all too

often, we keep asking the same group of people to fundraise. We are hoping you will be able to help out by promoting our Golf Tournament to any Golfers that you know (grandparents, aunts, uncles, husbands?). The funds from this Tournament will all be used toward the Deaf Youth Today Summer 2002 program. Thank you to Janice Feanny, who has graciously organized this tournament! If you have any "prize" contacts, please call us.

During the past year, we have also had several people/groups assist in fundraising. We want to publicly thank the CKNW Orphan's Fund, The Kiwanis Club, Charles H. Ivey Foundation, Hawthorn Charitable Foundation, F.K. Morrow Foundation, Leon & Thea Koerner Foundation, Chris Spenser Foundation, Vancouver Community College ASL students, the Ministry of Children and Family Development, as well as parents, grandparents, Deaf community members and friends who made financial/time contributions to programs such as our Literacy Project- Hit the Ceiling: Raise the Roof, the ASL Video Project and Deaf Youth Today. Also, a special thanks to Robyn Sawyer who has "personally" taken on organizing the FNDC meat sale - with all the donations going to FNDC. And to each and every one of you ... we value your donations, but most of all we value your support, your feedback and ideas. THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

We also wanted to let you know that FNDC staff salaries are only paid from any monies that are received from the Gaming Commission. We do not use any donations, grants or contracts to pay FNDC staff. The only exception to this is that we pay Deaf Youth Today program staff with money received from our Deaf Youth Today contract. FNDC does not take any administration money from the DYT contract, and we are very proud of that! In the meantime, keep hoping that the Gaming Commission continues to fund us!

Now on to the fun stuff ...

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**FNDC UPDATE cont'd****The launching of .... My Buddy Program**

One of our newest and most exciting projects is: My Buddy Program. FNDC partnered with Family Support Program at Victory Hill to provide this amazing new program.

During the past year, with the assistance of Family Support, Deaf Youth Today has trained 17 d/Deaf youth in various leadership skills: first aid, storytelling, teaching ASL, food safe courses, coaching courses etc. Upon the completion of all the classes/courses, DYT began the process of accepting resumes and interviewing these young d/Deaf leaders for a position in My Buddy Program. The DYT staff have hired 9 "Buddies".

So, you are probably wondering what is a "Buddy"? Well, the idea is that families with school age deaf and hard of hearing children may have the opportunity to have a "Buddy" visit their family. The buddy is available to play games/cards, tell stories, read books, teach some ASL, play sports, do arts and crafts or bake cookies etc. The Buddies are not babysitters or tutors.

The cost to having a Buddy is "free", but FNDC will be assuring that all the Buddies are paid an honorarium for their preparation and the hours that they spend which each family. Some of these trained Buddies are from out of town, and will be available to visit families in selected areas throughout the

Province. If parents are finding this program to be a benefit, we are hoping we will be able to expand this program.

We have been incredibly fortunate to have the Family Support Program at Victory Hill partner with us. They are in the process of making the contacts/arrangements with the families to have a Buddy visit their home. This was one area that FNDC felt we couldn't co-ordinate. It just didn't feel appropriate for FNDC (a parent-run organization) to be involved in each of your family's personal circumstances and experiences. We thank the Family Support Program for their involvement in ensuring that each family's circumstances and experiences remain confidential.

If you have a deaf child in the elementary years, or have a high school child that has special or unique needs, please contact:

Susi Bolender at Family Support Program, Provincial Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.  
voice: (604) 660-1800

t t y : ( 6 0 4 ) 6 6 0 - 1 8 0 7 o r e m a i l :  
Susi.Bolender@gems6.gov.bc.ca

For more information specifically related to the Buddy Program, check: [www.fndc.ca/buddies.htm](http://www.fndc.ca/buddies.htm)

And don't forget to check out our website on a regular basis: [www.fndc.ca](http://www.fndc.ca)

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Colleen Peterson, President  
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## STAFF

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**FNDC**  
Cecelia Klassen, Executive Director  
Bella Magel, Executive Assistant

**DYT**  
Susi Bolender, DYT Summer Co-ordinator  
Melissa Campbell, DYT Summer Co-ordinator  
Kristin Pranzl, DYT Sr. Leader

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## CONTACT US

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Website: [www.fndc.ca](http://www.fndc.ca)

As always, we take great pride in our newsletter. We enjoy producing it (and we especially love all the positive feedback). You may not realize how difficult it is to produce a newsletter for such a large, diverse group of people. Our newsletter goes out to parents, health professional, teachers of the deaf, teacher's assistants, preschool programs for deaf children, Deaf community organizations, and the list goes on.

### REPRINT PERMISSION

Please feel free to copy and distribute any of the material in this newsletter unless otherwise noted. We ask only that you credit the FNDC Newsletter as your source.

FNDC's newsletter is published three times a year (February, June and October). We periodically publish information bulletins in between newsletter publications.

### FNDC FAMILY NETWORK FOR DEAF CHILDREN

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of The **FAMILY NETWORK FOR DEAF CHILDREN** (the "Society") will be held on **Tuesday, May 21st, 2002 at 7:00 pm** at the Bonsor Recreational Complex (6550 Bonsor Ave., Burnaby, BC).

The purpose of the meeting will be to transact the following business:

1. To receive and consider the Report of the Directors and the financial statements for the period ending March 31, 2001.
2. To appoint Ross MacDonald as the Auditor of the Company to hold office until the close of the next annual general meeting.
3. To elect Colleen Peterson, Kathy Caldicott, Blair Flink, Janice Feanny, Nicki Horton, Hester Hussey, Karen Jackson, Tracy Epp and Teresa Matthies as the directors of the Company

DATED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2002.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FAMILY NETWORK FOR DEAF CHILDREN**

Per:

**"COLLEEN PETERSON"**

President and Director

## ARTICLES

We love receiving articles from members and friends! If you are reading someone's article and saying, "I can't write anything" — think again. The feedback we get on these personal stories is phenomenal. So, tell us about your experiences. It doesn't matter who you are - a parent of a deaf child, Deaf adult, educator of deaf children, grandparent, aunt, uncle — we want to hear from you! We welcome your opinions, ideas, concerns or other information. Please remember **WHAT** you have to say is much more important than the spelling or grammatical errors.

The views and opinions within the FNDC newsletter are not necessarily those held by the Board of Directors or all the members of FNDC. We do, however, encourage individuals and organizations to submit articles.

## IN THE NEWS

### TALKING WITH YOUR HANDS COULD BOOST YOUR BRAIN

The Chicago Sun-Times  
by Nancy Moffett, Staff Reporter  
November 15, 2001

*Reprinted with permission from the Chicago Sun-Times*

Gesturing as you talk might actually power up your thinking, new research from the University of Chicago indicates.

In a test of 40 children and 36 adults, researchers found they did better on a memory test when allowed to use their hands as they explained how they had solved a math problem.

When they had to keep their hands still as they talked, the subjects didn't remember as well.

"Gesture is very integrally linked to speech. . . . We wanted to ask the question: Does it do any good?" said Susan Goldin-Meadow, who did the study with three colleagues.

"It looks like it makes thinking easier," Goldin-Meadow said. "We just don't know how."

The study had four steps. Adults and children were asked to solve a math problem at the blackboard. Then they memorized a list--words for children, letters for adults.

Next, they explained how they solved the problem. Sometimes they were allowed to gesture and sometimes they had to keep their hands still.

Last, they all were tested on how much of the list of words or letters they could remember.

Both adults and children remembered more than 20 percent more items when they were allowed to gesture than when not allowed.

"Gesturing really helps" Goldin-Meadow said.

In fact, any rule against talking with your hands might not be such a good idea. "I would say, gesture up a storm. It can't hurt you," she said.

"Gesture is extremely robust," Goldin-Meadow said.

Using their hands to help, the subjects apparently could use more brain power on memory. But what if the subjects barred from using their hands spent so much mental capital just keeping still that they had fewer resources for memory?

"It's hard work" not to give in and use your hands, Goldin-Meadow agreed.

In the study, however, some subjects didn't gesture even though they were allowed to. The ones who gestured still remembered more than those who didn't.

Why would wagging a finger or chopping the air, JFK-style, boost the brain?

"We don't really know," Goldin-Meadow said.

One possibility is there's a spatial brain track that backs up a verbal track.

"They [could] work synergistically," she suggested.

"Producing gesture can actually lighten a speaker's burden," the researchers wrote.

Still to be tested is how well people who don't normally gesture would fare in a similar memory test.

"If we forced them to gesture, maybe they'd do better. We will do that next," she said.

Research also will look at what hand gestures do for listeners, Goldin-Meadow said.

"Just because [gesture] functions for the speaker, doesn't mean it doesn't have other functions."

A report on the study appears in the November issue of Psychological Science magazine.

### EXPERIENCING ANTARCTICA AND THE ARCTIC

Submitted by Shannon C. Graham  
TEArctic Participant, 2002  
(received via email)

As a Deaf science educator, I'm delighted to announce my Arctic excursion with Teachers Experiencing Antarctica and the Arctic (TEA) this spring. This program, sponsored by National Science Foundation provides opportunities for teachers to experience scientific research in Polar Regions. The purpose of this program is to bring research concepts into the classroom as well as promote inquiry-based instruction

## IN THE NEWS cont'd

in science education. TEA places approximately 12 science teachers annually in the Arctic and Antarctic regions to study various topics of science.

My placement will be with Dr. Martin Jefferies from the Geophysics Institute in Fairbanks Alaska. He and his team collect data from the frozen Poker Flats to study lake ice growth and decay. From January 14th to 27th, I will be visiting the labs and doing some fieldwork in preparation for my field placement. My field placement will begin March 4th for 8 weeks.

I will be working with Dr. Jefferies collecting and analyzing data, attending ice/snow workshops, publishing daily journals/images, and answering questions from students, parents, and professionals through e-mail. Students who have access to the Internet will be able to participate in this e-mail answer/question process and follow my daily journals and images from Poker Flat ponds. In addition, I'll be more than happy to be of assistance in incorporating research concepts and polar science your classroom.

Please send this memo to all Deaf professionals and parents in your district. Thank you and I look forward to creating a Polar network within the Deaf community in your district. Currently, there are several hearing teachers in the Antarctica - refer to this website to read their journals: <http://tea.rice.edu>.

## ASL Weekend in Kelowna Overwhelming Success

Submitted by Claire LeBlanc

*Reprinted with permission from the Okanagan Valley Association of the Deaf*

The recent workshops in Kelowna sponsored by FNDC were well-attended and a great success. The workshops were held at the Martin Education Centre in Kelowna on Friday, February 15th, and Saturday, February 16th. On Friday the 15th, Nigel Howard presented a workshop for advanced signers while the Deaf teens attended a mime workshop given by Max Fomitchev -- which was supported by Scott Jeffrey and Kristen Pranzl of Deaf Youth Today. On Saturday Nigel presented a sign workshop for beginning signers while Max gave a mime workshop for the younger children. Victoria LeBlanc and Michelle Russo (two Deaf teens) were participants on Friday and volunteered on Saturday.

Family Support Program staff at the Victory Hill Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing who attended the weekend were: Linda Ramsey, Melissa Campbell, Hester Hussey, and

Jill Withers. They brought information about the Family Support Program and Residential Program and put it on a display table and talked a little about it when they introduced themselves and explained where they were from.

The Outreach Program is part of the Family Support Program and they partnered with Deaf Youth Today -- represented by Kristen Pranzl and Scott Jeffrey -- who helped with the social activities. Hester Hussey and Melissa Campbell offered home visits to families who could not make a full day of classes with Nigel. FNDC hired the DYT staff, and Max and Nigel sponsored a Bowling night.

After the workshops were finished on the Friday, there was supposed to be a social at the aquatic centre in Rutland. However, the aquatic centre happened to be closed to the public on this day due to a Provincial swim meet happening at the aquatic centre. Therefore, the swim and social was switched at the last minute to the Rec centre. In spite of the mix-up and confusion, there were still a fair number of people who showed up and a good time was had by those who were present.

After the workshops were finished on Saturday, there was another social held at the McCurdy Bowling Alley. This event was very well attended by many members of the Deaf communities in the Okanagan. It was encouraging to see so many people there. Members of The Deaf Youth Today program and Family Support Staff were also present. Several hearing families with Deaf children were present -- as well as Max Fomitchev and Nigel Howard. Many members of Okanagan Valley Association of the Deaf (OVAD) showed up to support this activity sponsored by FNDC. As a result, there is a good chance that additional socials and workshops will be provided in the future.

As previously mentioned, Program staff addressed those attending the sign language workshops to make them aware of their available services and they provided those present with forms to fill out regarding any needed services concerning the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities. For example, It would be in the best interests of all the Deaf community if everyone completed and returned these forms and circulated them to other contacts within the Deaf community so that there can be additional funding and plans made to suit the needs of our community.

These Program staff also had help from parents and teachers. Janene Seabrook and Lisa Cecile (Teachers of the Deaf) assisted with getting the news of the

## IN THE NEWS cont'd

weekend out to families. A big thank you goes to FNDC and DYT in pulling this off! We have a great foundation to build on for future Outreach partnerships. Our THANK YOU to all who helped it be successful and to all the families who attended one or more events.

### NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP-ELECT OF KAMLOOPS IS MONSIGNOR DAVID MONROE

*Fluent signer, and pastor to the deaf in the lower mainland for 33 years.*

Monsignor Monroe will be ordained Bishop of Kamloops at Queen Elizabeth Theatre in Vancouver on Tuesday, March 11th. There will be a section of seats reserved for the Deaf in the Theatre, and there will be an interpreter present as well. **Monsignor Monroe will be installed as 5th Bishop of Kamloops on Monday, March 18th at 7:00 pm** at Sport Mart Place in Kamloops. Claire LeBlanc will be interpreting for her daughter and for anyone else who might need the service.

## VICTORY HILL NEWS

### FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

by Linda Ramsey

email: Linda.Ramsey@gems1.gov.bc.ca

### Teen Programs

Family Support Program (FSP) continues to work on the Buddy Program in partnership with Deaf Youth Today. So far DYT has nine anxious buddies ready to do weekly home visits. Their role is to teach/play board games, read stories, etc. with their younger buddy. Families in the Lower Mainland have contacted Susi Bolender who is co-ordinating the program and sets up the visits. Presently they are in the mentoring stage where a DYT or FSP staff go with the teen buddy and offer support plus teaching on the job. We are pleased that some of our Dorm students have taken up the training and are involved in this program. Once they gain confidence, this will be offered in their home communities. If you are interested in finding out more about this program please contact Susi Bolender at Susi.Bolender@gems6.gov.bc.ca or call 604.660.1800. You can check out [/www.fndc.ca/buddies.htm](http://www.fndc.ca/buddies.htm) for more

information on this partnership between FSP and DYT to provide this service to families with Deaf children.

Susi is also busy setting up a community homework help program after school on Mondays and Wednesdays to help children, elementary and high school with their homework.

### Outreach News

There are two Outreach Weeks coming up. **Teen Outreach will be held April 14 – 19.** This week has a particular focus for teens that are making the transition from elementary to high school but is suitable for older teens as well. Age-appropriate field trips have been set-up but there are also tours of other higher educational institutes like Vancouver Community College and Douglas College. Participants will spend two full days at Burnaby South Secondary which is hosting the **Optimist Speech contest** for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students plus a Career Fair. There will be joint parent/child field trip but sign language classes, panels, information sessions; etc. will fill the parents' week. It is a great opportunity for networking with other families.

The **First Nations Outreach Week** is tentatively scheduled for the Week of **May 5 – 10.** Victory Hill provides an ideal setting for First Nations and Deaf cultures, values and norms to be shared and experienced. One-third of our residential students is First Nation. Please contact us for more information.

Starting to think about plans for this summer? Why not plan to attend the Victory Hill Family Support Program **Summer Outreach July 14 – 19.** We plan to offer sign language classes, educational sessions, workshops, panels, etc. There will be social events for everyone in the evenings. It is a great opportunity for families to meet and network with the other families. We have seven fully equipped six-bedroom houses on the Victory Hill site so out of town families can contact us to reserve accommodations. We are in the planning stages. We will be contacting and encouraging many of the new families we've met this past year to come join us for a fun, full week at our location here in Burnaby.

Please contact us to have your name put on our mailing list so you can get more information on all of the programs and services we offer.

**Any questions please call us at (604) 660-1800 or 775-4008.**



## TOP 10 REASONS FOR LEARNING SIGN LANGUAGE

- 10... You can communicate through windows.
- 9... Sign Language is a 3-D language.
- 8... You can sign with your mouth full.
- 7... Hearing parents can communicate with their deaf child.
- 6... You can sign underwater.
- 5... Sign Language is a neat way to express yourself.
- 4... You can communicate across a room without shouting.
- 3... Sign Language is beautiful.
- 2... You can make friends with deaf people.
- 1... Sign Language brings together hearing and deaf people!

## MARLEE MAITLIN comes to Vancouver ...

'I'll Scream Later' by Marlee Matlin  
'Deafness is Not a Handicap'.  
Brought to you by Unique Lives Experiences

Tuesday, April 16, 7:30 pm SHARP at:

The Orpheum Theatre  
884 Granville Street  
Vancouver

To order tickets: Ticketmaster on TTY - 604-682-1306.  
VOICE - 604 280-4444 Limit 4 tickets per person.

More info: <http://www.uniquelives.com/cities/bios/02matlin.htm>

## WESTERN INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

The Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is Western Canada's largest service organization for Deaf and Hard of Hearing citizens. We are located near Kitsilano Beach in Vancouver, and offer a competitive salary and benefits, a friendly and dynamic work environment, and a chance to make a difference.

We are looking for a Rehabilitation Counsellor.

This position is available to assist Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals by providing vocational counselling. Primary caseload for this counsellor will be hard of hearing clients. Responsibilities include providing vocational guidance and training support, providing information on vocational funding resources, and providing counselling. Understanding of Deaf culture and Hard of Hearing issues an asset. University Degree and at least two years experience required. The Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is a bilingual environment (ASL/English). The successful candidate must have ASL skills or be willing to learn. **The application deadline is Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2002**

Reply in confidence to Executive Director, WIDHH  
2125 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC  
V6K 1X9

Fax: (604) 736 4381

E-mail: [exdir@widhh.com](mailto:exdir@widhh.com)

### We are looking for a receptionist. (Re-posting)

Duties include greeting clients, administering the telephone and voice mail system, and processing financial transactions. An understanding of Deaf Culture and Hard of Hearing issues is a definite asset. The Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is a bilingual environment (ASL/English). The successful candidate must be proficient in American Sign Language.

The application deadline is Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2002

Reply in confidence to:  
Executive Director, WIDHH  
2125 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.  
V6K 1X9

Fax: (604) 736-4381

E-mail: [exdir@widhh.com](mailto:exdir@widhh.com)

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### OVERSEAS INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Submitted by Donna Soular, GVAD

Well it's that time of year again! Canadian Society for International Health is accepting applications for Netcorps internships that are to begin in the summer or fall of 2002.

To qualify you must -

1. be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant
2. be under the age of 30 and never taken part of a Youth Employment Strategy internship before
3. be underemployed or unemployed
4. be willing to live overseas for 6-9 months on a modest budget
5. be seeking a once in a lifetime experience!

Please go to our web site [www.csih.org/what/Internships/index.html](http://www.csih.org/what/Internships/index.html) for job descriptions and how to apply.



## DYT CORNER

### DYT - WUZZUP ??????

The Deaf Youth Today program has been keeping busy with children and youth programs! Here is what we have been doing lately....

We had Scott Jeffery and Kristen Pranzl go to Kelowna to help support Max Fomitchev's mime classes while the parents went to Nigel Howard's signing classes. We had two separate groups: teenagers and young children.

Also, we recently had snowboarding/skiing lessons up at

Mountain Seymour with a total of sixteen Deaf and Hard of Hearing participants! We received a lot of positive comments and we will be looking into setting this again in the future.

Also, on Saturday March 9th, Deaf Youth Today partnered up with Family Support Program and Douglas College Interpreting Program to a Day at Science World. Interpreters and Deaf role models provided and set out through out the building to support families. Approximately 120 attended.

A **Food Safe course** (sponsored by DYT and FSP) will be set up on **April 15 & 17 from 4pm -8:30pm** for teenagers to receive a certificate to work in restaurants. If you are interested in taking this course, please contact us at [deafyouthtoday@fndc.ca](mailto:deafyouthtoday@fndc.ca) or call Susi at (604) 660-1800v or (604) 660-1807tty to reserve a spot. \$10 fee to hold your spot. .

We are also starting to plan for the summer!

Mark **July 7-11th** for Deaf Kids/Youth Camp at Hornby Island. Watch fro details this Spring!

We have been providing lots of training opportunities for teenagers and we hope that they will apply for a job with Deaf Youth Today this summer. We are currently working on various activities for the summer but if you have any ideas, please do not hesitate to contact us and let us know.

Also, we will be starting hiring for summer staff soon so keep an eye on advertisements and get your resumes ready for interviews in May! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at [deafyouthtoday@fndc.ca](mailto:deafyouthtoday@fndc.ca) or call the DYT phone at: (604) 684-1860 and leave a voice or tty message, and we'll call you back.

**DYT CORNER cont'd****DYT REVIEWS****Submitted by Kristen Pranzl**

The Deaf Youth Today program hosted a leadership training program for Deaf youth in high school to promote development of various skills that would ultimately lead to job opportunities for these youth. The first two weeks St John Ambulance hosted a series of 4, 4 hour sessions that covered all the basics of first aid training. I was present to supervise and also get certified. The process worked out very well, with 15 students showing up to each session and a very flexible teacher.

The teacher was very open minded and willing to adjust course material as to help the students learn and understand the material to the fullest extent. In one situation in which both interpreters hired for the sessions arrived late, the instructor was able to be creative and carry on with class without the interpreters and the students were also willing to work with her to ensure no time was wasted. This was impressive because it showed that the youth could be and will be flexible in hard situations.

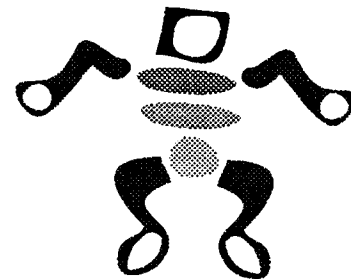
The videos used to teach first aid were also very visual which helped a lot with the different situations. The class consisted of people with different learning styles and needs, and I am happy to say that the instructor was able to match the different levels as to ensure everyone was able to pass the course fairly. I am happy to say that everyone passed.

**Submitted By Scott Jeffery**

Hello, my name is Scott Jeffery. I'm 16 years old. I have been involved with the Deaf Youth Program/Today for six years. My first year that I went to DYP, a group of us went to Alice Lake. I had so much FUN! That week was my first time camping with lots of other deaf campers.

After that week, I went to a bunch of fun weeks with others deaf kids for two years. I have met

many deaf kids during those times. After two years of participating with the DYP, I decided to become a volunteer. After three years of volunteering, I have gained a great deal of leadership skills. My sign language has also improved. When I first heard that the DYT was hiring for the summer of 2001, I thought it would be a great experience for me to work there. After working with all of these FUN and HAPPY kids/teens, I realized with other kids that made me felt great!



ADD OUR WEBSITE .... to your list of favorites

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

Check out our great website. This site is maintained regularly and will keep you up-to-date on all our current Deaf Youth Today programs, as well as FNDC workshops, videos etc. The site includes various links to different agencies serving deaf children, youth and their families, and the Deaf community.

## DOUGLAS COLLEGE UPDATE

### Douglas College Update by Cheryl Palmer

#### Student Update

First-year student volunteers are now ready to begin volunteer interpreting in the community. Their first course in January was an intensive five-week interpreting course which has prepared the students to begin volunteering. If you require their services, please call two weeks prior to the event to 527-5552 #1 or 527-5133 tty. To ensure the assignments are suitable for students, a faculty member will screen all requests.

Other first-year student activities include hosting an "Evening of Ethics" on March 19<sup>th</sup>. We have invited professional interpreters to join us to discuss ethical dilemmas that interpreters confront in their work.

The fourteen second-year students are currently on practicum, attending sites ranging from Vancouver Island to Winnipeg. Each practicum is four weeks long and the students return to college to attend classes for one week between each practicum. This year's hosts include K-12 educational settings, post-secondary settings, and freelance interpreters working in the community. We want to thank the interpreters who agree to mentor students during this important stage of their development and the Deaf community members who welcome students into their classes and appointments – without this assistance, the students would miss the opportunity to hone their skills under the guidance of experienced interpreters.

When students have successfully completed three practicums, they return to the college to take one more course to help them synthesize their learning as well as prepare for their final interpreting tests. They then prepare a portfolio showing their learning over the past two years and evidence of their ability to work successfully in the field. All this will be presented in May when the program will spend two days viewing the students' portfolio presentations. Community representatives from the Deaf community and the interpreting field will join program faculty to assess the students' work. Successful students will graduate on June 6, 2002.

#### Spring ASL Course

If any of you are interested in taking advanced ASL, Douglas College will be offering a course in May called "Directed Studies in ASL". To take the course you need to be able to understand a lecture in ASL without interpretation. The course runs from:

May 9 to May 17<sup>th</sup>

Monday to Friday

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Instructor: Nigel Howard

Cost: \$105

Register: through Continuing Education at 604-527-5472 after March 12

CRN: #141 040 200221

#### Medical Interpreting Program

Several interpreters and Douglas students attended the Town Hall meeting held last fall. The meeting enabled us to gather feedback about the medical curriculum. The outcome is that courses in the Medical Interpreting Program are suspended this year, and a schedule of offerings for Fall 2002 and Winter 2003 is being prepared. One comment was that interpreters need to know the schedule well in advance of course offerings because of their busy schedules. Participants also stated they would like to receive a certificate upon completion of the program, and we are looking into this idea further.

#### Screening Weekend

The program will again be selecting students for the Fall 2002 intake. This process will take place April 19 and 20. As we get closer to April, we will be contacting community members to ask for assistance with this important task.

#### SILENT WALK/RUN

June 2, 2002

Time: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

The course starts in Ceperley park at Second Beach and stretches across Stanley Park, and along the Seawall (4 or 9 km). Contact: BC Deaf Sports Federation. 604 738-7122 (tty) or 604 737-6043 tty. email: bcdeafsports@telus.net

Authored by Virginia Association of the Deaf

### American Sign Language

Looking at your hands you wouldn't  
imagine music.

But when your ears are closed and  
your eyes are open, you need your  
hands to communicate.

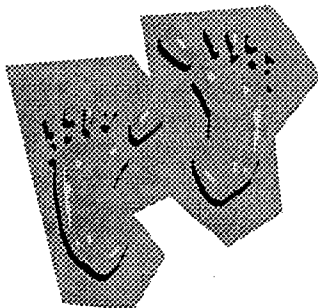
ASL (American Sign Language) is  
like poetry.

Hands sway . . . hands float . . . hands move  
to the left . . . right . . .  
up and down.

The beautiful motions fly as free as a bird. By  
using facial expressions and body  
movements, it's like poetry with a  
little bit of dancing-looking flowers  
blossoming you think of ASL.  
The life . . . love . . . and culture of  
DEAFNESS.

© A Poem by

**RAMONA ANN JONES**



### GVDSA LOGO CONTEST

**Deadline: April 15, 2002**

**PRIZE:\$100**

- ★ only 3 colors of your choice
- ★ must have Greater Vancouver Deaf Sports Association
- ★ Logo on 8"x11" paper
- ★ can be hand drawn or by computer
- ★ open to deaf and hard-of hearing people
- ★ logo must be submitted with your name, address, phone number and email address (optional)
- ★ Enter as many times as you want.

Submit to: GVDSA, 5009 St. Catherines Street,  
Vancouver, BC V5W 3E9  
or gvdsa@hotmail.com (please email as an  
attachment)

### THE GREAT WALK

The 'Great Walk', is fast approaching for the 25th year. Allison Campbell is training for the grueling walk again for the eighth time. The actual walk, which starts at 4:00 in the morning, is a challenging trek of 63.5 km from Gold River to Tahsis. The route follows a gravel road that goes up mountain passes, down through valleys and participants battle not only fatigue but wind, driving rain, snow or sometimes high heat. Last year Allison was the 17th women to finish, 50th overall out of almost 1000 participants. The personal challenge aside, participants can also raise money for a charity of their choice. Allison raises funds to help support the annual **Family Deaf Camp** held on Hornby Island at the **Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Centre**. The Camp attracts families with Deaf children or members from all over the province.

If you would like to help support Allison on her trek, please send a cheque to: Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Society (Great Walk Fund) Seadollar 1-7 Hornby Island B.C. V0R 1Z0

Tax receipts will be provided for donations of \$25.00 and over.

## BC DEAF SPORTS

New email address for Deaf Sports

gvdsa@hotmail.com

### British Columbia Deaf Sports Federation

BC Deaf Sports Federation is participating in B.C. Disability Games in Abbotsford, **July 10 - 14, 2002**. Disabled Athletes from all over British Columbia will be coming to Abbotsford for four days of competition. BCDSF is hosting four events.

Two of BCDSF's events are athletics (track and field) and swimming. We would like to see deaf and hard of hearing students participating in athletics or swimming. The minimum age for participating in these two deaf events is 10 years old.

Please inform your deaf and hard of hearing students and those interested should contact us (mail, tty, voice, fax or email) by March 29th, 2002.

We are looking forward to hearing from you. The students will benefit from participating in BC Disability Games in July.

B.C. Deaf Sports Federation  
350 - 1367 West Broadway  
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 4A9  
voice 604 737-3041  
tty 604 738-7122  
email: bcdeafsports@telus.net

### Deaf Indo-Canadian Organization

**June 14, 2002**

2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary party.

Date: Friday, **June 14, 2002**

Where: Grand Taj Banquet Hall

Time: 6:00 pm-1:00 am

Contact: Sukhvir Bains deafdico@yahoo.ca or  
604 708-8639 fax

### PARK SERVICES UPDATE FOR 2002 CAMPING SEASON

Recreation services in provincial parks are undergoing changes for the 2002 season to reflect the Ministry's service plan and budget priorities

#### Disabled Access Pass Program

Subsidies for disabled campers have been maintained, but qualifying criteria have changed. In the past, the Ministry issued its own pass to people with disabilities that allowed these individuals to camp for free in provincial park campgrounds. The previous provincial park disabled camping pass is now invalid. Under our new system, the eligibility criteria for the disabled camping subsidy will match that of the BC Benefits Program, Disability Benefits Level Two, administered by the Ministry of Human Resources, and the At Home Program, administered by the Ministry of Children and Family Development. To qualify, you must show written confirmation to a park facility operator that you meet the criteria of the Disability Benefits Level Two program or the At Home Program and provide one additional piece of identification at the time of your visit to a provincial park.

For more information, we suggest you contact the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection

## DEAF DEAF WORLD

Vancouver Community College Full time study program students are planning to host DEAF DEAF WORLD, (an interactive activity).

It's like a small village where the whole population is Deaf and they run shops & services. The participants have to interact with them to earn the points or experience the whole different perspective.

We are planning to have it on May 4th, 2002 at Burnaby South Cafeteria. There is a small admission fee for the whole fun. There will be a refreshment booth will be run by DYT (fundraising). For more information, contact Vincent Chauvet at vchauvet@vcc.bc.ca

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### MARCH/APRIL 2002

**March 24** - Curling Funspiel, Royal City Curling Club (see flyer)

**March 30 & 31** - Deaf Youth Today Baseball Clinic (see flyer)

\* \* \*

**April 14th - 19th** - Teen Outreach Week sponsored by Provincial Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and The B.C. School for the Deaf (see information on page 6)

**April 16th** - Marlee Maitlin, Orpheum Theatre, see page 7 to order tickets

**April 15th/April 17th** - Food Safe Course for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth - see info page 8.

**June 23, 2002** - WAVLI Golf Fundraiser - see page 14 for further information.

### JULY 2002

**July 4 - 7th** - Hornby Island Family Deaf Camp (See Flyer)

**July 7 - 11th** - DYT Deaf children and Teen Camp (tentative - watch for details soon!)

**July 10th - 12** - BC Disabled Games (see info on page 13)

**July 14th - 19th** - Summer Outreach Week sponsored by Provincial Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Deaf Youth Today (see page 6 for information)

**July 17-20** - Deaf Canada Conference '02 (see info on page 14.

### MAY/JUNE 2002

**May 4th** - Deaf, Deaf World (see info on page 12)

**May 4 & 7** Deaf @ Vi Festival 2002, 3rd Annual Video Screening of Local work by Deaf artists and producers  
Video in Studios, 1965 Main Street Vancouver, BC. Ticket \$10.00

**May 5th** - 10th First Nations Outreach Week sponsored by Provincial Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and The B.C. School for the Deaf (see information on page 6)

**May 21st**, FNDC's Annual General Meeting (see announcement, page 3)

\* \* \* \*

**June 2** - Silent Walk/Run, Second Beach (see page 10)

**June 3** - FNDC's Fundraising Golf Tournament (see flyer)

**June 14<sup>th</sup>** - Deaf Indo-Canadian Organization 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary party see page 12 for further information.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA DEAF SPORTS FEDERATION

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Please inform your deaf and hard of hearing students and those interested should contact us (mail, tty, voice, fax or email) by March 29th, 2002.

## WHAT FNDC IS ALL ABOUT?

- FNDC believes that families are vital in ensuring that deaf children reach their full potential through a supportive home environment.
- FNDC believes that families have the right to make informed choices based on the needs of the deaf child and the family.
- FNDC believes that deaf children have the right to a quality education in a language that is 100% visually accessible.
- FNDC believes that each child is unique and has individual abilities and needs that must be recognized.
- FNDC believes that the rich and varied experiences and language of the Deaf community are an important and valuable resource for deaf children and their families.

## WHO IS FNDC?

FNDC is a non-profit society that was founded in March, 1995 to bring together families of deaf children in British Columbia who share common concerns.

Through our newsletter we are able to share information with our members and provide an opportunity for families to network with each other.

With the support of our members, we hope to grow into an organization that provides workshops, networking via the internet and educating the hearing community and the Provincial Government on issues that are common and important to us all.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to those who support the goals of our organization. All FNDC members receive:

- a one year subscription to our newsletter (which is published three times a year)
- Family Network for Deaf Children's province-wide parent network.
- Update bulletins and information notices regarding upcoming workshops and courses and videos presented by FNDC.

### WAVLI GOLF FUNDRAISER

June 23, 2002

Western Association of Visual Language Interpreters is having a Fundraising Golf Tournament. Registration: 8 - 8:30 am, Shotgun Tee Time: 9:00 am. Price includes green fees, great food and good prices. One ticket \$55.00 or two tickets \$100.00 Surrey Golf Club. For more information, please contact: 604 572-8878 voice or tty.

### Deaf Canada Conference `02

July 17-20, 2002

Proudly hosted in conjunction with Newfoundland & Labrador Association of the Deaf (NLAD) to be held at Delta St. John's Hotel & Conference Centre. St. John's, Newfoundland

This conference will give special attention to workshops, open forum, contests, exhibits, children's program and much more. There will be a banquet, special entertainment night, double decker bus tours and boat tours.

For more information, contact:  
Myles Murphy, DCC'02 Chair  
TTY Phone: 709-754-4208  
E-mail: myles.Murphy@nf.sympatico.ca

If you need an information package kit, please contact:

Deaf Canada Conference `02  
P.O. Box 28017  
St. John's, Newfoundland  
A1B 4J8  
OR ww.dcc02.ca

### ATTACHED FLYERS .....

- FNDC Golf Tournament (June 2002)
- DYT Baseball Clinic (March 2002)
- Curling Funspiel (March 2002)
- Hit the Ceiling: Raise the Roof
- Canadian Deaf Slo-Pitch Tournament
- 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Deaf Camp (July 02)

**FNDC FAMILY NETWORK FOR DEAF CHILDREN  
2002/2003 MEMBERSHIP FORM  
P.O. Box 50075, South Slope R.P.O  
Burnaby, BC V5J 5G3**

[ ] I want to become a member of the Family Network for Deaf Children, a non-profit society, providing support and information.

**Memberships are valid April 1, 2002 - March 31, 2003**

Please select the membership category which applies to you:

- Family membership for families of Deaf children \$15.00  
Any parent or legal guardian of a Deaf child is entitled to vote. One vote per family.
- Individual membership \*\* \$15.00
- Organizations/School Districts/Service Providers \*\* \$25.00

\*\* non-voting

Please check:                    [ ] NEW MEMBERSHIP  
    [ ] RENEWAL

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Receipts for Membership dues

If you would like a receipt of your payment mailed to you, please let us know.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  voice  TTY  both

WORK TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  voice  TTY  both

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ /AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ /AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ /AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ Please indicate which child is d/Deaf with a \*.

IN ADDITION TO MY MEMBERSHIP I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
Registered charitable #: 88622 5655 RR0001

Please make your cheque payable to FNDC Family Network for Deaf Children and return to the above address

Thank you for your support!