



May was [Speech and Hearing Month](#) and was a time to recognize the life-changing impact of speech-language pathologists (S-LPs) and audiologists and raise awareness about the critical role they play in the healthcare and education systems.

This year’s theme, “S-LPs & Audiologists: Doing More Than You Think”, highlighted the broad scope of practice of S-LPs and audiologists. Many people do not realize the full scope of practice of these professions. When thinking of S-LPs, one may assume they only help children with speech difficulties or that audiologists only fit hearing aids for seniors. However, their work extends far beyond these common perceptions.

Did you know?

- There are over 440,000 Canadians who have significant speech, language and communication disabilities that are not caused by significant hearing loss.
- GYPSD has a great team to support speech and language delays and disorders including a Speech-Language Pathologist (Ande Hinchey), Communications Disorders Assistant (Alyssa Fitzgerald) and Therapy Aides (Myka Jones, Kimberley Roth, Sabrina Van Der Giessen, Bobbi McKinnon, Connie Gilbert) in each of our regions!

Most people know that SLPs:

- Use "play" to work on skills
 - Teach words
- Focus on sounds like "r" and lisps
Work with people who stutter

But SLPs are also trained in many other areas!

- Fluency (stuttering, cluttering)
 - Voice therapy
 - Orofacial myofunctional disorders
 - Social communication/pragmatics
 - Language
 - AAC
 - Speech
- Feeding and swallowing (AHS)
Accent Modification
Cleft lip and palate
Work with individuals with hearing loss
Cognitive communication
Literacy and pre-literacy

Our Division SLP (Ande Hinchey) has specific training in:

- Supporting language (expressive, receptive, morphology, syntax, semantics, social communication and Augmentative and Alternative Communication/AAC)
- Cognitive communication (attention, memory, executive functions, problem solving, reasoning)
- Speech sounds (articulation, phonology, apraxia of speech)
- Pre-literacy skills/phonological awareness
- Early intervention and Play Based Learning
- Autism, ADHD, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD), and Low Incidence/Complex Communication Needs

To access resources, learn more and spread the word go to: [speechandhearing.ca](#) or <https://www.acslpa.ca/slp-information/>

Please also check out "Out of My Mind" (on Disney+). It is a heart wrenching film about an 11 year old girl with Cerebral Palsy and her journey to access communication and education through a speech-generating device.



Ande Hinchey



Alyssa Fitzgerald



Connie Gilbert



Bobbi McKinnon



Sabrina Van
Der Giessen



Myka Jones



Kim Roth