



REBUILDING COMMUNICATION

BUILDING Bridges



Building Bridges – Newsletter of the Aphasia Institute – The Aphasia Institute is a Canadian community-based centre of excellence, pioneering programs and practices that help people with aphasia learn how to communicate in new ways and begin to navigate their own lives again. Through direct service, research, education and training, the Aphasia Institute has built an international reputation as a world leader and educator in aphasia.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

Your involvement is critical to the work we do. It helps us build awareness and keep our promise to people with aphasia and their families:

Our Promise: *We help you navigate your life one conversation at a time.*



\$80,940 raised

to support those clients who could not afford to pay!

4th year in a row

that we won the Supporting Seniors Award for most participants

223 participants

walked, rolled, ran, raised funds – a huge increase over last year's event!

ANNUAL APPEAL 2016 & OUR TOASTMASTERS PROGRAM



If you had a communication disorder like aphasia, would you join a public speaking group? **Well, many of our clients do just that!** In November, we'll launch our annual appeal with the help of our client, Dennis. He'll tell you his remarkable story of overcoming a debilitating fear of public speaking with the help of our specially-adapted Toastmasters Program. We'll also share with you exciting news about the positive changes we'll be bringing to this program in the coming year – **all because of your generous support!**

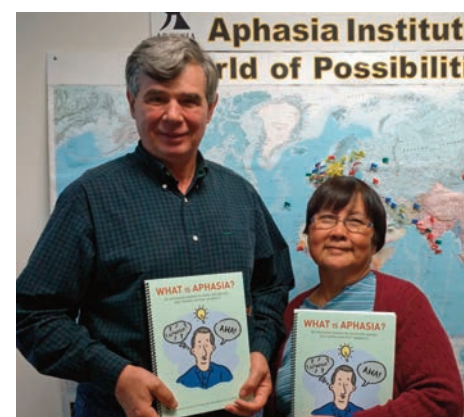
The Aphasia Institute relies on the generosity of individual donors and volunteers to deliver life-changing programs.

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WHAT'S NEW?

Best-selling aphasia resource revised!

We are always aware of the need to keep our programs, services, and aphasia resources up-to-date. Our latest update is a revised version of one of our best-selling resources – **WHAT IS APHASIA?** – a tool we believe every family living with aphasia should have. This revised edition provides new information on different kinds of aphasia, improved and updated pictographs and instructions, and more tools and strategies to improve conversation and communication. And because we believe people living with aphasia have enough hurdles to overcome, it was important to us that this revised edition be released at the same cost as the previous version. **This was only possible because of your support – thank you!**



Clients Richard and Tita with their copies of **What Is Aphasia?** Revised Edition

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BUSTING APHASIA MYTHS

the myth

Stroke & aphasia don't affect young people

Not only do stroke and aphasia affect people of all ages, but we're starting to meet a younger population of survivors at the Aphasia Institute. In fact, we've responded to this alarming trend by tailoring some of our programs to meet the needs of this emerging group of younger clients. To get a better understanding of stroke and aphasia in the young, go to www.aphasia.ca/2016/10/bb_links/. There you'll find links to the stories of **Jack Hurley and Sarah Scott**, whose stroke and aphasia occurred at the ages of 15 and 18, respectively.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Celebrating Our Volunteers and Our Community Partners



Our 2016 Communicative Access & Community Partner Award recipients, with founder Pat Arato (second from right)

Our 2016
Ambassador
Award recipients,
with founder
Pat Arato (third
from left)



Katherine Cormier & Debbie Mayhew, family of the late Gerry Cormier, namesake of the Gerry Cormier Communicative Access Award

Each year, our Annual General Meeting affords us the privilege of sharing our successes with our stakeholders and friends, as well as presenting awards of merit to some very deserving community partners. This year, we also took the opportunity to celebrate the dedication, expertise, and commitment of our many wonderful volunteers. And in keeping with the synergy of our community, those same volunteers helped create the very content of the presentation itself, in the form of videos to highlight the year's achievements. Our volunteers, staff, clients, community partners, **along with you**, play an important role in keeping our promise to people with aphasia and their families.

To browse additional content mentioned in this issue of Building Bridges (videos, relevant online content, our Annual Report, etc.), go to: www.aphasia.ca/2016/10/bb_links/

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