



Dear CHHA Supporter,

National Executive Director
Directeur général national
Robert Corbell

2010-2013
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I would like to take the time to personally thank you for supporting the work of the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association (CHHA). Your support is very important to us. As this year comes to an end, the Board Members and I would like to wish you, Louise, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We would also like to encourage you to make a generous donation to the CHHA, given this very special time of the year.

Hearing loss could happen to anyone... sometimes to people close to your heart. At the age of 75, my mother lost more than 70% of her hearing. When myself, my sister or one of my two brothers would speak to her, she would always say: "*Speak! Articulate! I do not understand!*" Without warning, hearing loss sometimes sets in and insidiously alters the relationship between individuals and their environment. I have learned that it sometimes even creates conflicts within one's interpersonal relationships, or completely undermines one's self-esteem.

My mother came to outright avoid a number of social occasions. Her hearing loss prevented her from taking part in group conversations, and her friends began to get angry when she asked them to repeat or speak up. She constantly felt hurt and alone...and most importantly she was unhappy. People tend to isolate themselves to avoid problems and confrontation. This is not an isolated case, and I am sure you know someone in your family or close to you that has experienced a similar situation.

Fortunately, your support and gift to CHHA helps alleviate many problems facing hard of hearing individuals, and has prevented the isolation of hundreds of thousands of individuals living with hearing loss. This year, CHHA has successfully continued to work on accessibility, advocacy and awareness with the public and other target groups. We have worked to advance the following projects, to name a few:

- Partnering with the CRTC to help set a national standard of captioning for the Canadian televised broadcasting network;
- Initiating a project which aimed to test access to 911 via text messages (SMS);
- Testing a hosted transcription service on the Web to create a better accessibility tool for hard of hearing university students;
- Developing Dragon Naturally Speaking software as an accessibility tool for hard of hearing Canadians;

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I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A:

- Monthly donation of** \$10 \$15 \$20 \$25 Other: \$ _____
- Donation of** \$20 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other: \$ _____
- Memoriam Donation of** \$ _____

* A card will be forwarded in your name to the family from our office. A tax receipt will be issued in the amount of your donation. In memory of: _____

We will send a card acknowledging this donation to (Name & address): _____

- Advocating for changes to the disability tax credit to ensure eligibility for more hard of hearing taxpayers;
- Organizing a petition to support the implementation of captioning telephones in Canada;
- Participating in a coalition to set a national standard for noise in the classroom; and
- Answering members' and non-members' questions on-line at www.chha.ca using our "Ask an expert" feature.

My mother is now 85 years old and has been wearing a hearing aid for several years. Last year at the Christmas gathering she said to me: *"I feel so much better wearing my hearing aid. It is as if God has given me a second chance. I have a more normal life. What makes me most happy is that I can hear and talk to my grandchildren."*

Hearing problems are growing and do not only affect the elderly. According to the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists, consultations for hearing problems are two and a half times higher among people in their twenties than 10 years ago. It is our duty to act and to inform our family members, friends and members of our community of the factors that may adversely affect our hearing.

To show our appreciation of your generous donation, we have enclosed a bookmark to provide you with useful information and basic guidelines. The Canadian Hard of Hearing Association will be celebrating its 30th anniversary next year and would greatly appreciate your support.

Happy Holidays! May this New Year be full of serenity, peace, health, small pleasures and great joys.

Sincerely,
The National Executive Director,

Robert Corbeil, MGP

PS: If you wish to make a donation, please complete the attached coupon and attach your cheque or credit card information to the enclosed, prepaid envelope. Thank you again for your support.

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(613) 526-1584

TTY (613) 526-2692
ATS (613) 526-2692

Fax (613) 526-4718
Télécopieur (613) 526-4718



METHOD OF PAYMENT

Cheque (to Canadian Hard of Hearing Association) **Canadian money order**

Visa

Master Card

Card number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Charitable Reg. N° 12995 1109 RR0002