



Speech-Language & Audiology Canada  
Orthophonie et Audiologie Canada  
Communicating care | La communication à coeur

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Speech-Language & Audiology Canada Welcomes Jennifer O'Donnell as New Chair

**OTTAWA, ON (May 24, 2017)** — Speech-Language & Audiology Canada's (SAC) Board of Directors is pleased to announce Jennifer O'Donnell, M.Sc., S-LP(C), CCC-SLP, as the association's new Chair.

O'Donnell officially began her term this afternoon, following SAC's Annual Meeting of Members (AMM). She takes over the position from Jerri-Lee MacKay, M.Sc., Aud(C), who has chaired the Board since last spring. Having served on the SAC Board since September 2014 as a Director and both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair, O'Donnell is well positioned to assume her new leadership role.

Since graduating from Dalhousie University in 2005, O'Donnell has worked primarily with preschoolers. She manages the Speech-Language Pathology Department and is Coordinator of the Pediatric Developmental Team at the Chaleur Regional Hospital in Bathurst, NB, and has a strong interest in early intervention and transdisciplinary assessment and treatment. O'Donnell is also a past President of the New Brunswick Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists. She is eager to lead the SAC Board over the next twelve months.

"I was thrilled to have the opportunity earlier this month to represent SAC in advocacy meetings on Parliament Hill during Speech and Hearing Month. I am eager to continue promoting our professions and sharing our passion for the role we play in improving the lives of those with communication, swallowing and balance issues," said O'Donnell after the AMM. "I very much look forward to working with my fellow Board Directors and the SAC staff on advocacy initiatives, the 2018 conference, and all of the other activities outlined in SAC's current strategic plan."

Especially passionate about pediatric speech-language pathology, O'Donnell strives to provide quality, patient-centred care. When asked about her profession, O'Donnell answered: "I love being an S-LP. Like many in our profession, I view what I do as not just a job, but as a privilege."

Under O'Donnell's leadership, SAC's Board of Directors will continue to advance the professions and raise awareness about communication health in Canada.

To view the full 2017-2018 Board, please visit the [SAC website](#). SAC members and associates can contact Jennifer O'Donnell at [chair@sac-oac.ca](mailto:chair@sac-oac.ca).

### About Speech-Language and Audiology Canada

Speech-Language and Audiology Canada is a member-driven organization that supports, promotes and elevates the professions of our members and associates. We are the only national organization passionately supporting and representing speech-language pathologists, audiologists and communication health assistants inclusively. Through this support, we champion the needs of people with communication disorders. Visit [www.sac-oac.ca](http://www.sac-oac.ca) to learn more.

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