



SAC Scholarship Program 2021-2022

Impact Report



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care



THANK YOU

Speech-Language & Audiology Canada's Scholarship Program has been a significant part of the association since the first scholarship was awarded in 2006. Now more than ever – amid the pandemic and financial hardships many are facing - scholarships have the power to transform lives.

Scholarships provide students with financial reprieve, but its impact is more profound. The impact of scholarships are more profound than simply providing student with financial support. The recognition of their hard work elevates their spirit, bolsters their confidence, and inspires them to give back to the community through their future endeavors.

The stories in this report offer a small glimpse into the lives of the many students who have received support from the scholarship program.

SAC Scholarship Program 2021 – 2022

Elks & Royal Purple
Fund for Children



**The Beach Family
Foundation**



27 STUDENTS
RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS
IN 2021-2022



\$36,250
IN SCHOLARSHIPS
IN 2021-2022

Elks & Royal Purple
Fund for Children





Maya Aharon
University of Toronto
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship

“I hope that I may give back to the program in the future and support other students to achieve their goals.”

Maya Aharon is currently completing her final year of the Speech-Language Pathology program at the University of Toronto. Maya is interested in working with individuals with neurogenic disorders, such as aphasia, and supporting the use of augmentative and alternative modes of communication. Maya is also passionate about promoting equitable practice and access to services for culturally and linguistically diverse clients.

In addition to her studies, Maya is a research volunteer in the Bilingual and Multilingual Development Lab at the University of Toronto and serves as co-president of her class.

Through the support of the Elks of Canada and the generous sponsors of the SAC scholarship program, Maya hopes to make a meaningful contribution to her field and the members of her community as a S-LP.

I am a second year Speech-Language Pathology student at the University of Alberta hoping to pursue a career in dysphagia management in an acute care setting. I have a passion for learning and advocating for students and colleagues in my profession at both the local and national level.

I previously served as the Chair of the Professional Development Committee for the Organization of Alberta Students In Speech (OASIS) at the U of A and currently sit on the Education Committee for Speech-Language and Audiology Canada.

Volunteering has been an integral part of my life and my journey to where I am today. I will continue to serve my community no matter where I may end up in the future. I am honoured to have been awarded this scholarship and will be putting it towards covering the expenses involved with completing my graduate degree and relocating for external placements.

Thank you so much!

“After a long two years of being confined to my home during a global pandemic, I finally feel like my hard work is paying off now that I am able to apply my knowledge and make a difference in people's lives in my first external placement. “



Meghan Kardash
University of Alberta
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship



Brianna Kuchurean
University of Toronto
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the 2021-2022 Gordon Leslie Memorial Scholarship. I am beyond grateful for the opportunity that you have offered for speech-language pathology graduate students.

The past two years have been difficult for financing both my program and additional educational opportunities, so I am incredibly excited to use this funding to continue learning and developing my skills in my areas of interest.

I am currently completing my second placement at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, specifically within the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Team (BIRT). Needless to say, this experience has been unbelievably rewarding and has further supported my dedication to the brain injury population.

Through discussions with my clinical educators, I have been provided beneficial resources that will assist me in furthering my work with brain injury. I look forward to exploring opportunities such as the Cognitive-Communication Course for Acquired Brain Injury created by the respected Sheila MacDonald. This course includes 12 modules that educate speech-language pathologists on evidence, assessment measures, and treatment strategies that are unique to cognitive-communication. This course is quite expensive; however, I am now in a much better place for affording it.

Again, I want to say thank you endlessly - I cannot begin to explain how much this scholarship means to me. Your support during this program will be something I will always remember and cherish.

“Your generosity has inspired me to help others. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.”

As a recipient of the 2021-2022 Gordon Leslie Memorial Scholarship, I wanted to sincerely thank you for funding this award. I was so happy and appreciative to learn that I was selected as one of the recipients of your scholarship.

I am a second-year audiology student at the UBC School of Audiology and Speech Sciences. Upon completion of my Master of Science degree in spring 2022, I hope to start working with children and families as a pediatric audiologist. Caring for children and families provides me with an incredible opportunity to contribute positively to the future of my community. Furthermore, pediatric audiology enables me to promote hearing health at all stages of development and to enable individuals to engage in meaningful communication across the lifetime. Throughout my graduate and undergraduate studies, I have had the opportunity to volunteer at the Alberta Children’s Hospital, Ronald McDonald House of Southern Alberta, and the Tom Baker Cancer Centre. Thanks to this scholarship, I will be able to continue volunteering and giving back to the incredible families in my community.

Thank you again for your investment in students such as myself.



Lauren Watson
University of British
Columbia
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship



Jaime Gardner
University of Toronto
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship

I am a second year graduate student at the University of Toronto, in the Speech-Language Pathology program. My passion lies in helping children gain confidence as they learn and grow, something I currently strive to do in my tutoring business. Additionally, I value helping adults improve their health, which is something I will be able to do while assessing and treating dysphagia. After graduation, I am extremely excited to begin working as a speech-language pathologist with children and dysphagia patients, both adult and children.

Working with both adult and children is very important to me as I begin my career. Additionally, I plan on continuing to expand my education and experience within areas which are of particular interest to me. Though it is difficult to pinpoint exactly what that will look like, I am excited to work towards utilizing opportunities that allow me to bring my goals to fruition.

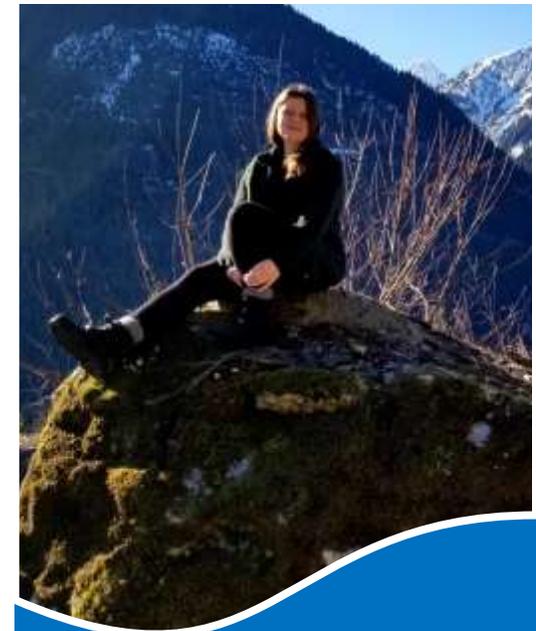
Receiving the 2021-2022 Gordon Leslie Memorial Scholarship is incredibly beneficial in helping me reach my goals as it provides me with more flexibility when choosing a placement in my final unit and any remaining funds will be used towards the cost required to write the mandatory licensing exam at the end of the program.

“I am excited and honoured to receive this scholarship. I appreciate the support that the Elks organization gives to speech and hearing students in Canada. Being a student can be rewarding and tough at times. Organizations like yours can help to lessen the financial burden and provide motivation for students like me.”

Quince Scholberg is a second-year speech-language pathology student at the University of British Columbia. After graduation she intends to work with school-aged children who have developmental differences.

Quince’s long-term goal is to help foster inclusion while working as a school-based S-LP in British Columbia.

The Gordon Leslie Memorial Scholarship will help her with tuition and living expenses while she completes her schooling.



Quince Scholberg
University of British
Columbia
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship



Sophia Passarelli
University of Toronto
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship

“It is an honour to receive this award. This scholarship will equip me with the tools and means necessary to further my education and knowledge while embarking on my career as an SLP.”

My name is Sophia Passarelli, I am 24 years old, and from Montreal, QC. I am currently completing my Masters of Health Science in Speech Language Pathology (SLP) at the University of Toronto.

Currently, I am finishing my second placement at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute with Acquired Brain Injury patients. After graduation, I intend to return to Montreal and begin my practice as an SLP. I am interested in working with the school-aged population in all aspects of language and literacy.

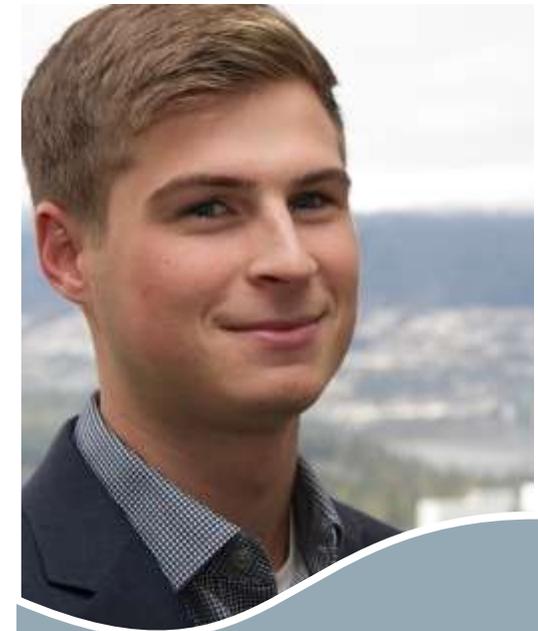
I am looking forward to beginning my journey as an SLP and being able to make a difference in my client's lives.

This scholarship will help me achieve my goals by allowing me to pursue more learning and acquire more knowledge while beginning my career as an SLP.

I would like to sincerely thank you for awarding me the 2021-22 Gordon Leslie Memorial Scholarship. It is such an honour to receive this distinction, especially among many qualified candidates. The financial support from this award will help me reach my goal to become an audiologist, especially during the difficult COVID-19 times we find ourselves in.

Over the course of my Master's degree, there have been many exciting and difficult times. Receiving this scholarship in the final stretch of my degree is the perfect way to wrap up the education phase of my career.

Once again, thank you for awarding me this award, I am very humbled to receive this scholarship.



Nick Grundmann
University of British
Columbia
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship



Alia Hafez
University of Toronto
William J. Blake
Scholarship

I am greatly honoured and thrilled to have been selected as the recipient of the 2021-2022 William J. Blake Scholarship. Thank you for your generosity and utmost dedication in aiding current graduate students during their journey to becoming Speech-Language Pathologists. I feel sincerely grateful to have had my hard-work and dedication to pursuing graduate studies, as well as experiences during clinical practicum, be recognized as meaningful to others.

As I complete my education at the University of Toronto, in the MHS. Speech-Language Pathology program, I am very thankful for receiving this scholarship, which will allow me to off-set the costs of moving to Toronto rather abruptly due to the pandemic, and mitigate the financial hardships associated with graduate studies. As a result, I feel better able to focus on developing my clinical skill set as I approach the end of my degree and highly motivated to lead the charge to improving access to speech-language services for individuals in underserved and/or rural communities.

I would like to express to you how grateful I am to be the 2021-2022 recipient of the Susan Lane Scholarship. Thank you so much for your incredible generosity. This funding will allow me to focus on my studies and put my best foot forward during my final academic semester and clinical placement.

I am extremely excited to complete my master's program at the University of Toronto and to enter the workforce as a Speech-Language Pathologist. This career has been a dream of mine for as long as I can remember. Your scholarship will ensure that in my final months of study, I can place all my efforts into learning as much as I can in order to become a well-rounded SLP. I am planning to practice in my home province of Newfoundland and Labrador post-graduation.

Although I enjoy working with many populations of clients across the lifespan, I have discovered a recent appreciation of the acute care setting and dysphagia assessment/intervention. My goal is to work in an acute care hospital in Newfoundland, where I will have opportunities to continue to grow - both as an SLP and as a person.

I cannot thank you enough for your support.



Laura Tulk
University of Toronto
Susan Lane Scholarship



Brook Harris
Western University
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship

“Thank you so much again for your generosity and support of students like myself and our education.”

I am honoured and appreciative to be a recipient of a Gordon Leslie Memorial Scholarship this year. Thank you so much for your generous support.

I am currently in my second year of studies in the Audiology program at Western University. I am thoroughly enjoying my studies and have found my clinical experiences so far to be extremely rewarding. I am very excited about the prospect of supporting individuals with hearing and communication challenges throughout my future career.

I am very appreciative of Speech-Language & Audiology Canada and the Elks of Canada’s longstanding involvement with and contributions to the education of future clinicians. I aspire to be able to contribute to the community in a similar way in the future.

Caroline Whiting is a second-year student in the Speech-Language Pathology program at McMaster University.

She is open to working with many populations when she completes her studies this summer, but has a particular interest in working with individuals with acquired brain injuries to help them achieve their communication goals. Caroline hopes to combine her clinical work with involvement in research in the future.

She is grateful for the support from the SAC and the Elks of Canada, which will help immensely in making the transition from student to practicing clinician.



Caroline Whiting
McMaster University
Gordon Leslie Memorial
Scholarship





Ala Refai

University of Toronto

KIDSPEECH™ Leadership
Scholarship

I am extremely honoured to have received the KIDSPEECH Leadership Scholarship from your wonderful organization. Completing a masters in Speech-Language Pathology during the pandemic has been an incredible challenge and I know many of us have felt discouraged and burnt out. However, it is because of generous supporters like you that help students like me feel a spark again for this field. What keeps many of us going is knowing that there are kind and passionate folks out there who want those of us just starting out in the field to succeed and be supported.

One of the things that drew me into the SLP field was feeling that it is in its infancy and there are many ways our field can develop for the better. This scholarship has helped me feel supported in how I envision and hope for the field to change. It has been both heartwarming and inspiring to receive this scholarship knowing that there are others out there who are also passionate about fostering a diverse and uplifting environment for people of colour and those from bilingual backgrounds. Nothing is more encouraging to a student who has been studying for the past two years at home than knowing there is a welcoming, big-hearted, and caring SLP community.

This scholarship has not only helped me equip myself with the tools I will need as a new, culturally, and linguistically SLP, but has also made me feel safer about entering the field when I graduate. As students, it is very common for us to have feelings of imposter syndrome and I am sure the feeling persists in the first few years of practice. Being able to receive recognitions such as this has helped me build my confidence and validate the dedication I have to this field. I whole-heartedly thank you for providing me with this sense of welcoming, passion, and motivation, as well as equipping me with the tools I need to help others. It is something I wish on for all students at some point, but I know I am privileged to be in this position. I will remember this as I become an experienced clinician and will try to give back to those starting out just as you have for me.

Thank you very, very much.

Sincerely,



Cortnee Adacsi
Fontbonne University
KIDSPEECH™ Travelling
Fellowship

“Receiving the KIDSPEECH Travelling Fellowship is helping me, as a speech-language pathologist, access additional graduate level education to further develop my knowledge and skills to support successful language access from an early age in Deaf and hard of hearing children along with their families.”

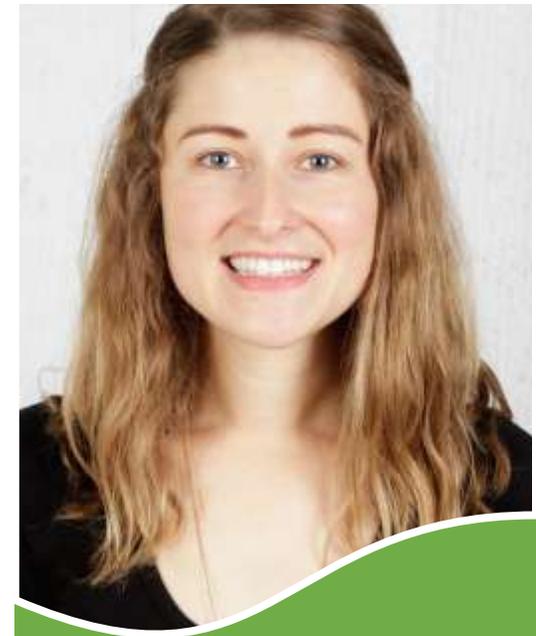
Cortnee Adacsi is an interactive speech-language pathologist and lifelong learner who is on an education leave to obtain her Master of Arts in Early Intervention in Deaf Education degree from Fontbonne University in St. Louis, Missouri.

This scholarship will help Cortnee to continue to develop her knowledge and skills to support successful language access from an early age in Deaf and hard of hearing children. She will continually embed the client-/centered coaching principals and best practices from deaf education and speech-language pathology into her work as a clinician in Alberta as well as strive to build capacity within the field.

Angela MacDonald-Prégent is a PhD student at the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at McGill University. Her dissertation examines the efficacy of a novel augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) intervention for nonspeaking children on the Autism Spectrum.

Originally from Prince Edward Island, after receiving her master’s degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Dalhousie University in 2011, she began her professional career working with Autistic preschoolers in the Nova Scotia Early Intensive Behavioural Program. Since then, she has occupied several positions in both the public and private sector working with people on the Autism Spectrum and individuals with developmental disabilities.

“As a speech-language pathologist who returned to school to pursue a doctoral degree in my 30s, I have faced setbacks that have caused me to doubt myself at times. However, every so often, I get a reminder that yes, I am on the right path. My latest reminder was being chosen for this scholarship – thank you.”



Angela MacDonald
McGill University
KIDSPEECH™ Doctoral
Scholarship

THE BEACH
FAMILY
FOUNDATION





Larissa Melville

University of British Columbia

Beach Family Placement
Support Scholarship

My name is Larissa, and in 2022 I received the Beach Family Placement Support Scholarship. I am in my first year of my Master's degree at UBC in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and will soon embark on my first placements in the summer, both of which are in pediatrics. I am excited to work in pediatrics, because it is an experience I have never had before (all of my experience is working with adults). The purpose of this letter is to express my deep gratitude for this financial support.

Ultimately, the Beach Scholarship will give me a tremendous lift during my externships; it will provide me the means to continue living and supporting myself while I am away on placement, as I will be required to pay double rent, one for my home in Vancouver and another for my housing in Campbell River. This support simply eases one of the major burdens of being a student, and allows me to focus better on my studies and research.

On the topic of research, I am writing a thesis over the remainder of my Master's degree, alongside completing the clinical and course requirements. After earning my degree, I intend to work with adults with aphasia. I would love to work in a rehab or community setting to provide communication aid to those who have suffered a stroke, have a communication-led dementia, have traumatic brain injury, and more.

Again, I would like to reiterate how impactful receiving support from donors with SAC is to help me feel financially secure. I hope to give back to the SAC and UBC by being a lifelong learner, continuing my research, and striving for growth, all in the hopes of better serving my clients and community.

Regards,

Larissa

Larissa is a graduate student pursuing her Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of British Columbia. She graduated from Simon Fraser University first class with distinction with a BA in Cognitive Science and Linguistics. She is writing a thesis concerning statistical learning in speech perception, alongside completing her courses and clinical requirements to earn her degree, projected to end in 2023. Afterwards, she intends to work with individuals with aphasia in a rehab or community care setting. She is indebted to SAC and it's donors for allowing her to continue her research and enhance her learning with their generosity. She wants to grow as a clinician, researcher, and most importantly, a lifelong learner--the Beach Family Placement Support Scholarship directly supports these goals.



Matthew Bonshor
McGill University

Beach Family Graduate
Scholarship

Thank you for this generous scholarship. This summer, I'll be completing an intense, full-time internship at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg. This scholarship will allow me to reduce the hours of my part-time tutoring job and give me the gift of time. Time to dive into a new area of our field for me (dysphagia). Time to learn and study. Time to network and plan my career journey for September. But also time to catch my breath, explore a brand new city, FaceTime my parents in BC, make new friends and enjoy summer afternoons in the sun and the glow of prairie sunsets. I am so grateful to have this extra time to do all of those things, and it wouldn't have been possible without your support.

With gratitude,

Matt Bonshor

Matt is a second year graduate student in Speech-Language Pathology at McGill University. His love for music and reading sparked his interest in SLP and he hopes to practice in paediatric literacy as well voice therapy upon graduation. Before following his passion into SLP, he spent several years working in the finance and technology sector and is excited to bring some of the lessons learned in those industries into our field.

He is immensely grateful to the Beach family and SAC for this scholarship. This scholarship will allow him to reduce his part-time job hours this summer while completing a 3 month acute care placement at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg.



Megan van Gorp
Western University

Beach Family Graduate
Scholarship

I cannot express my gratitude enough; thank you for your support in allowing me to launch my career with passion, excitement, and a "sky is the limit" mentality. As a second year Audiology student approaching graduation, I plan to launch my career caring for underserved pediatric and youth populations in rural Southwestern Ontario. My lived experiences with rural-induced inaccessibility to healthcare services have afforded me a lens to research and develop innovative solutions as a novel clinician. Thanks you to, I am one step closer to that goal. This scholarship has lightened the financial burden, which will allow me to focus on these endeavors going forward. Thank you again for your investment in students like me. Your generosity has inspired me to give back to the community in the future. I hope to help future students achieve their goals, just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,

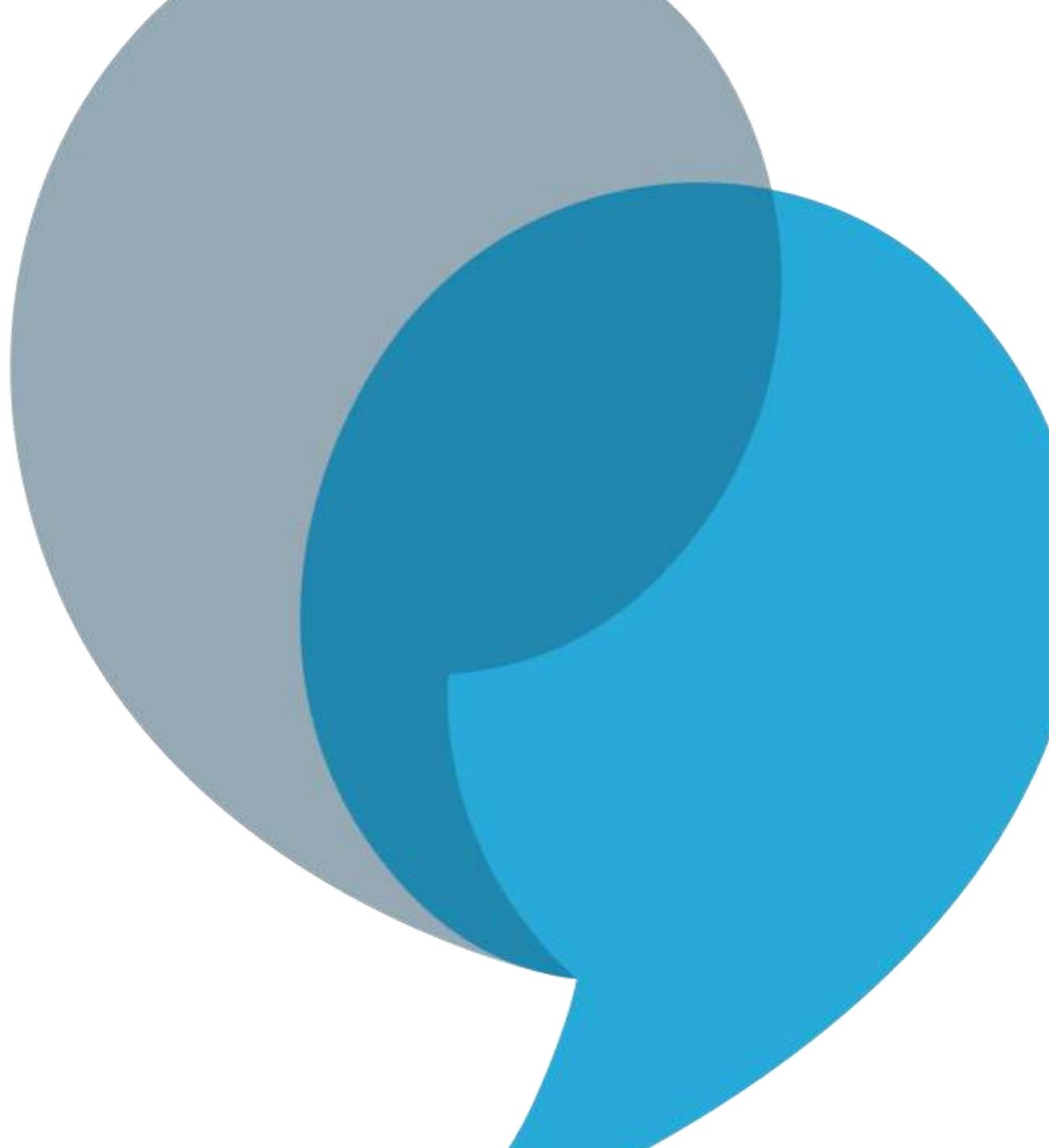
Megan Van Gorp

Megan Van Gorp is graduating Audiology in the M.Cl.Sc. program at Western University's School of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

She believes that equal access to audiological services, regardless of geography, ethnicity, and/or socioeconomic status are imperative in optimizing communicative health outcomes across Canada.

Her lived experiences with rural-induced inaccessibility to healthcare services have inspired her to launch her career providing care to underserved children and youth in rural Southwestern Ontario.

SAC  **OAC**
SCHOLARSHIPS





Michelle Jones
University of British
Columbia
Grace Margaret Harris
Scholarship

Dear Speech-Language & Audiology Canada and the donors of the Grace Margaret Harris Scholarship,

I am thrilled and honoured to have been awarded the 2021-2022 Grace Margaret Harris Scholarship. This award will contribute greatly to furthering my clinical education as I pursue a paediatric speech-language pathology career on Vancouver Island. I am incredibly appreciative of your generosity and the kindness of Ms. Harris' bequest.

After reading about Ms. Harris' contributions to the fields of speech-language pathology and audiology through improving the lives of children with hearing differences, I feel inspired and humbled to have received this award in her honour. I plan to honour her legacy through my contributions to improving the lives of children with communication challenges. I am looking forward to a career of life-long learning, mentorship and advocacy.

Thank you for your incredible support.

Sincerely,

Michelle Jones

UBC MSc. SLP Candidate, 2022



Melissa Hazen
University of Toronto
Audiology Leadership
Scholarship

I am humbled to have been selected as the recipient of the Audiology Leadership Scholarship for the 2021-2022 year.

As a practicing audiologist, I never imagined myself going back into education. Once I began working clinically, I realized that going back to school was the way in which I could make an impact in the field. In pursuit of my PhD, I hope to remain a leader and spearhead the area of pediatric vestibular audiology.

The transition from a working professional back to a student was not an easy one. The responsibilities that are accumulated do not disappear when the working status has changed. That being said, there is beauty in knowledge and something invigorating about being a student again. I have enjoyed my path thus far, and your generosity has inspired me to continue to push forward.

I believe in mentorship and giving back to the community. After my doctoral degree, I would love to return to education as a professor and expand the education in the field. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me work toward mine.

“My various volunteer experiences leading up to this program, together with my clinical externships, make me incredibly excited to enter the field of speech-language pathology.”

Alison Quiring is in her 2nd and final year at the University of British Columbia's School of Audiology and Speech Sciences studying Speech-Language Pathology. When she graduates, Alison hopes to pursue a career of continued learning and exploration as she has found interest in each population and setting she has gotten the chance to experience.

Prior to attending UBC, Alison was volunteering as a teacher at a children's home in Zimbabwe, Africa. She hopes to, one day, take her passion for travel and intercultural work and develop basic training programs about communication strategies that can be used in settings where there is limited or no access to SLP services.

Alison would like to extend her most sincere thanks to SAC and the sponsors of the Isabel Richards Scholarship.



Alison Quiring
University of British
Columbia
Isabel Richard Scholarship



“I am honoured to have received the Isabel Richard Scholarship. I appreciate the support this scholarship will lend me in achieving my goals as an SLP.”

My name is Gavina Sian. I am currently in my second year in the Speech-Language Pathology program at the UBC School of Audiology and Speech Sciences.

Upon completing my Master of Science degree in November 2022, I hope to work with a pediatric population. I would feel privileged to work with children in any capacity that would allow me to improve their quality of life as it directly relates to their communication.

I am honoured to have received the Isabel Richard Scholarship and appreciate the support it will lend me in achieving my goals as an SLP.

Gavina Sian
University of British
Columbia
Isabel Richard Scholarship

Talia is in her second and final year of the MSc Speech-Language Pathology program at the University of Alberta. After graduation, Talia would love to work with the pediatric population, particularly with preschool aged children.

She is currently part of the RMSA and help other rehabilitation medicine students at the university plan and promote events and help foster interdisciplinary opportunities amongst students.

This scholarship will allow Talia to continue pursuing valuable and meaningful opportunities within the field of speech-language pathology.

“We are unable to do what we do as students and future clinicians without the support from donors such as those who help fund the SAC scholarships. I look forward to all the meaningful experiences to come in my career, some of which may not be possible without your generosity in funding this scholarship.”



Talia Muth
University of Alberta
Isabel Richard Scholarship



Lei (Claire) Wu
Western University
SAC General Scholarship

Thank you so much for your donations towards the award opportunity. The SAC General Scholarship has greatly contributed to my education funds towards my graduate studies. As I continue my endeavor with completing a Master of Clinical Science in Audiology, I am reminded of the blessings and the support this scholarship has given me to keep working hard towards my goal of becoming a responsible and reliable healthcare professional in the field of audiology.

Growing up in a low-income family has given me valuable life experiences that have shaped me to be perseverant. As the eldest daughter with three younger siblings, I support my family financially working as a tutor, a notetaker and a teaching assistant throughout my undergraduate studies. While the responsibilities may be heavy at times, the challenges helped fine-tune my time management skills and mature as a caring and independent individual.

Education provides me with an opportunity to grow, to contribute positively to this world and to bring my family out of financial hardship. Receiving this award inspires me to one day give back to my community in ways the SAC General Scholarship has assisted with my academic pursuits. Thank you for your generosity and kindness.

“I cannot express my gratitude enough; thank you for your support in allowing me to launch my career with passion, excitement, and a "sky is the limit" mentality.”

As a second year Audiology student approaching graduation, I plan to launch my career caring for underserved pediatric and youth populations in rural Southwestern Ontario. My lived experiences with rural-induced inaccessibility to healthcare services have afforded me a lens to research and develop innovative solutions as a novel clinician. Thanks you to, I am one step closer to that goal. This scholarship has lightened the financial burden, which will allow me to focus on these endeavors going forward.

Thank you again for your investment in students like me. Your generosity has inspired me to give back to the community in the future. I hope to help future students achieve their goals, just as you have helped me.



Megan van Gorp
Western University
SAC General Scholarship



Ninell Sygal
University of Ottawa
SAC Research Scholarship

“I would like to take the opportunity to thank SAC scholarship committee, the donors and sponsors who have made this possible. Amidst the pandemic and the online learning, I am grateful for the experiences and the opportunities I got to have throughout my masters and I am excited to embark on the new chapter as a practicing SLP!”

Ninell Sygal is a MHS candidate currently completing her studies in the program of speech-language pathology at the University of Ottawa.

She strongly believes that the best clinicians are those who have a research background, as this will allow them one day to integrate the latest advances into their clinical practice. She is currently working on several projects exploring different topics in the field of speech language pathology and its relation to the field of audiology.

Motivated and eager to help others, she believes that advanced clinical training in speech-language pathology and audiology will provide her with all the tools to better serve her patients.

I was accepted to the University of Limerick, in Ireland, in 2020. This was an amazing opportunity and allowed me to undertake a research project that is extremely relevant given the recent pandemic and the shift to telehealth for many SLPs. This review investigates what is known about parent experience of parent-mediated interventions for children with developmental disabilities delivered via telehealth. Hopefully it will help bridge that gap on what is known about a very important component of parent-mediated interventions: parent experience and how us as SLPs can improve it.

I am extremely thankful to be a recipient, as the scholarship will allow me to finish my studies in Ireland and return to Canada, where I hope to practice. Thank you so much for allowing this scholarship to exist, I greatly appreciate it.

“I have always wanted to become a Speech-Language Pathologist. My mother was born with nerve deafness so I spent countless hours growing up helping her pronounce words. Then, when I was seventeen I realized there is a profession that does just that. Of course, as time passed I discovered that SLPs do so much more than just help with pronunciation.”



Julie Kathleen Henry
University of Limerick
SAC Research Scholarship



Sankavi Ragunathan
Durham College
Communications Health
Assistant Student
Scholarship

“It is an honor to be selected as the recipient for the 2021-2022 Communication Health Assistant Student Scholarship. I am very appreciative to receive this generous amount and to be recognized by SAC for the hard work and passion that I have demonstrated in the field of Speech and Language. Also, my heartfelt thanks to the wonderful sponsors and donors that continuously sponsor this scholarship program, as none of this would be possible without you all!”

Sankavi’s interest in the field of communication disorders was ignited in high school when she started working as a special need’s educational assistant with the Toronto District School Board. In 2019, she started volunteering at the Aphasia Institute where she had the opportunity to facilitate group conversations with individuals who were diagnosed with aphasia. Her experience has made her a strong advocate for patient needs, and she looks forward to working directly with patients and aiding in their recovery.