

Auditory Outreach News

December 2025

Happy Holidays!

We had a fabulous, busy fall season here at Auditory Outreach, hence the long break since I've sent a newsletter. I actually drafted an October newsletter, then a November newsletter; neither made it to production, so buckle up as there is lots to cover haha! Happy holidays to all of you, our hard working teams, whose tireless advocacy for the students does not go unnoticed. You are AMAZING and we appreciate you!

Warmest wishes,
Auditory Outreach Provincial Resource Team



AO PRP Webinar: Speech to Text Software January 15, 2025

The Auditory Outreach Team is hosting a webinar with a more in-depth look at speech to text software options including Scribeberry which has promising potential to satisfy many privacy concerns and meets FIPPA regulations! Please join us on January 15th from 11:45-12:30pm.

[REGISTRATION PAGE](#)

What's New?

Auditory Outreach has a new intro video! Despite my pleas, our editor forgot to use the wrinkle removing filter lol! We hope you will find it helpful and informative. [Auditory Outreach Video](#)

Coming this spring to a computer near you... Cochlear Implants 102!

Last year we learned about the technology behind cochlear implants (CI) and this year we will learn more about current research and how best to support students with CIs in the classroom.

Shipping Update

Canada Post is back in action and both incoming and outgoing shipments are moving quickly (not as fast as the big guy in red and white, but close). Please consider Canada Post Returns as it is faster and cheaper for us, while still allowing us to track shipments. It is important to package equipment securely. Feel free to reuse bubble envelopes for returns.

[Generate a Return Label](#)

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Reminders

- For faster processing of requests, please use our website to obtain the most up to date forms; older versions are often missing important information. [UPDATED FORMS](#)
- If a student moves to a different school district, independent school, or different audiology clinic, a new Permission to Share consent form, signed by parent/ legal guardian is required. If there are multiple audiology clinics involved, please ensure they are all listed on the form.
- Recent audiograms (within the last 18 months) are required with most equipment requests.
- Please replace tubes and domes for Roger Focus and Focus II receivers at least every 3 months to ensure optimal functioning. A set of tubes and domes are included with the initial loan. Replacements can be requested from the public health audiology clinic.
- Please check with us (info@auditoryoutreach.ca) before sending equipment back to confirm that it belongs to us.
- For students new to Auditory Outreach, we are required to confirm registration status and student info (legal name, DOB, PEN) with schools directly. We appreciate you letting schools know to expect a phone call from us.
- If a student is bi-modal (CI and hearing aid) please ensure the CI Audiologist is included and aware of any new equipment requests.
- Include contact name and building name for the shipping address on request forms.

Losses and Replacement Costs

As many of you already know, Phonak has recently adjusted their equipment pricing. The positive news is that receiver costs (Focus II, Roger X, Roger 20) have decreased considerably; however, transmitter prices (Touchscreen and Roger On) have increased to over \$3,000.

These changes have a notable impact on our budget, and we are currently in discussions with the Ministry of Ed to review our replacement-cost processes and determine appropriate next steps. We recognize that a \$3,000 invoice for a lost transmitter would be overwhelming for schools/ districts, and we are actively advocating for a fair and financially responsible approach.

For the moment, invoicing for lost equipment is on hold. We will share updates as soon as they are available.

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Resources



Lexi Finigan, the Voice of the Lead Character El Deafo (Apple TV+), who is also CI Recipient, hosts a webinar series for teens with cochlear implants. More information available here: <https://www.acialliance.org/page/CITeens>



If you missed the POP Con virtual conference, most of the sessions including ours, POPDHH and POPDB have recordings available: <https://popcon.ca/2025/>

Auditory Outreach has in-person and virtual Audiologist, SLP and TDHH consultation services available for students who have cochlear implant(s) and their school teams. More information is available on our website:

<https://www.sd47.bc.ca/auditory/cochlear-implant-services-1>

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