



Gregor Renner
ISAAC President
October 2015 -
September 2018

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isaac e-news

CONFERENCE



EDITION

The 17th Biennial Conference of the International Society for
Augmentative and Alternative Communication

When: August 6th - 13th

Where: Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Canada



DISCOVER TORONTO!

Find information on amenities in the Toronto waterfront area [here](#).

- Photo courtesy of Toronto Tourism

For full conference and registration information, visit the [ISAAC 2016 website](#).

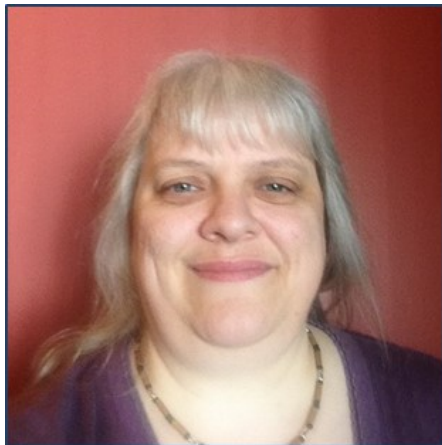


Introducing your Conference Co-Chairs



Shelley Deegan, ISAAC 2016 Co-Chair

Shelley Deegan is currently Clinical Coordinator for the Technology Access Clinic, an AAC clinic at Hamilton Health Sciences in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. She has worked clinically in the field of AAC as a speech-language pathologist for 38 years. She is a Past Chair of the ISAAC Council.



Tracy Hunt, ISAAC 2016 Co-Chair

Tracy Hunt is a speech-language pathologist and educator who has worked as an AAC clinician in a variety of clinical and educational settings. Tracy is currently working with the Children's Treatment Network of Simcoe York (hosted through The Speech Clinic). As well, Tracy is President of ISAAC Canada.



Tracy Shepherd, ISAAC 2016 Co-Chair

Tracy Shepherd is a speech-language pathologist working in the Augmentative Communication Service at Thames Valley Children's Centre in London, Ontario, and as a Clinical Education Coordinator at the Centralized Equipment Pool (operated by Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital) in Toronto. Tracy is currently VP of Conference Planning on the ISAAC Executive Board.



*Thank you
to our
ISAAC 2016
co-chairs and
the many
volunteers
whose time
and talents
have come
together to
ensure that
conference
delegates,
presenters,
sponsors,
and
exhibitors
have a great
experience in
Toronto this
August!*



ISAAC Conference 2016: Dates and Details



Must-Attend Events!

Opening Ceremonies

Monday, August 8th
@ 09:00, featuring
keynote speaker
John Draper,
founder of *Together
We Rock!*

Closing Ceremonies

Thursday,
August 11th
@ 16:00, for
a special
Conference 2018
announcement

AAC CAMP

AUGUST 6th – 7th

Programs and Workshops

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

AUGUST 6th – 7th

Schedule, themes and presenters

MAIN CONFERENCE

AUGUST 8th – 11th

Schedules

ISAAC OUTSTANDING CONSUMER LECTURE

AUGUST 9th 14:00 - 15:30

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

AUGUST 12th – 13th

Provisional Proceedings

ISAAC Governance Meeting Schedule

AUGUST 5TH Executive Board (EB) Meeting - Day One
09:00 to 17:00

AUGUST 6TH EB Meeting - Day Two 09:00 to 17:00

AUGUST 7TH Council Meeting 09:00 to 17:00

AUGUST 8TH

ISAAC Chapter Presidents 08:00 to 09:00

ISAAC LEAD (PWUAAAC) Committee 12:45 to 14:00

La Francophonie 12:45 to 14:00

AAC Town Hall 15:00 to 17:00

AUGUST 9TH

Exhibitor and Sponsor Breakfast 08:00 to 09:00

Chapter Meetings 12:45 to 14:00

ISAAC-Australia

ISAAC-Brazil

ISAAC-Canada

ISAAC-Denmark

ISAAC-FSC (French-Speaking Countries)

ISAAC-India

ISAAC-USA (USSAAC)

Finland Meeting

EB Meet and Greet 16:00 to 17:30

AUGUST 10TH

Chapter Meetings 12:45 to 14:00

ISAAC-Israel

ISAAC-Italy

ISAAC-Netherlands and Flanders

ISAAC-Norway

ISAAC-Sweden

ISAAC-Taiwan

ISAAC-UK (Communication Matters)

Membership and Awards Meeting 14:15 to 15:45

Conference 2018 Meeting 16:00 to 17:00

Friends of ISAAC 16:00 to 17:00

AUGUST 11TH

AAC Associate Editors (AE) 08:00 to 09:00

Publications Committee 12:00 to 13:00

Research Committee 12:30 to 13:30

BUILD Committee 12:45 to 14:00

Striving for Thriving: An Open Forum on Families of all Kinds -
hosted by Family Engagement Committee 12:45 to 14:00

AAC Reviewers 13:00 to 14:00

Early Career Researchers 13:30 to 14:30



Official Notification of Meetings



Important Notice: ISAAC Council Meeting 2016

In accordance with section 11.4 of the Bylaws of ISAAC, this is the official notification of the date, time, and location of the upcoming **ISAAC Council Meeting**, taking place at the 17th Biennial ISAAC Conference:

Date: Sunday, August 7, 2016

Time: 9:00 to 17:00

Location: **Westin Harbour Castle, 1 Harbour Square
Toronto, Ontario M5J 1A6, Canada**

Room: Pier 4 and 5

Called by the Chair of the Council,

Janice Murray

January 11, 2016

Important Notice: ISAAC Biennial Membership and Awards Meeting

In accordance with section 8.1.5 of the Bylaws of ISAAC, this is the official notification of the date, time, and location of the upcoming **ISAAC Biennial Membership Meeting**, taking place at the 17th Biennial Conference of ISAAC:

Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016

Time: 14:15 to 15:45

Location: **Westin Harbour Castle, 1 Harbour Square
Toronto, Ontario M5J 1A6, Canada**

Room: Harbour A and B

Called by the Chair of the Council,

Janice Murray

January 11, 2016



Conference 2016 Updates



CONFERENCE ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION

Check out the [Conference Accessibility Information](#) on the ISAAC website.

PRESENTER FAQ

Frequently asked questions on topics of interest to conference presenters can be found [here](#).

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO CANADA

Visit the ISAAC website for essential [information for visitors to Canada](#), and helpful links for those [arriving/departing Toronto via Pearson International Airport](#).

AAC TOWN HALL MEETING - AUGUST 8, 15:00 - 17:00

Theme: What Brings Us Together? Nola Millin and Jess Weber are the AAC Town Hall Co-Chairs. Click on the theme, above, for details.

FILM FESTIVAL

The [ISAAC Film Festival](#) is a new event in 2016, designed to showcase our vision, *Changing Lives*. It will feature the remarkable people who use AAC and their communication partners around the world. Story ideas were submitted, and people were then invited to create and submit their films. The ISAAC Film Festival will take place during the Welcome Reception on August 8th at the Westin Harbour Castle's Harbour Ballroom.

CODE OF CONDUCT

ISAAC International is committed to providing a safe and enjoyable Conference experience for all event participants and a welcoming environment for the free discussion of ideas. We do not tolerate harassment of event participants in any form. Any conference attendee found to be contravening this Code of Conduct in any way is subject to any action at the sole discretion of ISAAC International up to and including expulsion from the Conference with no refund or right of appeal. Instances of alleged harassment may also be reported to the relevant authorities, again at the sole discretion of ISAAC International. All conference registrants will be expected to sign a declaration at the time of check-in that will, among other things, require them to agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

To find the full text of the code, in print, easy English, and audio formats, please [click here](#).



Conference 2016 Updates *CONTINUED*



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

We are looking forward to hosting three different social evenings to welcome delegates to Canada, and to the beautiful City of Toronto: Welcome Reception (Monday, August 8th at 18:00, Westin Harbour Castle, Harbour Ballroom); Social Event (Tuesday, August 9th at 19:00, Steam Whistle Brewery @ The Roundhouse - ticketed event), and President's Reception (Wednesday, August 10th at 19:00, Westin Harbour Castle, Metro Ballroom). Details [here](#).

COMMUNICATION ACCESS SYMBOL



Conference participants may see this symbol as they travel around the ISAAC conference area in Toronto. This is the communication access symbol that was developed by CDAC and is used in Canada. Wherever you see this symbol, it means that the business or organization welcomes people who have communication disabilities and they will do their best to make their services accessible to you. CDAC would like to thank Tony Diamanti, Farrah Sattaur, and Alicia Palma, who have gone door-to-door to tell businesses how to make their services accessible for you during the ISAAC conference. Anyone, in any country, can use this symbol and [CDAC resources](#), including various Toolkits.

DISCOVER TORONTO!



For Toronto waterfront amenities, as well as information for visitors to Canada and tourism information in many different languages, [click here](#). For more tips on planning your Toronto experience, visit the ISAAC Conference 2016 page on the [official website of Tourism Toronto](#).

ISAAC CONFERENCE 2016 SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS

ISAAC gratefully acknowledges the support of our Conference 2016 Sponsors and Exhibitors. Please be sure to visit their websites by clicking on the logos on pages 8 through 11. For those attending the conference, be sure to stop by our Exhibit Hall often!



Conference 2016 Updates *CONTINUED*



BUILD BOOK DONATIONS

At ISAAC Conference 2016 we will once again be making books, resource manuals, and audio-visual materials available to ISAAC members from emerging AAC countries. Donated items will be distributed at the BUILD meeting on Thursday, August 11, 12:45 - 14:00 in Pier 9 at the Westin Harbour Castle.

If you have AAC books or other related material that you no longer use, this is your chance to clean off your shelves and make valuable resources available to others at the same time! By donating books you will be directly supporting the growth of AAC throughout the world.

You can either drop off your donations in person at the conference OR send us a list of the books or other materials that you are able to offer. Donated items will be distributed at the ISAAC BUILD meeting. If you prefer to send us a list, we will match you with a delegate from an emerging AAC country and ask you to mail the resources directly to that person, via surface mail.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Yong, Chair, BUILD spritevanilla@gmail.com or heather.stonehouse@isaac-online.org.

[Click here](#) for more information about BUILD.

SILENT AUCTION

Organized by the Friends of ISAAC, the Silent Auction is held at each ISAAC Biennial Conference to raise funds to support people who use AAC who wish to attend the next international conference. In past years we have had items representing a culture, country or region; art; crafts; store-purchased items ... anything you can fit into a suitcase and bring to Toronto, and that someone else can easily pack and take home. Products from companies in the exhibit area have been especially popular in previous years. When you get to Toronto, please bring your items to the ISAAC booth in the Exhibit Hall. Payment for Silent Auction items will be accepted by credit card (VISA or MasterCard) only; there will be a minimum \$10 credit card charge. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Politano politano@uic.edu or heather.stonehouse@isaac-online.org.



CONFERENCE 2016 SPONSORS



THE OFFICIAL AIRLINE NETWORK FOR ISAAC 2016

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THE WAY THE EARTH CONNECTS



COMMUNICATOR SPONSORS



Taylor & Francis
Taylor & Francis Group



Supporting the ISAAC Conference 2016 Research Symposium



Proud Sponsor of the ISAAC Conference 2016 Blender Bar

VISIONARY SPONSORS



Financial support for French language translation at ISAAC Conference 2016 provided by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage

Holland Bloorview
Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

Supporting the ISAAC Conference 2016 Scientific Paper Presentations

ISAAC 2016
Sponsorship
Information [here](#).



CONFERENCE 2016 SPONSORS



INVESTOR SPONSORS



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New Professionals Travel Assistance Grant



COMMUNICATION MATRIX

Oregon Health & Science University

Supporting the People from Emerging AAC Countries Travel Assistance Grant



Sponsor of the ISAAC Conference 2016 Delegate Bags



50 years of empowering communication
prentrom.com

Official Sponsor of the ISAAC Conference 2016 USB Flash Drives

HOSPITALITY SPONSORS



In Support of the ISAAC Conference 2016 Social Event



SUPPORTER SPONSORS



In Support of the Keynote Speaker of the ISAAC
Conference 2016 Research Symposium

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CONFERENCE 2016 EXHIBITORS



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ISAAC 2016 Exhibitor
Information [here](#)



CONFERENCE 2016 EXHIBITORS

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Mounting & Adaptation



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Taylor & Francis Group



therapybox



tobii **dynavox**

VOCALiD



Widgit



Chapter News



*Submitted by
Birgitte Brandt
President
ISAAC-Denmark*

ISAAC Denmark

ISAAC Denmark has been part of the PINE-D project during 2015 and recently attended the final conference in Graz, Austria.

The Europe for Citizens project PINE-D engages with people with intellectual and complex disabilities to understand how they can become more involved in European democratic processes, and therefore play a more active role in society.

Great Britain, Poland, Austria, Italy and Denmark are the five participating countries. Denmark is the only country aiming at AAC users mainly with physical disabilities. The other countries participated via organizations working with people with intellectual and social disabilities.

ISAAC Denmark used one day at our annual AAC User Assembly to discuss European questions and gathered important views, experiences and ideas from the target group.

Central questions for the discussions were:

- How can Europe better communicate European issues and values to the target group?
- What are the opinions of target group members towards the

current European challenges and concerns?

- What are the needs of the target group for improved conditions of democratic participation in Europe?

The AAC users identified the following important issues:

- participation and inclusion in society
- openness and visibility of AAC users in everyday life
- responsibility amongst AAC users to express their wishes and needs
- increasing awareness by writing articles and lecture at schools
- remembering to tell positive stories from everyday life
- the importance of society considering all persons as unique with their own abilities and qualities, instead of dividing people into two groups – with and without disabilities
- the need to have personal assistance in daily life
- the importance of equal access to leisure activities for AAC users staying in special homes for people with disabilities
- the importance of technological aids and devices for communication

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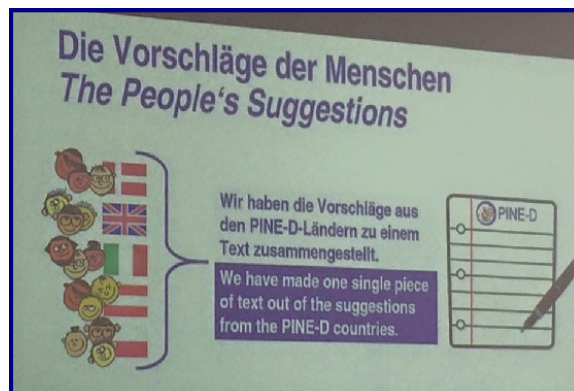


Chapter News *continued*

- accessibility (physical access, communication, and information)
- access to education and work
- the need of more knowledge about people with disabilities (politicians and society)

Suggestions and ideas for the future were given via reports and workshops at the final conference.

The PINE-D project is preparing a petition for the European Parliament with the main statements from the five countries.



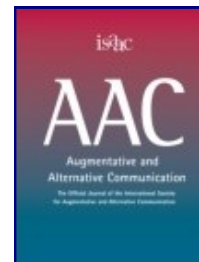
Communication Support World Network (CSWN) News

Communication Support World Network News focuses on emerging AAC nations. We are pleased to share with you CSWN's June 2016 edition, which features, among other topics, information about the limited number of early intervention programs for children with special needs that exist in developing nations. Also included are articles about Malawi, Ghana, Mexico, Egypt, and several European countries, a resource section, and highlights for ISAAC 2016 in Toronto.



AAC JOURNAL UPDATE

With an impact factor of 2.96 (2015), *Augmentative and Alternative Communication* is ranked second among all of the rehabilitation journals and top among major communication disability journals.



"It is exciting to see the reach of the journal and its impact on advancing knowledge and ultimately

improving outcomes for individuals with complex communication needs. With the increasing focus on evidence-based practice, the journal is critical as a repository of the state of the science in the field," according to Janice Light and David McNaughton, former AAC co-editors. The current editor of the journal is Martine Smith, and you can contact her directly at aaceditor2015@gmail.com.

You are invited to view all volumes and issues and information on subscribing is available on the ISAAC website. You can also recommend AAC to the librarian at your local university library here.



AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Congratulations to **Bronwyn Hemsley**, recently honoured with the Speech Pathology Australia Fellowship in recognition of outstanding, significant and sustained contribution to the profession.

ISAAC was thrilled to receive the **Leaders Circle Recognition Award** at the organization's June 16th gala for bringing ISAAC Conference 2016 to Toronto. The Leaders Circle is Toronto's official Ambassador Program supported by Tourism Toronto and the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC). The gala drew together members of the tourism, business, and higher education communities, who each had a hand in bringing their respective global colleagues to the city. Franklin Smith, ISAAC Executive Director, accepted the award on ISAAC's behalf.



Photo courtesy
of the Metro
Toronto
Convention
Centre



On June 1, 2016, **Communication Disabilities Access Canada (CDAC)** received the David C. Onley Leadership in Accessibility Award for promoting communication access for people who have speech and language disabilities. This award is shared with everyone in the AAC community as we continue to advocate for stronger, more meaningful legislation so that people who use AAC can have full and equal access to goods and services in their communities. For information on CDAC's work in the area of communication access, visit their [website](#).



Photo (L to R): Hon. Helena Jaczek, Ontario Minister of Community and Social Services; Hon. David C. Onley, Special Advisor to the Minister on Accessibility; Barbara Collier of CDAC; and Hon. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.



ISAAC Projects and Activities



ISAAC BUILD MEETING

Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016

Time: 12:45 - 14:00

Location: Pier 9, Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Canada

BUILD is a committee that focuses on the work of the AAC Emerging Countries, finding practical ways to offer them support. The objective of the meeting is to connect countries attempting to build up their AAC resources with other Emerging Countries and also with the larger ISAAC membership where AAC is more established.

The meeting is a wonderful opportunity to

- hear the exciting development in these countries
- meet new people/ network and collaborate
- find out how you can use your expertise and knowledge to develop AAC resources in countries that need help.

We warmly invite anyone interested in the work we are doing in Emerging Countries to attend this meeting. There will be a book/resource table of items donated by ISAAC Members for participants from Emerging AAC Nations to take away with them.

- Sarah Yong, ISAAC VP without Portfolio and BUILD AAC Chair

ISAAC LEAD MEETING

Date: Monday, August 8, 2016

Time: 12:45 - 14:00

Location: Yonge Room, Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Canada

You are invited to attend the ISAAC LEAD (PWUAAC) Committee meeting for people who use AAC and their supporters.

- Vic Valentic, Leadership Chair for People who Use AAC

ISAAC FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016

Time: 12:45 - 14:00

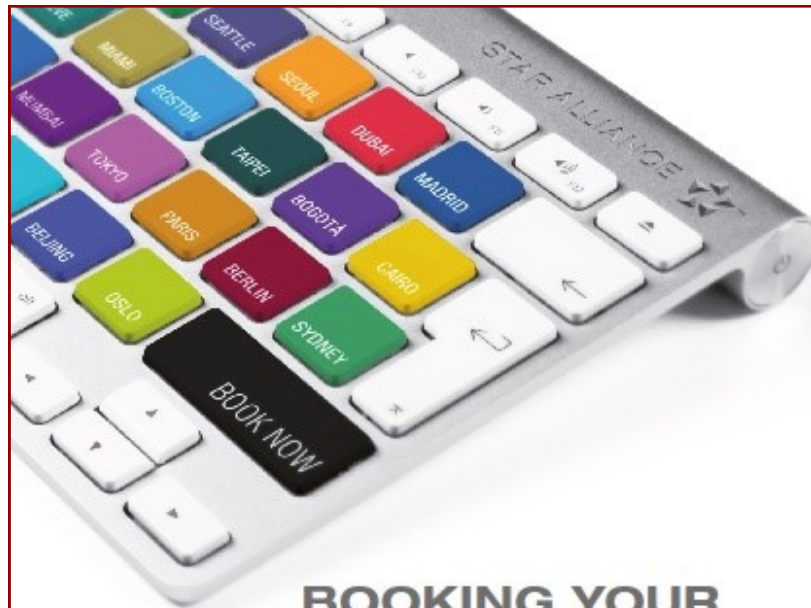
Location: Pier 8, Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Canada

The goal of this Committee is to encourage family-to-family exchange to support families of people with communication disabilities around the world. The Family Engagement Committee will host a session at ISAAC Conference 2016 called "Striving for Thriving: An Open Forum on Families of All Kinds."

For those unable to attend this meeting in person, please join Family Engagement on Facebook.

- India Ochs, ISAAC VP without Portfolio and Family Engagement Committee Chair

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And with over 18,500 flights a day to 1,321 destinations across 193 countries, our 27 member airlines extend the same choice to any future conferences you are planning to attend.

You can also save money when you book your flights. Simply quote the Convention Code AC01S16 and you plus one travelling companion will receive a special discount. Better still, no matter which Star Alliance member airline's frequent flyer programme you belong to, you can earn and redeem miles across all 27 airlines.

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www.staralliance.com
Information correct as of 05/2015

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ISAAC has Chapters in 14 countries or regions worldwide. For information about how you can participate, contact the organizations listed below, or [ISAAC International](#) for areas not listed.

ISAAC Chapters

ISAAC-Australia
(www.isaacaustralia.com)

ISAAC-Brazil
(www.isaac.org.br)

ISAAC-Canada
(www.isaac-canada.org)

ISAAC-Denmark
(www.isaac.dk)

ISAAC-Francophone (French-Speaking Countries and Regions)
(www.isaac-fr.org)

ISAAC-India
(isaac.org.in)

ISAAC-Israel
(www.isaac.org.il)

ISAAC-Italy
(www.isaacitaly.it)

ISAAC-NF (Netherlands and Flanders) (www.isaac-nf.nl)

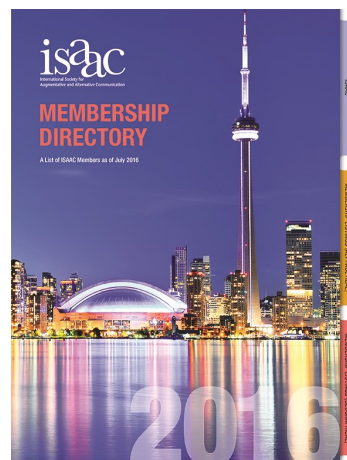
ISAAC-Norway
(www.isaac.no)

ISAAC-Sweden
(www.isaac-sverige.se)

ISAAC-Taiwan
(twsaac.blogspot.tw/)

ISAAC-UK (Communication Matters)
(www.communicationmatters.org.uk)

ISAAC-US (USSAAC)
(www.ussaac.org)



ISAAC members qualify for reduced conference registration rates! If you are a current member, you can renew your membership through your national or regional Chapters. Members of ISAAC International, ISAAC Canada, and [USSAAC](#) may renew their membership online.

**INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR
AUGMENTATIVE &
ALTERNATIVE
COMMUNICATION**

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Visit us at
www.isaac-online.org

ISAAC Chapters and members worldwide are invited to submit items of interest from your country or region. News, AAC practice tips, research, personal essays, in article format or as a link to online articles or resources, will be reviewed and made available on the ISAAC website as appropriate. Please send articles and photos to [Nola Millin](#).

ISAAC E-News is published four times each year. Comments on this issue are welcome. Please contact [Heather Stonehouse](#).



ISAAC's *Vision* is that AAC will be recognized, valued and used throughout the world.

ISAAC's *Mission* is to promote the best possible communication for people with complex communication needs.

ISAAC is a Non-Governmental Organization in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Contact Us

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