



*Since 1983, a worldwide alliance working to create opportunities for people who communicate using little or no speech.*

**NOVEMBER 2011**

[From the Executive Director](#)

[Spotlight on Epson Canada](#)

[AAC Awareness Month](#)

[ISAAC 2012](#)

[ISAAC-Francophone](#)

[Awards 2012](#)

[New ACCPC Resources](#)

[AAC in Taiwan](#)

[United Nations](#)

[Contact Us](#)

**QUICK LINKS**

[ISAAC](#)

[ISAAC 2012](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

Hi, All ISAAC members:

With the new ISAAC website up and running we are looking forward to your contributions and postings of Chapter and other AAC activities around the world. In particular, we would like to hear your ideas on how we can develop activities to enhance information distribution and interaction across the globe.

At the recent Clinical AAC Research Conference in Minnesota, USA, David Beukelman, one of the leading figures in the field of AAC, talked about the need for the development of Informatics in AAC, i.e., the effective use of information in intervention, intervention research, instruction and policy. He focused on the goals of clinical or intervention informatics, i.e., to streamline processes of patient care, to provide clinicians and policy makers with accurate data in a timely manner, to improve the quality and timing of care related to decision making and to reduce costs. He went on to point out that users of these information systems include not only patients and consumers, but also interventionists, educators and policy makers.

In this context, the following question arises: In what ways can we use the ISAAC website to share information on AAC services and outcomes in different countries to benefit the global ISAAC community?

We look forward to hear your ideas on this.

Till later,  
[Erna Alant](#)

November 2011 *Message from the President* in **French, German, Italian** and **Spanish**:  
Novembre 2011 - [Message de la Présidente](#)  
November 2011 - [Brief der Vorsitzenden](#)  
Novembre 2011 - [Messaggio del Presidente](#)  
Noviembre del 2011 - [Mensaje de la Presidenta](#)

## 1. ...From the Executive Director

**Welcome to the November 2011 edition of E-News.** The ISAAC International office is excited to report on some of the many initiatives currently underway.

[Click here to view full article](#)

...From the Executive Director, [Franklin Smith](#), in **French, German, Italian** and **Spanish**:

Novembre 2011 ...[De la part du Directeur Exécutif](#)

November 2011 ...[Brief des Geschäftsführers](#)

Novembre 2011 ...[Messaggio del Direttore Esecutivo](#)

Noviembre 2011...[Del Director Ejecutivo](#)

## 2. Spotlight on Epson Canada Limited: A Note of Appreciation

ISAAC would like to thank [Epson Canada](#) for the generous donation of a state-of-the-art scanner with auto-document feed capabilities. This donation has enabled us to move forward with an important ISAAC document cataloguing project, involving the conversion of hardcopy materials to softcopy format. Epson Canada's commitment to supporting ISAAC and the AAC community worldwide is sincerely appreciated.

[Click here to view full article](#)

## 3. International AAC Awareness Month - October 2011

Our AAC Awareness event, **Talk, Walk, Roll**, took place on Saturday, October 29, 2011, in Orlando, Florida, USA. It was awesome fun and a success! Over 120 people participated. Besides walking, running or wheeling our track, we had tables set up with AAC devices for anyone to try out and ask questions. It was truly amazing to see everybody in our community coming together and showing their support! *Talk, Walk, Roll* was featured in Florida's [West Orange Times](#).

[Click here to view full article and event photos](#)

- Submitted by [Faye Warren](#), ISAAC Leadership Chair for People Who Use AAC.

On October 18, 2011, [ISAAC Norway](#) invited children who use AAC, their parents and siblings to a **Family Play** event at [Emma Hjorth Sansehus Regional Activity Centre](#) in Bærum, Norway. Sponsored by ISAAC Norway in celebration of International AAC Awareness Month, 39 parents and children participated. Attendance was free for all.

[Click here to view full article](#)

- Submitted by [Torunn R. Borgersen](#), President, ISAAC Norway.

For more news and events visit International AAC Awareness Month on Facebook & Twitter:

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## 4. ISAAC 2012 Update



**Mark Your Calendar...**  
*July 28-29: Pre-conference, AAC Camp, Executive & Council*  
*July 30-August 2: Main Conference*  
*August 3-4: ISAAC Research Symposium*

**Registration is open for ISAAC 2012**, the 15th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC), to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA, on July 30-August 2, 2012. Opportunities are still available for sponsors who wish to support the efforts of ISAAC and the conference. All sponsors will be recognized for this support in conference materials. [Click here](#) for Sponsor Information Packet.

### **\*\*\*BREAKING NEWS!\*\*\***

We are extending the Call for Papers to **January 4, 2012**, as a courtesy to ATIA (Assistive Technology Industry Association) and their support for ISAAC 2012. We are excited to have ATIA's support for the conference. To learn more about the association visit ATIA at [www.atia.org](http://www.atia.org). Keep up with the latest information and notices about ISAAC 2012 by joining us on Facebook or Twitter. Then share with your friends.

[Take advantage of low introductory rates through January 2012!](#)

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## 5. News from ISAAC-Francophone

ISAAC-Francophone welcomed Sarah Blackstone for three days of training on September 13, 15, and 19, 2011, in three francophone cities -- Toulouse, Paris and Namur. The training sessions focused on the following themes:

- Social Networks
- Development of Emotional Competence
- Medical Communication

A former president of ISAAC International, Sarah is one of the most respected AAC professionals in the English-speaking world. Through the work of AAC practitioners,

academics and family members in various European countries, her models and strategies of communication are being translated and put into practice in other languages.

People with complex communication needs, their partners and family members, and professionals from various disciplines were among the 115 persons who participated in the day-long training sessions in Toulouse and Paris, France, and Namur, Belgium.

[Click here to view full article](#) Note: You can download three PowerPoint presentations in French [here](#).

## 6. ISAAC Awards 2012: Application Deadlines

The [AbleNet - ISAAC Remarkable Achievements Award](#) recognizes the work of a professional member of ISAAC who has utilized easy-tech AAC in a remarkable manner to improve the lives of people with disabilities and further the field of AAC. Easy-tech (not to be confused with NO-TECH) is defined as battery-operated, lower cost, simple-to-use technology designed for communication. The deadline for submissions is **February 1, 2012**.

The [Bridge School / ISAAC Teacher-in-Residence Award](#) provides an opportunity to an individual from a country with emerging technology innovation for an internship within [The Bridge School](#) program in Hillsborough, California. The Award is presented in collaboration with ISAAC at the biennial conference. The application process for the 2012-2013 award will open in December 2011. Applications should be sent to [Vicki Casella](#), The Bridge School, 545 Eucalyptus Avenue, Hillsborough, CA 94110 USA. Deadline for submissions is **March 1, 2012**.

The [Shirley McNaughton Exemplary Communication / ISAAC Award](#) provides a two-week internship program in Ontario, Canada, for training in Blissymbolics. Accommodation and a travel assistance grant of \$500 CDN are also included in the award. Applications should be sent to [Shirley McNaughton](#), 26 Honeysuckle Drive, Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X7, Canada. Deadline for submissions is **April 1, 2012**.

The [Sherri Johnson / ISAAC Conference Consumer Travel Scholarship](#) is awarded in honour of Sherri Johnson's life and dedication to AAC. This scholarship assists people who use AAC with expenses incurred while attending the ISAAC Biennial Conference. A maximum of three scholarships of \$500 USD each will be awarded. The deadline for submissions is **April 15, 2012**.

The [ISAAC Fellowship Award](#) is presented to ISAAC members for their outstanding and distinguished achievements. The deadline for submissions is **April 30, 2012**.

Note: Award applications (with the exception of Bridge School and Shirley McNaughton awards) should be sent to ISAAC, 49 The Donway West, Suite 308, Toronto, Ontario M3C 3M9, Canada. Submit by mail, fax (416) 385-0352, or email to [Franklin Smith](#).

## 7. New ACCPC Guidelines and Resources

[Communication Access to Goods and Services](#) (2011) Based on a national survey, ACCPC has developed guidelines and online resources to support businesses and organizations to

improve accessibility for people who have speech and/or language disabilities. Eight e-learning modules are available in English and French.

[Access to Justice for People with Communication Disabilities](#) (2011) ACCPC has a new website portal containing webinars, best practice resources, procedures and guidelines about effective communication while giving and recording testimony or evidence. Designed for police, lawyers, judges, victim witness services, people who have communication disabilities, family members and support services. This information is available in French and English.

[Click here to view full article](#)

## 8. AAC Conference in Taiwan

**2012 AAC International Conference** "Let's Talk Together" will be held at Chung Shan Medical University, Taiwan, from Jan 7 - 8, 2012. Dr. Cathy Binger and Dr. Martine Smith will share their experiences with AAC and explore ways to enhance the quality of AAC services. Please contact [Meng-Ju Tsai](#) for more information.

## 9. International Day of Persons with Disabilities - December 3, 2011

The **United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities** is December 3, 2011. The theme is "Together for a better world for all: Including persons with disabilities in development." For more information, visit the [United Nations website](#).

## 10. Contact Us

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

**ISAAC E-News** is published five times each year. Your comments on this issue are welcome. Please contact [Heather Stonehouse](#), Manager-Communications.

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