



Jessica Murray and Sherrie Thompson
(Woodstock and District Developmental Services)

People with communication disabilities have a right to:

- Use ways other than speech to communicate
- Be spoken to in a dignified manner
- Understand what is being said
- Request and make choices in their lives
- Refuse things that they don't want
- Be included in interactions with staff, family, friends and people in the community
- Express their feelings
- Be heard and listened to
- Have opportunities to communicate
- Request and get information
- Have their views sought and taken into consideration
- Have people use effective techniques to assist them when communicating

Augmentative Communication Community Partnerships – Canada (ACCPC)

Augmentative Communication Community Partnerships Canada (ACCPC) is a federal, non-profit organization that promotes social awareness, quality of life and communication access for people who use augmentative and alternative communication (AAC).

AAC refers to ways other than speech that people who have communication disabilities use to communicate what they want to say. AAC includes gestures, body language, letter, picture, symbol displays and devices.

We do:

Social innovation projects on a range of topics relating to inclusion, self-determination, abuse prevention and accessibility.

We share:

Resources from our projects on our website.

We educate:

People who use AAC, their social and support networks and communities.

We engage:

Organizations and government groups through collaboration and information sharing.

Cover: Pat deGraaf and Cathy MacDonald
(Woodstock and District Developmental Services)

Contact us to discuss a training program for your organization.

Barbara Collier, Executive Director



Augmentative Communication
Community Partnerships
CANADA

131 Barber Greene Rd., Toronto, ON Canada M3C 3Y5
Email: accpc@sympatico.ca Phone: 416-444-9532

www.accpc.ca



Creating Cultures of Communication

In organizations that support adults with communication disabilities

A comprehensive, sustainable training model



Augmentative Communication
Community Partnerships
CANADA



What is a Culture of Communication?

A 'culture of communication' is a setting where communication strategies and tools are naturally integrated into every aspect of a person's life.

A 'culture of communication' ensures that people who have limited or no speech have:

- staff who respect and protect their right to communicate at all times
- ways of communicating
- ways of understanding when people communicate with them
- things to communicate about
- people with whom to communicate
- opportunities to communicate
- communication partners and people working with them who use techniques that enhance their communication
- policies and procedures that accommodate their communication profiles

Creating a Culture of Communication

Augmentative Communication Community Partnerships Canada (ACCPC) offers accredited, customized trainings to support an organization in creating a culture of communication. Trainings are provided over a 12-month period.

Level 1:

- Assists you in establishing a communication support team within your organization.
- Provides training to the communication team on a range of different communication tools and strategies.
- Consults on communication needs, tools and strategies for a number of identified individuals within the organization.
- Provides training for all staff in ways to interact with for people who have communication disabilities.
- Works with your organization to connect with local resources and services.

Level 2:

- Provides ongoing consultation and customized trainings for the sustainability of communication supports within your organization.

What they say

“ACCPC has laid the foundation to pathways of communication for the people we support through Participation House. Staff have learned important skills to assist them when communicating with people.”

Carmell Tait, Director of Services
Participation House Support Services, London

“ACCPC is changing the lives of the people we work for.”

Shannon Riley, Senior Coordinator
Participation House Support Services, London

Above: The communication support team at Participation House Support Services, London. Stacey Sutton, Shannon Riley, Jen MacMillan, Andrea Grech and Chrissy Bonneau. Not shown: Robin Ashton.