

# ASVI

ALBERTA SOCIETY for the VISUALLY IMPAIRED

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EDMONTON DISTRICT

## *Outta Sight*

**An Informative Newsletter  
For families of children with visual  
impairments**

Sept. 2006

***General Meeting Night...***  
***October 10th, 2006 7:30 pm***  
***A night of***  
***Orientation and Mobility***

### **Conference...**

**Watch for details and information for our upcoming ASVI conference in October 2007.**

**If there are specific sessions or topics that you would like ASVI to present please email:**

**[info@asviedmonton.org](mailto:info@asviedmonton.org)**

**or call**

**453-8345**

ASVI currently has a Member at Large volunteer position available on our executive. Come work with a dynamic group of parents and professionals to help advocate and provide support to Families of Children who are visually impaired. For more information contact [info@asviedmonton.org](mailto:info@asviedmonton.org)

## Literary Braille Course

ASVI will be starting another session of Grade 2 Literary Braille starting October 11, 2006.

The cost is a \$100.00 deposit which will be returned upon completion of the course, plus \$75.00 for the course book.

If you require more information please contact:

Sue Mitchell  
or Edna Mclafferty  
at [events@asviedmonton.org](mailto:events@asviedmonton.org).

## **How to Contact us....**

**Email address:**

**[info@asviedmonton.org](mailto:info@asviedmonton.org)**

**Phone Number: 453-8345**

**Address: c/o**

**12010 Jasper Avenue T5K 0P3**

**[www.asviedmonton.org](http://www.asviedmonton.org)**

## **Website Sources...**

**Check out some of the websites that may be fun for your children.**

**[www.labelsforliteracy.com](http://www.labelsforliteracy.com)**

Free braille labels

**[www.seedlings.org](http://www.seedlings.org)**

Seedlings Braille Books for Children announces that the "2006 Rose Project" is brought to you by a generous grant from The Mattel Children's Foundation. Through the Rose Project, Seedlings provides FREE WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES IN BRAILLE to students in grades 1-12

**Disability is natural web site!**

[www.disabilityisnatural.com](http://www.disabilityisnatural.com)

**For some free braille books:**

<http://www.actionfund.org/freebooksmain.htm>

**For free braille children's bibles:**

<http://www.braillebibles.org/>

**Looking for funding sources?**

Be sure to visit our website at [www.asviedmonton.org](http://www.asviedmonton.org), and click on other funding sources.

**If there is an interesting website that your children are using please feel free to submit for publication in our newsletter:**

**[newsletter@asviedmonton.org](mailto:newsletter@asviedmonton.org)**

Would you like to receive our newsletter by email?

Send your email address to [info@asviedmonton.org](mailto:info@asviedmonton.org)

**Vision Resource Centre – North**  
**in collaboration with**  
**ASVI, AROGA, ERECS, and NAOMS**



(Alberta Society for the Visually Impaired (Edmonton District)  
The Aroga Group, Specializing in Adaptive Technology  
Edmonton Regional Educational Consulting Services, Vision Team  
Northern Alberta Orientation and Mobility Services)

**MOUNTBATTEN BRAILLEWRITER and**  
**EXPANDED CORE CURRICULUM (ECC) WORKSHOP**  
**for**  
**Students, Parents, Professionals and**  
**Paraprofessionals**

**Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

The workshop is for children who are or will be using the Mountbatten Braillewriter, and those who support their learning. (Each child must attend the workshop with an adult.) It also includes activities for the children in the Expanded Core Curriculum, including: adaptive technology skills, braille writing and reading skills, independent living skills, social skills, orientation and mobility skills, and recreation skills.

**Cost:**

No charge/snacks and lunch provided

**Venue:**

AROGA  
#510, 10621 – 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta

**For information/registration contact:**

Linda Stirrett, TVI Practicum Student, ERECS  
phone: (780) 459-2754 (leave a message)  
e-mail: [linda.stirrett@telus.net](mailto:linda.stirrett@telus.net)

\*\*\*\*\* **Space is limited** \*\*\*\*\*



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**ASVI is proud to recognize two of our youth members for their outstanding achievements, and being chosen for the following awards:**

**Heather Hutchison – Walter and Wayne Gretzky Scholarship**

**Ben Rolleman - Euclid Herie Scholarship**

**Congratulations to both of you. We are very proud....**

## ***Paramobility***

Are you a parent or service provider interested in learning Paramobility?

Learn the tools that will enable you to support your child or a child you are working with in reinforcing strategies that enhance their Orientation and Mobility training and skills. Learn sighted guide techniques and experience a simulation of the world through this child's eyes.

For more information contact:

**[info@asviedmonton.org](mailto:info@asviedmonton.org)**

**453-8345**

*\*classes dependent upon responses.*

Visit our website at [www.asviedmonton.org](http://www.asviedmonton.org)





**CNIB has a new focus:  
vision health and vision hope for all Canadians.**

CNIB is a source of support, information, and most importantly, hope, for all Canadians affected by vision loss.

The agency recently introduced a new name and a new look to symbolize a renewed commitment to vision research, public education and providing the services and support necessary to help Canadians with vision loss enjoy a good quality of life.

The change in CNIB's brand and visual identity was the result of the largest national consultation ever undertaken by the organization. Under its new name – CNIB – the 88-year old agency will now better represent its current mandate and activities, including the fact that more than 90 per cent of its clients have partial vision.

Whether someone is looking for information on healthy living, the latest in vision research, or practical ways to stay active and independent while living with vision loss, CNIB is here for all Canadians.

To find out more, please call your local CNIB office or visit us online at [cnib.ca](http://cnib.ca).

**CNIB: The leader in promoting vision health and enhancing independence for people with vision loss.**

## Fall Activities at CNIB! Edmonton and Area



### Drop By for a Visit

Stop by to check out our new and exciting toys! We are constantly updating our library and always have interesting games and toys to play with. Our drop-in times have not changed and will remain the same for the fall. Note that items may be loaned for one month at a time.

Every Monday, from 1- 2 pm, except holiday Monday October 9.

Note: The CNIB Centre in Edmonton is closed between December 25 and January 2, 2007 (inclusive).

### Super Sensory Activities

This series of fun activities is designed for clients aged 2½ to 5 years; parents or caregivers are required to attend. Activities will offer a wonderful opportunity for children to socialize and work on fine motor skills, gross motor skills, sensory processing, cognitive processing, literacy and self-help skills. Parents will be able to share ideas and resources. CNIB staff will also be discussing ways to adapt activities and objects. All activities take place at CNIB and run from **10 - 11 am.**

#### **October 24: All About Activities of Daily Living**



This session will promote hands-on experience with daily living skills. Bring a favourite toy to practice bathing, getting dressed, brushing your teeth and combing your hair. We will also be using objects to learn concepts like "big" and "small" and "same" and "different." We will also enjoy a story time!

#### **October 31: Ghosts and Goblins**

As much as possible, please come dressed in your costume! Help carve a pumpkin or have your face painted at this fun event. This activity will be adapted for all kids to enjoy! We will also have many scary stories and sensory stuff to touch and experience!

#### **November 7: Betcha' Want to Know 'bout Braille**

Learn all the basics of braille and tactile marking systems with CNIB's fabulous rehabilitation teacher, Niki Black. This group will give parents and children an opportunity to feel the tactile reading system. We'll even use a Perkins Braille, and have lots of fun making a simple braille book that you can take home.

### **November 21: It's a Snowy Day**

This group is all about winter! We will have hands on experience building snowmen and making snow balls—weather permitting—so please dress appropriately.



### **December 5: Wrap Up Holiday Cheer Party**

This is an exciting event that you won't want to miss! We will have different holiday crafts for children which will put their fine motor skills to work! We will share in some holiday cheer with snacks and refreshments.

Cost for the series: \$20 due before October 12. Call Liz at (780) 453-8320 or Bonnie at (780) 453-8332 to register.



### **Magical Music Groups**

Music teachers Sharon Dowie and John Lawrence will join us this fall for more musical fun! Because space is limited, siblings may only come if space allows.

#### **Sharon Dowie**

Location: CNIB

Time: 10:00 am – 10:45 am (with socialization and snack time for 15 minutes after group)

Dates: October 13 & November 10

Cost: \$20 per child, or register for both music groups for \$35; fee is due by September 25; Snacks are provided.

#### **John Lawrence**

Location: CNIB

Time: 10:00 am – 10:45 am (with socialization and snack time for 15 minutes after group)

Dates: September 25, October 30, November 27

Cost: \$20 per child or register for both music groups for \$35; fee is due by September 25; Snacks are provided

NB: There was a change in the fee schedule that was advertised in the MRU newsletter as a result of the addition of extra music groups.

Call Liz at (780) 453-8320 or Bonnie at (780) 453-8332 to register before September 25.

## **Parent Information Night**

Dr. Dianne McConnell of Alberta Education will provide us with information on educational programming for students with significant vision loss. Information presented is part of a series of documents developed to facilitate school programming for students in grades 1 to 12 who have special education needs. Dianne will also discuss funding available to agencies that offer ECS programs.

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2006

Place: CNIB  
Multipurpose Room  
12010 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Cost: Nil

Please register by October 16, 2006 with Bonnie Beattie (780) 453-8332 or Elizabeth Fryz (780) 453-8320.

## **Uncontracted Braille Course**

This course will give you an understanding of braille and set down the foundations for learning more advanced braille. You will be able to use this basic level for labeling, writing notes, playing cards and other uses.

This is an evening course with four lessons and exercises. A Perkins Brailier will be used during classes; all assignments will be done with a slate and stylus. A certificate will be issued upon successful completion of all assignments.



Date: September 20, 27, October 4 and 11, 2006

Location: CNIB, 12010 Jasper Ave, Edmonton

Cost: Professionals: \$120 plus GST, includes the cost of a slate, stylus and braille paper

Parents of children with vision loss: Course fees are waived except for the cost of materials, \$35 no GST

To register contact: Bert Moen (780) 453-8314 or [bert.moen@cnib.ca](mailto:bert.moen@cnib.ca).



### New Membership or Renewal

(please circle if new or renewal)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's name \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Age \_\_\_\_\_ Diagnosis \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please register me for the April 2006 – March 31, 2007 membership year. I have enclosed my \$5.00 membership fee.

I would like to help out in the following ways:

Phoning committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Special event planning: \_\_\_\_\_

Casino volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_ Sit on the executive \_\_\_\_\_

Fundraising: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee work \_\_\_\_\_

(bursary, equipment)

I have the following suggestions as topics for general meetings:

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I would like to see the ASVI improve its services by becoming more active in the following areas: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please mail this form with your membership fee of \$5.00 to: