1.0 **ISTAR isn’t just about stuttering…**

Did you know that ISTAR offers more than stuttering programs? We also have the Communication Improvement Program (CIP) that addresses other speech needs such as:

- language delay or disorders
- articulation problems
- voice problems
- communication difficulties caused by stroke or brain injury
- accent reduction
- overall speaking effectiveness
- public speaking

Starting in 2011, the Edmonton office will be offering **specialized individual and group modules** for those who want to:

1. increase vocal hygiene
2. improve social communication
3. increase clarity and rate control (e.g., for presentations)
4. reduce their foreign accent
5. prepare for defending their thesis

If you know of someone who could benefit from these services, please have them contact us at istar@ualberta.ca.

2.0 **Upcoming professional development for SLPs!**

Early in 2011, ISTAR clinician Holly Lomheim will be giving a 2-hour session on **concepts of treatment and maintenance**. This refresher workshop will include time for questions and feedback. While the training will be held in Edmonton we will have distance learning options available so anyone can join the discussion. Watch your email in January for all the details!

What kind of professional development would you like to see ISTAR offer? Send your ideas to istar@ualberta.ca.

3.0 **Our Calgary office has moved to a permanent location!**
ISTAR set up shop in Calgary 4 years ago but we had been unable to secure a permanent location. We are thrilled to announce that we now have our own premises just outside of the downtown core in the Hillhurst neighbourhood! The office is centrally located with accessible parking and is close to coffee shops, restaurants and shopping. (And a special bonus is that Elizabeth Haynes, ISTAR’s Calgary clinician, can now walk to work!)

We’ll be celebrating with a grand opening early in 2011 – watch your email for more details before Christmas!

New address:
#401 Hillhurst Building
301 – 14 Street NW
Calgary, AB  T2N 2A1

4.0 Complimentary posters on teasing and bullying!

Come to ISTAR’s booth at the upcoming ACSLPA conference in Edmonton and ask for your complimentary posters! This 3-poster set includes excerpts from the published “Teasing and Bullying: Unacceptable Behaviour” (TAB) Program.

The three posters are:
- Strategies for Resolving Conflicts
- Rules for Working it Out
- “I can speak up” Strategy

Use them in your practice or donate them to your school or day care/day home facility. There are limited supplies, so come by early!

ISTAR staff will be at our booth during the breaks, please come and visit. We’re happy to answer your questions or discuss specific cases with you.

5.0 Parent distress and early stuttering

In the last issue of “5 Things” we highlighted the landmark research we had just published on 5-year post-treatment results of ISTAR’s Comprehensive Stuttering Program (CSP). Due to the great response we received to that article, we want to share more exciting research with you!

ISTAR’s Dr. Marilyn Langevin recently published her findings of “Parent perceptions of the impact of stuttering on their preschoolers and themselves” in the May 2010 issue of Journal of Communication Disorders. The findings support considering the distress of preschool children and their parents, and the social consequences of stuttering when making the decision to begin or delay treatment.

Request a copy of the article by emailing us at istar@ualberta.ca.
Can We Have Your Email? ISTAR continues to collect the email addresses for our colleagues for the purpose of sending informative messages such as this one. Our goal is to help other speech-language professionals to improve their knowledge of stuttering. Please send your preferred email address to istar@ualberta.ca and we’ll be sure to add you to our mailing list! Use “Add me to your SLP distribution list” in the Subject line.

Your privacy is our responsibility. You have received this message because you provided ISTAR with your email address. The information gathered by ISTAR is used for the purpose of administering and supporting our programs and will be protected and used in compliance with Alberta’s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Individuals who submit information to ISTAR acknowledge the above and consent to the collection of personal information. If you have any questions or concerns about your personal record or would like to limit the kinds of contact you receive, please contact us at (780) 492-2619 or istar@ualberta.ca.