Spring has sprung! This issue comes at a time of beautiful weather and the perennials in full bloom. The majority of this e-newsletter is focused on SLP continuing education: child therapy at ISTAR, the Lidcombe Program, the Camperdown Program and the Palin Parent-Child Interaction Therapy. Read on for more details!

1. **Assessment and Treatment Options for Preschoolers**

One of the most common questions ISTAR SLPs get is about what to do with preschool children who stutter. ISTAR Calgary will be offering a one-hour session with Q&A on assessment and treatment options for preschool children. You will be able to attend in person or via webinar. There will be more information in the future with all the details you need to know. We’ll keep you posted!

2. **Research Lecture Series for SLPs**

We are thrilled with the positive response we’ve had on these webinars. Don’t forget Dr. Susan O’Brien’s webinar on the Camperdown Program on **Tuesday May 15** from 12:00 – 1:00 PM. Dr. O’Brien is a senior research officer at the Australian Stuttering Research Centre. The Camperdown Program is a treatment for stuttering in teenagers and adults that uses prolonged speech to control stuttering. One of the advantages of CP is that participants require much less time to learn to use the speech pattern and so clinical hours are greatly reduced.


The cost is $25 and payable online with a credit card. After payment confirmation is received, you will receive an email with instructions on how to register for and log into the webinar.

3. **Palin Parent-Child Interaction Therapy**

As you know, ISTAR Edmonton has the opportunity to host a 3-day training workshop on the “Palin Parent-Child Interaction Therapy” (PCI) on October 1 - 3, 2012. Willie Botterill and Elaine Kelman from the Michael Palin Centre in London, England will be the hosts of the sessions.
The workshop will aim to increase speech and language therapists’ knowledge and skills in assessing and identifying those children who are at risk of more persistent problems, as well as in the treatment of early stammering. The course provides a step-by-step program for the assessment and management of this age group and is potentially applicable for children up to 7 years of age. The sessions are supported by video demonstrations of therapy at the Michael Palin Centre, skills practice, discussion and problem-solving.

We are uncertain at this time if the workshop can be offered long-distance.

Before we formally schedule the workshop, we need to determine if there is sufficient interest to make it work. If you have not yet indicated your interest in attending, but would like to attend, please email us at sheri.price@ualberta.ca this week. Note that we are asking for interest only at this point, there is no commitment. The workshop would be $750 for the 3 days, with an early-bird rate of $700.

4. **Additional Lidcombe Training in Edmonton**

ISTAR is collaborating with the Montreal Fluency Centre to offer Lidcombe Program training in Edmonton in May. Due to the high interest, they have just opened another workshop on June 4 – 5 in Edmonton.

The Lidcombe Program is a behavioral intervention, developed to treat stuttering in preschool aged children. After training, speech-language pathologists will be prepared to teach parents to administer appropriate feedback about fluency and stuttering to their children in their everyday speaking environment and to monitor treatment goals and progress. Studies have shown that this is an efficacious and effective evidence-based treatment for stuttering. The Lidcombe Program has been adjusted for school-aged children and special populations.

Please contact the Montreal Fluency Centre for information. [http://www.montrealfluency.com](http://www.montrealfluency.com)

5. **Client Guest Lecture Series**

You may recall that ISTAR is allowing clients who have something to say, the opportunity to say it! Our last client lecture was given by Shelli Teshima, a former ISTAR client who is now a SLP in Edmonton. The next lecture is about yoga and stuttering, and is being given by Jackie Schoenberger, former ISTAR client and staff member. Jackie has extended her passion of yoga to help ISTAR’s clients by offering early-morning yoga classes during refresher clinics. Her presentation will be followed by a short time of Q&A / socializing. Learn more about Jackie and her company at [http://www.vistaarayoga.com/](http://www.vistaarayoga.com/).

The sessions are held at ISTAR, 7:00 – 8:30 PM. There is no fee for these talks but attendees are encouraged to offer a donation for our Client Assistance Fund (CAF). The CAF is used to help low-income clients offset the cost of a speech assessment.

These sessions are open to all to attend!

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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 will be sure to add you to our mailing list! Use “Add me to your SLP distribution list” in the subject line.

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