

ACT Events in 2014

In 2014, ACT hosted 19 events, providing 36 training days in eight communities in B.C., from Prince George to Sidney to Kamloops. Over 1,800 people attended an ACT event, gaining over 17,200 hours of training. 33 dedicated workshop volunteers provided 841 volunteer hours, aiding the overall success of our workshops.

\$24,000 in bursaries were awarded in the form of reduced event registration fees to encourage participants to attend from across B.C. — nearly double the amount of bursaries awarded in 2013 (\$12,500).

We recorded five of our events this year — with support from our knowledgeable presenters, who kindly allowed us to film their presentations, and sponsors, whose contributions supported production costs, maintenance and content development of the videos. These videos will be made available on ACT's new online video platform, Autism Videos @ ACT (AVA).



January 31, 2014 – Vancouver
Navigating Puberty and Adolescence – Joy Becker, RN, BSN

Recorded for Autism Videos @ ACT

“ I became more comfortable communicating re: sexuality with my clients . . . ” (professional)

February 13 & 14, 2014 – Richmond
Zooming In – Social Communicators in the Classroom, Playground and at Home – Michelle Garcia Winner, M.A., CCC-SLP and Pamela Crooke, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Sold out event

“ Loved the really practical ways to use everyday therapy materials for social thinking. ” (professional)

February 21, 2014 – Sidney
Navigating Puberty and Adolescence

Co-sponsored by Dwyer Tax Lawyers

“ I felt like pieces of the puzzle fell into place. Lots of information to consider moving forward. ” (parent)

February 28, 2014 – Vancouver
Toilet Training: It's Never too Late! (Revised) – Pat Mirenda, Ph.D., BC-BA-D and Katie Rinald, M.A., BCBA

Recorded for Autism Videos @ ACT

“ I was enthralled, which I didn't think I could be by this topic. ” (para-professional)

March 1, 2014 – Vancouver

Ready, Set, Coach: Supporting Kids with Autism in Community Recreation Activities – Stephanie Jull, Ph.D., BCBA-D

*Co-sponsored by Canucks Autism Network
CEUs available for BCBA and BCaBAs
Recorded for Autism Videos @ ACT*

“ Building rapport for motivation; applying task analysis, countdown strips and wait cards. A great toolbox of strategies. ” (student)



April 4 & 5, 2014 – Vancouver

Focus on Research: Diagnosing and Treating Young Children with ASD – Amy Wetherby, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Co-sponsored by B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development

“ Thank you — excellent learning opportunity — many new resources, tools and coaching strategies to apply right away. ” (professional)

April 26, 2014 – Kelowna

Teaching Social Thinking through Stories & Play for Preschool and Early Elementary School – Kari Palmer, MA, CCC-SLP & Ryan Hendrix, MS, CCC-SLP

Co-sponsored by B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union and B.C. Association of Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists

“ Not only did they teach the concepts but (they) gave strategies to use to implement and facilitate the learning. ” (parent)

May 5, 2014 – Surrey

Making Do-It-Yourself Visuals for Children with Autism – A Free Workshop for Punjabi-Speaking Families – Rina Dulku, M.Sc., R.SLP

Free event in Punjabi

June 20, 2014 – Vancouver

Solving Sleep Problems in Children with ASD – Beth Ann Malow, M.D.

Co-sponsored by Children's Sleep Network and TIDE BC

Recorded for Autism Videos @ ACT

“ She [Dr. Malow] is very practical in her approach/answers and very accommodating. ” (parent)

August 11 – 15, 2014 – Vancouver

August 18 – 22, 2014 – Vancouver

August 25 – 29, 2014 – Victoria

Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders: Practical Applications (POPARD) – Kenneth D. Cole, Ph.D., R.Psych

“ I learned a new way to look at how I deal with behaviours and new tools that will be invaluable in working with children. ” (para-professional)

September 17 & 18, 2014 – Richmond

1st Annual Canadian Social Thinking Providers Conference

Keynote presentations by:

Michelle Garcia Winner, M.A., CCC-SLP

Pamela Crooke, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Joanne Gerenser, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Sarah Ward, MS, CCC-SLP

Workshop seminars by 14 Canadian Social Thinking practitioners

“ I took away several useful strategies and practical solutions to dilemmas I have encountered when implementing Social Thinking with clients. ” (professional)

Co-sponsored by Social Thinking®



October 4, 2014 – Kamloops

Ready, Set, Coach: Supporting Kids with Autism in Community Recreation Activities – Stephanie Jull, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Co-sponsored by Autism Kamloops, Canucks Autism Network and City of Kamloops

October 8, 2014 – Prince George

Focus on Best Practices: Autism Resources for Families and Community Professionals in B.C. – Deborah Pugh, Executive Director, ACT – Autism Community Training and Karen Bopp, Ph.D., Ministry of Children and Family Development

Free event – Co-sponsored by B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development

October 24 & 25, 2014 – Vancouver

Promoting Speech and Language in Individuals across the Autism Spectrum: Collaboration for Success – Joanne Gerenser, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Co-sponsored by British Columbia Association of Behaviour Analysis – CEUs available for BCBA and BCaBAs

“ Great balance of research and practical application. ” (professional)

November 21, 2014 – Vancouver

Best Practices in Early Intervention: An Update on the Research and Helping Families Build the “Team” – Karen Bopp, Ph.D.,
Ministry of Children and Family Development

Co-sponsored by B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development
Recorded for Autism Videos @ ACT

November 27, 2014 – Surrey

The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) & The Importance of the Home-School Partnership- Parbinder Bains, Surrey School District and Preetinder Narang, Surrey School District



Free Event – in English and Punjabi

December 5 & 6, 2014 – Vancouver

The Science of Making Friends: Helping Socially Challenged Teens and Young Adults with ASD – Elizabeth Laugeson, Psy.D.

“Excellent! Can’t wait to use all of this info with our amazing group of students.” (para-professional)



Upcoming ACT events: www.actcommunity.ca/events
Autism Videos @ ACT for free: www.actcommunity.ca/videos

