

2019 ACSLPA Candidates for Member of Council

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Nominees provided a response to the following questions:	 Audrey Boivin, R.SLP	 Charlene Chamberlain, R.SLP	 Tegan Hryciw, R.SLP	 Tanya Marks, R.SLP	 Beatrice To, R.Aud
<p>1. Please provide a brief overview of your professional background (which may include work experience such as clinical, research, and/or administration/management background, volunteer, board/committee experience).</p>	<p>My 13-year professional career as an SLP has mainly consisted of working collaboratively in multidisciplinary teams to support multilingual children and youth in reaching their full potential in inclusive settings in Alberta. As an educator, I have enjoyed supervising and mentoring graduate SLP students and professionals, leading workshops for parents and professionals, and teaching a College course to educational assistants; In the next year, I look forward to teaching two university courses to future teaching professionals. As an administrator, I have worked to improve the integration and coordination of services provided to children and youth in francophone schools in Alberta.</p>	<p>I've been as an SLP for 25 years. After my master's, I completed a PhD and spent a several years doing research and training SLP's in the area of language and literacy development and disorders, including AAC. Since returning to clinical practice in Alberta, I've worked with a variety of populations, from preschool to high school, from mild/moderate speech language delay to severe disabilities, in school board and nonprofit worlds. Most recently I've specialized in coaching family with ASD children. Throughout my career, I've served on several boards and committees both in academia and in clinical practice.</p>	<p>I am a speech-language pathologist, currently working in private practice and as a Clinical Educator for Corbett Clinic at the University of Alberta. Previously, I worked for Edmonton's public and Catholic school boards (early education) and in San Jose, California (preschool and school-aged clients). In 2014, I volunteered on ACSLPA's Standards of Practice Advisory Group, providing input and feedback into the development of the new standards.</p> <p>I also work part-time as a musician, and I offer Music Together Within Therapy® groups as part of my private practice.</p>	<p>My clinical work has been in community and school pediatrics both in urban and rural areas with public and private services. I have provided related services for children with a broad range of communication disorders. I have worked in leadership roles where I have been part of multidisciplinary teams, mentored students and new clinicians, participated in rehabilitation practice groups, and program development.</p>	<p>For over 10 years, I have worked at various Hospital and Community sites in Edmonton and Calgary, primarily at Alberta Children's Hospital.</p> <p>More recently, I spent over a year in Nunavut in the Qikiqtaaluk region; responsibilities included program management and planning for multiple communities.</p>

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<p>2. How do you feel your skills and experiences could benefit the organization?</p>	<p>I consider that my combined clinical and administrative experience, my combined health and education training, as well as my focus on interprofessional collaboration would greatly benefit the ACSLPA Council. I have a natural tendency to approach issues with curiosity and in a systematic way in order to: understand the problem, develop a plan, and stay on track. My doctorate in education and my diverse experience have driven me to focus on capacity building and on leveraging systems to find novel ways of maximizing resources. As such, I believe that I can be a strong Council member.</p>	<p>I feel that my broad clinical, research, and teaching background would benefit ACSLPA in a variety of ways. My clinical experience gives me first-hand knowledge of the challenges that SLPs face to maintain competency in a province with, for instance, increasing cultural and linguistic diversity, continually increasing ASD incidence, and caseloads/workloads that are tough to manage. My teaching background gives me the knowledge of best practices in teaching and learning to support SLP develop their skills. My research background gives me the ability to assess current literature to inform our practice as changes in the field are constantly happening.</p>	<p>I feel that the foundation of being an effective part of ACSLPA Council is the ability to work well as part of a team. In the different team environments I've had experience with—SLP teams, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary teams in Edmonton school districts, and as a supervisor of SLP students—several skills have served me well: the ability to synthesize and summarize information, especially within the context of team discussions; an aptitude for big-picture thinking, while still remaining pragmatic as regards the details of implementation; and, perhaps most importantly, a willingness and openness to other team members' points of view.</p>	<p>I demonstrate strengths in collaboration, problem-solving, leadership skills and active listening. I have experience in interpreting legislation, developing guidelines and processes for new initiatives. I am committed to preparing for and actively participating in an informed debate. I also have an understanding of the strategic role of Council and of the regulatory role of the College.</p>	<p>My time up North included significant exposure to the how the scope of practice functions in context of territorial government structure. I feel that these experiences provide me with a wide perspective of Audiology practice in Alberta.</p>

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3. Please provide a short statement of your vision of the short and long-term future for ACSLPA.	<p>Short-term, I wish to see ACSLPA support the work of Alberta SLPs and audiologists in novel ways, such as by developing innovative professional development opportunities, resources, and benefits, to promote competent, safe, and ethical professional practice. I would also like to see more emphasis on interprofessional collaboration through work with other provincial professional organizations. Long-term, ACSLPA can continue to elevate awareness for the profession through public education, and by engaging in recruitment and retention problem solving, particularly for underserved rural areas, through placement support and collaboration with different partners and stakeholders (e.g., employers, high schools, Colleges, universities, etc.).</p>	<p>There are so many issues facing SLPs and Audiologists in Alberta. If elected to Council, a short-term vision I would like to engage more clinicians in discussing issues that are affecting them and find out what support would be most needed. As a long-term vision for ACSLPA, if elected, I want to actively participate in the strategic plans for the upcoming 2018-2020 period.</p>	<p>My vision for the future of ACSLPA is that it would continue to serve the public interest by providing information and support to clients, members, and the public; to increase ACSLPA's relevance to the public and to members; and to ensure a culture of respect.</p>	<p>I firmly believe that any organization, in order to survive and achieve success, must have a sound set of beliefs on which it premises all its policies and actions. Continued development of resources/materials to guide and support members, national collaboration, established standards of excellence, and a willingness to change and adapt to the current environment will be key.</p>	<p>Given the roll-out of EHDI, in the short term, my hope is that ACSLPA would be able to provide a well-defined path and scope of responsibility to its members in their interactions with screeners of all backgrounds.</p> <p>In the long-term, my hope is that ACSLPA would be able to aid in the integration of both private and public practice collaborations in the province.</p>
4. Please provide any additional information that you would like to share.	<p>I welcome the opportunity of becoming a member of the ACSLPA Council to represent my SLP and audiology colleagues, and use our shared expertise to push the boundaries and contribute to the advancement of our professions in Alberta and Canada.</p>	<p>If elected to Council, I would work diligently to support the work of ACSLPA.</p>	<p>Thank you for this opportunity.</p>	<p>I am very excited about this opportunity. I feel that I have the experience and knowledge to effectively serve as a Council member. I am a high performer with strong communication skills, and new and innovative ideas. I am committed to supporting our professions, and put forth initiatives that are important to the College and the public.</p>	<p>Thank you for this opportunity.</p>