The Canadian Hearing Society
Barrier-Free Education Initiatives

The Barrier-Free Education Initiatives project is intended to provide professional learning opportunities to educators and support staff to identify and remove communication barriers within the classroom and built environment and, in turn, support effective program planning and delivery. This project is funded by the Ministry of Education.

The following planned activities will assist school boards in identifying access and accommodation needs of deaf and hard of hearing students, produce a gap analysis, and make appropriate recommendations to the Ministry to ensure that students are provided with the tools they need to succeed in the classroom. The project will be completed by June 30, 2011.

A. Site Visits

School site visits to support the enhancement of services for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. This visit will look at the physical environment as well as technology and make suggestions for service improvement/enhancement. ***(Site visits will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis.)***

B. Research

Research the current needs for sign language interpreting services provided to teachers and students who are deaf or hard of hearing and make recommendations *(if necessary)* to improve services that will ensure learning successes for students who rely on access supports in the classroom.

C. Professional Development

Attend a one-day workshop on Technology and Communication Access and Audism/Ableism.
(Please note: there are only limited number of spots available on a first-come, first-served basis.)

As per a February 25, 2009 memo to School Boards from Barry Finlay, Director of Special Education Policy and Programs Branch, School Boards have been encouraged to take full advantage of this unique opportunity to partner with CHS to meet the needs of students who are deaf or hard of hearing. School Board participation will ensure that the Ministry continues to provide barrier-free education to all students attending Ontario's publicly funded schools and its commitment to high quality professional learning for teachers, administrators and support staff.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

Name of School Board:

Board Contact Name:	Phone #:	Fax #:	E-mail:
Identified School Name and Contact Person:	Phone #:	Fax #:	E-mail:

I would like to participate: **Please ✔ Yes or No**

A. Site Visit ☐ Yes ☐ No
B. Research ☐ Yes ☐ No
C. Professional Development ☐ Yes ☐ No
Receive Registration Form for one-day workshop ☐ Yes ☐ No

Other comments/requests: (please specify)

Please e-mail or send via fax to:

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THE CANADIAN HEARING SOCIETY
LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE L'OUÏE