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Report of the Project Director
Bridge of Signs
December 2005



The month of December provided the opportunity to present a training conference in Vancouver for teachers, aides, administrators and parents of children whose communication skills are affected with Autism, Down Syndrome, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, and Learning Disabilities. Supported by Janice Jickels and Shelly Carver, the conference attracted more than 50 people for a day-long session at Douglas College.

In our ongoing efforts to secure funding to continue the program beyond its original closing date of March 31st, 2006, we were pleased to find that Mr. Ernie Freeman (BC) received an enthusiastic response when he proposed the adoption of Bridge of Signs by an aboriginal agency in Prince George.

Two people have been added to our team. Jacqueline Thompson has accepted the position of Research Field Assistant of Literature, and Peter Szyszlo accepted the position of Research Field Assistant Data Analyst. Both began December 12, 2005 and have demonstrated their interest and commitment as they have taken on their respective tasks.

Those of you who have seen or used the first Bridge of Signs DVD will be pleased to know that we are working on improving its quality and content in time to include it in the final report and information kit, which should be available in April. David Chato and Goran Mraovic are working on the improvements.

Project activities will be evaluated at the next meeting of the CAD Board of Directors, scheduled for February in Winnipeg.

Sincerely,
Anne
Dr. Anne Toth, R.S.W.,
Project Director Bridge of Signs
Canadian Association of the Deaf