



Provincial Family Services Winter 2021

For Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafblind clients age 5-23 and their families.

MEET THE TEAM

Provincial Family Services



Melissa Mykle
Team Leader & Practice Consultant



Kathy Glover
Family Navigator



Roger Chan
Family Navigator



Corinna Salvail
Family Navigator



David McGregor
Family Navigator



Heather Kimola
Family Navigator

Provincial Family Services is a program within Provincial Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services that provides integrated and immersive services that reflects a one-stop approach to supporting families with deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind children, youth and young adults (ages 5-23) and their families across service systems, particularly through periods of transition, such as school entry and for youth and young adults into adulthood. PFS provides support through navigation and direct services to children, youth and young adults and their families.

An overview of services:

- Family and parent connection
- Child, youth and young adult services
- Community awareness and development
- Language and literacy development
- System navigation and access consultation

Website: www.gov.bc.ca/deafandhardofhearing

Email: FS@gov.bc.ca

Phone: 778 572 2922

Text: 604 809 1547

PLEASE NOTE: PFS provides services whether you use sign language, spoken English or another language. If you are interested in registering for a program/workshop, please let us know how we can accommodate your language needs, such as ASL Interpreter, Spoken Language Interpreter, CART or Captioning Services.

Technology and high-speed internet required: You must have a personal computer or laptop with camera capability (we must be able to see you). Go-To-Meeting and Zoom platforms will be used. Contact us if you have any questions or need technology support.

Registration: To register for any of the programs below, please email your name, deaf or hard of hearing child's name, age and which program you are interested in to FS@gov.bc.ca

Information Sessions

Information Sessions for Surrey School District Families

Open to all families with a deaf and hard of hearing member (children or parents) who currently attend or will be starting Kindergarten in Surrey Schools in September 2021.

These information sessions will be with Diana DiCesare, Surrey School District Principal, Erin Pranzl, Language Acquisition Support Coordinator and guests from Provincial Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services.

We will offer three dates and time slots for on-line information session via Zoom.

Tuesday, January 12 from 6:00-7:30 pm	Please pick one and register with Erin Pranzl at epranzl@surreyschools.ca by January 6, 2021 with your full name, child's name and age, and your preferred language. Details will be provided upon registration.
Thursday, January 14 from 8:00-9:30 pm	
Saturday, January 16 from 10:00-11:30 am	

Early School Transition Information Night

Open to all families whose deaf and hard of hearing child will start Kindergarten in Fall 2021.

Do you have a little one starting Kindergarten in Fall 2021? This will be an opportunity to learn more about services and resources for your deaf and hard of hearing child whether they are mainstreamed in local school or attending an inclusive school setting. **Save the date: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 6:30 pm.** More information and details for registration will come soon.



Language and Literacy Learning Opportunities

Literacy Development

- Learn more about how you can promote your child's literacy (English / American Sign Language) at home using complex visual, digital media and printed material that is used in everyday life.
- Learn strategies to encourage and engage your child in reading
- Find out more about what incidental learning is and how you can support your child's access to information
- We have individual, family or group sessions. Contact: FS@gov.bc.ca with your request.

Novel Book Club:

In partnership with **Family Network for Deaf Children – Deaf Youth Today**, we are offering a book club!

 <p>This club is in collaboration with Family Network for Deaf Children.</p> <p>Meet Christy Jeffery, who is Deaf and uses American Sign Language. She is a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at the BC School for the Deaf but is currently on maternity leave and has two beautiful children.</p> <p>The sessions will be in ASL however, spoken language interpreters can be arranged for non-signers.</p>	<p><u>Song for a Whale by Lynne Kelly</u></p> <p>The book is a story of a deaf girl, Iris's connection to a whale whose song can't be heard by his species, and the journey she takes to help him.</p> <p>Iris, who is a tech genius empathizes with the whale and has an idea to play her song for the whale – but, how?</p> 	<p><u>Registration Deadline: January 5, 2021 at FS@gov.bc.ca</u></p> <p>Sessions will be on Tuesdays starting on January 12th – March 9th, 2021.</p> <p>Time: 6:00-7:30 pm</p>
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Workshop for Harry Potter Fans! - In collaboration with **Family Network for Deaf Children – Deaf Youth Today**, we are offering a workshop for Harry Potter fans!

<p>The Parallel between Harry Potter and the Deaf World</p>	<p>Saturday, Feb. 27, 2020 from 9:30-11:30 am Registration deadline: February 8, 2021 at FS@gov.bc.ca</p>	<p>Join us to compare the fascinating world of Harry Potter and the Deaf World (includes the experience of Hard of Hearing individuals). The concept of “Deaf Gain” will be applied. Facilitated by Christy Jeffery, M.Ed</p>
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American Sign Language

- Did you know that American Sign Language (ASL) is a recognized language in Canada?
- Do you want to learn or strengthen your American Sign Language skills?
- Is your family interested in learning another language?
- We have individual, family or group sessions available.

If you are interested in individual (parents or guardians only) or family sessions, please contact us and one of us will get back to you to organize a schedule that works for you and the assigned staff. For group sessions, check out the timetable below and register the date, time and level of your preference. If you are not sure of your level, please note the level descriptors below or connect with your previous instructor.

CLASSES FOR ADULTS AND YOUTH

The classes will start the week of **January 18th** and end the week of **March 8th, 2021**

(Each family member should have their own screen)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: January 5, 2021 at FS@gov.bc.ca

	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays
Introductory to ASL	11:30 am	8:00 pm	6:30 pm	5:00 pm
Beginner 1	10:00 am	5:00 pm	8:00 pm	N/A
Beginner 2	5:00 pm	1:00 pm	5:00 pm	1:00 pm
Beginner 3	1:00 pm	6:30 pm	1:00 pm	6:30 pm
Intermediate 1	7:30 pm	N/A	N/A	N/A
Intermediate 2	N/A	N/A	8:00 pm	N/A
Advanced Conversational Practice	N/A	7:30 pm	10:00 am	N/A

Basic Course Descriptions: (contact your previous instructor if you are not sure)

ASL Introductory

ASL Introductory class is for those with no previous knowledge or experience with American Sign Language.

Beginner I

Introduction to basic grammar structure along with more vocabulary.

ASL Beginner II

More opportunities to increase and practice ASL vocabulary and learn how to put them into sentences.

ASL Beginner III

You will be exposed to more structural accuracy and vocabulary to participate effectively in conversations pertaining to daily living themes.

ASL Intermediate I

The focus is on learning more ASL vocabulary, become more comfortable with the use of space and introduction to classifiers.

ASL Intermediate II

You are able to use the language fluently and accurately but would benefit from practice and feedback.

ASL Conversational Skills

You are fluent but become stuck with some complex topics and would like to continue to practice and receive feedback.

Introductory ASL Classes for Children (during Spring Break holidays)

For Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Siblings

(these classes are for those who have no previous knowledge or experience with American Sign Language)

Registration Deadline: February 22, 2021 at FS@gov.bc.ca

Children (ages 5-8)	Introductory ASL M, T, W, Th, F March 15-19; 22-26 10:00-11:00 am
Children (ages 9-12)	Introductory ASL M, T, W, Th, F March 15-19; 22-26 1:00-2:00 pm
Youth (ages 13-17)	Introductory ASL M, T, W, Th, F March 15-19; 22-26 3:00-4:00 pm

Please see next page

Family and Parent Connection

Parent to Parent Groups

These are parent-led groups which makes for an awesome opportunity to meet other parents who have deaf and hard of hearing children. The co-facilitators will be introducing various resources that are available, such as:

- Technology and access to information
- Techniques on how to include the Deaf or Hard of Hearing child in the family and to keep it fun!
- Navigating the school system/ individual education plan
- Discuss listening fatigue and how to support your deaf and hard of hearing child

We have two groups set up to accommodate parents' schedules. **Please register by January 5, 2021 at FS@gov.bc.ca.**

Parent to Parent Group	Tuesdays, 10:30 am	Feb. 2, 2021 – Mar. 9, 2021	Co-facilitators: Kathy Glover and Corinna Salvail, Family Navigators
	Wednesdays, 6:30 pm	Feb. 3, 2021 – Mar. 10, 2021	Co-facilitators: Kathy Glover and Corinna Salvail, Family Navigators

Workshops for Parents (Early Intervention families are welcome to join)

Provided in collaboration with [Family Network for Deaf Children](#) and [Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, B.C. – Youth Peer Support Program](#)

<p><u>Listening Fatigue within the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community</u></p> <p>Dr. Natalia Rohaty-Martin</p>	<p>Wednesday, Jan. 27 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm</p> <p>Register at FS@gov.bc.ca by Jan. 20, 2021</p>
<p><u>Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in K-12 Schools</u></p> <p>Presenters: Barb Mykle-Hotzon, Program of Sign Language Interpretation at Douglas College Alana Haller, Provincial Outreach Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Bobbi Taylor, Family Support Institute</p>	<p>Wednesday, Feb. 24 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm</p> <p>Register at FS@gov.bc.ca by Feb. 17, 2021</p>

Youth and Young Adults

If you are Deaf or Hard of Hearing youth or young adult from 15-23 and need support with planning for transition to adulthood including support with access, please email FS@gov.bc.ca or text 604 809 1547.

Sessions for Youth and Young Adults

In collaboration with FNDC Deaf Youth Today, we are hosting **Meet and Greet Sessions for Youth and Young Adults** (ages 15-23) to learn more about community resources and services that are available to support as you transition into adulthood. You will also have opportunities to meet other deaf and hard of hearing youth and young adults!

Come to all sessions!

Feb 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021 from **6:30 – 8:00 pm**

Happy Holidays!