International Week of Deaf People and the International Day of Sign Languages

Educational resources
September 2022

Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion
Centre canadien pour la diversité et l’inclusion

www.ccdi.ca
Educational resources on the International Week of Deaf People and the International Day of Sign Languages

Note: The name of International Week of Deaf People was changed by WFD in 2021 from “International Week of the Deaf”. As such, some of these resources use the old name.

The International Week of Deaf People (IWDP) was first launched by the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) in 1958 and is celebrated during the last full week of September (September 19-25, 2022). IWDP is a time to promote the awareness of human rights and sign language, and to recognize that “deaf people have our own communities, our own cultures, our own languages, sign languages, which unite us all” (WFD). Events are held around the world to raise awareness and celebrate the achievements of Deaf individuals and communities. The 2022 IWDP theme is “Building Inclusive Communities for All”.

The International Day of Sign Languages (IDSL) occurs on September 23rd, during the International Week of Deaf People. Proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2017, IDSL recognizes the important role of sign language, and access to education and services in sign language, as essential human rights for Deaf people. The 2022 IDSL theme is “Sign Languages Unite Us!”

Learn more about the International Week of Deaf People and the International Day of Sign Languages from the World Federation of the Deaf. Also see the International Day of Sign Languages webpage from the United Nations.

CCDI webinars

The following webinars were delivered previously, and recorded versions can be accessed via CCDI’s Knowledge Repository. If your organization is a CCDI Employer Partner, you and your colleagues can visit the Knowledge Repository portal to register for access (using a work email address) and login credentials will be sent via e-mail (check Inbox and Junk Mail folder just in case).

Click on the links below to view each webinar (after logging into the Knowledge Repository):

- Accessibility - Navigating a world filled with barriers (2019)
- Accommodations - The ultimate checklist (2020)
- Pour être défenseur(e) des droits des personnes handicapées (2018)
View a schedule and descriptions of our upcoming webinars here to be delivered live (recorded versions will be accessible via CCDI’s Knowledge Repository shortly thereafter). If your organization is a CCDI Employer Partner, you and your colleagues can register and attend for free. If your organization is not currently a CCDI Employer Partner and you are interested in joining, you can learn more about partnership and submit an inquiry here.

**Other resources**

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**ARTICLES, REPORTS, AND TOOLS**

- #DeafAtWork, National Association of the Deaf
- 10 bonnes pratiques pour rendre accessible votre entreprise aux personnes malentendantes, Association des personnes avec une déficience de l'audition (APDA)
- Accommodating Workers who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
- Community and Culture – Frequently Asked Questions, National Association of the Deaf
- Deaf Culture / Culture des sourds, Canadian Encyclopedia
- Deaf Culture from the Sign Language Institute Canada
- Definition of “Deaf” / La définition de “Sourd”, Canadian Association of the Deaf
- Indigenous Sign Languages in Canada / Langues des signes autochtones au Canada, Canadian Encyclopedia
- Sign languages – General information / Langues des signes – Renseignements généraux, Government of Canada
- Sign languages – Learning / Langues des signes – Apprentissage, Government of Canada
- Terminology / La terminologie, Canadian Association of the Deaf
- What is Deaf Culture? / Qu’est-ce que la culture sourde? Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf
BOOKS

CCDI encourages you to check with your local bookstore or municipal library for availability of these publications.

- A Loss for Words: The Story of Deafness in a Family (Lou Ann Walker)
- Deaf Heritage in Canada: A Distinctive, Diverse, and Enduring Culture / Patrimoine sourd au Canada : une culture distinctive, diversifiée et durable (Clifton F. Carbin; available online from the Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf)
- El Deafo (Cece Bell)
- I'll Scream Later (Marlee Matlin)
- Seeing Voices (Oliver Sacks)
- Show Me a Sign (Ann Clare LeZotte)
- Song for a Whale (Lynne Kelly)
- The Language of Light (Gerald Shea)
- The Perseverance (Raymond Antrobus)
- Train Go Sorry: Inside a Deaf World (Leah Hager Cohen)
- Voice (Adam Pottle)
- Wonderstruck (Brian Selznick)
- You're Welcome, Universe (Whitney Gardner)

FILM AND TELEVISION

Please note: There may be a cost related to watching this content and CCDI is not responsible for those costs.

- A Quiet Place (Amazon Prime Video)
- Audism Unveiled (Vimeo)
- Between the Laughter (National Film Board of Canada)
- Children of a Lesser God (Amazon Prime Video)
- CODA (Apple TV)
- La Famille Bélier (FR – YouTube)
- The Dance of Words / Les mots qui dansent (National Film Board of Canada)
- The Silent Child (YouTube)
- Through Deaf Eyes (Gallaudet University Press; please see the content warning on the Gallaudet University Press webpage before viewing)*
- Wonderstruck (Amazon Prime Video)
Note: French links are for the original Ted Talk with French subtitles and/or French transcript.

- Deaf ideology (Marika Kovacs-Houlihan)
- Protecting and Interpreting Deaf Culture (Glenna Cooper)
- Sign language is my superpower (Austin Vaday)
- The enchanting music of sign language / La musique enchanteresse de la langue des signes (Christine Sun Kim)

PODCASTS

- Seen and Not Heard
- Speak Up!
- What The Deaf?!