

ACENA Summer Newsletter: Issue 32

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2019 ACENA Conference

Chicago, IL September 13th - 15th



Registration is still open for this year's ACENA Conference in Chicago, Illinois which will take place from September 13 - 15!

Book your hotel now! Rooms are booking up very quickly as this is a very popular weekend in Chicago! Book now through ACENA to get your discounted room at book the [Hilton Garden Inn at McCormick Place](#).

Hosted at the Illinois College of Optometry, key note speakers include Dr. Andrea Zsebe, Dean, András Pető Faculty, Semmelweis University, Dr. Melanie Brown of NICE, and Dr. Valerie Kattouf, OD, of the Illinois College of Optometry.



Dr. Melanie Brown, CEO of National Institute of Conductive Education, will present the link to well-being and Conductive Education.

Dr. Brown is one of Conductive Education's most inspiring speakers! Join the ACENA Conference and be included in how the CE practice can benefit from new thinking and a more modern context framework.

Dr. Brown will discuss how the CE philosophy and methodology can link to new thinking in the field of disability and well-being.

Dr. Kattouf is presenting at this year's conference!
A basic understanding of how cerebral palsy impacts the visual system will be discussed with the presentation of clinical cases.

As a chronic, non-progressive motor disorder that

affects neurologic function, CP commonly presents with vision or ophthalmologic abnormalities such as oculomotor dysfunction, sensorimotor deficits and uncorrected refractive error. The diagnosis and proper treatment of these vision issues is integral to the success of every child with CP.



Laszlo Matos, DLA, Associate Professor, Deputy Dean of Education, Semmelweis University, Pető András Faculty will also present as one of our keynote speakers.

He has worked as a music teacher and choir conductor for more than 25 years. He helped found the artistic leader/conductorship at the Budapest based Kodály Zoltán Mixed Choir from 1990-2004. For six years he was the chief conductor of the Hungarian Radio Children's Choir and then worked for 13 years as a teacher at the Bartók Béla Secondary School for Music - Conservatorium as it is popularly known.

He has been working in higher education with the Pető Institute from 1994. For 25 years he has taught and studied the indisputable connection between music and conductive pedagogy, the close relationship between the Pető method and the Kodály concept. As a Deputy Dean of Education of the Faculty of Semmelweis University, he strives to enhance the reputation of the university while also supporting the habilitation and rehabilitation of the children and adults with disabilities.

The conference schedule and more conference details will be made available in the next few weeks.

For more information on the conference, hotel, travel information or to register today, visit the [conference website](#).

We hope to see you there!

2019 ACENA AGM

The 2019 Annual General Meeting will take place over lunch at our Conference in Chicago.

12:15PM to 1:00PM Central Time
Saturday, September 14, 2019
Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, IL

An AGM Notice will be circulated to all members shortly providing details on how you can participate in person or virtually.

The AGM provides you as members with the opportunity to hear updates on ACENA activities over this past year, meet the new Board and provide input.

ACENA Elections

Call for Nominations! - ACENA Board Needs You!

ACENA is a volunteer-led organization which relies on the kind efforts of its membership to oversee and guide its work. Our 2019-20 call for Board members is out. We are looking for current registered members to stand for election in the positions of:

- President-Elect
- Director of Finance (the incumbent has agreed to stand for a second term)
- Director of Communications
- Director of Continuing Education (the incumbent has agreed to stand for a second term)
- Secretary

All members should have received their nomination package this week by email. We hope you will consider running and adding your voice to the ACENA Board! Nominations are due **August 16th** and elections will be held the week of **August 21st**.

Coming Soon! ACENA Parent Satisfaction Survey

Over the past year the ACENA Research Committee has developed a Parent Satisfaction Survey. The questions in the survey were developed in consultation with active researchers and are the start, for us, to collect consistent uniform data on the impact of conductive education in North America. The survey contains a set of uniformed questions - and a common scale. The survey is being trialed by a number of CE Centers this summer. It will then be refined as necessary before being circulated to all CE Centers. Our intent is to collect this data in sufficient volume (>1,000 questionnaires) so we can engage global researchers working in the field of children with cerebral palsy (e.g., CanKids) to collaborate with us to 'standardize' the survey. Doing so will allow us to capture the outcomes of conductive education. It will also allow us to better market CE. Look for more on this exciting initiative later this Fall.

Sincerely yours in Conductive Education,

[Andrea Benyovszky](#), Conductive Learning Centre
[Patti Herbst](#), Center for Independence
[Brent Page](#), March of Dimes Canada

CE Center Feature The Movement Centre of Manitoba

Celebrating 20 Years of Continued Success

Reflecting on the last 20 years, we have a lot to celebrate. The Movement Centre has accomplished many significant milestones while fulfilling our mandate of helping thousands of children and adults with neurological conditions gain or regain physical mobility, increased confidence and functional independence, one small step at a time through Conductive Education.



Olivia and client Mason

December 5, 1997, the Movement Centre of Manitoba Inc. was officially registered as a non-profit corporation by the Province of Manitoba. My predecessor Margy Nelson (ACENA Honorary Member), Marie Berger and Dianne Ferguson each with a child with cerebral palsy came together to bring Conductive Education to Manitoba. Separately, they took their children to Alberta and Ontario for the Conductive Education programs offered in those provinces. All three parents saw considerable improvement in their child's mobility and self-confidence, and wanted access to Conductive Education at home in Manitoba.

As we move into our 21st year of operation, the demand for our programs continues and the importance of financial support remains as vital as ever. Every hard-earned dollar collected - whether donated or paid through program fees - directly impacts each client's progress toward independence, confidence and living their best life.

Consider these significant stats:

- Since inception - we have raised over \$13.7 million dollars CAD through the private sector.
- 93% of our clients have been attending our conductive education programs for more than a year AND 45% have been attending for more than 7 years!
- Thanks to the support of our community partners, we continue to subsidize our hourly program fee by 70%.
- According to the latest 2011 Statistics Canada reports, approximately 130,000 Manitobans live with a neurological condition. We currently help 100 individuals annually and are committed to helping many more gain independence!



when the weather starts to get nice in Winnipeg, we take it outside!

Awareness Matters - Building our Profile

In February 2019, a North American-wide Conductive Education Awareness Day

resulted in significant media attention, which prompted the Movement Centre of Manitoba to create an "In the Media" page on our website. Awareness about the benefits of Conductive Education is important, as you know, because it's proven that early intervention after diagnosis in children and adults is crucial to development and rehabilitation in the long term. The earlier clients learn the skills and gain the confidence to become more independent, the better for them AND their caregivers, parents & family members. Time and time again, we hear clients and families say this is the place that has given hope when many felt there was none.



Perogy Run - Olivia and client Jamie

The Movement Centre of Manitoba is proud to be a Member of ACENA. As the saying goes - "it takes a village" - we wouldn't be able to move forward without the support of the caring and dedicated people behind the success of this industry. I am truly honoured to be a part of it. And this is why it's so important for every centre and Conductor in North America to be engaged and involved as a member of ACENA. It's critical for this industry to collectively put our efforts together to establish what the future will hold, resulting in having the opportunity to help more people living with neuromotor conditions live their best quality of life, all across our continent.

Stay tuned for an ACENA Advocacy package coming soon!

*Sincerely,
Olivia Doerksen
Director of Advocacy - ACENA
Executive Director - Movement Centre of Manitoba*

2020 World Congress on Conductive Education

The 10th World Congress on Conductive Education will be held in Budapest on May 22th - 26th, 2020. The congress will be organized by the International Peto Association (IPA) and András Pető Faculty - Semmelweis University (APF). The title of the congress is; "The Conductor: Attitude, Occupation, Profession." Mark your calendars and check out the [website](#) for more information as it becomes available.

Mark your Calendars!

August 16: Deadline for Nominations for ACENA Board elections

August 21-28: ACENA Election week

September 13-15 ACENA Conference

September 20: Deadline to submit Satisfaction Survey

February 20, 2020 National CE Day

May 22 - 26, 2020 World Congress on Conductive Education

*Check out [ACENA's calendar](#) to stay up to date ! If you would like to participate in a subcommittee meeting, please get in touch with us to find out more!

www.acena.org

Check out our facebook page

