

## NLASLPA 2018 Conference Planning Committee

### General Teleconference Report - Spring 2018

The 2018 NLASLPA Conference Planning committee has been hard at work preparing what promises to be a fabulous event. The conference will take place September 26-28, 2018 at the Ramada Hotel St. John's. We are sticking with the traditional format of full-day sessions on Thursday, with the AMM and short session on Friday.

We are pleased to offer Keynote presentations for each profession. Elizabeth Fitzpatrick will be speaking on Unilateral hearing Loss in Children as the Audiology Keynote, and we are in the process of confirming an International speaker from Western Illinois University on the topic of Dysphagia and Dementia for the SLP Keynote.

All short sessions are confirmed, and include a variety of topics as a lovely complement to our full-day sessions. Florence Strang, Registered Psychologist, will be doing a session on Mindfulness. Read more here: <https://www.florencestrang.com/>. This is one you won't want to miss! There will also be sessions from Kim Furlong of the NL Balance and Dizziness Centre, MEDEL, CNIB, Janeway Social Work, and Greg O'Grady, providing a patient perspective on stuttering therapy. In addition, many of our fine members will be presenting on areas of interest, based on your feedback including AAC, Dual Language Learners, and Retrocochlear Disorders.

Social events include Yoga, Cocktail Hour, Trivia and a special "networking" event on Thursday evening that is sure to deliver on laughter and team-building. More details coming soon! An exciting addition this year is the Manufacturer Forum, taking place on Thursday over lunch, with lunch included. This will be a great way to interact with colleagues, manufactures and exhibitors, who continue to support our conference year after year.

This year, we pursued a tiered sponsorship program and this has been well received by manufacturers. Sponsorship to date being the highest by far compared to recent years. We continue to plan the conference on a break-even and are hopeful based on donations to date that this will be possible.

We are looking to finalize a theme and a community tie-in in the coming months. We hope to have our promotional materials out in early June. Stay tuned!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers. It has been especially helpful to have so many Audiology members on the committee as part of the planning process.

Any questions and feedback may be submitted to [ashley.rossiter@easternhealth.ca](mailto:ashley.rossiter@easternhealth.ca) or [katie.gale@easternhealth.ca](mailto:katie.gale@easternhealth.ca). We look forward to seeing you all at the conference!