

Hello ISAAC Canada members,

As fall is approaching, I believe many of you are engaged in the new school year start up whether as a parent of a child who uses AAC or a practitioner supporting students who use AAC.

As an adult who uses AAC the fall may not be as much of a start to a new year as for those involved with children, but still the fall always seems to be a time of transition, so I hope all of you are enjoying the changes that fall brings including the beautiful fall colours.



## ISAAC Canada General Meeting - CANCUN

The meeting in Cancun was a great success! We had people in attendance both physically and virtually which worked out very well.

We ratified the **new Terms of Reference** with a couple of important changes as suggested by the membership

- There will NO LONGER be a Past President position on the Executive but rather a **President Elect!** Please be aware we are seeking people interested in this important position so please reach out to us if you are interested or want to know more about what will be involved. You can please email me at [kateconsulting@icloud.com](mailto:kateconsulting@icloud.com) or contact us at [admin@isaac-canada.org](mailto:admin@isaac-canada.org)
- There was a desire to add a person who uses AAC as a Co-President. While this was agreed to at the meeting the Executive has modified that (for now at least) such that there will be a **VP Who Uses AAC** position that will work with the President with the goal of ensuring the voices of people who use AAC are brought forth within ISAAC Canada!
- There was a request for the Executive to explore the idea that people who use AAC (PWUAAC) would receive free memberships to ISAAC Canada. On September 11, 2023 the Executive voted to **give persons who use AAC their first-year membership at no charge (free)**. It is important to note PWUAAC memberships are provided at a reduced rate.

## October is AAC Awareness Month



October is AAC Awareness month, and this year the theme is "Say What?" – *Sharing your most memorable moments with AAC.*

We are delighted to share that Chelsea Hagen will be taking on the Chairperson position for ISAAC Canada's AAC Awareness Month Committee. I am sure Chelsea will have something great in mind to celebrate AAC Awareness. Please reach out to me at [kateconsulting@icloud.com](mailto:kateconsulting@icloud.com) or better yet to Chelsea directly at [chelseaehagen@gmail.com](mailto:chelseaehagen@gmail.com)



We will once again be hosting **webinars** focusing on Canadian content and Canadian perspectives on and about AAC.

The first webinar will be happening in October (as part of AAC Awareness Month) to reflect on the ISAAC Cancun Conference.

The date and time of this webinar will be announced soon both by email to all of you and on our ISAAC Canada Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/ISAAC.Canadianchapter>).

If you were there, please plan to attend this webinar and *share your learning and experiences* during our wonderful week in Cancun!

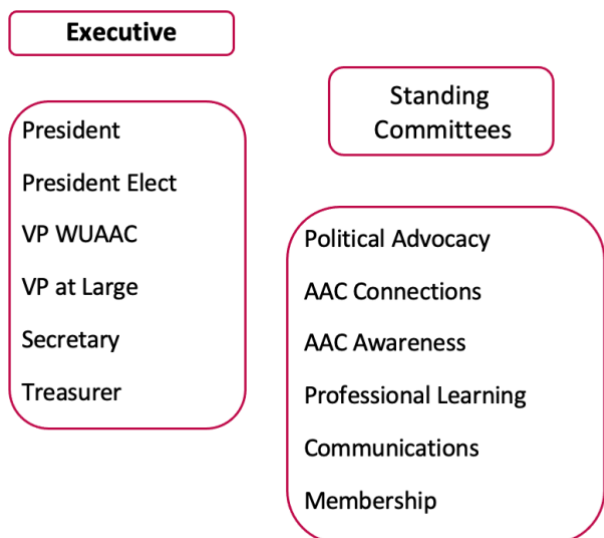
If you weren't there this is a time to learn from those of us who were, and to tell us what you would like to hear more about during our ISAAC Canada Webinars this year!



### ISAAC Councils seeking Members in 2024!

In the past the Executive Council membership has been held by one of the regions (mainly rotating back and forth between Region 1 (BC/Yukon) and Region 3 (Ontario/Nunavut). The current Executive Council is from Region 2 which has been a great opportunity for us in the middle of the country to take the reins for a time.

Our new Terms of Reference now allows us to reach across the entire country for membership in our upcoming Executive Council Term (January 2024 to December 2027). That being said we are excitedly seeking people for the following positions:



I will be staying on as **President** for at least the first two years of this new term to support the transition to the new Terms of Reference.

I hope to help the **President Elect** work into the role of President – so please consider working with me and taking on this important role!

The two **Vice President positions** are also up for grabs! I am particularly keen to hear from anyone who wishes to become our new VPWUAAC, and someone who is keen to be on the Executive without any specific role but who would like to support ISAAC Canada, the VP at Large.

Finally, the two important roles of **Secretary** who keeps the minutes and the **Treasurer** who works with ISAAC International to keep accounts of our financials.

And then the **committees**.

Please reach out if you are interested in any of these committees. You need not take on a chairperson role but we will need committee members if the committees can function. If we do not have people on the committees, then the committee will go into hiatus until we have people to support the work. I am hoping to hear from many of you who are interested!

Please reach out to me at [kateconsulting@icloud.com](mailto:kateconsulting@icloud.com) or to [admin@isaac-canada.org](mailto:admin@isaac-canada.org), and we will make sure to get back to you with more information on any of the things I have shared and particularly if you are interested in joining the next Executive and/or committee work.

ISAAC Canada exists to bring together people who use AAC across Canada and their family, friends, and supporting professionals. We are so glad to have you all a part of ISAAC Canada to bring to life its mission of promoting the best possible communication for people who require and use Augmentative and Alternative Communication in their daily lives.

**Kathy Howery, PhD.**  
**President**  
**ISAAC Canada**

