



# making connections.

**9th CASS International Conference  
July 23rd – 26th, 2008  
Hilton Whistler Resort and Spa  
Whistler, British Columbia, Canada**



# WELCOME

## Welcome to Whistler everyone,

It is with great pleasure that I take this moment, on behalf of the Canadian Angelman Syndrome Society board, to welcome our angels, parents, caregivers, and healthcare professionals to our Ninth International Angelman Syndrome Conference.

We believe our selected theme this year, Making Connections, is an essential and valuable means of enriching the lives of our angels, families and those connected to Angelman Syndrome. We all strive to create the best quality of life possible for our children and by making connections with each other we are better able to share experiences and learn new and creative ways to ensure this happens.

We hope that you will find the information provided by each of our seminars to be inspiring and useful in daily life. Just as importantly, we also hope that you will take the opportunity to find time to make connections with many new and old friends and sharing your valuable stories and ideas.

Once again, welcome to our CASS Conference – enjoy!

Warm Regards,

*Rob Bromley*

*President*

*Canadian Angelman Syndrome Society*

## Welcome!

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to the beautiful Hilton Spa and Resort in spectacular Whistler, B.C. for our 2008 Canadian Angelman Syndrome Society's Ninth International Conference.

The theme of our conference, "Making Connections," has a personal meaning to me, as I believe that attending a conference is a great way for all of us to share, formally and informally, the knowledge and information that is unique to the lives of our Angels.

We have all worked very hard to make this a memorable and educational time. We hope that you will enjoy this year's great line-up of speakers and topics, activities and events. I hope, as well, that you will take advantage of the many amenities offered in Whistler Village and take some time to relax in it's natural beauty.

Looking forward to seeing you all at C.A.S.S. Whistler 2008!

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Kennedy*

*2008 Conference Chair*



## INVITATION

### **An Invitation to the 2006 CASS International Conference, and the Hilton Whistler Resort and Spa**

The Conference; this year's conference theme is entitled "Making Connections". This is our special opportunity to renew old friendships, meet new friends, and benefit from the presentations of a truly remarkable slate of speakers chosen carefully by the Directors of CASS for their expertise, experience, and insight. This will all happen at a great family-friendly relaxation-oriented venue – the Hilton Whistler Resort and Spa, situated in the heart of spectacular Whistler, British Columbia

Yes, there will be information sessions for all parents and others who are touched one way or another by AS. Yes, there will be opportunities to share experiences, tips and lessons with each other. And yes, the scientists, doctors, specialists and other experts will also be on hand to provide the latest information and news that will make life just more open to all.

But, as many of you know, our recent Conference experiences have shown us that a successful conference formula includes the split-day experience that gives everybody in attendance the opportunities to learn, yet also have fun and relax. Once again at this Conference, speakers' sessions will end for the most part, around 1:00 pm. After that – you and your families will have the afternoons open to socialize with other AS families. We AS parents learn a GREAT deal from each other and THAT'S important too. And WHAT a place to meet friends, make new friends and relax! We are confident that our days will not only be informative – they will be golden opportunities for fun and relaxation.

The Location; the Hilton Whistler Resort and Spa is located in the heart of spectacular Whistler, British Columbia; easily within a short 2-hour drive of one of the greatest cities in the world; Vancouver. Just a 4-hour drive from Seattle, Washington in the Pacific Northwest of the United States, for millions of our American friends and neighbours. The hotel is just far enough off one of the greatest scenic highways, B.C.'s Sea-to-Sky. Highway, newly renovated to host the crowds visiting Whistler for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. Whistler is already known around the world as a great vacation destination for all seasons.

There are tremendous direct air services into either Vancouver International Airport or Sea-Tac Airport in Seattle from all over Canada, the United States and around the world. Direct Shuttle bus service can be arranged from either Airport. Watch for the link for that service to be included on the CASS website in the future.

At Whistler, guests are just steps from Blackcomb Mountain, and in the heart of the Village. There are nearby many outdoor activities include nature and bicycle trails, and lots of golf courses. On-site, the Hilton Whistler has a fully equipped gym, fitness centre, children's centre and pool. And we cannot forget that Spa for your special treatment.

Yes, the Hilton Whistler Resort and Spa is truly a great place to use as base to unwind after a morning of informative sessions. And why not? We deserve it.

For more information about the Hilton Whistler Resort and Spa, please check their web site at [www.hiltonwhistler.com](http://www.hiltonwhistler.com).

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org

## PROGRAMME CASS CONFERENCE 2008

DAY	TIME	SESSION	EVENT/SESSION	TITLE	PRESENTER
<i>WEDNESDAY, July 23</i>					
	11:00 AM - 5:30 PM		REGISTRATION		
	2:00 - 5:00 PM		WELCOMING EVENT/KID'S ZONE		
	1:00 to 2:00 PM		CASS AGM		
	2:00 to 3:00 PM	Session 1	FIRST TIMER SESSION	A Special Session for the First-time Conference Attendees	Kathy Bromley
	3:15 to 4:15 PM	Session 2	PLENARY SESSION	Genetics 101 and Update on Angelman Syndrome	Dr. Wendy Robinson
	5:00 to 5:45 PM	Session 3	INSPIRATIONAL	The Joy of Stress	Ted Kuntz
	6:00 - 6:15 PM		WELCOMING REMARKS		Elizabeth Kennedy and Rob Bromley
	6:15 - 8:30 PM		MEET AND GREET BUFFET		
<i>THURSDAY, July 24</i>					
	7:00 - 8:30 AM		BREAKFAST		
	8:15 AM - 4:45 PM		REGISTRATION/INFO DESK		
	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM		KID'S ACTIVITIES CAMP		
	9:00 - 9:10 AM		DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS		
	9:10 - 10:30 AM	Session 4	PLENARY SESSION	Health Issues and Controversies in Angelman Syndrome	Dr. Charles Williams
	10:30 - 10:45 AM		COFFEE BREAK		
	10:50 - 11:40 AM	Session 5	CONCURRENT SESSION	Seizures in Angelman Syndrome	Dr. Mary Connolly
	10:50 - 11:40 AM	Session 6	CONCURRENT SESSION	What Does Assessment for Learning Look Like in an IEP	Dennis Tetreau
	11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Session 7	CONCURRENT SESSION	Sleep Difficulties in Angelman Syndrome	Dr. Jim Jan
	11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Session 8	CONCURRENT SESSION	Social Roles – You've Gotta Have Friends	Dan Collins
	12:30 - 1:20 PM		OPEN LUNCH		
	1:20 - 2:40 PM	Session 9	PLENARY SESSION	Potential Therapeutic Strategies for the Treatment of Seizure and Cognitive Dysfunction Associated with Angelman Syndrome	Dr. Edwin Weeber
	2:45 - 4:30 PM	Session 10	PLENARY SESSION	Ask the Doctors	Drs. C. Williams, W. Robinson, E. Weeber, S. Ernst, J. Jan and M. Connolly
	5:00 - 6:00 PM	Session 11	PARENT TO PARENT		

DAY	TIME	SESSION	EVENT/SESSION	TITLE	PRESENTER
<i>FRIDAY, July 25</i>					
	7:00 - 8:30 AM		BREAKFAST		
	8:15 AM - 1:00 PM		REGISTRATION/INFO DESK		
	8:30 AM - 12:30 PM		KID'S PROGRAMME		
	9:00 - 9:10 AM		DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS		
	9:10 - 10:30 AM	Session 12	PLENARY SESSION	It's a Good Life	Al Etmanski and Vicki Cammack
	10:30 - 10:45 AM		COFFEE BREAK		
	10:50 - 11:40 AM	Session 13	CONCURRENT SESSION	Physiotherapy for Angelman Syndrome	Cathy Dixon
	10:50 - 11:40 AM	Session 14	CONCURRENT SESSION	Gynecological Care of Women and Adolescents With Developmental Disabilities	Dr. Susan Ernst
	11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Session 15	CONCURRENT SESSION	Helping Overcome Perceptions of Epilepsy (HOPE)	Laura Yake
	11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Session 16	CONCURRENT SESSION	Adult Day Programmes – What to do When my Child Leaves High School?	Debra Dobrez
	12:30 - 1:30 PM	Session 17	PLENARY SESSION	Iyengar Yoga	Eileen Millar
	1:30 - 4:30 PM		FREE TIME		
	4:30 - 5:30 PM	Session 18	SESSION	Music Therapy	TBD
	5:30 - 9:00 PM		FAMILY PICNIC EVENT		

*SATURDAY, July 26*

	7:00 - 8:30 AM		BREAKFAST		
	8:15 AM - 12:00 NOON		REGISTRATION/INFO DESK		
	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM		KID'S ACTIVITIES CAMP		
	9:00 - 9:10 AM		DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS		
	9:10 - 10:30 AM	Session 19	PLENARY SESSION	Best Practices in Providing Augmentative and Alternative Communication Services to Students With Angelman Syndrome	Dr. Stephen Calculator
	10:05 - 10:55 AM	Session 20	CONCURRENT SESSION	The Role of Person Centered Planning in the Creation of Unique Residential Options	Brian Salisbury and Jacinta Eni
	10:55 - 11:10 AM		COFFEE BREAK		
	11:15 AM - 12:00 PM	Session 21	PLENARY SESSION	Assistive Technologies	Dr. Nigel Livingston
	12:05 - 1:15 PM	Session 22	PLENARY SESSION	Ask the Experts	Tetreau, Dr. Livingston, Dobrez, Dr. Calculator, Salisbury and Eni

## SPEAKERS

**Kathy Bromley** and her husband Rob have two children, Michael age 19 and Shannon (AS) age 14. Kathy is a teacher of the deaf and has been working with the Langley School district for the past 22 years.

As a parent, Kathy has been an advocate for both of her children throughout their preschool and school years. Shannon has been involved in horseback riding, Girl Guides, birthday parties, swimming, bike riding, and all the things that keep kids, kids. Kathy has not only been very involved with educating the staff involved with her daughter but also in educating the children who are part of the school community, through the use of a DVD and pamphlet. In addition to the recreational and educational involvement, Kathy has also worked closely with Shannon's many specialists to ensure her continued development.

Kathy's first conference was in Kelowna, one of the first special events hosted by CASS, when Shannon was still a baby. Since then she has attended other conferences hosted by CASS and the ASF and helped to host the children's programming at the conference held in Vancouver in 2000.

**Dr. Wendy Robinson** earned a PhD in Genetics at the University of California at Berkeley in 1989. Her thesis work was on Disease Associations and Evolution of the Human HLA Region. From 1989 to 1994, Dr. Robinson worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Zurich in Switzerland under the supervision of Professor Albert Schinzel. She had the opportunity to study the genetic basis of Prader-Willi syndrome and Angelman syndrome during this time and this led to her current research interest in human chromosomal disorders. In 1994, Dr. Robinson was recruited to a position as an Assistant Professor in the University of British Columbia Department of Medical Genetics and has subsequently been promoted to Full Professor. She is also the chair of the "Reproduction and Healthy Pregnancy" research program at the Child & Family Research Institute in Vancouver. Her research is currently focused on genetic and epigenetic aspects of reproduction.

**Ted Kuntz** is a psychotherapist in private practice in Vancouver. Yet the wisdom Ted shares in his presentation doesn't come from his formal training. Rather, it is the result of his journey as the father of a severely disabled child. This deeply personal story is an inspiration for all of us who want to reduce our pain and distress and increase our peace and joy. Ted's passion is to create a peaceful world where we all belong.

**Charles A. Williams, M.D.** is a Professor of Pediatrics and Genetics, Department of Pediatrics, University of Florida, Gainesville. He is a board-certified pediatrician and clinical geneticist and has a special interest in neurogenetic syndromes and related conditions. The main focus of his research career has been the study of Angelman syndrome. He has published many papers on the genetic and medical aspects of Angelman syndrome and he currently has an active clinical practice involving the follow-up of children and adults with Angelman syndrome. In 1987, he was instrumental in founding the U.S. Angelman Research Group, in Florida, and this entity subsequently evolved into the U.S. Angelman Syndrome Foundation.

**Dr. Mary Connolly**, is the Division Head and a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neurology, at British Columbia Children's Hospital. As a pediatric neurologist with specific expertise in epilepsy and EEG, she is involved in clinical and research aspects of epilepsy in children. Dr. Connolly also leads a team involved in pioneering work in the treatment of epilepsy by brain surgery.

Dr. Connolly graduated from Medical School at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland in June 1981 and was a fellow in Neurophysiology at Children's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts from 1993 – 1994 and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in Neurology in 1992.

**Dennis Tetreau** is the father of Kyle, who has Angelman syndrome and is now 25. Dennis has been an elementary school principal for 25 years. Dennis earned his B.P.E. and obtained teacher training at the University of British Columbia before going on to receive his M.Ed. from the University of Western Washington. He is a member of many committees dealing with special needs children in the school system. He continues many years of working with AS

families throughout Canada on educational issues. Dennis has served as a guest speaker to educational staff on the stages parents go through as their child enters and goes through the school system and on the IEP process. He has authored a pamphlet for parents on the IEP process. Dennis has also written articles for the CASS Newsletter and has had articles published in the Journal of Exceptional Children and in the School Administrator.

**Dr. James E. Jan** received his M.D. in 1963 from the University of Alberta in Edmonton. He continued his medical and scientific training with a wide variety of fellowships and postings in Paediatric Neurology, Epileptology, Neurophysiology, and received Certification in Electroencephalography. A Child Neurologist, he worked until his retirement in 2001 with children who had various disabilities and has held the positions of Medical Director, Consultant, Professor, Chairman of Professional Advisory Committee, as well as serving as program, professional journal, and foundation reviewer. Dr. Jan is also a researcher and his current title is Senior Research Scientist Emeritus. He has done much research in sleep disorders, particularly with respect to treatment with melatonin. Dr. Jan's distinguished career includes nominations and receipt of many awards and honours, the publication of 7 books, 206 major publications, a wide variety of television and video productions, and 114 presentations. He is still active at Children's Hospital, where he teaches, works in the Neurophysiology Unit, and is involved in several important research projects.

**Daniel Collins** has been active in the field of community living for over thirty years. He is currently the Executive Director of the Langley Association for Community Living in Langley, British Columbia and has held this position for 17 years. Dan has an undergraduate degree in Science and a Masters in Organizational Development. Dan is also an instructor at Kwantlen University College, where he teaches in the faculty of Community and Health Studies. Dan is the founder and chair of the Langley Social Planning Society, an organization that works to promote full inclusion for all citizens. Dan and his wife have three children, the eldest of whom has autism.

**Dr. Edwin Weeber** received his doctorate in Neuroscience from the University of New Mexico in 1998. He became interested in Angelman syndrome as a Post Doctoral Fellow while at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, where he earned the rank of Assistant Professor in 2002. In 2003, he moved to Vanderbilt University to start his own laboratory in the Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, where he continued his research in understanding the molecular mechanisms underlying AS. In 2007, he moved to the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida, and currently holds the title of Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology. His research interests also include the cognitive disruption underlying neurodegenerative and neuropsychiatric disorders, such as Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia.

#### **Vickie Cammack and Al Etmanski**

Vickie Cammack is a co-founder of Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN), a pioneer social enterprise supporting families as they plan for the safety and well being of their family member with a disability. She created PLAN's Personal Network program and is the co-author of "Safe and Secure – Six Steps to Creating a Personal Future Plan for People with Disabilities".

She currently mentors the spread of grass roots PLAN groups in 40 locations globally. Vickie is a founder and active member of the steering committee for Philia – an international dialogue on caring citizenship and welcoming communities. Vickie also co-chairs a national symposium on applied dissemination. For the past 2 years, she has co-lead a Canadian exploration on sustainability and social innovation with the J.W. McConnell Foundation. Vickie is also the founding director of the Family Support Institute and has taught and designed curriculum for colleges and universities.

Vickie is a recipient of the Community Living Institute's Leadership Award, the Simon Fraser University President's Club Distinguished Community Leadership Award, and the Meritorious Service Medal of Canada. Vickie's former faculty colleagues at Douglas College established in her name an annual student leadership award. She continues her work through writing, consulting, and lecturing on social networks, organizational transformation, and scaling social innovation. Al Etmanski has been a leading advocate for people with disabilities and their families in Canada for more

## SPEAKERS

than two decades. He was for eight years the Executive Director of the B.C. Association for the Mentally Retarded (now the B.C. Association for Community Living) before joining with Jack Collins and Vickie Cammack to found the Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN). Al is an author, advocacy consultant, and social inventor who specializes in finding innovative non-governmental solutions to social problems. He is the author of “A Good Life – for You and Your Relative with a Disability” and “Safe and Secure – Six Steps to Creating a Personal Future Plan for People with Disabilities”.

Al was one of the first two Canadians to receive a Fellowship from Ashoka, an international organization which searches the world for social entrepreneurs with innovative ideas. He is also the recipient of numerous awards, including the Civic Merit Award by the City of Vancouver, the Simon Fraser University President's Club Distinguished Community Leadership Award, and the Governor General's Meritorious Service Medal. In recent years, Al has become known for his expertise in fostering social enterprise within the civic sector. He is also a parent of five children, one of whom has a disability.

### **Cathy Dixon BScPT (Physical Therapist)**

Cathy graduated from the University of Alberta in 1994 with a degree in Physical Therapy. She has worked for the last 10 years with children having a large variety of disabilities (including Angelman syndrome and Autism). Over the years, she has provided consultation and therapy services to children and their families as well as supporting children in various learning environments (be it inclusive classrooms or separate programming).

**Susan Ernst, MD**, is an honours graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School and residency program in Obstetrics and Gynecology. After a brief time in private practice, Dr. Ernst returned to the University of Michigan where she is now the Chief of Gynecology services at the University Health Service and is an adjunct instructor in the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Since 2003, Dr. Ernst has functioned as the Director of the gynecology clinic for women with developmental disabilities. Along with her clinical and research interest on this topic, Dr. Ernst has a personal interest in this field. She is the parent of an 11 year old, Hannah, who is deletion positive for Angelman syndrome.

**Laura Yake** is the Executive Director of the Center for Epilepsy and Seizure Education in British Columbia. Her initial involvement began when her daughter developed seizures and Laura was unable to find information through school and community supports on the effects of epilepsy on learning and behaviour in children. In 1998, Laura and Dr. Lionel Traverse (Medical Director of the Fraser Valley Child Development Center, Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at UBC) co-founded the Fraser Valley Epilepsy Society. The Society is now known as the Center for Epilepsy and Seizure Education in B.C. The epilepsy education programs Laura has led the society to develop over the past 10 years have been adopted provincially, nationally, and internationally.

Laura is also the Communications Director with the Canadian Epilepsy Alliance (CEA). Nationally, she works with more than 25 organizations across Canada in the CEA to establish best educational practices for epilepsy education programs. An active member of her community, Laura brings her unique insights on epilepsy to share with our attendees.

**Debra M. Dobrez** is Executive Director and Founder of Wishing Well nfp, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing quality continuing education opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. She has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Iowa and over 25 years experience working with individuals with developmental disabilities. Debra has served as a member of the Board of Directors for several local organizations and is a current member of The ARC of Illinois. She has spent the past four years developing and implementing the Day Training Program, Horticultural Therapy Program and Drop-In Center at Wishing Well nfp. She has appeared on Fox News and Channel 2 News Chicago to discuss Wishing Well nfp and the difficulties their organization is facing because of lack of government support in the State of Illinois. Debra enjoys sharing information with parents of individuals with special needs and hopes her program will help enrich the lives of many individuals in the years to come. She is the proud mother of Megan, her

27 year old daughter diagnosed with Angelman syndrome, Adam, her 20 year old son, and Nathan, her 18 year old son. She resides in Manhattan, Illinois with her husband Rick and children, and spends a great deal of time at the Wishing Well Day Training Program facility in Frankfort, Illinois.

**Stephen Calculator** is a Professor and Chair in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and an Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics at Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, NH. He earned his doctorate in Communicative Disorders from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1980. Stephen has published and lectured extensively in the areas of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and inclusive education for students with severe and profound disabilities, drawing upon his ongoing experiences as a consultant to numerous schools and other agencies in the USA and beyond. His greatest contributions have been devoted to enhancing our understanding of the role communication and assistive technology can play in fostering the participation of individuals with severe disabilities in their communities. To this end, Stephen continues to collaborate with school districts and other agencies in developing programs and fostering systems change efforts to accommodate the needs of children with severe disabilities. Dr. Calculator's most recent clinical and research efforts have involved exploring methods of enhancing communication and participation skills of children with Angelman Syndrome in their homes and at school.

**Eileen Millar** has been teaching Iyengar yoga since 1996. Eileen began practicing Iyengar Yoga in 1992 as a means to find relief from pain after a serious accident. Amazed at how effectively Iyengar yoga helped her regain her strength and mobility, she then completed a three-year teacher training program at Yoga Centre Toronto. She has studied at the Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute in Pune, India, and continues to take workshops with senior Iyengar teachers. Eileen currently lives and works in Abbotsford, BC, where she owns and runs the Studio for Yoga & Wellness. She is known by her students as a gifted and sensitive teacher whose warmth and humour create a wonderful learning atmosphere. She is attentive to the individual needs of students and adapts her teaching to meet those needs. Eileen is a certified holistic practitioner, specializing in aromatherapy, massage, and reflexology.

#### **Brian Salisbury and Jacinta Eni**

Brian Salisbury has been the Director of Strategic Planning for Community Living British Columbia [CLBC] since 2005. He has been a faculty member in the Community Support Worker Program at Kwantlen University College and has consulted extensively in Canada, the USA, Australia, and the United Kingdom on various disability policy issues, including individualized funding and independent planning support. From 2001 – 2004, Brian was involved in the planning and development work that led to the creation of CLBC, the Crown Agency responsible for the delivery of supports and services for adults with developmental disabilities and children and youth with special needs and their families.

Jacinta Eni is currently the Project Director of Quality Services Initiatives for Community Living British Columbia [CLBC]. Since September 2006, she has directed the Residential Options Project, an initiative to offer alternative choices to individuals currently living in group homes in BC. Jacinta's previous experience includes a rich history of work in community living, most recently as Executive Director of two successive agencies. Her interests include developing highly individualized options with families and creating personal support networks. Jacinta was formerly an instructor with the Justice Institute of BC.

**Dr. Nigel Livingston** is the founder and currently the Director of CanAssist (formerly UVATT) at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Victoria. He is also the father of a special needs child (originally diagnosed as having Angelman syndrome) and has served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Angelman Syndrome Society. CanAssist is a university based programme dedicated to developing technology, devices, and services which improve the quality of life of those with disabilities. CanAssist engages community volunteers as well as students, faculty, and staff from virtually every discipline on the UVic campus. To date, it has developed over 75 new technologies specifically designed to address the specific needs of users. Over 1,700 students and more than 200 staff and faculty members have been involved in the programme.

# CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

We have tried to combine a wide variety of activities during the 4 days of the conference. Below is a brief description of the items on the different days. A more complete description will be found in the conference programme picked up with your registration package.

## **Wednesday Welcome**

The first chance for everyone to see each other whether again or for the first time. Register and pick up the Conference Packages, be entertained have some fun, hear some speeches. It promises to be a full afternoon and a successful way to lead into the first sessions and opening night reception. Even the Hotel will be on hand to give tours so that you don't get lost over the next few days.

## **Morning Sessions**

Except for a full Thursday, all of the sessions run between 8:45 am and 1:00 pm, so that the rest of the day can be spent meeting other AS families, relaxing, and having fun. Some of the sessions have been designed to fit into 2 streams concurrently, so you may have to make a choice or two. One more for the newly diagnosed or first-time conference attendee, while the second set of sessions will be presented to the more experienced attendee. Then there are sessions that are for everyone, the so-called plenary sessions.

## **Children's Programme**

The programme has been designed so that all the children and their caregivers will have fun of their own while parents and friends are attending presentations by our exciting slate of speakers. The programme has been broken down by age; one for young children 6 – 12, another for 13 – 17 year-olds, and a third for angels of all ages and their caregivers.

The term 'caregiver' refers to a conference attendee who must be at least 18 years, will NOT be attending any conference sessions except those that specifically include 'angels' and their caregivers. Due to liability considerations, a family must provide a caregiver responsible for their angel during all Conference-related sessions, events, on-site and off-site activities, and must sign a waiver form stating their understanding of the 'caregiver' term, and releasing CASS from all potential liability.

The programmes, including snacks and off-site transportation and activities are included in the children's registration prices.

## **Evening Activities**

Each night brings something special. The first night is our welcoming reception, while Friday brings together everyone for our best-looked-forward-to Family Barbecue/Pik-Nik. In between, the Thursday night allows some free time and choice for you, with the CASS Information Desk having information on a wide variety of things to do and see, and places to go in Whistler.

## GENERAL INFO

### **How to Get to the 2008 CASS Conference**

By Road – From Vancouver, take the Sea-To-Sky Highway. To get to Vancouver from the United States, take I-5 North from Seattle 1 hour to the Peace Arch border crossing, then 1 hour more to Vancouver.

By Air (and renting a car) – most major North American Airlines have direct service into Vancouver International Airport. It is approximately a 2 hour drive from Vancouver International Airport to Whistler. An excellent shuttle bus service can be arranged in advance at (insert link)

### **What to Bring**

Dress for the Conference is summer casual. Bring plenty of pool clothing – you'll be glad you did. A sweater or jacket should be plenty for the summer evenings.

### **The CASS Conference Centre**

Located at the Cass Conference desk in a central location in the Hotel lobby, the Centre will be available during most Conference hours to provide information, message service, limited secretarial services and more. It will also be the location to purchase CASS memorabilia. The staff at the Desk will also do their best to arrange other things for you such as day outings, and help you to find information about post Conference travels and sightseeing.

### **Whistler and British Columbia Tourism**

For more information on activities in and around the hotel, Whistler or British Columbia, visit their links on the CASS website [www.angelmancanada.org](http://www.angelmancanada.org). The special Conference Room rate at the Hilton Whistler Hotel and Spa is available for 3 days prior to and following the Conference. Please take advantage of it and make this year's Conference part of a truly memorable Conference

# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Primary Adult Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Second and Additional Adult Names (attending sessions): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Caregiver Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The term 'caregiver' refers to a conference attendee who must be at least 18 years old and will **not** be attending any conference sessions except those that specifically include children or AS individuals and their caregivers. If two adults will be taking turns attending sessions (i.e. the first day one will attend sessions while the other goes on the children's activity, then they switch on the second day) then one person should register as a full conference attendee and the second should register as a caregiver. Note: This is acceptable as long as both adults do not attend sessions on the same day. **Each individual attending the conference will be required to sign a waiver.**

Children's Names (Angel first please): \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City/Province (State): \_\_\_\_\_ Postal (Zip) Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel (Home): \_\_\_\_\_ Tel (Work): \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

	No.	Prior May 1	TOTAL AMOUNTS
First Adult @	x	\$ 250 CAN	
Extra Adults @	x	\$ 150 CAN	
No. of Angels / Children / Caregivers @	x	\$ 150 CAN	
Single Day Conference Passes (includes sessions) @	x	\$ 75 CAN	
Single Day Conference Passes @	x	\$ 40 CAN	

## GRAND TOTAL

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\*Please note that to take advantage of these registration rates, your registration must be received no later than May 1, 2008. After this date, higher rates will apply. Check with CASS Conference Office for those higher rates. All prices include applicable taxes, specified meals and daily sessions and activities.

## Method of Payment

*Cheques/Money Orders* Make all cheques or money orders in either Canadian or U.S. funds (to be converted at current exchange rates), payable for full amount to CASS.

*Credit Cards* Due to Canadian banking laws it has become impossible for CASS to accept credit card payment for Conference Registration for CASS 2008. CASS will gladly accept either Canadian or U.S. cheques or money orders for Conference Registration.

Credit card numbers must be provided to CASS to guarantee Hotel Registrations. No advance payments will be applied to your credit card by either CASS or the Hilton Whistler Resort and Spa. We regret the inconvenience this may cause.

# HOTEL REGISTRATION

The Hilton Whistler Resort and Spa has extended a special pre and post-conference room rate for three nights before and after the conference. If you plan to turn the conference into some vacation time, please take advantage of this special offer at the height of the busy B.C. tourism season. This is an especially good value for our American guests. The special pre and post-conference room rate does **not** include meals, and is for accommodation only. All rates are in Canadian funds.

Pre and Post-Conference Rate: \$129.00 per room, per night

Conference Rates are for 3 days before and after July 23 – 26, 2008

Hilton Room (2 double beds): \$129.00 (up to 3 adults, 1 child or 2 adults, 2 children)

Hilton 1 Bedroom Suite\*: \$159.00 (2 queen size beds) \*if available

For other suites, including family suites, please check with the Hilton Resort and Spa through their link at [www.hiltonwhistler.com](http://www.hiltonwhistler.com)

**Hotel Reservations for the Conference must be made by June 23, 2008.**

Name to be used for hotel reservation: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Nights: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Smoking / Smoking \_\_\_\_\_

2 x Double Beds / 1 x Queen Bed \_\_\_\_\_

Special requests for hotel rooms or other needs such as meals: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check-in at 4:00 p.m./check-out at noon. A credit card number must be provided to make the hotel reservation.

**Credit Card Information:**

MasterCard       Visa       American Express

Credit Card No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

*The use of this credit card number is for hotel room reservations only. No charge will be made to your card by CASS for Conference charges, or by the hotel in advance of the Conference.*

Please mail your completed registration form with payment to the following:

**By Fax**

(514) 636-1142

**By Mail**

CASS International Conference  
#66, 920 Place Sims  
Dorval QC  
Canada H9S 2A1

**Conference Information:**

Phone: (514) 636-4603

Email: [charles@angelmancanada.org](mailto:charles@angelmancanada.org)