



## **Dyslexia BC 2022, Year in Review**

**January 17, 2023**

Happy New Year! *Dyslexia BC* is on the road to success. We are always trying to look ahead! There will be a lot to look forward to in 2023!

On December 7, 2022 the *Honourable Premier David Eby* released the Education Mandate which included “dyslexia initiatives”. We have followed up with several letters to find out exactly what the initiatives are! We are still hoping for legislation so that dyslexia screening, teacher training, structured literacy and access to technology and resources (such as diagnosis) is rolled out equitably across the province!

Have a look at the December 7th Education Mandate here!

[December 7, 2022 Honourable Rachna Singh Minister of Education and Child Care Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Dear Min](#)

Over the last few months Dyslexia BC has been involved with the BC Disability Collaborative on CYSN to ensure that Autism keeps its direct funding. We are also collaborating with the government to work toward a way of including screening and resources for learning disabilities (LD) like dyslexia within the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) . In regards to the Hubs that MCFD has proposed; after having meetings with staff in the Honourable Minister Dean’s office, they do not appear to include LD. At least the families/children who have a dual diagnosis of autism and LD can still use their funding to pay for services relating to LD (even though that’s not what the autism funding is intended for).

Last October we had a great Dyslexia Awareness Month! We had lots of great submissions from parents, students, library’s and teachers! Feel free to forward the resulting video to ensure we spread Dyslexia Awareness all year long!

**Youtube Video Link-**  [Dyslexia Awareness Month in BC, 2022](#)

We will be requesting a proclamation soon for the BC government to recognize October as Dyslexia Awareness Month in BC. Several UN countries and the International Dyslexia

Council have made October officially “International Dyslexia Awareness Month”. In 2022, Internationally they have also decided to have October 8 officially International Dyslexia Day and the week of October 7 to October 14th the “official” International Dyslexia Awareness Week!

In June we had a great presentation to the BC Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services. The follow up to this meeting may have led to the announcement of “dyslexia initiatives” in the Education Mandate release on December 7, 2022.

Here is the Youtube Video of an audio recording of the presentation -

 [Dyslexia BC Presentation to the BC Select Standing Committee on Finance and Governm...](#)

If you would like to help with organizing Dyslexia Awareness Month 2023 (in BC), please email us at: [DyslexiaBC.cm@gmail.com](mailto:DyslexiaBC.cm@gmail.com).

### **Upcoming Events**

January 24th, 2023 - 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm (On-line)

- *Defining and Treating Dyslexia with Dr. Steve Truch from the Reading Foundation*

Register for the on-line Event here: (will be recorded):

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/defining-treating-dyslexia-with-dr-steve-truch-tickets-504323433967?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

January 28th, 2023 - 10:00 am - 1:00 pm (Williams Lake)

Dyslexia BC will have a booth  
@ Family Fest  
Gibraltar Room, 525 Proctor St.

February 8th, 2023 - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm (On-Line)

- *Applying for the Disability Tax Credit with Dyslexia or any other Learning Disability*

Hosted by Dyslexia BC, featuring T.J. Firenze (DTC Advocate; Firenze Financial Services Inc.

Register for the on-line Event here: (will be recorded):

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/applying-for-the-disability-tax-credit-with-dyslexia-learning-disability-tickets-515921143027?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

## ***Housekeeping***

Our “on-line presence” over the next few months is being updated with the help of some students at Seneca College. We will formalize our email list through this process!

If you would like to be on our email list for now, please sign up through our website! Look for the Red “Dyslexia” Super Power Capes..you will see “Join our Mailing List”!

<https://dyslexiabc.ca/>

**BC Dyslexia Story**

**My daughter was diagnosed privately as the the public system has no funding and we were told she would wait four years or more to be assessed through the vsb because she had no behavioural issues. She was diagnosed with a language based learning disability and a Q designation but despite that her school had nothing to offer her that would help her with her diagnosis.**

#DYSLEXIABC SURVEY 2022

Dyslexia BC

We really need stories from families! It helps when we can source events and stories to give examples to the government when we are asking for more access to resources for families with dyslexia and other learning disabilities!

Keep the stories short!

[Dyslexia BC Survey 2022 November/December](#)

**SEEKING B.C. UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES**

We are looking for participants to participate in a study about the impacts of disability services and perceived faculty knowledge and attitudes on mental health



[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LDs\\_uni](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LDs_uni)

Participation will take 30-60 minutes.  
Must be 19+, registered at a post-secondary institution in British Columbia, and be diagnosed with a learning disability by a qualified medical professional

For more information about this study contact  
**Dr. Melanie O'Neill**  
melanie.oneill@viu.ca



Dr. Melanie O'Neill is seeking BC undergraduate students with learning disabilities. She is looking for participants to participate in a study about the impacts of disability services and the perceived faculty knowledge and attitudes on mental health.

Participants must be 19+ and registered at a post-secondary institution in BC.

[The Impact of Utilizing Disability Services and Perceived Faculty Knowledge and Attitudes on](#)

[Undergraduates with Learning Disabilities Survey](#)

Looking forward to 2023!! Please don't hesitate to contact us to do presentations for groups such as the Dyslexia Training Institutes "Dyslexia for a Day" simulation. We did several of them during 2022 for Pro D for Teachers!

Start planning for October!!

Cheers!



Cathy McMillan  
Dyslexia BC

