

Conference Schedule

Friday October 12

10 – noon **Registration**

12 – 1:00 **Box lunch**

1:00 **Opening Remarks**

President's Welcome

Gail Gillingham Wylie, Conference Chair: *The 'Rules' of the Conference*

Video Presentation: *In My Language* by Amanda Baggs

1:15 **Keynote by Sharisa Joy Kochmeister**

Speaking with a Difference...Watch My Words!

2:30 **Coffee break**

2:45 – 4:00 **Breakout Sessions**

A Communication for Everyone

Pascal Cravedi-Cheng: *The Importance of Communication*

Watch Our Words (video from Colorado)

Facilitators with keyboards and other communication devices, assisted by people on the

spectrum who use fc, available to work with anyone who is interested

B The Adult Experience

Joel Smith: *Bells, Whistles, and Voices - Design Decisions in Alternative Communication Systems*

C About Teens and Transitions

Panel featuring Amanda Baggs and Larry Bissonette: *Having a Voice in Decision Making: The Issue of Guardianship*

D Positive Educational Planning

Juli and Nicollette Hirsh: *Writing an IEP that Focuses on Ability, not Disability*

4:00 **Break for dinner**

7:00 **Dessert Reception**

Drama Production by the Autism Society of Edmonton and Area

Panel on Serving the Community: Mike Hoover representing WOW, Rob Cutler, a mentor in the community, and others

(continued on next page)

Saturday, October 13

8:00 am **Registration**

8:30 **Johnny and Chris Seitz:** *Dialogue in Our World*

9:00 **Keynote by Estee Klar-Wolfond:**

From Fear and Fascination to Respect – Changing the Way We Regard Autistic People in Science and Society

10:30 **Coffee Break**

10:45 – 12 **Breakout Sessions**

E The Adult Experience in the Workplace

Panelists:

Phil Schwarz, Chair

Kathy Grant: *Finding a Job that Works for You*

Johnny Seitz: *Using One's Unique Talent to Make an Impact on the World*

Larry Bissonette: *Reaching a Market in the Art World*

Brad Allen: *The Employer's Viewpoint*

F About Teens and Transition

Teen Panel: Jordan Ackerson and others

G Making Inclusion Work

Mary Schuh: *Increasing Expectations, Presuming Competence – Supporting Students with*

Autism in General Education Classes

H Children's Experiences

Daria J. Skibington-Roffel: *Growing up Autistic*

12 – 1 **Lunch**

1 – 2:15 **Keynote**

Gail Gillingham, Barbara Moran, Lincoln Grigsby and Christopher Patton:

Reducing Anxiety for

People with Autism: Life-Changing Benefits and New Approaches

2:15 – 2:30 **Coffee Break**

2:30 – 3:45 **Breakout Sessions**

I The Adult Experience

Lisa Lieberman assisted by 3 couples on the autism spectrum: *Yes, Marriage Is Possible*

J About Teens and Transition

Sean Sokler: *Bachelor's Degree under My Belt – What Now?*

K Children's Experiences

Kassiane Sibley: *The Children's Advocate*

L Movement Differences in Autism: What We Know Now

Anne Donnellan, Martha Leary, and David Hill

3:50 – 4:00 **Video:** *Credo for Support* by Norman Kunc

4:00 – 4:30 **The Last Word**