

CDP Update

Feature Devices · Tech Tips · Clinical Practice

WINTER 2019

Device Spotlight
Access Spotlight
Clinicians Corner
Education/Resources
Odds & Ends
What's New in CDP

Communication Device Spotlight

EyeMobile Plus For gaze-enabled communication and computer access on the go

The EyeMobile Plus is a purpose-built bracket solution for mobile communication. It lets you combine eye tracking, quality speakers, 2 switch ports, USB ports, battery, and IR for completely hands-free access to your communication device. With the EyeMobile Plus, you can navigate your Speech Generating Software with the flick of an eye (or eyes). Once success with the Communication Device is determined, there's the ability to explore more features available within the device. These include, navigating your computer, controlling and accessing apps, the internet, music, e-books, social media, games, environmental control and more.



Sleek, lightweight solution

Weighing in at <3.5 lbs, the tablet (1.73 lbs) and the bracket (1.48 lbs), this is one of our most lightweight solutions. Additionally, the entire system is compact and easy to mount and transport. Potentially making it very convenient for power mobility users.

Be heard clearly with speakers optimized for speech



The EyeMobile Plus features two powerful, outward facing speakers that provide the user with speech-optimized voice output. With this built-in speaker solution, you can engage with confidence knowing you will be heard, even from across the room.

Potential to connect with your environment

The new built-in IR transmitter, combined with your speech generating software or the included Virtual Remote software, gives you the ability to access IR devices in your surroundings remotely. You can choose your favorite TV programs or turn up the



volume to your favorite song. With the EyeMobile Plus, you can even take control of devices at home or in the office such as lights, telephones, TVs, DVD players, and more. These features may be explored only after successful communication is determined and they *may* require additional equipment not covered under the Communication Devices Program.

Consider the EyeMobile Plus for clients who:

- Need eye tracking access to a communication device, as no other method is suitable
- Require a small, lightweight option
- Do not require a large screen for vision and/or access purposes

Mounting Spotlight - Suction Mounting Systems

Arkon and Trident Suction Mounting Systems

Not that long ago we started using some of the Trident cases with Arkon suction mounting systems and they have been wondrous for our lightweight systems.

Tablet Adapter:

Allows for mount compatibility with Trident Kraken cases.

Arm Adjustment Knob:

Allows for easy re-positioning, then can be locked in place

Head Adjustment Knob:

Allows for easy 360° positioning, then can be locked in place

Pedestal Base:

Suction cup with lever lock for solid mounting on smooth surfaces



The Suction Mounts come in a variety of styles. The Standard Suction Mount (pictured above), the Long Arm Suction Mount, and the Robust Suction Mount. These Mounts are currently only available for use with the Trident Kraken cases for iPad, and iPad mini.



The Trident Kraken cases also come with the ability to install a shoulder strap for on-the-go communicating!

* Currently our cases are only available in BLACK.



Consider a Suction Mounting System for clients that

- Use lightweight devices such as iPads or iPad minis
- Require the device to be secured during use
- Desire the flexibility to move the mount around with ease

Clinician's Corner - Bill C-81

Did you hear!? The 3rd reading and adoption of Bill C-81, An Act to ensure a barrier-free Canada was Agreed to on 2018-11-27. Yeas: 278 - Nays: 0 - Total Votes: 278 - Paired: 0

Hon. Carla Qualtrough (Minister of Public Services and Procurement and Accessibility, Lib.)



Information below pertaining to the 3rd reading of Bill C-81 was taken directly from:

<http://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/house/sitting-355/hansard>

Hon. Carla Qualtrough: I would like to highlight four key changes that were made at committee to strengthen Bill C-81. **First**, the current purpose clause was amended to add communication as a priority area. We heard compelling testimony in committee that spoke to the impact of barriers to **communication, particularly for persons with communication and language disabilities**. This amendment prioritizes the barriers experienced by people with communication and language disabilities that can be caused by conditions such as cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorder and learning disabilities.

[Translation] By making communication a priority in and of itself, we can guarantee a consistent, harmonized approach to addressing the barriers to accessibility faced by people with communication disabilities in every federally regulated sector.

[English] **Second**, while legislation applies to federally regulated entities, we know that achieving a barrier-free Canada means that accessibility needs to extend beyond federal jurisdiction. Accessibility is an area of shared federal, provincial and territorial responsibility, and realizing a truly accessible Canada would require working with our provincial and territorial partners. Stakeholders have echoed the sentiment, stressing the need for collaboration to harmonize accessibility practices across the country and the importance of making sure that the minister responsible for these are required to work with provinces and territories.

Third, the disability community has made it very clear that accessibility is everybody's responsibility. The community asked for increased accountability and transparency on exemptions. Like stakeholders, I agree that exemptions should never provide a loophole from accessibility. This would be counter to the spirit of Bill C-81. That is why I am pleased that Bill C-81 has now been changed in two key areas: first, by placing a three-year limit on all exemptions; and second, by requiring that the rationale for any exemptions be published. We must bolster transparency in the exemptions process, and in doing so we would ensure that the public and the disability community can hold authorities accountable on exemptions.

[Translation] I believe that stricter provisions regarding accountability and transparency strengthen Bill C-81.

[English] Finally, I want to make clear that our intent with this bill has always been to hit the ground running on day one. I am pleased to see that an amendment was made to reflect this intent in the bill. It requires all bodies with authority to make regulations under this act to make their first regulations within two years of the act's coming into force. The establishment of these regulations would also trigger the clock for the five-year review of the act by Parliament. This will ensure that the review would begin by 2025. In like manner, there is no end date for accessibility. Accessibility requires consistent, conscious and continual effort. The bill also provides mechanisms that require people with disabilities to be at the table to monitor implementation and support meaningful progress, independent of the government of the day.

Communication Disabilities Access Canada (CDAC) has created a wonderful 'Plain Language' summary that helped me better understand what this bill means for businesses, organizations and persons with disabilities. Simply put, "When it becomes law, the Accessible Canada Act will tell organizations and services that are controlled by the federal government that they have to remove barriers for people with disabilities. This includes barriers for people who have physical, mental, intellectual, learning, communication or sensory impairments or other types of disabilities".

The new law will put an Accessibility Commissioner in charge of making sure that organizations and services follow the law. The Commissioner will give advice to the Minister of Accessibility (The Honourable Carla Qualtrough).

ISAAC Canada - Mexico City 2020



Oh my goodness, start planning now! The 19th Biennial ISAAC Conference will be held in the Riviera Maya, Mexico in August of 2020!! The AAC Camp, Pre-Conference Workshops and the Executive Council Meetings will be held Aug.1-2, while the formal conference will be from Aug. 3-6, 2020. USSAAC and ISAAC Mexico put together this promo video, enjoy!! [ISAAC MEXICO](#)



Education and Resources

Communication Disabilities Access Canada (CDAC) - FREE Courses!!!

OK, how many of you have ALREADY seen that CDAC is offering some of their courses for free until January 31, 2019! The following information was taken directly from the CDAC website about the courses:

1. Communication Assistance: This course is for anyone who assists people communicating with unfamiliar people in their communities. It is useful for family members, personal attendants, disability support workers, and students in a disability field. There is an opportunity to apply to be listed on the communication assistance database.

Duration: approximately 2-3 hours.

2. Working with a Communication Assistant: This course is by and for people who have communication disabilities. Learn about the communication assistance database and how to use it to find a communication assistant. Get tips on how to hire, train and work with a person who assists you communicating at meetings and appointments.

Duration: approximately 2-3 hours.

3. Making your services accessible for people with communication disabilities: This webinar is for people who work in organizations and businesses that provide goods and services to the members of the public. Learn ways to communicate with people who have communication disabilities in face-to-face or telephone interactions, as well as how to host accessible meetings, public events and provide written information in ways that people can access.

Duration: approximately 40 minutes.

Go to: <https://courses.cdacanada.com/> if you want to learn more about these courses.

PrAACtical AAC's AAC Link Up

Did you know that Carole Zangari of PrAACtical AAC features an AAC Link Up every Tuesday on her blog? Here's what Carole had to say on her [December 4, AAC Link Up](#):



Happy Tuesday, AAC friends! Once a week, we invite you to share your own AAC-related content, product news, or anything else that you'd like others in the AAC community to know about. It may be a recent post you've written, a slide deck from your AAC presentation, a handout, video, or meme that you've posted online, an AAC product you've created, an announcement for an AAC camp or conference, or any other prAACtical content you developed and want to share with the AAC community.

To post your own link, scroll all the way down to the bottom of this post and complete the form. Enter the URL and the name/title in the boxes provided below. If you are on a mobile device, click over to the full website version to do this.

Some of my favourite resources from the December 4th link up include:

1. [Feel Good Story about a young hockey fan who met their idol](#)
2. [Functions of Communication Poster](#)
3. [Hanukkah Communication Board](#)
4. [Getting Started with Complex AAC Users](#)

I bet by the time you read this, there will be even more great information added to the list! P.S. If you type 'link up' in the search bar you will get 436 search results.... That's 436 pages with links just like these!!



Odds and Ends - Search Feature on Facebook

Finding information on Facebook just got a whole lot easier!

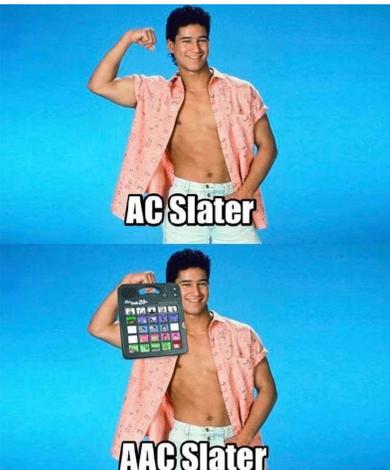
Since September was Proloquo2Go month and November focused on Snap + Core First, wouldn't it be really handy to know that you can actually search facebook for content. Let's say you wanted to know how to do a back-up in Proloquo2Go? Excellent - we LOVE us a back-up :). You can search that now!

Here's what you do:



1. While you are on Facebook, find the search bar to the right of the icon. Type in the **term OR terms** you are looking for, press enter OR click on the magnifying glass icon to search. We used "Proloquo2Go" as an example.
2. Results will pop up from all over Facebook.
3. To Filter the results, use the options along the left hand column. For example, to search the CDP page specifically, click on "Choose a source" and start typing "The Communication Devices Program", once you see our page pop-up in the options, click it
4. Now you should see the results from only the CDP Facebook page in your feed.
5. You can also play around with the filters to get more specific with what you want to find. Maybe you want our most recent posts, click that under "Sort by". Maybe you only want posts from 2018, click that under "Date Posted".
6. Scroll through the results until you find what you want. So great, right?!

If you can't find something, either refine your search terms, or give us a shout. We are always happy to hear from you. You can even connect with us through facebook. Yup - we have a convenient little 'Send Email' button right on The Communication Devices Program main Facebook page.



You know what else facebook is good for?

Memes. Lots and lots of memes. Take a look back through some of our early posts & **photos** for some real gems like these!



What's New in CDP - AAC Awareness Month



CDP Staff from L to R: Nancy (SLP), Mark (RA), Meline (Secretary), Dimitri (Electronics Technologist), Amy (OT), Stacey (Coordinator)

During the month of October, we managed to raise awareness about AAC, and promote our program!! We had a great time creating content for our “October is AAC Awareness Month” display. We proudly exhibited that display during the week of October 15th - 19th, 2018 on ‘Main Street’ in Deer Lodge Centre. Some of the things we highlighted included:

- Tips on [How to Communicate with someone who uses AAC](#)
- Our CDP Promotional Poster
- A Map of Manitoba that marks all the towns and cities we have had clients from. HINT: As of October, we had served *OVER 135 different Communities throughout MB!!*
- Some catchy Memes
- QR codes linking viewers to [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Pinterest](#), and our [Website](#)
- Also, we offered 2 prizes for playing one of our games:
 - AAC Word Search and/or
 - Matching AAC Symbols

We're already dreaming up ideas for next year too!! What about you?

CDP Client Spotlight

We recently received some very thoughtful feedback from a client of ours. Our social media pages are **VERY** clinical. While that was the original intention of the pages, we do recognize that a little bit of personalization would really go a long way to engage more people.

We would LOVE to hear if there are clients that would like to be featured on our social media sites and/or in our newsletter. Ideas are also always welcome about other ways to share this information.

We want to help celebrate every success!

