



THE APHASIA INSTITUTE HAS SOME EXCITING NEWS!

Internationally recognized tools & training will be FREE in Ontario

Ontario is on its way to leading patient-centred stroke and aphasia care! With the Ontario Ministry of Health's generous support of **\$1.2 million** over three years, key internationally recognized **tools and training developed by the Aphasia Institute will be free in Ontario**. This crucial funding will enable health care providers to offer more accessible and equitable care for those with aphasia.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Aphasia is a language problem caused most frequently by stroke and affects approximately 1/3 of the stroke population. Aphasia has a devastating impact on all aspects of life because it affects the ability to read, write, interact and communicate with others.

Health care for people with stroke costs the health care system more than double if they have aphasia (\$45K compared to \$20K).¹ In addition to this, aphasia limits access to health care services essential for recovery, which may contribute to aphasia having the most negative health related quality of life of any condition.² In other words, there is an enormous social cost related to the impact of aphasia on identity and family relationships.

A SOLUTION FOR ONTARIO

The funding granted to the Aphasia Institute will enable those in Ontario to access a select range of **vital free resources and tools** related to the evidence-based method called Supported Conversation for Adults with Aphasia (SCA™), including:

- Information about aphasia in an accessible pictographic format
- A large searchable database of pictographic images relevant to aphasia
- A basic e-learning module
- On-site basic SCA™ training spots
- Consultation services
- An online quality improvement measure for institutions treating stroke patients

Working together with health care providers like you, we have an opportunity to establish Ontario as the preeminent leader in communicative access for stroke care, not only within Canada but around the world. Join us in helping people with aphasia and their families navigate their health care and their lives again, one conversation at a time.

We will notify you when each tool and resource is ready, but we couldn't wait to share the good news about things to come!

If you have questions and/or want to be notified when tools are available, please contact:

Caryl (cpereira@aphasia.ca) at the Aphasia Institute.



Life's a Conversation.

¹ McCreedy G., Hotch J., Graves E., Yates E., Ishiguro L., 7 Kapral M. (2017). Health care access of people with aphasia vs. people without aphasia. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, Applied Health Research Question (AHRQ), 2016 0900 829 000.

² Lam J.M., & Wodchis W.P. (2010). The relationship of 60 disease diagnoses and 15 conditions to preference-based health-related quality of life in Ontario hospital-based long-term care residents. Med Care, 48(4):380-7.