

# Children and Youths with Complex Communication Needs in the Classroom

Presented By: Katrin Sannig, Sarah Anderson & Brandis Short

## Registration Fee:

Free

## Registration Deadline:

November 1, 2019

## Course Code:

NR.IF20.034IE

## Grade Level:

Adult Education/L'éducation des adultes, K-12/Tous niveaux Maternelle à 12, Central Office/Bureau central

## Audience:

Administrator/Administration, Educational Assistant/Assistant en éducation, Support Staff/soutien, Teachers/Enseignant

## Date(s):

Friday, November 01, 2019  
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM  
Friday, December 13, 2019  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
Monday, January 27, 2020  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
Monday, February 24, 2020  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
Monday, March 16, 2020  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
Monday, April 20, 2020  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
Friday, May 08, 2020  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
Friday, June 05, 2020  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

## Session Location:

Crystal Park School  
9351 - 116 Avenue, Grande Prairie, AB  
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## About the Session:

This session is for those who are new to or would like a refresher on working with a student with complex communication needs (CCN). A child/adolescent with CCN does not develop speech and language skills as expected due to motor, language, cognitive, and/or sensory perceptual impairments that may result from developmental disabilities such as cerebral palsy, autism, Down syndrome.

These children/adolescents may be non-speaking or have limited verbal output and cannot communicate in conventional ways.

Our CCN students typically experience restricted access to the environment, limited interactions with their communication partners, and few opportunities for communication (Light, 1997). Alternate and augmentative communication (AAC) systems/strategies offer potential tools to meet their communication needs.

The session will teach you how to support students with CCN communication needs at school. We will introduce the concept of Aided Language Stimulation and core vocabulary as well discuss different AAC strategies/ systems including low tech (i.e., core boards) and high tech (proloquo2go, Touch Chat etc.) AAC options.

### **About the Presenter(s):**

#### **Katrin Sannig**

My name is Katrin Sannig and I'm a Speech-Language Pathologist. I'm excited to support children, youth and their families and help them achieve their learning goals. I enjoy that I can collaborate with other PCS team members, school staff, community agencies and parents as I truly believe the best outcomes can be achieved through teamwork. In my position with PCS I cover schools in Valleyview and Ridgevalley. I was born and raised in Germany, attended university there and now live outside of the hamlet of Little Smoky, where my spouse and I are raising our two children. We enjoy traveling and hosting international travelers at our place. I'm looking forward to connecting with each of you. Contact: [katrin.sannig@gppsd.ab.ca](mailto:katrin.sannig@gppsd.ab.ca) Phone: (780) 552-3774

#### **Sarah Anderson**

My name is Sarah Anderson and I have been practicing as a Speech-Language Pathologist in Grande Prairie for 7 years. I completed my undergrad at UNBC and my Speech-Language Pathology Master's degree at the University of Alberta. My professional areas of interest include Autism, Augmentative & Alternative Communication, and Literacy. I have been working with students with complex communication needs for 7 years and am passionate about giving accessible communication for all. Contact: [sarah.anderson@gppsd.ab.ca](mailto:sarah.anderson@gppsd.ab.ca) 780-539-0333 ext 19046

#### **Brandis Short**

My Name is Brandis Short. I grew up in Grande Prairie and completed my undergrad degree through GPRC and the University of Alberta. I continued my education at the U of A, completing my Speech-Language Pathology Master's degree in 2014 before returning home to work with Peace Collaborative Services. Professionally, I am interested in working with children with Complex Communication Needs and helping families secure funding for Augmentative and Alternative Communication devices (AAC). I enjoy using technology and helping students reach their full communicative potential with the tools we have available! Contact: [brandis.short@gppsd.ab.ca](mailto:brandis.short@gppsd.ab.ca) Phone: 780-539-0333 ext. 19034

*Catering is not prepared in a nut/gluten-free environment.*

### **Photography Release:**

This is a public event with the likeliness of photo/video throughout the day. By attending, participants understand they may be captured in photo or video for future presentations or promotional material development. Please see conference hosts if you prefer to not be photographed.

### **Registration Notes:**

This session series starts with a full day of learning and has 7, 1 hour follow-up sessions to extend your learning throughout the school year.

### **Lunch is not provided for this event**

. Please bring a lunch or be prepared to go out for lunch.