

Did You Know?

This issue of Sound Advice highlights some of the recent changes in Ontario legislation which may affect hearing impaired individuals and their families.

IT'S THE LAW: Ontario legislation was recently passed to make our roads safer by prohibiting the use of hand-held devices to talk, text or email while driving. This applies to all hand-held cellphones and other hand-held electronic entertainment or communications devices. Once the new law is in place in the fall of 2009, drivers who text, type, email, dial or chat using a prohibited hand-held device could be fined up to \$500. The use of hands-free devices will be permitted.

DID YOU KNOW? There are new hearing aids that allow hands-free telephone communication. These aids are bluetooth compatible, which means that



through an accessory, they can connect wirelessly to your cellphone. Imagine hearing a caller through your hearing aid while you drive. These devices satisfy the legal requirement of being hands-free, and they enable the listener to hear the caller through the customized amplification of the hearing aid.



New Rules for Adult FM grant:

Prior authorization is now required for all adults for whom FM systems have been prescribed. The \$1,350 Assistive Devices Program (ADP) of Ontario grant is available to hearing impaired adults who, as part of their daily activities, will use the personal FM system on a long-term basis. This means the audiologist who recommends an FM system for you must write a letter to ADP explaining why the device is recommended.

What is the goal of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005?

The purpose of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, is to achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures and premises on or before January 1, 2025, by developing, implementing and enforcing accessibility standards.

How will this legislation make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities?

People with disabilities (including hearing impairment) should be able to move around from place to place, go shopping, attend school or visit their doctor without facing barriers that people without disabilities would not face. Some examples of accommodations include providing amplified telephones in public places, installing FM systems in theatres and educating service providers how to improve communication with hearing impaired individuals.

Audiology Open House... please turn over →

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL 
Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Health Complex
Bright Minds. Big Hearts. The Best Medicine.

Hearing Aid Dispensary
Mount Sinai Hospital
205-600 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5G 1X5
t 416-586-5018
f 416-586-4807
www.mountsinai.ca/hearing_aid_dispensary

**BE SURE TO VISIT US ON
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009**



Audiology Open House

GUEST SPEAKER:

Dr. Arnold Noyek
Ear Nose and Throat Specialist

11 a.m

Mount Sinai Hospital
Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Health Complex
600 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario
14th floor classroom (*just opposite the elevators*)

FREE Hearing Aid Cleaning from 12 noon to 2 p.m.
in Room 201