

## President's Message

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Patricia Auger

### Embracing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Audiology

This issue of *Canadian Audiologist* focuses on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), a theme that is both timely and fundamental to the work we do every day as audiologists.

As a profession, we are privileged to work with one of the most diverse patient populations in health care. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are not abstract concepts in audiology; they are lived realities. Whether we are supporting an infant and their family, counselling an adult navigating hearing loss in the workplace, or caring for an older adult striving to remain connected and engaged, our role requires cultural understanding, empathy, and an ongoing commitment to equitable care. True inclusion means meeting people where they are, recognizing the barriers they may face.

This issue of *Canadian Audiologist* highlights how DEI intersects with our clinical practice, research, education, and advocacy efforts. It invites us to reflect on how we can continue to strengthen our profession by fostering environments where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued. Embracing DEI not only improves patient outcomes, but it also enriches our profession by encouraging diverse perspectives, innovation, and collaboration.

The Canadian Academy of Audiology (CAA) is proud to bring you this issue because DEI is fundamental to the future of audiology in Canada. CAA is an organization by audiologists, for audiologists, and we are committed to supporting our members. As the voice for audiology in Canada, we advocate for our profession, promote excellence in practice, and provide a platform for meaningful dialogue on issues that matter.

As we look ahead, I encourage you to stay engaged with CAA and with one another. Please remember to renew your CAA membership in February. The upcoming membership year will begin on March 1 to February 28<sup>th</sup> 2027. Your continued support strengthens our collective voice and ensures that audiology remains inclusive, innovative, and impactful across Canada.

Together, we can continue to shape a profession that truly reflects the diverse communities we serve.