



# Our Trainers

## **Kim Antonius**

Kim Antonius is Director of Curriculum Development and Special Projects at Bridges. She is a Speech-Language Pathologist with more than 10 years experience working in the field of Assistive Technology. Kim has extensive experience instructing and presenting on Assistive Technology at local, national and international levels. Her area of interest is in curriculum adaptation and accommodations.

## **Susie Blackstein-Adler (B.Sc., OT, M.Ed.)**

Susie has worked for more than 18 years in the field of augmentative and alternative communication with Bloorview Kids Rehab. She has over 10 years of experience training educators and users of Assistive Technologies. She has consulted about AAC Service Development and Training with the Ontario Ministry of Health's Assistive Devices Program and teaches an AAC module to Occupational Therapy students at the University of Toronto. Susie has delivered presentations and professional development workshops on a variety of Assistive Technology topics to educators and clinicians both locally and internationally. She has been involved in research relating to computer access and to the inclusion of students in education programs. She has recently completed coordination of an early literacy project and has co-authored a communication software module for people who use the Dynavox AAC device.

## **Janet Ragan**

Janet completed her degree in Applied Human Nutrition at the University of Guelph in 1994 and went on to teacher's college at the University of Western Ontario. Her first experiences with teaching were often in Young Offenders facilities and these experiences led her to a vocational school in Guelph where she taught science for six years. Searching for more versatile tools to engage these students in their learning brought her to Bridges where she found teaching strategies using Assistive Technology.

## **Kim Mitchell (E.E.T)**

Kim has been a Bridges Training Specialist for over four years. She previously worked on an Augmentative Communication Team at Five Counties Children's Centre Peterborough for 14 years as an Assistive Technology Specialist responsible for delivering training to internal teams and clients. Kim worked in a local school board supporting the implementation of Assistive Technology. She has trained teams across Ontario and British Columbia in a wide range of settings. She enjoys the challenges of solving problems for success in the classroom for students with a range of needs.

## **Wendy Young**

Wendy is the Western Training Specialist for Bridges. She is a Speech-Language Pathologist and Augmentative Communication Specialist. She has clinical training, educational experience and has worked for more than 12 years in the field of Assistive Technology. Wendy has a broad experience in training and presenting on Assistive Technology from local to international levels. She has a variety of interest areas and enjoys the challenges of solving problems for success in the classroom for students.