



TESL Canada Federation

376 Churchill Avenue N, Suite 208, Ottawa ON K1Z 5C3
Tel: 800-393-9199 Fax: 403-538-7392 www.tesl.ca admin@tesl.ca

Executive Director (ED) Report – April 2017

The following is a summary of the key activities in April 2017 regarding the TESL Canada Federation Executive Director (Claude Lloyd), and key TESL Canada activities. This is an extra long report due to the amount of activity / material related to the TESL Canada 2017 conference and many other great ESL updates!

TESL Canada 2017 Conference

Key Dignitaries

We are expecting a wide range of dignitaries as invitations have been sent to MPs, MPPs across Canada, as well as Municipal leaders. All three levels of government are expected to be in attendance.

From the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, Deputy Minister Alexander Bezzina will be attending. MP Bezzina will provide the opening remarks on June 9. The Deputy Minister's biography can be located at :

<http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/aboutus/deputyminister.shtml>

Exhibitors

Our exhibitor section is so popular we are near capacity!

Sponsors

To date our sponsors include :

Aptis IELTS British Council
PEARSON GSE (Global Scale of English)
NELSON

We would like to see more sponsors show their support for Teachers of ESL.

To obtain details on the sponsorship packages for the TESL Canada 2017 conference visit:

<http://www.teslcanadaconference.ca/sponsors/>



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SEE SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS LIST AT:

<http://www.teslcanadaconference.ca/conference-program/>

Registrants

To demonstrate the reach of the TESL Canada conference, our registrants to date originate from some of the following geographies ; Japan, the USA, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Denmark, Nigeria, India, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the UAE.

Featured Panels

In addition to the keynote and featured speakers we have some great featured panels also taking place in the main plenary room that you will see in the schedule.

1. **CLB Accomplishments: Flagging Challenges and Defining Opportunities:** A discussion with CCLB, IRCC and academics on the twenty years of the CLB and where to go from here with Canada's language proficiency benchmarking system.
2. **Language in the Canadian University: Report from a SSHRC Funded Consortium:** A discussion by researchers across Canada on the evolving role of language in Canada's multicultural and multilingual universities.
3. **Bombs to Books: Paving the Way for English Language Teachers and Syrian Refugees:** A panel discussion of English language teachers and Syrian refugee students discussing what has been learned in the first year of assisting refugees with their integration.
4. **The Future of English Language Teaching in Canada:** A panel that brings together leaders in Canadian English language teaching to discuss the topic areas presented at



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the TESOL Summit on the Future of TESOL in Athens back in February—future trends, redefining English proficiency, English in a multilingual context, and change agency.

TESL Canadian Education Foundation

Five travel grants for the conference have been awarded to people based in Ontario, Nova Scotia, British Columbia and Alberta. Given that there are five remaining complementary registrations, it was decided that they should be granted to the top five presenters from different Canadian geographic regions as a display of generosity and recognition to our presenters.

TESL Program Providers

Professional development opportunities for TESL trainers exist at the upcoming TESL Canada Conference in Niagara Falls, from June 8th to 10th. We have a pre-conference symposium specifically for TESL trainers and program managers on Thursday, June 8th from 9am to 4:15pm. There are four exciting workshops at the symposium to highlight current research and trends in English language teacher education. In addition to learning about cutting edge topics, TESL trainers and program managers will be given the opportunity to discuss how to integrate the topic content into your TESL programs, so that your programs are current and relevant. The four sessions in this symposium, in the order in which they are scheduled, are:

1. **Identities and Imagination in Language Teacher Preparation:** The workshop will discuss two research projects examining teachers' identities and the tools used in collecting teacher experiences including interviews, the creation of multimodal autobiographies using *VoiceThread*, and memes. Participants will be invited to envision possible scenarios where they could adapt these or similar tools to their own teacher education programs to have their trainees explore their own professional identity.
2. **Plurilingual Pedagogies in Language Teacher Education: Rethinking TESL/TESOL Programs:** With the emergence of a plurilingual paradigm shift in language teaching, questions concerning the extent to which language teacher education programs are effectively preparing language teachers to teach in our messy, heteroglossic, and multilingual world have assumed new and vital significance in the training and education of teachers. In this session, the underlying assumptions and theoretical underpinnings of monolingual and plurilingual approaches to language teaching will be analyzed and participants will have the opportunity to engage with current issues concerning plurilingualism in Language Teacher Education.



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3. **Addressing Teachers' Beliefs in Teacher Education Programs:** Drawing on their own educational backgrounds and life experiences, teachers have their own beliefs about teaching and learning, the usefulness of different classroom strategies, and even beliefs about their own abilities to perform various classroom functions, among others. Teachers' beliefs are important as they can impact teachers' planning, classroom practice, and even how they reflect on their teaching. Participants will have the opportunity to respond to the results of two research projects on teacher beliefs and will also receive various activities/ideas that they can use in their own programs to address teachers' beliefs.

4. **21st Century Skills for New ESL Teachers:** Given the rise in precarious employment in the ELT field in Canada, it is important to prepare new TESL graduates with the 21st-century skills needed to participate and succeed in a changing landscape. Skills such as creativity, leadership and initiative are important however understanding how to use these skills needs to be taught to best prepare new graduates to enter and remain in the profession. Developing entrepreneurial-minded teachers may help in finding wide-ranging employment opportunities outside the traditional classroom as assessors, online instructors or materials writers.

You can find more information about the Pre-Conference Symposia at:

www.teslcanadaconference.ca/pre-conference-symposia/

Your TESL trainers can register for the Teacher Education Pre-Conference Symposium at:

www.teslcanadaconference.ca/registration/

We look forward to having TESL trainers at the Teacher Education Pre-Conference Symposium in Niagara Falls!

ATESL 2017 Conference

The ATESL 2017 Conference is taking place on October 20th and 21st at the Westin Hotel



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located in beautiful downtown Calgary, Alberta.

The theme is *Expanding Possibilities: Diversity and Innovation*. The conference is hosting three world renowned keynote speakers, including Dr. Bonny Norton (University of British Columbia), Dr. Darren Lund (University of Calgary), and Dr. Greg Kessler (Ohio University). This year's conference also features the Educational Technology Summit. This special event is a collaborative initiative organized by ATESL and BC TEAL.

It will take place with the regular conference sessions on Saturday, October 21st. The call for presentations is now open and the deadline for submissions is June 19th, 2017 at midnight. Visit atesl.ca for more details.

Meetings / Bridge Building

Productive discussions were held separately with Languages Canada, New York State TESOL, TESL Ontario and BC TEAL. These discussions were an opportunity to advance communications, discuss strategic initiatives, and the potential for formal partnerships, details of which will be included in the ED monthly reports as well as additional communications.

Member Value Delivery

With no Executive Director (ED) for part of 2016 (I joined TESL Canada in September), a high turnover rate of employees, and a lean head office staff, service quality to our stakeholders was lagging in 2016. Jessica Tomlin (Office/HR Manager) was hired at the end of October and became F/T at the beginning of 2017. A new Coordinator was hired P/T (Veronica Sanchez) in December and she took over management of teacher certification and program recognition in March. In April of 2017 a P/T administrative support person, Rebecca Derry, was also hired.

My role as ED is part time, while Jessica's' position was reverted to full time hours. This is a strategic decision on my part, as I do see the need for TESL Canada to focus its resources on serving its members via ; Teacher Certification, Teacher Training Program Recognition and general membership administrative support.

With this dedicated, experienced staff, we are focusing on improving service quality and standards related to members & stakeholders services. Challenges remain but we will address them. Jessica and Veronica do receive positive feedback from stakeholders and they/we in the head office greatly appreciate this.



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Contact Information:

For general inquiries,
admin@tesl.ca
1-613-722-TESL (8375)
1-800-393-9199

For inquiries on Teacher Certification & Teacher Training Program Recognition,
admin@tesl.ca or phone numbers listed above.

For questions regarding the TESL Canada 2017 Conference, conference@tesl.ca

What is the value of TESL Canada to its members?

As an internationally recognized organization, TESL Canada helps professionals like you to maintain nationally-accredited professional standards of practice. As a result, English language learners across Canada benefit from a national set of standards and competencies that are recognized globally.

Whether you are working in a settlement, workplace education, adult education, literacy development, online learning or higher education context, your membership in TESL Canada gives you access to a wide mix of practitioners across Canada. Individuals like you bring rich and diverse experiences that inform all of our teaching practices from coast to coast.

As a continuing member of TESL, you will receive the following benefits:

- Reduced rates at TESL Canada conferences
- Eligibility for travel grants, scholarships and complimentary conference registration
- Group Insurance for TESL Canada members
- A national voice in Ottawa (to IRCC and others) to advocate on language instruction
- The TESL Canada Journal
- Professional development (re-introduced in 2017)
- Support for National Standards for Professional Certification
- Support of Teacher Training Program Recognition
- TESL Canada Educational Foundation



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- TESL Canada Honorary Life Member Awards
- TESL Canada Innovation Awards (new for 2017)

As a TESL Canada member, you are making a commitment to your own professional development and standards that are recognized in Canada. These standards are recognized world-wide where Canadians continue to bring the joy of language learning to every corner of the globe.

You can renew your membership by clicking the following [link](#). Please e-mail us at info@tesl.ca or call us toll free 1-800-393-9199, if you have any questions.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled to be held at the upcoming TESL Canada 2017 Annual Conference at the Sheraton on the Niagara in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

TESL CANADA FEDERATION
Incorporation Number 162978-6

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TESL Canada Annual General Meeting

Date: Friday, June 9, 2017

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm EST

Location: Strategy Room 2
Sheraton on the Niagara
Niagara Falls, Ontario

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact admin@tesl.ca.

Head Office

Key project, relocation of Calgary Head Office to Ottawa.



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The target (as per our strategic plan) to have a physical office in Ottawa, Ontario, to assist with National operations as well as build stronger ties with various Federal government departments and national/international NGOs is completed!

We opened the Ottawa office on April 3rd. Our new address is ;

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Thank you to all the volunteers who support TESL C!

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Please also consider donating to the TCEF, and receive a charitable donations tax receipt at any time.

<https://www.tesl.ca/about-us/tesl-canadian-educational-foundation>

I hope to see everyone at the conference June 8th to 10th, 2017. Thank you to everyone who has supported TESL Canada. I look forward to serving you the members and enjoying the great things we can do together!

Claude Lloyd BES CET
Executive Director
TESL Canada