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TESL Canada Connects

*A well-educated mind
will always have
more questions than
answers.*

Helen Keller



**Welcome to the fourth issue of our TESL Canada Connects newsletter
featuring news on TESL Canada's Awards and Grants**

TESL Canada Award for Teaching Excellence

TESL Canada is happy to announce the "TESL Canada Award for Teaching Excellence" to be awarded to one member at a 2019 provincial conference and/or AGM of each of our provincial partners (TESL NL, TESL NS, TESL NB, TEAM, TESL SK, ATESL).

To be eligible, members of the provincial organization will complete a short nomination form that will be circulated by their TESL Canada Provincial Representative prior to the conference/AGM. The Outreach Committee of TESL Canada will review nominations, choose the recipient, prepare the citation to be read at the event. The recipient will be recognized at the provincial event and sent a certificate and small monetary prize (\$100).

Introducing the five TESL Canadian Educational Foundation Conference Participation Grant winners:

Aman Khan currently works as a volunteer ESL Instructor at the Diverse Saskatchewan Foundation in Saskatoon. With this financial support, he will be attending the TESL SK conference in April 2019.

Prudence Swaan is an instructor and LINC work experience coach at Saskatchewan Polytechnic. She plans on using these funds to attend the TESL SK conference in April 2019

Leila Nooritaromlo is a LINC instructor and ESL teacher in both non-profit and private sectors. Leila will be attending the BC TEAL 2019 annual conference.

Deborah Lowry is a language teacher working in public school (Simcoe county Board of Education) and will be attending the Ontario Modern Language Teachers' Association Conference to further her pedagogical knowledge.

Marian Holley is currently a permanent employee working with ESL adult learners for the Thames Valley District School Board in London, Ontario and a course instructor for the IELTS Test Preparation class. She will be attending the Task-Based Language Teaching conference in August 2019.

An inspiring article recommended by Silvia Rossi, Mount Royal University, Calgary:

The Contribution of Collocation Tools to Collocation Correction in Second Language Writing

Ulugbek Nurmukhamedov
International Journal of Lexicography,
Volume 30, Issue 4,
December 2017

From the TESL Canada Award for Teaching Excellence Recipient (Saskatchewan), Aman Khan:

A feed forward...

As an educator in Saskatchewan, I am highly thankful to TESL Canada for providing me with the opportunity to attend the TESL SK conference 2019. I am again thankful to TESL Canada board of directors who awarded me with yet another award – **TESL Canada Award for Teaching Excellence.**

In Applied Linguistics, there are many approaches to model your language classroom. Keeping the IRCC's logical model in view for Settlement and Integration, as an Immigrant Canadian myself, I consider it to be the most successful model for making learning really meaningful to newcomer immigrants and refugees – which will be a step forward towards settlement and integration.

For me the academic world is very different than the real-world tasks and challenges. For newcomer Immigrants and Refugees, the PBLA model is based on the action-oriented feedback. PBLA not only teaches language, it teaches the crux of Canadian society – the health and safety, education and educational opportunities, credential evaluation and how to continue your studies in Canada. It also talks about the Canadian legal system, the work and the workplace ethics and culture, the Canadian banking system and the business sector and much more, creating a smooth pathway towards settlement and integration.

One thing I wish to share with the reader is to say that teaching English in a school or college/ or university is different than teaching English to the new immigrants and refugees. As a big fan of the PBLA model, I suggest we need educators to train Instructors and organizations who can also provide PD opportunities to our administrators, staff and instructors to explore new avenues of learning within the realm of PBLA. PBLA teaches cultural adaptation in language learning in a meaningful way which expedites the process of settlement and integration. The idea is the functional use of language which comes automatically when a learner has the situational knowledge of an activity.

Overall, the TESL Saskatchewan Conference 2019 was a great experience which provided attendees an opportunity to update on new emerging trends in English language teaching.

Upcoming Conferences:

TESL NS Spring Conference (Acadia University, Wolfville) May 25th, 2019.

TESL NB Professional Learning Day and AGM (UNB Fredericton) June 22nd, 2019.

Mark your calendars! The 2019 ATESL Conference is October 18-19 at the Westin Hotel in Calgary. Join us to celebrate 40 years of excellence!