Spring 2011

TESL Canada Bulletin

> "To teach is to learn twice."
>
> - Joseph Joubert

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Christine Stechishin, BC,
Paula Kristmanson, NB

Journal Editor:

John Sivell, Brock University
Marian Rossiter, University of Alberta

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TESL Canada Journal/Bulletin Advertising Rates

ADVERTISE ON THE TESL CANADA JOURNAL WEBSITE – www.teslcanadajornal.ca

The TESL Canada Journal site is being viewed, on average, almost 10,000 per month. This provides a focused target audience for advertisers looking to promote their organizations. The TESL Canada Journal has over 6,000 unique subscribers across Canada and internationally. Each of these subscribers is interested in Teaching English as a Second Language. Furthermore, the past issues of the journal are available open access which means that your ad will be able to reach an even wider audience.

Advertisers are invited to submit 486 x 60 banner images in any of the following formats: .jpg, .jpeg, .gif, .png. The ads can link directly to your website. The price for banner ads is : $250 for three months; $400 for six months; and $750 for one year.

If you are interested in advertising on the TESL Canada Journal website, please submit your design to admin@tesl.ca or call 800-393-9199.

President's Report

From Ellen Pilon

My year as President is almost finished: it's hard to believe. After thinking long and hard about my goals and future, I decided that one term was enough. Often TESL Canada Presidents remain in office for one term, and I see no reason to break this pattern just because we now have a 12-month term instead of an 18-month term. A two-year term of 24 months is a long time to find volunteer hours for this much responsibility. My family is looking forward to having me with them for a change on weekends and evenings. Also, I've served almost seven years on the TESL Canada Board, and it's time for others to step in. Of course I'm still here as I'll be past president for a year or two until the term is finished.

Typical of volunteer organizations, TESL Canada has accomplished lots of work in fits and starts throughout the last year, given the availability of free time from volunteers on the Board. Our executive director, Louise Aerts, is very expert at coping with the bursts of energy starting a project followed by long periods of inactivity while we get caught up in our own jobs and other responsibilities. It has been a pleasure working with Louise who, in a few short moments, can find her notes and records of anything that has happened in TESL Canada. She remembers what has been done and what needs to be done, and is gentle with her reminders. She is our collective memory and our continuity, our peacemaker and our prodder, and she is invaluable. I had the honour of conducting a performance evaluation with Louise, and am happy to report that it is more than satisfactory.

I would also like to thank Joy Lin Salzberg for her enthusiasm and dedication. She has become a close friend throughout these TESL years, and I greatly admire and respect her. Through spoken and unspoken moments, she has helped me through the trickier moments of being president, and shared the delights. Thank you, Joy.

It has been wonderful working with such an excellent Board of Directors during this past year. Since last fall we've had five new appointed directors: Andrea from Nova Scotia, Christina from PEI, Colleen from New Brunswick, Marilyn from Ontario and Erica from Yukon. Welcome! With another AGM April 29, we will have nine new elected directors, welcoming some new people with fresh ideas and experiences to the Board.

Treasurer's Report

From Joy Lin Salzberg

Please see upcoming pages for the audited financial statements for 2010.

You will note that TESL Canada had a strong financial year and was able to meet its many objectives on a tight budget. The 2009 conference, in particular, was very successful and the TESL Canada Board has decided to earmark some of the profit for specific expenditures in 2011 such as the Travel Grants to attend the TESL Canada Conference as well as for the Professional Development committee to explore and develop ways to bring conference proceedings to those who are not able to attend in person.

The first quarter of 2011 has also shown positive results with all areas at or above budget and projections.

2010 Audited Financial Statements

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To: The Members of
TESL Canada Federation

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **TESL Canada Federation**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2010, and the statement of earnings and changes in net assets for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion
In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of **TESL Canada Federation** as at December 31, 2010, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Campbell, Saunders & Co.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Vancouver, B.C.
April 14, 2011

TESL CANADA FEDERATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2010

	2010	2009
ASSETS		
CASH AND TERM DEPOSITS	$200,079	$143,735
ACCRUED INTEREST RECEIVABLE	2,364	926
PREPAID RENT	2,377	644
	$204,820	$145,305
LIABILITIES		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES	$ 3,750	$ 1,650
EMPLOYEE PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS PAYABLE	5,865	3,429
SALES TAXES PAYABLE	-	339
	9,615	5,418
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED	195,205	139,886
	$204,820	$145,304

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

Doreen D. Pilon Director

Joyce Lofberg Director

TESL CANADA FEDERATION

STATEMENT OF EARNINGS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	2010	2009
REVENUE		
Conference	$ 54,924	$ -
Teacher Training Program Recognition	29,615	23,915
Certification	26,713	29,430
Interest and other income	3,261	88
Provincial memberships	84,346	61,280
TESL Canada Journal - Schedule	49,006	69,216
	247,865	183,929
EXPENSES		
Administration-office operation	4,295	4,810
Audit and legal fees	2,950	825
Bank charges	1,409	1,735
Certification expense	4,773	15,660
Insurance	3,019	669
Life members	-	286
Marketing and promotion	-	1,525
Miscellaneous	164	3,217
Website	3,299	-
Office equipment (Note 2)	3,565	2,877
Postage and courier	632	3,568
Rent	6,847	5,710
Salaries and benefits	59,177	48,149
Stationery and supplies	2,194	2,041
Teacher training program recognition	4,340	5,969
Telephone and fax	2,037	3,284
TESL Canada Bulletin	-	880
TESL Canada Journal - Schedule	77,838	74,008
Travel - Board	16,007	16,337
Travel - International	-	877
	192,546	192,427
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES (EXPENSES OVER REVENUE)	$ 55,319	$ (8,498)

Standard's Advisory Committee Report

From Shannon Storey

1. New program recognitions and instructor certifications

Certification

2010				
	Granted	%	Granted*	% of '10 & '11
Level 1 Interim	87	44%	6	42%
Level 1 Permanent	29	13%	4	13%
Level 2 Interim	52	26%	0	23%
Level 2 Permanent	12	6%	4	7%
Level 2 Interim (TESL ON)	3	1%	1	2%
Level 2 Permanent (TESL ON)	1	1%	0	1%
Level 3 Interim	2	1%	1	1%
Level 3 Permanent	18	8%	10	11%
TOTAL	204	100%	26	100%
TOTAL of '10 & '11			230	

*Applied in 2010 but granted in 2011

In 2010 273 applied

204 were granted in 2010

26 were granted in 2011

43 on Hold

- 18 Missing documents
- 22 PLAR Hold
- 2 Withdrew

2011 Jan-March

80 applied

- 49 have been certified
- 31 PLAR/Missing documents

In 2010, we received 14 applications for new program recognition and 19 renewal applications for recognized programs that had completed their five-year cycle.

For the first quarter of 2011, we have received 7 new applications and 2 renewal application.

2. Rubric Needs: Standards 2 and 3

Standard I certified programs are required to cover a set of specific topics, but no specific guidance has been provided to programs that exceed the Standard I minimum hours. In response to input from a number of sources, the Committee realizes that more detailed content requirements should be incorporated into Standards 2 and 3. The Committee wishes to issue a Call for Proposals for a qualified person to review Standards 2 and 3 and define a rubric for the extra 150 hours of the standard 2 programs as well as the hours and content that needs to be required for a master's level (Standard 3) program. The new rubrics should not be overly rigid, but should better reflect best practices in English language teaching.

3. International Recognition

The committee has agreed in principle to the idea of recognizing programs internationally with specific conditions. Virginia Christopher will carry out some research into this with the assistance of Jennifer and Liet. The committee will try to have representation at future meetings of the Association of Accrediting Agencies of Canada (AAAC) where international recognition issues are also explored.

4. English Language Proficiency - IELTS

The certification adjudicator has recommended that TESL Canada require band scores rather than a combined score for accepting the IELTS. Rather than merely requiring an overall score of 6.5, as we do now, minimum scores of 6.5 should be required in each of the four skill areas. The Committee passed a motion to so amend our ELP requirements and asks that it be endorsed by the Board.

Journal Advisory Committee Report

From Paula Kristmanson in consultation with John Sivell, TCJ Editor

1. Transition to the New Editor (report from John Sivell)

John and Marian have been in touch quite regularly over the winter and into the spring, working on a number of projects:

- They have worked together (with help from L. Ranta, S. Douglas, P. Kristmanson, and T. Derwing) to plan and pilot a pre-screening process for initially guiding new MSs either back to their authors promptly (if there are not suitable [yet] for review, or if they miss the TCJ mandate), or to reviewers. By the time of the actual JAC meeting, both John and Marian will be ample to report, but the expectation is that this will much expedite the reviewing turn-around time.

- With respect to other aspects of the editing and MS-turn-around process, John has provided Marian with various procedural documents, personnel lists are as per her requests.

- Two future Special Issues are in the works and well under way; since joining the JAC Marian has become increasingly involved with that pro-

cess. Right now we are looking forward to Special Issue 6 (Adriss Mackey and Awad Ibrahim) on 'Popular Culture in TESL: Identity, Performance, and Reflection', which is to appear in Fall, 2011; after that Special Issue 7 (HettyRoessingh and Scott Douglas), on TESL and Generation 1.5, will appear in Fall, 2012, and the call for proposals went out before Christmas. It will soon be time to turn our attention to Special Issue 8; that process will be entirely under the direction of Marian

- At present all the past and current MSs, correspondence etc are stored in separate 'mailboxes' inside a very large email account on the Brock server; this system (which works very well) is an imitation of the one Sandie used in Manitoba. Sandie's editorial assistant was able to get tech help with forwarding all the mailboxes to Brock and – although an alternative system would no doubt be possible – probably, if available, renewed transfer to a similar system in Alberta would be effective.

2. Special issues- special notes

a. The next Special Issue (Guest Editor - SandieKouritzin) on ethics is coming to its completion and will be sent to Naomi Stinson (see below)for layout very soon. Although the time-line for publication had to be extended, it is at least in time for Marian to mention it in her SSHRC grant proposal, which is important. John has reported that process for publishing special issues in a timely manner has now gone into full effect. Hopefully the difficulties encountered by Sandie (not of her own doing; she deserves *credit* for forging ahead!) will not recur again.

b.Scott Douglas will be co-editing the special issue with HettyRoessingh (as per email discussion of week of January 10th)

3. Page-layout

Naomi Stinson, who does the page-layout, is nearing retirement and will not be in a position to carry on in that role for many more issues of TJC. There is no immediate crisis, and Louise is

liaising with her to explore possibilities for a smooth transition. John has recommended that within 12 months after Marian becomes Editor, we will need to have identified a successor for Naomi. John raised this issue not because there is a sense of panic about this matter, but simply because we need to start considering replacements. He also noted that Naomi has been a highly professional and pleasant person to work with and when she does step back, we'll want to thank her profusely.

4. SSHRC Grant

Marian has booked off time in her schedule to write the SSHRC funding proposal; having the last one as a template (incl. a certain amount of re-usable or extendable content) will not doubt help, but John and the other JAC members need to expect to assist… for example, by critically reading successive drafts and maybe getting together for a Skype meeting.

5. Editorial Assistants

For Issue 28.1 John initiated the use of editorial interns: graduate students who participate (under supervision) in aspects of the editorial process. There were two of them for issue 28.1; they tried their hand at copy editing; for issue 28.2 there were five; they took a part in checking references for a couple of articles (which in fact saved some money because Erika did not do those two MSs, although the real point is to give them experience, mentoring and recognition, not to make a savings). The 'help' of editorial interns does not really save much if any time because their work needs to be carefully checked (and they often ask questions about how decisions are made), but the bonus is that they learn a lot… and SSHRC should love the idea!

6. Going Open-Access

Issue 28.2 is about to appear (or in fact may have appeared by now). This will be our first fully open-access issue and its appearance will be the first step in having TCJ listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), which will vastly increase our exposure. It will of course also be necessary to let our various indexers/aggregators know about the change. It will not trouble them in any way, since they had agreed not to carry the non-open issues (they were observing our 24 month embargo but now they will be able to display everything (i.e. they will lose nothing

and in fact will have more content). So,there will be benefits for both TCJ and the aggregators. Also, SSHRC will be very happy about our new open-access status.

7. Exposure

Going online has definitely had the effect that we hoped for. Visit to the journal are now running at well over 7,000 per month. A revealing comparison is possible: in our first twelve months online, Google Analytics showed that we has just over 60,000 visits; by contract, in the twelve months immediately following preparation of the MSs for issue 28.2, that number was almost 90,000.

8. Previously published materials

Discussion on Jan. 30th concerning the publishing of a previously published book review. In the process of deciding not to republish this review, the committee also brought up issues related to how current book reviews should be.

9. Pre-screening of Articles:

In order to improve efficiency the editors (incoming and outgoing) have decided to pilot a pre-screening review process. After consulting the TESL Canada journal committee, a group of willing volunteers (Paula, Scott, Marian and John) will serve in the role of pre-screening committee for the pilot. The pre-screening will involve a review process in which the committee will determine if the article is both appropriate for the journal and in a "reviewer-ready" state. We were going to try to get together for a SKYPE meeting to make the decisions, but due to difficulties with finding common times for meetings, we decided to simply send our assessments to Erika. The pilot committee will give feedback on the process after a first run-through.

10. Journal Rep at ACLA conference-

As per email request from John Sivell on Feb 17-18, Paula Kristmanson will sit on this "How to get published in…" panel along with reps from CMLR and CJAL. Ron Thompson will fill in if Paula happens to be presenting at the same time as this panel is taking place. John confirmed this in an email to panel organizer on Feb. 18.

CCLB Report

From Christina Stechishin

By now, many of you will have received the latest copy of "Inside

Language" – the quarterly newsletter produced by the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks in Ottawa, but I would like to highlight some of the items for this report. You can view the complete Newsletter at http://www.language.ca.

Both the CLB and the NCLC (Niveaux de compétence linguistique Canadiens) have now been thoroughly revised and a theoretical framework has been developed for the latter document. All of these materials are now in the 2nd of a 3- phase intense validation process funded by CIC, so that they can be applied in a much wider range of usage, including high-stakes environments.

We are all always interested in new resources, and thankfully, Public Works and Government Services Canada has also provided funding for some great ones to assist ESL and FSL practitioners, including:

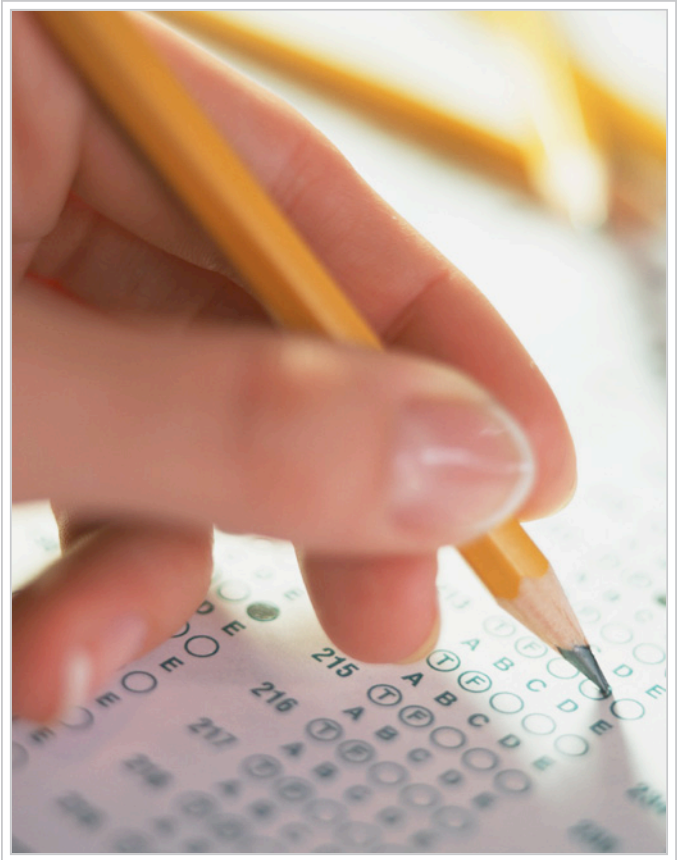
- a bilingual video of several instructors explaining why they use the Benchmarks in their classes (see CLB Introduction),
- speaking and listening, reading, and writing exemplars to use as reference points for CLB 1-10 (hallelujah!),

and – at last -

- a very complete glossary of terms used when referring and working with the Benchmarks.

Check these out at on the CCLB website at http://www.language.ca - on the left side bar, click on "3. For ESL Professionals"; then click on "CLB Orientation" in the sub-menu that appears. These resources have been a long time in coming, and I'm sure all teachers who work with the Benchmarks will be delighted! But don't forget about the other resources already available on the website under "Teacher Resources" on the left sidebar at the bottom, and "Publications" along the top bar.

All too often, new immigrants have trouble getting their language credentials recognized, and the CCLB has been contracted by CIC to develop the CLB Milestones Assessment to aid in this process. This standardized, formal assessment which measures CLB 3-9 (stressing the "Milestones at CLB 4, 7 and 8) will be of great use to educational institutions and employers, and after extensive piloting, a prototype will be delivered to the CIC in March.



CIC has also engaged the CCLB to develop glossaries for the new reference guides in English and French for immigrants who want to take a citizenship test, since it was found that the documents were actually written at a level higher than the citizenship test itself (CLB 4) and were therefore of limited use. Ah well… The Centre was also asked to translate and adapt the excellent citizenship preparation resource at CLB 4 produced by the Toronto Catholic School Board into French at NCLC 4 for French-speaking immigrants.

On the employment front, the CCLB has been busy developing a proficiency assessment in English and French for Engineers Canada for

use with international engineering graduates in Canada. They have also been tasked by HRSDC (Human Resources and Skills Development Canada) with the Benchmarking of pharmacy occupations, including programs for internationally trained professionals. In addition to previously-developed OLAs (Occupational Language Analyses) for several occupations, the CCLB has now completed 9 of these for the trucking industry. There are also plans afoot to develop tests based on CLB/NCLC to assess the language proficiency of internationally trained teachers, as well as physiotherapists and occupational therapists.

And last, but not least, the needs of immigrants needing to learn French have been addressed by the development of CLIC en ligne, an online course in French for new immigrants who cannot attend regular classes for various reasons. This project was funded by CIC Ontario region.

It's clear that the CLB/NCLC has progressed well beyond its original use in low-level settlement-oriented language classrooms, and this progress shows no signs of slowing down. Even though we no longer have the Learners' Conference, TESL Canada can definitely continue to work with the CCLB as a partner in this exciting development, but we need to have some discussion about how we want to do this.

Unfortunately, TESL Canada board members won't be able to attend the session given by CCLB staff on Thursday, April 28th at 1 pm entitled CCLB Updated: Revising and Validating the Standard to Meet Current Needs in the ESL/FSL Field , but be sure to drop by the booth in the Publisher's Display or attend any other sessions given by staff members to ask any questions that you might have.

One last note – at the present time, the CCLB is in the midst of a governance review, moving from an operational/working board to a strategic/policy-development board. This change will dramatically affect the way in which CCLB board members are selected, and may result in a change to our own TESL Canada policies regarding our board composition. I will keep the board informed of any developments.

Professional Development Committee Report

From Sarah ter Keurs

Members: Liet Hellwig, Hana Taleb Imai, Liliana Dominguez, Sandie Kouritzin, Christina Stechishin, Jennifer Pearson-Terell, Jennifer Loewen, Cathy Gillian, Ellen Pilion (ex-officio)
Chair: Sarah ter Keurs

It has been a busy year for the Professional Development Committee

with several initiatives to help expand the reach of professional development opportunities for TESL Canada members across the country. I came onto the TESL Board last spring and it took a little while to get into sync with the work that was already happening. There are several projects with which we've been involved.

1. Travel Grants

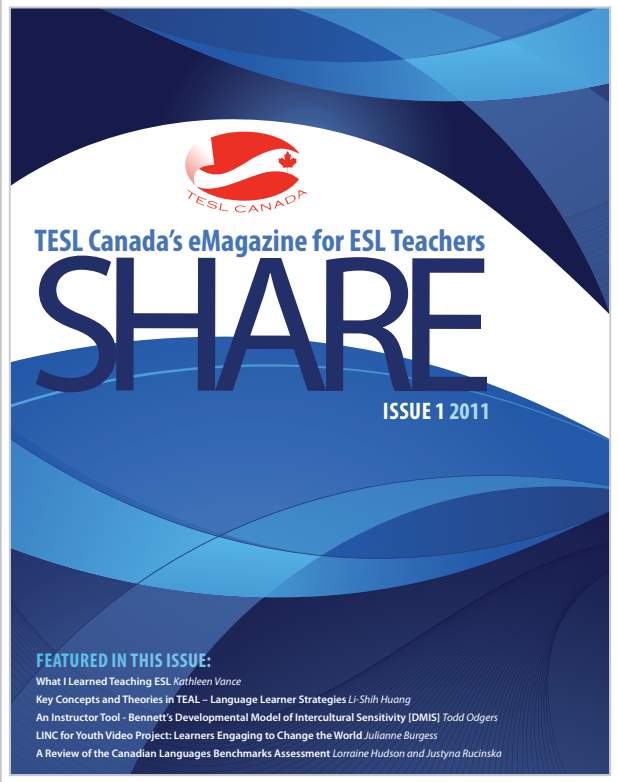
In 2010, a motion was passed by the TESL Canada board to establish criteria for awarding five one-time only $500 travel awards to the TESL Canada Conference in 2011 for TESL Canada members from profits generated by the TESL Canada Conference in Banff in 2009. The committee agreed on the following criteria: applicants needed to be first-time presenters and had to demonstrate financial need. Of the 24 applications that we received, 16 were deemed by the committee to meet the criteria from which we randomly drew five names.

The lucky recipients were:
Simone Hengen
Janice Pregnall
Brian Wilson
Elilidh Singh
Mubashir Farzana

These people will be presented with their grant at the President's reception at the Halifax conference.

The only outstanding issue is the question of if the grants will continue to be offered. The original motion described the awards as **one time only**. If it decided that the awards continue to be made available, based on profits from previous conferences, I'd like to recommend that they be officially created by way of a motion and also that the management of them transfer to the TESL Education Foundation instead of the PD Committee.

2. E-magazine SHARE



The committee is delighted to see the fruition of a new TESL Canada publication called SHARE. This annual publication will focus on practical teaching ideas for the ESL classroom, classroom technology, reviews of ESL teaching and learning online and print resources and opportunities across Canada for professional development. The first issue is complete and will be available at the Halifax conference (I had a sneak peak and it looks AMAZING!) The layout was contracted out to Great Exposure and the final cost of having the layout done was about $1000. There is a yearly budget amount of $500 to continue with this project in future years.

TEACHING IDEAS FROM THE ESL CLASSROOM Issue 1, Spring 2011

Three Gems for Teaching Pronunciation

Audrey Suchoplas

Maximising Student Speaking Time in Language Learning

Marianne Raynaud

Ways to Exploit the Walls in Our Classrooms

Greg Gobel

Content-based Project Work

Alicia Artusi and Gregory Manin

Discussing World Issues

Hall Houston

Where Does the Dictionary Sit in Your Classroom?

Shayne Dahl

Learners as Resources

Michael Rochon

TECH-TALK FOR ESL TEACHERS

TESL Canada's Online Teachers' Resource Centre

Socialesl.com: Web 2.0 Assistance for ESL Teachers

John Allan and Stephen Roney

Wired Teacher: Same Old, Same Old or Old New, New Old?

Barbara Siennicki

ESL RESOURCES IN REVIEW

Famous Canadian Authors

Jane Wangersky

Writing to Communicate: Paragraphs and Essays, Third Edition

Collen Swinemar

Fifty Ways To Improve Your Presentation Skills In English

Hilary Livingstone

Working World Careers in International Education, Exchange and Development

Pauline Carpenter

Total Business 2- Students Book

Samatha McDonald-Amara

3. Teacher Resource Centre (TRC)

The TRC is a valuable collection of free online teaching and learning resources. The links are maintained by a volunteer and the PD Committee approximately four times a year. The PD committee developed Submission Criteria which is available on the TRC website: http://www.tesl.ca/Secondary_Navigation/Teachers_Resource_Centre__TRC_/TRC_Submission_Criteria.htm

4. Online media files

This is one area that I'd like to put a bit more time into in the coming year (assuming I'm able to continue as PD Chair). There were a few ideas floated regarding possible alternatives to recording at the upcoming TESL Canada conference. Some of those ideas are:

- Get permission to use previously recorded videos (TESL Ontario, BC TEAL, TESOL) – not sure where we would house these online files. On the TESL Canada website? For members only? Who will own the media files? Lots of questions still.

- Host webinars (One example was TESOL's virtual seminars) – What is the cost of setting up something like this?

- Look at future conferences as venues for recording – The committee should be in contact with the future conference committee right from the beginning to ensure that they have the support they need if we decide to proceed with TESL Canada conference recordings. Also, it would be helpful to contact associations (TESOL perhaps) who already do this and get feedback from them. I think that Louise may have already done this??

We had some initial thoughts, but we didn't pursue the project any further. I'd like to propose that this be a major focus for the coming year. I hope to attend the IATEFL conference next month and perhaps get some further ideas about how to effectively use technology to better connect the ELT community and provide PD opportunities to people across the country.

So the next step is to ask who wants to be involved in this initiative and work on collecting more information. I think that this should be done in close communication with the PR and Website Committee

TESL Canadian Educational Foundation

The primary activity of the TESL Canadian Educational Foundation

(TCEF) Board over the past term has been to develop a new vision for TCEF.

Background

In the past, a major role taken on by TCEF was to support the Learner's Conference. TCEF both contributed funds to Learners' Conferences and was used as the bank account for Learner's Conference income and expenses.

At our last AGM in Vancouver, we agreed that the future of Learners' Conferences was uncertain. A lack of federal funding and full support from all provincial affiliates means it currently lacks financial viability, and the TCEF is in no position to fund this program. Consequently, we determined that it was time to revisit TCEF's role in supporting TESL Canada.

The TCEF is registered under the BC Societies ACT and subject to its legislation. Further to that it is a registered charity under the Revenue Canada's Charities Directorate. The Society Act indicates that we must do what we set out to do in our constitution.

The purpose of TCEF is:

1. to fund, facilitate, promote and carry on activities, research and teaching which will advance education and in particular, without restricting the foregoing, will promote and facilitate the learning of English as an additional language and an understanding of the impact of the learner's cultural environment of the ability to learn additional languages, and

2. to receive bequests, trusts, funds and property, and to hold, invest, administer and distribute funds and property for the purposes of the society as presently set out and for such other organizations as are "qualified donees" under the provisions of the Income Tax Act and for such other purposes and activities which are authorized for registered charities under the provisions of the Income Tax Act. The directors in their sole and absolute discretion may refuse to accept any bequests, trusts, funds or property; and

3. 3to do all such things as are incidental and ancillary to the attainment of the purposes and the exercise of the powers of the Society.

New direction

After extensive email discussion, the following motions were passed that reflect the TCEF Board's desire to focus our current activities on the promotion of professional development for teachers and to increase our income to support this change in mandate to the fullest extent possible.

MOVE that the TCEF support travel grants for future TESL Canada Conference presenters, based on both merit and financial need, as a current mandate, and raise funds for this purpose in conjunction with the 2011 conference. Fundraising will include a silent auction, a balloon burst, and solicitation of donations from members.

MOVE that the TCEF create a budget line with the title: "Fund for the Advancement of TESL in Canada" for this purpose.

MOVE that the TCEF ask the conference organizing committee of TESL Canada 2011 in Halifax to consider adding an optional donation line to the conference registration form allowing registrants to voluntarily contribute to the TESL Canadian Educational Foundation's Fund for the Advancement of TESL in Canada".

Since these motions were passed in September, 2010, we have established the TESL Canadian Educational Foundation's Fund for the Advancement of TESL in Canada. This fund will support travel awards (currently set at $500 each) for presenters at future TESL Canada Conferences, starting with the 2012 conference in Kamloops, BC. The TCEF will establish criteria similar to those used by the PD committee for travel awards funded by TESL Canada for presenters at the Halifax 2011 conference.

An opportunity to donate to the fund in $10 increments has been added to the Halifax conference registration system and has so far brought in $170 in donations. We will provide a tax deductable receipt for donations of $20 or more.

We believe that now having a clearer mandate, and one that clearly benefits TESL Canada's membership, TESL professionals will be more inclined to support the TCEF. At the same time, this shift in focus does not need to be permanent, and support for the Learner's Conference can be considered in the future if it again becomes viable.

Additional fundraising

While we hope to ramp up charitable contributions to our new Fund for the Advancement of TESL in Canada, we are also interested in establishing other fundraising programs to support

TCEF's mandate. Regrettably, the Halifax conference committee has unanimously had to vote against allowing a Balloon Burst at the 2011 conference because of a severe latex allergy by one of its committee members. While we may be able to have balloon bursts in future years, it would be prudent for us to come up with alternatives, since this issue could very well arise again, and we will need to be careful. The TCEF members have decided to hold a fundraiser called Mystery Boxes in lieu of the balloon burst. Fun, sealed boxes will be available for purchase for $20 leading up to and during the Friday night banquet of at the conference. Inside will be a note thanking the purchaser for donating to the TCEF and in at least 10 of the 100 boxes – awarding a prize. The Delta Hotels have generously agreed to supply the grand prize of a weekend get-away including two nights' accommodation at any of their Canadian properties!

There will also be, of course, the signature TESL Canada Silent Auction during the banquet dinner. The TESL Canada office is busy collecting donations and gifts for the auction. In addition, the provincial/territorial associations will be donating to the silent auction from their organizations.

TCEF Finances

Given that the next planned expenditure for the TCEF will be the travel grants for the Fall 2012 Conference, in January the board invested $12,000 of the TCEF's assets into a non-redeemable GIC for a period of 18 months at an annual rate of 2% for an income of $360. The total assets of the TCEF at this time are $14,748.90. With $12,000 invested, there is still $2,500 available should a need arise. Furthermore, the TCEF is planning to earn between $2,000-$3,000 with its fundraising efforts at the 2011 TESL Canada Conference which will be added to the available funds.

Newly Elected TCEF Board

Liliana Dominguez, Ron Thomson, Paula Kristmanson, Christina Stechishin, Jennifer Loewen, and Shannon Storey.

Nominations Committee Report

Submitted by: Jennifer Pearson Terell

The nominations committee began its work at the beginning of 2011

in order to advertise and secure nominations for the upcoming 2011 AGM board elections. The Nomination Form and a Call for Nominations was emailed to all 6,500+ members of TESL Canada mid February. The call and links to the forms were also placed on the homepage of the TESL Canada website. Nominees were required to submit a nomination consent form indicating their willingness to stand with two members as their nominators. To date we have received nominations for each available position with several contested positions. Nominations will be accepted

up to the AGM and including from the floor during the meeting. Please see chart below for a list of the position, responsibilities and those who have been nominated for each position.

TESL CANADA NOMINATIONS [2011 – 2012]

POSITIONS	COMMITTEES	RESPONSIBILITIES	NOMINEES
President		Responsible for the overall stewardship of TESL Canada. Responsibilities as stated in the TESL Canada By-laws Ex-officio member of all committees Member of the TESL Canada Executive	Sandra Kouritzin
Vice President	Chair, Governance & Policy Committee	Responsible for assisting the President in the overall stewardship of TESL Canada Responsibilities as stated in the TESL Canada By-laws Chair of Governance & Policy Committee Member of the TESL Canada Executive	Ron Thomson

POSITIONS	COMMITTEES	RESPONSIBILITIES	NOMINEES
Secretary	TESL Canadian Educational Foundation (TCEF)	Responsible for ensuring that the needs of TCEF are met The secretary is not required to take minutes at meetings: this is done by the Executive Director. Responsibilities as stated in the TESL Canada By-laws Member of the TESL Canada Executive	Michael Galli Joy Lin Salzberg
Treasurer	Chair, Finance Committee	Responsible for advising and assisting in all financial matters related to TESL Canada Responsibilities as stated in the TESL Canada By-laws Chair of the Finance Committee Member of the TESL Canada Executive	Scott Douglas

POSITIONS	COMMITTEES	RESPONSIBILITIES	NOMINEES
Elected Director	Chair, CCLB Committee	Responsible for liaising with the Board of Directors for the Centre for the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks [CCLB] and reporting to the TESL Canada Board on the motions passed and the discussion conducted at the annual CCLB Board meeting. The Chair of the CCLB Committee is an appointed representative of TESL Canada to the CCLB Board. Each of the three TESL Canada CCLB representatives serves a three year term (renewable). The three TESL Canada CCLB representatives constitute the CCLB Committee. Director, TESL Canada Board	Christina Stechishin
Elected Director	Chair, Standards Advisory Committee	Responsible for advising and reviewing decisions regarding the administration of the national standards for TESL Canada Professional Certification and TESL Canada Teacher Training Program Recognition. Director, TESL Canada Board	Shannon Storey

POSITIONS	COMMITTEES	RESPONSIBILITIES	NOMINEES
Elected Director	Chair, Website & Public Relations Advisory Committee	Responsible for liaising and advising the TESL Canada Webmaster and the Executive Director with regard to the design and content of the TESL Canada Website. Responsible for advising and making recommendations with regard to public relations issues that directly impact TESL Canada Director, TESL Canada Board	Ron Lavoie Joy Lin Salzberg
Elected Director	Chair, Professional Development Committee	Responsible for promoting, developing, and coordinating the continued growth of professional development opportunities for the members of TESL Canada Director, TESL Canada Board	Sarah ter Keurs
Elected Director	Chair, TESL Canada Journal Advisory Committee	Responsible for developing policy and recommendations for the continued growth and success of the TESL Canada Journal Director, TESL Canada Board	Paula Kristmanson Ardiss Mackie

TESL Canada 2011 Conference Report

Ellen Pilon (Conference coordinator).
Andy de Champlain (Conference Chair)
Andrea Purchase (TESL Rep)

TESL Nova Scotia has spent the last six months -- in fact, the last two years -- working diligently on the April 2011 conference. We're all volunteers with little if any institutional support, so the 12 of us meet on weekends or weeknights to plan and organize. We also communicate frequently through email.

Statistics for the conference to date (April 10):

Thursday symposia morning: 100
Thursday symposia afternoon: 78
Full Friday/Saturday: 343
Friday only: 21
Saturday only: 7
Pier 21: 40
Peggy's Tour: 73
Friday Banquet: 138
Saturday lunch: 125
Saturday lobster dinner: 69
Keith's tour: 30

The Early Bird deadline was extended to accommodate some requests from organizations that are finding the money in their post-April 1 budget. We expect to add about 30 more from the

extension. Registration numbers are, overall, better than we expected when we heard about CIC funding cutbacks for this new fiscal year and academic professional development cutbacks. Likely we will meet our low estimate of 400.

It has been challenging for everyone to meet the Early Bird deadline. For the conference committee, the Early Bird is an important indicator of the conference success one month ahead of the conference. Many organizations have fiscal year end March 31 and some needed to spend their professional development money before then, whereas others needed to wait until the new fiscal year. Presenters were unsure of their funding which, in turn, made the conference program difficult to finalize. The program workshops and presentations that are confirmed are all excellent and on a variety of relevant topics sure to interest everyone. The conference committee appreciates the commitment of the presenters: without them we would have no conference.

The special events (tours and lobster dinner) are cost recovery and have met the numbers we expected. Symposia registration is what we expected. Full program details for the symposia have been available for three months on our website. Interest in the banquet and lunch is disappointing; perhaps our prices seem high, although in fact they reflect the extremely high costs of eating out in Halifax. The banquet and lunch are actually barely cost recovery.

We are delighted with the cooperation and patience of the World Trade Centre and our two hotels, the Prince George and the Delta Barrington. The personal touch works well on the East Coast, and our frequent visits with all the different people helping us with the planning have created strong relationships. All three have been as generous as possible, and extremely helpful.

We are also delighted that Pearson Longman, Cambridge University Press and UPS Store Bedford have all contributed generously to the cost of the program book. Pearson Longman also contributed notebooks for the conference bags; CCLB has contributed pens; Acadia University's Open Acadia has contributed the conference bags. We have 18 exhibitors coming to show and sell their ESL products and distribute information about their services.

Michael Swan and Roy Lyster are looking forward to joining us on some of our social activities and to giving their keynote presentations. Just three weeks until we have the opportunity to welcome you to Halifax and our conference: it's hard to believe.

Administration Report

From Louise Aerts

Hello again from the TESL Canada office. At my last report we had just moved into the new offices and were getting used to the space. I am pleased to report that the space has been perfect for us and the move a very positive one. The extra space, currently being used to store silent auction goodies for the upcoming fundraiser at the conference, has been invaluable.

Also new at the time of my last report, but not yet reportable, was that my family is expanding again. Our two year old son Mitchell will soon be having a baby brother. I will be going on leave in mid-May and will take a year's maternity leave from my position as ED. The executive has promoted the current Executive Assistant, Aliya Jiwa, to the role of Acting Executive Director during my leave. We posted for a new Executive Assistant and are pleased to announce that we have offered the position to Ritu Dhalba. Ritu comes with administrative assistant experience at a non-profit society and impressed us with her understanding and knowledge of our standards.

As I will be too far along in my pregnancy to fly, I will not able to the TESL Canada Conference in Halifax in person. It will be very strange for me to be at the office in BC while everyone is at the conference in Halifax! Aliya will be attending at the Acting Executive Director and I trust that it will be a wonderful conference and events. I look forward to seeing how much our Friday night banquet guests enjoy the new TCEF fundraiser – Mystery Boxes!

During the Friday night Banquet we will also be honouring this year's TESL Canada Honourary Life Member Award winners. The Life Member Award was established to honour TESL Canada members who have made exemplary contributions to TESL in Canada. These individuals have provided outstanding service over a period of not less than 20 years. They have shown leadership in both the workplace and the community in such areas of involvement as academic, vocational, sociocultural and linguistic instruction, cross cultural counseling, labour market access training, citizenship training and multicultural liaison. This year we are pleased to announce the following winners:

From ATESL – Anna DeLuca
From BC TEAL – Dr. William McMichael
From TESL Ontario – Margaret Meyer

Congratulations!

The TESL Canada Annual General Meeting will take place during the conference on Friday, April 29th at 12:30pm in Room 201 of the World Trade Convention Centre, 1800 Argyle Street, Halifax, NS B3J 2V9. We encourage you to attend to learn about the latest goings on at TESL Canada and exercise your right to vote as a member.

On the topic of conferences, we have also been hard at work on the TESL Canada 2012 Conference which will be held October 11-13, 2012 in Kamloops, BC with the theme: "TESL Interiors: Landscapes of Language and Literacies". The conference committee is already hard at work and it promises to be another successful conference. Please watch website for updates.

BC TEAL Report

From Liet Hellwig

The previous report to TESL Canada was dated October 2010. This current report deals with what has happened in BC TEAL and what has been planned since then with regard to:

- BC TEAL Professional Development,
- BC TEAL Annual Conference 2011,
- BC TEAL and TESL Canada preparing for the 2012 Conference,
- Staffing and the Board of Directors,
- TEAL Membership.

BC TEAL Professional Development

BC TEAL has a very active PD Committee, which continues to organize various events for TEAL members and non-members. These mini-conferences have been steadily increasing in attendance and TEAL has changed the name from PD Sessions to TEAL Regional Conferences, providing annual events in 3 regions of BC: the Interior, Vancouver Island, and Lower Mainland.

The Fall 2010 Interior Regional Conference

On Saturday 16th October 2010, a hugely successful Regional Conference was organized at Okanagan College in Kelowna. Attendance was high, with approximately 150 participants. There

were 15 presentations to choose from, in 3 different time slots for the day, as well as a plenary address. Conference participants came from local school districts, as well as the private and the post-secondary sectors in the BC Interior as well as the Lower Mainland. As well, there were many TESL student who offered poster sessions. Some 80 student volunteers contributed greatly to the smooth flow of the event and Okanagan College organized a post-conference wine and cheese celebration which was enjoyed by all participants.

The Fall 2010 Lower Mainland Regional Conference

Less than a month later, on Saturday, November 6th, 2010, the PD Committee coordinated another PD Regional Conference in downtown Vancouver. The Vancouver English Centre (VEC) hosted this event, which featured a plenary address by Kay and Lawrence McAllister. The topic, whether insights from linguistics are reflected and integrated in ESL coursebooks ("The Operator – Calling on Theory"), was very well received. There were workshops for the 3 additional time slots, each of them with a selection of 4 presentations. Publisher tables were set up for the full length of this PD event and almost 90 people attended.

The Spring 2011 Vancouver Island Regional Conference

The New Year was licked off with this very successful PD event hosted by Global Village, Victoria. 65 participants joined us for an inspiring plenary presentation by Helena Helnsley, along with 3 sets of workshops centred on the theme: "Intercultural Approaches to ESL", as well as publishers' displays,

Supporting Non-BC TEAL PD Events

For the third year now, BC TEAL has supported the University of Victoria's annual Resource Fair. This event is organised mainly to expose UVic students to the resources and opportunities available to them after they graduate from their program.

BC TEAL provides several guest speakers and sets up a booth to welcome newcomers to the profession. We explain the role of the Professional Association and encourage students to join and participate in networking and PD events.

Future Regional Conferences

The next Regional Conference is planned for October 15, 2011. This BC TEAL Interior Conference will be hosted by UBC Okanagan.

Tri-TESOL 2011

Over a decade since the last such event took place, BC TEAL has joined forces with our sister associations to the south, WAESOL and ORTESOL, to organise a Tri-TESLO Conference. This large scale event, scheduled for October 21 and 22, 2011, will be held at Highline Community College in Des Moines, Washington (just south of Seattle), and plans are well under way for an anticipated attendance of between 600 and 800.

BC TEAL Annual Conference

The 43rd Annual Conference of BC TEAL, hosted by Simon Fraser University, will take place soon on Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7. . The theme is "The Teachable Teacher". The ple-

nary speakers are Steven Molinsky, Professor at Boston University; and Hesoon Bai and Kumari Beck, Professors at Simon Fraser University. With Pre-Registration numbers nearing 200, we are eagerly anticipating an event on the same scale (400 attendees) as the previous 3 years. The conference committee is well prepared and planning some interesting activities that will make this a memorable and enjoyable Conference.

TESL Canada 2012 Conference

BC TEAL and TESL Canada have been in contact with each other to organize the 2012 TESL Canada conference in Kamloops, British Columbia. It will be hosted by Thompson Rivers University (TRU). The Contract has been signed by BC TEAL and we are awaiting a signed copy to be returned from TESL Canada. Plans are already underway and the Conference Committee, Co-Chaired by Joe Dobson and Karen Densky are highly motivated. Keynote speakers are being considered and we will have promotional materials prepared for distribution at the 2011 TESL Canada Conference in Halifax.

Staffing and Board of Directors

BC TEAL has a new Administrative Manager since Marilyn Pierlet retired. At the beginning of March 2011 Trishna Naidu took over and has quickly and effectively adapted to the job. We thank Marilyn for all the hard work that she has done to keep everything going in an increasingly busy organization. Also, we welcome Trishna, who has in the few weeks of her work with us already shown her competence. We are happy that she is now the face of BC TEAL to the professional world outside.

At the May BC TEAL AGM ,various members of the TEAL Board will step down as their terms come to an end, with new candidates stepping forward to take their places. Most importantly, the term of Michael Galli as President is coming to an end.

BC TEAL Membership

Membership has increased to 671 active members in March 2011.

ATESL Report

From Hana Imai

The previous report to TESL Canada was dated October 2010. This report

is an update on what has happened since then with regard to changes on the ATESL Board, professional development opportunities, and projects.

1) The ATESL Board has undergone a few changes since the AGM at the ATESL Canada Conference in November. The Board is now composed of the following:

President	Diane Hardy
Past President	Audrey Olson
President Elect	Patti Lefebvre
Treasurer	Maroro Zinyemba
Secretary	Jenine Hawryluk
Edmonton Local reps	Kent Lee, Murray Smith
Central Alberta Local reps	Cindy Messaros, Gaylene Mackay
Calgary Local reps	Maureen Stewart, Allison Dennis
Southern Alberta Local reps	Jenine Hawryluk, Jane Brenner
CCLB rep	Anna De Luca
TESL Canada rep	Hana Taleb Imai
Accreditation Committee	Martin Guardado, Iwa Dufrat, Audrey Olson

Business Manager	Ivan Sundal
Administrative Assistant	Irene Wood

2) Local events have been well attended in all regions of the province. The Calgary local has introduced a Coffee Pot series of pd events which involve a shorter presentation and then a sharing of materials and ideas by the attendees. These events have been held on Saturdays and have been very well attended.

3) The annual ATESL Conference is being held in Calgary on October 20 and 21. The theme is Igniting Language, Learning and Leadership. The call is open until June 1st.

4) ATESL has been funded by the province to undertake several projects. The Curriculum Framework for Adult ESL is wrapping up in the fall and will be shared with stakeholders in the province (through workshops, a printed document and the website). The Resource Database project, which houses publicly funded projects and reports is accessible through the ATESL website at www.atesl.ca

TESL Saskatchewan Report

From Liliana Dominguez

Our Organizational Review has concluded. At our last Provincial Conference

and AGM the membership has approved the change of name and logo. We are officially TESL Saskatchewan –Teachers of English as a Subsequent language.

- Following our Organizational Review, the Association has hired a new Executive Assistant, Ms Maryann Scott. She has extensive experience as an ESL practitioner and writer. TESL Saskatchewan has a new website www.teslsask.org.
- The joint TESL SK (Teaching English as a Subsequent Language in Saskatchewan)/ SK TEAL (Saskatchewan Teachers of English as an Additional Language) Annual Conference will be held May 13th-14th, 2011 at the University of Regina. The theme is "Pluralism and Language Learning." The keynote speakers are Dr. Mela Sarkar, Director of Graduate Programs at McGill University and Dr. Brian Morgan, Associate Professor/ESL Director at York University.
- We will run a parallel Learners Conference sponsored by AEEI (Advanced Employment, Education and Immigration. The organization has secured a grant to offered registration, accommodation, transportation and meal for 40 participants. Dr Sarkar has agreed to present a workshop for the learners as well.

TEAM/TEAL Manitoba Report

From Jennifer Loewen

TEAL Manitoba membership represents learners in K-12 systems, university and adult programs. Its executive are involved in committees to influence a variety of advocacy issues such as curriculum development. With 40 percent of Manitoba's immigrants under the age of 21, there is a focus on membership in the school system and the learner as part of a family unit.

October 22, 2010 Teal's conference began with a session on the Human Rights Museum to open in Winnipeg June 2011. There were two awards given at the conference: the teaching award for Cheryl Campbell from the Pembina School Division and the community award for Jennifer Nickolson and her book What is the What.

TEAL continues to offer it's cafes for an informal meeting of teachers to share resources and network. Their next cafe is in May with a focus on summer resources and kids EAL programs for the summer months. This year TEAL has also added a Wiki page of resources for teachers with a wide variety of links including: Content-based EAL Resources, Diversity and Cultural Resources, EAL Literacy Resources, EAL-Special Needs and Elementary EAL to name a few. It can be found at http://tealmanitoba.wikispaces.com/

TEAM is an organization representing 163 professionals working with immigrant and refugee newcomers, international students and aboriginal students (SESD).

TEAM supports its members in a variety of ways. One way is through bursaries and awards. This past year saw learner bursaries given to Luisna Elchian-Baloy and Marilou Garciso to continue their post-secondary educations. As well, a bursary went to Victor Mager Adult Learning and Literacy for student resources. TEAM has also been able to support three organizations with monetary donations. They are: Call It Home with the Manitoba Museum (a program for EAL students who are new to Manitoba), SewFair a Canadian Muslim Women's Social Enterprise and Turning the Tides Winnipeg.

TEAM mentorship has continued another year, expanding beyond Winnipeg and Winkler to Brandon and Portage La Prairie. This program has been set up to support new teachers (of less than two years) with more experienced teachers in a practical ten hour one-on-one mentorship. For more information please see the TEAM website, www.manitobateam.com. Other TEAM activities and newsletters are also available through the website.

May 6, 2011 will be TEAM's conference with keynote Dr. Lionel Laroche.

TESL Ontario Report

From Marilyn Johnston

TESL Ontario has had another busy year.

A new initiative is to provide Post TESL Training for our ESL community. Interviews have been conducted with TESL Training providers to gather information about course requirements, trainer qualifications and instructor recruitment. Providers have also been asked of their interest in participating in a field test of the Post TESL Certificate Training Framework.

Communication has been an important goal of the organization. With this in mind new routes of communication have been introduced.

Twitter

http://twitter.com/
Other follow me on twitter buttons available for downloaded at: http://twitter.com/about/resources/button

Facebook

http://www.facebook.com/pages/TESL-Ontario-Teachers-of-English-as-a-Second-Language/101601733235647

LinkedIn

LinkedIn Company profile: http://www.linkedin.com/company/tesl-ontario-teachers-of-english-as-a-second-language-

TESL Ontario has been seeking membership benefits and has been successful in this area. We have another new membership benefit - free admission to the Canada Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa, which means we now have free admission to five Ottawa Museums, definitely worth a weekend trip. This is addition to other membership benefits that are found on our website.

Of course, our conference is a highlight for our membership. Our regular end of November date has been moved to October for a few years. We offer:

TESL Ontario's 39th Annual Conference
"Language Learning: A Focus on Success"
October 27th, 28th and 29th, 2011
Sheraton Centre Toronto

Plans are proceeding for the other key elements of the conference as well; plenary speakers have been approached, as have our research and symposia guests. Plans also include the annual panel presentation, lots of exhibitors, and you won't want to miss the Welcome Reception or Friday evening dinner and entertainment. We recognize that cutbacks have affected many individuals so perhaps the best news of all is that there will not be an increase in conference fees this year!

This is a short overview of our year at TESL Ontario. It does not include all of the work put in by Renate Tilson E.D. and her TESL Ontario office workers, all of the committees that work diligently for TESL Ontario, Affiliates and their volunteers along withSheila Nichols, Chair and the TESL Ontario Board Members.

TESL NB Report

From Paula Kristmanson

In the last year and a half, TESL NB has had the wonderful opportunity to host two professional development workshops for its members. The first resulted from a grant received through our affiliation with TESOL. Lynne Diaz-Rico, current President of TESOL California and the coordinator of the MA in TESOL at California State University, San Bernardino, presented a keynote address and a workshop related to cross-cultural communication. In addition, two local presenters, Jack Watson of the English Language Programme at UNBF and Diane Ross, SIOP mentor for NB School District 2, offered sessions on grammar teaching techniques and content-based language teaching respectively. It was a well-attended and stimulating way to end our 2009-2010 academic year.

In the fall of 2010, once again we were fortunate to host an invited guest speaker from Alberta. Based on requests from our membership, we decided to focus the professional development on pronunciation. One of our members had heard about the Accent on Canadian English Program and suggested we contact Lisa BjerkeDirector of Optima Communications Inc. This day-long workshop was held at the Public Library in Moncton, NB and dealt with many aspects of pronunciation from a speech language pathologist's point of view. Lisa has worked for many years with ELLs seeking to improve their awareness of English sounds, intonation, and stress patterns. She shared with us her expertise, resources, and enthusiasm related to this topic of interest. Again, this was a very successful event with over 55 ESL/EAL educators from the province in attendance.

Unfortunately our winter meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions but we are planning to host a drop-in and short AGM at the conference in Halifax. Several members are attending the conference and some are sharing expertise by giving workshops and delivering presentations. TESL NB is able to offer small bursaries to help subsidize those interested in attending this national event.

At the present time we are planning our fall kick-off event which will feature another professional development opportunity. We are hoping that the TESL Canada conference will fuel excitement regarding our field as well as providing some ideas for possible presenters. Again, we want to meet the needs of our members regarding topics that are of particular relevance and concern. Looking forward to the conference and the yields that it will no doubt provide.

Executive 2010-11

President	Paula Kristmanson
Past President	Barbara Clayden
TESL Canada Rep	Colleen Meagher-Alkan
Secretary	Penny Carruthers
Membership Secretary and Treasurer	Gail Graham
Newsletter Editor	Patricia Strong
Member at Large	Sandra Foreman
Member at Large and Past Co-President	Nicole Poirier

TESL NL Report

From Marcia Spence

Within our small community of ESL teachers in the province – close

to thirty members – we continue to find ample topics of interest and plenty of presenters willing to share their knowledge and experience at our monthly meetings. Topics have included a community-based ESL program, the issue of TESL teacher training in the province, and PD sessions on listening and grammar. We were delighted to learn about a beginner ESL program offered to mothers while their toddlers attend a downtown playgroup. As an outcome of years of work culminating in a report produced by CORD (Coalition for Richer Diversity), TESL NL is working in conjunction with CORD to carry out the next stage – investigating TESL teacher training for the province. Thanks to staff with the Intensive English Program at Memorial University, presentations on *Top down versus bottom up process: What to consider when planning a listening curriculum and The application of data-based patterns of grammatical structures in the classroom and beyond* were given. These professional development sessions have provided inspiration and collegiality during a long winter. Many of us look forward to meeting with our colleagues from across Canada at the upcoming TESL Canada Conference in Halifax

TESL Yukon Report

From Erica Bourdon

This year, TESL Yukon has experienced a shift and restructure of ESL services amongst its providers within Whitehorse. With the emergence of such organizations as The Multicultural Centre of the Yukon, LINC and various Grammar courses have been offered for newcomers in a central, downtown location. These courses are currently free for all immigrants of all statuses and work with continuous enrollment/student drop-in. In addition, the territory has received training and certification in CLB Assessment for 6 ESL instructors within the city. As a result, placement testing has become more efficient in steering newcomers to the appropriate organization for instruction and support.

TESL Yukon is also in the process of launching a new and more interactive website. Our aim is to include TESL Yukon teacher profiles, a job board, and an online application form. We hope to represent the Yukon with a more professional vision, and are in the midst of designing and reworking our mandate to meet the current issues and needs of the community.

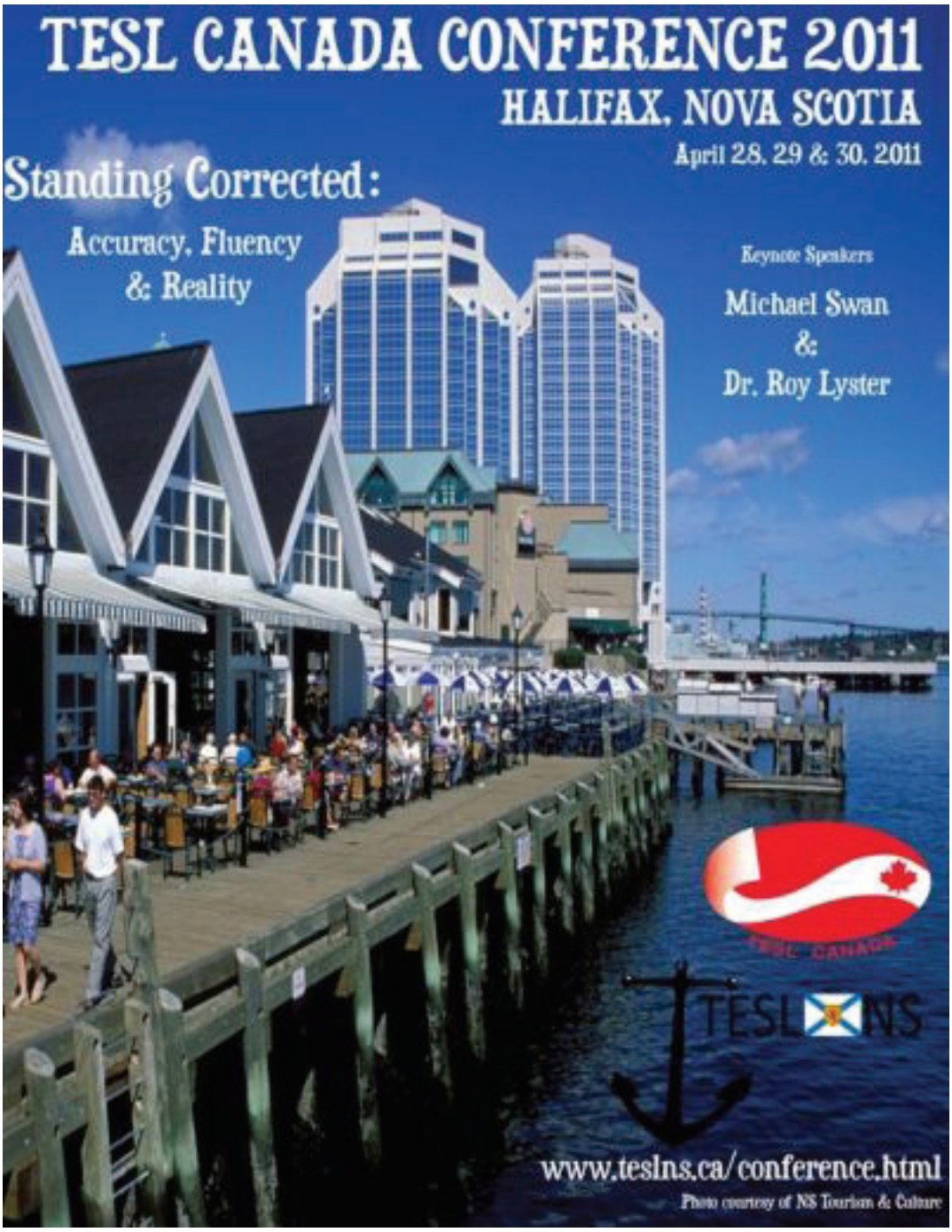
Despite these positive events, TESL Yukon has recently been struggling to overcome a few obstacles. With the emergence of new TESL Training Centres, TESL Yukon has received concerning feedback relating to ESL delivery and instruction. This has resulted from untrained, ill-experienced and unqualified ESL instructors working in both Federal and Territorial Funded programs. In response to public and student concerns, TESL Yukon has contacted CIC and Advanced Edu-

cation (YTG Education) with a letter intent on changing ESL Instructional standards within the territory. As one of our directives, we have informed both agencies that we expect all ESL Instructors of funded programs to be TESL Canada certified. Our aim is that all instructors are measured with a universal standard so as to improve the overall quality of instruction. Although our letter was not received successfully, TESL Yukon executive is determined to meet with CIC and Advanced Education personnel at a round-table discussion in May to both inform and provide solutions to current ESL issues within the Yukon.

In conjunction with this, TESL Yukon is also advocating that instructional material be transferred amongst different ESL organizations/centres upon the change of programming. Many service providers have felt little support or guidance upon receiving a new ESL program/course, and have lacked essential material associated with the new program. As a result, many providers have had to build their resources from nothing, and it has been a costly action that has repeated itself numerous times within recent years.

Lastly, TESL Yukon has erected a new executive committee. Elections took place in November of 2010, and the following members have become part TESL Yukon:

TESL Yukon President	Erica Bourdon
TESL Yukon Vice-President	Marie-Lousie Jansen
Secretary and Treasurer	Karen Walker
Support Personnel	Spence Hill


TESL CANADA CONFERENCE 2011
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
April 28, 29 & 30, 2011
Standing Corrected:
Accuracy, Fluency
& Reality
Keynote Speakers
Michael Swan
&
Dr. Roy Lyster
TESL NS
www.teslns.ca/conference.html
Photo courtesy of NS Tourism & Culture

TESL CANADA'S ONLINE TEACHERS' RESOURCE CENTRE

The TESL Canada Teachers' Resource Centre [TRC] provides TESL Canada members across Canada with a wide range of online teaching resources. The TRC can be accessed by going to the TESL Canada website teslcanada.org

TESL Canada's TRC is a tribute to the vision, dedication and hard work of John Sivell, Past Editor of the TESL Canada Journal as well as the support given the project by Chris Stechishin and Jennifer Pearson Terell. On behalf of ESL teachers and ESL learners across Canada a heart felt thank you to John Sivell for making TESL Canada's TRC a reality.

The TESL Canada TRC provides an opportunity for TESL Canada members to access a wide range of online resources by simply going to the TESL Canada website www.tesl.ca and exploring the following wide range of online ESL teaching resources:

TESL CANADA TEACHERS' RESOURCE CENTRE

Free Online ESL Teaching Resources

Online Interactive Student Resources

Online LINC/ELSA and CLB Resources

Subscription-based Sites and Free Online Journals

Free Online Graphics for ESL Teachers

Grammar Worksheets

Listening Worksheets

Reading Worksheets

Vocabulary Worksheets

Writing Worksheets

New in the TESL Canada Journal

Upcoming TESL Conferences and Events

TESL Canadian Educational Foundation

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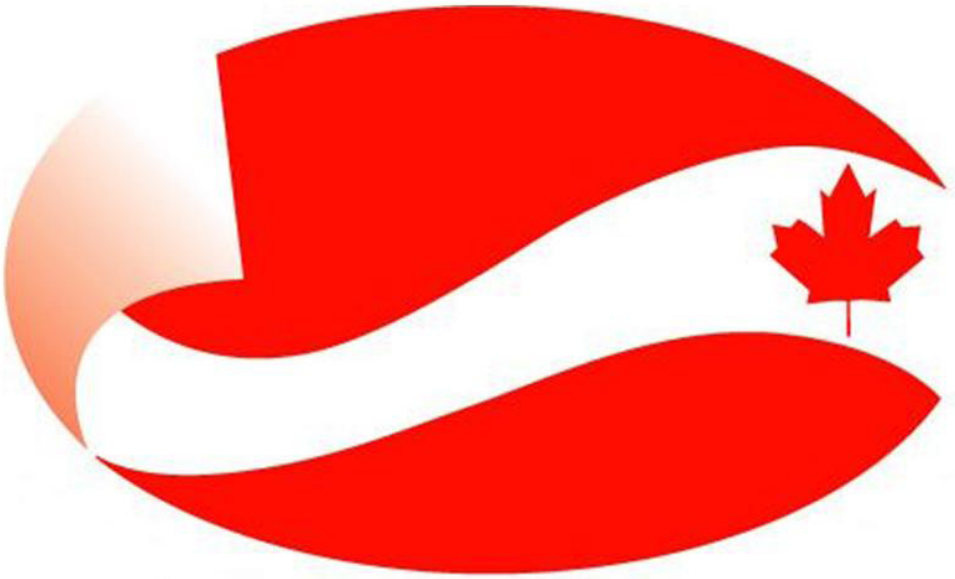

Fund for the Advancement of TESL in Canada

Actively fundraising to support travel grants for presenters to attend future TESL Canada Conferences

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Your charity benefits from the donation and you pay less tax. It's a win/win situation. The TCEF will benefit from a donation from $10—$500!

Call, Email, Fax, or Mail our office with your donation today!

About TESL Canada

TESL Canada's Board of Directors has reviewed and revised TESL Canada's Mission and Values:

TESL Canada's mission is to promote excellence in the teaching and learning of English as a second or additional language in partnership with its constituent provincial and territorial associations, and like-minded national and international organizations.

TESL Canada values: Excellence in language, settlement, and refugee programs;
National standards for professional certification and teacher training program recognition;
Working together with provincial and territorial associations on common goals;
Promoting ongoing professional development;
Research and scholarship in the field of teaching and learning ESL;
Linguistic rights for individuals and communities;
Equality of employment opportunity for qualified non-native English-speaking and native English-speaking teachers;
Assisting with English language development while still protecting Ancestral languages for speakers of Indigenous first languages.