TESL Canada Bulletin

Summer 2015

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TESL CANADA

Greetings from Lake Louise!

The Rocky Mountains are the setting for the TESL Canada 2015 Conference.

Elevate your professional practice to new heights in an inspiring setting. Exchange ideas and network with your colleagues.

Thurs: Symposium & Graduate Conference

Fri & Sat: Presentations, Featured & Keynote speakers

See you in October!

TESL Canada
2015 Conference
Lake Louise, AB
OCT 29-31

ATESL.ca/conferenceWelcome
for more details

photo by Dominik92 - Wikipedia Commons

TESL CANADA FEDERATION

President's Report

By Ron Thomson

With TESL Canada's revitalization initiatives going full steam ahead, the summer of 2015 has proven to be a busy one for the TESL Canada Board. The board has continued to meet monthly, and our many committees have continued to proactively move TESL Canada towards a brighter future as the national association serving ESL teachers, and through them, learners.

Some highlights from the last few months:

A *Special Advisory Committee for TESL Canada's Strategic Plan 2015* has been struck under the guidance of our Vice President, Judy Sillito. It includes stakeholder voices from across our sector, including government, Languages Canada, teacher training programs, as well as leaders of all provincial TESL associations. The feedback received at its first meeting has been very helpful and it will meet once more before the strategic planning process is complete.

The *TESL Canada Conference Committee* (which is a part of ATESL's board in its role as co-host) continues to impress. The upcoming 2015 TESL Canada Conference (Oct 29-31) in Lake Louise, AB, promises to be one for the books. Interest in presenting was exceptionally high, and many excellent proposals had to be turned down given space constraints. While not having a proposal accepted is often a disappointment for prospective presenters, the fact we are beyond capacity evidences just how far we have come as a profession. TESL Canada's use of a blind review process for vetting conference proposals has helped us to minimize the possibility and perception of bias, and is yet another sign of positive change. For those whose

Board of Directors

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Chair, Standards Advisory Committee - Dmitri Priven

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Chair, Settlement Language National Network – Brenda Lohrenz

Chair, Research & Outreach -Sheri Rhodes

Chair, Finance - Dianne Tyers

Chair, TCEF-Desirae Mercer

proposal wasn't accepted this year, I would encourage you to submit a proposal for future TESL Canada conferences. Decisions on which proposals are selected for presentation are very difficult, and scoring of proposals is typically very close. If you have any concerns, comments, or questions with respect to the upcoming conference, feel free to let the Conference Planning Committee or the TESL Canada office know.

The *Research and Outreach Committee* has successfully developed a social media campaign for the new face of TESL Canada. I encourage all members to "Like" us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter and LinkedIn (see the Research and Outreach report in this Bulletin for detailed info). While it will likely take some time for us to find our way in the social media space, we are in exceptionally gifted hands. Be sure to participate as we evolve into a more member-centric, communicative association.

Our flagship *TESL Canada Journal* continues to evolve. In particular, steps have been taken to ensure that its articles are more easily accessible to an international audience. This will ensure that it continues to grow in prestige under the able guidance of its editor, Marian Rossiter.

The *Standards Committee* has diligently researched certification schemes, both nationally and internationally, and has taken steps to align our credentials with best practices. It has also moved to bring TESL Canada's mid-level Standard 2 certification into closer agreement with TESL Ontario's already quite similar standard. This will allow for greater consistency in the interpretation of teacher qualifications across the country.

We are thankful for an especially active *Finance Committee* this term. It has been busy overseeing the formulation of official processes and procedures that will ensure greater transparency and accountability to members going forward. This positions TESL Canada as a leader in terms of best practices, and provides firm evidence that we are moving to a new level as a professional association.

The *Professional Development Committee* has a new chair! As per our association bylaws, the board recently elected Li-Shih Huang to fill this mid-term vacancy, which resulted from the resignation of the former chair, who was appointed as her provincial association's representative.

Li-Shih's expertise in PD has made an immediate impact, with exciting professional development initiatives on the horizon. It is worth noting that seven highly qualified TESL Canada members expressed interest in chairing the PD Committee. We are delighted that there is so much interest in serving our national profession.

The *Settlement Language National Network Committee* continues to be an active advocate for our sector, recently conducting a large-scale national survey to help us better understand current priorities for settlement language. This is a particularly timely exercise, as it will help us better advise whomever forms Canada's next government.

Finally, I encourage you to take time to read TESL Canada Bulletin reports from *TESL Canada's provincial representatives*. We are proud to be associated with such an active group of professional associations at the provincial level, and we have much to learn from each other.

Update on BC TEAL and TESL Ontario relationships

As you know, TESL Canada conducted a survey of you, the members, to ascertain your perspective regarding preferred membership models. The results indicated that across the country, members overwhelmingly prefer a continuation of joint membership in a provincial association, combined with automatic membership in TESL Canada (in the current joint process this costs $16/year). The survey results, in raw form, were shared with the leadership of all provincial associations, and BC TEAL and TESL Ontario's leadership were invited back to the negotiating table to discuss how to move forward given our findings. Since then, the leadership groups of both BC TEAL and TESL Ontario have reaffirmed their positions that they will not enter into an agreement to continue a joint membership process. While many of our members do not understand or agree with their perspectives, TESL Canada has no choice but to respect the rights of BC TEAL's leadership and TESL Ontario's leadership to make these decisions. Consequently, we are taking steps to amend TESL Canada's bylaws to allow for direct membership in TESL Canada for those residing in jurisdictions where TESL Canada does not have a local partner. While this will undoubtedly result in increased fees for members living in BC and Ontario (due to new administrative costs and fewer members), TESL Canada is committed to keeping fees as low as realistically possible. Members outside of BC and Ontario will not be impacted by these changes.

TESL Canada remains committed to serving our sector at the national level. In the absence of a joint membership relationship with BC TEAL and TESL Ontario, TESL Canada will create a mechanism to allow our members in BC and Ontario to be represented on TESL Canada's board. At the same time, we will continue to reach out to BC TEAL and TESL Ontario regarding other forms of collaboration between our associations.

Finally, members in BC and Ontario should be assured that if you join BC TEAL prior to September 17, 2015, or TESL Ontario prior to November 4, 2015, you will continue to enjoy automatic membership in TESL Canada for the following year.

Should any TESL Canada member or stakeholder have questions, you are welcome to send them to president@tesl.ca and I will do my best to answer them.

An open letter to TESL Canada members from one of our first board members

Virginia Sauvé, Ph.D.

Dear Fellow Members of TESL Canada,

With great interest and concern, I have been following the messages and surveys from TESL Canada in recent months. As a result, I am delighted to see the actions this Board and its Chair are taking to tighten up their transparency and accountability and especially their desire to engage the membership more fully in giving voice to their thoughts on what is and is not happening in the organization.

I was very involved in TESL Canada in her early years and it was both a privilege and a good learning experience. Initially, the organization was founded for two primary reasons: professional development for her members and advocacy for the learners with whom we work. Thanks to strong leadership, a clear commitment to that vision, and the active participation of both the member organizations and the members within those organizations, we have had some wonderful years and grown to encompass much more than the original two intentions. We have also had some not so wonderful years when some of those factors were missing or when strong personalities pulled in directions that were not shared by the majority. When things go sideways in an organization, it is very easy to

Mark your calendars:

Oct. 29—Nov. 1, 2015 TESL Canada 2015 Conference at Lake Louise, AB.

look for people to blame, but very unproductive. Taking on a leadership role in a professional organization is very time consuming if one intends to do it well, and no one person can carry the whole load. It takes a group of people working together and taking responsibility for different elements of the work. And very importantly, it takes the interest and participation of the membership, people like you and I, who are interested and willing to be involved when the opportunities present themselves. It was somewhat surprising to me that out of over 4,000 current members at this time, just over 700 participated in the last survey. What was less surprising was the passion most of those expressed for keeping a united federation and working together to make it better

In my own experience working with TESL Canada and ATESL in years past, I found the most energizing work was the advocacy. When we saw a problem and were determined to do something about it and actually did so, wow! There was a lot of satisfaction in that and it has made a big difference to language training policy in Canada. The funders want to work with us, especially when we present a united front.

I recently located a document that was published in the Spring Newsletter of 1982. It is best known as the Six Principles Paper and outlines in some detail six principles which are needed if we are to have a strong language training policy across Canada. The paper grew out of a growing awareness of a lack of sufficiency, accessibility, flexibility, and diversity in programming. There was virtually nothing in the way of special programs for those who had serious literacy deficits in their first language. As I read through the 12 pages of this document, it felt good to see the number of our recommendations which have been acted upon, and a few which haven`t, yet. I mention this paper as one example of successful advocacy and of genuine cooperation and hard work from a number of caring dedicated people across the country. Eight provinces were represented on the action committee that drew this document together following a national symposium on the subject. When TESL Canada speaks as ONE, the governments listen and are grateful for the input.

So when I read that two of our founding partners want to leave this federation, I was saddened and concerned. I am sure they have reasons that make sense to those who are making this decision but I wonder if those reasons are compelling enough to destroy the possibility of having one powerful voice that has credibility with those who make our policies and fund our programs. I also wonder if those decisions represent the best interests of all the members of those two associations

or if they reflect the interests of just a small group of people within them. I am in no position to answer that question, but if you live in one of those two provinces, you are. Your board is accountable to its members and if you have questions, you have both the right and the responsibility to ask them.

Advocacy is about giving a voice to the voiceless and when people come to English-speaking Canada without English, they have no voice in the political sense. We teach them the language but in the meantime, they need our help to get the programs they need, when and where they need them, to become full participants in this grand country we call home. If we have not yet learned to use our own voices, individually and collectively, how can we hope to teach our students to do so?

So, I hope all who read this letter will consider what is to be gained from coming back to the negotiating table in good faith with an openness to finding a way to work together as a nation of English language teachers in the interests of both our members and those we teach. Together, we can leave the past in the past and create a future together to achieve all that we are capable of in continuing to improve our programs, our working conditions and the quality of life for those we teach in Canada.

Best wishes to each of you for a wonderful summer!

Collegially,

Virginia Sauvé, Ph.D.

Virginia Sauve, Ph.D. has had a long and varied career in ESL and TESL. She has taught at all levels from literacy to ELT and Academic English. She ran a private school for twelve years with LINC, job training and workplace education. She has had three books published by OUP and has taught TESL at two universities. She is well known for her work in participatory education and workplace training. A lifetime member of both ATESL and TESL Canada, she was a Director in the TESL Canada board for several years in the 1980s. She chaired the Policy and Action Committee of the latter for three years. Since the closure of her school, she has worked as a consultant.

BC TEAL Report

Jennifer Pearson Terell

Kim Phuc gives her keynote address at the 2015 BC TEAL **Conference**

The spring has been a very busy and rewarding time for BC TEAL. This year's annual conference ***'Reflect, Renew, Reconnect'*** co-chaired by Fiona Shaw and Tami Moffat was attended by over 400 English language professionals and was a huge success. The conference was held at UBC on Friday May 22nd and Saturday May 23rd. Our Friday keynote speaker was Dr. Yilin Sun, the President of TESOL International. Dr. Sun did her PhD in Applied Linguistics at OISE at the University of Toronto. She is a distinguished English language instructor, TESOL trainer, and former Fulbright Senior Scholar. Our keynote speaker on Saturday was Phan Thi Kim Phúc known as “The Girl in the Picture,” who spoke about her journey from of war ravaged Vietnam to Canada and the refugee experience. Friday also featured the popular and entertaining Pecha Kucha and the Wine and Cheese event. And, as usual, there was an excellent array of over 100 high quality presentations, panel discussions, and an excellent Publishers’ Display.

The annual TCF Awards Ceremony honouring outstanding English language educators and learners in British Columbia was also held during the conference as well as the TEAL Charitable Foundation’s first-ever and very successful Wine and Cheese Fundraiser – ‘***From Tears to Smiles’*** in support of young refugees wishing to study at postsecondary institutions.

BC TEAL

Jennifer Pearson Terell

Alberta - ATESL

Celia Logan

TESL Saskatchewan

Liliana Dominguez

TEAL Manitoba / TEAM

Kevin Carter

TESL Ontario

Bernice Klassen

TESL New Brunswick

Paula Kristmanson

TESL Nova Scotia

Christina Klatecki

TESL Newfoundland/ Labrador

Echo Pittman

TESL SK

Liliana Dominguez

TESL SASK has had an exciting and very productive year. We had a restructuring in our Board structure. We have also revisited our bylaws with a Consulting Company that help us be a leaner Board with more Committees. Since September 2014 our new Board was formed. We had monthly meetings putting a;; the policies into print and starting our course of action. A few of the highlights include, (a) a more effective Board structure, (b) a balanced budget, (c), explore professional development opportunities, (d) revision of the scholarship criteria, (e) form a new communications committee, i.e. update the website, start social media. We have also printed new membership cards for all members.

Our annual Conference was another highlight of the past months. Our theme was May 1st-2nd , 2015 “Resiliency, Respect and Engagement” . It was held in Saskatoon on May 1st-2nd , 2015. It was a great success with two keynote speakers each day and many interesting workshops for all the EAL Adult as well as K-12 practitioners.

We continue working hard organizing our AGM that will be held in Regina in September 2015 to continue to move forward.

MB TEAM Report

Kevin Carter

Manitoba recognizes that while bureaucracies differentiate services by dividing families into disparate categories, we are bound by the ethics of critique, justice, and care to consider the family unit as a whole. TEAL Manitoba and TEAM Manitoba have both indicated an increased desire for collaboration to address the needs of our ESL families. The field of ESL in Manitoba continues to be led by strong leaders. Desirae Mercer will continue on as TEAM Manitoba’s President while a change of leadership has occurred within TEAL Manitoba. Sandra Melo has stepped down as president due to a much deserved promotion and will be replaced by Melanie Davlut. The 2015-2016 academic school year promises to be one of positive changes. We are determined to intensify our energies towards those who matter most, our ESL families. Please visit our websites for more information (TEAL Manitoba: www.tealmanitoba.ca ; TEAM Manitoba: www.manitobateam.weebly.com).

Mark your calendars:

Nov. 12-13, 2015
TESL Ontario Conference at Sheraton Centre Toronto

TESL Ontario Report

Bernice Klassen

Greetings from Ontario!

Summer has given me a bit more time to think about this edition and so I went to the website for inspiration. (www.TESLOntario.net). Here are a few notables I'd like to share with you in this issue of the Bulletin.

If you are looking for some catch-up reading why not consider the Publications section of the website. It has a brand new ***e-Contact*** issue that brims with refereed articles on three themes from the 2014 TESL Ontario Conference: Discourse in the Classroom, Learner Beliefs and Attitudes, and Language Processing and Memory in ESL. All e-***Contact*** issues are available to the public.

As well, a new focus has been added to the ESL Week 2015. This time members are invited to share personal stories and moments of inspiration that help spotlight the importance of ELL efforts in our local communities, in terms of both teaching and learning.

TESL Ontario continues to offer weekly blogs open to the public at http://blog.teslontario.org/. And for members, the webcasts and webinars via Tutela offer continuing professional development throughout the summer.

On a final note, work preparing for the 2015 annual Conference Nov 12-13 is in full force. The Call for Proposals is available now on the website. So if conferences are on your list this year for PD the fall of 2015 is a golden opportunity with Alberta hosting TESL Canada's Conference in October and then TESL Ontario's Conference in November.

Wishing everyone a pleasant and safe summer!

TESL NB Report

Paula Kristmanson

Since our last TESL NB report, we are very happy to say that spring, and now summer, have finally come to the Maritimes. In fact, TESL NB recently held their annual spring AGM and mini-conference at the University of New Brunswick on Saturday June 6th. This year our mini-conference took the form of a partnership with one of our sister organizations- CASLT (Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers). We are grateful to CASLT to providing us a feature speaker and for sharing in the cost of his travel expenses. Stephane LaCroix delivered an excellent workshop presentation on ways to stimulate oral

interaction in your ESL classroom. Stephane is an experienced ESL educator from Quebec and has taught ESL and ESL pre-service teachers in many contexts including university, college, high school. We really appreciated his lively and engaging morning presentation.

In the afternoon, after a lovely networking lunch, we held our AGM and voted in our new executive. After six years as President, Paula Kristmanson stepped down from her position which was filled by Shawna Rogers, the Language Coordinator

For Newcomer Connections at the YMCA of Greater Saint John. We are thrilled that Shawna agreed to take on this new role on the executive. Previously, as member-at-large, Shawna was instrumental in coordinating our partnership with LearnIT2Teach in the province, which has given our LINC members access to some excellent professional development related to these technology-based resources.

In addition to our new president, we are also very pleased to have voted in Chantal Lafargue and Kathy Whynot as co-newsletter editors and co-social media and communications coordinators. Chantal, who also coordinated our CASLT partnership this year, is in an English as an Additional Language (EAL) leadership role at Fredericton High School and Kathy, who as varied experiences in teaching literacy and ESL, is a full-time EAL teacher at the same school. Staying on the executive are Paula Kristmanson as Past-president and TESL Canada representative, Barbara Clayden, our former past-president from Saint John College, as member-at -large, Shawna Carey from Moncton as member-at-large, Colleen Meagher -Alkan as TESOL rep and the third member-at-large, Corey Harvey as secretary, and finally Gail Graham as membership secretary and treasurer. I would like to recognize Gail Graham's long time service in this challenging and crucial role and, although Gail has agreed to stay on to assist in the transition for the new president, note that we are currently looking for a person to fill this position in the new year.

Although summer is a time for vacationing and relaxation, TESL NB does have initiatives on the docket that will need our attention. In fact, LearnIT2Teach will be holding a session in Fredericton on June 24th with the LINC personnel at MCAF (Multicultural Association of Fredericton) and another one at MAGMA (Multicultural Association of the Greater Moncton Area) in Moncton later in the summer. Also, we are in the planning stages of our TESL NB conference for May of next year, which will be held in partnership with the local NBTA (New Brunswick Teachers Association)

and L_2RIC (Second Language Research Institute of Canada at UNB). This session will focus on the professional development needs of educators working with the growing population of newcomers in our New Brunswick public schools. This conference will be coordinated by Chantal Lafargue and Paula Kristmanson and will involve teachers, guidance personnel, administrators, EAL district coordinators, and other stakeholders interested in these important issues. Chantal and Paula are also writing a series of short pieces for the NBTA newsletter to raise awareness of the exciting initiatives and challenges present in NB schools.

TESL NB wishes our provincial affiliates a happy and productive summer. We look forward to seeing our colleagues from around the country at the TESL Canada conference in October!

Follow TESL NB's twitter feed at - @TESL_NB

Website: http://tesl-nb.wikispaces.com/

TESL NB AGM June 6th 2015- from left to right- Chantal Lafargue, new member of TESL NB executive and liaison person with CASLT, Paula Kristmanson- outgoing TESL NB president and TESL Canada Rep, Stephane LaCroix- feature speaker from CASLT, Shawna Rogers- incoming TESL NB president

TESL Newfoundland and Labrador

Echo Pittman

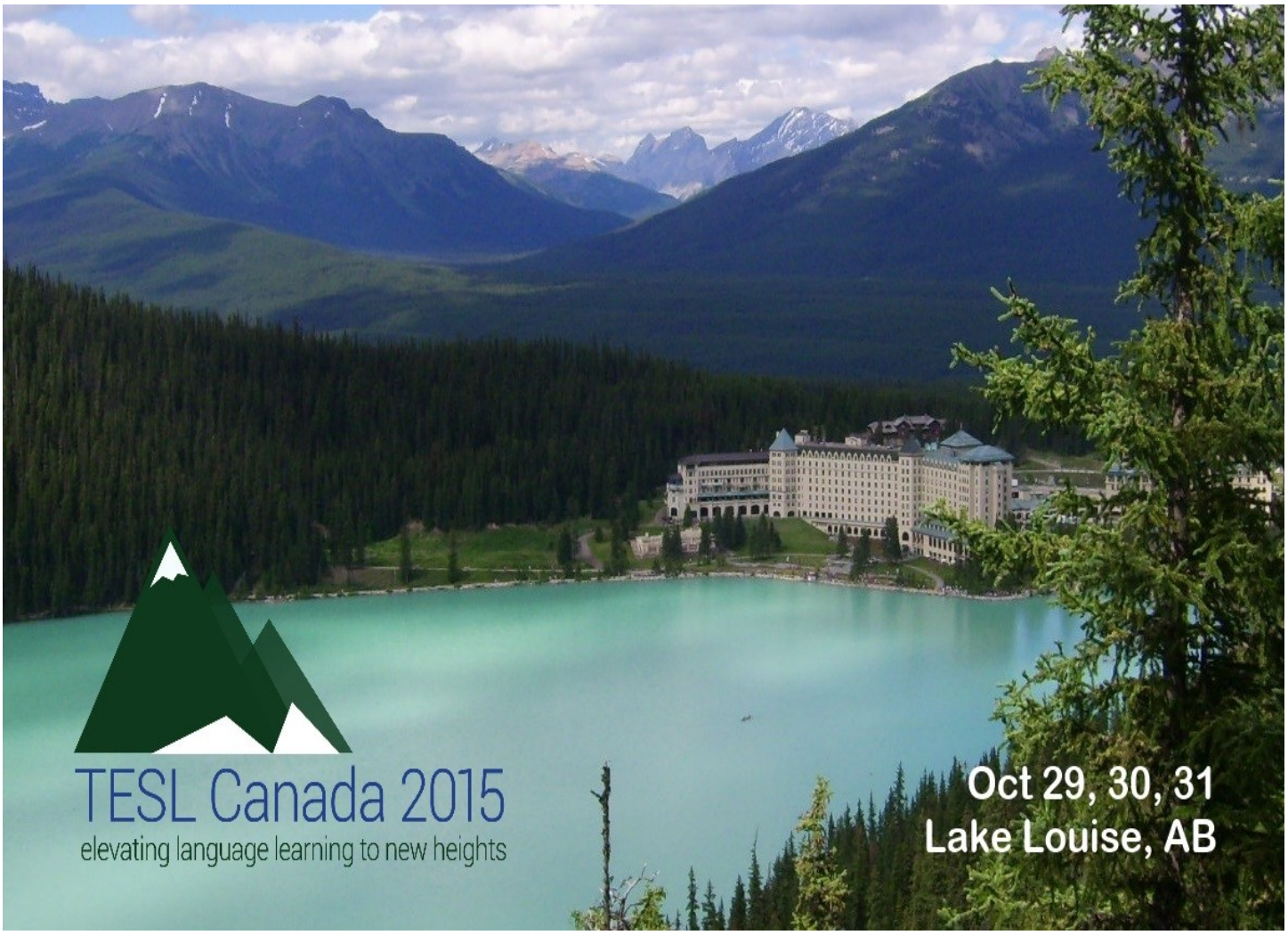
On April 24, two TESL NL members shared their conference experiences and some of the best practices that they learned from the 2015 TESOL Conference in Toronto. One member presented on a study on literacy practices and aboriginal people. The other member shared strategies of teaching and raising phonemic awareness in the classroom.

At the end of August, TESL NL will be organizing a social event for its current members.

Hello TESL Canada Members,

Registration is now open for this year's conference in gorgeous Lake Louise, Alberta. Please visit http://atesl.ca/conferenceWelcome for more details. We received an incredible number of proposals this year, and our reviewers were fortunate to be able to pick the best presentations from an elite group of submissions. This year's program will be as fantastic as the scenery. If you have any questions, concerns, or need suggestions about your travel to Western Alberta, please check the website or contact us at lakelouise2015@atesl.ca. We look forward to welcoming you to the heart of the Canadian Rockies at the end of October!

Glen Cochrane and Chris Wharton
Conference Co Chairs



TESL Canada Standards Committee

Report on activity – May – June 2015

Chair:	Dmitri Priven
Members:	Jonathan Hanna
	Bernice Klassen
	Hedy M. McGarrell
	Judy Sillito
	Kevin Carter
	Jennifer Pearson Terell
	Ron Thomson (ex-officio)
	Sumana Barua (ex-officio)

Since the last meeting of the Standards Committee (Feb 12, 2015), the following items have been actioned:

1. The Committee provided the Board with more background to streamline the ELP requirements as part of teacher certification. The Board ratified retaining IELTS Academic and TOEFL iBT as the only two acceptable ELP tests.
2. On request from the CIC, the Committee compiled a summary of adult ESL teacher certification regimes in Canada, U.S., U.K., Europe, Australia, and New Zealand.
3. The Committee members were tasked to put together guidelines for PLAR adjudicators. At this point all of the parts of the draft document have been submitted to the Chair and will be complied as a cumulative document by the end of July 2015.
4. The Committee has been tasked with investigating the feasibility of awarding teacher training program recognition to offshore schools. This item is to be discussed in an email meeting in July.

Journal Advisory Committee Report

Hedy M. McGarrell

Members of the JAC have been involved in discussions of policies that help maintain current standards for the TCJ while ensuring a steady supply of high quality manuscripts. To this effect, they passed a motion that allows the editor of the TCJ to submit one single or co-authored manuscript during each calendar year. To ensure anonymity during the review process, the process for such manuscripts will be taken on by the chair of the JAC.

Readers of the TCJ can look forward to an important change: Marian Rossiter has been working to bring Digital Objective Identifiers (DOI) to TCJ articles. Many readers of the TCJ already know about DOIs, a system that assigns a unique and stable alphanumeric string of characters to each article, making it easy to find and retrieve it in a digital environment.

TESL Canada Finance Committee Report

Dianne Tyers

The TESL Canada Finance Committee (Chris Klatecki, Celia Logan, Dianne Tyers) reviews TESL Canada's financial statements on a monthly basis to ensure that sound financial procedures are being followed and that the organization stays on budget. Discovering the financial procedures of TESL Canada has been a productive journey for the committee, since there has never been, to date, any documentation of those procedures. Through our monthly review process we have been able to identify gaps in the financial procedures and to develop corresponding documentation for a Finance Operations Manual. We are working with a consultant to produce a final version of this manual, so that future TESL Canada Finance Committees have a solid foundation from which to monitor TESL Canada's financial position. The final draft of the Finance Operations Manual will be reviewed by the committee at the end of July and presented to the full TESL Canada Board in August. The Finance Committee has also started to look at how possible structural changes at TESL Canada will affect the organization financially and to put plans into place for these changes. Once the Finance Operations Manual is complete, our focus will fully shift to helping the organization make whatever financial transitions are required. Anyone who thinks that financial matters are dull has never been a member of the TESL Canada Finance Committee.

Professional Development Committee Report

Li-Shih Huang

The new PD Committee was formed following the election of the Director/ Chair, Dr. Li-Shih Huang. It consists of four key members: Jennifer Pearson Terell, Shahid Abrar-ul-Hassan, Joanne Kruczek, and Echo Pittman, who represent a wide range of professional expertise and regional knowledge, but who all have a common dedication to giving back to our professional community by strengthening the PD department under the leadership of the association's President Ron Thomson. Since its formation on June 24, the committee has met twice to review and revise the Terms of Reference. The committee has also proposed and discussed a sizable list of actionable PD projects and initiatives that it is eager to roll out once its plan is approved by the Board of Directors. The PD Committee is working with members' professional development as its sole focus, one that has concerned members and been voiced by members as an area lacking vision and support. Members of the PD Committee are working tirelessly to change that perception and the status quo. To this end, the committee would like to seek your participation and feedback on the following:

1. Sharing your audio/video-recorded presentations at the annual conference. In the months leading up to our annual conference, the committee would like elicit your expression of interest as to whether you would be willing to join the PD movement and contribute the content of your presentations for the benefit of members who can't make it to our annual conference.

2. Tailoring the provision of content to your PD needs. We'd also like to hear from you regarding content, professional advice, or PD endeavours that you'd like to see happen or be supported by the PD Committee.

3. Sharing what you do. The Committee is currently scheduling PD events. If you have an area of expertise or a project you think would be of interest to our membership, the PD Committee would like to hear from you and support your endeavours.

As we often discover, in the act of giving back to our professional community, we gain just as much, if not more, through the connections, personal and intellectual, that we make. We do so as well through turning personal experiences and thoughts into shared objects about which

questions and answers can be explored further, whether within ourselves or among participants, through the feedback we receive, and through strengthening the teacher's voice in the process of building stronger support for teachers' professional development. Stay tuned as the PD Committee rolls out its plan, and we look forward to connecting with you virtually, face-to-face, over the wire, or in a blended environment.

TESL Canada Settlement Language National Network Report

Brenda Lohrenz

Chair: Brenda Lohrenz

Members: Lisa Herrera (BC), Sheri Rhodes (AB), Bula Ghosh (SK), Liliana Dominguez (AB), Shannon MacFarlane (MB), Desirae Mercer (MB), Sheila Nicholas (ON), Ron Lavoie (ON), Jayne Geddart (NS)

Ex-Officio: Ron Thomson, Sumana Barua

Thank you to the Settlement Language National Network - SLNN Advisory Committee members for all your support and work behind the scenes this year. We have launched our National Network Advisory Committee group on tutela and invite anyone interested to join our SLNN 'advisory' at https://tutela.ca/GroupHomePage?itemId=15288

We are also still accessible through our listserve; contact slnn@tesl.ca to be added.

You may recall seeing a national survey for settlement language delivery distributed in May. Survey questions were asked regarding client profile, use of technology, as well as concerns and successes for our sector; and we are excited to report 592 responses were received from across Canada. Collated results will be reported on at the fall Lake Louise TESL Canada Conference at our roundtable discussion 'Reflecting on Settlement Language Priorities from the Sector'. We are also offering opportunity for national dialogue at our morning symposia presentation 'Settlement Language Training: Elevating our Voice through Engagement and Reflection' – please join us in Alberta!

Research and Outreach Committee Report

Sheri Rhodes

The Committee for Research and Outreach is pleased to announce the launch and share the links for the TESL Canada social media pages. These will be avenues for updating membership on the activities of the Board, promoting our Journal, conference and other professional development opportunities, sharing the work of our different committees, and passing along news relevant to our members from other organizations.

Twitter https://twitter.com/teslcanada

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/TESL-Canada/1104782992870676

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/tesl-canada

You do not need to have an account to view our pages, but if you do, please follow, like and link to us so that you will have access to our posts as soon as they are shared. We have a great team of volunteers that will be sharing the responsibilities of posting content on these pages. If you have any feedback as we shape how best to communicate with all of you, we would love to hear from you.

We'd like to thank Tyson Seburn for taking the lead on drafting our Social Media policy and will be working on shaping and augmenting the website and communications policy as well as updating some aspects of the website in the months to come.

Connect with TESL Canada online!

https://twitter.com/teslcanada

https://www.facebook.com/pages/TESL-Canada/1104782992870676

https://www.linkedin.com/company/tesl-canada

TESL Canada Federation

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