TESL Canada Bulletin

Fall 2016

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TESL CANADA

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TESL CANADA FEDERATION

President's Report

By Judy Sillito

There has likely never been a phase more dynamic than the last half year in the history of TESL Canada. A new Executive Director, several staff changes, shifting relationships with provincial and national stakeholders, and highly energized committees propelling the strategic plan forward in ground breaking ways has invigorated this organization and planted it firmly on a path to growth and success.

Of course, one exciting piece of business is the hiring of our new Executive Director, Claude Lloyd. As chair of the hiring committee, Vice President Joy-Lin Salzberg did a splendid job leading a process that brought us several qualified candidates and ultimately enabled us to select a person with exceptional experience and skills that are well suited to the needs of our organization.

Claude brings to us past and present experience related to not-for-profit and corporate board governance, stakeholder engagement, performance monitoring, and NGO representation. He also has a seasoned background in the field of educational program development and management, and in business. As a Professor at Algonquin College, he presently teaches Corporate Social Responsibility and Ethics, often to international students. Characteristics that Claude espouses include integrity, respect, fairness, impartiality, discreetness, high ethical standards, and a focus on performance metrics. This blend of strong business acumen, extensive board experience, a commitment to ethical leadership, and lived experience in the adult education classroom makes Claude a perfect fit for TESL Canada!

As outlined in the strategic plan that was released in Lake Louise one year ago, the Board was committed to securing a stronger presence in Ottawa. When the time came to post for a new Executive Director, we restricted it to someone in the Ottawa area. For the time-being

we are content to leave the Calgary office intact, as this will offer some stability as Claude moves into his role.

For an organization as active and vital as TESL Canada to be without an Executive Director for five months is a challenge that could destroy some organizations. TESL Canada has not only come through it, but has managed to accomplish some significant work towards its strategic plan at the same time. Having to oversee the day-to-day business of this organization for these past months has given me a view that not all Board presidents enjoy. From that frontline perspective, I wish to acknowledge the immense treasure we have in our Calgary office.

There has been a surge of energy at IRCC this year due to the recent arrivals of many Syrian refugees and the ripples that have resulted from that huge splash have impacted all immigrant and refugee groups. I have represented TESL Canada at The National Language Advisory Body (NLAB) in several teleconference calls and in-person meetings in Ottawa. We really appreciate the privilege of sitting at this table and having regular opportunities to collaborate with government partners, listen to their perspectives, and learn how we can continue to work toward our shared goals. Yves Saint-Germain, chair of NLAB and a Director with IRCC NHQ, has been very receptive to building a stronger relationship with TESL Canada and with Claude based in Ottawa, he has already had a chance to meet our new Executive Director; there is a second meeting planned in Edmonton when both Yves and Claude will be attending the ATESL Conference.

This summer also saw the hiring of a new Editor for the TESL Canada Journal. Farahnaz Faez brings a wealth of talent and will be a strong addition to our team. Thanks to Hedy McGarrell, chair of the committee, for doing an incredible amount of work in the helping to find a suitable replacement for Marian Rossiter – anyone who knows Marian will recognize that those are big shoes to fill.

Another initiative coming out of the strategic plan was the formation of a new committee on the Board. The Provincial Representative Committee consists of all of the provincial representatives; the chair of the committee sits on the Executive Committee. Part of the mandate of this committee was to consider and make recommendations on some of the issues raised by TESL Ontario and BC TEAL as factors that motivated their withdrawal from TESL Canada. While TESL Canada regrets the decisions of these two important partners, 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 has created a direct membership mechanism to allow our members in BC and Ontario to be represented on TESL Canada's board. Although we are currently working outside of a formal partnership, we will continue to reach out to BC TEAL and TESL Ontario regarding other forms of collaboration between our associations.

Work is well underway for the upcoming TESL Canada Conference in Niagara Falls, next June 8-10, 2017. This is the first national conference that we are hosting on our own. The title of the conference is *Celebrating Canada's 150th* - TESL Canada 2017. We have a fabulous list of plenary and other invited speakers. We thought it appropriate to link this conference to this important national milestone especially since our profession has played a significant role in shaping the Canada we cherish in 2017.

We are just about to hold elections for the new board and I encourage you to vote. We are pleased to have established electronic voting portal to make it easier for all our members to be active in the decision making of their national professional body. And thanks to our excellent team of members who volunteer on the Research and Outreach Committee, we have forged a social media path with Facebook and Twitter that allows even more access for members to engage with us. Last but not least, I want to invite any member or stakeholder who has questions or comments for TESL Canada to contact me at president@tesl.ca.

This has been a year full of growth and promise. TESL Canada is more than its Board of Directors – it is comprised of its members, stakeholders, and staff from all across the country who all ultimately work for the benefit of English language learners. On behalf of the Board, I would like to congratulate you, TESL Canada, for the successes we have accomplished together. The Board committees, active members from coast to coast, dedicated staff in Calgary and beyond, and old friends of TESL Canada have all stepped up to the plate and worked harder, put in more hours, and invested more creative energy than usual and I wish to extend my appreciation for your hard work, and your heart work.

Claude Lloyd BES CET

A strategic thinker with a focus on risk reduction, value creation and enhancement of governance and operational performance, Claude is a Director/Chair on various Boards & Committees.

Specific expertise includes; governance, policies & procedures, environmental, health & safety, corporate social responsibility and supply chain. Program and project development or management, third party audits, training and risk mitigation are also some of Claude's specialties.

A Professor in Corporate Social Responsibility & Ethics (International Business Management Graduate Certificate Program) at Algonquin College and Environmental Engineering, Claude has taught post secondary courses part time, for over 20 years including corporate training.

An understanding of the linkages between sustainability and branding, Claude has provided oversight to leading Fortune 500 companies. Specific sector engagement has included; the financial sector, manufacturing, utilities, food & beverage, agri-business, pharmaceutical, mining, chemical, pulp & paper, metals, bio materials and alternative energies. Stakeholder engagement also includes all three levels of Canadian government, NGO, NPO, First Nations, Aboriginal and Inuit communities.
Numerous awards have been earned by Claude or the teams he has worked with, on such themes as marketing (B2B), community economic development, and institutional, commercial and industrial client service.

A Bachelor of Environmental Studies Degree was awarded to Claude from the University of Waterloo, as well as an Engineering Technologist Diploma from Humber College.
A member of the Institute of Corporate Directors, Claude is a Director on the Ottawa Community Housing Corporation Board and OCH Foundation. Past Chair TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (Ottawa Chapter) and present Chair of OCH Portfolio Management Committee (managing 3 billion dollars in assets). Claude is experienced in the role as a facilitator for numerous high-level, multi-sector stakeholder engagements

Mark your calendars:

June 8- 10, 2016 TESL Canada 2016 Conference at Niagara Falls

TEAM MB Report

Sherry Seymour

2014-2016 TEAM President, Desirae Mercer, embraces Ciza Kanyambali, the 2016 recipient of TEAM's Immigrant Learner Award. To the right is Kaleigh Quinn, one of his former instructors.

This has been a season of giving for TEAM.

In March, we held a TEAM Talk on Syrian refugees from Syrian journalist and human rights activist, Maysoun Darweesh. We raised $250 to support Welcome Place, Winnipeg's first-stop organization for refugees from around the world.

In April, we had our annual trivia night fundraiser. This year we raised $2100 for Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba (IRCOM), an organization that has been serving newcomers to Manitoba for over 25 years.

We had a successful conference in May at the University of Winnipeg. This year, we tried to do things a bit differently. In lieu of a keynote speaker, we incorporated a morning panel of EAL leaders in order to better understand each other. The panel included Kristie Coates, ESL & Literacy Program Director for Regional Connections, an organization in rural Manitoba; Scott Poole, the Coordinator of the ESL Teacher Certificate Program at the University of Winnipeg; Briar Jamieson, an e-Learning Consultant; Kerri Caldwell, the Director of Red River College's Language Training Centre; and Teresa Burke, the Director of Language Support at Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations. During the day, we had several invited speakers, some of which gave presentations on Culture & Counselling, Disability Awareness, RPL, and

Experiential Learning. All of our panelists and invited speakers were provided with thank-you gifts from local artist Kal Barteski's Polar Bear fund collection. All break-out session presenters were given local honey and TEAM mason-jar tumblers as a token of appreciation. Among our presenters, we were very pleased to have had our first ever Skype-in speaker: Simone Hengen from the University of Regina gave a very thought-provoking presentation called "What Experiences with First Nations Culture Do ESL Students Bring to the Classroom?" to a packed room.

In June, we had our AGM, where we changed our constitution to include a one-year past president position. The TEAM executive has a few new faces, and more are always welcome.

We are looking forward to a new season of TEAM and to exploring ways we can connect with professionals in other provinces – especially though Skype presentations. Please contact us if you're interested in collaborating!

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/manitobateam/

Twitter: https://twitter.com/TEAM_MB_EAL

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6799191

Website: http://manitobateam.weebly.com/

TESL SK

Liliana M Dominguez

TESL SASK had a busy year. During Winter 2016 the Conference Committee worked diligently to organize the Spring TESL SASK/TEAL Annual Conference. It was held in Regina on April 30th-May 1st, 2016. The theme was "Transitions and Traditions. We had excellent attendance and very informative/interesting workshops. Our keynotes were: Ms. Jaswant Guzder, Anna Bartosik, and Andrea Sterzuk.

TESL SASK has elected new Board Members effective May 1st, 2016. Our Board Chair is Ms. Mina Oh-Tannori and the other Board members are as follow:
Mr. Ricardo Arisnaberreta Montejo
Katie Burham
Liliana M Dominguez
Darren Gordon
Imran Mahmood
Nadia Maqhool
Lisa Morhart (Executive Assistant)

The 2016 Jake Kutarna PD scholarship was awarded to Ms Connie Lewis who is currenly enrolled in a Master's Degree in Education with a focus on Teaching English as an additional language.

The recipients of TESL Saskatchewan 2016 Bursaries are high school graduates who are pursuing further education in College and/or University. We congratulate Sunita and Sumitra.

Under the leadership of David Catterick, TESL SASK has implemented the Cambridge English Teacher Online PD for all members in good standing. This opportunity provides our members with a myriad of resources and webinars for our own professional Development free or charge.

TESL NL

Echo Pittman

3 new members joined TESL NL this year: Stephen Jackson, Amy Evans, and Anthony Lowney. There are 35 members. This year, TESL NL has a brand new website: www.teslnl.com. This website contains a new feature: Members page. Our members can access to the members page to obtain the contact information of our members as well power point slides delivered by our guest speakers.

In our February meeting, Robin Barlett gave an overview of Teachers on the wheels program as well as delivered a PD workshop to our members. The title of her workshop is "Using media as a teaching method. Robin not only shared her experience using newspapers and various radio broadcast programs to make her lessons interesting to her students, but also provided our members with informative and useful tips on how to integrate media into one's lesson plans.

In March, an on-line survey was created and circulated among TESL NL members to further gauge members' interests and needs. The results of this survey were shared with our members in our April meeting. More than 55% of our members would prefer our meetings taking place on Mondays. Many members voiced their needs for PD; they also indicated that guest speakers and practical day to day teaching tips would be their first two choices of PD activities.

The first social event for our members has been arranged. Members have been invited to a cooking class. The event will take place on August 31.

Alberta - ATESL

Sally Scholefield

TESL Saskatchewan

Liliana Dominguez

TEAL Manitoba / TEAM

Sherry Seymour

TESL New Brunswick

Paula Kristmanson

TESL Nova Scotia

Christina Klatecki

TESL Newfoundland/ Labrador

Echo Pittman

TESL NB

Paula Kristmanson

TESL NB Executive: President- Shawna Rogers; Past President and TESL Canada Rep: Paula Kristmanson; Treasurer and Membership Secretary- Natalia Ribeiro; Secretary- Corey Harvey; Newsletter Editor- Chantal Lafargue and Kathy Whynot; TESOL rep and member-at-large- Colleen Meagher-Alkan; Social Media and PR- Chantal Lafargue and Kathy Whynot; Member-at-large- Barbara Clayden (and past-past president); Member-at-large-Shauna Carey.

Spring 2016 was a busy time for TESL NB. While most ESL/EAL educators were welcoming Syrian newcomers into their classrooms and communities, TESL NB was also planning our annual spring conference. This year we were fortunate to be able to bring Dr. Hetty Roessingh to New Brunswick as our keynote speaker. She generously gave of her time and expertise by offering two workshops in addition to the opening plenary on effective task design for ELLs. We were also very pleased that Justin Ryan of the Multicultural Association of Greater Moncton (MAGMA) was able to join us this year. He delivered a very thought-provoking and engaging session entitled, “Crossing Cultures: Intercultural skills for teachers”. These feature talks were followed by workshops on a variety of practical topics offered by TESL NB educators.

Our AGM this year was well attended and was held in conjunction with the conference. Among other business, we passed a motion to pursue the idea of hosting a joint conference with TESL NS in the spring of 2017. We look forward to discussing this event further at our fall 2016 meeting to be held in October in Saint John. Also at our AGM, we voted in the 2016-17 executive that included a new treasurer, Natalia Ribeiro, who is an instructor from the LINC program at Newcomer Connections at the Saint John Y. We are very grateful to Natalia for this very important contribution to our association and thank Gail Graham, our past treasurer for her years of dedicated service. Finally, our AGM was a time to reaffirm our commitment to continue to support one another as we welcome more and more newcomers into our province. The networking opportunities provided through TESL NB allow for educators to share both the effective practices and the challenges related to working with English languages learners of all ages and from a wide variety of linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

TESL NB is active on Twitter @TESL_NB and Facebook https://www.facebook.com/tesl.nb as well as maintaining a wikispace -https://tesl-nb.wikispaces.com/ in order to share information and ideas.

TESL NS Report

Chris Klatecki

TESL NS had a very successful spring conference held at Acadia University. While the majority of the participants were TESL NS members, volunteers and members of other agencies working with refugees were invited making it one of the best attended conferences TESL NS has ever sponsored. The Nova Scotia Minister of Immigration Lena Metlege Diab came and spoke to the participants about the number of new immigrants and programs that were being offered to assist them. As of May, according to Diab, Nova Scotia has welcomed approximately 1,000 new refugees where normally we have about 200 per year. Her talk was well received and she finished by answering many questions from the participants.

We are now planning our fall conference that will be held on November 5th at Dalhousie university. We are very excited to welcome our key note speaker Patrick Huang who will be talking about LGBT Issues in the Adult ESL Classroom.

ATESL Representative Report

Sally Scholefield
ATESL Representative (2015-2016)

Summary of Activities

The ATESL Board has been diligently working this year on a number of initiatives, including planning the annual provincial conference, collaborating with Bow Valley College and NorQuest College to develop intercultural communicative competence (ICC) resources and workshops for English language instructors, generating ATESL's *Envisioning the Future* three year strategic plan, actively engaging with government at the local, provincial, and national levels as well as cooperating with immigrant serving agencies.

Over the past year, the ATESL Board held two face-to-face meetings in Red Deer, in addition to monthly online meetings to move our initiatives forward. Local chapters in Edmonton, Central Alberta, Calgary, and Southern Alberta provided professional development opportunities for the membership ten months of the year and Calgary hosted a one-day mini

conference on June 11th focusing on the theme, “Supporting Wellness in the Language Classroom”.

Initiatives and Resources

ATESL has been actively engaging with municipal, provincial, and federal agencies and organizations to increase its presence and influence in the province. For instance, ATESL is positioned to inform LIPs in both Edmonton and Calgary. As well, members of the ATESL Board regularly attend and contribute to quarterly meetings at LARCC and ILVARC. In May, ATESL signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding with Rural Routes (NorQuest College) for the purpose of better strengthening professional development opportunities for rural instructors. Over the summer months of July and August, ATESL was thrilled to contribute to the IRCC Immigration Roundtable Consultations with Minister John McCallum and to attend the Alberta Association of Immigrant Serving Agencies’ (AASIA) Alberta Settlement and Integration Consultation.

ATESL has partnered with Bow Valley College (Calgary) and NorQuest College (Edmonton) to develop Intercultural Communicative Competence (ICC) training resources and workshops. The ICC project is generously funded by the Government of Alberta and involves the development and delivery of face-to-face workshops as well as an e-textbook that will be available in ATESL’s Resource Library.

The ATESL website is under construction and we are looking forward to the launch of the new website later this year that will include updated, user-friendly features.

The Strategic Planning Committee (ad hoc) has been taking steps over the past 18 months to develop the three-year Strategic Plan to present to the membership at our October AGM. The plan has taken shape as we have spent time in consultation with the ATESL membership via an e-survey administered in the spring together with ideas offered by past and present Board members and Past ATESL Presidents.

In March, the Advocacy Committee launched an e-mail campaign to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. While the government waived transportation loans for Syrian refugees who arrived after November 4th, 2015, refugees from other origins were still required to pay back the transportation loan. The membership was asked to consider writing to their MP and Minister John McCallum requesting to rescind the transportation loans for all refugees.

Sponsoring the Teaching Tips and Strategies session of the Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching (PSLLT) conference held at the University of Calgary August 13th was another great opportunity for

ATESL to be seen as a leader by promoting quality professional development.

Upcoming Events

The ATESL 2016 Conference will be held at the Fantasyland Hotel in Edmonton on October 14-15. This year's conference theme is *Inspiring through Inclusion and Communication.* We have invited two internationally renowned keynotes speakers: Dr. Jonathan Newton from Victoria University of Wellington and Dr. Stuart Webb from the University of Western Ontario. In addition, Dr. Scott Doulas (University of British Columbia, Okanagan), Dr. Jeremie Seror (University of Ottawa), Dr. Bill Dunn (University of Alberta), and Emily Albertsen (Bow Valley College) are the invited speakers. ATESL is expecting to host 500 delegates and is supported by our valued and generous sponsors. Follow the conference on Twitter #atesl2016 or on Facebook.

ATESL is a growing and thriving professional association thanks to its dedicated membership, enthusiastic volunteers, and hardworking board members. We are looking forward to another productive year ahead in 2017.

Website: ATESL.ca Twitter: @ATESLNews

Hello TESL Canada Members,

We are well underway with the planning for our next conference, **TESL Canada 2017: Celebrating Canada's 150th!** Our annual conference is taking place from Thursday, June 8th to Saturday, June 10th, 2017 in beautiful Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. Join us at the Sheraton on the Falls and the Crowne Plaza Niagara Falls for an invaluable learning and networking experience with your English language teaching colleagues from across the country and around the world. The conference will feature expert Keynote Speakers and Featured Speakers from across Canada, Pre-Conference Symposia, a Graduate Symposium, hundreds of concurrent sessions, and our signature President's Reception and Gala Dinner. We will also have some fun additions to celebrate Canada's milestone birthday including the Great Canadian Quiz and the Great Canadian Scavenger Hunt. Make sure you brush up on your knowledge of all things Canadian before you come.

As our planning moves forward we will be issuing regular updates on our website at www.TESLCanadaConference.ca and through all TESL Canada communication channels. Coming soon, the Call for Proposals and Registration. Also coming soon a Call for Volunteers. There will be many opportunities for you to get involved in making this conference a great success, so keep your eye out for the right volunteer opportunity for you.

If you have any questions about the conference e-mail us at conference@tesl.ca. We look forward to welcoming you to Niagara Falls next year!

Dianne Tyers
Conference Manager

TESL Canada Standards Committee

Report on activity – July - August 2016

Chair: Dmitri Priven

Committee Members: Paula Kristmanson (NB)
Liliana Dominguez (SK)
Hedy M. McGarrell (ON)
Echo Pittman (NL)
Brian Courtney (ON)
Ron Thomson (non-Board) (ON)
Judy Sillito (ex-officio) (AB)

The Standards Committee began a discussion on our training program standards. The Chair made several curricular documents available to the members, including:

1. The recently revised TESL Canada Training Programs manual
2. TESL Ontario outcomes-based training standards
3. TESL Ontario-mandated curriculum for teacher training programs
4. TESOL International Standards for Short-Term TEFL programs (http://www.tesol.org/advance-the-field/standards/standards-for-short-term-tefl-tesl-certificate-programs)
5. TESOL International Guidelines for Developing EFL Professional Teaching Standards

The goal of this undertaking is to create a different set of standards for the different levels of teacher certification we currently have (at least for Standard 1 and 2). Our current set of program standards only outlines the minimum requirements (Standards 1 programs). Standard 2 and 3 program are expected to cover these topics in more depth. We could be more explicit as to the depth (and perhaps breadth) and create different sets of topics/outcomes for different standard programs. The idea of outcomes-based standards (in addition to topics) seems appealing. This would ensure more concrete direction and guidance for training program providers. We would also need to involve stakeholder in vetting the new program standards.

At this point this project is in its initial phase – establishing the scope.

Journal Advisory Committee Report

The main activity for members of the JAC was soliciting, screening and recommending a new editor for the TESL Canada Journal (TCJ). As recently announced, Dr. Farahnaz Faez has been appointed to the position, working together with the outgoing editor, Dr. Marian Rossiter, during the first year. Join us in welcoming Farahnaz, who brings great enthusiasm and a wealth of experience in research, teaching and administration, to the position!

A former editor of the TESL Canada Journal and longtime member of the JAC, Dr. John Sivell, has retired from the JAC, effective July 1, 2016. We thank John for his many contributions and wish him well in his retirement. At the same time we encourage members of TESL Canada membership with experience in academic publishing to apply for membership in the JAC to fill the vacancy John's retirement leaves on the JAC.

The next special issue of the TCJ on the topic of *Refugees in Canada: ESL for Resilience and Empowerment* is in progress, which means it is time to think about topics for future special issues. If you have a topic suggestion, let us know about it!

TESL Canada Finance Committee Report

Brian Courtney

The Finance Committee has had a quiet summer. However, during this time the financial health of TESL Canada continued to be closely monitored. Moving forward, all of the committee members are excited to work with our new Executive Director, Claude Lloyd, in the busy months ahead. We will soon begin the planning process for the 2017 budget. We will also be working closely with the Executive Committee, the Conference Manager, and the Conference Planning Committee to help ensure our 2017 TESL Canada Conference in Niagara Falls is a financial success.

Research and Outreach Committee Report

Bonnie Nicholas

The Research and Outreach Committee has been working on increasing our reach with our social media accounts. Social media is used for updating TESL Canada members as well as members of the public on the activities of the Board, promoting the *TESL Canada Journal*, our national conference and other professional development opportunities, and passing along news relevant to our members and other interested persons from other sources and organizations.

Twitter https://twitter.com/teslcanada

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

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

Please follow, like and link to us so that you will have access to our posts as soon as they are shared. Thanks to members of the Research and Outreach Committee who have taken on the responsibility of posting content on some of these pages: Nathan Hall, Briar Jamieson, Sheri Rhodes, Jake Scheffler, and Tyson Seburn, as well as provincial reps Liliana Dominguez and Paula Kristmanson.

Connect with TESL Canada online!

https://twitter.com/teslcanada

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TESL Canada Federation

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