

**Ontario Region LINC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 30, 2007**

1. Action Items from the January 19, 2007 ORLAC meeting:

- The new CLB/LINC Placement Grid has been sent to SPOs
- An iCAMS training disc was sent to LINC supervisors so that they can generate their own reports.
ORLAC members recommended that the process for recording blended and multi-level classes in ARS be reviewed.
- 18 year olds who are out of school are eligible to attend LINC classes.
- The final version of the National LINC/CLIC Placement Grid has been distributed to Service Providing Organizations.

2. Literacy PD RFP:

ORLAC recommended that ESL literacy topics be offered at the November 2007 TESL Ontario Conference.

3. Strategic Plan for Settlement and Language Training from COIA:

Sheila McMullin and Judy Stanleigh, MCI, are the Co-Chairs of the COIA working group for language training.

There is MCI funding for a pilot project for specialized language training to begin in April 2007, falling under two categories:

- Specialized Language Training in Specific Market Sectors
- Language Training for the Employed

4. Links to Learning Manual: review of 1995 manual.

The practical sections have merit, the interview procedure is good and the six case studies are useful. ORLAC expressed some concerns with the theoretical sections and recommended that a new manual be developed rather than rewriting this one.

5. Sector Updates:

TESL Ontario:

The Citizenship Curriculum addendum will be ready in September 2007. There will be two new sections, including one on aboriginals. The English language version is being adapted into French by an Ottawa school board. The TESL Conference is November 22nd – 24th at the Holiday Inn on King, Toronto.

LINC Assessors:

The one-day Assessors conference on January 25, 2007 was well received and had a number of interesting workshops. MCI provided information on bridging programs. There was a plenary on COIA by CIC and MCI.

Preparation training for the new assessment tools has been done. Assessors need to have more opportunities to compare notes, and discuss assessments and tools.

CESBA:

The CESBA Conference is April 19th – 20th at the Courtyard Marriott, Toronto. MCI is funding a pre-conference on ESL on April 18th.

MCI has asked CESBA for names of individuals who will participate in an Extranet. Administrators, instructors and learners are being consulted.

Childminders:

CMAS Childminding Consultants are currently monitoring all LINC childminding programs to ensure that sites are compliant with National LINC Childminding Requirements.

Some childminders have taken advantage of TOP (Training Opportunities Program). Its goal is to increase the quality of care provided to children in LINC Childminding programs through training to childminders.

CMAS is hosting, with Ryerson University, a PD opportunity for childminders, which will result in a Certificate of Achievement.

Colleges:

Teams from six different colleges have finished benchmarking the Accuplacer computer adaptive test. The results have been consolidated with the hope that consensus on the findings will be reached during the teleconference on March 30th.

The CIITE project will not have time to benchmark the COMPASS test, as announced earlier; however, Centennial and George Brown are hoping to do this work on their own, outside CIITE funding. In the end, there will be a great deal of useful information to share relating the CLB 2000 and the CLBPT with a variety of other assessments.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.