

Ontario Region LINC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, November 3, 2006

1. Action Items from the September 29, 2006 ORLAC meeting:

- A letter was written to MCI requesting representation on ORLAC. MCI has declined.

2. Standing Committees' meetings and reports:

Planning & RFPs:

- ARS field requests should provide answers to questions regarding LINC assessment and access to training.
- Landing statistics will be provided to ORLAC members by the CIC Monitor and iCAMS

Delivery: LINC 6 & 7 subcommittee:

A new grid was proposed on the concordance of LINC levels and Canadian Language Benchmarks.

3. ARS Report:

ORLAC members now have access to ARS reports, so that they can analyze LINC levels, as well as assessment and training formats.

4. High Needs Subcommittee analysis of High Needs Report:

CIC's response to the High Needs Report will be sent to ORLAC members two weeks before the January 2007 ORLAC meeting.

Sector Updates:

Childminders:

- CIC will review the terms of reference for appointments of childminder representatives and report back to ORLAC

Colleges:

- There will be a meeting with with Bill Redford, E.D., CIITE, on November 10th for those involved in CIITE.
- The Chairs of ESL, a College subcommittee, will meet at the TESL Ontario Conference this month.
- The ELT Conference is November 6-8 in Ottawa.

- Deliverable Three of the language assessment-related portion of the CIITE project is underway. The teams of Algonquin, Centennial, Mohawk, Seneca and Sheridan College have now received training and are involved in benchmarking CAEL. TOEFL has been done and the report sent to the team members.

CESBA:

- The CESBA Conference is on December 6th and 7th at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Toronto. MCI has agreed to fund a pre-conference day on December 5th. It is entitled “Recognizing and Celebrating Program Practices That Make a Difference”.
- This is Hanna Cabaj’s last meeting as a CESBA representative. Her replacement will be appointed at the December 2006 CESBA AGM.
- The LINC Administrators’ Conference will be March 7-9 at the Marriott Hotel, Toronto.

OCASI:

- The October 16-20th OCASI Conference consisted of two parts, a conference for EDs and regular PD for OCASI.
- There are 4 hours per day ESL radio programming in Kitchener-Waterloo-London for low-German speakers who are unable to access classes because they are working in greenhouses on farms.

LINC Assessors:

- The Assessors’ Coordinators’ Forum was held on September 22nd. There is a need for more generic materials for LINC, for larger character materials and for wheelchair access. Materials belonging to the CNIB and the Bob Rumball Centre for the Deaf may be used.
- The CET are working on an online assessment tool with the CCLB in English and French, which goes to LINC benchmark 9+. It will be available in March 2007.

TESL Ontario:

- The Association wrote to Municipalities of Ontario to request the declaration of the week of November 13th ESL week. Several municipalities that do not have policies against proclamations have done so.
- Mike Colle, Minister of MCI, will attend the TESL Conference dinner.
- The Ontario Citizenship curriculum is going through its final stages.

CIC Operations:

- New classes have been added, including LINC 6 & 7, additional literacy and childminding spaces. The call for proposals will be out shortly for classes starting in April 2007.

- The ISAP pre-qualification Request for Expressions of Interest and Pre-qualification (RFEIP) is posted on settlement.org. The purpose of the RFP is the creation of a list of Pre-qualified potential service providers who will be deemed qualified to deliver the Immigrant Settlement and Adaptation Program (ISAP) in Ontario.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.