



TEACHERS OF ENGLISH
AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

MEDIA ALERT

Contact: Lynn McGregor
416.487.2971
pr@teslontario.ca
Renate Tilson
416.593.4243 Ext.203
rtilson@teslontario.org

TESL ONTARIO ESL WEEK CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED AFTER PEOPLE'S CHOICE VOTE

Toronto, November 6, 2015 – In an effort to embrace the social media/digital technology impact of today as an effective new tool for teaching and learning the English language in adult ESL (English as a Second Language) programs across Ontario, [TESL Ontario](http://www.teslontario.ca) refreshed its ESL creativity contest this year and is pleased to announce seven winners of the [ESL Week “Sharing Inspirational Moments”](#) online contest.

One instructor and one learner are affiliated with Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services (PICS) in Etobicoke, three winners from the Learner Division are with Caledon Community Services in Bolton, and two instructors tied for runners-up are with both the Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre in Mississauga and the Peel District School Board. They will be acknowledged at TESL Ontario's annual conference in Toronto on November 12, 2015, during [ESL Week November 8 – 14, officially proclaimed](#) by more than 30 communities across Ontario.

Congratulations to:

Anjum Karimi, Instructor, PICS – Winner, written entry: [Joys of teaching](#)

Jean Mackie, Instructor, Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre – Runner-up, written entry: [The elderly Asian gentleman](#)

Laine Hayles, Instructor, Peel District School Board – Runner-up, written entry: [Four words that make teaching worth it](#)

Marian Varkholik, Learner, PICS – Winner, video entry: [My passion](#)

Zhan Ran Feng, Learner, Caledon Community Services - Runner-up, video entry: [Claire's reflection](#)

Ola Moskal, Learner, Caledon Community Services – Winner, written entry: [Mommy, you are happy now!](#)

Krystsina Shymchonak, Caledon Community Services – Runner-up, written entry: [New life, new hope](#)

Created by TESL Ontario, **ESL Week November 8 - 14, 2015**, is an annual celebration of ESL education and learning to help raise awareness of the importance of English language learning opportunities in Canada. ESL Week is endorsed not only by several Ontario regions, but also by thousands of ESL educators, students of all ages, and many learning institutions and school boards.

The 43rd conference of TESL Ontario #TESL2015 titled: "**Expanding Horizons: Drawing on Experience and Knowledge**", takes place at the Sheraton Centre, November 12 - 13, 2015. It is perhaps the largest conference of its kind in Canada, hosting close to 800 delegates. Language training professionals from public and private sectors, academics, researchers and government representatives will choose from more than 100 informative sessions on a variety of teaching techniques that work, as well as learn about the latest research in the field, the newest software and publications on the market, and other resources that support English language educators.

TESL Ontario, established in 1972, is a non-profit organization serving the needs of teachers of English as a Second Language. It represents more than 4,600 language training professionals working in immigrant serving agencies, school boards, publicly funded sites across Ontario, colleges/universities, elementary/secondary and private language training schools. TESL Ontario's expertise is in teaching, advocacy, accreditation and professional development. The organization is instrumental in influencing the success of many thousands of English language learners throughout the province.

For more information visit www.teslontario.org and follow us on

