

TESL Ontario Framework for Post TESL Certification Training(FPTCT) Project

TESL Ontario has recently been contracted by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Ontario Region to conduct an important research and reporting initiative that will provide standards and recognition of Post TESL Certification Training for LINC and ESL instructors in Ontario. The TESL Ontario FPTCT Project Team will research and design a Framework for Development and Delivery of Post TESL Ontario Certification Training for Teachers of English as a Second Language in Ontario. This Framework will be designed in consultation with training providers and an Advisory Group to include CIC and MCI representation as well as LINC and ESL training providers.

English Language proficiency, a research supported key determinant of successful social and economic integration of immigrants, is enhanced by ESL instruction across Ontario Region through federally and provincially funded language training programs. Continually evolving learner demographics as well workplace communication requirements precipitate the need for enhanced skills for instructors delivering language training. The FPTCT initiative will support instructor development in the delivery of effective and relevant training to Learners.

In addition to the Post TESL Certification Training Framework, TESL Ontario will consult on and prepare recommendations for an online application and identification process for instructors to access funding reimbursement upon successful completion of recognized Post Certification training.

The Objectives of the FPTCT initiative are:

- to determine through a consultative and research process, requisite knowledge and skills for ESL instructors that will enhance effective language training delivery
- to devise, through consultation and field testing , consistent, relevant standards for design and delivery of post TESL Ontario Certification Training for ESL instructors in Ontario
- to promote awareness and implementation of the Post Certificate Training Framework among training providers
- to provide implementation recommendations for a system and process for instructors to access funding reimbursement for recognized post certificate course completion

Citizenship and Immigration Canada recognizes the need for support of ongoing professional development for those delivering services to immigrants to Canada. Two notable initiatives by means of which CIC provides this support are the Professional Education and Training (PET) Project offering support for individual and

in-house group training for staff from settlement service agencies and the Training Opportunities Project (TOP) designed specifically for LINC childminding staff.

FPTCT Project Activities will include;

- ❑ preparation of a research framework and criteria for study
- ❑ literature review, focus group and individual consultations with training providers
- ❑ preparation of Draft Post TESL Certification Training Framework document
- ❑ consultation with Advisory Group
- ❑ field testing of Framework with instructor training providers
- ❑ Delivery of presentations at TESL Ontario, CESBA venues
- ❑ Consultation report on an online application and identification process for instructors to access funding reimbursement for course completion

The FPTCT Project team will be comprised of TESL Executive Director, Renate Tilson, Project Lead, Carolyn Cohen, Research Lead, Antonella Valeo, Researchers Anouchka Plumb, Colette Peters and Sheila Applebaum, Administrative Assistant, Elizabeth Carbone and System Administrator, Kevin O'Brien. The current project began on December 1, 2009 and is scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2011