



# TESL ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 2016 -2017

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE TESL ONTARIO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Annual Report is a wonderful opportunity to be able to share the achievements of TESL Ontario and its Chapters over the last year. On behalf of the TESL Ontario Board of Directors, it is our great pleasure to present to you the TESL Ontario Annual Report for 2016-17. This year was a positive year that saw TESL Ontario deepen relationships, build bridges, and expand into new opportunities.

First, I'd like to thank the more than 4,500 members of TESL Ontario who contribute so greatly to ensure that professional development has a place in our workplaces and our practice.

Without our volunteers, TESL Ontario simply wouldn't be able to do the work we are committed to doing. We are all so grateful for the ongoing support our volunteers make whether it is in support of the conference, or a local chapter, or on one of the various supporting committees. TESL Ontario also wishes to thank its Chapter Executives who over the last year have engaged in local professional development and community building. Thank you for dedication.

This year, the TESL Ontario staff completed the long process of certification, culminating in the professional designation Ontario Certified English Language Teacher (OCELT). The Board of Directors hopes that in time this designation will help to enhance the reputation of our profession.

Also new this year, is the TESL Ontario International Certificate in Teaching English as an Additional Language (ICTEAL). We hope that this certificate will help meet the demand for certification for our members who are teaching abroad.

TESL Ontario are constantly looking to ensure that we are meeting our targets on finding new areas for growth and expansion of our mission. In particular, I would like to thank the office staff for all of their work this year: Renate Tilson, Executive Director, Eva Csiszar, Operations Manager, Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy, Accreditation Services Manager, Allison Keown, Manager Member Services and Communications, and Office Manager Kevin Gamble.

We wish to thank Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration for their participation and support of our mandate.

Finally, thank you to the members in attendance at the Annual General Meeting and for taking the time to participate in your organization's governance.

Sincerely,



James Papple  
Chair, TESL Ontario Board of Directors

# TESL ONTARIO 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 44th Annual TESL Ontario Conference, “Recognizing Abilities & Possibilities” was held on November 24th and 25th at Sheraton Centre in Toronto. Recognizing the abilities and potential of newcomers will aid their settlement in Canada, and ESL professionals are an integral part of their pathway.

Nearly 900 delegates were in attendance, with 227 receiving conference assistance from Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration.

The success of our conference is due in part to the support of our sponsors. We are grateful to British Council / IELTS for providing the conference bags and Welcome Reception; to ESL Library for sponsoring a keynote address as well as the Registration Area with Nelson Education; Oxford University Press for sponsoring a keynote; and Canadian Centre for Language Benchmarks (CCLB) for sponsoring a refreshment break in honour of their 20th anniversary.

Thomas Farrell, Professor of Applied Linguistics at Brock University spoke on “Reflective Practice for Language Teachers” and Jayme Adelson-Goldstein, Oxford University Press author, presented on “5 Concepts of Learner Centered Instruction: rigor, reflection, relevance, reciprocity and response”. Both speakers were engaging and very well received.



The theme of the Eleventh Annual Panel Discussion was "Building on Foundations...Framing the Future". Representatives from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development, and Ontario Ministry of Education shared updates and discussed new initiatives relevant to the ESL profession in Ontario.



The many volunteer presenters shared their expertise and experience to provide nearly 90 learning opportunities on a wide range of topics, but with many focusing on Portfolio Based Language Assessment (PBLA). An addition to this year’s program was “This Session has 22 Minutes”; six 22-minute video clips in which an ESL related topic was presented.

The inaugural Program Administrators’ session, under the auspices of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship and Immigration Canada and Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, was held Friday morning. This facilitated session was a valuable opportunity for program leaders to share their experiences and challenges regarding PBLA in particular and was much appreciated by the 130 participants.

# TESL ONTARIO 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Over twenty exhibitors displayed their goods in the exhibitor hall and provided participants with the opportunity to peruse and purchase the latest ESL resources.



Thursday's Welcome Reception provided a further opportunity for networking, with the winners of the Sparks of Excellence Award and Distinguished Contribution Award being announced as well.

The success of the conference depends largely on the volunteers who present, monitor doors or staff the registration desk. The conference could not exist without their commitment and effort; the conference committee is most appreciative of their dedication to our profession.



"Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed the conference and would like to thank the organizers for their hard work and for doing a great job at a time when budgets are no-doubt tight."

~Conference Survey Response

"I enjoyed every session I did attend and found the staff and volunteers to be very kind and helpful."

~ Conference Survey Response

"Thanks for all the great work! I was a first-time attendee and I found it an excellent experience, very helpful for my teaching."

~ Conference Survey Response

"Great opportunity to keep updated with current trends in the field and learn new things. Excellent for networking - thank you very much."

~Conference Survey Response

## AFFILIATE CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

### TESL DURHAM

On October 15, 2016, TESL Durham hosted a fall PD workshop. The workshop featured two presentations; Low Level Literacy teaching presented by Declan Nolan and Accessing Webinars on Tutela presented by Diane Ramanathan. The event also had networking opportunities.

TESL Durham's spring conference was held on April 8, 2017. The event focused on Mental Health, and featured a presentation by David Clarke from Durham Mental Health Services. The event also included a networking activity for attendees.

### TESL HAMILTON

TESL Hamilton-Wentworth hosted a Community Partners Resource Information Fair on November 9, 2016. Participants met speakers and learned about presentations, and resources available for classroom programs.

The affiliate chapter held its Annual Spring Conference & AGM on April 22, 2017. The conference featured two workshop sessions, networking, and publishers displays.

### TESL KINGSTON

TESL Kingston's fall PD workshop on November 19, 2016 focused on music in the classroom with two presentations; The Rhythm of Music: A musical look into teaching pronunciation, presented by Darlene Barrowman, and Accessing English through Popular Music presented by Dr. Nora Fayed

The affiliate chapter held its spring PD workshop and AGM on May 6, 2017. The event featured a panel presentation of three refugee sponsorship groups discussing their experiences sponsoring refugee families in Kingston.

### TESL LONDON

On February 15, 2017 TESL London held its winter PD event. The event included a guided discussion of the professional experiences of NNEST (Non-Native English Speaking Teachers) colleagues. Speakers discussed the challenges and advantages in being a NNEST in London.

The TESL London spring conference: Evidence-based Assessment was held on May 13, 2017. The event featured a plenary presentation by Thomas S.C. Farrell, as well as 8 educational sessions and a technology session in a fully equipped lab.



TESL Durham



TESL Ottawa

## AFFILIATE CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

### TESL NIAGARA

TESL Niagara's Eat, Talk, Learn fall PD event was held on November 4, 2016. It was Pecha Kucha evening, with several short presentations on various ESL related topics. (Pecha Kucha, is a presentation format where the speaker presents 20 slides on a topic in about 6 minutes.) The event also included a keynote presentation titled Building Confidence in the ESL Learner presented by Jennifer Weiler, Brett Basbaum and Audrey Beaulne.

The affiliate chapter held its spring conference on May 6, 2017. The event featured several presentations including Colligation: The Way Grammar Should be Taught presented by Ken Lackman, From Teacher to Teacherpreneur: how to monetize your professional skills presented by Patrice Palmer and a presentation on the Tutela redesign, by Diane Ramanathan. In addition, there was a PBLA Drop-In, where PBLA classroom instructors could network with colleagues from various sites to compare notes, get new ideas and share experiences. The AGM was also held during the conference.

### TESL NORTH YORK / YORK REGION

The TESL North York/York Region fall mini-conference and AGM was held on October 13, 2017. The event included a keynote presentation by Lindsey Gutt who lead a discussion on the challenge of giving students the necessary conversation skills to begin, develop, continue, and end a conversation. She also shared workable activities, implementation techniques, rationale, and rubrics used to assess these skills.

### TESL OTTAWA

TESL Ottawa held its fall PD event on November 19, 2016. The event titled, Professional Development: Whenever, Wherever: A Step by

Step Guide to Tutela Webinars" featured a user friendly, low-tech tutorial of learning how to access Tutela webinars. This comprehensive workshop included a viewing of one of Tutela's most popular webinars. The event also included a book swap and networking opportunities.

On February 4, 2017 TESL Ottawa held its winter PD conference. The event featured a plenary presentation by Dr. Kate Frego titled "What is my teaching philosophy? Insights from our teaching metaphors". The day also included 4 educational workshops, networking and exhibitors.

The Affiliate Chapter held its annual spring PD and AGM on May 13, 2017. The event featured a plenary presentation by Mohammad Hashemi, titled Language Learning and Technology; Advantages, Limitations, and Best Practices. In addition to the AGM, the event also included two workshops Turn it On: Creating Digital Capability in the Classroom by Mike Simpson and Unlock Learning Abilities - Help Your Learners Thrive, by Shafaque Mulla, as well as poster presentations by Carleton University grad students.



TESL North York / York Region

# AFFILIATE CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

## TESL PEEL HALTON ETOBICOKE

TESL PHE's fall conference: Inform, inspire, interact was held on October 27, 2016. The event featured a keynote address by Susan Lamb, a transformational speaker who spoke on how look through the rubble of disappointment and find hope and happiness. There was also a presentation by Diane Ramanathan, an AGM and networking opportunities.

The TESL PHE spring conference #i3PHE Unleash your Creativity was held on April 29, 2017. The keynote address was delivered by Nathaniel Barr, and focused the nature of our minds and how to make the most of them. The event also offered 15 learning sessions, including 6 technology workshops.

## TESL TORONTO

TESL Toronto's TESL Trivia and AGM Night was held on October 20, 2016. Participants took part in a fun trivia game. The event also included an AGM and networking.

TESL Toronto held an Employment Event titled "Pitch Perfect" on April 25, 2017. The event included a presentation by Katina Deichsel, who spoke to participants about how to promote themselves to potential employers. The evening also included a job fair and networking.

TESL Toronto also held its annual spring conference, TOSCON 2017, in May. The conference featured two days of professional development including plenary presentations, workshops and networking.

## TESL WATERLOO-WELLINGTON

The TESL WW spring PD event: Thinking Critically was held on May 13, 2017. The keynote address was delivered by Tyson Seburn, and focused on how thinking critically has multiple

applications in communicative contexts. The event also included several workshops related to the theme of Critical Thinking, networking and publisher displays.

## TESL WINDSOR

The TESL Windsor fall conference: Connecting Communities Through Technology was held on November 19, 2016. This workshop provided attendees with practical ideas on connecting communities through the newest technology. It offered a series of short workshops about learning and teaching strategies, the best practices, and the use of social media as a way to communicate. The event also included networking opportunities.

TESL Windsor's spring PD event workshop: Connecting Communities was held on April 22, 2017. The event featured a series of information sessions from different settlement agencies.



TESL Windsor



TESL Kingston

## MEMBER SERVICES

The association had approximately 4600 active members in 2016. 85% of the membership held certificates of accreditation, while 12% of the membership keeps abreast of the language training sector with a standard membership.

In January 2017 TESL Ontario announced a new registered professional designation for all TESL Ontario accredited members called Ontario Certified English Language Teacher or OCELT. The OCELT designation serves to acknowledge the professionalism, integrity and high quality language instruction of TESL Ontario certified teachers. TESL Ontario is committed to enhancing the respect and recognition of the TESL profession in Ontario.

TESL Ontario continues to work towards improving member involvement and increasing the value of membership by further developing member benefit offerings. In the spring of 2017, a new YouTube volunteer team began working on developing a more robust TESL Ontario YouTube Channel that will include informative playlists and new tech tool videos.

The TESL Ontario online social media community continues to grow with more members joining us online this year to gather information, share and communicate with other TESL Ontario members and contribute to our engaging conversations on Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, YouTube, Tutela.ca and the TESL Ontario blog.

The TESL Ontario free webinar program has continued to offer members a wide array of professional development on popular topics covering technology, critical thinking, PBLA, e-materials, employment, mental health and much more. All webinars are initially scheduled as a live event, but a recorded version of the webinar

is made available to all members following the live event.



**Activities to Enhance Vocabulary Learning**  
Wednesday, June 21 @ 7 pm  
Presenter: Cecilia Aponte-de-Hanna, OCELT, OCT  
Click [here](#) for webinar details.

Register



**Perfecting Your Pitch! Captivate Your Next Potential Employer in Thirty Seconds**  
Part 1 of a 3-part employment series  
Sunday, June 25 @ 7 pm  
Presenter: Katina Deichsel, OCELT  
Click [here](#) for webinar details.

Register

TESL Ontario publications continue to grow and expand. TESL Ontario Contact e-magazine launched its new online format in the spring of 2017. The new format has catalogued and searchable articles, as well as downloadable full issues of the magazine. The TESL Ontario Blog added 2 new guest bloggers in the past year. The TESL Ontario blog content is enjoying an expanded readership and popularity among ESL professionals across Canada.

A new member survey was conducted in the spring of 2017. TESL Ontario recognizes that it's important to keep current with the needs and expectations of its members. A member survey provides a platform for members to provide the association with suggestions and ideas, so that TESL Ontario can serve its member better. The results of the survey are being analyzed and will inform the future direction of the association.

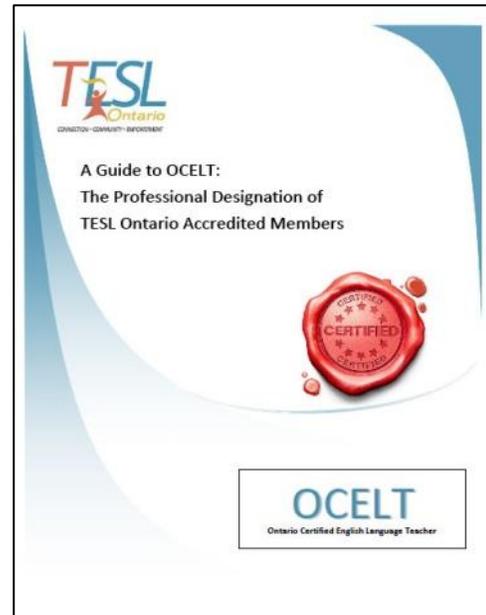
"I value those who represent us in this field, through TESL Ontario, and who work to keep accreditation at a high standard. Being a member of this association brings recognition of professionalism in general society, so that what we are doing as employees or volunteers has more meaning."

~ Member Survey Response

## ACCREDITATION SERVICES

For the first time in the history of adult ESL instruction in Ontario, the TESL Ontario accredited members have a registered professional designation: OCELT (Ontario Certified English Language Teacher). In April 2016, TESL Ontario submitted its application for the registration of OCELT to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. After going through a rigorous review process, the TESL Ontario application was officially approved in January 2017, and a Trade-mark Certificate of Registration for OCELT was issued in August 2017. OCELT recognizes the professionalism and integrity of TESL Ontario certified teachers, and their commitment to the TESL Ontario Code of Ethics and high quality instruction. OCELT helps enhance respect for the TESL profession and signifies that TESL Ontario accredited members have met TESL Ontario certification standards; have distinct knowledge and skills specific to teaching adult ESL; are qualified to teach in both government-funded and private programs in Canada, and in international settings; strive for excellence through academic inquiry, self-reflection, openness to new ideas and ongoing professional development; and belong to a community of highly educated, responsible and dedicated professionals who seek to further the best interests of the learners.

Throughout this report period, TESL Ontario made an effort to introduce its TESL program accreditation standards and adult ESL teacher accreditation requirements to international TESL organizations. The purpose of this initiative was to expand the TESL Ontario accreditation services beyond the borders of Canada and enhance the accredited members' employability abroad. ICTEAL-International Certificate in Teaching



English as an Additional Language- granted to all TESL Ontario accredited members as of August 2017, is one of the outcomes of the work done in this regard thus far. ICTEAL is granted/renewed automatically when the OCELT Certificate is granted/renewed; no additional renewal forms or fees are needed. The TESL Ontario accredited members who are teaching or are considering teaching English abroad can submit their ICTEAL Certificate to international employers as their proof of extensive training and expertise in teaching English.

Accreditation application on the basis of prior education and experience is an important area of professional practice in Ontario where a very substantial share of Canada's new immigrant and refugee population settles each year. The TESL Ontario Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) service, which started in 2012, gives the eligible applicants an official statement of exactly what gaps exist between

# ACCREDITATION SERVICES

their previous TESL training and ESL teaching experience, and the courses and practicum required by TESL Ontario. As a result, they will complete only the additional coursework and practicum needed to qualify for the TESL Ontario OCELT Certificate of Accreditation. During the current report period, TESL Ontario received and reviewed 139 PLAR applications. 104 of the applicants completed the required additional training and received the TESL Ontario accreditation.

In July and August 2016, the accreditation services manager met with two groups of EFL teachers from China at SuOn College in North York to introduce TESL Ontario and its services to them. Also, in August 2016, the accreditation services manager met with the representatives of Toronto Public Health to discuss the potential collaboration opportunities with a focus on promoting the ESL material Toronto Public Health had developed for both teachers and learners. Furthermore, as a member of the TESOL International Standards Professional Council, the accreditation services manager took part in the council's annual meetings in April 2016 and March 2017 and participated in its quarterly conference calls.

During this report period, TESL Ontario approved 327 new OCELT applications (including 104 applications through PLAR assessment), 52 accredited membership reinstatement applications, 34 TESL trainer/PTCT instructor approval applications, 23 TESL program accreditation renewal applications, and 13 PTCT course approval renewal applications.



“I saw the announcement about the new OCELT credential designation and wanted to congratulate you and your team on this achievement. I have some idea of how much work and persistence went into getting this recognition for your members and I'd like to thank you for that. I will use the credential with pride....” ~ Vera B.

“Very good news (OCELT). Thanks to all for the efforts on behalf of recognition of the profession and the hard work done by ESL professionals.” ~ Claudie G.

# TESL ONTARIO WORKING COMMITTEES

## COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Communications Advisory Committee aligns its objectives with the strategic priorities set by the TESL Ontario Board of Directors. Its role is to enhance communication with all stakeholders by providing key information in a timely and accessible manner. The committee oversees e-mail communications to members on key messages and activities as well as creation of news releases and media handling.

Over the last year, the committee provided input on several issues including requests for a global designation certificate for foreign ESL teachers and communications around the use of the new professional Ontario Certified English Language Teacher (OCELT) designation for teachers.

The committee supported efforts to expand TESL Ontario's social media base and a drive to boost membership through activities and events during ESL Week and the 44th Annual Conference in November 2016.

Brian Porter completed his third year as committee chair in 2016-17. Other committee members were Sheila Nicholas, James Papple, Allison Keown and Renate Tilson.

In addition, the committee continued with the following activities:

### Recognition Awards

The Distinguished Contribution Award is designed to recognize and honour particularly significant achievements and/or contributions to the advancement of the profession of English language educators, the English language training sector and/or TESL Ontario. There can be up to three award recipients each year.

In 2016 the award was presented to Barbara Krukowski.

The Sparks of Excellence Award is designed to recognize and acknowledge the excellence and commitment of TESL Ontario members. Ruth Engel and Kelly Morrissey received the award in 2016.



Laura Albanese Minister of Citizenship, Immigration with 2016 Award Recipients

## SOCIAL CONTENT COMMITTEE

The Social Content committee is responsible for the development of TESL Ontario's online professional community.

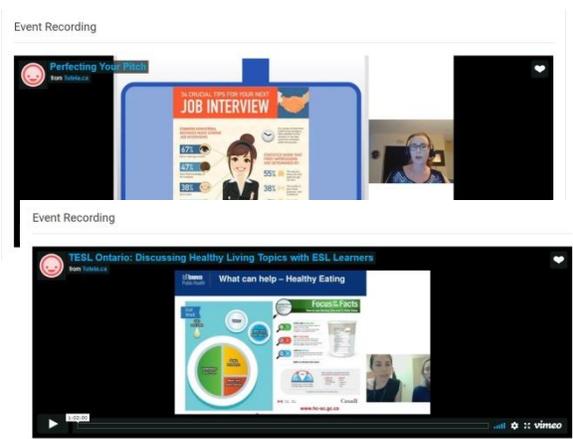
Lynn Doherty continued on as committee chair in 2016-17. Other committee members were Jen Artan, Suma Balagopal, John Allan, Tamsin Cobb, Sarah Klassen, Allison Keown, Kevin O'Brien and Renate Tilson. Jessica Brown joined the committee early 2017, and Irene Walker joined in spring of 2017.

In 2016, the TESL Ontario Social Content Committee continued to work on bringing relevant and up-to-date resources through social media platforms and initiatives to the membership. The number of TESL Ontario LinkedIn group members reached 3387 while the corporate page saw 4335 followers. Facebook likes grew to 2000 and TESL Ontario Twitter followers increased to 1869.

# TESL ONTARIO WORKING COMMITTEES

## TESL Ontario Webinar Series

The TESL Ontario Webinar series continued to offer a wide array of presentations each month for a total of 23 webinars in 2016. These presentations attracted almost 1200 participants, with an average of more than 50 participants per webinar; consequently, the TESL Ontario group members on Tutela.ca increased to 1500 members.



## TESL Ontario Blog

The TESL Ontario Blog saw a significant increase of its average unique monthly visitors to almost 10,000 visitors per month. Blog readers had the opportunity to engage with TESL Ontario bloggers and Occasional bloggers in conversations to enhance professional community.



In addition, each year the Social Content Committee brings new and innovative social media initiatives to the TESL Ontario annual conference. In 2016, the committee organized the recording of our new video series called “This

Session has 22-Minutes”. The team recruited six presenters to offer short 22 minute informational sessions that were released on social media platforms and played on television screens during the 2016 conference.

The Social Content Committee’s initiatives would not have been possible without the commitment and professionalism of all volunteers.

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE

This past year has seen a transformation of the way in which TESL Ontario approaches the role of Research in the organization and community. TESL Ontario has benefited enormously from the expertise and dedication of members of the Research Committee since its creation in 2009. Over the years, TESL Ontario has changed as an organization and so has the membership, with many of us interested and able to engage in research in many different ways. In January, 2017, we announced the creation of a Registry of Experts in Research that would replace the current model of a committee. The new model of the registry was intended to promote greater participation of members and draw on a broad base of expertise. Applications were reviewed by former committee members and currently, there are 17 members included on this registry. Since its inception, individual members have stepped forward to provide ethics reviews for three research projects and they reviewed over 30 research papers and posters for the TESL Ontario Annual Conference. As TESL Ontario grows, we hope to continue to draw on the expertise of our diverse community to support the development of our members as professionals.

# TESL ONTARIO WORKING COMMITTEES

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

A month following the annual TESL Ontario conference the conference committee meets to begin planning for the next event. Feedback from participants and exhibitors and our own observations help inform what changes should be considered for the next conference. Ideally decisions regarding location would be made 2 years in advance but circumstances do not always allow for that. The conference theme is chosen by the committee and reflects trends in the field of ESL. Conference logistics are handled by TESL's conference coordinator working closely with the TESL Ontario office. Committee members discuss possible keynote speakers whose names may have come from various sources. Updates are shared at our bi-monthly committee meetings.



We wish to acknowledge the dedication of Sheila Nicholas, Kevin O'Brien, Rita Plaskett, Caroline Aston, Renate Tilson and the TESL Ontario office team for their hard work throughout the year to make our conference a success, under the capable leadership of our Conference Chair Barbara Krukowski.

## ACCREDITATION STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Standards Committee's mandate is to uphold the TESL Ontario professional standards by addressing and advising on accreditation developments and concerns. This committee is composed of a chairperson; six representation seats for two program managers, two TESL trainers, one LINC teacher, and one adult ESL teacher; TESL Ontario Executive Director; TESL Ontario Adjudicator; and TESL Ontario Accreditation Services Manager. The members of this committee are recruited from the TESL Ontario membership.

During the period of April 2016-March 2017, the Standards Committee held four meetings, including the annual joint meeting with the accredited TESL Program Directors. The committee reviewed and discussed several topics during this period. The main discussion topics were updates to the procedures and standards of initial TESL program accreditation application, TESL program accreditation renewal, English language proficiency standard, incorporating PBLA in accredited TESL training, TESL trainer approval requirements, and international certificate for adult ESL/EFL teachers.

Serving on the Standards Committee in the 2016-2017 period were Karen E. Evans (Chair), Robert Courchène, David Wood, Kay Ham, Laura Stoutenburg, Wanda Komorowski, Sven Greve, Marlene Saavedra, Renate Tilson, and Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy.

## Thank You for Your Support

TESL Ontario considers our volunteers to be our most valued community resource. Sharing their time, expertise, commitment and vision, our volunteers inspire us to continuously find new ways to serve and support our members.

We rely on the innovative contributions of our more than 300 dedicated volunteers to facilitate significant progress for English language educators in Ontario. TESL Ontario sincerely appreciates the dedication, time and skills of the individuals who share their considerable knowledge with us.

# CONTACT MAGAZINE

## CONTACT MAGAZINE

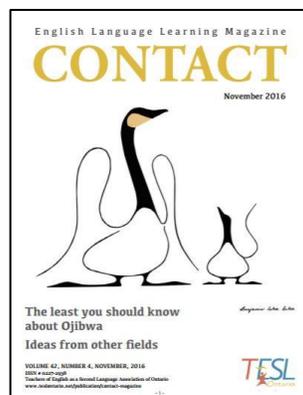
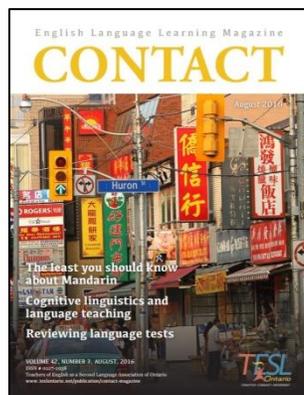
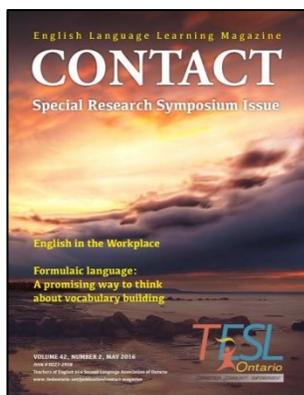
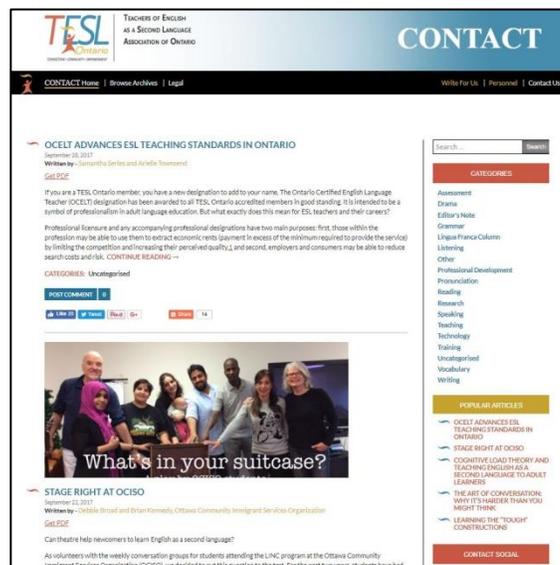
Contact, TESL Ontario's professional development magazine, was established in 1974, and has evolved over the years to match the changing needs of its evolving audience. The 2016/17 year saw the completion of volume 42 and the beginning of volume 44.

During the year, we finally moved to our long-promised dedicated website, where you can view individual articles as well as entire issues <http://contact.teslontario.org/issues/>. With this change, we have begun publishing individual articles as they become ready.

The first issue each year celebrates the previous year's annual conference and includes articles based on conference presentations. The second issue has historically been a special refereed issue featuring the previous year's Research Symposium presentations. Because of budget cuts, there was no Research Symposium this year, and Contact published only three issues instead of four. To accommodate this change, we moved the conference issue to a later publication date.

The other two issues, published in August and November, carry a wide range of research articles, lesson ideas, book reviews, special features, and profiles of community organizations. In choosing articles to publish, we strive to prioritize practical teaching information, techniques and methods, lesson plans and classroom tools, and career advice. We continue to solicit these kinds of articles from writers, but we welcome and, indeed, depend on your unsolicited contributions.

Brett Reynolds continues as editor, a position he has held since 2011.



# TECHNOLOGY

TESL Ontario continues to utilize both web technologies and office technologies to provide the membership with beneficial experiences and access to current information and resources in different formats on an ongoing basis.

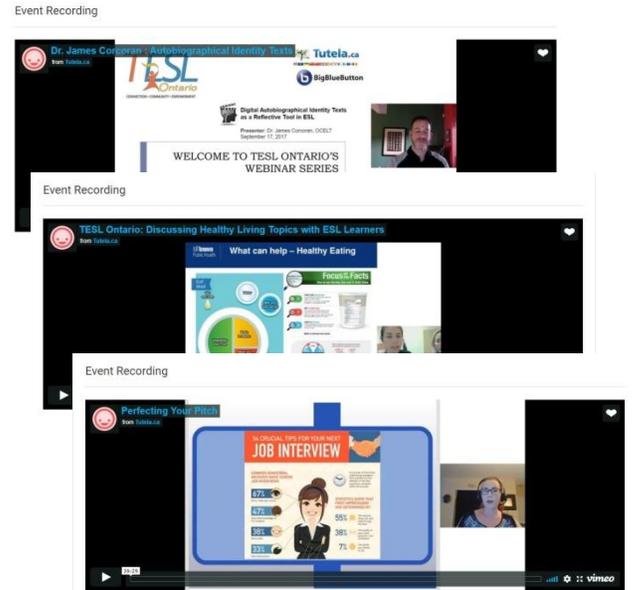
Our amazing volunteer teams of the TESL Ontario blog and the TESL Ontario webinar teams continue to do incredible jobs at providing out membership access to information and training on an as needed basis. In addition, the Social Content Committee continues to use the various social media venues to inform and update our members with the latest information in the field. They also provide our members with information on new resources in the ESL field.

Over the past year TESL Ontario has worked to continue to provide the highest level of security for our members by utilizing online security when collecting information from our members through the website. We also utilize the top industry tools to keep our members informed and updated about ESL in Ontario, Canada and beyond and we provide access to these tools and training to use them to our Affiliates.

TESL Ontario has recently started providing our publication CONTACT online so that articles as they are completed are posted and the complete issue is posted as well. The CONTACT publications can be found on our separate website at [contact.teslontario.org](http://contact.teslontario.org) and it also houses our archives of past issues in PDF format as well.

TESL Ontario continues to stay abreast with issues around the use of technology to serve members and continues to be a leader in providing members with a positive online experience whether it is renewing one's membership, viewing a webinar or reading about

important information taking place in the ESL field in Canada and around the world.



# OPERATIONS

TESL Ontario now serves approximately 4,500 members, and a large number of them are TESL Ontario Accredited.

The operations of TESL Ontario are carried out by five full-time staff members:

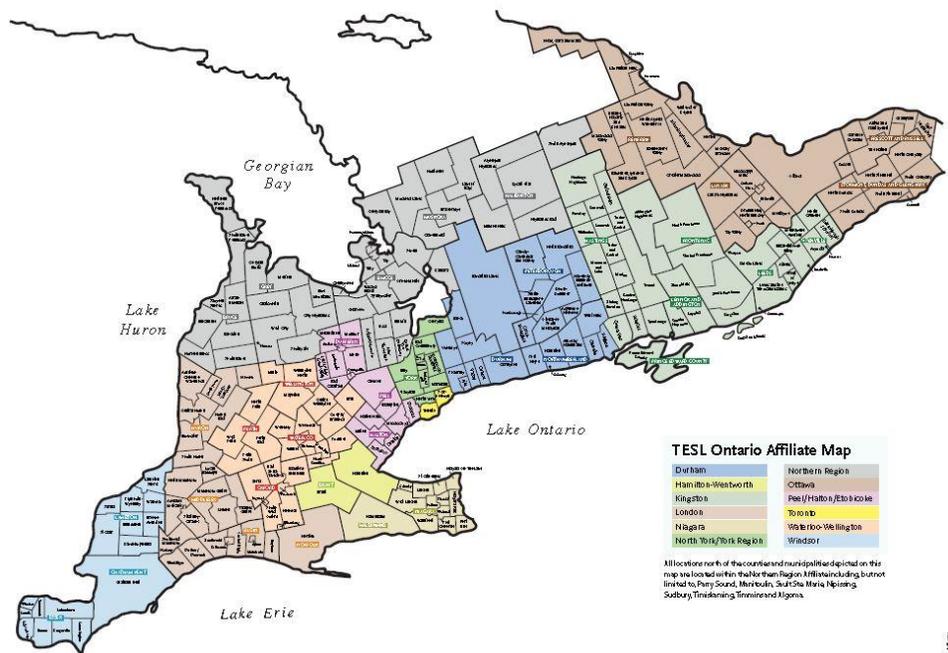
- Renate Tilson, Executive Director
- Eva Csiszar, Operations Manager
- Allison Keown, Manager Member Services and Communications
- Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy, Accreditation Services Manager
- Kevin Gamble, Office Manager

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, and supervision of the Executive Director, the office carries out the functions of Membership Support, TESL Ontario Accreditation, which includes TESL Ontario's PLAR service, Financial Management, Project and Contract Administration, Office Administration, Liaison Function with Ministries, other agencies and the public and, of course, the delivery of our large TESL Ontario Conference.

# AFFILIATE CHAPTERS

Each of the 12 TESL Ontario Affiliate Chapters has an executive body consisting of a President, Affiliate Chapter Representative, Treasurer and Membership Secretary, but may also include other positions such as Newsletter Editor, Communications Officer and Members at Large. Both the Affiliate Chapter Presidents and Affiliate Chapter Representatives meet annually with the TESL Ontario Board of Directors to contribute to the Boards' awareness of the strategic issues of their members.

- TESL Durham
- TESL Hamilton-Wentworth
- TESL Kingston
- TESL London
- TESL Niagara
- TESL Northern Region
- TESL North York / York Region
- TESL Ottawa
- TESL Peel Halton Etobicoke
- TESL Toronto
- TESL Waterloo-Wellington
- TESL Windsor



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

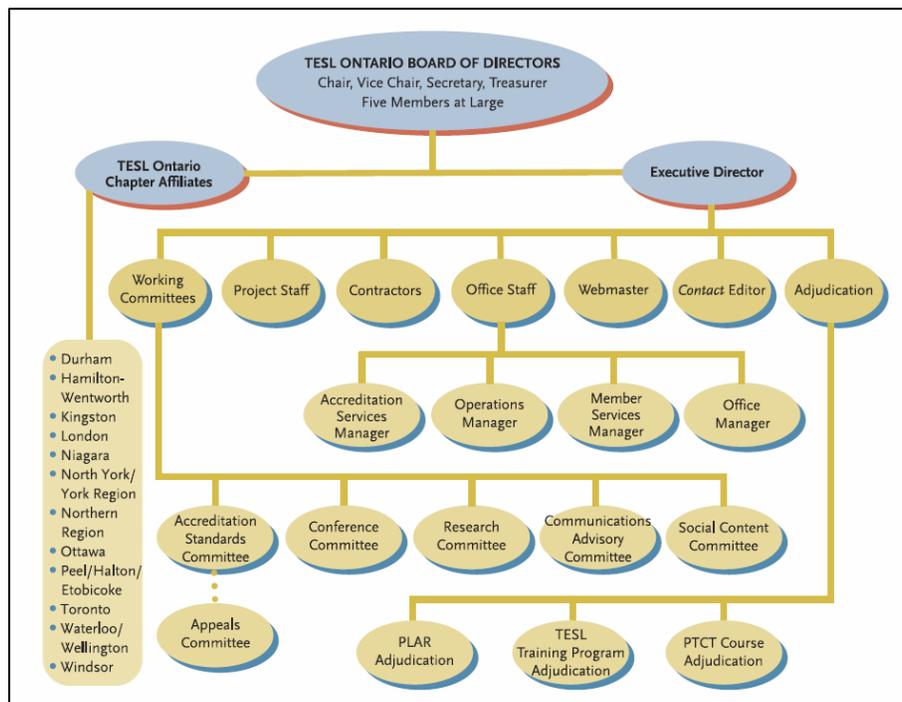
The Board of Directors of TESL Ontario is comprised of nine members, all designated Members-at-Large. A Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are elected each year from amongst these nine Directors following the Annual General Meeting. The Board meets a minimum of five times per year. Operational matters of the association are managed by the Executive Director. The ED is guided and governed by Board policies and serves a pivotal role in the organization.

The TESL Ontario Board uses a policy governance model as its “operating system”. Policy Governance enables the Board to focus on the larger issues, to delegate with clarity, to control operation’s job without interference, to rigorously evaluate the accomplishment of the

organization: to truly lead the association. The Board’s job is to decide, through strategic planning, the kind of “Targets” the association is to produce. It relies on the Executive Director to interpret and work with staff, paid and voluntary, to achieve the means to meet those targets.

## 2016/17 Board of Directors

Chair	Jim Papple
Vice-Chair	Bhupinder Gill
Treasurer	Jennifer McKay
Secretary	Cheryl Fretz
Member-at-Large	Brett Basbaum
Member-at-Large	Sharon Deng
Member-at-Large	Alex Harchenko
Member-at-Large	David Hazell
Member-at-Large	Geoff Lawrence



# FINANCIAL REPORT

The condensed financial information below represents the abbreviated annual financial statements of TESL Ontario for the year ended March 31, 2017.

Readers of the condensed financial information are cautioned that the information contained may not be appropriate for their purposes and may be misleading without referring to auditors' report and the information contained in the notes to the financial statements. The independent auditors' report and complete audited financial statements, which include notes and more detailed supplementary financial information, are available on the TESL Ontario website at [www.teslontario.org/publication/annual-report](http://www.teslontario.org/publication/annual-report).

## Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 220,789	\$ 129,851
Short-term investments	159,956	58,595
Accounts receivable	-	7,250
Prepays and deposits	27,371	19,367
	\$ 408,116	\$ 215,063
<b>Capital Assets</b>	17,567	23,242
<b>Intangible Assets</b>	32,000	32,000
	\$ 457,683	\$ 270,305
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 72,349	\$ 77,520
Deferred contributions	390,424	344,438
	\$ 462,773	\$ 421,958
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>	\$ (5,090)	\$ (151,653)
	\$ 457,683	\$ 270,305

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets Year Ended March 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Annual TESL Ontario Conference		
Conference Assistance project - MCI	114,117	112,125
Publisher fees	23,729	28,152
Registration fees	120,780	79,689
Sponsorship	11,250	10,750
Project revenue		
Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI)		
Pay Equity Program	9,259	9,259
Directory of Best Practices & Webinars	92,759	-
Customized PLAR for experienced instructors in Adult Non-Credit ESL	13,844	-
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)		
Post TESL Ontario Certificate Training (PTCT)	-	17,548
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)		
2015 Annual Convention Hosting	-	9,396
Membership fees	337,621	379,674
Accreditation fees	379,672	374,459
Affiliate Chapters' conferences	35,963	41,647
Interest	1,360	654
Other	28,523	22,355
	<b>\$ 1,168,877</b>	<b>\$1,085,708</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Membership	\$ 109,894	\$ 117,394
Accreditation	137,990	216,077
Projects	87,160	15,952
Annual conference	238,038	291,147
Affiliate Chapters' conferences	74,401	86,531
Office and administration	288,899	311,391
TESL Canada and TESOL affiliation	19,342	66,537
Board and committee meetings	21,294	45,113
Occupancy	45,296	49,551
	<b>\$ 1,022,314</b>	<b>\$1,199,693</b>
<b>Net excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures for the year</b>	<b>\$ 146,563</b>	<b>\$ (113,985)</b>
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>\$ (151,653)</b>	<b>\$ (37,668)</b>
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ (5,090)</b>	<b>\$ (151,653)</b>





CONNECTION • COMMUNITY • EMPOWERMENT

TEACHERS OF ENGLISH  
AS A SECOND LANGUAGE  
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

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