



TEACHERS OF ENGLISH  
AS A SECOND LANGUAGE  
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## **BACKGROUNDER**

### **PROFILE**

TESL Ontario (Teachers of English as a Second Language), established in 1972, is a non-profit organization serving the needs of teachers of English as a Second Language and English Literacy Development. In its commitment to professional development and advocacy, TESL Ontario addresses the range of competencies, experiences, and issues that influence the success of many thousands of English language learners throughout the province.

### **VISION/MISSION**

TESL Ontario is a supportive community empowering educational professionals to help English language learners to thrive.

TESL Ontario provides support and direction to professionals, government bodies and learners involved in English as a second language in Ontario.

### **GOALS**

To provide opportunities for professional development for all sectors of ESL.

To ensure excellence in the field of Adult non-credit ESL through TESL Ontario Accreditation.

To offer opportunities for linking with other ESL professional organizations, nationally and internationally through various venues such as the TESL Ontario website, CONTACT (published 3 times/year), online social communities and conferences.

To provide expertise to local, provincial and national government bodies through consultations, representation on committees, etc.

To promote the development of materials which are appropriate to the needs and the culture of its client groups.

To operate in a fiscally responsible manner within standard accounting practices.

## COMPOSITION

Members – 4,600 +

Teaching sectors – elementary, secondary, ELT\*, LINC\*, OSLT\*, adult credit, continuing education, college/university, private language training schools

Affiliate Regions – 12 total: Durham, Hamilton-Wentworth, Kingston, London, Niagara, North York/York Region, Northern Region, Ottawa, Peel/Halton/Etobicoke, Toronto, Waterloo-Wellington, Windsor

Learners per year – Many thousands, and of all ages

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Includes membership in one of the 12 local TESL Ontario Affiliates as well as in TESL Canada  
Research activities

Advocacy

[Education and professional development](#) opportunities

[Publications](#) and online resources

[Group insurance programs](#) for health, dental, home and auto insurance rates

[Member savings programs](#) at national retail stores, local attractions, sports organizations, online providers, and more

Access to online social communities

Networking opportunities

## ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS

[TESOL](#) - Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages

[TESL Canada](#) - Teachers of English as a Second Language in Canada

[TUTELA](#) - National online repository and community for Canadian ESL and FSL professionals

[SETTLEMENT.ORG](#) - Information for newcomers

[ONTARIO READER](#) - Collection of news, stories, and information designed to help adult ESL and literacy learners

## \*ACRONYMS

AQ	Additional Qualifications
CELTA	Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults
CIC	Citizenship & Immigration Canada
CLARS	Coordinated Language and Assessment Referral System
CLB	Canadian Language Benchmarks
CPC	Community Partnership Committee
DELTA	Diploma in English Language Teaching to Adults
EAL	English as an Additional Language
ELT	English Language Training

ESL	English as a Second Language
LINC	Language Instruction to Newcomers to Canada
MCI	Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration (Ontario)
ORLAC	Ontario Region LINC Advisory Committee
OSLT	Occupation Specific Language Training
PBLA	Portfolio-Based Language Assessment
PLAR	Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition
PTCT	Post TESL Certificate Training
TEFL	Teaching English as a Foreign Language
TESOL	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
TOEFL	Test of English as a Foreign Language

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