TORONTO HOSTS 1,500 AS HIGHLIGHT OF ESL WEEK CELEBRATION

TESL Ontario’s 41\textsuperscript{st} conference “

\textit{Merging and Emerging Pathways through Language}” - \textit{October 24-26, 2013}

Toronto, October 17, 2013 – Did you know that English language training professionals do more than teach language skills? They are also key resources for the multitude of community services their students need to adapt and succeed in their new way of life and chosen place of residence in Ontario.

The 41\textsuperscript{st} annual conference of TESL Ontario takes place in Toronto at the Allstream Centre, Exhibition Place, at the end of ESL Week, October 20 – 26, 2013. This is where more than 1,500 participants will meet to hone their research and teaching skills with new tools and information to enable them to continue their dedicated work in influencing the success of many thousands of English language learners throughout the province.

The conference entitled “\textit{Merging and Emerging Pathways through Language}” is the largest of its kind in Canada. In addition to many presentations on English language teaching strategies, everything from legal rights and employment coaching to cultural awareness and diabetes prevention is among the selection of more than 150 different program sessions.

The 1,500+ participants - language training professionals from public/private sectors, academics, researchers, and federal/provincial government representatives – can participate in a plethora of presentation formats including interactive workshops, technology labs, keynote/feature speakers, panel discussions, research symposia and networking opportunities.

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Highlight events include:

- Keynote Speaker **Scott Roy Douglas**, University of British Columbia, on *Exploring Lexical Thresholds in Speaking and Writing*
- Keynote Speaker **Dr. Martin Hewing**, University of Birmingham UK, on *Using Authentic Language in ESL Materials Development: The (Rocky) Road to form Research Application*
- Featured Speaker **Professor Deep Saini**, University of Toronto, on *Professional Immigration and Nation Building*
- **Technology Fair** with more than 20 presentations and interactive labs on new methods of language training
- 14<sup>th</sup> annual **Research Symposium** where eight research papers will be presented by university academics and others
- 8<sup>th</sup> annual **Panel Discussion** on *Integrating Pathways to Language Learning* presented by ministry representatives (attendees only)
- Welcome Reception where six **ESL Week Creativity Contest winners** will be honoured
- Awards Dinner where three recipients of the 2013 TESL Ontario **Recognition Awards** will be honoured

See more information and the full conference program [here](#). Follow the conference conversations on Twitter at #TESL2013.

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](http://www.teslontario.org) and follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com), [Twitter](https://twitter.com), and [Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com).