MEDIA RELEASE

TESL ONTARIO CONGRATULATES 2013 RECOGNITION AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Toronto, October 17, 2013 – The Teachers of English as a Second Language Association of Ontario (TESL Ontario) is pleased to announce and congratulate the recipients of two TESL Ontario Recognition Awards that celebrate the excellence, commitment, dedication and compassion of individuals involved with the field of English language training.

Winner of the 2013 TESL Ontario Distinguished Contribution Award is Sharon Rajabi of the Toronto Catholic District School Board. This award, formerly the Silver Pin Award, recognizes and honours significant long-term achievements and contributions to the advancement of English language educators, the English language training sector and/or TESL Ontario.

Winners of the 2013 TESL Ontario Sparks of Excellence Award are Marg Heidebrecht of Mohawk College and Anne MacGregor-O’Neill of the Toronto Catholic District School Board. This award recognizes and acknowledges the excellence and commitment of TESL Ontario members who provide outstanding educational experiences to their students or who demonstrate exceptional leadership/mentoring expertise towards their colleagues and student teachers in a manner that goes above and beyond the day to day duties of their job.

All winners will be honoured on October 25th at the Friday Evening Dinner and Entertainment event of TESL Ontario’s annual conference, which highlights ESL Week taking place October 20 – 26 throughout Ontario.

This 41st conference of TESL Ontario, titled: “Merging and Emerging Pathways through Language”, takes place at the Allstream Centre in Toronto October 24 – 26, 2013. It is the largest conference of its kind in Canada, hosting more than 1,500 delegates. A variety of interactive workshops, presentations, technology labs, panel discussions, research symposia, technology fair and more will be offered to language training professionals from public and private sectors, academics, researchers and government representatives.
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

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