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# TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- 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 Certification.
- To provide opportunities for linking with other ESL professional organizations, nationally and internationally through various venues such as *Contact*, the TESL Ontario web-site and the TESL Canada newsletter.
- 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 our client groups.
- To operate in a fiscally responsible manner within standard accounting practices.

October 2002

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

We wish to thank our funders whose support allows us to carry out our mandate to the best of our abilities:

- Citizenship and Immigration Canada
- Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration

TESL Ontario also wishes to thank its affiliates who over the year have continued to work hard at providing conferences in their respective areas and giving feedback to the organization on behalf of their Affiliate membership.

A special thank you to the numerous Volunteers who have contributed their time and expertise to areas such as Contact, the website and the annual Conference over the last year.

Last but not least, thank you to our membership for your continued support. and feedback. We continue to work hard on your behalf and strive towards providing the best possible service for you. We wish you a successful year!

## **MESSAGE FROM THE TESL ONTARIO BOARD**

Over the past two years, the TESL Ontario Board of Directors has experienced the transition from operating as a ‘working board’ to a policy governance model. Policies are in place to guide us as we begin to look ahead in an exciting era of growth and change in language training delivery and education. The Ontario Ministries of Education, Citizenship & Immigration, and Training, Colleges & Universities, as well as Citizenship & Immigration Canada have all encouraged the need for quality and excellence in the profession. Our goal as a Board has been to provide a set of benefits that supports that very distinction.

In implementing the new governance structure, we developed a set of Strategic Priorities called Targets, which describe the benefits members receive. Various committees and a small, but effective staff, guided by our Executive Director, Renate Tilson work to meet these Targets. The activities in 2009 have supported these Targets and are detailed in this report. We hope this is not ‘news’ to you, our members, as we have strived to communicate directly with you. Not so long ago, we relied on representatives and paper newsletters to inform you of activities and initiatives. With the advent of the internet (our website) and email, we can pass on information to you immediately.

Actually, the communication component is a vital part of our association, since members are spread out across the province. The main work of the Board is to get input from the members via Affiliates and directly from members. We look forward to ‘linking, listening and learning’ with the membership in the coming year. Our annual joint meeting with the Affiliate Representatives will take place in the early spring. Surveys, on-line discussions and focus groups are other means to link to you. Your input will provide us with direction to develop enhanced activities of the association.

I want to take the opportunity to thank members who provide feedback to help direct our association; the board directors and other volunteer members for their gift of time and expertise; and our excellent office staff who ensure our plans meet fruition.

Sheila Carson, Board Chair  
TESL Ontario

**TESL ONTARIO 2008 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LANGUAGES  
November 13 – 15, 2008**

TESL Ontario's 36th Annual Conference "Celebrating the International Year of Languages" was a conference of many firsts, beginning with UNESCO granting TESL Ontario permission to use its designation of the International Year of Languages as the conference theme. In doing so, the conference was listed on the UNESCO website as one of the educational projects under that designation.

For most delegates it was the first time for the conference to be held at the Sheraton Centre Toronto. The change in venue was fortuitous for TESL Ontario in that it precipitated many other firsts. The new venue allowed the conference committee to address many of the negatives posted following previous conferences, most of which related to room capacity. The Sheraton was also able to accommodate all delegates on site.

Nearly 1600 participants attended the conference, making it the largest ever. Delegates had over 70 workshop sessions from which to choose each day thanks to the commitment of over 150 volunteer presenters who shared their expertise on a range of topics appealing to all sectors. Other changes were welcomed by delegates as well; most appreciated the opportunity to schedule their days to suit their needs. By running sessions from 8:30 to 4:30 without a defined lunch break people could maximize their conference time, and those who were only able to attend for one day found this particularly appealing.

### **Conference Assistance**

Citizenship and Immigration Canada generously provided conference assistance for 800 LINC instructors and 60 ELT instructors. The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration continued its support for 200 ESL instructors and we wish to thank both Ministries for their continued support.

### **Plenary Speakers**

The plenary sessions were well received and delegates from all sectors found the information relevant. On Thursday Jane Bradley, a St. Catharines Psychologist, spoke to the audience about compassion fatigue and provided them with excellent insight as to the signs of stress and ways to deal with it. Later on the same day Jim Cummins from OISE (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education) shared his expertise in the field of literacy and language acquisition. Nick Noorani is a name known to many who are familiar with the "Canadian Immigrant" publication. Nick spoke of his own immigrant experience and shared advice for helping immigrants succeed in Canada. Nick is now under contract with Oxford University Press, which sponsored his appearance at the TESL Ontario Conference. On Saturday, Peter DeJager spoke on Change Management. Since change in the ESL profession, organizations, and everyday life is constant, Peter's message on the process of change resonated well with his audience.

## **Research Symposium**

The Research Symposium team of Bob Courchene and Hedy McGarrell organized an amazing Research Symposium and this aspect of the conference was sponsored by Citizenship and Immigration Canada. While some of the presenters were local, Bob and Hedy also attracted presenters from Quebec, Florida and Michigan. The sessions were well-received and all were filled to capacity.

The 9th Annual Research Symposium was held as part of the 36th annual TESL Ontario Conference in Toronto. Four themes were addressed during the Research Symposium: Immigrants and Mental Health, The role of L1 in L2 Learning or Teaching, Strategies for Language Learning and Teaching and Standardized Tests - State Of The Art. The first of the four topics was suggested by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, the remaining three were selected based on current issues in language learning and teaching. Each of the three themes was presented in three-hour sessions that included time for symposium participants to ask questions and engage in discussion with the presenters. All four themes drew record numbers of registrants.

A brief synopsis of each symposium strand follows.

### **Immigrants and Mental Health**

Thursday, 13 November 2008, 14:00-17:00 hrs.

Presenters: Johanna Anneke Rummens, PhD  
Health Systems Research Scientist, Community Health Systems Resource Group  
Project Investigator, Child Health Evaluative Sciences, Research Institute, The Hospital for Sick Children  
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto  
Director, CERIS - The Ontario Metropolis Centre  
Laura Simich, PhD, Scientist, Social Equity and Health Research,  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto; Health and Wellbeing Research Domain Leader, Ontario Metropolis Centre.  
Debra Stein, MD  
Consultant Psychiatrist, Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture  
Staff Psychiatrist, Mount Sinai Hospital

The presenters explored factors that have been identified as potentially contributing to mental health problems in immigrants. Factors discussed included individuals' success with learning English, their ability to adjust to cultural differences, their education levels and their literacy skills.

### **Role of L1 in L2 Learning or Teaching**

Friday, November 14, 2008, 09:00-12:00 hrs.

Presenters: Elizabeth Gatbonton, PhD, Concordia University  
Penny Kinnear, PhD, University of Toronto

Shawn Loewen, PhD, Michigan State University

Presenters on the Role of L1 in L2 Learning or Teaching theme focused on how an individual's first language affects production in English as a Subsequent Language, exploring a specific instructional technique proposed in the literature to enhance learning efficiency, the role of home, cultural heritage and first language on self-perception expressed in written texts, L1 influences underlying L2 constructions.

### **Strategies for Language Learning and Teaching**

Friday, November 14, 2008, 13:00-16:00 hrs.

Presenters: Keith Folse, PhD, University of Central Florida  
Shelley K. Taylor, PhD, The University of Western Ontario  
Antonella Valeo, PhD Candidate, OISE/University of Toronto

The presenters on this theme explored the varied ways in which strategies are used by teachers and learners enhance and improve the language learning process.

### **Standardized Tests - State of the Art**

Friday, 15 November 2008, 09:00-12:00 hrs.

Presenters: Khaled Barkaoui, PhD, Faculty of Education, York University  
Amelia Kreitzer Hope, PhD, Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute, University of Ottawa  
Philip Nagy, PhD, University of Ottawa  
Larry Vandergrift, PhD, Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute  
University of Ottawa

The presentations on this theme explored recent research and practice into standardized or standardizing language testing in different contexts and geographic locations.

Part of the research symposium is the publication of a special issue of *Contact* based on the proceedings later in the year. The co-editors of the proceedings, Dr. Robert Courchêne and Dr. Hedy McGarrell set up a Reading Committee consisting of Dr. Janna Fox, Dr. Marcia Johnson, Dr. Devon Wood and Dr. Sepali Guruge to assist with reviews of manuscripts. The special Research Symposium issue of *Contact* was available in June 2009, available to teachers and language professionals throughout the world, at the TESL Ontario web site.

### **Third Annual Panel Discussion**

The third annual panel presentation, "Emerging Issues in Language Learning", was moderated by TESL Ontario's Executive Director, Renate Tilson. Panelists shared their perspectives on emerging issues and entertained questions from the audience. The Panelists were Naomi Alboim from Queen's University, Wilma Jenkins from Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Pauline McNaughton from Ministry of Education, Patti Redmond from Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and Catherine Finlay from the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration.

## **Exhibitors**

The publishers and vendors were delighted with their location in the new venue. The brighter, spacious area was most conducive to browsing (and buying!), and delegates appreciated the improved space as well.

## **ESL Week and Poster Contest**

November 9 – 15, 2008 was designated as ESL Week in recognition of both those who have contributed to and those who have benefited from ESL learning in Ontario. 22 communities throughout Ontario joined in officially declaring ESL Week. Various events and activities took place across the province to mark ESL Week, such as writing contests, spelling competitions, film festivals, special class activities, art displays and more.

For ESL Week, our London Affiliate held a Writing & Poster Contest, TESL Toronto held their second Adult ESL Spelling Competition “ESL Spell”, and the Toronto District School Board hosted a citizenship ceremony. International Days were held in TESL North York/York Region to give students an opportunity to present their countries and cultures, and the University of Windsor opened the Centre of English Language Development, with students participating in the festivities by providing live presentations on how learning English has changed their lives.

Recognition of ESL week grows each year, and 2008 saw the greatest number of entries for the annual poster contest. Celebrity judges included MP Olivia Chow (Trinity-Spadina) and author Antanas Sileika. On Thursday evening of the conference, President Sheila Carson hosted a reception in the rotunda of Toronto City Hall where all poster entries were displayed for the duration of ESL week. Many conference attendees enjoyed the opportunity to browse the displays and meet the artist of the winning poster.

## **2008 Technology Fair**

The Technology Fair so capably organized by Sharon Rajabi with Kevin O’Brien’s assistance was something to behold. The Technology Fair 2008 was allocated the Essex Ballroom for the lab and Windsor room for presentation. Since this was a much larger room, we increased the number of rented laptops to 60 (equipped with wireless network cards). The vendor sent us three complementary sets of laptops and headsets- for a total of 63-in case some were not operational. We also extended the provision of data projectors and laptops to the entire conference. In addition, a sophisticated image and sound system was setup in the grand ballroom to ensure that the audience could see and hear the speakers at all times.

The above additions necessitated an increase in the number of technical support. We recruited two on-site technicians exclusively for Tech Fair and four technicians for the rest of the conference to ensure that glitches were dealt with promptly and did not interfere with the presentations. As a result, we were able to setup a wireless lab, with the latest application software packages to offer hands-on sessions at the conference using wireless technology and Internet connectivity. We placed a total of 50 laptops, headsets, a data projector and cables, routers, and cords for networking the lab. Because of

the size of the room, we were able to setup additional chairs and tables to accommodate more participants.

The presentation room which was equipped with a laptop, data projector and Internet connection offered demonstration style presentations and workshops. In general, the operations went smoothly during the three conference days. Hands-on and presentation style sessions were well attended. The communication channels that had been set up between the Tech Fair team, the conference planner, and the hotel worked smoothly. The technicians checked the equipment daily at the beginning of the day and attended to glitches promptly.

The Conference Book and Tech Fair sessions were posted simultaneously with the mailing of the book to all members. In addition, session changes were updated daily during November on the TESL Ontario web site. Other information such as directions to the hotel and web casting was also posted. As sessions became full, they were closed and became unavailable to on-line registrants. Even with a bigger lab, the hands-on sessions were full by November. We set up additional workshops during the panel and plenary sessions to maximize the tech fair sessions.

This year, the participants enjoyed a wide range of workshops and a high calibre of presentations. Some sessions such as iBT (TOEFL) were housed outside the Tech Fair schedule. Some presenters brought their own equipment.

Internet-based and professional development related workshops were among the themes of the Technology Fair. The participants attended a myriad of sessions: hands-on workshops as well as research sessions on Skypes, Blogging, collaborative learning, PowerPoint, teaching writing, integrating computer technology, and sessions on activities using Tables. We hosted a live session from Qatar and a taped session from Spain!

Other presentations included new educational software, the use of the Internet as a teaching resource, and classroom activities for all levels. The Technology Fair sessions were fully booked during the 3-day event.

The participants were very impressed with the availability of the wireless lab. This year the evaluations were done online with the conference evaluation and we achieved excellent results.

Volunteers were recruited to help with hand-out distributions and delegate admissions. Their duties included watching over the lab, door monitoring, assisting participants with computer related issues, and reporting technical problems to the technician. In addition, Kevin O'Brien was available to assume volunteer duties when needed.

All in all, we felt that the Tech Fair was highly successful. The system did not fail but the Internet connectivity was slow at times. The lab was beautifully set up and impressed everyone who entered it. A number of presenters expressed gratitude after their presentations went smoothly. The participants enjoyed the range of software and workshops available to them. The success of the fair was due to the quality of equipment and dependency on knowledgeable and professional individuals who made this event a success.

Our thanks for presenting a wonderful conference of the highest caliber go to our Conference Chair

Barbara Krukowski, our Research Symposium Co-Chairs Dr. Robert Courchêne and Dr. Hedy McGarrell, and to our Technology Fair Chair Sharon Rajabi and Assistant Chair Kevin O'Brien.

## **AFFILIATE CONFERENCES**

TESL Ontario Affiliate Conferences and Workshops are designed to meet the professional development of ESL professionals in their particular geographic areas. Selected highlights of these conferences and workshops are listed below:

### **TESL Durham**

The TESL Durham Fall Workshop in October 2008 featured 2 guest speakers. Noreen Nimrod presented Cross Cultural Communications which focused on cross cultural challenges that newcomers face as they settle in their new life in Canada. This was examined in the context of the ESL classroom, learning environment, the workplace and also the wider society, through group exercises and class participation. The workshop Electronic Me presented by Mike Simpson was designed to help teachers use computer and other electronic tools to build technical skills for classroom use, specifically website creation and blogging.

TESL Durham's April 2009 Workshop was entitled Essential Skills Seminar, facilitated by Marion Bruce. Its focus was to create awareness and understanding of the Essential Skills framework, a workplace skills initiative from Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC). Amongst the topics covered were:

- Essential Skills Definitions
- How Essential Skills fit with Job Specific Skills
- Essential Skills Toolkit
- Test of Workplace Essential Skills (TOWES)
- Integrating Essential Skills with HR Practices

### **TESL Hamilton-Wentworth**

TESL Hamilton-Wentworth held its AGM in October, 2008, featuring guest speaker Karen Richardson of the Haldimand County Museum and Archives who spoke about the Victorian customs, traditions and superstitions of the afterlife.

TESL Hamilton-Wentworth presented the third Annual LINC/TESL Spring Conference on February 13 and 14, 2009 at the Hamilton Convention Centre. Featuring two keynote speakers, first, Dr. Sylvia Solomon-Bereskin who spoke about the social justice in education; what barriers are still there and how we can address these challenges and make a difference. The second keynote speaker featured Dr. Barbara Burnaby who spoke of the changes in technology since the Confederation and its influences in our personal experiences, social structures and how authority has moved from one sector to another, making new rules in accordance to new values.

## **TESL Kingston**

Maureen O'Reilly, of Oxford University Press, conducted a workshop, called "Reading for Pleasure" in October 2008. She offered a variety of strategies teachers could use to bring novels into the English as a second language classroom.

TESL Kingston celebrated ESL Week with exciting events on November 6, 2008.

Limestone Community Education Centre presented ESL Multicultural Day with music, food and cultural presentations from a variety of countries and cultures, as well as special musical guest, Mario Franco.

TESL Kingston in partnership with Immigrant Services Kingston and Area (ISKA) presented a special Open House honouring Multicultural gifts to Kingston. There was a display with pictures of ESL classes that take place throughout the city. Local politicians emphasized the contributions that newcomers bring to the community and several individuals spoke about their experiences learning English and adapting to Canadian culture.

Loyola Community Learning Centre in Belleville presented an ESL multicultural fair called Windows on the World with displays, food and crafts.

The Affiliate offered two presentations in February 2009:

Hang Nhan – My Exhilarating Teaching Experience in China

Xuemei Li – A Canadian TESL Textbook: Rationale and Design

A workshop held in March 2009 featured Alka Burman, early literacy specialist from the Peel Board, who conducted a joint LINC and TESL Kingston community-oriented workshop focusing on the language and literacy needs of newcomers, especially young children and their parents.

TESL Kingston held its AGM on May 11, 2009, featuring guest lecturer Janice McAlpine, the Director of the Strathy Language Unit at Queen's University.

## **TESL London**

TESL London hosted its Annual Spring Conference entitled Diversity: The Face of Success at Fanshawe College in March 2009. It offered 18 presentations throughout the day, such as Culture, Trauma and English Learners presented by Jennifer Mills; Critical Reading in an English for Academic Purposes Program by Anouchka Plumb and Susan Ewick, and Bringing Cooperative Learning to Life in Your Classroom by Daragh Hayes. The featured Plenary Speaker Kathryn Brillinger presented Intercultural Communication Skills for ESL Teaching.

## **TESL Niagara**

TESL Niagara's annual Spring Conference was held in March 2009 at the Don Reilly Resource Centre. The conference featured seven presentations including Jim Papple, who spoke of the use of a corpus-based approach to teach idioms more effectively in the classroom and Evelyn Pedersen, who lectured on how to steer students toward writing styles that they will need in order to succeed in an academic and professional environment.

## **TESL North York/York Region**

TESL North York/York Region's Fall Conference and Annual General Meeting was held in October 2008. Amongst the workshops offered were Making a Positive Difference presented by Fran Marshall and Three Birds with One Stone by Andrew Taylor which demonstrated that engaging students in communicative activities that are a combination of grammar, pronunciation and idiomatic expressions can be fun, dynamic and effective.

TESL North York/York Region's Spring conference was held on April 25, 2009 at Northview Heights Secondary School. Presenting 12 stimulating workshops, such as Cultural Insights, providing ESL instructors with practical ways of teaching culture in the classroom with Akua Joseph, and Classroom Activities for the 21st Century with Ken Lackman, a practical workshop looking at the methodological implications of recent theories about language learning, such as rather than attempting to teach the language, teachers should be should be teaching the students how to learn the language.

## **TESL Ottawa**

TESL Ottawa hosted two successful events in 2008/2009. The annual Fall event entitled Canadian Resources for ESL took place in October 2008 and featured a variety of stimulating speakers. Carolyn Wood was the Plenary Speaker and presented Canadian Culture - Canadian Resources to an appreciative audience. She provided the participants with a wealth of sources and resources followed by practical suggestions on teaching using Canadian content and culture. Her presentation was followed by three workshops. Mohamed Hashemi presented Using Canadian Literature in the ESL Classroom using his recently published text Famous Canadian Authors as an example along with other topic suggestions. Farida Awal presented a workshop on IWSO Services Available to Immigrant Women which explored the variety of services available to immigrant women and their families. Maureen O'Reilly presented a workshop on Reading For Pleasure and encouraged teachers to bring novels into the classroom and offered suggestions on how to implement this into a second language classroom.

The Spring Conference - Planting the Seeds 2009 - was held in May 2009 and the AGM had the best attendance within the past few years. Publishers (OUP, CUP, Pearson, The Resource Centre were the major ones) were invited and registrants had a good range of teaching materials to browse and buy.

The plenary address Testing for Effective Teaching and Learning was given by Amelia Hope and Carla Hall. They challenged us to incorporate effective testing in our classes and gave many examples

on the best ways to go about this important aspect of teaching. The Plenary was followed by 2 sessions where participants had a choice of 11 workshops. The workshops provided a wealth of information on practical subjects and academic issues and ranged from Enhanced Language Curriculum Training by Shirley Graham (LASI World Skills) to First Time Teaching by Michelle Wardman to a panel discussion on teaching abroad to additional resources for teaching with computers (Mike Barker).

### **TESL Peel/Halton/Etobicoke**

The TESL Peel/Halton/Etobicoke affiliate held its Pitas & Pizzas'n' PD! event on September 17, 2008. It featured Error Correction Games for Writings by Ken Lackman, who discussed the concept of a collection of games that can help students identify and correct their own writing errors and how it can be used by teachers with minimal planning and preparation. Also, Fran Marshall spoke about what it means to be Canadian in a multicultural, multilingual mosaic in Celebrating ESL in the International Year of Languages.

Peel/Halton/Etobicoke presented its AGM and Fall P.D. workshops for LINC & ESL Teachers in October 2008, and the very diverse array of presentations included A Reason to Speak by Kathleen Gould Lundy. This plenary focused on oral language and imaginative learning linked to literacy. Further presentations included Tackling the TV News by Catherine Beckingham and a Mind, Body % Spirit Yoga Workshop held by Ravinder Handa.

This was followed by TESL Peel/Halton/Etobicoke's Professional Development Workshops for ESL/LINC Teachers in May 2009 at the Adult Education Centre. Some of the workshops featured were: Integrating Pronunciation into your Classroom with Cheryl Richman and Karen Evans, Writing with Structure and Style with Jo-Ann Pienaar, 70 Ways to Keep them Talking with Jacqueline Angi-Dobos and Integrating Pronunciation into your lessons with Cheryl Richman & Karen Evans.

### **TESL Toronto**

TESL Toronto's Fall 2008 Conference was held in October 2008 at University of Toronto's New College. The highlight for the 300-odd participants was the plenary by renown ESL writer Lindsay Clandfield, who came in from Spain to not only deliver the talk on dealing with teacher burnout but also a workshop on effective use of online teaching resources. The other 14 workshops offered quite a range of topics with two on teaching vocabulary and a number focusing on creating effective learning environments for students. In this area were **Warmers and Icebreakers** and a workshop on using drama techniques. Tania Iveson dealt with ways to personalize course books and Christine Lee introduced teaching strategies to develop learner autonomy. Also with the learner in mind, Marijke Werheim presented techniques to teach listening skills rather than test them.

TESL Toronto celebrated ESL Week in Toronto by providing week long classes from November 10th to 14th 2008 at learning centre's across the city. The TDSB program held a **Poetry Writing Contest** for ESL adult learners and other highlights from ESL Week included a **student talent show** at Bathurst Heights Adult Learning Centre and a **Citizenship ceremony** on November 12.

TESL Toronto held its Spring 2009 Conference in May 2009 at University of Toronto's New College. With 300-plus attendees, the day long affair offered 15 professional development sessions, including two research papers. The diverse workshop topics ranged from using consumer surveys to teaching language, pronunciation games, how to prepare for job interviews and pros and cons of analytic versus holistic scoring of English Essays. Fran Marshall's **Let's make the Finale Grand** and Jennifer Harris's **Classroom Activities for the 21st Century** were some of the highlight workshops at the conference.

### **TESL Waterloo-Wellington**

The Affiliate presented a workshop in Fall 2008, entitled **Your Turn to Talk** which featured sessions on Working with Literacy; Building Vocabulary; Teaching a Multi-Level Class; Feedback on Writing: To Edit or Not? and Adding Music to the Classroom.

TESL Waterloo-Wellington's PD event was held in March 2009 at Conestoga College's Doon Campus. Several representatives from various communities presented at the event including The Canadian Mental Health Association, Woman's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region, and The YMCA Cross Cultural and Immigration Services. The event also featured two key note events, Trudy Beaulne from the Social Planning Committee and Mira Malidzanovic and Joseph Oywak from the Reception Centre.

### **TESL Windsor**

TESL Windsor held its AGM and Workshop in April 2009, featuring Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy, TESL Ontario's Certification Coordinator.

## CONTACT

*Contact*, TESL Ontario's professional development magazine, was first established in 1974, and has developed into a sophisticated, theme-based publication. It is published online three times a year to meet the needs of various ESL/ELD constituencies. Since its first issue *Contact* has evolved to meet the needs of its readers and the demands of our organization and profession. From its beginnings as a primarily class-room oriented publication when very little support was available for teachers in the field, *Contact* has expanded to include research articles, book reviews, special features and profiles of community organizations.

You may access *Contact* through **Publications** on [www.teslontario.org](http://www.teslontario.org) for viewing or printing. Information related to elementary, secondary, university and college, credit, non-credit, adult and LINC programs is conveyed through articles, language profiles, conference proceedings, letters and book reviews in a theme-based format. Settlement and community agencies are profiled on a regular basis, increasing awareness of available services and common issues.

TESL Ontario also publishes a Special Issue that features the previous year's Research Symposium presentations. The refereed articles are grouped by theme and the Research Symposium issue is published a few months after each TESL Ontario Conference.

In addition to the Research Symposium issue, three regular issues of *Contact* were produced in the 2008/09 (April 08 – March 09) year. Most *Contact* issues highlight emerging groups or issues on immigrants or refugees. Reader participation and input is encouraged through the "Letter to the Editor" column.

### **Volume 34, No. 2, June 2008, Research Symposium Special Edition.**

This special refereed issue of *Contact*, co-edited by Dr. Hedy McGarrell and Dr. Robert Courchêne, covered the Eighth Annual Research Symposium which was part of the 35th annual TESL Ontario Conference held in November 2007. The Research Symposium focused on three themes:

- Vocabulary
- Literacy
- Native English-Speaking Teachers – Non-Native English-Speaking Teachers (NEST-NNEST)
- Content-based Language Teaching

The four themes covered topical issues that affect the classrooms and practice of ESL professionals in varied ways. Teachers who encounter problems and challenges related to these themes on a daily basis in their classrooms look for background information and practical ideas that will help them meet their learners' needs and the needs of their own professional development. In organizing the Research Symposium around topical themes and publishing

the proceedings, TESL Ontario offers ESL professionals relevant information on recent research and developments that informs classroom practice and the development of the profession.

### **Volume 34, No. 3, August 2008**

A number of theoretical and practical themes affecting our lives as ESL practitioners were explored in this edition.

Two articles examined aspects of culture in English language Teaching. In the first, Lindsay Clandfield, a Canadian now living teaching and writing in Spain brought insight and experience to the notion of cultural awareness in ESL teaching. He posed the question: whose culture – and which – should we be teaching in our classrooms? The article presented practical classroom activities to help learners acquire the skills of intercultural competence.

The second article, by Marlene Toews Janzen of the University of Ottawa, questioned the cultural appropriateness of communicative language teaching (CLT) practices for Japanese teachers of English, focusing on classroom activities designed for speaking. The author stated that the training of teachers from non-English-speaking locales needs to be context-sensitive and that adaptation to local cultural realities is an important component of successful teaching and learning. Other articles covered the following themes:

- John Allan and Scott Webber let us in on some Internet-related secrets for creating and adapting materials for classroom use. They surveyed an array of web-related resources that will enhance English language learning across a range of applications and contexts.
- Classroom-based assessment was the focus of an article by Lisa Kattelus in which she outlined some of the purposes, stages and tools that teachers can use to assess classroom events such as hand-on learning projects.
- Our “In the Classroom” feature by Judy Pollard Smith presented a novel idea for stimulating classroom discussion through the use of famous quotations. In two sample lesson plans she demonstrates the richness that a short text such as a quotation can have in prompting both thought and language at more complex levels with adult learners.

### **Volume 34, No. 4, November 2008**

The lead article in our 2008 Fall issue by Meryl Olmstead featured a remarkable young Cambodian woman, Phymean Noun, now living in the St. Lawrence neighborhood of downtown Toronto. Her humanitarian instincts led her to establish a charitable organization devoted to saving and educating abandoned and starving children in Phnom Penh. Her charity has recently come to the attention of the world through CNN’s “Hero of the Year” award program, thanks to the efforts of one of her ESL teachers. Other articles covered the following themes:

- Our “In the Classroom” column features Roslyn Maian, who provides content resources and instructional suggestions designed to stimulate authentic language production around timely and important themes in her article, “Krashen in the listening/speaking classroom”.
- Marjane Satrapi’s graphic memoir, *Persepolis*, was one of the four book reviews in the fall issue. Reviewer Matthew Jackson reviewed this coming of age memoir that documents Satrapi’s life in Tehran from 1979 to 1984. This new literary form has great appeal for adult L2 readers, combining the support of illustrations with a reduced text load.
- Robert Courchêne reviewed a new collection of essays, *Ethical Visions of Education: Philosophies in Practice*. This important volume collects the ideas of ten of the last century’s most dynamic and courageous educational philosophers, representing a diversity of cultural and historical perspectives. Their concerns reach beyond the measurement of cognition to include the moral and spiritual dimensions of teaching and learning.

### **Volume 35, No. 1, March 2009 – Conference Proceedings issue**

The Conference Proceedings issue reviewed many of the Conference sessions offered at our 36th Annual Conference in November 2008, entitled Celebrating the International Year of Languages. TESL Ontario’s 3-day conference is the highlight event of ESL Week, declared in many communities in Ontario. Over the three days of the conference, more than 1600 delegates attended 200 sessions tailored to the needs and interests of ESL professionals, and detailed information can be found under the Conference section of this Annual Report.

We wish to thank our *Contact* Editor Clayton Graves for his outstanding work in educating, entertaining and surprising us with each new issue of this remarkable publication. Clayton may be contacted at [editor@teslontario.org](mailto:editor@teslontario.org).

## **STANDARDS & CERTIFICATION**

A number of changes took place within the TESL Ontario Certification structure in order to streamline and strengthen the process.

### **Changes to Committee Structure**

The TTIRAC Committee (TESL Training Institution Recognition Advisory Committee), a volunteer committee responsible for institutional applications, was disbanded since the workload grew too large to be handled on a volunteer basis. It was replaced with the position of TESL Ontario Institutional Recognition Adjudicator. The adjudicator assesses applications for initial institutional recognition and recognition renewal, in addition to evaluating applications for the approval of TESL trainers within TESL Ontario recognized institutions.

A new Certification Standards Committee has been set up to meet the increased demands of TESL Ontario Certification, replacing the original Certification working committee. The committee members are the Chair, two instructors (one representing LINC, the other ESL), two program managers, and two trainers. The committee is responsible for setting policies, standards, and guidelines for TESL Ontario instructor certification and institutional recognition.

### **Registry**

A Registry of TESL Ontario Certified Members has been developed. This allows TESL Ontario Certified Members to check their certification status and expiry dates as well download and print copies of their certificates. The Registry also allows potential employers to contact certified members through an electronic message without having direct access to members' e-mail.

### **TESL Ontario Certification Reinstatement Policy**

We have also implemented a change to our TESL Ontario certification reinstatement policy which will come into effect in January 2010. This change affects all TESL Ontario certified members who let their certification lapse for any length of time and are seeking reinstatement. While certain requirements have to be met, the new guidelines will allow all individuals who at one point held TESL Ontario certification, including individuals who were certified through the grandfathering process and do not meet the current certification requirements, to reinstate their lapsed TESL Ontario certification.

### **TESL Ontario Presentations**

TESL Ontario's Certification Coordinator, Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy, has given 17 presentations on TESL Ontario Certification in Toronto, Hamilton, Windsor, and London.

## **Instructor Certification Statistics**

April 1, 2008-March 31, 2009

New Certificates: 424

Certificate renewals: 164

Certificate non-renewals: 190

## **Institutional Recognition Statistics**

April 1, 2008-March 31, 2009

New recognitions: 0

Renewals: 18

Non-renewals: 1 (Niagara College)

## TESL ONTARIO'S RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- **ONTARIO MINISTRY OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION (MCI)** – TESL Ontario is represented on the Ministry's ESL/FLS Advisory Committee which was established after the Ministry assumed responsibility for adult non-credit English as a Second Language (ESL) and French as a Second Language (FSL) training. We have been serving on this Committee since March 2006.

In the 2008/09 we finalized Phase II of the Citizenship Curriculum Project for Citizenship and Language Classes in Adult Non-Credit ESL/EFL Continuing Programs in Ontario.

We received conference assistance funding from the Ministry for 200 ESL Instructors to attend the 2008 TESL Ontario Conference.

- **ONTARIO REGION LINC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ORLAC) – CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION CANADA.** We continue to provide professional advice in regard to LINC delivery systems through representation at the Ontario Regional LINC Advisory Committee, which operates under the auspices of the Settlement Directorate, Ontario Region, Citizenship & Immigration Canada. Please refer to the LINC section on our website [www.teslontario.org](http://www.teslontario.org) which contains further information on ORLAC as well as Calls for Proposals.

In the 2008/09 year, we have worked together with Citizenship and Immigration Canada on the following projects involving LINC which are administered and coordinated through the TESL Ontario office:

- **SNAP/NEO (Settlement Newsletter Across The Province)**, the Citizenship & Immigration Canada Settlement Newsletter which is published in English and French.
  - **ORLAC** - we continue to facilitate the administration of regular meetings for the Ontario Regional LINC Advisory Committee.
  - **LINC/ELT Conference Assistance.** We received funding to allow 800 LINC instructors and 60 ELT instructors to attend the annual TESL Ontario Conference in 2008.
  - **Research Symposium.** We received funding for our Research Symposium held at the Annual TESL Ontario Conference. The papers presented at the Research Symposium were again published in a special refereed issue of Contact.
- **OISE MODERN LANGUAGE CENTRE (MLC).** We continue to represent TESL Ontario on the Annual Advisory Committee to bring the perspectives of Teachers of English as a Second Language on Second Language Acquisition (SLA), implications of teaching ESL to

adults and school children, and learn the latest in research, theory and implications of theory in practice.

- **CENTRE FOR CANADIAN LANGUAGE BENCHMARKS – CCLB.** The Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks was established to promote the coherence, effectiveness and consistency of English as a Second Language Instruction, so that adult learners can become full participants in all aspects of Canadian society. TESL Ontario is represented on the Board of CCLB to provide leadership and support as the major provider of professional development to practitioners of ESL in Ontario. Please refer to their website [www.language.ca/](http://www.language.ca/)
- **ESL/ELD RESOURCE GROUP OF ONTARIO (ERGO).** We continue an information exchange with ERGO.
- **CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOOL BOARD ADMINISTRATORS (CESBA).** Information exchange takes place through reports at TESL Ontario Board meetings.
- **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.** We exchange information with a representation from the Ministry of Education.
- **TESL CANADA FEDERATION.** The TESL Canada Federation Representative position represents TESL Ontario on the TESL Canada Board.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

The work carried out by the Public Relations Committee has become integral to all aspects of TESL Ontario's operation, its primary focus being outreach and member communications. We continue to send messages periodically as a means to communicate the events that were of interest to you, our membership. We have found this to be an excellent communication tool and we appreciate your feedback and support.

Below is a list of the initiatives we undertook:

- ESL Week, a widely recognized event in Ontario, is an excellent opportunity to celebrate the work of ESL learners, instructors, teachers, and other professionals in the field. We advertised the event by listing activities happening in commemoration of the week and enlisted Affiliates across the province to participate by planning events in their local communities. Many communities were actively engaged in the Poster Contest, and the 2008 poster contest winner was Gordon Lin from Markham, who, together with Renate Tilson, TESL Ontario's Executive Director, participated in a Rogers T.V. interview to speak about his poster and his life in Canada. Our thanks go to our judges Antanas Sileika and Olivia Chow who took time from their busy schedules to participate in selecting the poster contest winners. All posters were exhibited in the City Hall Rotunda during conference time for public viewing, and the Conference President's Reception was held in the Rotunda to congratulate our poster winners. We thank the communities who supported the promotion of ESL Week and displayed the winning poster in schools and their workplaces. Our sincere thanks also go to the many municipalities across the province who officially declared ESL Week.
- We are pleased to announce that in negotiations with the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson's office she has graciously agreed to become our TESL Ontario Conference Patron for the 2009 Conference. In the coming year, we will be investigating collaboration with the Institute for Canadian Citizenship, which Mme Clarkson has founded, in support of its mandate to enable new Canadian citizens to become more informed about Canada, more engaged in Canadian society, and thus more fully integrated into Canada and committed to the communities in which they work and live.
- PR Expertise: We have been relying on and are grateful to Allan Reynolds, our PR expert, for his guidance throughout the year. Allan is generously donating his time to TESL Ontario to advise us on all communication related matters. We continue to retain the services of our PR Consultant, Shannon Skinner of Comfy Chair Productions, to draft press releases which generate media attention, both for TESL Ontario and our affiliates. We are pleased that our stories are featured by the local newspapers and radio stations. Clearly, these events contribute immensely toward raising our profile within the province, and especially in the communities in which we work.

Our sincere thanks go to our Public Relations Chair Sharon Rajabi.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

This year we disbanded our long-standing Technology Committee. We recognized that much more specific technical expertise is now required to assess and implement the changes happening in the fast-changing field of technology. Under the guidance of our webmaster Kevin O'Brien we therefore invested in bringing more expertise in-house with the opportunity for technology training in specific areas. This additional technology staff training as well as the opportunity to work with outside professionals are allowing us to assess the changes that are happening in technology and their implications for our organization.

TESL Ontario continues to keep abreast of all developments in technology and to look for ways it can or will be implemented. We explore and discuss opportunities to use the technology in the most effective manner both in the office and in our communications with our members. We keep abreast of the security issues when collecting and storing member information and we respond to member feedback in this area. We also continue to address the issue of data access and/or loss in cases of emergency.

TESL Ontario has had upgrades to the website and the technologies used to provide a safe and efficient platform for our members to view and download pertinent information at their convenience. We continue to communicate to the members, through a secure email process, the various information pieces that may be of value and interest to them and we include the web address of the information to make the process as 'user friendly' as possible. We also use this secure email system to enable our affiliates to reach the TESL Ontario members within their Affiliate in a timely manner. We make available all our publications and important information to our members on the web in order to be among the leading organizations looking for efficient and cost effective 'GREEN' solutions.

We continue to support and promote the TESL Ontario forum in the hope that more members will join and build it into a resource that is second to none on the Internet. This is a direct result of requests by some of the membership to provide this venue for their use. We hope members will begin to post links to their favorite online resources and information that assist them in their day-to-day work with the students learning English in Ontario.

We very much appreciate Webmaster Kevin O'Brien's ongoing contribution to this organization

## **RESEARCH**

TESL Ontario identified the need for a formal Research Committee to develop and promote research related activities in coordination with other TESL Ontario committees. These include activities or events that encourage members to connect research with classroom practice as well as activities that inform TESL Ontario on current trends and issues in the field.

We are very pleased that Antonella Valeo has taken on the Chairship of this committee which now numbers seven members. All are actively engaged in research, familiar with current research on TESL issues and knowledgeable about the teaching context of adult ESL instructors in Ontario.

## **TESL ONTARIO ADMINISTRATION**

TESL Ontario now serves over 4,400 members, and a large number of members are TESL Ontario certified. The administration of TESL Ontario is carried out by four full-time staff members:

Executive Director, Renate Tilson  
Membership Coordinator, Eva Csiszar  
Certification Coordinator, Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy  
Office Coordinator, Peg Chornenki

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, and supervision of the Executive Director, the office carries out the functions of office administration, membership support, financial management, project and contract administration, liaison function with Ministries, other agencies and the public, coordination of the TESL Ontario Conference, and of course TESL Ontario Certification. In addition, TESL Ontario relies heavily on the services of our Webmaster, Kevin O'Brien and our Contact Editor, Clayton Graves. Our special thanks also go to our Membership Committee Chair Joanne Hincks who, along with her committee, is an intricate part of the ongoing work of the organization.

## **TESL ONTARIO BOARD**

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 met 5 times this past year. As proposed in the governance restructuring plan, the Board met with the Affiliate Representatives Group in a Joint meeting. This will be an annual occurrence and provides the Board the opportunity to make a strong linkage to the membership. 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 administration's job without meddling, to rigorously evaluate the accomplishment of the organization; to truly lead the association. This model is vastly different from TESL Ontario's previous approach. The Board's job is to decide what Good the association is to produce (Targets). It relies on the Executive Director to interpret and work with staff, paid and voluntary, to achieve the means to meet those targets.

## 2008/09 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair	Sheila Carson
Vice-Chair	Sharon Rajabi
Secretary	Jennifer Freudenthal
Treasurer	Namita Aggarwal
Member at Large	Barbara Krukowski
Member at Large	Phil Wachel
Member at Large	Anouchka Plumb
Member at Large	Kathryn Brillinger
Member at Large	Arlene Samlalsingh

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2009

**JULIUS L. RÉDLY**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT  
Licensed Public Accountant

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO  
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MARCH 31, 2009

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Page 5	Schedule of Conference Expenses
Page 6	Statement of Cash Flows
Pages 7, 8, and 9	Notes to the Financial Statements

***Julius L. Rédly***

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT**

**Licensed Public Accountant**

79 Truman Road

North York, Ontario; M2L 2L7

Telephone (416) 443-0990 \* Fax (416) 447-2410

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of  
TESL Association of Ontario

I have audited the statement of financial position of TESL Association of Ontario as at March 31, 2009 and the statements of financial position, operations and net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the association's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements.

I conducted an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, TESL Association of Ontario derives part of its revenue contributions from the general public in the form of project administration fees, membership fees, certification fees, conferences and meetings which are not susceptible to complete audit verification. Accordingly, my examination was limited to the examination of banking transactions for those activities for the year ended March 31, 2009.

In my opinion, except for the effect of the adjustments, if any, had project administration fees, membership fees, certification fees, conferences and meetings been susceptible to complete audit verification, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at March 31, 2009 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

TORONTO, CANADA  
August 19, 2009



Chartered Accountant

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

Incorporated without share capital under the Laws of the  
Province of Ontario as a non-profit organization.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITIONAS AT MARCH 31, 2009

(with comparative figures as at March 31, 2008)

ASSETS

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Current		
Cash on hand and in bank	\$ 176,375	\$ 114,339
Term deposits-including accrued interest	110,202	323,282
Accounts receivable	82,997	12,757
Prepaid expenses	<u>16,380</u>	<u>6,760</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 385,954</u>	<u>\$ 457,138</u>

LIABILITIES

Current		
Accounts payable and accrued charges	<u>\$ 26,864</u>	<u>\$ 50,777</u>

NET ASSETS

Per attached -see page 3	<u>\$ 359,090</u>	<u>\$ 406,361</u>
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The attached notes form an integral part of these financial statements!

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIOSTATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETSFOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

(with comparative figures for the year ended March 31, 2008)

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Revenue		
Contributions		
Projects - see page 4	\$ 766,770	\$ 579,530
Membership fees	324,924	295,806
Certification fees	21,876	37,616
Other	13,841	14,176
Affiliates' mini conferences	55,113	49,208
Interest	<u>7,728</u>	<u>11,005</u>
Total revenue	<u>\$ 1,190,252</u>	<u>\$ 987,341</u>
Expenses		
Annual TESL Ontario Conference - see page 5	\$ 489,370	\$ 310,976
Affiliates' mini conferences - see page 5	78,493	75,476
Other project expenses	82,873	95,252
Salaries and employee benefits	279,285	225,976
Less amount received from Pay Equity Program	(9,259)	(9,259)
Rent, telephone & utilities	47,802	43,740
Memberships and affiliation expenses	82,008	66,160
Board Governance review	7,100	12,993
Contact newsletter	6,600	6,008
Meeting expenses	28,939	17,088
Professional fees	25,805	17,590
Computer & equipment purchase/rental	12,103	11,766
Stationery, supplies, postage & couriers	20,094	18,967
Website costs	34,420	27,816
Office and general	<u>51,890</u>	<u>62,645</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$ 1,237,523</u>	<u>\$ 983,194</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	\$ (47,271)	\$ 4,147
Net assets - opening balance	<u>406,361</u>	<u>402,214</u>
- closing balance	<u>\$ 359,090</u>	<u>\$ 406,361</u>

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIOSCHEDULE OF PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONSFOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

(with comparative figures for the year ended March 31, 2008)

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Project contributions:		
Annual TESL Ontario Conference		
Registration and publishers	\$ 163,762	\$ 124,909
Citizenship and Immigration Canada		
LINC - Conference assistance	431,011	292,809
Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration		
Conference assistance	<u>73,344</u>	<u>58,584</u>
	\$ 668,117	\$ 476,302
Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration		
Ontario Curriculum Project	29,529	56,046
Citizenship and Immigration Canada		
SNAP	29,421	26,641
ORLAC	<u>39,703</u>	<u>20,541</u>
	<u>\$ 766,770</u>	<u>\$ 579,530</u>

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIOSCHEDULE OF CONFERENCE EXPENSESFOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

(with comparative figures for the year ended March 31, 2008)

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Annual TESL Ontario conference		
Conference planning costs	\$ 23,540	\$ 7,634
Conference Assistance - registrants' travel and accommodation	344,042	232,713
Printing, supplies and miscellaneous	72,482	38,095
Rentals	<u>49,306</u>	<u>32,534</u>
	<u>\$ 489,370</u>	<u>\$ 310,976</u>
 Affiliate mini-conferences		
Honoraria and salaries	\$ 11,131	\$ 14,027
Printing, supplies and miscellaneous	26,041	21,819
Meeting expenses	<u>41,321</u>	<u>39,630</u>
	<u>\$ 78,493</u>	<u>\$ 75,476</u>

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIOSTATEMENT OF CASH FLOWSFOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

(with comparative figures for the year ended March 31, 2008)

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Cash flow from operations		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	\$ (47,271)	\$ 4,147
Changes in no-cash operating assets and and liabilities		
Accounts receivable	(70,240)	35,575
Prepaid expenses	(9,620)	(1,390)
Accounts payable and accrued charges	<u>(23,913)</u>	<u>36,717</u>
(Decrease) increase in cash or equivalent	\$ (151,044)	\$ 75,049
Cash or equivalent - opening balance	<u>437,621</u>	<u>362,572</u>
Cash or equivalent - closing balance	<u>\$ 286,577</u>	<u>\$ 437,621</u>
Represented by		
Cash on hand and in bank	\$ 176,375	\$ 114,339
Term deposits-including accrued interest	<u>110,202</u>	<u>323,282</u>
	<u>\$ 286,577</u>	<u>\$ 437,621</u>

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2009

1. TESL Association of Ontario was established in 1972 as a not-for-profit organization serving the needs of teachers of English as a Second Language. In its commitment to professional development and advocacy, TESL Association of Ontario addresses the range of competencies, experiences and issues which influence the success of immigrants, refugees, visa students and others who learn English.

Being a not-for-profit organization, TESL Association of Ontario enjoys a tax exempt status under income tax legislation.

2. Significant accounting policies:

- a. Revenue recognition

TESL Association of Ontario uses the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable. Interest income is recognized as earned, based on the accrual method.

- b. Capital assets

Capital assets are expensed as purchased.

- c. Measurement of uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

- d. Financial instruments

Financial instruments of TESL Association of Ontario consists of cash in bank, term-deposits, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued charges. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values. Management opinion is that the Association is not exposed to significant interest rate, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

Cash in bank and term deposits are held-for-trading.

Accounts receivables classified as loans and receivable and are measured at amortized cost.

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities are classified as other loans payable and measured at amortized cost.

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2009

2. Significant accounting policies(continued)

e. Contributed services

Because of the difficulty in determining the fair value of the numerous volunteers' services, contributed services are not reflected in these financial statements.

3. Changes in accounting policies

The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants issued three new accounting standards applicable to the Association: Capital Disclosures, Financial Instruments-Disclosures and Financial Instruments-Presentation.

Capital disclosures.

The Association defines capital as its unrestricted net assets. The Association is not subject to externally imposed requirements on capital.

The Association's objectives, when managing capital, are to generally match the structure of its capital to the underlying nature and term of the net assets being financed, and to hold sufficient funds to enable it to withstand negative and unexpected financial events, in order to maintain stability in the financial structure and have sufficient liquidity to meet its obligations as they become due.

Financial instruments

The Association has not applied the new accounting standards as not-for-profit organizations are permitted to do under the transitional rules.

4. These financial statements include the revenue and expenses of the following Affiliates:

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

5. TESL Association of Ontario is under a five year lease that commenced April 1, 2005, paying a monthly rent of \$ 3,150 plus occupancy cost.

TESL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
MARCH 31, 2009

6. The operation of TESL Association of Ontario is dependent on the income generated by the project revenues as provided by various Government agencies as well as on membership and certification fees.
7. TESL Association of Ontario has \$ 10,000 revolving overdraft protection credit with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. If and when this credit is used, interest is charged at rate of Canadian Bank of Commerce's prime rate plus .75%.