



Teaching English as an Additional Language to Adults in Manitoba

Winter 2008 Edition

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President's Message

I am pleased to write the President's Message on behalf of Jennifer Loewen.

The role that TEAM plays in the Adult EAL industry has evolved from when the organization began in mid 1990s, and TEAM's Executive Committee members continue to work hard to make a solid contribution to the organization.

Immigration to Manitoba is expected to double by 2016, and the Executive members are thinking ahead. This year, TEAM had a unique opportunity to work in partnership with the Adult Language Training Branch (ALT) on an exciting new project — the TEAM Mentorship Program (TMP). The TMP aims to share with new teachers the existing wealth of knowledge and skills of Adult EAL teachers in Manitoba and to increase capacity in the field.

I am proud to introduce you to Margaret (Margo) James, the Program Administrator for this exciting project. Margo will be working closely with the ALT Branch in the selection of up to five mentees during Phase I of the TMP. The mentees will be new teachers to the Adult EAL field and/or teachers experiencing a need for support in certain areas including ESP. The mentors selected will be skilled and experienced AEAL teachers from funded programs across the city.

I am very pleased to be a part of TEAM. I want to assure you that the Executive Committee members will continue to work hard to represent and express the concerns of Adult EAL educators and to promote the improvement of the services for adult EAL learners through community input, advocacy and professional development

On behalf of the TEAM President, the Executive Committee Chairs and our volunteers, I want to say thank you for your support to our organization.

Rita Zuba Prokopetz
gprokope@mts.net



Thanks to the following members for their contribution to the newsletter:
Rita Prokopetz
Margo James
Heather Lamont
Marcia Maia
Lauren Phillips
Frances Molara

TEAM has a new e-mail address:

info@manitobateam.com

Stay connected... We'd love to hear from you!

TEAM Award Recipients 2008



From left to right: Ms Janice Pregnall TEAM Teacher Award; Ms Gail Foote Leylek TEAM Teacher Award; Ms Marilyn Kenney accepting the TEAM Community Service Award on behalf of the Manitoba Nurses' Union; missing from the picture is Ms. Carolynne Chislet

TEAM

Volunteer Award.

On November 23, at the 2007 ALT Branch Conference, the TEAM Awards Committee had the pleasure of presenting four awards, namely one Community Service Award, one Volunteer Award and two Teacher Awards.

The Manitoba Nurses' Union (MNU) was presented with the TEAM Community Service Award for developing the Canadian Culture and Communications program for internationally trained teachers. The organization was nominated by Judy Johnson and Dale Klassen from the Adult Language Training Branch. The team of individuals who developed the program included: Marilyn Kenny, MNU Director of Operations; Debbie Kroeker, Program Manager and Instructor; Monica Wiest, Curriculum Developer; and Linda Karras, Tutor. The team received a plaque as well as a \$50.00 cheque for their contribution to the Adult EAL field in Manitoba.

Ms. Carolynne Chislet was presented with the TEAM Volunteer Award. Carolynne was nominated by Heather Rempel and Flo Skakum-Lewis from the Winnipeg School Division. Carolynne has been a volunteer in the field of Adult EAL since January 2000. Her nominators describe Carolynne as "an expert volunteer who is irreplaceable." Carolynne received a plaque as well as a \$50 cheque for her dedication as a volunteer in the Adult EAL field in Manitoba. Carolynne asked that TEAM donate her \$50 cheque to an EAL cause. TEAM has donated the cheque to the Millennium Winnipeg Public Library's EAL collection.

Ms. Janis Pregnall was presented with one of the TEAM Teacher Award. Janis was nominated by Rita Zuba Prokopetz a coordinator from the University of Winnipeg and Guy Prokopetz a TEAL member and graduate student. Janis has been an educator for more than 35 years. Although she is "retired", she still contributes to the field. Her nominators describe Janis as "a dedicated individual with a great deal of expertise and a strong commitment to AEAL; in her efforts to develop the AEAL field in Manitoba, she exhibits professionalism and collegiality." Janis received a plaque as well as a \$50 cheque for her dedication and commitment to teaching in the Adult EAL field in Manitoba.

Ms. Gail Foote Leylek was presented with the other TEAM Teacher Award. Gail was nominated by Frances Molaro from Manitoba Immigration, Bernadette McCann from the Immigrant Outreach and Community-based Language Training, Shannon MacFarlane from the Winnipeg English Language Assessment and Referral Centre and Florence Robinson who is a TEAM member. They describe Gail as someone who "has had an incredible impact on all the lives she has touched... she is deserving of the TEAM award." Gail received a plaque as well as a \$50 cheque for her dedication and commitment to teaching in the Adult EAL field in Manitoba.

Once again we would like to congratulate all the TEAM Award recipients and thank them for their contribution to the Adult EAL field in Manitoba.

If you know a student who might benefit from a bursary or are interested in nominating someone for the Learner Award, Teacher Award, Volunteer Award or Community Service Award, forms are available from your workplace supervisors or at our website.

For the January 2007 school start date, the form due dates are as follows:

Bursary application form - December 7, 2007

Learner Award nomination form - February 8, 2008





Workplace Issues and Such

Tips for Managers and Coordinators

by Rita Zuba Prokopetz

As Dr. John McFerran states in his column in the December 29 Careers section of the Winnipeg Free Press, “there’s no time like the present to renew your commitment to your organization, take a fresh look at how you relate to your staff and resolve to make this the year that you get your best results.”

Having worked as a manager since the mid 80s, I have learned how to praise the efforts of those who help me make my job easier, whether they are instructors, support staff or co-workers. I let it be known how much I appreciate the work done by others on a daily basis. I go out of my way to compliment someone in a timely fashion – time is everything when offering feedback.

A good program coordinator takes the time to tell an instructor or staff his or her effort that day was noticed. A good manager is also one who finds time to “reconnect with the disengaged,” tries to identify if there are workplace or personal issues affecting performance and lets the employee speak his or mind before offering to come up with a solution.

In sum, be sympathetic, show empathy and express genuine concern for your staff. The dividends will far outweigh the time investment. I guarantee it!

Inspirational Corner

"In Youth we learn, in old age we understand" Von-Ebner

Eschenbach

You haven't failed, until you stop trying" - Unknown

Learning English with CBC Manitoba



**Learning English
with CBC Manitoba**

Highlights

- Learn about Manitoba's people, places and culture while improving your English communication skills.
- Develop listening skills by studying real conversations from stories on CBC radio.
- Lessons are for intermediate level English speakers—CLB levels 5 and up.
- New lessons posted every week: one for self study, one for classroom use.

To start studying, or to learn more, visit:
www.cbc.ca/manitoba/eal

Funded through the Manitoba Immigrant Integration Program

[Lesson 19](#)

February 16, 2008 - A Unique Gang-Prevention Program

Learn about a new program that aims at helping tackle the problem of youth gangs in Winnipeg.

[Lesson 18](#)

February 9, 2008 - Blending Cultures and Flavours at Cafe Dario

Visit a small restaurant in Winnipeg's west end, meet the owner and be introduced to Nuevo Latino cuisine.

[Lesson 17](#)

February 2, 2008 - Why are Canadians Increasingly in Debt?

A recent survey shows that Canadians are more and more in debt. Find out why this is happening and whether you should be concerned.

[Lesson 16](#)

January 27, 2008 - Embracing and Celebrating Winter

Learn about things you can do to enjoy winter. Cheer on a reporter who tries a new winter sport.

[Lesson 15](#)

January 19, 2008 - You're Never Too Young to Volunteer!

Learn about poverty, food banks and volunteering. Join a group of children who are helping out at Winnipeg Harvest.

[Lesson 14](#)

January 12, 2008 - A Successful Businessman Decides to Retire

Learn more about retirement in Canada and how to prepare for retirement - hear a personal story from a successful Winnipeg businessman

[Lesson 13](#)

December 8, 2007 - The Changing Face of Manitoba

Learn more about Manitoba's increasing immigrant population - and hear a personal story from one of the province's largest immigrant groups.

[Lesson 12](#)

December 1, 2007 - Altona Welcomes Newcomers - Immigrating to Rural Manitoba

Learn how the Town of Altona actively recruits newcomers and makes sure they feel welcome in the community.

[Lesson 11](#)

November 24, 2007 - Hijabs and Sports - Accomodating Culture in Sports

Listen to an interview with a young woman who designs firm fit hijabs for sport and fitness.

[Lesson 10](#)

November 17, 2007 - Troy finds his dream job - Finding work in Manitoba

Listen to an interview with a young man who overcame many obstacles and found his dream job.

[Lesson Nine](#)

November 10, 2007 - A Church for the Eritrean Community - Religious Customs in Manitoba

Listen to parts of an Eritrean church service and find out about religious customs in Manitoba.

[Lesson Eight](#)

November 3, 2007 - Collaborative Family Law - Marriage and Divorce Customs in Canada

Listen to an interview with Winnipeg lawyers about a new way to resolve issues in a divorce without going to court.

[Lesson Seven](#)

October 27, 2007 - Love and Logic - Parenting with respect and control

Listen to a Winnipeg doctor give advice about raising children - and read about issues immigrant parents have when raising children in Canada.

[Lesson Six](#)

October 20, 2007 - Globix - A Made in Manitoba Healthy Snack

Find out about a new healthy snack created by a group of University of Manitoba students.

[Lesson Five](#)

October 13, 2007 - You Know You're in Winnipeg When...

Find out about a Facebook group that celebrates the uniqueness of Winnipeggers!

[Lesson Four](#)

October 6, 2007 - Hockey in Winnipeg's North End

Hear about starting the first ever hockey team at St. John's High School in Winnipeg's North End.

[Lesson Three](#)

September 29, 2007 - Visit to an Asian Supermarket

Go shopping for Blue Crab at an Asian Supermarket.

[Lesson Two](#)

September 22, 2007 - Road Trip to Rolling River First Nation

This lesson is about newcomers who take a trip to Rolling River First Nation.

[Lesson One](#)

September 1, 2007 - West Nile Virus Vaccine

This lesson is about West Nile Virus Vaccine.



TEAM MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

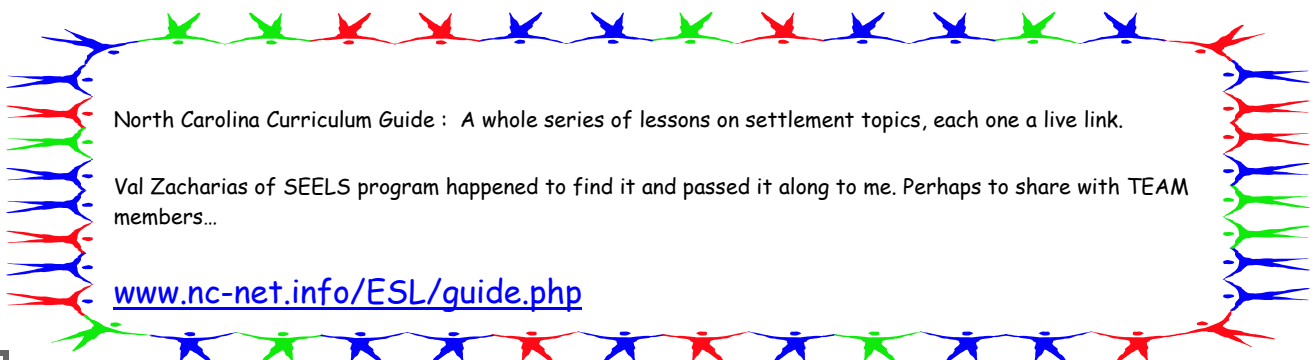
This program is so young that many of you will probably not even have heard of it yet, but hopefully that will change during the next few months as it progresses through its pilot phase. The goal of the program is to create a mentorship system that will make it possible to share the existing wealth of knowledge and skills of adult EAL teachers in Manitoba with teachers new to the field. TEAM and the ALT Branch, which is funding the project, hope such a system will enhance professionalism in the EAL community as well as increase capacity in the field..

In this first phase, lasting only until the end of March, five mentees will be paired with five mentors to receive ten hours of mentoring focused on the expressed needs and goals of the mentee in areas of her/his choice like lesson planning, assessment, use of resources, incorporating Essential Skills, and so on. Within the guidelines, the partners choose the times of contact and the methods of working together, which will include some face to face meetings and may also include classroom observation, phone conversations, and emails. Mentors receive an honorarium for their participation. There's a minimum of paper work involved and some participation in the evaluation of their own mentorship and of the program, but mainly, they're being recognized for providing valuable, practical, focused assistance at a stage in a teacher's career when it will be greatly appreciated.

For several practical reasons, but especially because of time constraints, the pilot stage was not widely publicized to invite everyone to apply. Instead, nominations of participants were requested from the directors of the core programs, plus English at Work and some community-based programs. At the time of writing, just a few weeks after our beginning, one mentorship pair has already begun and a few more are almost in place. This has happened only because of the cooperation of so many pleasant and competent people in our EAL community, to whom I give sincere thanks.

Because this is a pilot program, it contains experimental elements and will need to evolve. Mindful of that, we welcome input from members. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact me or any member of the executive.

Margo James
TMP Administrator/Coordinator
mjames@prairie.ca
757-2142



North Carolina Curriculum Guide : A whole series of lessons on settlement topics, each one a live link.

Val Zacharias of SEELS program happened to find it and passed it along to me. Perhaps to share with TEAM members...

www.nc-net.info/ESL/guide.php



T.E.A.M.

Spring PD Conference

Friday, May 9, 2008

(location to be announced)

The TEAM PD Committee is seeking presenters to share ideas, inform and inspire teachers of Adult EAL Programs in Manitoba

Application forms are attached to this newsletter

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Call for Presentation

Presenter to whom all correspondence will be sent:

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Ms. Mr. Mrs.
Mailing

Address: _____
City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone: Work _____ Home _____

email _____

Affiliation / Employer _____ Position / Title _____

Names of multiple presenters (including the above) in the order to be listed in the program:

Surname	First Name	Title	Affiliation / Employer
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Please check all applicable boxes:

- Length of presentation One (1) hour Two (2) hours
- Able to give a repeat session Yes No
- Audio-visual equipment required TV / VCR / DVD OHP LCD
Projector
- Other (please specify) _____

**Please let us know if you will be bringing equipment (such as power point presentation) so we can provide a room with the appropriate electrical outlets etc. for your workshop.*

Number of parking stalls required for presenter(s): _____

Presenters must pay a registration fee to attend the conference, but an honorarium will be provided. Do the conditions of your employment permit you (and your co-presenters, if any), to accept the honorarium as a token of appreciation? ___ Yes ___ No

