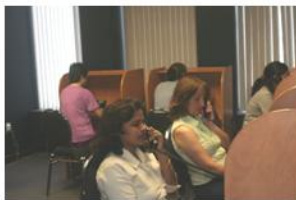


Moving Ahead...

Announcing Our New Enhanced Language Training (ELT) Program

In recent years many immigrants have landed in Canada with professional qualifications from their own country. Their experience on arrival quickly progresses from elation of landing in a land of opportunity to frustration on realizing that they somehow do not possess the “right qualification”. Windsor Women Working With Immigrant Women realized a pressing need for these qualified immigrants to



learn English the way the native speakers of English used the language. Recent studies in linguistics have suggested an intercultural model of language acquisition which foregrounds the culture of the learner rather than the culture of the native speaker but ground realities and especially in cities like Windsor have forced us to make adjustments to that thinking. We have introduced an

Enhanced Language Training program which is primarily designed to help these immigrants assimilate into the “new world” without too many language roadblocks. Our program is geared towards the essential skills required in customer service.

Our ten week program offers intensive job specific English language instruction , advanced computer skills training and hands on telephone practice in our well equipped telephone lab. The language component ensures that the participants become familiar with the Customer Service terminology. They are made aware of procedures in the Canadian workplace and cultural practices that participate in the production of meaning and how these become an intricate part of communication.



The computer training is two pronged, one is to familiarize the participants with advanced knowledge of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Internet; second is online job search . They participate in Resume Preparation workshops, mock interview sessions as well as “meet the employers” sessions.

After the successful completion of the ten week classroom teaching they are placed in a five week job placement.

Inside this issue:

Life Skills	2	LINC Program Looks Out	4
A Deaf Child's Wish	2	Volunteering...	5
EAS Fine Tunes Its Services To Suit Labour Market Demands	3	TIO Reports	5
"What Difference Enhanced Language Training made to me..."	3		

Life Skills

Life Skills provides the opportunities that will enable women to achieve their dream of being gainfully employed

Despite the changes the Life Skills department has gone through, we are proud that we continue to contribute towards empowering by providing free computer classes to women in the Windsor/Essex area. Our classes consist of six weeks sessions. The students must successfully complete all classes to receive a certificate and attend the graduation ceremony.

We welcome our newest trainer Ms. Lyn Caine who currently provides basic and intermediate MS Word and Excel training. Her students admitted that they had no understanding of computers prior to their first day in training. Once again, we are concluding yet another session of basic computer training, class of July 18. These students are eager to commence the

next level of intermediate training. They are all more excited than ever because of the computer knowledge they have acquired from these classes.

We are also fortunate to have a volunteer from the University of Windsor, Ms Emily Price who will be helping with facilitating and training of the basic computer class under the supervision of the departments coordinator and the instructor.

Our department is committed to changing and improving the position of women. Through providing the opportunities that will enable them to achieve their dream of being gainfully employed, we are certain they will be able to handle the day-to-day administrative functions of jobs they choose to accept.



Scholastica the Life Skills Coordinator distributing gifts to the graduates



Padmini Raju Executive Director, Scholastica Lynga Coordinator and Lyn Caine Instructor

A Deaf Child's Wish

As I walk and wonder why I'm crying,
I know that the doctor is lying.
As a deaf child, I would love to hear again.
To be able to hear the chirping birds as they sing.
I talked to my mom, she says that she is lucky.
She likes calling me her "Little Lucky Star."
Everyday my life feels mucky.
My mom says, "I am going to go far!"

My mom came in my room the next morning.
To tell me the sun was shining.
My family loves me very much.
I love to feel my mother's warm touch.
The doctor called, I yelled "Hooray!"
He said; "Come to the hospital for an operation today."
I said to my mom, "I am going to hear!"
The doctor said, "Before next year!"

By: Jolene Rose Brignall, Basic Computer/ Life Skills Student

EAS Fine Tunes Its Services To Suit Labour Market Demands

The Employment Assistance Services (EAS) Team has done much fine tuning of their services. The success of this programme is attributed to re-vamping and making the programme more cutting edge in answering to job search demands. Workshops and information sessions emphasize on the individual client to better assist in job search. These sessions are dynamic and explore creative and conventional ways of job hunting with the perspective of new immigrants in mind. Workshops cover everything from networking, marketing yourself as an exceptional job candidate, and different and innovative ways of strategizing your job search. What's emphasized in these sessions is that job hunting does take a lot of hard work

and commitment and that it's all a matter of putting yourself out there to be seen by as many potential employers as possible. There is also an emphasis on accessing various resources and gaining knowledge about programmes and services that are complimentary to your career and job search. EAS wholeheartedly believes that it takes effective networking with a community to better assist clients. This is why incorporating opportunities through valuable community partners are never left out of EAS programme development.

Community partners are also fully involved in delivering workshops and offering feedback and valuable networking opportunities. Clients have the chance to engage with the ones

making the decisions in hiring or gathering important information from professionals doing work in their field. It's a trend that's catching like wild fire. Many community partners not only look forward to delivering info sessions but are thrilled to be helping out new members of their community.

Special thanks this month goes out to Nicole Kupnicki of Enwin Utilities that presented a fabulous workshop on Interview tips. Nicole went beyond her call of duty, not only delivering a workshop to 25 clients but also is giving some extra undivided time to 3 clients assisting them with resume format and interview preparation. Way to go Nicole.

EAS sessions are dynamic and explore creative and conventional ways of job hunting with the perspective of new immigrants in mind.

"What Difference Enhanced Language Training made to me..."

By Ali Raza MBBS, A foreign trained doctor.

I got a chance to attend the program's first session at Windsor Women Working with Immigrant Women at 500 Ouellette Avenue, Windsor, ON. On the completion of this session, I realized that it enhanced my skills of computer and English language in the fields of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Now I am able to communicate more confidently even on telephone with different types of people who speak English and are of different temperaments. The factor which helped me to make this achievement is the collaborated efforts of E.L.T team members: Respected Sudip (Coordinator), Annie (Administrative Asst.), Denisa (volunteer) and Rodana (Instructor). The friendly environment in

the class encourages every student to participate in all the activities of the course. They recognize the actual deficiencies of students to become a customer service representative. We were criticized constructively, and our mistakes explained and corrected. We were provided with excellent material about the English language, how to job search, how to prepare a resume and cover letter, and to appear and communicate in job interview. Due to this program, we got a chance to practice as customer service representatives on the telephone, and listen to valuable speeches of speakers from different companies and associations, which increased our knowledge and confidence.

I highly recommend everybody

who wants to be a part of customer service team, and wants to increase his/her English and computer skills, to attend this course. In the end, I wish to convey a suggestion about the program to the coordinator that if possible, kindly change the timing of the class to the evening, which will help the students to keep their attendance at a good level.



After completion of the ELT program, in collaboration with the employment Job Developer in our EAS department, Ali Raza secured a position as a Medical Researcher.

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LINC Programme Looks Out

Black History month

On Friday February 22, 2008 LINC went on a field trip to Sandwich Baptist Church. There were two ladies who spoke to the students about slavery and the hardships which the slaves had to go through. They also showed a short film and took us on a tour of the place. We saw different artifacts, like clothing, masks, books and even letters. Then the ladies prepared a warm lunch for all the students and a few songs were sung. On Wednesday February 27, 2008 the ladies from the church came to Windsor Women Working With Immigrant Women to talk some more with LINC students about slavery. We treated them to a potluck lunch that day because of their kind courtesies a few days before.

home country's flag. Afterwards there were international performances by all staff members and a speech by Sudip. Then everyone had a nice potluck luncheon provided mostly by the Windsor Women Working With Immigrant Women staff.



International Women's Day

On Friday March 7, 2008 Windsor Women Working With Immigrant Women celebrated International Women's Day. The students came dressed up in their ethnic clothing, we sang O Canada and we went for a walk down Ouellette holding our



Niagara Falls

On Friday May 23, 2008 LINC went to Niagara Falls for a field trip. It was about a 15-16 hour journey by school bus (it took us longer to get back because we had to take a detour). However, we sang songs on the bus, took pictures and when we got to the falls we had lunch first, then gave the students free time to look around by themselves. At about 3pm we met up again and went over to the Butterfly Conservatory. Some students decided to go and look at the butterflies and some wanted to stay at the nearby park. Overall, the trip went well and the students really enjoyed themselves. Next time they want to stay overnight so they

can have more time.

Peace Tree Day

On Friday May 30, 2008 LINC took a small walk to Charles Clark Square to take part in the Peace Tree Day. We watched people giving speeches, children singing songs and took pictures by the Peace Tree. Refreshments were served afterwards, it was a nice walk for them and the weather held up that day.

Refugee Day

On Friday June 20, 2008 LINC went to Windsor Public Library to take



part in Refugee Day. There were other schools there as well and people did performances. We got some of our students to perform. We made a banner that said

R-E-F-U-G-E-E-S on the front and on the back of each letter there was word beginning with that letter that represent the significance of this day. So we spent a few days practicing with the students and they did very well.

aunt mentioned how a few girls were helping in her computer class. Maybe I should come too. Okay!

Windsor Women Working With Immigrant Women was way more than I envisioned. Walking through those double doors was like walking into women empowerment at work. I've never seen so many women working in one building at once. Part of me already knew that since the cause was noble it wouldn't be hard for my participation to become meaningful. Yet the other part just wanted to get this done and get myself a bus pass. So I went through the

Continues on page 5

TIO - Teach In Ontario Reports...

We are very pleased to provide an update on events and services at Teach in Ontario. First, we are happy to announce that the STIC (Sector Terminology Information Counseling) program has been enhanced to better meet the employment needs of our IETs (Internationally Educated Teachers).

Recognizing that teachers new to Ontario need a clear understanding of how the classrooms and education system function in the province, this eight-week course provides an extensive study of the role of the teacher in Ontario's classrooms. It also offers an opportunity to become immersed in school culture and to observe, understand and apply the information learned in the course during weekly classroom observations and job shadow opportunities. The course also focuses on communication skills to help IETs become effective teachers in Ontario's public funded schools.

On July 9th we hosted an appreciation breakfast for our professional coaches and associates/clients. This was a valuable opportunity to sincerely thank our coaches for their commitment, ongoing support and professional guidance. Our IETs were thrilled to share their personal experiences and success stories. In a heartfelt speech, one associate

talked about her journey towards certification and employment. Through hard work, dedication and ongoing support from her coach and the team at Teach in Ontario, she



obtained her Interim Certificate of Qualification (ICQ) and secured employment as an occasional teacher with the Greater Essex County District School Board. We are happy to celebrate her success! We would also like to extend a big kudos to our other clients who obtained recent employment and a special call out to those who recently obtained their ICQ.

In late July our clients were 'treated' to a professional workshop, "60 Ways to Create a Positive Learning Environment." As a published author, ministry consultant and education officer, Presenter Karen Hume provided several strategies and tips including

ways to motivate and engage resistant or struggling learners; ways to create classrooms in which students feel safe, valued and comfortable; actions that you can take to welcome students at the beginning of the year and assessment tools that help students see that they are learning, and more! Our clients gratefully noted that the workshop discussions and scenarios will positively



benefit them in the classroom.

As always, we continue to offer personal support and services to IETs seeking assistance through the certification and employment process.

Happy summer everyone!

Volunteering...

process and started with my participation agreement. And that's all it was to me—participation agreement. But as the weeks rolled by the changes slowly began to creep in. I began to harbor a great amount of respect for these working women. It wasn't hard to relate to the immigrant women, as I was one myself. Each time I was able to assist in a class I felt more and more proud of myself. Whenever that pride was read across the face of someone I was helping, the humility crept in.

So what does volunteering mean to me? Well it's more than a participation agreement that's for certain. More than a donation of time since I had nothing but time. For me, it became about caring for a place, respecting a group of amazing women to a point that it was no longer about transportation. It gave me pride because I was needed, and humility because I could make a difference. Big or small it was still a difference and that matters to me.

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Modupe Akinsanya, Child Minding Assistant
Reshma Zareen, Child Minding Assistant

Windsor Women Working With
Immigrant Women

Breaking

26th
Anniversary
Banquet Dinner

Friday, October 3rd, 2008

Caboto Club – 2175 Parent Ave, Windsor, ON

Doors Open at 6:30pm

Barriers

Reserve your tickets now!

Call: (519) 973-5588

\$50

*per person
incl. dinner*