



# A Year Sin Review



#### **Our Mission**

Empowering clients, Centre for Education & Training provides opportunities that enhance career development and personal growth.

#### Our Vision

Centre for Education & Training will achieve excellence for our clients and in the communities we serve by:

- » Excelling in the development and delivery of client services
- » Building strategic alliances to address community learning needs
- » Continuing to attract, develop and retain dedicated and skilled staff
- » Demonstrating adaptability and flexibility in meeting changing client and community needs
- » Ensuring that we continue to: Develop, Deliver, Coach and Educate

#### Organizational Background

Centre for Education & Training (TCET) was incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in 1996 under the legal name Quality Continuous Improvement Centre for Community Education and Training (QCICCET). It is managed by a Board of Directors working in accordance with established laws for not-for-profit organizations. In 2015 TCET developed and operated programs with funding from a variety of government sources, private corporations and individual fee payers.

### Letter from our Chief Executive Officer

In most organizations we focus on specific financial and operational performance statistics to assess our progress and success. While this is very important, as CEO of TCET, I have come to realize that the real impact and outcomes of what our employees do, may never be known.

During the last fiscal year, we helped over 90,000 individuals. Our service focused on each individual's specific needs, helping them to identify and realize their full potential so they might find and achieve their life's purpose and become productive members of Canadian society and the workplace. I believe that many of these individuals will be the new leaders of our communities and corporations in years to come. That result is our greatest reward.

We also provided the resources, skills and opportunities to over 1,000 business and community organizations to assist in the recruitment of their skilled workforce and the integration of newcomers to Canada. The difference our employees have made has been recognized by many. A few major highlights of our employees' work during 2015 include:

- » Receipt of the MTCU Leadership Award for Innovation in recognition of our Employment Services "90 Day Job Challenge"
- » Successful implementation of new programs including; assisting job seekers who are differently-abled, helping high school graduates explore their post-secondary potential, connecting entrepreneurial youth with resources, and providing newcomer seniors with opportunities to interact and learn about their communities
- » Development of new online services (www.prepcan.ca) to assist immigrants in pursuing their credentials and employment prospects, before they arrive in Canada
- » Increased service to English language learners including expansion of our LINC Home Study (online) program to Northwest Territories and a new program for temporary foreign workers and others in Saskatchewan
- » Continued development of our online services including webinars, virtual recalibration and certification processes, online access to printable forms, and more

I am honored to serve the TCET organization and its clients. I appreciate the support we receive from all of our stakeholders. I am constantly impressed by the dedication and commitment our employees have made to the work they do and express my thanks to them for embracing the Vision and Values of TCET. I am thankful for and regard very seriously, the opportunity our organization has been given to make a difference in the lives of so many.

Merv Hillier mba, msc hrm, cpa, fcma, cmc, c.dir

## Our Service Areas



2015 saw the continuation of employment programs and career services across the GTA. Over **25,800 clients** were supported as they set about strengthening their employability and job search skills. Centre for Education & Training offered unique career and employment services tailored for successful outcomes. Our target groups included those having the most difficulty achieving employment. We provided clients with the encouragement and support they needed to achieve their career and employment goals. Our services provided the tools for success including job postings, recruitment assistance, job fairs, and support with wage subsidy programs. In addition, human resource services and supports were provided to over 500 local employers. Our innovative employment campaigns and addedvalue services were recognized amongst our peers and attracted new clients and employers to our services.

Providing newcomers with timely support to help them settle into their new communities is critical to their successful integration. Centre for Education & Training assisted almost **64,000 immigrants** in 2015. Our newcomer and immigrant services included individual needs assessment and referrals, information on settlement topics and resources, language assessment and training, and employment-related services. We continued to provide in-person services and further developed our online capacity. In many cases, our one-stop-service sites enabled clients to access newcomer information and workshops where they also received a language assessment (English or French) and referral to classes. For those unable to attend regular English classes, LINC Home Study provided the option to study from home. We piloted new distance language learning this year in Saskatchewan.

Some of our projects were designed to support over **250** settlement service providers in their efforts to provide high-quality client service. We continued provision of Ontario-wide, language service supports including data tracking and analysis through our HARTs assessment, referral and training database. We provided language assessor training including efficient online refresher sessions and meetings. We contributed to policy and planning on local, provincial and national committees.

In 2015 we provided training for **663 new drivers**. We reached a diverse client group with quality theoretical and in-car instruction achieving a licence pass rate of **99%**. Our interpretation and translation services continued to be a trusted support to newcomers, government organizations, local service agencies and employers. Serving over **15 companies** and many more individuals, our certified services are well respected across the GTA and beyond.

# Employment & Career Services



#### **Employment Ontario Services**

Centre for Education & Training (TCET), with funding support from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU), provides assistance to Ontarians in finding employment and training services through an integrated employment and training network. At our six sites in Peel Region and Toronto we connect with individuals, employers and communities to achieve a workforce that is both highly-educated and highly-skilled. This combination creates success within the competitive world of work. In 2015, as part of its employment programming supports, TCET's Employment Ontario (EO) Services added several new programs to its complement of services. The Canada Ontario Job Grant program assisted employers to offset the costs of upgrading the skills of their employees to stay competitive and have a more skilled and diverse workforce. In 2015 – 47 different employers received a training grant from TCET through the program. To further address the unique needs of youth with multiple barriers to their employment TCET launched the Youth Job Connect program providing pre-employment training, job placement and mentoring assistance to youth between the ages of 15-29.

In order to meet the needs of our job seekers and employer clients Centre for Education & Training offers many different resources in order to facilitate appropriate job matches. Employers take advantage of no cost job postings, hiring events, training incentives and connections to prescreened qualified applicants. Job seekers learn to prepare their self-marketing job search tools and how to sell their skills to an employer in order to secure offers of employment. Here are a few examples of our success!

#### Highlight

» In May 2015, TCET was presented with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' Leadership Award. TCET Employment Services won in the Innovation category for our unique 90 Day Job Challenge. This Leadership Award recognized exceptional leadership for the implementation of a new approach to an old problem.



#### **Success Stories**

**Debiesha** was a new grad looking for the opportunity to utilize her Community Work Diploma in the workplace. Needing to update her resume, cover letter and other selfmarketing tools she turned to TCET Employment Services for assistance.

"My TCET Career Specialist knew exactly what employers look for when hiring. She used these insights to help me create a successful job action plan that really paid off"

#### Debiesha, Information Specialist

Ashwan was unsure of what he wanted to do in his future career and was lost for a long time not knowing where to go or how to get started. Referred to TCET from a community partner, he discovered that the career exploration and job development services were available to him and he made an appointment with a Career Specialist for further support. Armed with new self-confidence, job search tools and a job

lead, Ashwan found work and returned to school.

"In less than a 2 week period, I was able to stand on my own, map out all my goals, and explore new interests. I am currently employed and a full time student at George Brown

College. This experience has kept me motivated to pursue my dreams and long-term goals."

#### Ashwan, Customer Service Rep & Student

Cynthia found herself looking for a new career opportunity due to the oil crisis in western Canada and was seeking opportunities in the GTA as a structural engineer. With a poor response from her resume, she connected with TCET and began working with a Career Specialist to re-engineer her resume and apply for jobs.

"TCET helped me to move forward to my next career opportunity. With the professional assistance and strong support, I found my dream position with a reputable firm where I can fully utilize my engineering experience and skills."

Cynthia, Senior Civil/Structural Engineer



#### **Specialized Employment Programs and Services**

2015 was another growth year for the unique training programs and services offered to newcomers and youth within our communities. Programs and funders included:

- » Career Coach (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada)
- » Next Steps for Youth and Bridges to Employment (Toronto Employment and Social Services),
- » Employment Potential Unlimited Program (Service Canada)
- » Focus to Employment (Region of Peel)
- » Experience Ontario (Ministry of Education)
- » Youth Entrepreneurship Conference and Resource Fair (Ministry of Economic Development, Employment & Infrastructure)
- » Youth Arts Initiative (in partnership with United Achievers supported by the Trillium Foundation)
- » Preparing to Work in Canada (PrepCan) (Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada)



The Career Coach reached over 460 newcomers through one-on-one employment counselling as well as through various workshops within the community. The mobile unit travelled to under-served areas, provided outreach, and encouraged youth and newcomers to "walk-in" for friendly and supportive service.

In partnership with Toronto Employment and Social Services, we continued to provide the specialized **Next Steps for Youth** and **Bridges to Employment** programs to Ontario Works clients. Assessment and customized action plans were developed and support was provided for 115 youth and newcomers who learned about labour market expectations in their areas of interest. In September 2015, our Next Steps for Youth program began providing services at the Rexdale Community Hub, expanding our services to youth in the area.

#### Success Stories

My experience at the Next Steps program was an outstanding opportunity. I got to learn more about my strengths and how I had more then what I thought. With the different types of questionnaires I got to know who I was and narrow down the career that was best for me. The facilitator was very motivating and great to get along with.

Yessenia (Next Steps for Youth)

The Next Steps program was an amazing experience for me. From the start I felt welcomed and comfortable. [The program staff] were very professional the whole time. They taught me great life lessons with all the work we did. I thought I had no place in this world, and they made me feel like I mattered. Even after I graduated, they keep in contact with me to see how I'm doing and if I need any help. Going to the Next Steps program was the best choice I ever made for myself.

Marissa (Next Steps for Youth)

In 2015, our **Employment Potential Unlimited Program** was able to assist people with disabilities to overcome their employment barriers by providing 56 participants with services related to pre-employment, job search and work placement. The program also built relationships with community agencies by establishing referral agreements with service providers and participating in community resource fairs.

2015 marked the launch of a new initiative; the **Focus to Employment** Program. This program is designed to assist clients in receipt of social assistance to obtain skills, motivation and on-going support to find employment. Funded by the Region of Peel, the program involves clients attending a 2 week pre-employment workshop followed by 6 months of ongoing support to enable them to become self-sufficient and maintain their employment. In its pilot year in 2015 the program served over 150 clients.

In the spring of 2015 we began to deliver the **Experience Ontario** Pilot Program. The program assists recent high school graduates to move on to post-secondary education and subsidized experiential placements through career exploration. Through the support of their career coach, they are able to explore their post-secondary pathways and meet labour market needs. The program is part of the Ontario Government's plan to support a highly skilled workforce. 103 participants were referred to the program and 91 coaching sessions were completed.

In October, 89 at-risk youth living in Peel Region participated in our Youth Entrepreneurship Conference and Resource Fair. This was a one-day event that took place in Mississauga at the Microsoft Head Office. Youth learned about entrepreneurship through hands-on workshops, demonstrations and speakers, and took advantage of networking opportunities. The event helped to increase youth knowledge of entrepreneurship and business start-up. They learned about opportunities, resources and trends and accessed information on how to navigate challenges and barriers that face entrepreneurs. Partner agencies and employers contributed significantly to the event's success as they assisted with promotions, provided and recruited speakers, shared network contacts, and inspired participants with their enthusiasm.

The **Youth Arts Initiative** provided over 60 youth in Peel Region with an opportunity to gain life skills and specialized skills and experience in the arts. These 16 to 24 year olds participated in dance, disc jockey, multimedia, and stage décor activities in preparation for a final showcase event.





In December 2015, TCET launched an exciting new website and online service. **PrepCan** (www.prepcan.ca) offers pre-arrival employment services for immigrants to Canada while they are still in their home country. This invaluable resource, available 24/7, provides newcomers with information on the accreditation process, interview tips, resume assistance, instructional webinars and videos, and one-on-one sessions with experienced employment consultants. We look forward to seeing this website in full swing in 2016!



These 9 programs reached over 960 youth and job seekers and gave them direction, support, ideas and encouragement to connect with over 40 employers. Many opportunities resulted – from employment, to career-focused volunteer placements, to more intensive training programs.

# Settlement & Language Services



#### **Newcomer Information Centres**

Throughout 2015, Centre for Education & Training operated five **Newcomer Information Centres (NIC)** in strategic areas of the Regions of Peel and Halton. Each of these locations provided information, resources and referrals on a vast array of newcomer and settlement issues. Additionally, we provided service at convenient off-site neighbourhood locations. With a dynamic team speaking over 20 languages, we provided a warm welcome and accurate information ensuring newcomers' settlement success.

#### Highlights

- » 12,800 newcomer clients visited our information and referral centres for one-to-one counselling
- » 27,253 newcomer client visits were recorded to access self-directed resources such as printed materials, computers, fax, scanners, and internet
- » 30,935 documents were certified by Commissioners of Oaths for 5,813 clients
- » Care for Newcomer Children (CNC) was provided for 3,344 child visits
- » 12,386 newcomers participated in a wide variety of settlement related information sessions
- » 2,392 clients were assisted by itinerant information counsellors working from 15 off-site locations
- » 20 special activities such as Canada Day Celebrations, Client Appreciation Day, Family Day Celebration and Women's International Day were organized to engage newcomers in social networking and to familiarize them with Canadian culture.
- » Newcomer Information Centre staff participated in over 100 professional development opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills.



#### **Success Stories**

"The Centre for Education and Training and especially NIC (Newcomer Information Centre) have been a vital part of our settlement process in Canada as we received the professional help and guidance shortly after we landed in Canada and we have been supported by NIC during our settlement ever after coming to this country. We have been using the resource area – computers, fax, other printed information and materials, information provided to us by the Counsellors. We also received help through CNC (Childcare for Newcomer Children) for our 2 kids. We have been referred to several programs by the Info Counsellors when looking for a job. We have attended several info sessions, received help with resume writing and job search, attended a bus trip which we enjoyed tremendously.

We landed in November of 2012 and I started working on the 5th of December and I am still employed. My wife got a lot of help at NIC as she was studying English and looking after the kids. Through NIC she was also connected with the Natural Connection Program which she finished successfully. Right now both of us are working, and my wife is planning to continue with her studies for radiologist at the Michener Institute."

Daniel



#### continued

"During immigration process at the airport we were given a package which carried different helpful material. In that package we found information about Centre for Education and Training – Newcomer Information Centre at Queen Street East. When I visited Newcomer Information Centre with my wife, we were warmly welcomed by an Information Counsellor. She provided us with very helpful information about health service, school, housing, employment and more. During Tax season I was also helped to file taxes for my whole family for free!"

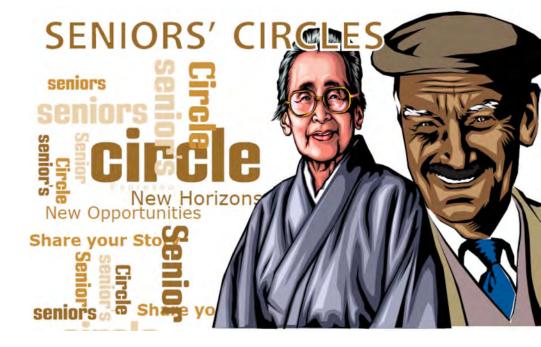
Sanjeev

#### Seniors' Circles Project

In 2015 Centre for Education & Training received funding from Service Canada to deliver the Seniors' Circles project under the **New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP)**.

This project provides opportunities for seniors to network and be part of the social fabric of their communities as well as to encourage and support activities and events that promote learning and sharing of information as it relates to senior issues.

At each of our five Newcomer Information Centres, seniors participated in various activities. They enjoyed interacting with each other and found the Seniors' Circles workshops and information sessions very interesting and valuable. Overall, 40 information sessions were delivered throughout the year and 210 senior participants benefited from the program.





#### Language Assessment Services

The entry point for free English or French language training for immigrants to Canada is a language assessment and referral to class. We have been assessing in Peel and Halton Regions for over 20 years and in York Region for 5 years. Our assessors provide a friendly welcome; assess English (or French) skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing; and make referrals to language classes to best meet client needs. In 2015, we provided 14,245 assessments in Peel and Halton and administered 8,690 assessments in York and Durham for a total of 22,935 assessments. As demand for French language classes continued to grow, so did our volume of French language assessments, totaling 1,066 clients for 2015 (a 40% increase over 2014).

The Coordinated Language Assessment and Referral System (CLARS) continued its pilot across Ontario. Co-funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade (MCIIT), the system expands client eligibility enabling us to serve a greater range of immigrants and make referrals to a broader range of classes. Our organization continues to provide exceptional service and support for this unique system.

In Peel and Halton our core 5 assessment locations are co-located with our Newcomer Information Centres and in many cases, Employment Services. This enables one-stop service for many immigrants. It is particularly helpful that in 2 sites, child-minding services are available for parents attending an assessment. Also at 2 sites, Community Door partnerships enable access to many other on-site services.

With one stand-alone assessment site in Richmond Hill we also have weekly appointments scheduled in all of the 5 Welcome Centres in York Region and 2 Welcome Centres in Durham Region. We also provide assessments in several more remote areas. Accessibility is key for many newcomers and learning about, or using, many services in one location is a true benefit.

Centre for Education & Training continued to support language training providers in the coordination and sharing of best practices in all of our services areas. This included hosting and coordinating language partnership meetings, providing agendas and minutes, and assisting with overall communication. Demographic and statistical reports were prepared and shared with the committees for planning purposes and marketing initiatives were conducted to promote language assessment and training services. In Peel/Halton, we continue to support a partnership website with schedules, flyers, resources, archived materials, and more.

#### Highlights

- » Language Assessment Centre staff assisted community efforts to support Syrian refugees by providing a warm welcome and timely assessment and referral to enable them to begin learning one of Canada's official languages.
- Among outreach initiatives, the Peel Halton language partner website was modernized and renamed www.languagepeelhalton.ca, making it more accessible to new Canadians and language partners. We also expanded our social media presence on twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.
- » Considerable outreach was conducted in all of our areas, distributing the language assessment information for clients guidebook and educating service providers and community groups on the services available and process involved.



#### **Success Stories**

A client from Afghanistan had only been allowed to go to a school for girls to learn housework and speaking skills, but was not allowed to learn literacy skills. Her education ended when her school was burned down. She married a Canadian resident and moved to Richmond Hill. Her husband referred her to our language assessment centre and encouraged her to get an education. She was excited to learn about literacy classes and stated through an interpreter that she hopes to one day get a high school certificate so she can better help her future children. She was referred to class and will start within a week.

A client, who had an injury 3 years ago, was left with physical and speech disabilities. He wanted to return to English classes to be retrained for employment in the future. He is a low-income client and was thankful that we could refer him to free classes in a wheel-chair accessible building near his home. He was surprised to find such supports for physically- disabled people and was extremely happy to get help.

A client who had been in Canada less than a month was referred for an assessment so he could join an advanced or occupation-specific language training class. He was assessed at a high level and given options for appropriate classes. He was extremely happy to receive the class referrals as well as settlement and employment information all within 3 weeks of arriving in Canada. He is due to start class shortly and is happy to be on his path to employment and language upgrading.

#### **Comments from Clients**

"The service of this centre is excellent from all points. Even atmosphere inside the centre is also very good."

"My language assessor was very professional and welcoming."

"Thanks so much for the service. It feel comfortable and confident. The assessor is the best for me, friendly and patient."

#### National Online Self-Assessment Service

TCET continued to support the web-based Canadian Language Benchmarks – Online Self-Assessment (CLB-OSA) and Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens - Autoévaluation en ligne (NCLC-AEL). These online self-assessment tools provide newcomers and potential immigrants with the opportunity to understand their level of English and French language skills and how these will impact their education and employment prospects in Canada. The Canadian Centre for Language Benchmarks (in Ottawa) partners with us to support the French language assessment tool.

#### Highlights

- » 24,854 immigrants and potential immigrants from around the world utilized the online assessments in 2015 (a 5% increase over 2014)
- » Presentations on CLB-OSA/NCLC-AEL were given at national conferences including: TESOL International Convention & English Language Expo in Toronto, ON and the TESL Canada Conference in Alberta







#### LINC Home Study — Ontario

Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) is an English language training program funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). LINC Home Study (LHS) is a free distance education option for adult newcomers to Canada who cannot attend LINC classes in person. Through our administrative team and over 70 distance instructors, we provide instruction, support and materials to help students improve their English skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students study independently and have the choice of completing the program either online (using a computer with Internet access) or offline (using books and CDs). Each student is contacted by a TESL-certified instructor via telephone or VoIP for weekly one-on-one lessons. In 2015, 1,951 students from across Ontario participated in the LHS Ontario program.

#### Additional Program Features for Students

- » NEWSLINC Quarterly publication of LHS student writing
- » Help videos and online group orientation sessions to assist students to access the learning management system

#### Additional Program Features for Instructors

- » Bits and Bytes Virtual workshops showcasing instructional technology
- » Virtual Cafes Virtual meet-ups for instructors to connect and discuss topics of their own choice
- » Annual Professional Development Event Full-day workshop
- » EDULINC Quarterly publication of information for and about LHS instructors

#### Highlights

- » 98% of students stated that the LHS Program helped them reach their language goals
- » 300 articles written by LHS students were published in NEWSLINC



#### **Success Story**

When I started this program about three years ago, my aim was to improve my English skills. I had expectations, but I did not know how long it was going to take. I couldn't speak English properly and I had to work really hard. My concern was I didn't have enough time because of my job and I also have three kids who keep me very busy, so I was not able to work on my English lessons regularly. In the beginning I couldn't even make a proper conversation with my teacher. Now my English skills have improved and I'm happy about that. I can have a conversation with my neighbour, friends, and even my coworkers.

For me, the most important thing about these classes was that they helped me the most when I was struggling with issues about my daughter, her school and the difficult situations I was going through as a newcomer. I felt good I could ask for help from my teacher because I couldn't just ask anyone for help as I could not communicate easily. Her advice really helped me feel better and know how to solve my problems. I now know the true meaning of a teacher.

Amir

I was your student, LINC Home Study. I finished the study on January 2012. I'm still working as a secretary and sales person in small insurance agency, but in the 2013 I finished a college, physiotherapy assistant with a high score (above 80%). It was really hard to learn in English, and work for full time. Since July 2013 I have also the part time job in a physio and sport condition clinic. Why I'm telling you about that? Because YOU gave me a chance to do it. You taught me! You pushed me to change my life. Thank you for all of that.

Olga

#### LINC Home Study — Canada

LINC Home Study Canada (LHS Canada) provides English language education at a distance to newcomers outside of Ontario. In 2015, 1,027 newcomers in 8 provinces and 2 territories were served (Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territory and Yukon Territory). The number of students served increased by almost 14% over last year.

Our program provides two models to support the varying needs of the provinces and local communities. We provide the infrastructure (administration, learning management system, curriculum, and supports) in all regions, and we either provide the instructors, or work with provincial language training organizations that provide the instructors working within our program framework. Our success is largely due to collaboration among funding officers and among our many partner assessment and referral agencies and language training provider organizations.

#### Highlights

- » LHS Canada continued to expand, serving almost 14% more clients in 2015 than in the previous calendar year.
- » In 2015, LHS student use of online lessons increased by 50% compared to 2014.
- » LHS Canada provided a presentation at the TESL Canada Conference in October 2015 in Alberta.
- » 57 students became Canadian Citizens and 64 graduated from our highest level
- » 81% of students progressed within a 6-month period.

#### **Success Story**

"My LINC Home Study classes are drawing to a close and it makes me sad that they will finish soon. I have really enjoyed my experience with LINC Home Study Program. After almost a year and a half of studying, I was surprised to find out how I have considerably improved my language skills in all areas. I am truly thankful to my teacher whose classes are well organized and have provided a very pleasant learning atmosphere. I also found the classes to be fun and enjoyable, and never the same, while frequently useful issues about Canadian life have been raised. The materials are excellent and very easy to understand.



From the beginning, my goal was to be able to understand and interact in decent English and I think I achieved that goal. These classes really prepared me for everyday communication and I feel much more confident and comfortable speaking English in real life and in my workplace. Furthermore, it gave me an opportunity to take a professional course in college. They required a CLB level 6 or higher to apply for the program. Also the same CLB level was required for my foreign professional credentials evaluation. I am looking forward to getting a professional designation I dream about and I think with LINC Home Study Program I am getting closer to achieving my goals.

LINC Home Study Program has been essential for me. For all newcomers who want to feel more confident in real life or build a professional career here in Canada this course is definitely the one I would highly recommend."

Vadym

Online English Stage 1-2

English language distance learning

In September, TCET began **Online** English

program for immigrants in Saskatchewan who are not eligible for federally-funded LINC Home Study. This includes temporary foreign workers and other immigrants who are not able to access classroom-based training. We provide the infrastructure and the instructors for this program.

TCET was pleased to work with the Government of Saskatchewan and 6 Regional Colleges to determine promotional activities as well as referral and reporting processes for successful implementation. In December we began to serve our first 5 students with many more to register in the coming months.

#### Language Assessment Support Services

In 2015, Language Assessment Support Services (LASS) continued to deliver effective training and refresher sessions to English language assessors across Ontario on the administration of TCET's Canadian Language Benchmarks-based assessment tools. This ensured that assessors continued to obtain accurate results and make appropriate referrals to government-funded language training classes. This year, LASS organized and hosted the first ever Ontario-wide Assessment Coordinators' Online Meeting to provide information, discussion of trends and changes in the field, and sharing of best practices.

#### Highlights

» LASS transitioned delivery of many of its services from traditional methods to online delivery. Meetings, workshops and refresher sessions were conducted online. In June, most language assessment forms were made available via a password-protected link to documents. This enables assessment centres to print their own forms as needed and greatly improves efficiency.

#### **Client Comments**

There are no words to express our gratitude to you and the LASS team for all that you have done for us and (our new assessor)! I feel that all the support and detailed recommendations made her a more confident assessor.

The online format was easy to use. Thank you TCET for your organization behind the scenes! I really appreciated all your work that enabled the meeting to run so smoothly on this new platform. I think the online conferencing is a cost effective venue and I appreciate the ability to have any contact with other coordinators

Feedback I have received about the Listening and Speaking Recalibrations has been really positive. All of the assessors have truly enjoyed the sessions they attended.









#### National Language Assessment Support Services

Outside of Ontario, our National LASS project provided training and support services to coordinators and assessors across Canada on TCET's Canadian Language Benchmarks-based assessment tools. 19 assessors received training on effective processes and delivery of accurate assessment results and referrals to government-funded language training classes. This service also ensured accurate and helpful responses to questions from immigrants, assessment and training organizations, and funders.

#### Language Teacher Training and Support

Guidance and training were provided to over 280 language instructors through our curriculum and training services. Language teachers across Peel and Halton accessed professional development workshops and one-on-one support provided by our Language Teacher Curriculum Coordinator (LTCC). Specialized workshops included: Teaching Pronunciation, Using Internet Teaching Tools, Grammar, and M-Learning. Workshop sessions were delivered face-to-face and online via Tutela.ca. Instructors continued to access resources at the Teachers' Resource Library and additional online resources were listed and described on the website. The LTCC continued to provide webinars on the new National Language Placement and Progression Guidelines to instructors across Ontario.

#### HARTS — Database and Tracking System



History of Assessments, Referrals and Training system (HARTs) continued to provide logistics, data collection, and analysis for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade (MCIIT).

The system is used by language assessors benchmarking clients' language proficiency and referring clients to English and French classes. It is also used by language service providers to monitor and manage their intake and wait lists. Stakeholders, including IRCC and MCIIT, use HARTs statistical analysis for strategic planning. HARTs currently supports more than 250 organizations across Ontario through training, helpdesk support, and response to requests for changes and reports. The team responded to over 30,000 requests in 2015. With a mandate to serve all providers in Ontario in both official languages, the application is now available in both English and French.

The team continued to address government requirements by developing programming solutions and by training and supporting users through the year. Different user interfaces continued to be utilized for this year.

#### Highlights

- » The HARTs team continued to work closely with the iCARE team at IRCC to create the ability for users to generate new XML files in order to upload their information into iCARE's website.
- » HARTs hosted webinars conducted in partnership with the iCARE team.
- » The team worked with MCIIT to create a new system to track their future pilot programs in Ontario.



SOLUTION

HARTSYSTEM.CA

WOW....MAGICAL! I LEARN

SOMETHING NEW

EVERYDAY!

THANKS AS ALWAYS.

-DURHAM SERVICE PROVIDER

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

FOR YOUR CLEAR

INSTRUCTIONS.

I APPRECIATE YOUR HELP!

-NIAGARA SERVICE PROVIDER

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND ATTENTION TO THE CLIENT'S REQUEST.

-NIAGARA SERVICE PROVIDER

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP AND ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO UPLOAD THESE FILES TO ICARE.

#### -PEEL SERVICE PROVIDER

IN CASE I HAVEN'T MENTIONED IT
LATELY...YOU GUYS ARE THE BEST
SUPPORT TEAM EVER! AS ALWAYS, I
TRULY APPRECIATED YOUR
PROMPTNESS TO
CORRECTIONS/CHANGES.
IT CERTAINLY MAKES
MY JOB SO MUCH EASIER!

-OTTAWA SERVICE PROVIDER

HOWEVER MANY THANKS FOR YOUR
HARD WORK AND ADEQUATE
RESPONSE IN ANY WEIRD REQUEST
WE SEND.

#### -TORONTO SERVICE PROVIDER

THANK YOU SO MUCH. YOU GUYS ARE WONDERFUL. I APPRECIATE YOUR HELP!

#### -KITCHENER ASSESSMENT CENTRE

THIS IS FANTASTIC THAT YOU COULD
DO THIS FOR US, AND IN SUCH A
TIMELY MANNER. WE ARE
SOOOOOOOO GRATEFUL, AMAZING
AND MOST EFFICIENT TEAM!
I REALLY MEAN IT!

-PEEL SERVICE PROVIDER

# DRIVER EDUCATION and TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION



#### Beginner Driver Education Program (BDE)

Our **BDE** Program assists and trains new drivers throughout the 3 year span of the Ministry of Transportation Graduated Licencing System. The skills taught prepare students to become defensive and competent drivers for life and ensure they are prepared for the Ministry Road Tests (G1, G2, & G). The BDE Program focuses on theory and in-car training to ensure students become safe and responsible drivers. This is accomplished through:

- » Ministry of Transportation approved curriculum,
- » in-class instruction,
- » flexible independent learning, and
- » in-vehicle instruction.

In 2015, a total of 663 students attended 44 in-class sessions and 6,930 invehicle lessons. Over 99% of students completing the program succeeded in passing their licence requirement.

In January of 2015, we collaborated with Canadian Pro Drivers, Jetala Curriculum Development Limited, National Defensive Drivers, and Ministry of Transportation to publish and distribute an informational pamphlet on the benefits of choosing a quality driver education program. This pamphlet was delivered to all Peel Schools for distribution to students/parents.

Most recently, we have been approached by Peel Regional Police Community & Media Relations to participate in a Community Awareness Campaign on Safe Driving. They have requested our input as well as student and instructor interviews on the importance of the proper training of today's new drivers.



#### **Translation and Interpretation**

The Translation and Interpretation department coordinates, executes and delivers written translation services (including an array of projects from concept to document preparation). In 2015 we served a wide variety of public and government organizations including:

- » Alberta Association of Optometrists
- » CASSIS
- » Ontario Streams
- » Workplace Safety Insurance Board of Ontario
- » Region of Peel
- » William Osler Health Centre / Etobicoke General Hospital
- » Developmental Services Ontario
- » Community Living Mississauga
- » Bridgepoint Hospital
- » Peel Newcomer Strategy Group
- » York Region District School Board
- » St. Michael's Hospital
- » Ontario Works Guelph
- » Healthcare Interpretation Network
- » Elementary Teacher's Federation of Ontario

The department also provided an increased volume of in-person and remote interpretation services assisting immigrants with timely access to health, education and legal services.

#### Highlights

#### **Interpretation Services**

- » 1,953 hours of service were provided in a medical environment
- » Over 580 hours of interpretations were completed for workplace safety and insurance matters
- » 12 corporate clients received interpretation services at multiple locations across the GTA

#### **Translation Services**

» Over 380,000 words were translated in business translation projects

#### Our Translation and Interpretation department is certified through:

- » the Canadian General Standards Board and Standard Council of Canada (Translation Service Standard Certificate of Translation Services)
- » Language Industry Certification System (LICS) as a Community Interpreting Service Provider (CISP).

#### We Are:

#### a proud member of:

- » Association de l'industrie de la langue/Language Industry Association (AILIA)
- » Healthcare Interpretation Network (HIN)

#### and a sponsor of:

» Association of Professional Language Interpreters (APLI)

In addition to these translation and interpretation services, we continued to offer a Core Interpreter Training Program based on the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade (MCIIT) Core Language Interpreter Training Curriculum. This training consists of 85 hours of indepth practical and theoretical training in community interpreting, with a focus on education, health, immigration and settlement services. We also administered the Language Proficiency Test (developed in Ottawa) to evaluate an interpreter's language and interpretation skills. This test is supported by MCIIT and is widely accepted as an appropriate assessment tool for testing proficiency in English and the candidate's other language.

# **STAYING CONNECTED**



Centre for Education and Training

Language Assessment Centres Peel-Halton-Dufferin

PrepCanTCET

TCET reached 1,600 followers on LinkedIn in 2015 with new job postings, workshops, and recruitment events!



Language-Assessment-Ctrs Peel-Halton-Dufferin



www.tcet.com

www.tcet.com/translation

www.lincpeelhalton.com

www.languagepeelhalton.ca

www.clb-osa.ca

www.nclc-ael.ca

www.linchomestudy.ca

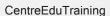
www.linchsnational.ca

www.hartsystem.ca

www.tcet.com/onlineenglishsk

www.prepcan.ca

In 2015, 123,889 people visited www.tcet.com 213,320 times!



NewcomerInfoCentre

Language-Assessment-Ctrs Peel-Halton-Dufferin





Centre.for.Education.and.Training

**EmploymentServices** 

Careercoach.peelregion

NIC Youth TCET

NewcomerInformationCentre

ES4Y.TCET

BridgesToEmploymentProgram

Language. Assessment. Centres. PHD

PrepCanTCET

In 2015, @t\_c\_e\_t hit over 1,900 followers on twitter!

@T\_C\_E\_T

@CareerCoachTCET

@LINCHomeStudy

@lac\_phd

@PrepCanTCET





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Email us at info@tcet.com

## Our Reach

Our services reached clients across Ontario, Canada, and the world.



#### **Our Locations**



50 & 90 Burnhamthorpe Road West MISSISSAUGA



33,32,009,prt, 3244

Career Coach - Mobile Unit PEEL/HALTON/DUFFERIN

OAKVILLE



3233 Brandon Gate Drive MALTON



595 Parliament Street TORONTO



7700 Hurontario Street BRAMPTON

**BRAMPTON** 





420 Highway 7

RICHMOND HILL

#### **Itinerant Services were also provided at:**

Ajax Welcome Centre

Bradford West Gwillimbury Library

Brampton Libraries (4 locations)

Caledon Community Services – (Bolton)

Caledon Libraries (Albion)

Canadian Hearing Society - (Mississauga)

Child Development Resource Connection Peel -

LION mobile RV project in Brampton West

Chinese Association of Mississauga

Community Tradeshow and Job Fair (Brampton)

Cross-Cultural Community Services

Dixie / Dundas Plaza (Mississauga)

Durham Catholic District School Board – Giffard Centre, Whitby

Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre (Oshawa)

Gurdwara Sikh Sangat (Brampton)

Halton Catholic District School Board -

Thomas Merton Centre (Burlington, Milton)

Halton District School Board - (Burlington, Georgetown, Milton)

Heart Lake Plaza (Brampton)

Malton Neighbourhood Services – (Mississauga)

Markham North Welcome Centre

Markham South Welcome Centre

Milton Sports Arena

Newmarket Welcome Centre

Ontario Khalsa Darbar Gurdwara (Mississauga)

Pickering Welcome Centre

Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services (Mississauga)

Richmond Hill Welcome Centre

Rexdale Community Hub

Shopper's World (Brampton)

Simcoe County District School Board - Career Centre (Barrie)

Sri Guru Nanak Sikh Centre (Brampton)

Trinity Mall (Brampton)

Vaughan Welcome Centre

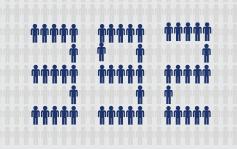
Vietnamese Community Centre of Mississauga

Westwood Mall (Malton)

and a variety of employer work sites across the GTA

# 2015 BY THE

**EMPLOYED** 



FULL-TIME, PART-TIME & CASUAL STAFF

**OPERATEI** 

5 SITES IN PEEL/HALTON,2 IN TORONTO,1 IN YORK AND

MOBILE UNIT

OFFERED ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES AT OVER **50** ITINERANT SITES

#### **PROVIDED SERVICE**

TO OVER **90,000** INDIVIDUALS



AND OVER **950** ORGANIZATIONS/BUSINESSES



#### EMPLOYENT & CAREER

- Almost **25,000** job seekers used our Employment Service Centres
- 5.981 job seekers were provided with 1:1 job search assistance and counseling
- Over **4.600** youth gained skills for career development
- 1,163 youth clients became employed or entered training
- Mobile Career Coach services were provided to 460 clients throughout Peel/Halton and 23 workshops were facilitated
- 25 clients registered in December for our new Preparing to Work in Canada Program

#### SETTLEMENT & LANGUAGE

- Over **12.800** newcomers visited our information and referral centres
- 12,386 newcomers participated in a wide variety of focused workshops
- $\cdot$  30.935 client documents were certified by Commissioners of Oath
- · Care for newcomer children was provided for 3,344 child visits
- $\cdot$  27,253 newcomer client visits to self-directed resource centre
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot 22,935} \text{ newcomer language assessments were completed in Peel/Halton/York/Simcoe/Durham}$
- 24.854 immigrants and potential immigrants from 167 countries accessed our online language assessment
- Distance English language training was provided to 1,951 Ontario students and 1,032 learners in other provinces/territories
- Over **75%** of distance learning students progressed in their studies within **6** months and **188** students graduated from the highest level in 2015
- 98% of distance learning students would recommend the program and felt that it helped them achieve their goals.
- Training and support was provided to staff of 26 Ontario assessment centres and 12 organizations in other provinces
- Professional development was provided to over **280** language teachers and over **90** distance education instructors
- 250 language training organizations used HARTs database management services
- $\cdot$  Over **2,200** database users accessed the system daily and over **30,000** requests were addressed by HARTs helpdesk

# DRIVER EDUCATION

- A **99%** success rate was achieved by **663** drivers' education students
- Over **17** organizations and **110** individuals were provided with interpretation or translation services

# TRANSLATION / INTERPRETATION

# In The Community



#### Organization Partnerships/Relationships

Access Employment

Afghan Women's Organization

AIRS- Inform Canada

Albion Neighbourhood Services

Ascension of Our Lord School

Associated Youth Services (RAIN Program)

Association de L'industrie de la langue/Language

Industry Association.

Association for New Canadians, NL AWIC Community & Social Services

Aurora College, NT

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Halton

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Peel

Bow Valley College, AB

Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library

Brampton Board of Trade

Brampton Implementation Network

Brampton Libraries

Brampton Mayor's Youth Team

Brampton Multicultural Community Centre

Brampton North West Connects

Brampton Small Business Enterprise Centre

Brampton Springdale Network

Brampton Transit

Brian J Flemming Secondary School Building Healthy Communities Network

– Region of Peel

Business Education College

CAA Don Mills

Calgary Immigrant Educational Society, AB Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture

Career Foundations

Carlton Trail Regional College, SK Castlebrook Secondary School Catholic Crosscultural Services

Centennial College

Central Alberta Refugee Effort, AB Central Neighbourhood House

Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society, BC

Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks

Centre for Immigrant & Community Services

Centre for Information & Community Services Centre for Security Training & Management Inc

Centre for Skills Development and Training Child and Youth Engagement Brampton

Child Development Resource Connection Peel

Chilliwack Community Services, BC

City Adult Learning Centre

Canadian Institute of Management and Technology

Coalition for Persons with Disabilities - Peel, Halton, Dufferin

College Boreal

Community Door (Mississauga & Brampton)

Community Matters

Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

**Conflict Resolution Services** 

COSTI

Cowichan Valley Intercultural and Immigrant Aid Society, BC

Credit Canada

Credit Counselling Services of Canada Cumberland Regional College, SK

Dixon Hall

Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre

Don Mills Library

Don Valley Employment Solutions

Downtown Toronto Employment Partnership Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Durham Catholic District School Board

Durham District School Board - Continuing Education
Durham Region Language Training Partnership Committee

Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre

English Online Inc., BC

Elder Technology Assistance Group (Miss & Br)

Family Services of Peel

Find Help

First Work Central Region

Fred Victor

Gateway Café- Danforth George Brown College Georgian College

Global Experience Ontario

Golden Mile Employment & Social Services

Great Plains College, SK Gurdwara Seik Sangat

Halton ESINC Planning Group

Halton Industry and Education Council

Halton Newcomer Strategy Group: Steering and Service

Coordination Working Groups Halifax Regional School Board, NS

Halton Catholic District School Board - Adult Learning Centre

Healthcare Interpretation Network

HealthForceOntario Humber College

Immigrant Language and Vocational Assessment

Referral Centre, AB

Immigrant & Multicultural Services Society of Prince

George, BC

Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia, NS Immigrant Settlement and Integration Services, NS Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria, BC International Women of Saskatoon Inc., SK Iranian Women's Organization of Ontario

Japanese Social Services
Jewish Immigrant Aid Services

Job Skills

John Howard Society of Toronto Centre

Jewish Vocational Services Karen Ziemann Consulting, AB Labour Education Centre

Language Assessment Services of Nova Scotia (LASNS)

Legal Aid Ontario

Lesmills Employment & Social Services
LINC Home Study Canada Working Group

Lower Similkameen Community Services Society, BC

Maestro Quality

Malton Inter-Agency Network Malton Neighbourhood Services

Medix College of Healthcare and North American

Trade School

Metro-Region Immigrant Language Services, NS

Microskills East

#### continued

Mississauga Board of Trade Peel/Halton Workforce Development Group The Community Share Food Bank Mississauga Brampton Employment Services Network Peel/Halton/Dufferin Employment Information Network The Cross-Cultural Community Services Association Mississauga Community Legal Services Peel Halton Dufferin - Executive Council and Settlement The Learning Place The Salvation Army Honeychurch Family Life and Mississauga Employment Services Network Partnership Groups Peel Halton Dufferin - Language Training Partnership Mississauga Libraries Resource Centre Monsieur Fraser College Peel Regional Police Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office Moose Jaw Multicultural Council, SK PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada Times Change Multicultural Association of Fredericton, NB Penticton and District Multi Cultural Society, BC Toastmasters of Canada Multicultural Association of the Greater Moncton Area, NB Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services Toronto Centre Service Delivery Network Multicultural and Immigrant Services Association of Progress Career Planning Institute Toronto North Local Immigration Partnership Queen and Kennedy Networking Meetings Toronto Region Board of Trade North Vancouver Island Multicultural Centre of the Yukon, YT Royal Canadian Mounted Police Toronto South Local Immigration Partnership Regina Open Door Society, SK Muslim Community Services Trios College National Language Advisory Body (IRCC) Region of Peel United Way of Peel Region of Peel-Volunteers United Way of Peel Diversity Council New Directions North Regional Diversity Roundtable New Page Human Services Society, BC University of Guelph -Humber Renewed Computer Technology Newcomer Centre of Peel University of Ontario Institute of Technology Newcomer Information Centre Saskatoon, SK Rexdale Community Hub University Settlement Newcomer Services YMCA Simcoe/Muskoka Victoria Village Hub Right Managemet Northwest Community College, BC Sal Programs-Peel Volunteer Halton NorQuest College, AB Saint John YM-YWCA, NB Volunteer MBC North Island College, BC Scarborough Centre for Alternative Studies Welcome Centre Immigrant Services - Durham Region North West Regional College, SK Seneca College Welcome Centre Immigrant Services - York Region Oakville Child and Youth Network Service Canada-Peel WellFort Service Canada-Toronto William Osler Health Centre Oakville Libraries Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants Sheridan College William Osler Health System Foundation **ONESTEP** Shuswap Settlement Services Society, BC Windfall Women's New Beginning Program Ontario Association of Youth Employment Centres -Simcoe County District School Board - Career Centre Skills for Change Working Skills Centre First Work Ontario Khalsa Darbar Gurdwara Smithers Community Services Association, BC World Education Services YMCA of Greater Saint John, NB Overlea, Springhurst & Victoria LINC, Toronto Social Enterprise for Canada Parkland College, SK Southeast Regional College, SK Yonge Street Mission Paye Program, Toronto Centre Southern Alberta Language Assessment Services, AB York Region District School Board Peel Adult Learning Centre Sri Guru Nanak Sikh Centre York Region Catholic District School Board Peel Career Assessment Services St Gabriel Adult Learning Centre York/Simcoe Language Training Partnership Peel Children's Aid Foundation St James Town Community Corner Yorkton Newcomer Welcome Centre, SK Peel Chinese Association of Mississauga

Youth Employment Services Youth Employment Toronto

Youth Empowerment Community Initiative (Malton)

Youth Link

YWCA Prince Albert, SK

YWCA (Toronto)

Peel Newcomer Strategy Group - Communications,

Economic and Social Inclusion Groups

Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network

Peel District School Board

Peel Multicultural Council

St. James Town Service Providers Network

St. James Town Youth Network St. Stephen's Community House

TESL Canada TESL Ontario

**TESOC Multicultural Settlement Services** 

## Our Leadership Team

#### **Board of Directors**

» Jeff Brown

Chair of the Board

» Farhad Sethna

Board Vice-Chair and Human Resources & Compensation Committee

» Ben Earle

Board Member and Chair of the Governance & Nominating Committee

» Andrew Gall

Board Member and Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee

» Epsit Jajal

Board Member and Finance & Audit Committee

» Pav Kahlon

Board Member and Finance & Audit Committee

» Ernie Lynch

Board Member and Chair of the Human Resources & Compensation Committee

» Robert Murison

Board Member and Finance & Audit Committee

» Jillian Siskind

Board Member and Governance & Nominating Committee

» Pamela Wong

Board Member and Human Resources & Compensation Committee

#### **Committee Members**

» Adnan Masood

Governance & Nominating Committee

» Anum Kazi

Governance & Nominating Committee

» Desmond Alvares

Governance & Nominating Committee

» Jay Adhvaryu

Finance & Audit Committee

» Martina Wood

Human Resources & Compensation Committee

#### **Executive Team**

» Merv Hillier

Chief Executive Officer

» David Lew

Chief Human Resources Officer & Chief Privacy Officer

» Robert Olson

Chief Operations Officer

» Karen McNeil

Director, Language Services

» Moya MacKinnon

Director, Employment & Newcomer Information Services

» Polly Yawney

Director, Finance



#### **CORPORATE HEAD OFFICE:**

90 Burnhamthorpe Road West, Suite 210, Mississauga, ON L5B 3C3 905.949.0049 info@tcet.com | www.tcet.com

#### MANY OF OUR PROGRAMS ARE FUNDED BY:



Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada















