

# What's Happening?



FEBRUARY 2020

WWW.TESLNB.CA

*Here's to 2020: a year of growth and new opportunities!*

Hello TESL NB members:



I hope winter is treating you kindly wherever you live in our beautiful province. For some of you it's time to stay snug and warm while others enjoy outdoor sports like skiing, skating or snowmobiling. I know many newcomers to this province, especially those from warmer climates, find excitement in trying new winter activities.

January and February find me considering the year ahead and professional development. In past years, when I taught at MCAF, I wanted to find ways to make my classes more interesting. Currently, as president of TESLNB, I hope to grow professionally, especially as an engaged and productive member of the board. With this in mind, I was happy to be a part of TESLNB's first webinar of 2020, with Dr. Scott Douglas of the University of British Columbia.

Dr. Douglas delved deeply into lexical thresholds for reading and writing, and instructional strategies that support vocabulary development. In the spirit of collaboration, TESLNB invited other TESL Canada members from across the country, and had over 100 participants register. Thank you to Dr. Douglas for sharing your knowledge and for allowing your PowerPoints to be posted to [www.teslnb.ca](http://www.teslnb.ca). The board will be looking at ideas for future events or webinars; if you have suggestions, please email them to me at [teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com](mailto:teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com).



*Vocabulary Thresholds for Reading and Writing: Targets for English Language Learners, a webinar presented by Dr. Scott Douglas of UBC Okanagan, January 2020*

The next opportunity for professional development is the TESL Atlantic 2020 Conference, April 30 to May 2, in Halifax. Please see the rest of this newsletter for more details, and our website. The conference is offered at a discounted rate to members, with bursaries also available. Look forward to seeing you at the TESL Atlantic 2020 Conference!

Donna Hoffman, *TESL NB President*

TESL NB exists because of, and for, its members. To get involved or just connect with like-minded individuals, email [teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com](mailto:teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com) or visit us at [www.teslnb.ca](http://www.teslnb.ca).

## Professional Learning Opportunity in early May

TESL NB has been working collaboratively with partner organization TESL Nova Scotia to plan an exciting professional learning and networking opportunity for members. **TESL Atlantic, Towards Resilience, Wellness and Empowerment**, takes place April 30 – May 2, 2020 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

TESL Atlantic will feature several keynote speakers, including Patrice Palmer on “Wellness for All in Education: A Lofty Goal?” Other keynotes will include Lisa Herrera on settlement language instruction, and Julia Williams on English for Academic Purposes. In addition to the keynote addresses, feature speakers are also planned. TESL NB’s own Ryan O’Shea will be one of them, on “Empowering Learners to Take Ownership of Their Learning in a PBLA Classroom.”

We hope to see you there! Please consider not only attending, but also sharing your knowledge and experiences! The **Call for Presenters** is open until February 21, 2020. Send in your proposal here: <https://teslnb.ca/events/1766/>, and be sure to apply for a travel bursary, too! ➡



### TESL NB offers Travel Bursaries to members to attend TESL Atlantic!

Three travel bursaries of \$200 are available, and two additional travel bursaries of \$200 are available to *presenters*! If you are a member in good standing, and are willing to put together a short summary of your experience at TESL Atlantic for the TESL NB *What's Happening* news, apply for the bursary now with an email to [teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com](mailto:teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com).

## In Focus: Patrice Palmer to speak at TESL Atlantic on Wellness for Teachers

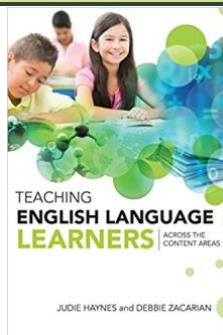


Patrice Palmer has more than 23 years' experience as an ESL teacher, trainer and writer in Canada and Hong Kong. She has taught students from 8 to 80 in a variety of programs. Patrice has an M.Ed., M.A., and certificates in Positive Psychology and Positive Education. She recently completed mindfulness facilitator training and has taken several courses in compassion fatigue to enhance her work with educators. Patrice's new book, *The Teacher Self-Care Manual: Simple Strategies for Stressed Teachers* is available on Amazon. Patrice is looking forward to giving a keynote address and facilitating a workshop at TESL Atlantic in Halifax.

## Book Recommendation for Teaching Language and Content:

*Teaching English Language Learners Across the Content Areas* by Judie Haynes and Debbie Zacarian.

Become a new member of TESL NB in February 2020 and your name will be entered in a draw to win this book!



## Website recommendation:

ELL teacher and trainer Tan Huynh created “Bathroom Briefs” as a simple, easy way to share strategies with teachers at his school. You can find them all on his website, [www.empoweringells.com](http://www.empoweringells.com). If you use them, let him know on Twitter @TanELLclassroom.

Teachers need to give encouragement and praise for what ELLs can do instead of dwelling on all that they can't yet do by providing frequent opportunities for their success. ~ *Judie Haynes, in Education Week Teacher*