

TESL New Brunswick

October 2021

Fall Newsletter



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As a member of TESL NB, you are automatically a member of TESL Canada. Remember to check www.tesl.ca and @TESLCanada for updates on Professional Learning session for members, bursary opportunities, updated standards for certification, and more.

Both TESL NB and TESL Canada also send out updates via email, so please check that you are receiving these important messages. For example, TESL Canada recently alerted members via email of a new partnership with ESL Library, and of a new Members-Only Exclusive Benefits Plan for Health Insurance. The September 2021 TESL Canada Connects newsletter can be found here: <https://mailchi.mp/3a3986238071/tesl-canada-connects-879884>

TESL Canada's Educational Foundation (TCEF) regularly offers professional learning grants to members. The fall deadline for application just passed, but keep eyes peeled for winter or spring opportunities.



What's Happening?

Hello TESL NB Members,

Welcome to the Fall Edition of TESL NB's newsletter. On behalf of the Executive of TESL NB, I am excited to highlight the following with full details found in the newsletter: Professional Learning opportunities, upcoming conference dates, TESL NB AGM date, and a new TESL Canada health benefit! As you will see, there are lots of opportunities for you to develop, engage and network this fall.

Professional learning opportunities include:

- **TESL NB** - an evening presentation on Thursday December 2nd at 7pm AST with Dr. Anea Wilbur on *The 6 Principles for Teaching of English Learners - Adult Education and Workforce Development*. The **TESL NB AGM** will follow at 8pm.
- **TESL NS** - Professional Learning event November 27 from 9am -3pm on the virtual platform-Pheedloop.
- **TESL NL** - November 19-20, 2021. The theme is Teaching ESL through the Pandemic: Reflections and New Realities.



Donna Hoffman

Conference to watch for:

- TESOL International Convention & English Language Expo March Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA, 22-25 March 2022. This is a hybrid conference with details found at: <https://www.tesol.org/attend-and-learn/international-convention>

TESL Canada Health Benefit: TESL Canada is pleased to announce the addition of a health benefit to its members. As you are automatically a member of TESL Canada with TESL NB membership, for more information, please follow the attached link or email info@brunswickfinancial.ca <https://www.tesl.ca/membership/membership-benefits.html>

Donna

Donna Hoffman, President TESL NB

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jack Watson - recipient of the TESL NB lifetime membership award



Jon (Jack) Watson

Retirement and Recognition **Jon (Jack) Watson** (BA, BEd, MA) started working at the UNBF English Language Programme in 1983. Since that time, he has served in many roles and is currently a Facilitator/Administrator and E-Learning Coordinator. Jack has been part of TESL NB for decades and in the late 90's served as President. Jack played a distinguished role as part of TESOL's Computer-Assisted Language Learning Interest Section team and also served as Chair of the Electronic Village Events Coordinator and Webcast Organizer. Jack's passion and dedication to the field of ESOL has been demonstrated in his invaluable contribution and exemplary commitment to the University of New Brunswick English Language Programme, TESL NB, and TESOL International Association.

The TESL NB executive wishes Jack well in his retirement and in recognition of his dedication to the field of ESOL, we are presenting him with a lifetime Membership to TESL NB.
Thank you Jack!



“When you know your why, your what becomes more clear and impactful.”

~Michael Jr.

Recipients of the fall TESL NB Professional Learning Bursaries for Members

Congratulations to TESL NB members **Vicki MacDonald, Shannon Despres and Bryna Dickson Roper** who will be attending the fall conference put on by our sister organization, Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language (ATESL). The theme of the ATESL Conference this year, happening October 15-16, is Lighting the Future: Expanding Expectations.

Get to know a TESLNB Member



Darlene Whitehouse-Sheehan

Name: Darlene Whitehouse-Sheehan

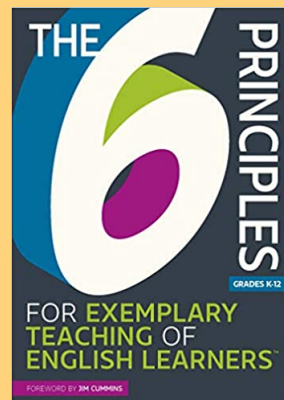
Position: Part-time Instructor and Supervisor at St. Thomas University

My favourite thing about these two positions is having opportunities to share instructional practices and engage in professional conversations with teacher candidates about current successes and challenges they are experiencing as they embark upon their teaching journey. As a former educator in the public education system, I find the enthusiasm and innovative ideas of teacher candidates to be inspiring. I love hearing about how they engage their students and personalize learning while creating an inclusive learning environment in their classrooms. I learn much from them and appreciate their openness to professional collaboration.

Something I recently learned is to design and teach an online course. Initially, it was a somewhat intimidating experience, however, as the process unfolded, I was reminded regularly of an important teaching principle that making mistakes is indeed a part of learning. The kindness of teacher candidates and colleagues in helping me with technical difficulties is gratifying, and a great reminder that as teachers we do not need to have all the answers.

Professional book recommendation:

The 6 Principles for Exemplary Teaching of English Learners K-12 by the TESOL International Association Writing Team



– Deborah Short, Helene Becker, Nancy Cloud, Andrea B. Hellman, and Linda New Levine.

I would recommend this book for a couple of reasons. I really appreciate how the authors envelop five of the teaching principles and related practices around the importance of “knowing your learners.” This resonates deeply with me as I believe knowing your learners is foundational to other practices. I also find the explanations of the teaching principles are clear and enhanced with classroom examples which bring the ideas to life. Finally, I really like how the authors thread the sixth principle, the importance of working collaboratively, throughout the other exemplary practices.

Favourite Quote:

“No one can know all there is to know about educating diverse learners and, collectively all of us are smarter than one of us alone.” (Lave & Wenger, 1991 cited by authors of the book, p. 63)





Personal reading recommendation:

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michelle Richardson

Favourite Quote:

“Well, them cloths are a lot like folks. Ain’t much difference at all. Some is more spiffed up than others, some stiffer, and still, some softer. There’s the colourful and dull, ugly and pretty, old and new ‘uns. But in the end we’s all fabric, cut from His cloth.... I know you’re a Blue, but these old eyes don’t care, nor feels the colors none. It feels the heart, child.”

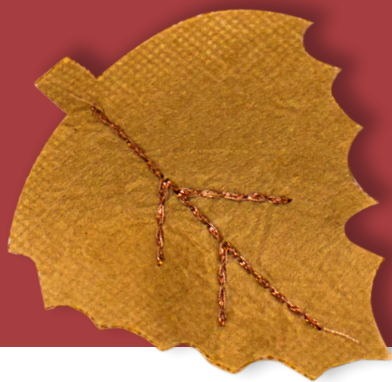
The story is set in Kentucky in the 1930s where an historical, blue-skinned young woman engages in the Pack Horse library service. She demonstrates tremendous commitment and perseverance to bring reading materials and literacy to impoverished mountain folks while at the same time contending with oppressive intolerance and poverty. It is a powerful and emotionally gripping story with strong messages for the reader.

Goal over the next few months:

I most recently decided when interactions with others are somewhat limited due to the pandemic that each week I would reach out to a friend or colleague with whom I have not been in contact for several years. To date, it has been wonderful to rekindle such acquaintances. I have made a list of names that takes me to the middle of November and am hoping I will continue my goal until at least the end of the year.

Something that inspires me is the understanding and wisdom of young children and youth. I spend a lot of time with my grandchildren who are between the ages of seven and nine and I am always amazed at their openness to try new ideas or activities, the creative solutions they offer to challenges or problems, as well as the honest perspectives they frequently share. I believe we can learn a lot by genuinely listening to children and youth. To me, they are often inspirational.





Upcoming Events

TESL NB Professional Learning (PL) and Annual General Meeting (AGM): Thursday December 2nd at 7pm AST, via Zoom.

Dr. Anea Wilbur of the University of the Fraser Valley, will present *TESOL 6 Principles for Teaching English Learners*. Dr. Wilbur is the TESL Coordinator for UFV and the author of *The 6 Principles for Teaching of English Learners – Adult Education and Workforce Development*. **Register by November 18th** by emailing teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com. Following the PL session will be the TESL NB AGM. More details will be shared by email later in the fall.

TESL NL event: November 19-20, 2021. The theme is *Teaching ESL through the Pandemic: Reflections and New Realities*. <http://teslnl.ca/>
Contact teslnl@hotmail.com.

TESL Nova Scotia event: Saturday November 27, 2021 from 9am -3pm on the virtual platform-Pheedloop. Any TESL NB members who wish to attend can submit proof of payment to TESL NB for reimbursement. Any TESL NB members who would like to present can answer the call for proposals at <https://teslins.com/conference/>.

TESOL International Spring Convention (hybrid)- March 22-25, 2022. TESL NB will offer two early bird bursaries for the virtual registration fee. More details to come. <https://www.tesol.org/attend-and-learn/international-convention>



TESL NB gives out 7 free memberships

As an affiliate of TESOL International Association TESL NB is able to give out 7 free memberships to people who have never had a TESOL membership and are a member in good standing with TESL NB.

The cost of a Professional TESOL membership is \$105USD. This is a great opportunity to access a wide range of resources and networks in the field of ESOL.

Here are some of the benefits: <https://www.tesol.org/about-tesol/membership/membership-benefits>

If you are interested, please write to Colleen Meagher (TESOL Rep for TESL NB) at teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com if you have questions or to request a form.



Contact Us

Calling New Board Members!

The TESL NB Annual General Meeting is coming up on December 2nd at 8 pm AST, via Zoom. Please consider reaching out to the President or any of the Board Members to discuss the possibility of getting involved, or even putting your name forward for one of the Board positions or committees.

Current Board Members are:

Donna Hoffman – President* *Nominations are limited to a present board member for this position, which will become vacant at the AGM.*

Past President: Corey Harvey

Co-Secretaries / Co-Treasurers: Darlene Whitehouse-Sheehan and Paula Kristmanson

Social Media & Public Relations: Erica Thomas and Geoff North

Newsletter Editor: Kathy Whynot* *Nominations are open for this position, which will become vacant at the AGM.*

TESL Canada Rep: Andrea Leitch-Blake

Member-at-Large: Colleen Meagher (TESOL Rep)

Member-at-Large: Chantal Lafargue

Member-at-Large: Yao Bian (Beryl)

TESL NB

TESL NB is a professional organization affiliated with TESL Canada that aims to support ESL and EAL teachers and instructors working in a variety of institutions in the province of New Brunswick.

TESL NB provides ESL/EAL educators with a venue for professional networking and professional development opportunities. We welcome new members!

To find out more visit: www.teslnb.ca/join-us/



LET'S CONNECT!

- www.teslnb.ca
- Facebook at [TESLNB](#)
- Twitter [@TESL_NB](#)
- teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com

Please reach out if you want to get involved or know more. We believe in the power and importance of professional connections.

