



**TESL New Brunswick Fall Newsletter
November 2025**

What's Happening?

Message from the TESL NB President

Happy Fall everyone! After such a hot dry summer, I am grateful for the cooler days not to mention the gorgeous Fall colours!

To keep you up-to-date on TESL NB news and EAL happenings, we have another extraordinary newsletter for you. From professional learning highlights to teaching-tips this newsletter has it all.

In the spirit of life-long learning, again this Fall, TESL NB is pleased to be offering two \$500 bursaries for professional learning/training in the field of EAL. Check out **page 4** for more information and application details.

Also, keep your calendars free for the evening of **November 27th for the TESL NB Annual General Meeting**. AND if you have ever thought about getting more involved in TESL NB, our board is looking to add some new members. In the near future, we will be looking to fill the roles of TESOL Representative, Secretary, and Newsletter editor. If you would like more information on how to become a board member email us at teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!



Sincerely,
Erica Thomas
TESL NB President



**Apple Picking Season,
Quispamsis, NB**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letter from the TESL NB president.....1

Get to Know a TESL Member..... 2

TESL NB Annual General Meeting3

Fall 2025 Bursaries.....4

Teaching Tip.....5

Your National Organization.....6

Contact Us.....6

Get to Know a TESL NB Member: The Journey

Submitted by Joanne Marquis-Charron



Learning, like life, is a journey. I found my way to TESOL just three years ago.

After graduating from UNB with a business degree, I attended Universite Laval to take French Second Language. I then worked in Quebec City in medical sales for 2 years.

Returning to New Brunswick, I worked mostly in Fredericton, first in economic development. A chance meeting with my mentor, Marg Wall at UNB Department of Extension, opened my eyes to the world of adult education. In the ensuing years, I obtained both a Diploma in Education from St. Francis Xavier University and a Masters in Adult Education from UNB.

I worked in many contract positions, specializing in program development and management for a wide variety of learning programs (leadership, entrepreneurship, safety, employer-specific, college and professional programs etc). My facilitation experience however remained limited, and I had always hoped that someday I would teach.

Why TESOL?

Approaching retirement, I knew that I wanted to teach something. I had so admired my teachers at Universite Laval; they made learning the language fun and I was surprised that I could speak at a basic level after only a few months. Also, years go, I had taught a two-day course on customer service for a newcomer group, and they really touched my heart. One of the learners realized it was my birthday and then each learner sang the Happy Birthday song to me in their native language. It made me realize that newcomers are motivated to learn and are very appreciative.

I completed the TESOL program in 2022, but because of family commitments I have only been volunteering for the last 1.5 years. I assisted a newcomer in college to write her resume and prepare for interviews (as well as several of her friends.) I have been helping a young woman from Ecuador learn English for more than a year. She has a working visa and her next goal is to apply for permanent residence next year. We have just received her practice manuals for the IETLS.

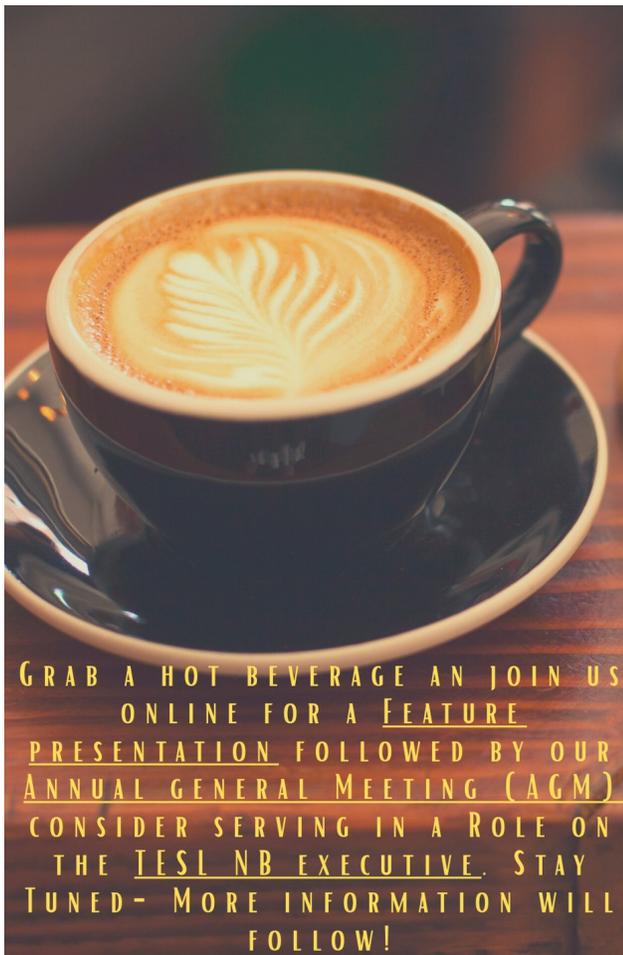
My Family

My husband Andre and I moved to the Quispamsis area in 2021. We have two adult children; Simone who lives in Halifax and Ben (Victoria) who lives in Ottawa. We like to stay active, travel and read.

Attention Members! Save the date!

TESL NB's Annual General Meeting is coming up soon. Enjoy a Professional Development presentation, an opportunity to win prizes and more!

We look forward to seeing you there. See details below:



It's that time of the year again...

TESL
NB
Fall
AGM

Save the date:

Thursday November

27, 2025 at 7pm

Attention! Fall 2025 Bursary Applications Available



The Association of New Brunswick Teachers
of English as an Additional Language

Fall 2025 Bursaries

Application Requirements:

- Be a current member of TESL NB in good standing.
- Submit a 200-word letter outlining how this event or training will enrich your skills.
- Attend, in person or virtually, a conference, professional learning event, course or training related to the field of EAL.
- Bursary is to be applied to registration, and/or travel and lodging if the event is in-person.
- Receipts are required for payment.
- Bursary recipients will also be asked to submit a write-up for publication in TESL NB's newsletter to share what insights you gained from your experience.

TESL NB is offering two **\$500 bursaries** to attend a virtual or in-person conference, professional learning event, course or training related to the field of EAL.

Application due date:

Friday, December 19th, 2025

Application forms can be found at:
<https://teslnb.ca/category/bursaries/>

Should you have any questions, please contact teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com.

Please submit all required documents by e-mail to teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com by Friday, December 19th, 2025.
Subject: Bursary

teslnewbrunswick@gmail.com 

TESL NB's Teaching Tip

Have a focus

Once you have gotten to know your students and their language needs, it is important to be explicit about the focus of each lesson or activity. Students should know what the language focus is for every class, as this will help them be able to focus on the quality of their language production as opposed to the quantity.



Using a language focus also reinforces the reality that students cannot do everything at once. Having a focus means that students can zone in on one area of development that needs improvement. A specific language focus could be for a day, a week, or whatever time period makes sense with your course or program.

One way to help with this is to make focus dots that a student can wear for a day or for the week. This means they have made a commitment to work directly on that particular focus, while indirectly working on other components at the same time.

Submitted by Geoff



Upcoming TESL Professional Development Opportunity

TESL Ontario Annual Virtual Conference

November 19-21, 2025



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. Visit www.teslnb.ca/join-us/ to find out more.

LET'S CONNECT!

- www.teslnb.ca
- Facebook at TESLNB
- X@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.



YOUR NATIONAL ORGANIZATION



TESL CANADA

Teachers of English as a Second Language - Canada

TESL Canada Membership

Just a reminder that all ATESL, TESL SK, TESL MB, TESL NB, TESL NS, and TEAL NL members are automatically TESL Canada members and that a portion of your provincial association membership fee (\$16/member) also gives you a TESL Canada membership.

In addition, please note that TESL Canada is the only national certification endorsed by these provincial affiliates. You can find out more about TESL Canada certification here: <https://tesl.ca/certification/tesl-canada-professional-certification.html>

If you have any questions about TESL Canada certification, please email admin@tesl.ca

Source: TESL Canada website [About Membership - TESL Canada](#)

For more information about TESL Canada conferences, publications, jobs and more, please check out the TESL Canada website @ <https://www.tesl.ca>



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Our mailing address is:

TESL Canada
PO Box 30001 Prospect Plaza
Fredericton, NB E3B 0H8
Canada