



Inside La langue Language en coulisse

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From the Executive Director

Since our last newsletter was published three months ago, we've been busy finishing a series of important projects and preparing for our annual audit for the March 31 fiscal year-end, gearing up to begin new projects in April and preparing for our annual Board meeting and AGM

(held again in Ottawa this year, from June 5 to 7).

The list of activities that the Centre is carrying out is impressive, as shown in this newsletter. As a result, the Centre continues to build its reputation as the national centre of expertise in language benchmarks.

Two employees recently completed their contracts with the Centre: François Zamor and Yves Laforest. Two employees left the Centre for maternity reasons: Colette Pépin and Stephanie Pagé.

I'm happy to confirm that on the occasion of our annual Board meeting, the Centre will be unveiling its new and improved website during the first week of June.

On behalf of CCLB, thank you for your interest in the Centre's work and best wishes for a wonderful summer!

-François Bélisle

Message du directeur général

Dans les trois mois qui ont suivi la publication de notre dernier bulletin de nouvelles, nous avons été occupés à achever une série de projets importants et à nous préparer à la vérification comptable pour la fin d'exercice financier au 31 mars, à commencer de nouveaux projets en avril, ainsi qu'à nous préparer à la rencontre annuelle de notre Conseil d'administration et notre AGA (tenues encore à Ottawa cette année, du 5 au 7 juin).

La liste des activités du Centre est impressionnante, comme vous pouvez en juger d'après ce bulletin et les précédents. Le CNCLC continue donc à bâtir sa réputation de centre d'expertise national en matière d'étalonnage linguistique.

Deux employés ont récemment complété leur contrat au Centre : François Zamor et Yves Laforest. Deux employées ont quitté pour des raisons de maternité : Colette Pépin et Stephanie Pagé.

Au nom du CNCLC, je vous remercie de l'intérêt que vous portez au Centre et vous souhaite à tous et à toutes un merveilleux été!

-François Bélisle

Lignes directrices

Lignes directrices pour le programme de français langue seconde (FLS) pour adultes, ne donnant pas droit à des crédits

Projet financé par le Ministère des Affaires civiques de l'Ontario

Le projet d'élaboration de lignes directrices pour les cours FLS progresse bien. C'est un portail très convivial et interactif qui sera mis à la disposition des formateurs en mars 2014.

Les formateurs auront accès à un outil de planification de cours interactif. En plus de donner accès à une banque de ressources, le planificateur fournira des gabarits pour l'évaluation des besoins, l'élaboration d'unités de cours ou encore de création d'activités d'apprentissage.

Des modules offrent de l'information, des ressources et des idées d'activités, selon quatre thèmes : l'emploi, l'éducation, la vie dans une communauté francophone en situation minoritaire et les services. Les formateurs pourront aussi y trouver des exemples d'unités de cours pour différents niveaux d'apprenants.

Le CLICenLigne.ca



Le CNCLC a terminé la rédaction des activités d'apprentissage pour le CLICenLigne.ca. Nous nous concentrons maintenant sur l'enseignement du cours. Les apprenants inscrits profitent bien des classes virtuelles et des activités en ligne.

Nous vous invitons à visiter le portail du cours au www.CLICenLigne.ca.

Élaboration du test de rendement

Le CNCLC a entrepris la phase II de l'élaboration du test de rendement. Financé par CIC, ce test est élaboré à partir des principes de la BTC, mais celui-ci sera utilisé dans des contextes à enjeux élevés.

L'équipe a fait une pré étude du test, en mars 2013. Une centaine d'apprenants des cours CLIC et FLS ont bien voulu se soumettre au test. Les résultats préliminaires sont très positifs, malgré certaines corrections ou

modifications à apporter. Bien sûr il faudra attendre la grande validation de l'automne pour confirmer la validité du test.

Au cours de l'été, l'équipe apportera les modifications nécessaires et réunira différents comités afin de faire valider les critères métrologiques et la méthodologie ainsi que vérifier les questions de sensibilités culturelles.

NCLC : Trousse de soutien

Le CNCLC s'affaire à mettre la dernière touche à la Trousse de soutien, un guide d'accompagnement aux NCLC. Financée par le ministère des Affaires civiques et de l'Immigration (MACI) de l'Ontario, la trousse est une ressource qui aidera les formateurs de FLS à se familiariser avec la plus récente version des NCLC et à les appliquer en salle de classe.

La trousse comprendra les sections suivantes :

- un guide d'utilisation des NCLC révisés;
- une discussion sur l'intégration de la grammaire, de la prononciation et de la pragmatique dans un programme fondé sur les NCLC;
- une section sur l'utilisation des NCLC dans des contextes particuliers, y compris les classes à niveaux multiples, le français aux fins d'études postsecondaires et le français pour le milieu de travail;
- des textes et des tâches de compréhension de l'oral et de l'écrit pour chacun des 12 niveaux, ainsi que des copies types pour l'expression orale et écrite;
- une version mise à jour des listes *Je suis capable de...*;
- des outils et gabarits pour la planification de leçons pouvant être adaptés à un usage individuel.

Des ateliers de formation sont prévus à l'automne. Les ateliers seront offerts aux formateurs qui enseignent dans le cadre du programme de FLS pour adultes ne donnant pas droit à des crédits offert par le MACI.

TESL Ontario

Planning for the annual TESL Ontario conference in Toronto has begun with an analysis of feedback on the seventeen CLB workshops CCLB offered at the 2012 conference. Recommendations are being made in light of teacher needs as the Centre makes decisions on the types of new workshops CCLB will offer teachers at the 2013 TESL Ontario conference this fall.

WLA Training for CLARS Assessment Centres



With the new Coordinated Language Assessment and Referral System (CLARS) now in both soft and hard launch across Ontario, Ontario's Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration is funding CCLB to offer 2-day training sessions on the Workplace Language Assessment (WLA) tool for up to 40 CLB Ontario assessors.

This tool is designed to assess English language proficiency at Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) 7 to 10 for placement into workplace-training programs or bridging programs. It is MCI's goal that there be at least one assessor at each CLARS centre capable of administering the WLA, knowing that in some communities there may be several CLARS assessors certified to administer the assessment. CLARS sites will be contacted in the coming months regarding upcoming training dates. This project runs until September 2014.

Orientation for the Revised CLB and the CLB Support Kit for Instructors

This spring has been a busy time for CCLB as the Centre begins to wrap up a portion of the teacher training project on the revised Canadian Language Benchmarks document and the Support Kit. Practitioners may find the revised CLB, the Support Kit and the exemplars on <http://bookshelf.language.ca>.

Ontario

The training, funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), Ontario Region was successfully completed at the end of March. All supporting documents were analyzed and a final report was submitted to CIC. CCLB held 23 training sessions across Ontario for LINC, OSLT and ELT teachers. Overall, 232 teachers were trained to be lead teachers and are expected to deliver the workshop at their own school to their colleagues.

Training funded by the province of Ontario's Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) continues for teachers teaching ESL in school board settings. CCLB was active this spring presenting informational sessions on the revised CLB at many regional TESL conferences including Ottawa, London, Hamilton and Toronto. These end-user sessions are very useful and provide a great overview of the revised CLB and Support Kit. Sessions were well attended by ESL teachers, including newly certified and occasional, and TESL students.

Alberta, Atlantic and Saskatchewan

With funding from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), CCLB provided train-the-trainer sessions across Canada for CIC-funded programs. The training project successfully concluded at the end of March with a total of 10 training sessions conducted in 5 provinces. 165 teachers were trained as lead teachers; they went on to introduce the revised CLB and the Support Kit to their colleagues in workshops at their school. One instructor wrote to the Centre: "Every feature was useful and relevant".



Alberta Human Services provided additional funding to CCLB to offer three one-day train-the-trainer sessions on the revised CLB with CLB Support Kits for up to sixty participants from Alberta non-LINC service provider organizations.

British Columbia

Training sessions for British Columbia ELSA Net instructors on the revised CLB and Support Kit started in March throughout the province. Five BC trainers were selected by CCLB through an RFP process. ELSA Net will deliver 5 sessions in total. Feedback is very positive as teachers gain more information about the revisions and how to use the Support Kit for classroom planning and assessment.

Manitoba

Funded by the province, training sessions were held in Winnipeg and Brandon and the train-the-trainer roll-out was successfully implemented for ESL teachers. Comments on the training included: "It was great to practice finding our way around the new document. There are some great features in the two documents. Thank you!"

Language Assessment Guide for Learners

CCLB, in partnership with the Centre for Education & Training, has developed a bilingual *Language Assessment Guide* to help language learners understand the assessment process from start to finish.

CCLB's work on this project included conducting focus groups to assess the information needs of FSL learners and assessors as well as adapting and translating the guide to French.

The guide aims to:

- strengthen learners' understanding of the assessment process;
- help language assessors answer common learner questions about the assessment process;
- assist other stakeholders in understanding the role assessments play in the language assessment and training process.

The transadaptation of the guide was completed at the end of March. We are awaiting MCI's final approval before printing and distributing it. A limited number of copies of the guide will be distributed to Francophone stakeholders. The guide will also be posted on the CCLB website.



Can Do Statements

CCLB has been working with the Government of Manitoba to develop "Can Do Statements" based on the revised CLB. Two CLB experts provided advice and suggestions on audience, content and design. The "Can Do Statements" are intended to be used by learners to help them identify some of the tasks that a learner at each Benchmark can do. The statements are currently being field-tested in Manitoba and in other parts of Canada.

CCLB Representation and Outreach

- 14-16 March 2013 – Metropolis Conference (exhibit and conference participation) with several CCLB staff attending all or part of this worthwhile conference at the Ottawa Convention Centre.
- 27 March 2013 – M. Kaye participated as the CCLB observer member on the CESBA (Ontario Association of Adult and Continuing Education School Board Administrators) ESL/FSL Advisory Committee.

Developing a Plan for Revision of the *CLB 2000: ESL for Literacy Learners* Document

This initiative was funded by the Government of Alberta in the last part of 2012-2013 and provided an opportunity for CCLB to consult with ESL Literacy practitioners and to develop a plan for revising the *CLB 2000: ESL for Literacy Learners* document. The Government of Manitoba, with funding from Citizenship & Immigration Canada, is working with CCLB to revise this document in 2013-2014. After an RFP process, Bow Valley College in Calgary was selected as the lead consultant on this project. They have extensive experience in the area of ESL literacy and research. In February and March 2013, Bow Valley and CCLB were able to:

- consult with over 150 ESL literacy stakeholders (assessors, instructors and government representatives) from across Canada in an online survey and interviewed 23 key stakeholders over the phone;
- set up a project Advisory Committee of CLB and ESL literacy experts, with regional representation (West, Manitoba, Ontario, and Atlantic), and two government representatives (one provincial, one federal).

The tremendous amount of feedback and quality of the responses were most helpful to Bow Valley as they analyzed the result, prepared a plan for the revision, and presented it to the Advisory Committee. The Advisory provided thoughtful and important advice to Bow Valley and to CCLB. The final version of the plan has since been accepted by CCLB and is being used as the revision process begins.

PTCT Training: Classroom-Based Planning and Assessment Incorporating the CLB

CCLB has been retained by TESL Ontario as one of the training providers in the suite of TESL Ontario's Post-TESL Certificate Training offerings. As such, CCLB has received funding to begin work to set up the structure and develop some initial offerings for this online module, in collaboration with Tara Holmes (Alberta) and Joanne Pettis (Manitoba). Once additional funding is confirmed in 2013-2014, CCLB plans to deliver an online course composed of 11 modules for ESL teachers wanting to further develop their expertise in the area of classroom assessment.

Occupational Language Analyses - Homeopathy

CCLB has just completed its review of a new Occupational Language Analysis (OLA) for the Homeopathy profession. CCLB staff and consultants are working with the client to develop the OLA for this recently regulated profession.



March proved to be a busy month for the Milestones project. A pilot trial administration took place at the end of March in order to evaluate procedures for administering the test. During this trial, all four test components were administered on a single day to a group of 30 clients ranging from Benchmarks 4 to 9. Leading up to and following the trial, CCLB continued to hold

meetings with an advisory group comprised of those knowledgeable about high-stakes test administration to discuss best practices and lessons learned to ensure continued success in the delivery of future administrations.

Furthermore, additional new reading and writing material was developed and printed in order for piloting to commence in spring 2013. Both projects were funded by CIC National Headquarters.

Benchmarking the Language Demands of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

CCLB has been retained by the Canadian Alliance of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Regulators (CAASPR) to benchmark the English and French language demands of audiology and speech-language pathology using the Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) and the Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens (NCLC).

Site visits have begun with a team of CLB/NCLC experts shadowing Audiologist and Speech Language Pathologists across Canada in various settings, such as hospital, clinic, school and private practice to gather for their research data and samples of various language used in all four skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Site visits will continue into July.

Public Holidays

Please note that our offices will be closed July 1st for Canada Day and August 5th for the Civic Holiday.

Jours fériés

Veillez noter que nos bureaux seront fermés le 1^{er} juillet pour la fête du Canada et le 5 août pour le congé civique.

Please contact us at info@language.ca in order to subscribe to our newsletter and stay up to date on all of CCLB's activities. Veuillez communiquer avec nous à info@language.ca afin de souscrire à notre bulletin et de vous informer des activités du CNCLC.



Centre for
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Benchmarks

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