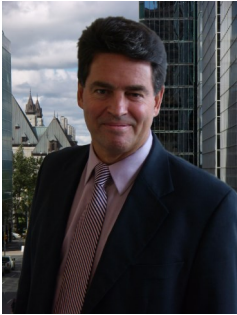




# Inside La langue Language en coulisse

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## From the Executive Director

Since our last newsletter in December 2013, other than the Board of Directors meeting of December 10 and a heavy load of ongoing project work, there have been relatively few highlights.

We are now in the last stretch of the fiscal year. We continue to work diligently on our projects, the vast majority of which are supported by Citizenship and Immigration Canada and Ontario's Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. As many project deliverables are due March 31, it will be a very busy next few weeks — as always at this time of year. We are also preparing for our comprehensive external annual audit.

We are working on our funding base for fiscal year 2014-2015. Several project proposals submitted to our funders over the past year are being discussed or negotiated.

We recently sent out an invitation to all of our stakeholders to apply for positions on the Centre's Board of Directors. At the Annual General Meeting this coming June, four seats are up for election or re-election. More expressions of interest have been received this year than in past years — an encouraging trend — but the selection process promises to be arduous.

Finally, I'm happy to report that we continue to receive praise for the looks and user friendliness of our new website.

We appreciate your interest in the Centre's work.

-François Bélisle

## Message du directeur général

Depuis notre dernier numéro de *La langue en coulisse*, publié en décembre 2013, outre la réunion de notre Conseil d'administration du 10 décembre ainsi qu'une lourde charge de projets, il y a relativement peu de nouvelles importantes à communiquer.

Nous sommes dans la dernière ligne droite de notre exercice financier. Nous continuons à travailler fort à nos projets, dont la plupart sont financés par Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada ainsi que par le ministère des Affaires civiques et de l'Immigration de l'Ontario. Puisque l'échéance de nombreux livrables est le 31 mars, les prochaines semaines seront très occupées, comme c'est généralement le cas à cette période de l'année. Nous nous préparons également pour la vérification externe annuelle.

Nous travaillons également à augmenter notre financement pour 2014-2015. Plusieurs des propositions que nous avons soumises à nos bailleurs de fonds au cours de la dernière année sont en discussion ou en négociation.

Nous avons récemment lancé une invitation à tous nos intervenants pour combler des postes au Conseil d'administration du Centre. Jusqu'à quatre membres du conseil seront élus ou réélus à l'Assemblée générale annuelle qui aura lieu en juin. Plus de personnes ont démontré leur intérêt de siéger au C.A. du Centre cette année qu'au cours des années antérieures — une tendance encourageante — mais le processus de sélection s'annonce d'autant plus difficile.

Finalement, je suis heureux de constater que nous continuons à recevoir des félicitations pour notre nouveau site web, tant pour son aspect visuel que pour sa convivialité.

Merci de l'intérêt que vous portez aux activités du Centre.

-François Bélisle



# Lignes directrices



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

Le portail interactif des lignes directrices est un projet de grande envergure. Il vise à soutenir les instructeurs de FLS et d'ALS dans leur planification de cours en plus d'aligner la formation linguistique aux NCLC.

Les dernières semaines ont été riches en activités : validation du plan de cours interactif auprès des utilisateurs, session de travail avec des expertes en FLS, session de travail avec l'équipe anglophone du TCDSB et la firme

multimédia Soshal, révision des documents existants, création de nouveau contenu, etc. Les rétroactions obtenues lors des tests d'utilisateurs et des discussions entre les différents intervenants impliqués dans le projet permettront de faire des modifications en vue d'améliorer le processus. L'ergonomie et la pertinence du contenu sont au cœur des préoccupations de toutes les parties prenantes afin de créer un outil qui répondra réellement aux besoins des utilisateurs.

Au cours des prochaines semaines, les équipes (CNCLC, TCDSB et Soshal) travailleront de concert pour consolider les différents planificateurs (cours, unité, leçon, évaluation).

Ce projet est financé par le ministère des Affaires civiques et de l'Immigration de l'Ontario.

## Benchmarking the Language Demands of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

CCLB completed work on the draft report of findings from the recent benchmarking research into the language demands of Audiologists (Auds) and Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) for the Canadian Alliance of Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists (CAASPR). The research covers both qualitative and quantitative data collection of interviews, site visits, job shadowing and surveys at over forty English sites in Canada for SLPs and Auds and twenty sites in French (split by profession). The research team has also done a data analysis against CAASPR's competency standards. The draft report will be presented to the national advisory committee in March 2014 and sent for final approval to CAASPR at the next AGM in April. For more information on this initiative, please contact Marianne Kayed at [mkayed@language.ca](mailto:mkayed@language.ca).

# Regional Training on the CLBPT

## CLBPT training and calibration in Ontario

CCLB continues to work with both the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) and Coordinated Language Assessment and Referral System (CLARS) centres in Ontario regarding needs for CLBPT assessors. In January 2014, four additional assessors were trained on the CLBPT tool. CCLB will continue to work with MCI and CLARS centres regarding future needs related to CLBPT training, calibration and the Workplace Language Assessment (WLA) tool.

As part of the work to prepare assessors for CLARS implementation, CCLB is also working to revise, update and in some cases, harmonize CLBPT administration documentation and processes to reflect the changing world of language assessment. More details will be shared in coming months.

## CLBPT training and calibration in other regions

In most regions in Canada, CLBPT training and support activities are now on a fee-for-service basis. This means that assessor training and professional development are now scheduled on as needed bases. Charging a fee for delivery of CLBPT training and support allows assessors a consistent level of service delivery to support their use of the placement test.

In Manitoba, funding has been made possible for

CLBPT training and calibration until March 31<sup>st</sup>. One CLBPT training session was held in January 2014 for seven new assessors who are now in process of completing their certification requirements. An additional CLBPT session and two calibration sessions (for up to 24 assessors) are being scheduled for March 2014. CCLB will be working with individual assessment centres to transfer licenses from the province to each centre in coming months.

In Saskatchewan, the 13 assessors who were trained on the CLBPT in the fall have now all completed their certifications. As part of the changes to language delivery in Saskatchewan, CCLB will be working with the province to ensure the transfer of CLBPT licenses to individual centres is as smooth as possible.

A new research pilot with Correctional Services Canada in Kingston (ON) is underway, using the CLBPT with immigrants who are federally incarcerated to help determine their ability to participate in training programs offered by Correctional Services Canada. Assessments are taking place over a three-month period and the project is monitored by CCLB.

Sites interested in setting up fee-for-service CLBPT training or calibration sessions are welcome to contact Rana Ashkar at [rashkar@language.ca](mailto:rashkar@language.ca).

# Le CLICenLigne.ca

Depuis trois ans déjà, le Centre des niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens s'est consacré à la création, au développement et à la livraison du CLICenLigne.ca. Le programme de formation est maintenant bien implanté. C'est donc avec fierté que le CNCLC passe le flambeau à La Cité collégiale pour l'administration de la plateforme et des cours virtuels le 1<sup>er</sup> avril 2014. Nous sommes convaincus que La Cité collégiale qui détient une solide expertise en prestation de cours à distance saura répondre efficacement aux besoins des utilisateurs du CLICenLigne.ca.



Ce projet a été financé par Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada.

Pour avoir un aperçu de ce programme de formation, visitez la plateforme au : [www.CLICenLigne.ca](http://www.CLICenLigne.ca).

# Élaboration du test de rendement à enjeux élevés (BTR)

L'équipe de la BTR a concentré ses efforts au dernier trimestre sur les activités de validation en expression orale (EO). Nous avons mis au point les instruments de mesure en EO et formé à l'interne une équipe d'évaluatrices pour administrer cette composante du test. Grâce à la précieuse collaboration de La Cité collégiale, du Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario et de l'Éducation permanente du Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est, nous avons recueilli des productions orales d'une centaine d'apprenants en décembre. L'analyse des résultats en EO, de même que ceux obtenus précédemment à l'automne en expression écrite et en compréhension de l'écrit, ont permis de réviser les instruments de mesure et d'ajuster les procédures d'administration et de sécurité pour chacune de ces habiletés.

La préparation des instruments de mesure en compréhension de l'oral (CO) va bon train en vue de la prochaine validation. À cet effet, nous avons révisé en profondeur le tableau des spécifications en CO en veillant à ce qu'il y ait un lien étroit entre les items du test et les descripteurs NCLC et en précisant les caractéristiques des tâches de communication orales pour faciliter la rédaction d'items. Nous sommes présentement à l'étape de la rédaction des scénarios audio, des scénarios vidéo et des questions à choix multiple; la production audiovisuelle se réalisera sous peu.

CCLB participated in several events in the last quarter:

- ◆ CESBA Fall Conference – Participant
- ◆ MCI Information Exchange – Participant
- ◆ National Settlement Conference – Member/ Participant
- ◆ NLAB Newcomer Language Advisory Body – Member
- ◆ University of Ottawa's Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute's Research Forum – Co-Presenter with Monika Jezak
- ◆ Language Advisory Council (Ottawa) – Member
- ◆ Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership (OLIP) Language Advisory Table – Member

## WLA Training for CLARS Assessment Centres



With the Coordinated Language Assessment and Referral System (CLARS) rolling out in Ontario, CCLB will be providing two-day training for up to 40 assessors in CLARS centres on the Workplace Language Assessment (WLA) through funding from Ontario's Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI). Discussion surrounding the criteria for WLA assessors and potential dates for this training has now begun. As dates are finalized, CLARS centres will be notified.

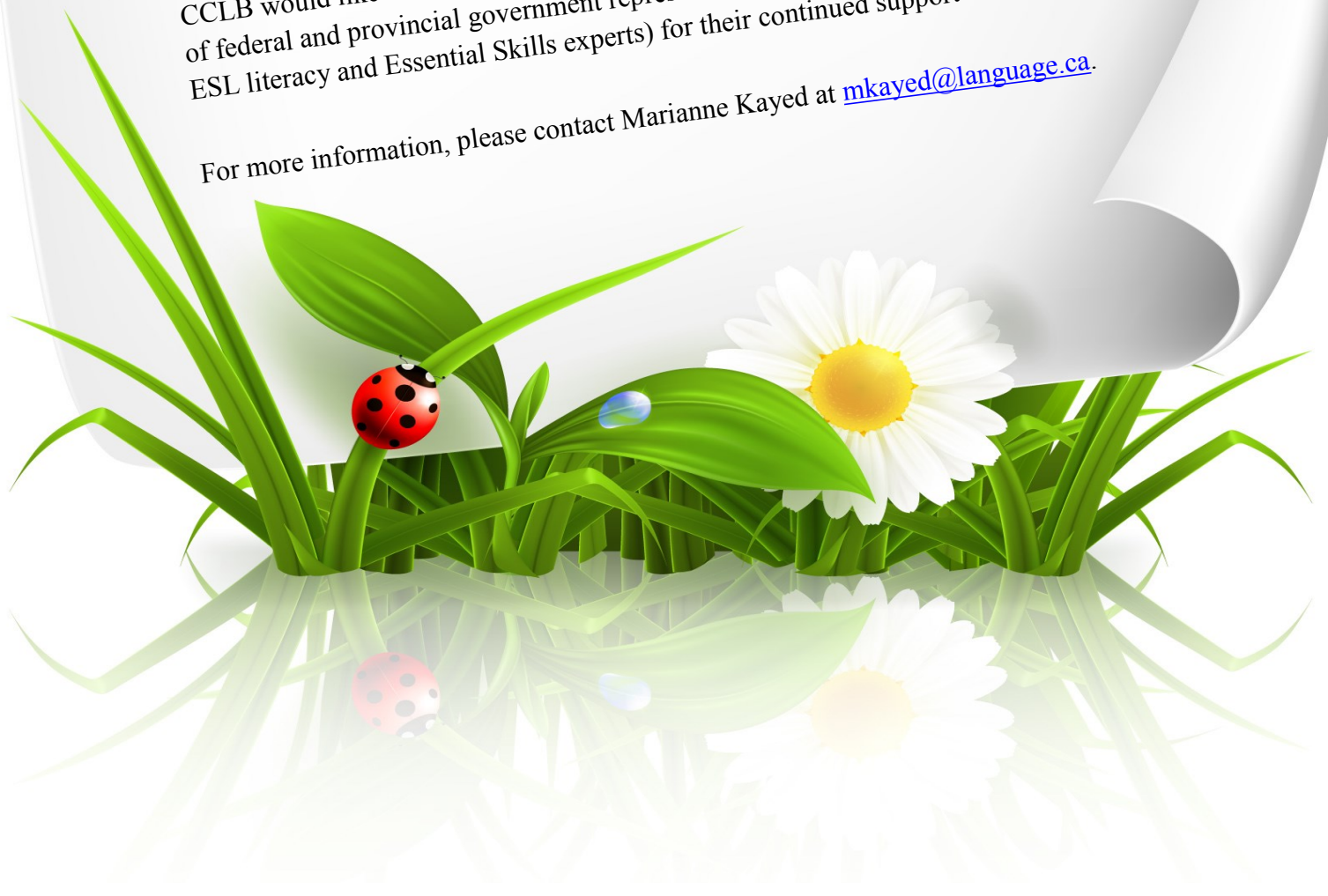
The WLA tool is designed to assess English language proficiency at Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) 7 to 10 for placement into workplace-training programs or bridging programs. It is MCI's goal that there be at least one assessor at each CLARS centre capable of administering the WLA, knowing that in some communities there may be several CLARS assessors certified to administer the assessment, depending on critical mass expected for those centres.

# Revision of the CLB 2000: ESL for Literacy Learners

Funded by the Government of Manitoba, CCLB and a pan-Canadian team of writers and experts have been working on a draft revision of the Literacy document. The team of writers from across the country, led by Linda Johansson, have done an excellent job at creating content and an expert group consisting of Gail Stewart, Christine Pinsent-Johnson, Andrea Strachan and Anne Senior have offered valuable advice and support to the team. CCLB hopes to provide the field with a document that meets the varied needs of ESL Literacy learners, ESL literacy practitioners, service provider organizations, and federal/provincial government departments across the country.

CCLB would like to thank the members of the Content Advisory Group (a team consisting of federal and provincial government representatives, LINC/ESL program managers, and ESL literacy and Essential Skills experts) for their continued support and guidance.

For more information, please contact Marianne Kayed at [mkayed@language.ca](mailto:mkayed@language.ca).



# PTCT

In mid-January, a new online course, *Classroom-Based Planning and Assessment Incorporating the CLB* was launched on CCLB's e-learning site. The course is designed for ESL teachers who want to increase their classroom planning and assessment skills in programs that use the CLB. It is one of the courses offered by TESL Ontario as part of the Post TESL Certificate (PTCT) program. This is a ten-week online course with two synchronous discussions held on Tutela.ca. The current participants are in the first stages of a three-part assignment designed to pilot a module plan and two assessment tasks, customized to their classroom context. The course also provides a strong foundation for those preparing to use Portfolio-Based Language Assessment (PBLA).

There are plans to offer this fee-payer course two more times this year. The course is open to any teacher who meets the pre-requisites for entry into the course, with priority given to those instructors who are from Ontario. If you have any questions about the PTCT course or wish to add your name to the waiting list, please contact Kathy Hughes at [khughes@language.ca](mailto:khughes@language.ca).

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## TESL Ontario Approved Post TESL Certificate Training (PTCT)

Post TESL Certificate Training (PTCT) offers instructors an opportunity to further their knowledge and skills in specialized content areas such as designing and developing teaching materials, Occupation Specific Language Instruction, teaching pronunciation, Canadian Language Benchmarks, and teaching English for Academic Purposes. These PTCT content areas have been identified as high priority through Ontario-wide consultation in the past year.

To sign up for a PTCT course, please contact the PTCT course providers by phone or email directly, or check their websites. A list of approved PTCT courses, along with the names of the training providers and their contact information, is available at <http://ptct.teslontario.org/> under the COURSES tab and at <http://www.teslontario.net/PTCT-courses>.

Instructors who work full time or part time for a CIC-funded program (LINC, ELT, or OSLT) in Ontario, including those who are currently on maternity leave but will be returning to their teaching positions in CIC-funded programs in Ontario, are eligible for PTCT training fee reimbursement. To book a reimbursable seat in the PTCT course of your interest, please visit the TESL Ontario PTCT Fee Reimbursement Administrative System at <http://ptct.teslontario.org/>, and follow the instructions on the HOME page. It's an easy process that may take 10-15 minutes to complete. If you are eligible for PTCT fee reimbursement, please book a reimbursable seat in the course of your choice before signing up for it.

PTCT course graduates who hold valid TESL Ontario Accreditation are eligible for the TESL Ontario Certificate of Achievement. To apply for this certificate, you will need to mail, email, fax, or deliver a copy of your PTCT course certificate to TESL Ontario.

If you have any questions, please contact Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy, Accreditation Services Manager, by email at [reza.mazloom@teslontario.org](mailto:reza.mazloom@teslontario.org) or by phone at 416-593-4243, ext. 205.

# Curriculum Guidelines for Adult Non-Credit Language Training Program

The interactive website for the Curriculum Guidelines is a major project. It aims to support ESL and FSL instructors in their course planning and to ensure a better alignment between language training and the CLB.

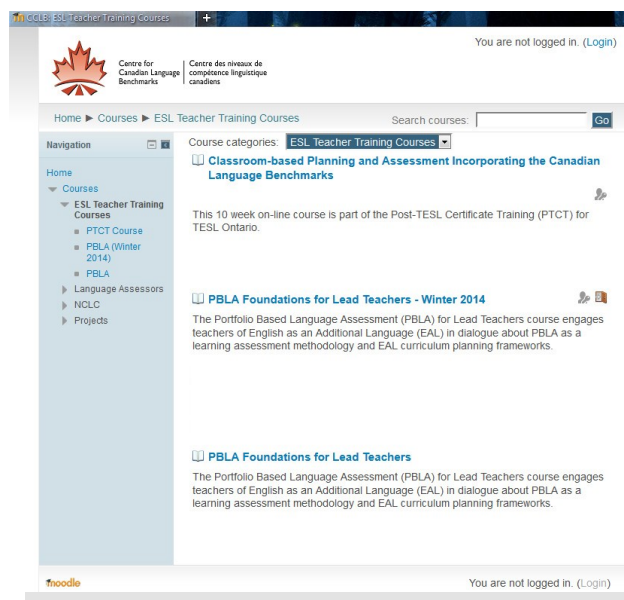
The last few weeks have been busy: users' validation of the interactive course outline builder, working session with FSL experts, working session with the TCDSB team and the multimedia firm Soshal, review of existing documents, creation of new content, etc. The feedback obtained during the user tests and the discussions between the stakeholders involved in the project will lead to some changes. These changes will be put in place in order to improve the process. Ergonomics and content relevance are at the heart of the concerns of all stakeholders. They want to create a tool that truly meets the needs of users.

In the coming weeks, the teams (CCLB, TCDSB and Soshal) will work together to consolidate the builders (unit outline builder, lesson plan builder, assessment plan builder).

This project is financed by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration of Ontario.

## PBLA Training and Support

December was a busy month on the PBLA project when Service Provider Organizations (SPOs) were identified by CIC as part of the first cohort of lead teacher training. The plan is to continue a phased-in approach to introduce PBLA to various SPOs over the three years of the project. Also in December, CCLB hosted a meeting for the Project Leads, Joanne Pettis and Tara Holmes, and the PBLA Regional Coaches in Ottawa. This meeting was an opportunity for CCLB, Project Leads, and Regional Coaches to come face-to-face and prepare for the winter 2014 Lead Teacher training initiative. The three-day orientations allowed for finalizing the Lead Trainer course content that had been field-tested by the regional coaches. In early January, the 10-week online course for the PBLA Lead Teachers was launched on the CCLB e-learning site. 120 Lead Teachers from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and the Atlantic region are currently midway through the online course portion of the Lead Teacher training. Lead Teachers are meeting face-to-face or online with their Regional Coach in the last week of February. The face-to-face meetings are scheduled for Calgary, Saskatoon, London and Ontario, while the online meetings will be hosted in Tutela.ca. The mid-course meeting provides an opportunity for Lead Teachers to get support, feedback, and clarification on the topics they have covered to date in the online course. If you have any questions about PBLA training and support, please contact Rana Ashkar at [rashkar@language.ca](mailto:rashkar@language.ca).



The screenshot shows the CCLB e-learning website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the CCLB logo and the text "Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks" and "Centre des niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens". Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and a dropdown menu for "Course categories: ESL Teacher Training Courses". The main content area displays a list of courses, including "Classroom-based Planning and Assessment Incorporating the Canadian Language Benchmarks" and "PBLA Foundations for Lead Teachers - Winter 2014". The website also features a "You are not logged in. (Login)" message in the top right corner.

With funding from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), Milestones reading and writing pilots continued throughout the winter months. For writing, the final pilots were administered in December allowing for the scoring and validation of content to take place throughout January and February. The multi-media production for the listening pilot materials moved into its post-production phase allowing for the first listening pilots to take place in Ottawa at the end of February. Listening pilots are now being scheduled throughout the spring. If your site is interested in participating in the pilots, please contact Krista Walsh-Murray at [kwalsh-murray@language.ca](mailto:kwalsh-murray@language.ca).



## Public Holidays

Please note that our offices will be closed April 18th for Good Friday, April 21st for Easter Monday and May 19th for Victoria Day.

## Jours fériés

Veillez noter que nos bureaux seront fermés le 18 avril pour le Vendredi saint, le 21 avril pour le lundi de Pâques et le 19 mai pour la fête de la Reine.

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



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