



Inside Language

La langue en coulisse

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From the Executive Director

Dear friends,

Since our last newsletter in September, we have been busy not only with projects, but also with: adding a new staff member; attending and presenting at a number of conferences, in particular TESL Ontario and CNAR; and assisting our Board of Directors, including the quarterly meeting in September and the upcoming December meeting.

The status of our current projects is described in this issue of Inside Language.

The Nominating Committee has been particularly active, reviewing our nominating process and beginning the Board recruitment process for 2018.

The CELBAN Centre at Touchstone Institute in Toronto, which is administering CELBAN under contract from CCLB, is having another excellent year, establishing new test sites and increasing site capacity. As a result, CELBAN is more accessible than ever. The CELBAN test is now administered to more than 2,500 internationally trained nurses annually. The new, three-year agreement with Touchstone started in January 2017.

On the staffing side, Lucie Bartosova left the Centre to accept teaching assignments at the University of Ottawa. She was replaced by Marie-france Duval who is able to work on both the CLB and NCLC sides of our operations.

We are looking forward to a busy winter and spring.

May I take this occasion to wish you a Merry Holiday Season!

-François Bélisle

Message du directeur général

Chers amis,

Au cours des mois qui ont suivi notre dernier bulletin en septembre, nous nous sommes affairés non seulement à nos projets, mais aussi : à recruter un nouveau membre pour notre équipe; à présenter des communications à plusieurs conférences, notamment TESL Ontario et CNAR; et à appuyer notre Conseil d'administration dans ses tâches, dont la rencontre du Conseil en septembre et la préparation de la prochaine rencontre en décembre.

Le statut de nos projets est décrit dans ce bulletin de La langue en coulisse.

Le comité des Mises en candidature a été particulièrement actif. Il a revu notre processus de mises en candidature et initié le recrutement pour 2018.

Le CELBAN Centre de l'Institut Touchstone, à Toronto, auquel le CNCLC a octroyé un contrat pour administrer CELBAN, connaît une autre excellente année, ayant ouvert de nouveaux sites et augmenté la capacité. Ceci rend CELBAN désormais plus accessible que jamais. Plus de 2500 infirmières et infirmiers formés à l'étranger passent maintenant le test CELBAN chaque année. La nouvelle entente de trois ans avec Touchstone a débuté en janvier 2017.

Du côté du personnel, Lucie Bartosova a quitté le Centre pour enseigner à l'Université d'Ottawa. Elle a été remplacée par Marie-france Duval qui, étant bilingue, peut œuvrer dans tous nos projets.

L'hiver et le printemps s'annoncent occupés.

Permettez-moi de profiter de cette occasion pour vous souhaiter de très belles fêtes!

-François Bélisle



Classroom Tools Development and Training

CCLB and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) continue to work together to identify resource and training needs in order to better serve instructors delivering courses in MCI's Adult Non-Credit Language Training Programs.

In September, CCLB held a CLBPT assessor training in Mississauga and certified five CLARS assessors on administering the CLBPT. In November, MCI released the online version of the CLB Literacy Placement Tool (CLB-LPT) training for CLBPT trained assessors not already trained on the CLB-LPT. This now allows assessors across Canada to access CLB-LPT training in a timelier manner. In addition, and as a result of popular demand, Can Do Posters in both [English](#) and [French](#), developed through MCI funding, were made available for free download through CCLB's website.

Outside of Ontario, fee-for-service training sessions were set upon request. CLBPT assessor training, CLBPT Calibration and CLBPT remote training sessions were held in British Columbia, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan.

To view a list of workshops and training that CCLB offers, please visit: http://www.language.ca/index.cfm?Voir=sections&Id=17432&M=4030&Repertoire_No=2137991327.

Any inquiries related to training can be directed to training@language.ca.



CLB Suite of Online Training

Interested in CCLB's online training? CCLB currently offers training through:

- learning.language.ca – CLB-related training
- NCLCenligne.ca – NCLC-related training

To access CCLB's free training:

- ◊ Visit learning.language.ca or NCLCenligne.ca
- ◊ Create a user account & confirm your account following the details found in the email sent by the system (check your junk mail if it doesn't show up in your inbox)
- ◊ Click "login" at the top right corner of the page
- ◊ Enter your username/password which you created for your account and click "login"
- ◊ On the home page, click the course you are interested in. The course homepage will appear

**Note: Training that requires enrollment keys are only accessible to individuals working with and referred by a government-funded program.*

Learning.language.ca has **three** courses available free of charge and entirely self-directed. You can enroll in these courses by clicking the titles below and go through each course at your own pace as general interest or for professional development. Each course will provide you with a certificate of completion (see each course for completion requirements and details):

- [**CLB Bootcamp**](#)
- [**An Orientation to ESL for ALL**](#)
- [**CLB; ESL for ALL Support Kit training**](#)

NCLCenligne.ca has **two** courses and **two** webinars available free of charge. You can access these courses and enroll by clicking the titles below:

- [**Camp de formation aux NCLC**](#)
- [**Formation Trousse de Soutien au document NCLC: FLS pour AMA**](#)
- [**Webinaire NCLC : Trousse de Soutien**](#)
- [**Webinaire FLS pour AMA Trousse de Soutien**](#)



Révision des outils de placement en alphabétisation (NCLC-OCA, CLB-LPT)

Grâce au financement d'Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada, le CNCLC est à réviser l'Outil de classement en alphabétisation (OCA) et le Literacy Placement Test (LPT) pour les aligner aux nouveaux documents, Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens : français langue seconde pour adultes moins alphabétisés (NCLC : FLS pour AMA) et Canadian Language Benchmarks: English as a Second Language for Adult Literacy Learners (CLB: ESL for ALL).

Les tests de placement révisés en alphabétisation seront disponibles au printemps 2018 et permettront aux évaluateurs de la BTC-NCLC et du CLBPT d'identifier de façon efficace les apprenants ayant des besoins en alphabétisation et de les placer dans le cours approprié, soit du Niveau Exploratoire/ Foundation L jusqu'au NCLC/CLB 4L.

Jusqu'à ce jour, le CNCLC a révisé les outils actuels et a tenu des séances de consultation avec les spécialistes sur le terrain afin d'obtenir des commentaires pour éclairer la révision des tests.

Refinement of Literacy Placement Tool Assessments (CLB-LPT, NCLC-OCA)

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has funded a revision and validation of literacy placement tool assessments aligned to the Canadian Language Benchmarks: English as a Second Language for Adult Literacy Learners (CLB: ESL for ALL) and *les Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens : français langue seconde pour adultes moins alphabétisés* (NCLC : FLS pour AMA).

The revised placement tests, to be available in spring 2018, will facilitate the ability for CLBPT and BTC assessors to effectively and efficiently identify literacy levels for Foundation L / Niveau Exploratoire up to and including CLB/NCLC 4L ensuring the placement of ESL/FSL learners into appropriate language and other training programs.

To date CCLB has been working on reviewing the current tools and holding consultation sessions with the field in order to obtain feedback to inform the refinement.

L'évaluation linguistique basée sur le portfolio

L'évaluation linguistique basée sur le portfolio (ELBP), subventionnée par Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada et le ministère des Affaires civiques et de l'Immigration de l'Ontario, est un outil d'évaluation mis à la disposition des instructeurs de français langue seconde qui s'appuient sur les Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens (NCLC) dans leur enseignement.

Le CNCLC continue les activités liées à l'implantation de l'ELBP et le soutien des champions et des instructeurs FLS et CLIC dans leur mise en œuvre et leur utilisation continue de l'ELBP. Dans ce cadre, le CNCLC a offert des ateliers en présentiel qui portaient sur la tâche d'évaluation et les critères d'évaluation aux instructeurs d'Ottawa et de Toronto.

D'autres ateliers sont prévus au Manitoba et au Nouveau-Brunswick pendant la session d'hiver. Il est toujours des plus agréable de rencontrer les instructeurs et de discuter avec eux des défis, mais surtout de s'enrichir de leur expérience en classe afin de mieux répondre à leurs besoins.

Nous tenons à souligner que le travail qui nous est remis par les instructeurs démontre une bonne compréhension des principes de l'évaluation au service de l'apprentissage, basée sur les NCLC. Malgré des horaires très chargés, les instructeurs arrivent à créer des tâches d'enseignement et d'évaluation qui respectent les besoins de leurs apprenants et les principes de l'ELBP.

Une formation autoportante a été développée pour la formation des nouveaux instructeurs sur les principes de l'ELBP. Elle a été pilotée et sera lancée officiellement sous peu.

Le CNCLC a commencé le développement de nouveau contenu pour le cartable Mon portfolio NCLC.

Portfolio-Based Language Assessment (PBLA)

With continued funding from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI), CCLB provides support to the roll out of Portfolio-Based Language Assessment (PBLA) as a standard feature of LINC and the Adult Non-Credit Language Training Program delivered by Ontario school boards. The focus of the PBLA project has shifted from supporting PBLA implementation to ensuring sustainability.

This fall, ongoing support for classroom instructors new to PBLA was provided through the “Introduction to PBLA for New Classroom Instructors” courses. The MCI self-directed “Introduction to PBLA for New Classroom Instructors” six-week online course was launched. Approximately 30 participants have gone through the self-directed online course this fall. In addition, approximately 128 participants from across Canada completed the facilitated course. Registration for both courses will be open in January for the winter intake.

The PBLA Lead Teacher/Instructor Prior Learning Assessment Review (PLAR) is now fully underway for any program that has faced Lead Teacher/Instructor attrition. This fall approximately 8 submissions were received and 7 applicants were certified. The PLAR process streamlines the certification process for classroom instructors who have been using PBLA in their classroom, and can demonstrate fundamental competency in PBLA concepts and skills. If your program has lost a Lead Teacher/Instructor please contact pbla.plar@language.ca.

After a successful pilot involving five sites, the PBLA Practice Review Framework is now underway in Cohort One programs. The framework is based on a set of shared PBLA principles and practice standards for those working in four settings: classroom, program, monitoring authority, national policy. The framework includes self-assessment and goal-setting activities for classroom teachers and administrators and is linked to the IRCC monitoring processes. If you have questions regarding the PBLA Practice Review Framework please contact PBLA@language.ca for more information.

The PBLA Multi-Level Module Pilot now has three new multi-level modules. The feedback from the initial pilot was so overwhelmingly positive, the pilot was extended until December 15 to obtain further input on the suite of six modules. If you still would like to pilot one of the multi-level modules please contact PBLA@language.ca.

Professional Learning Modules are designed with an approach similar to the implementation package materials. They are available for any cohort in full implementation that has already gone through Session 10. These PD sessions have been uploaded to a dedicated site through the CCLB e-learning portal and are available for Lead Teachers/Instructors to share with their colleagues. They are all short PD sessions (approximately one hour) to provide maximum flexibility for programs to meet their specific professional development needs. These sessions are completely optional for any program to use.

It was a busy fall conference season for the Centre. The PBLA team presented 2 sessions at the ATESL Conference held in Calgary, October 20-21. The CCLB and PBLA team also presented 11 sessions at TESL ON held November 2-3 in Toronto.

The PBLA project continues to examine how TESL programs prepare new teachers to use the CLB for planning, teaching and assessment. The PBLA team is reviewing several options regarding incorporating PBLA into TESL Education Programming and will provide further updates in the spring.

The Integrating the CLB Assessment Into Your ESL Classroom (ICLBA) is now fully revised in electronic format and includes updates on current Assessment for Learning principles and strategies. If you have not had a chance to look at this revised resource, you can find it through the CCLB Bookshelf <http://bookshelf.language.ca> or by going to this link: <http://iciba.language.ca>.

To ensure PBLA practice guidelines remain current and can be updated on a scheduled basis, an electronic version, Emerging Practice Guidelines, has been developed. The document can be accessed through this link: <http://pblaepg.language.ca>.

CLB-CEFR

Recognizing that there is a strong relationship between the 12 CLB/NCLC Benchmarks and the 6 CEFR Common Reference Levels, CCLB is currently exploring a correlation between the two frameworks. As part of this study, CCLB will be looking for English and French instructors, assessors or those familiar with the CLB/NCLC and CEFR to participate in two workshops to be held in April 2018. More information related to the workshops, location and dates will be provided at a later date; however, if you are interested in learning more or participating, please email info@language.ca.

CLBPA

With the recognized need for more up-to-date placement assessment tools, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has funded The Centre for Education and Training (TCET) in collaboration with CCLB to develop the Canadian Language Benchmarks Placement Assessment (CLBPA) for benchmarks 1-8. This placement test will be based on the revised CLB and combine the best elements of, and learnings from, the CLBA and CLBPT into one new assessment tool. CCLB is overseeing the reading and writing test development and has been working on reviewing the current tools which will inform the new assessment tool design, development and procedures.

Conferences / Collaborations

LALE: Anne Senior delivered the plenary on *Promising Practices in Language Assessment* at the first annual Language Assessors Learning Event held in Winnipeg, October 2. She also led breakout sessions on the new CLBPA placement test, the new literacy placement test, and remote assessment.

CNAR: Anne also attended the Canadian Network of Agencies for Regulation conference in Halifax, October 3-4.

TESL ON: CCLB participated in the annual TESL ON conference, Celebrating Success, held at the Toronto Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre, November 2-3.

A number of sessions offered by CCLB during the two-day conference were well-attended, including:

- Sharing PBLA Best Practices
- PBLA: Supporting Multi-Level Assessment
- Next Steps for CLB/NCLC
- Introducing the CLB: ESL for ALL Support Kit
- PBLA and Literacy

Public Holidays

Please note that our offices will be closed starting December 25th 2017 until January 1st 2018 inclusively, as well as February 19th 2018 for Ontario Family Day.

Jours fériés

Veuillez noter que nos bureaux seront fermés du 25 décembre 2017 jusqu'au 1 janvier 2018 inclusivement, ainsi que le 19 février 2018 pour le Jour de la famille en Ontario.



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.



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Benchmarks

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