



Annual Meeting of Members

On June 21st, EYLE members and a guest met via Zoom to celebrate our 36th Anniversary and our Annual Meeting of Members. (AMM has replaced what was previously known as the AGM or Annual General Meeting.)

Our Chair, Raj Narain opened the meeting, introduced the current Board, and provided guidelines for the meeting. After presenting his report, attendees were provided with reports from the Treasurer, Staff, HR Committee and the Fundraising Committee.

Next, came our Board elections. As there were no new candidates from the floor, the Board members up for re-election were acclaimed. Hence, our Board of Directors for the coming year remains the same as in 2022.



At the end of the business portion of the meeting, Raj introduced EYLE student Jamileh Salek who shared her story of immigrating to Canada from Iran.

Jamileh talked about how EYLE staff and her tutors helped her acclimatize to her new country as well as improve her English reading and writing skills.

Jamileh is an accomplished artist who has been working incredibly hard to establish her artistic career here in Canada and is now having

some success.

Special thanks to Jamileh for sharing her story.

MISSION STATEMENT

EYLE’s adult literacy, numeracy and digital literacy programs transform lives and enhance self-worth by empowering individuals to reach their full potential.

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Success Story

C was nervous and scared at first to start this new chapter in her life. Her decision to go back to school to get her high school credits left her wondering if she could actually do it, especially being a busy Mom of four and being out of school for over twenty years.

CC worked with her tutor (Cam) for two years to improve her writing and reading comprehension skills, and for the first time in her life, he stated that “she was able to fully read and understand a short novel”. She made great progress in building her vocabulary, writing and editing skills, as well as clarifying details in written assignments. Her tutor also worked with her on APA reference formatting, and study and note-taking strategies. With all of these skills, she was able to complete her grade 11 and 12 High School English courses.

CC is dedicated to her goal of becoming a nurse, and the harder she works the more confident she becomes in her abilities. As her next step, she enrolled in the PSW program at City Adult Learning Centre and successfully completed the certificate. She believed that the PSW program would be a stepping stone to becoming a nurse.

CC is now employed as a PSW and is being offered more shifts than she can handle. Her current long-term goal is to complete her high school math and science courses in order to apply to a nursing program sometime in the future.

Awesome!!



March Campaign Results



A huge thank you goes out to all who participated in our Annual March Campaign fundraising event. Whether you made a donation and/or spread the word about our campaign to your own networks of family and friends, we really appreciate the support!

This year, your efforts resulted in a total of \$8,009.00 in donations to help support our programs.

Well done!

Condolences

Our condolences go out to Board Director & volunteer tutor Ian Kinross and his family, on the recent loss of his mother.

Tutors' Corner

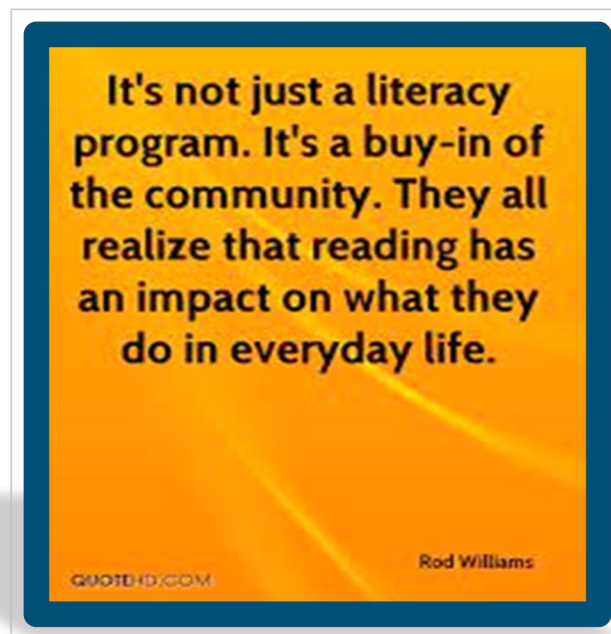
Spontaneous Creative Lessons

The day after Canadian music icon Gordon Lightfoot passed, I popped into one of the meeting rooms to say hello to a tutor/learner pair. The tutor was talking about Gordon Lightfoot with her student, a newcomer to Canada. We had a conversation about him and then played his song 'Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald' for her as an example of his storytelling abilities through music. Before we hit play, I showed her the quickest way to get the lyrics for this or any song on her phone. She read along as the song played.

As we listened to the song, her tutor began to create a vocabulary expansion lesson on the white board by listing potentially unfamiliar words that her student might not have encountered since coming to Canada.

At the end of the song, the student wrote down the name of other Gordon Lightfoot songs to listen to later, while reading the lyrics. I then departed as they moved to the vocabulary lessons.

And that is how a spontaneous, creative, lesson can happen. It wasn't planned, but it took a current event in the news and turned it into an interesting learning experience. The student had a mini lesson on internet searches, learned new vocabulary, and in the process, became a Gordon Lightfoot fan.



Welcome...

At our spring Tutor Training, we welcomed 9 new volunteers to the program: Cary Austin; Eliza Caylor; Tanya Evers; Jackie Hsi; Sarah Jovic; Melissa Nixon; Sonam Ringpa; Carlos Sandoval; and David Sugarman. Our 10th participant was Amanda Arney, EYLE's Outreach & Administrative Coordinator.

Welcome back to Hafsa Patel who joined us on June 5th for a 9 week summer position as our Program Assistant. Hafsa worked with us last summer and we were happy she was able to return this year.

Many thanks to Service Canada for funding this summer position.

Thank you....

To our ongoing funders: Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, City of Toronto through their Investing in Neighbourhoods program, Service Canada for funding our summer student.

Many thanks to the generous foundation, association and corporate donors who have contributed to EYLE since our last issue of eLink: Rotary Club of North York; Frederick & Douglas Family Memorial Foundation; GM Canada; Optimo Clinics;

Special thanks to our many private donors who make one-time, annual or monthly donations. Your support is vital to the success of our program and appreciated immensely. For a complete list of our donors please visit our website at: <https://eastyorklearningexperience.ca> and go to the 'Funders' page.

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