

## Networking Event Encourages Vibrant Communities

*On February 25<sup>th</sup> Cooperative ESL Ministries will bring together Calgarians with a desire to reach out to Calgary's growing number of newcomers.*

**Calgary, AB** (February 16, 2012) – Cooperative ESL Ministries' Annual Networking Event on February 25, 2012 will equip Christians in Calgary with a desire is to reach out to immigrants and fill the gap in society's integration of our new neighbors.

For the first time in the event's history, Cooperative ESL Ministries will be partnering with the Centre for Newcomers and the Immigrant Ministry Network to provide an integrated program with a unique perspective on working together as community stakeholders.

With the theme of *Opening Doors in Your Community*, a wide variety of Calgary's community service programs will be on hand to explain how their distinctive services can assist those volunteers who are serving immigrants and seeking to develop vibrant, inclusive communities.

The event is from 9 – 11 am at Marlborough Park Community Centre. ESL teachers and volunteers, conversation club leaders, pastors and immigrant serving agencies are invited to take part in this morning of inspiring speakers and valuable networking opportunities. Cost is \$15 pre-registered or \$20 at the door.

The Cooperative believes that ordinary, open-hearted Calgarians, with training in cross-cultural communication and good principles of adult education, can make a difference. Who better to lead the way in providing this warm welcome than Calgary's churches? In addition to the Annual Networking Event the Cooperative has been hosting other training events and workshops throughout the year since 2001 to empower churches to reach out in love to newcomers in our community.

To register for the Networking Event or find out more information visit [www.eslcooperative.ca](http://www.eslcooperative.ca).

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For more information, photos and statistics or to schedule an interview contact:

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