



Cooperative
ESL Ministries

Cooperative English as a Second Language Ministries
(CESLM) Society

Annual Report

2011-2012



*Breaking
down barriers.*

*Being bearers of
Good News.*

*Building integrated
communities.*

*A living example of
unity in the body
of Christ.*

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About Us

Cooperative ESL Ministries (CESLM) Society is a group of local Calgary residents who have come together to fill a gap we have seen in the integration of the immigrant, refugee, and international community. We believe that ordinary, open-hearted Calgarians—with some training in cross-cultural communication, principles of adult education, and tools for language learning—can make a difference.

CESLM is a network of associations composed of many volunteers, crossing many borders of belief, but sharing a common commitment to the God whose love we have experienced. We are an interdenominational Christian organization and we come from different backgrounds, but we believe in serving people of all faiths and cultures. We advocate respect, understanding, and appreciation for people of all cultural, religious, and language backgrounds.

Our Mission: Empowering churches to reach out in love to the immigrants and internationals in our community.

Our Vision: Churches are key leaders in welcoming and integrating newcomers to Canada.

What We Do

1. **Support Church-Based Ministries for Newcomers** - CESLM offers conferences, workshops, and training sessions to current and prospective ESL facilitators, directors, administrators, conversation partners, home-stay parents, and other volunteers involved in ministries for newcomers in Calgary. We also provide forums for church leaders and ministry volunteers to network with one another.
2. **Advocate on Behalf of Canada's Newcomers** - We strive to raise awareness among church and community groups, in Calgary encouraging openness and involvement in reducing the barriers faced by newcomers. This involves resource materials, workshops, and presentations.
3. **Act as a Referral Agent to Other Service Providers** - CESLM provides information and referrals to specialized services for newcomers (employment training/services, settlement/housing issues, medical and life skills, citizenship, further academic training, English for professionals, etc.) through our network connections with immigrant serving agencies and other supportive community organizations.



Message from the President



September 2012

Dear Friends,

Cooperative ESL Ministries Society was founded in June 2002 and this spring we celebrated our 10th Anniversary of service "empowering churches to reach out in love to the immigrants and internationals in our community". This anniversary year has been one of change and development for the Cooperative.

We have experienced changes in staffing. Myra Brown resigned at the end of March in order to spend more time with her family. We are very thankful for Myra's contribution of time, talent, and experience over the past three and a half years. Her dedicated service has been much appreciated by the Board and her co-workers.

Colleen Klatt took on additional responsibilities from April to June to coordinate Spring Training and our 10th Anniversary Celebration. She began maternity leave August 1st, 2012. We are very pleased to announce that Roxy Meyers has accepted the position of Community Liaison Coordinator and will also be responsible for Training Events. Janelle Baldwin will be filling in as Communications and Marketing Coordinator until Colleen returns.

The Lord continues to bless us! Last year we identified that sustainable core funding was a primary need in order for the Cooperative to continue as a viable organization. Over the past year we have concentrated our fundraising efforts on building this sustainable core funding and we were successful in meeting the first year's goal.

It continues to be imperative that we have dependable and stable funding to ensure that we can continue to deliver the impactful programs that bring our mission to life in the community. This year our goal is to raise the level of our monthly contribution rate by \$2000/month. If you or someone you know is interested in contributing financially, or is able to provide our Board with leadership, training, or assistance in the area of fundraising, please let us know.

Of course, all our effort amounts to nothing, unless we dedicate our service the Lord. As we face the challenges of the coming year we seek to glorify God in everything we do, and we pray that He will bless our work.

In Christ,

Drinda Wilson



Board of Directors & Staff

BOARD MEMBERS (2011/2012):

Executive:

Drinda Wilson - President
Heather Jones - Treasurer (to end of April 2012)
Rhonda McNallie - Treasurer (as of May 2012)
Jorge Avilés - Secretary (to end of December 2011)
Dale Fisher - Secretary (as of January 2012)



Drinda Wilson



Rhonda McNallie



Dale Fisher

Directors:

Kenny Thompson - Director (to end of August 2011)
Cathy Smith - Director (to end of September 2011)
April Luk - Director (to end of March 2012)
Madeline Johnson - Director
Mel Johnson - Director
Adriana Fishta-Bejko
Randy Easthouse
Donna Judd



Madeline Johnson



Mel Johnson



Adriana Fishta-Bejko



Randy Easthouse



Donna Judd

Part-time Staff and Volunteers:

Myra Brown - Training Events Coordinator (to end of March 2012)
Colleen Klatt - Marketing & Communications Coordinator
Beverley Chambers - Administrative Coordinator
Ruth Burgerhout - Bookkeeper
Cindy Ralph - Librarian
Heather Jones - Registrar
April Luk - Events Assistant



Year in Review

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meetings: The Board of Directors met for 11 regular meetings between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. The CESLM Annual General Meeting was held on September 20, 2011.

Executive: As of September 2011, Drinda Wilson, President; Heather Jones, Treasurer; and Jorge Avilés, Secretary, formed the Executive. At the January 2012 Board Meeting, Dale Fisher replaced Jorge Avilés as Secretary, and in May 2012 Rhonda McNallie accepted the position of Treasurer, replacing Heather Jones.

Membership: As of July 2011, membership on the Board of Directors was Drinda Wilson, Jorge Avilés, Heather Jones, Cathy Smith, April Luk, and Kenny Thompson.

New Board Members: At the Board Meeting on October 11, 2011, Madeline Johnson rejoined the Board and we welcomed four new Board Members: Mel Johnson, Dale Fisher, Randy Easthouse, and Adriana Fishta-Bejko. Rhonda McNallie joined the Board on March 6, 2012 and Donna Judd accepted Board Membership on May 15, 2012.

Resignations: At the end of August 2011, Kenny Thompson's second term on the Board of Directors was completed. Cathy Smith resigned on September 20, 2011. At the January 10, 2012 meeting we accepted the resignations of Jorge Avilés and Heather Jones. April Luk resigned from the Board on March 6, 2012.

Thank you to all members of the Board of Directors for their commitment and hard work during the last financial year.

STAFF



The past year has been challenging for CESLM staff, primarily due to the Cooperative's financial situation. At the beginning of July 2011, the position of Community Liaison Coordinator was cut and the position of Marketing and Communications Coordinator was reduced to 5 hours per week.

Myra Brown accepted a short-term 10-week contract for the delivery of Fall Training. Colleen Klatt continued in the position of Marketing and Communications Coordinator managing the communications work on the reduced hours, and accepting additional short-term contracts for marketing and promotional work.

Bev Chambers continued to serve as Administrative Coordinator in a voluntary capacity and filled in doing extra work as required.



Due to the efforts of the Board and a successful Fundraising Campaign in November and December, we were able to offer staff an increase in hourly pay and new contracts in January 2012.

Myra Brown accepted a second contract from January to March 31st, to organize and manage the Networking Event and to make preliminary plans for Spring Training. She resigned from staff at the end of March, but Myra's work left the Cooperative in a very good position - with planning for Spring Training completed and preliminary planning for Fall Training well established.

Colleen accepted a contract to coordinate Spring Training and the 10th Anniversary Celebration. She also announced an upcoming happy event and asked for Parental Leave to begin in August.

June was a busy month for staff, with an Appreciation Event to thank Myra Brown for her 3.5 years of dedicated service to CESLM, and to honour volunteers: Heather Jones, Event Registrar; Cindy Ralph, Volunteer Librarian; Ruth Burgerhout, Volunteer Bookkeeper; and April Luk, Events Assistant.

We extend our thanks to staff and volunteers for their commitment and passion for the mission of the Cooperative, and for their hard work over the past year.

New Staff Members: Drinda, Colleen, and Bev spent the end of May and first week of June interviewing some very talented and interesting people for two new staff positions. Roxy Meyers was hired as Community Liaison Coordinator and began in this half-time position on July 15, 2012. Janelle Baldwin began on July 1st as Communications and Marketing Coordinator, a temporary position during Colleen's Parental Leave. You can read more about our new staff members on page 10.

OTHER NEWS

The Edmonton ESL Cooperative has delivered a second successful volunteer training program and has begun the process of setting up as a Charitable Organization. Their website is under construction, but you will soon be able to read more about them at www.edmontonesl.com.

FINANCIAL NEEDS

Thanks to the Fundraising Campaign efforts of the Board, a reduction in paid staff hours, and other budget cuts, we finished the year in a positive financial position. Drinda Wilson and Madeline Johnson were successful in an application for a Community Spirit Grant from the Government of Alberta which has left us in a good position for the beginning of the new financial year.

The Cooperative still faces the challenge of building core funding sustainability. After the campaign in the past year, we now have regular monthly donations that provide approximately one third of the funding we need to cover our basic operating costs. Solid core funding would ensure that we could continue to deliver the impactful programs that bring our mission to life in the community.

Board and Staff continue to seek guidance, leadership, and assistance in fund development. If you or someone in your network would be interested in contributing and are able to provide leadership, training, assistance, or finances we would be very grateful.

Respectfully submitted by,

Bev Chambers

Administrative Coordinator



Training & Events

FALL TRAINING

CESLM's 2011 Fall Training was a success thanks to great organization and planning by Coordinator, Myra Brown, and the help of many volunteers who facilitated workshop sessions, helped set-up and clean up, assisted with catering, and registered our participants. Fall Training started on September 30th at Abundant Life Church with 17 participants. The Salvation Army Village hosted Weekend #2 and Calgary Centre for Newcomers provided the setting for the final weekend of training.

NETWORKING EVENT

A "first" for the Cooperative was a partnership initiative organized by Myra Brown working with the Calgary Centre for Newcomers and New Canadian Initiatives (Christian & Missionary Alliance). Representatives from each of the three organizations cooperated to plan and deliver this event at Marlborough Park Community Centre on February 25, 2012. Over 75 participants attended including excellent representation from Calgary's immigrant-serving sector.

The theme, 'Opening Doors to your Community,' was introduced by Paras Persad, Manager of the Youth Gang Project, Centre for Newcomers. Other speakers included Serena Nelson, ESL Program Coordinator, Calgary Community Church; and Ebtisam Timraz, Training Facilitator, EthniCity Catering. Harv Matchullis, Missional Director, New Canadian Initiatives, facilitated an idea generating exercise designed to identify additional keys for opening doors. Colleen Klatt, CESLM Marketing and Communications Coordinator, was the MC for this energetic event.

SPRING TRAINING & CESLM's 10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Cooperative's training year ended with Spring Training on May 5th, 2012 at St. James Anglican Church with over 90 enthusiastic people in attendance. The theme for Spring Training was 'Strengthening Community through Cultural Awareness'.

Pastor Ashwin Ramani (Multi-Ethnic Ministries, Centre Street Church) spoke about 'Calgary's Growing Diversity and the Church's Response'; Ruth-Anne Gilbertson (Global Ministries, C&MA) presented 'Biblical Perspectives on Worldview'; and Becky Matchullis (Navigating Life's Transitions) spoke about 'Transition and Coming to Terms with Change'.

Afternoon workshops offered participants choice of: 'Teaching Techniques for the ESL Classroom' Grammar Techniques, led by Gisela Rohde & Drinda Wilson and Pronunciation Techniques, led by Patricia Dyck; or 'Strategies for Effective Cross-Cultural Communication' facilitated by Gail Kastning.

Our 10th Anniversary Celebration was held as part of the luncheon and coordinated by Colleen Klatt with assistance by Rhonda McNallie. Our Founder, Madeline Johnson, and Mel Johnson were recognized for their faithful commitment and work for the Cooperative over the past 10 years.

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION TRAINING

On February 17, 2012, Gail Kastning and Bev Chambers delivered a workshop for 40 staff members at Foundations for the Future Academy's South Calgary Middle School. They have been invited back next spring to deliver a follow-up workshop.



Marketing & Communications



I have had the privilege of serving CESLM in the capacity of Marketing and Communication Coordinator again this year – and a busy year it has been! Our fall training program, networking event and spring training conference were all successfully promoted events among the churches and communities we serve.

Our website received a full make over and was relaunched last summer. We continue to see good usage of our site, especially the area that promotes the individual programs throughout the city. We also moved to a web-based newsletter and database which allows us to monitor our newsletter readership more carefully and thus understand and better serve the needs of our readers.

In addition to marketing and communications, my role this year included creating a plan for fundraising and a "Case for Support" document to be shared with donors. This document has been shared with many of our donors and friends of the Cooperative. It outlines who we are and the vision we have to see churches be leaders in welcoming newcomers. The board has been primarily responsible for sharing this document and their efforts are to be applauded. Over the past year we have raised both community awareness about CESLM and the necessary funds to continue the ministry of reaching out to newcomers. I am so grateful for the ways God has blessed CESLM.

2012 marks the 10th anniversary of the Cooperative. We chose the spring training conference as our venue to celebrate this anniversary, complete with cake, corsages, newspaper clippings and commemorative photos. In case you didn't have a chance to be a part of the celebration, I've included below a portion of the newsletter article that expresses our gratitude as we reflect on 10 years of ministry.

"This is not just the anniversary of a ministry, it is a celebration of YOU [our alumni, donors and community]! It is because of your commitment to reach out to newcomers that we have been welcoming and supporting newcomers for the past 10 years. We rejoice with thankful hearts for all the newcomers whose lives have been touched as result of the training God has allowed CESLM to offer.

Today there are hundreds of ordinary, open-hearted Calgarians like you building respectful relationships with newcomers and filling the gap in society's integration of our new neighbors.

Thank you for making a difference. Your passion to reach out in love to newcomers in our community is bearing good fruit and building a better Canada for the future."

I must admit that I look at this past year with wonder, amazed at how God continues to open doors for CESLM to assist churches to deal with the ever-growing number of newcomers in our city. Although the task can feel overwhelming, God continues to guide our path and encourage us along the way. I personally will be "sitting on the bench" most of this next year, as I am having another child and taking a parental leave for most of the next year. I look forward to cheering from the sidelines as Janelle Baldwin takes over my position. She brings an incredible talent for graphic design, in addition to her excellent writing skills. I'm confident the Cooperative will be in good hands with her.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Klatt

Marketing and Communications Coordinator



Please check our website www.eslcooperative.ca

10th Anniversary

Cooperative ESL Ministries Celebrates our 10th Anniversary!

*O*n May 5th we celebrated the 10th Anniversary of Cooperative ESL Ministries. It was an opportunity for us to celebrate all those who have partnered with us to work in Christian ministries serving newcomers.

For the past 10 years we have been training people to reach out to newcomers and help them navigate the challenges of integrating into a new culture. Our approach to integration has three key strategies:

- 1. Training local volunteers to lead conversational English classes.**
- 2. Providing cross-cultural training for both newcomers and Canadians.**
- 3. Creating opportunities for respectful relationships and mentoring to flourish.**

We thank all those who are making a difference. Who better to lead the way in providing a warm welcome than Calgary's churches? Their passion to reach out in love to newcomers in our community is bearing good fruit.



Comings & Goings



Community Liaison Coordinator - Roxy Meyers has a Master's degree in Christian Education and was an Adjunct Professor at Taylor Seminary in Edmonton. She has lived in Alberta for many years (Lethbridge and Edmonton). Since moving to Calgary she has volunteered with an ESL Sewing Program and has completed the ACE TESOL Program at Mt. Royal. Roxy has been an Associate Pastor of Children's Ministries and also developed a family program focused on community outreach. Over the past two years she has felt a growing call to ministry with newcomers and is looking forward to supporting Calgary's churches towards this goal.



Marketing & Communications Coordinator - Janelle Baldwin is a talented graphic designer with extensive experience working for clients such as the Calgary Flames. She graduated from SAIT in 1993 with a diploma in Printing Management Technology and has designed advertising and promotional materials for most of her career. She has experience in both business and creative writing and is looking forward to using her talents to serve God and His people in this exciting ministry while Colleen is on maternity leave. Her volunteer work has included projects for the Calgary Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Covenant Ministry House, Haiti ARISE Ministries, and Cross Pointe Family Church. She also has experience in web-based design.



Myra Brown resigned at the end of March in order to spend more time with her family and to support other passions in her life. During the past three and a half years she has visited scores of churches, managed 13 different events (including four fall trainings over 12 weekends) and offered her all to see God glorified in our city.

We are very thankful for Myra's contribution of time, talent, and experience. Her dedicated service has been much appreciated by the Board and by her co-workers. Although this transition evokes sadness in our hearts, we also celebrate Myra and her vibrant contribution. She will be greatly missed.

"There is always the danger that we may just do the work for the sake of the work. This is where the respect and the love and the devotion come in - that we do it to God, to Christ, and that's why we try to do it as beautifully as possible." Mother Theresa



Acknowledgements

The Cooperative's past success is based on countless hours of service from committed volunteers. Essentially we are an organization of volunteers dedicated to serving and training volunteers. This has been one of our greatest blessings and the Board and Staff of CESLM offer our sincere thanks to all our willing volunteers!

Working volunteers are involved in all aspects of our organization and our training events. Many are professional people (ESL Trainers and Teachers, Immigrant Settlement Workers, and Employment Counsellors working in agencies, colleges, schools, city services, and churches) who volunteer their time in training and facilitation. Others provide help setting up furniture and equipment, registering people for events, catering, and cleaning up. Without them, we would be unable to accomplish all that we do.

Thank you to:

Ruth Burgerhout, Volunteer Bookkeeper

Cindy Ralph, Volunteer Librarian

Heather Jones, Volunteer Registrar

April Luk, Events Volunteer



Ruth Burgerhout



Cindy Ralph



Heather Jones



April Luk

"We always thank God for all of you...we remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Thessalonians 1:2

Thanks to Rev. Kobus Genis of Westminster Presbyterian Church who donated 200 copies of his book, The Bible as your GPS, as a CESLM Fundraising Initiative.



Donors

COMMUNITY PARTNERS 2011 - 2012

Centre Street Church
Foothills Alliance Church
Hawkwood Baptist Church
Lighthouse Christian Fellowship
RockPointe Church
St. James Anglican Church
Sunnyside Christian Retreat

FUNDING GRANTS 2011 - 2012

Community Spirit Grant
Nickle Family Foundation

MINISTRY PARTNERS 2011 - 2012

Anna & Chester Cross
April Luk
Au-Yeung, Lai Ming
Barry & Jessie Johnson
Bev & Norman Chambers
Beverly & Jack Pike
Bill & Catherine Mah
Boyd & Jenny Anderson
Charlie Hunter
Craig & Heather Jones
Craig Jones (Lomond Sports Agencies)
Darrel & Donna Eliason
David & Cathy Lee
David & Dale Fisher
David & Jane Turvey
David & Serena Nelson
David Johnson
Eileen & James Finnman
Gisela Rohde
Gordon & Margaret Braaten
Helen Lewis

*We are grateful to all our Donors
and Community Partners for their
continued support and faith in the
work of the ESL Cooperative.*

Thank you!

Janice Penner
Jason & Colleen Klatt
Jeff & Lynn Mayall
John & Jacqueline Hallett
John & Laurie Abbott
John T. Huang
Kelly & Barb Johnson
Ken & Cori Palmer
Larry Edel
Linda Chow
Mandy Lo
Martha Beach
Mel & Madeline Johnson
Norm Jacobsen
Otto & Elaine Hastman
Preston & Janet Medd
Providential Performance
R. Casey
Rachel Workentine
Rhonda McNallie
Ronald & Judy Klintberg
Ronald & Myra Brown
Shelley McLean
Stephen Cicman
Ted & Betty Pike



Financial Report

COOPERATIVE ESL MINISTRIES STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

	2012	2011
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Bank/Cash	20,393	5,115
Receivables	124	136
Prepaid Expenses	100	161
	<hr/> 20,617	<hr/> 5,412
TOTAL ASSETS	<hr/> 20,617	<hr/> 5,412
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Account payables and accrued liabilities	108	613
Deferred revenue	9,209	—
Restricted Bursary Fund	250	570
	<hr/> 9,567	<hr/> 1,183
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	<hr/> 11,050	<hr/> 4,229
	<hr/> 20,617	<hr/> 5,412

The Board & Staff of CESLM wish to express our sincere thanks to Nirmala Panthi Dahal, who donated her time and accounting expertise in undertaking a Review of our Financial Records for 2011-2012.



Statement of Operations

COOPERATIVE ESL MINISTRIES STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

	2012	2011
REVENUE		
Donations	27,715	29,451
Registrations	7,179	7,413
Sundry and Membership	4	2,962
Amortization of deferred capital contribution	—	298
	<u>34,898</u>	<u>40,124</u>
EXPENSES		
Program costs		
Facilitators	1,725	1,310
Facility rental	484	479
Food	1,838	3,373
Supplies and sundry	1,144	344
Advertising and printing	1,142	1,366
Amortization	—	298
Books and Materials	47	37
Interest and bank charges	332	83
Office and sundry	1,707	3,207
Salaries and benefits	19,136	38,559
Workshops	522	—
	<u>28,077</u>	<u>49,056</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	<u>6,821</u>	<u>-8,933</u>



Training & Event Photos



Fall Training 2011



Training & Event Photos



*Networking
Event 2012*



*Spring
Training 2012*

