

Outside Employment Opportunities

Admissions Coordinator
Columbia College
40 hours per week
Closing date: will remain open until suitable candidate found.
See website for more details:
http://www.columbia.ab.ca/about/Jobs/

Career Services and Student Employment Coordinator
Columbia College
up to 40 hours per week
Closing date: will remain open until suitable candidate found.
See website for more details:
http://www.columbia.ab.ca/about/Jobs/

Work Experience and Integrated Training Programs Coordinator
Columbia College
up to 40 hours per week
Closing date: will remain open until suitable candidate found.
See website for more details:
http://www.columbia.ab.ca/about/Jobs/

CNN Hero Visits
Calgary: Darkness to Light—and Beyond
Featuring Dr. Chandra Sankurathi
October 28th at 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$20 includes lunch.
Limited seating.
Calgary Indo-Canadian Centre - 826 Edmonton Trail NE, Calgary
Email: chandra.lad@gmail.com



Cooperative ESL Ministries

News Worthy!

The monthly newsletter of Cooperative ESL Ministries

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Language Lessons by J.M. Baldwin

Imagine arriving in a new country. One that you've heard a lot about, perhaps dreamed your whole life of visiting. The opportunity has arisen for you to move there—a country of infinite possibilities.

You get on a plane and travel to this distant country, bringing everything with you that you possibly could, knowing that you are leaving much behind—family, friends, possessions. Your whole life is about to change. During the flight, you think about all the opportunities, the new life, the adventure, with butterflies fluttering in your stomach. It wasn't an easy decision to make, moving here, but you're sure it will be worthwhile, the best for your family. You disembark the plane to this glorious new future—only to discover it's nothing like what you thought it would be. Your education is not up to your new country's standards, the language is difficult to understand and the culture is baffling. You find yourself unable to get a job in your field, you're struggling to find a place to live and end up taking a menial job to pay the mounting bills and feed your family. You dress differently, speak differently and your values seem to be much different from those around you. It's frustrating, it's depressing—and it's experienced by newcomers to Canada every day.

On November 1, 2012, new language rules come into play in Canada. New citizenship applicants will have to provide verifiable evidence of their language ability when they apply to become a citizen, achieving Canadian Language Benchmark 4 in speaking and listening. "Canadian Experience" is another criteria for selecting skilled immigrants. Over 300,000 people enter our country each year under temporary foreign work programs. Many of them feel adrift and unwelcome in our country. Depression and breakdown in family structure are common outcomes.

Welcoming our new neighbours and helping them to assimilate is vital and beneficial, for them and for Canada. Programs such as church-based volunteer ESL programs are an important part of extending a hand and welcoming our neighbour. Getting involved breaks down barriers, helping us to see our newcomers as people, instead of invaders. Taking the time to learn about different cultures is also beneficial, as we interact increasingly with people from other countries. Jesus asks us to love our neighbour as ourselves. Get involved, and help your new neighbour feel welcome today!

Dummy Subjects by Gisela Rohde

Love Antigua. There are so many nice beaches there." A student asked me today why she needed to use the word, "there" twice when it's only talking about one place. Many students would write, "There (meaning in that place) are so many nice beaches." or "Are so many nice beaches there."

I told her that the first "there" does not mean "in that place". The first one is what we call a "dummy subject" in a sentence where we are only talking about the existence of something. The second "there" means "in that place". A dummy subject is just a word that we put in front of the verb to keep the Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) order of English sentences. To preserve that order, the sentence would ordinarily have to be, "So many nice beaches are there." But, we want to prepare the hearer for what we are going to say, so we use the word "there" instead of the real

subject (to give more thinking time), and the real subject comes after the verb in place of the object.

"It" is another dummy subject. Sometimes "it" refers to whatever we talked about before, as in, "You made the mess, so now you clean it up!" "It" refers to the mess. But if I say, "It's 5 o'clock," , "It's snowing outside," or "It's -20 (degrees)," the "it" is not referring to anything I said before. It is also not a substitute for "the time" or for "the weather". We have just chosen to use "it" as a dummy subject when making statements about the time, the weather, or our comfort level as in, "It's noisy in here," or "Boy, it's hot!"

So, we use "there" as a dummy subject if we are talking about the existence of something, and not an action that thing is doing, and we use "it" when referring to time, weather, and some adjectives.

