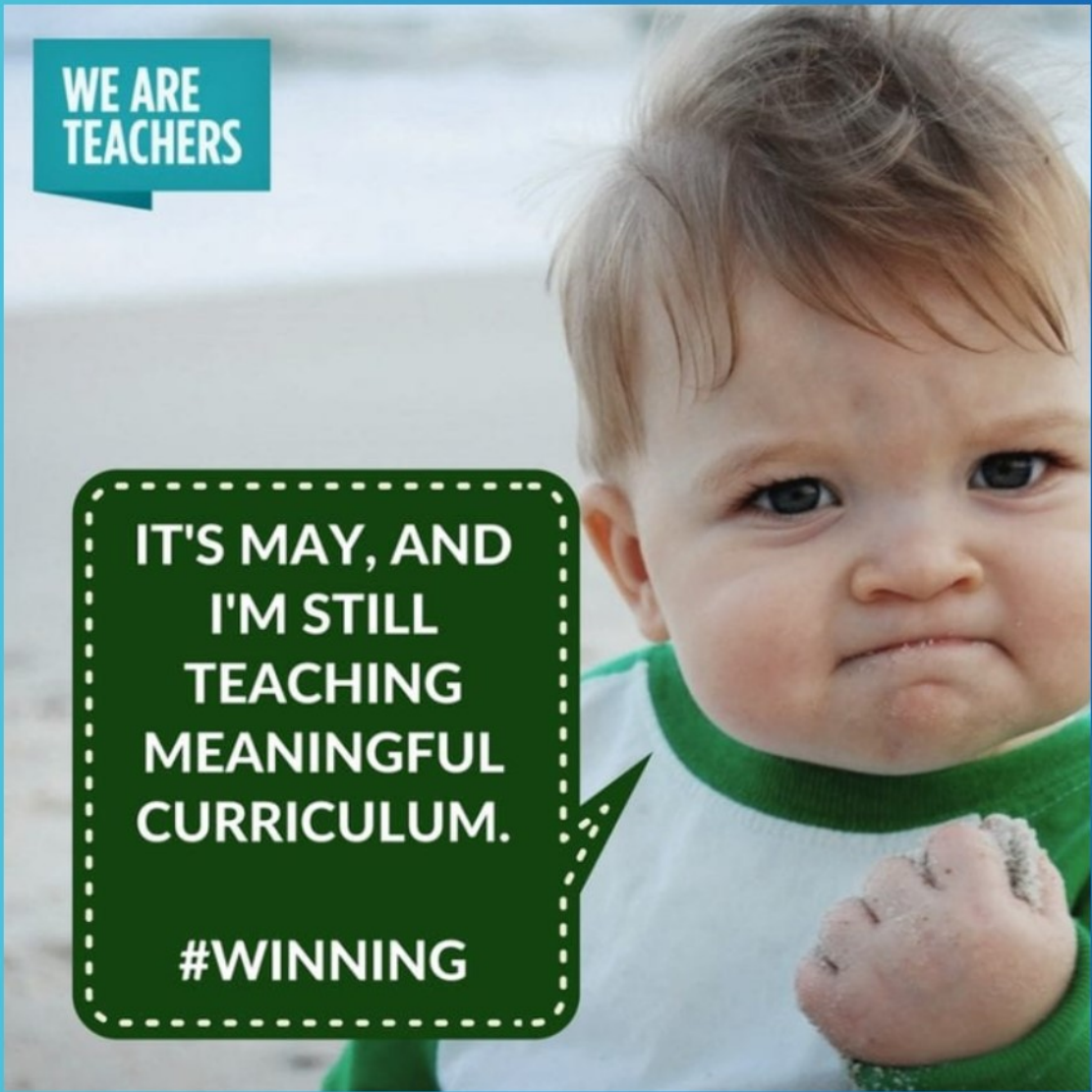


Spring Newsletter 2025



President’s Message

Happy Spring everyone! We are almost at the end of the school year. This season is filled with final projects, field trips, speech competitions, IDEA Summits and sunny PE classes. Amidst all the changes, remember that you are a valuable part of the school. Every minute counts. You are going into classes, pulling students out of classes, and working alongside content teachers. Those ELL students need you right to the very end. Please take a moment to read our newsletter as there might be some information that may be helpful for your teaching. Enjoy the final months with your students and colleagues!

2024- 2025 BC TESOL Executive

President: Rebeka delaMorandiere

Past President: Liz Seitz

Treasurer: Analisa Feuz Secretary: Debbie Gomes

Members at Large

Karl Dick	Kris Hull	Jayashree Ramaswami
Becky Nelstead	Kiran Abraham	

Speaker Bio:

Andrea Honigsfeld, EdD, is professor in the School of Education and Human Services at Molloy College, Rockville Centre, New York, where she teaches graduate courses related to cultural and linguistic diversity , language and literacy development and equity. Before entering the field of teacher education, she was an English teacher in Hungary and an English-as-a-Second-language teacher in New York City. She was the recipient of a doctoral fellowship at St. John’s University, New York, where she conducted research on individualized instruction.

As a Fulbright scholar, she has lectured in Iceland and presented at conferences across Canada, the United States, Great Britain, China, Denmark, Japan, Thailand, Sweden, the Philippines, and the United Arab Emirates. She frequently offers professional learning opportunities, primarily focusing on effective content and language integration strategies and collaborative practices for ELD specialists and general-education teachers.

Andrea has published extensively on working with multilingual learners and collaborative instructional practices. She has co-authored over 60 articles and chapters and coauthored or coedited over 30 books, 11 of which are US national bestsellers.

Andrea’s recent books include:

- Growing Language and Literacy: Strategies for English Learners K-8*
- Growing Language and Literacy: Strategies for Secondary Multilingual Learners*
- Co-Planning: Five Essential Practices to Integrate Curriculum and Instruction for English Learners*
- Collaborative Assessment for Multilingual Learners and Teachers: Pathways to Partnerships*
- Nine Dimensions of Scaffolding for Multilingual Learners*



Submissions from educators!

Share your teaching ideas with your BC TESOL colleagues from around the province and get entered for a chance to win a \$50.00 gift card. Give and get in return!

- Submissions will be original ideas/strategies from your work environment**
- Each entry will be 250 words or less**
- Please cite sources if using websites, podcasts, books, articles, etc. in your submission**
- Successful entries will be notified by email and the entry will be shared in the next newsletter**
- Please send submissions to bctesol@bctf.ca**



IMPORTANCE OF ORACY IN OUR
TEACHING ENVIRONMENT



Oracy in the Classroom: Strategies for Effective Talk

Watch >

Check out the oracy video from Edutopia and the Talk Section of Literacy Today for ideas and resources on developing oracy skills in the classroom.

Literacytoday.ca



Scholarship Opportunities!

The Catherine Logan Eddy Scholarship



The Catherine Logan Eddy scholarship has been created to honour one of the long-time ELL educators in British Columbia. Before her retirement, Catherine dedicated more than 25 years to ELL pedagogy and research, working with both ELL learners and their teachers as mentor, advocate and scholar. Catherine Eddy also worked with Sylvia Helmer to co-author *Look at Me When I Talk to You*, as well as other publications which supported and advanced ELL professionalism in the province.

Purpose: To recognize an immigrant student graduating from a BC Secondary School who has combined hard work with school and community involvement, and who wishes to further her/his education/training at a tertiary institution in BC.

Scholarship Amount: \$1, 000.00

Application deadline: April, 30, 2026

Click [here](#) for more information

The Sylvia Helmer Scholarship

The Sylvia Helmer scholarship has been created to honour one of the long-time ELL educators in British Columbia. Before her retirement, Dr. Helmer dedicated more than 25 years to ELL pedagogy and research, working with both ELL learners and their teachers as mentor, advocate, blogger and scholar. Sylvia's contributions to language learning includes years as a highly respected consultant for the Vancouver School District, a UBC professor and an ardent supporter of BC TEAL, ESL PSA, and TESOL. As well, Sylvia Helmer worked with Catherine Eddy to co-author *Look at Me When I Talk to You*.

Purpose: To recognize a refugee student graduating from a BC Secondary School who has combined hard work with school and community involvement, and who wishes to further her/his education/training at a tertiary institution in BC. This student will have started their schooling in BC as a student with refugee status in Canada.

Scholarship amount: \$1, 000.00

Application deadline: April, 30, 2026

Click [here](#) for more information