



**Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language
Annual General Meeting
Friday, October 14, 2022
4:45 – 5:45 PM
Location: Online - Green Room**

AGENDA

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Establishment of quorum (60 - 10% of September 30 Membership)**
- 3. Approval of 2022 AGM Agenda**
- 4. Approval of 2021 AGM minutes**

5. Reports of Officers

Presidents' Report

Treasurer Report

6. Reports of Committees

Calgary Local

Edmonton Local

Southern Alberta Local

Bursary Committee

TESL Canada

Rural Routes

Advocacy Committee

Communications Committee

MOTION: To approve the ATESL Annual Reports as presented at the 2022 Annual General Meeting.

7. Presentation of Awards

Lifetime Membership Award - Sara Gnida

Carolyn Dieleman Award - Student Engagement Centre- Andrew Augustine, Zuzana Buchanan, Barbara Edmondson, and Olivia Wall

Motions before the membership

- 8. Approval of the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan**
- 9. Approval of the 2021 Audited Financial Statement**

10. Approval of Auditor

MOTION: Move that ATESL contract Halpert Monsma Chartered Accountants to audit the financial statements of the Association of Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language for the year ending December 31, 2022.

11. Ratification of President Elect

Motion to ratify the 2021-2022 President Elect, Doug Vantou who was appointed by the Board following the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

12. Appointment of Local Co-chairs and Board Members at Large

The Following ATESL Members have been approved by acclamation to their Local Chapters as Co-chairs, or as Board members at large:

- Calgary Local - Jenifer Soto Munoz
- Edmonton Local- Shiran Wang
- TESL Canada Representative – Dora DiLullo Patten

13. Election of Officers for 2022-2023

- President Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer

14. Acknowledgements of Retiring Board Members

- Edmonton Local Co-chair- Fiza Abedin
- Calgary Local Co-chair – Patrick Lee
- TESL Canada Representative – Daniel Green
- Rural Routes Representative - Alana Johnson
- Secretary – May Yeung
- Treasurer – Jessica Legacy
- Past President – Dora DiLullo Patten

15. Passing of the gavel

16. Adjournment

Prize giveaways:

- **2023 Conference Registration**
- **\$100 Gift Card**
- **\$50 Gift Card**
- **\$50 Gift Card**
- **4 \$25 Gift Cards**

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

ATESL President's Annual Report 2021-2022

October 2021 to October 2022, what a year!! It has been a period of great change and evolution. On our way to a third year through a worldwide pandemic, it has left us with many lessons, and been a testament of commitment, planting seeds, innovation, and of resilience in education, for both ATESL as an association and the ESL community in general. Despite many challenges, this year has been a time to **refresh**, resetting ourselves by renewing our minds and bodies, to **recharge** by making time for ourselves and making self-care a priority and lastly to **refocus**, and feel empowered and confident to achieve our goals and focus on what matters: ourselves and the people we serve.

All of the above reflects our members' collective commitment to our field. This year, the ATESL Board and the local chapters have worked very hard to keep our members connected and engaged through meetings, workshops, virtually and recently starting with in-person events. We also finalized and launched the **ATESL Best Practices for Adult EAL and LINC Programming in Alberta**, with a deep appreciation to Sara Gnida and Herly Cervera, Project Manager and Project Consultant respectively.

Aiming to successfully build community and support our members. This year's theme reflects our commitment to move forward: REFRESH, RECHARGE AND REFOCUS, our third annual virtual conference. We'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our amazing conference team led by Conference Managers; Maryna Siek and Sarah Kopichanski, our keynotes, featured speakers, guest speakers, presenters, planners, and volunteers who have taken part in the conference planning, and of course our ATESL Business Manager Irene Wood.

ATESL would like to recognize the following individuals for their leadership and contributions to making the conference such a success:

- Maryna Siek and Sarah Kopichanski – Conference Managers
- Rigvi Kumar and Teea Gergely – Program Chairs and to all their team of program reviewers.
- Gabriela Jessome – Sponsorship Chair
- Sarah Kopichanski – Exhibitors Chair
- Shona Nichols-Donations/Gamification Chair
- Daniel Ling – Hospitality Chair
- Hannah Nguyen – Social Media Chair
- Doug Vantour – Producer
- Fransiska Awasis – IT Lead / Moderator Chair and to all moderators and tech supports
- Irene Wood – Registration
- Jeff Kuntz and Jeff Conquest – Conference Theme & Vision
- Sofia Elgueta Duplancic and Denise Lo – Guidance, Conference Managers 2021
- Indira Cevallos and Gabriela Jessome – Guidance, Conference Managers 2020

ATESL would also like to thank the generous sponsors of our 2022 virtual conference for their support and financial contributions:

Diamond Level and Friday Official Conference Platform Sponsor

- Ellii

Diamond Level:

- Centre for Newcomers
- CCIS (Calgary Catholic Immigration Society)

Platinum Level:

- Bow Valley College
- Norquest College

Gold Level:

- ASSIST Community Services Centre
- AWES (Alberta Workforce Essential Skills)
- Columbia College

Silver Level:

- iTEP (International Test of English Proficiency)

Bronze Level:

- University of Alberta Faculty of Extension
- TIES (The Immigrant Education Society)

Conference Rates

As we know that some of our members may continue experiencing financial hardship this past year, the Board has kept conference registration fees low with a minimal increase from last year to make the conference more accessible to our membership including the early bird: ATESL Early Career Rate (40% discount) at \$72 and the ATESL Student Member at \$60.

Communications Committee

A warm thank you to all of you who have been engaging with ATESL's social media through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn. Because of you and our social media volunteers, and especially our Social Media Coordinator Sofia Elgueta, we have been continuing to grow our presence and continue to bring awareness to ATESL, its vision, mission, and the commitment to continue our work and inform about the work our partners do.

If you haven't done so already, please consider connecting with ATESL on LinkedIn and update your profile to include work and/or volunteer experience with ATESL.

A warm thank you to Sofia Elgueta for her thoroughness and outstanding work in maintaining an active social media presence for us, for creating two amazing ATESL promotional videos and to Hannah Nguyen for the work she did as the social media chair for our 2022 conference.

Annual Wellness Benefits for ATESL Staff

During this third pandemic year, we continue to recognize the importance of wellness in the workplace. For this reason ATESL increased an annual wellness benefit to our staff and also sent a letter advocating for paid sick leave to our Service Provider Organizations and stakeholders, as well as sharing it with our interprovincial EAL/ESL Association colleagues.

Local Chapter Summaries

The locals resiliently continued to provide an outstanding number of professional Development opportunities to members through virtual sessions and workshops. A heartfelt thank you to the local chairs for their hard work and commitment. I encourage you to read their reports to learn more about the professional opportunities they provided.

Bursary

Bursaries are some of the benefits offered to ATESL members. The Board approved applications totalling \$1425 this year for three recipients. The Board has also approved ten \$100 bursaries to first-time conference presenters as an appreciation and encouragement for sharing their knowledge with their peers.

Rural Routes

ATESL's relationship with Rural Routes continues to grow and we are committed to our extremely valuable partnership with NorQuest College to reach our members and learners in more remote areas of the province.

ATESL takes this opportunity to say farewell and to give a heartfelt thank you to Dorte Weber, who retired in June 2022. Dorte was the Rural Routes Team Lead for 5 years, and her exemplary leadership and dedication to the adult English language teaching community will be greatly missed. Thank you Dorte for your valuable contributions and work across the province.

Best Practices Project

ATESL's Best Practices for Adult EAL and LINC Programming in Alberta was fully launched the second week of December 2021. Four ATESL presidents have been a part of the process to secure and oversee the project; Colyn DeGraaff, Lori Kennedy, Dora Di Lullo-Patten, and Gabriela Jessome. The Project Manager, Sara Gnida, and Project Consultant, Herly Cervera worked tirelessly to ensure that **ATESL's Best Practices for Adult EAL and LINC Programming in Alberta** was disseminated widely by providing workshop sessions across Alberta. There were over 20 presentations to stakeholders and Service provider organizations. ATESL's Best Practices is available online for digital download and as an interactive website. We still have hardcopies available, please contact Irene to request yours.

We'd also like to thank all of the focus group attendees, our advisors, and reviewers for their time and input on the new sections which included Indigenization, 2SLGBTQ+ Inclusion, Anti-racism, Supporting Learners with Diverse Learning Needs, Skills and Language for Work, Technology and Online Learning, and the completely rewritten EAL Literacy. The ATESL Board acknowledges and gives its deepest appreciation to the Alberta Ministry of Labour and Immigration for this grant which made this extremely important project possible.

Inter-Provincial Partnerships

ATESL continued to meet with interprovincial associations to discuss many issues including changes due to the pandemic, association updates, sharing of ideas and information, and to discuss joint efforts to advocate for our members. ATESL's GSA presented at an interprovincial meeting to encourage them to consider starting and/or improving their efforts to support this initiative in their areas. These interprovincial meetings have provided a great opportunity for collaboration across provincial boundaries.

ATESL Advocacy Committee

The Advocacy Committee is made up of a group of dedicated and devoted professionals, inspired to action from their dedication to quality education and commitment to further causes that support the well-being of ESL learners and teachers.

This year, the committee worked on many issues including: Continuing the ongoing support to the "Let's Talk about Literacy" series hosted by The TIES Literacy Centre of Expertise, holding the GSA meetings for ESL teachers, and building collaborative relationships with other ESL professional organizations across Canada.

Another great way to support the Advocacy Committee is to consider volunteering for it. Contact advocacy@atesl.ca for more information.

The ATESL Board would also like to formally express our gratitude to Alexandra Marshall who has chaired the Advocacy Committee for the past year. Her wisdom, leadership, perseverance and keenness are highly appreciated. We are extremely excited that Alexandra Marshall has agreed to continue as chair for Advocacy.

Financial Statement

Despite the third pandemic year, ATESL did not go into deficit, and posted a profit for 2021. This is due to the online conferences, as they are significantly less expensive to host. Keeping the Board decision to continue with all meetings online, this has created a new path of convenience for all attendees and has also kept expenses lower.

ATESL continues to explore alternate avenues for funding and the Board is committed to increasing annual revenue in order to keep the organization profitable.

Strategic Plan

ATESL has worked toward its Strategic Plan goals since 2017 and has been revising it every three years. I will be presenting the proposed updated Strategic Plan later in the meeting, but the Board has worked

to maintain the vision of the four strategic Directions for 2023- 2025 by expanding some Key implementation strategies. Our strategic directions remain to:

1. Broaden the variety and reach of professional development opportunities
2. Continue to build the value and benefits of ATESL membership
3. Promote ATESL's presence and increase awareness of its role and benefits of membership. and finally:
4. Relationship building

TESL Canada

TESL Canada and ATESL's partnership continued to flourish during the 2021-2022 year. ATESL members receive automatic membership with TESL Canada, members are free to apply for any TESL Canada benefits, bursaries, scholarships using their ATESL membership number. As a TESL Canada member you are also able to take advantage of the many complimentary professional development opportunities offered by them. Visit <https://www.tesl.ca/membership/membership-benefits.html> for additional information.

A special thank you to our outgoing TESL Canada representative Daniel Green for his support, dedication, energy and commitment to ATESL. His experience and wisdom will be missed on the

ATESL board. We are thrilled to have former ATESL president Dora DiLullo-Patten take the baton from Daniel and we are confident that she will do an exemplary job in her new role as TESL Canada representative for ATESL.

2022 ATESL Awards

ATESL Lifetime Membership and Carolyn Dieleman Award

The ATESL Board is extremely excited to bestow two awards at this years' AGM. Sara Gnida is the recipient of the 2022 ATESL Lifetime Membership Award. We are also honored to award Zuzana Buchanan, Andrew Augustine, Barbara Edmondson, and Olivia Wall of the Student Engagement Centre, the 2022 Carolyn Dieleman Award for their exemplary contributions to the field. You can find out more later in the Agenda. Congratulations to all of the nominees and winners.

New Board Members

Last year, after the AGM, a call was put out for President Elect and Doug Vantour was appointed by the Board in December, he will be ratified later during the AGM proceedings.

We are thrilled to be welcoming the following new Board members whose appointment will happen during the AGM

- Calgary: Jenifer Soto,
- Edmonton: Shiran Wang,
- TESL Canada Representative: Dora DiLullo-Patten

We are excited to have three nominees for our executive this year: President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer.

Outgoing ATESL Board Members

ATESL and I would like to express our most sincere gratitude to our outgoing ATESL Board members for their contributions throughout the last few years. I personally would like to thank everyone of you as my time as President wouldn't have been the same without you. I thank you all for your leadership, mentorship and commitment to our great field.

- Calgary Local Co-chair – Patrick Lee
- Edmonton Local Co-chair – Fiza Abedin
- Rural Routes Representative – Alana Johnson
- TESL Canada Representative – Daniel Green
- Secretary – May Yeung
- Treasurer – Jessica Legacy
- Past President – Dora DiLullo-Patten

Conclusion

To finalize my report, I would like to thank every single Board member for always supporting me through this challenging year, for your tenacity, hard work, willingness to serve, and your commitment to Education and the ESL field. I would like to especially mention three very special people to whom I am and will always be extremely grateful, for their guidance, their ongoing support and friendship. First of all, Irene Wood, our incredible administrator, who I deeply respect and admire, not only for her multitasking skills, her ability to remain calm while keeping everything organized and running smoothly, but for her great heart and her superpower to always infuse positive energy and positive support with sincerity and honesty to everyone around her. ATESL is truly blessed to have her as our Business Manager, for her exceptional skills, depth of experience and wealth of knowledge about the history of our organization. Irene always knew when and how to help and what was the right thing to say every time. I will always treasure our experiences and will greatly miss our Saturday meetings or our texts in the middle of the night when we remembered something we need to go over. Thank you, Irene, for always making me smile.

Secondly, I'd like to thank our past president Dora DiLullo who was always supportive and wise. Her vast experience in the ESL field has helped me to grow and be the best president that I could be. Thank you, Dora for your guidance.

Lastly, I'd like to thank my friend Doug Vantour, our incoming president. I was super excited when Doug said that he would become president. I can assure you that we are in good capable hands. Doug's wealth of knowledge and experience not only in the ESL field but in safety and risk are some of the assets he brings to the organization. His equanimity, resilience and way of looking at situations through different perspectives will help us to continue our growth.

Respectfully submitted by Gabriela Jessome, ATESL President 2021-2022

Treasurer Report

ATESL remained fiscally positive this year. We completed our Best Practices project within budget. Our conference was online again in 2021 and therefore the expenses were significantly lower. We passed those savings onto our members by reducing conference admission, but still made a small profit. Our yearly audit was successful once again, and we are grateful for our auditors at Halpert Monsma for all their advice and positive feedback. In response to last year's recommendation that we explore possible advertising revenue, we revised our advertising policy this year in order to standardize our fees for promoting for-profit programs and events. Overall, for the second year in a row, ATESL has operated without deficit and will continue to find new and creative ways of maximizing our services while remaining financially responsible.

Finally, I want to extend my gratitude to Irene as well as all board members whom I have had the pleasure of working with as treasurer and as regional co-chair prior to that. ATESL is a special community, and it's been an honour to be a part of it.

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Legacy, Treasurer

Reports of Committees

2022 ATESL Calgary Local Annual Report

2022 was a great and energetic year for Calgary Local as we had 5 successful PD sessions which were presented via Zoom. In addition to that, all 5 sessions offered a variety of topics. We are grateful and would like to thank all presenters who took the time to share their expertise with us.

January	<i>"Best Practices" by Herly Cervera</i>
February	<i>"Session Description: Leading EAP learners from paraphrasing to "power-phrasing" by Sylvia Rossi</i>
May	<i>"Interactive Digital Activities with Linc Literacy Learners"- Donna Clarke and Jeremy Wilson</i>
June	<i>"Vocabulary Acquisition in your classroom"- Shona Nicols</i> <i>"Hybrid in Action"- Patricia Len :</i>

We would also like to thank the local committee members for their time and commitment this past year:

Nura Mohamed and Patrick Lee Co-chairs

Peggy Jubien, Secretary/Treasurer

We would like to give special thanks to Peggy Jubien (secretary and treasurer) who has been with the local for the last four years and worked diligently to make ATESL Calgary successful.

We are very excited to introduce the 2023 local committee:
Nura Mohamed and Jenifer Soto, Co-chairs

The treasurer and secretary positions are still available. If you are interested, please contact calgary@atesl.ca.

Lastly, we would like to thank our local members for their support, participation and suggestions. We will be having an in-person November Social coming up. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Respectfully submitted by Nura Mohamed, Calgary Local Co-chair

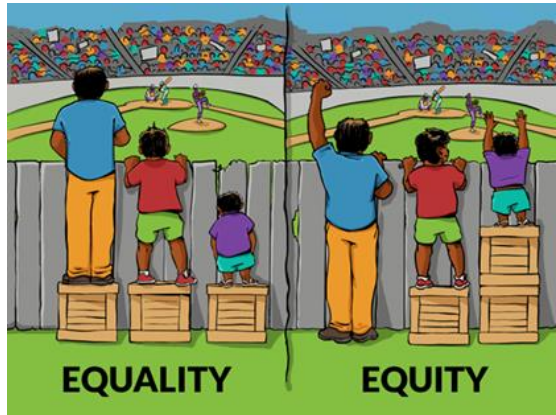
Central Alberta Local

It has been a full year of new experiences for me as the chair of the ATESL Central Alberta chapter. The first action was to know something about the ATESL members in Central Alberta. Therefore, a survey was sent via email to our 56 members. Below you can read the outcome from that action.

Results of the Survey sent on December 15, 2021

Facts of Interest	Answers
Introductory letter + survey sent to	56 members
Answers from Central chapter	6
Answers from Southern chapter	1
Currently working as an ESL/EAL instructor	5
Currently working in person	5
Preferred Topics for PD sessions	Assessment/Evaluation
	Classroom Management
	Helping Special Needs Students Succeed
	Sharing experiences between agencies
Suggested Topic	

Then, I hosted the first Central Alberta Professional Development session via Google Meet on June 2022, with Dr. Lewie Moodley, as the speaker. He talked about “Educational Equity,” leaving behind this



I would like to thank Jess Legacy for supporting me in this position, and Lauren Barrows and Alana Johnson for their precious time and willingness to share their experience with me.

Respectfully submitted by Sara Chavez, Central Alberta Local Chair

Edmonton Local

The Edmonton chapter met 8 times this past year. All events were online and averaged between 20-30 members attending.

<u>DATES</u>	<u>SESSION INFORMATION</u>	<u>PD LOCATION</u>
September 2021	No PD	–
October 2021	No PD (ATESL Conference)	Online
November 26, 2021	Leadership in Language Learning by Jason Andrews	Online - Tutela
December 17, 2021	ATESL Best Practices Update by Herly Cervera	Online - Tutela
January 28, 2022	Designing Pre-Task Grammar Activities: Moving Beyond the Traditional by Dr. Ranta and Dr. Nikouee	Online - Tutela

February 25, 2022	My Canadian English: Making reading instruction and basic information accessible through YouTube by Shona Nichols	Online - Tutela
March 25, 2022	ECSD LINC Digital Literacy Progression List by Diana Agudelo	Online - Tutela
April 29, 2022	Pronunciation: The role of the Listener by Dr. Foote	Online - Tutela
May 27, 2022	How can we help students develop their oral fluency? By Shiran Wang	Online - Tutela
June 24, 2022	Introducing Diversity and Inclusion in the ESL classroom: Having Brave Conversations by Alexandra Marshall	Online - Tutela

Highlights and New Initiatives

- ATESL Edmonton is planning to offer hybrid PDs (in-person and online on Tutela) this year.
- We are continuing to provide certificates (PDFs) of participation to those members who attend.
- Instagram/Twitter/Facebook Social media initiatives.

Upcoming

- ATESL Conference Online (October 14th -15th)
- Next Edmonton Local meeting - tentatively set for Friday, November 25th, 2022

If you have a suggestion for upcoming PD, or want to present at one of our monthly meetings, please email edmonton@atesl.ca

Respectfully submitted by Fiza Abedin and Rigvi Kumar, Edmonton Local Co-chairs

Southern Alberta Local

The Co-Chairs of the Southern Alberta Chapter are Alana Johnson and Lauren Barrows.

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic prevented the chapter from hosting any in-person gatherings throughout most of 2022. However, member engagement continued with periodic electronic correspondence and promotion of virtual events throughout the province hosted by other local chapters. Although the event has not been held at the time of writing this report, the chapter is planning

its first in-person social gathering in conjunction with the ATESL conference in Southern Alberta and looks forward to future interactions with Southern members in 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Barrows and Alana Johnson, Southern Alberta Local Co-chairs

Bursary Committee

The Bursary Committee consists of 3 ATESL members: Dora DiLullo-Patten (Past President), Jess Legacy (Treasurer), and May Yeung (Secretary).

The ATESL bursary is one of the many advantages of membership. The Bursary Committee is pleased to have supported the professional development of three members for its March and September deadlines for their participation in international conferences and for post secondary TESL course work. A total of \$1,425.00 was distributed upon committee recommendation and Board approval. Ten \$100.00 first time conference presenter bursaries were also approved for a total of \$1,000.00.

We are pleased to support ATESL members. For bursary consideration, kindly refer to the eligibility criterion, note the bi-annual application dates, and complete the fillable application form found at <https://www.atesl.ca/membership/bursaries/>.

Submitted by May Yeung, Chair of the Bursary Committee

TESL Canada

TESL Canada and ATESL continued their partnership during the 2021-2022 year and members of ATESL continue to receive automatic membership with TESL Canada and are free to apply for any benefits, bursaries, scholarships with their ATESL membership number. For a comprehensive list of these membership benefits, please visit: <https://www.tesl.ca/membership/membership-benefits.html>

In the September 2021-2022 year, 28 ATESL members applied for TESL Canada certification. As well, this year TESL Canada offered complimentary professional development opportunities, newsletter updates, and webinars on topics such as diversity and inclusion, Brave Conversations with LINC Students, and beginning of term ice breakers.

A special thank you to our outgoing TESL Canada representative Daniel Green for his support and commitment to ATESL. He finished 3 years on the ATESL board under various roles, and his energy and enthusiasm will be missed. We are excited to have the former ATESL president Dora DiLullo-Patten move into the role, and we are confident that she will be an amazing asset to the TESL Canada team!

Finally, the TESL Canada AGM will occur on November 19th and we encourage all ATESL members to attend and give your input on filling board positions and helping direct TESL Canada in the coming year! More details on how to join this virtual AGM will be shared in the near future.

Respectfully submitted by Daniel Green, ATESL Representative to TESL Canada

Rural Routes

Rural Routes continued to serve the Community Adult Learning Programs, granting councils and other English language programs across Alberta in various ways this year. Rural Routes offers the following supports and services:

- Face to face workshops
- Online webinars <https://eslruralroutes.norquest.ca/events.aspx>
- Mentorships – F2F, online, or by phone
- Study Groups
- Communities of Practice (Anti-Racism Talking Circles)
- Classroom Observations
- Tools and Resources
- Professional Development Planning
- Community Needs Assessments

Over the past year Rural Routes:

- Completed community needs assessments in northeastern Alberta in 4 communities.
- Increased online offerings, based on workshop evaluations and conversations with organizations. We expect this online schedule to be well received.
- Created new workshop contents, including workshops on Interrupting Bias and ESL Literacy Learning Strategies
- Continued to increase our incidents of providing face-to-face workshops and mentorships.
- Completed a series of short instructional videos showcasing TESL teaching principles and techniques. We expect this resource to be widely used, both in workshops and webinars, but also potentially as a freestanding resource for teachers and tutors.

Rural Routes and NorQuest College also said goodbye to Dorte Weber, who retired in June, 2022. Dorte was the Rural Routes Team Lead for 5 years. She is an exceptional leader and much valued member of the adult English language teaching community. She will be greatly missed.

ATESL is proud to be partnering with such a vital organization, and we thank the Rural Routes team at NorQuest for their work across the province.

Respectfully submitted by Alana Johnson, Rural Routes Program Lead

Advocacy Committee

The ATESL Advocacy Committee is a group of committed professionals who work to further causes that support the well-being of ESL learners and teachers. The Advocacy Committee is inspired to action from our dedication to quality education and professionalism.

This year continued with the priorities undertaken last year after surveying membership areas of need and interest.

Those priorities were:

- Barriers to learning
- Employment best practices
- 2SLGBTQ+ inclusion
- ESL learners transitioning to work
- Access to citizenship
- Supporting Literacy teachers
- Trauma informed practice
- Decolonization
- Teaching online

This past year a great deal of work has been done in relation to these priorities including:

- Growing the “ATESL Teacher GSA” - an inclusion group for 2SLGBTQ+ teachers and allies
- Sharing of resources to support teachers and learners engaged with online testing, particularly citizenship
- Advocating for sick leave for all EAL teachers. A letter for IRCC expressing the importance of sick leave was drafted, approved by the ATESL board, sent to our stakeholders, and shared with our interprovincial colleagues.
- Building collaborative relationships with other ESL professional organizations across Canada
- Began work to address EAL teacher wage inequity throughout the province

How can you support the work of the Advocacy Committee?

1. Complete our annual survey which helps us identify the priorities our membership supports for the coming year. You will find the survey here: <https://forms.gle/9HfA64KrrvXRXRdr9>
2. Consider volunteering for the Advocacy Committee. Contact advocacy@atesl.ca for more information.

I would like to thank all of the Advocacy Committee members for supporting me in my first year as the head of the advocacy committee. I hope to continue the work of bettering our practice and supporting our teachers.

Respectfully submitted by Alexandra Marshall, ATESL Advocacy Committee Chair

Communications Committee

ATESL was consistently present on social media in 2022. Canva was used to create customised visuals for each event posted. Posts and reminders were made for all Edmonton, Calgary, Southern chapter PDs, the Let’s Talk About Literacy Series (in partnership with TIES), and all Advocacy Committee meetings. Some posts were made sharing information, important dates, or reminders to the general ATESL membership.

ATESL was actively present on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn this year. On our busiest weeks, we were posting daily to three times a week. Posts were scheduled on Canva to ensure posting at the right time and to avoid interfering with Conference-related posts.

Two promotional videos were made; one informs potential members of ATESL's work and mandate and of the benefits of becoming a member, and the other showcases the exposure potential sponsors can get at our annual conferences.

There is much room for growth in our communications and social media activities and ideally, a team of three volunteers (social media: events, social media: holidays and special dates, and communications: advertising and messaging) would share the responsibilities. The profiles and responsibilities of these roles will be shared with the new ATESL Board and recruitment to fill social media/communications positions is underway. An additional recommendation is to keep a bank of tags we can use to increase our reach.

Please connect with ATESL on LinkedIn and update your profile to include work and/or volunteer experience with ATESL.

We will continue to use social media to bring awareness to ATESL, its mandate, our work and the work of our partners.

Respectfully submitted by Sofia Elgueta Duplancic, Social Media Coordinator