



ALBERTA TEACHERS
OF ENGLISH AS
A SECOND LANGUAGE

President's Message

Hello everyone! It is a privilege and an honour to be part of this amazing organization in my new role. Following the theme of our most recent conference, I look forward to an exciting year where we can evolve, adapt, and thrive amidst challenging times.

I am excited to announce Johnson Kunnel as our 2024/2025 President-Elect, who was approved by the Board in early November! Jani Krulc in Calgary and Sarah Pahl in Southern Alberta were appointed by the Board after the October AGM. I am honoured to present the new Board with bios available at <https://www.atesl.ca/about/management-team/>:

Johnson Kunnel, President-Elect
Sofia Elgueta, Past-President
JJ Pulleyblank, Secretary
Doug Vantour, Treasurer
Pamela Ndumbi, Edmonton Co-Chair
Indira Cevallos Novillo, Edmonton Local Co-Chair
Jeffrey Robinson, Calgary Co-Chair
Jani Krulc, Calgary Co-Chair
Sarah Pahl, Southern Alberta Co-Chair
Melinda Johnston, Central Alberta Co-Chair
Hyeyung Park, Advocacy Committee Chair
Mehdi Soleimani, TESL Canada Representative
Lia dela Cruz, Alberta Routes Representative
Zuzana Buchanan, Communications Chair
Irene Wood, Business Manager

With a full Board and dedicated membership across Alberta, we will continue ATESL's mission to support language learners and instructors, united with this common cause. Thank you all for your dedication and commitment,
May Yeung, 2024-2025 ATESL President



Local Updates

Winter Socials

ATESL Members in Calgary and Edmonton, please watch your emails for information about socials being hosted by the local chairs! Join us for in-person gatherings to help warm the winter days.

2024 Conference

The 2024 ATESL online conference - *Building Bridges: Evolve, Adapt, and Thrive* was a great success. There were over 400 attendees, 4 keynote speakers, and 86 sessions. We would like to thank our generous sponsors which were as follows: **Platinum** - CCIS, NorQuest, and SAIT, **Gold** - Cambridge, Columbia College, the University of Alberta English Language School, University of Calgary, and the Centre for Newcomers, and **Bronze**- Assist Community Services, ScoreGuides, and TIES, and our Exhibitors - ProLiteracy - New Readers Press, and TC Media ELT.

It was an exciting 2 days and we would like to remind all registrants that recorded conference sessions are available on the ATESL conference platform for the next few months.

ATESL BOARD

President - May Yeung

President Elect - Johnson Kunnel

Past President - Sofia Elgueta

Secretary - JJ Pulleyblank

Treasurer - Doug Vantour

Calgary Co-Chairs - Jeffrey

Robinson & Jani Krulc

Central AB Chair - Melinda

Johnston

Edmonton Co-Chairs - Pamela

Ndumbi & Indira Cevallos Novillo

Southern AB Chair - Sarah Pahl

TESL Canada Representative -

Mehdi Soleimani

Rural Routes Representative - Lia

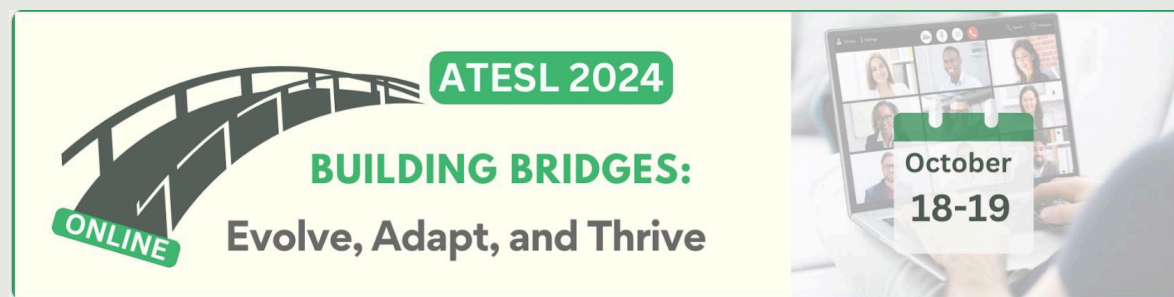
dela Cruz

Communications Chair- Zuzana

Buchanan

Advocacy Chair - Hyeyung Park

Business Manager - Irene Wood



2025 Conference

The Board is busy brainstorming options for next year's conference and appreciates the insights and suggestions the membership shared in the survey that was distributed in November. Stay tuned for an update and a call for Conference Managers that will come out soon!

Membership fee increase

As we continue to grow as an organization and the cost of doing business continues to rise, it is unfair to have significant fee increases once every 4 or 5 years. A 2% fee increase (\$1.25 for a regular one year membership) was approved by the membership at this year's AGM to take effect on January 1st 2025. <https://www.atesl.ca/membership/membership-services/>



Check these out!

Professional Development

Stay up-to-date with PD offerings and events of interest by checking our Events section:

<https://www.atesl.ca/membership/events/>

Job Postings

Looking for a job? Check out our job posting section:

<https://www.atesl.ca/membership/jobs/>



Benefits

ATESL has partnered with BENEFIT HUB to provide our members with competitive insurance plans and marketplace discounts. Access the **Benefits** tab on your profile page once you've logged in to your account on atesl.ca

<https://www.atesl.ca/membership/health-benefits/>



Happy Holidays from ATESL!

As we approach the end of the year, we want to take a moment to wish all of our members a joyful and peaceful holiday season. This time of year offers a wonderful opportunity to connect with family, friends, and loved ones, and to take a well-deserved break from the demands of teaching.

May this season bring you moments of rest, reflection, and inspiration for the year ahead. Thank you for your continued dedication to fostering learning and growth in our communities. We look forward to another year of collaboration and support in advancing the field of English language education.

Warmest wishes from Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language!

