



ANNUAL REPORT

April 2023 - March 2024

Mission

To provide flexible and accessible English language training in a safe and inclusive community which empowers newcomers to succeed and reach their full potential.

Land Acknowledgement

As re-settlers in what is now Canada, we acknowledge that the Indigenous peoples were the original inhabitants of these lands. The lands our work pertains to are the traditional unceded territories known as Treaties No. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 the original lands and waters of many Indigenous peoples. We acknowledge that any efforts we make as English Online Inc. towards helping new settlers learn English as an Additional Language and find settlement information to address their needs must begin by recognizing the colonial harms and injustices inflicted on to the indigenous peoples of what is now Manitoba, who never surrendered their territory when they signed the Treaties with the British Crown. The work of English Online must be grounded in recognition of the colonial legacy of what is now Manitoba. As guests on these lands, we commit to seeking and sharing the truth of the Indigenous peoples to provide the true story of these lands, which become home away from home to our learners and their families.

Team Messages

"Looking at the last fiscal year, I am very proud of how much English Online expanded: our programs – both informal and formal, welcomed not only new newcomers, but also new talented team and energetic e-volunteers. Our partners continued to contribute to the success of our new and returning learners. I am very thankful for the efforts of the Board of Directors: thank you very much for your endless support. Lastly, I would like to acknowledge our funder: without you, English Online would never be able to successfully accomplish its mission in serving newcomers online in Manitoba." - Irina Volchok, MA

"In my role as the e-Volunteer program Supervisor, I achieved two major accomplishments. First, I collaborated with the Avenue team to complete my training on LearnIT2Teach Stage 1 and 2 and became certified as a TBLV trainer. In addition to English Online Orientation and training session, this TBLV training on Avenue provided our Volunteer e-tutors with additional training that included valuable information about CLB, selecting suitable material, dealing with lower-level learners, and volunteering online. Volunteers who completed the 7-module training confirmed that it significantly increased their knowledge and provided them with valuable resources. My second outreach call. Although I had previously done two virtual presentations with Algonquin the target audience: ESL teachers in training who are about to graduate from the TESL program. The outcome was more successful than in previous years, with increased interest and active participation. Including information about the TBLV training was one of the key factors that contributed to the success of the presentation and ignited more interest. Following the presentation, two teachers in training joined our e-Volunteer program, and one of them was selected to join our LHS teaching team. This experience taught me the importance of persistence and the need to avoid assumptions. Success may not always come on the first attempt, so we should never give up." - Pam Elalfy

"Another halleluiah moment I had was with a student who attended many of my classes but rarely shared. Their microphone was always enabled, but I never wanted to pressure them to share if they were not comfortable. After a lesson where I put the students into breakout rooms, I saw this student put their hand up to share what their group talked about. This was my first time hearing them share which I was happy to see. Since this lesson, I've noticed them sharing a little more, so I'm glad they're getting more comfortable, even if they just write in the chat." - Alexix Ogaranko

"One lesson from the last fiscal year was the value of consistent learning and exploring beyond my field. Last year, I was fortunate to have attended seven seminars and conferences, as well as completed a course. While I've always recognized the importance of staying updated, this experience reinforced how looking beyond my own industry can offer fresh perspectives and tools. I'm grateful that I'm working for an organization that provides such opportunities. These PDs have refined my approach to usual challenges and helped improve my work." - Len Loza

"I joined the EO family last December and It has been pure joy ever since. Even though I had experience working as a teacher before, it took me a while to go back on track in the teaching field. I couldn't have asked for a better team to be part of. The way everybody manages to make each other feel welcomed and supported is astonishing. The virtual world wasn't something I was looking for because it seemed so unnatural, but here I am flowing and thriving." - Karin Del Pino

"One key lesson I've learned is that there is always room for improvement, and even minor adjustments can yield significant results. It's important not to become complacent with established practices. For instance, in December 2023, LHS increased its capacity from 90 spots to 120 spots. During the process of matching students with instructors, I revised my approach by first sending a brief welcome email to students instead of making phone calls. This adjustment proved transformative, making the process more efficient by enabling quicker placement of students and better preparation prior to the start of classes. I am currently in the process of further refining this approach to enhance its effectiveness and the overall learner experience." - Yini Song

"In 2023-2024, we moved welcome orientation from phone calls to online orientation. During the online orientation, I learned how to organize the information and deliver the orientation in a visual platform. From the reduced learners' questions and increased attendance numbers, I think a visual guide helps learners feel more familiar and confident in the online learning environment!" - Pei-Jean Toews

"Some of my "aha" moments this year were related to watching learners whom I have worked with for a two or three years now, showcasing not only their English language acquisition, but their confidence. It was a true validation that this program works so well." - Ruxandra Nicolescu

"Having to help a learner who could not join the class due to a slow internet connection gave me peace of mind. I solved their problem by finding a place where could use fast internet." - Rahwa Mehreteab

"Having been with some students for a long period of time, I had an opportunity to see how learners' understanding of their goals and needs evolve from a very vague idea of 'being able to interact with people in English' towards distinct practical aims, or tasks. This insight really helped me define my own part in setting learner's goals which, in my understanding, also has to be changed from a 'lead role' to a 'supporting role'. It takes time for learners to overcome panic and the initial stress of being immersed into a foreign language environment when they feel an urge to learn it all in a couple of months. At that stage, this is me who suggests some real-world tasks to work on. Yet, as the learners calm down and get a clear idea of their current language ability – without overestimating or underestimating their skills - they are now able to see short-term goals. This is when my role is to assist and support them in the journey towards their goals."

- Ekaterina Lavlinskaya

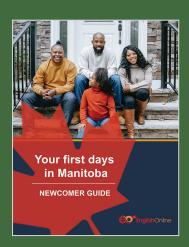
"A lesson that I was reminded of this year is the importance of really getting to you your students, even at the personal level. This lesson really hit home this past year. I have a student that had always been an excellent student. She was always very enthusiastic, and she always had her homework done on time. She never missed a class.; however, a while back we seemed to hit a "rough patch" in her learning. Gone was the enthusiasm and the gleam in her eye whenever I called her to start a class. She began to miss classes, and she often late with her homework. One day I asked her if all was well and she shared that she was experiencing some very serious health issues. I spoke to Yini about this, and she suggested asking the student if she would like to take a short vacation from her classes to help her deal with her health issues. She did take that time, and she came back stronger than ever. Today I am happy to say, this student again has that gleam in her eye, she is very enthusiastic and her health is much better. From tis experience I learned two things:

1. We need to truly KNOW our students. 2. It's okay to take a break every so often to regroup, and you may actually come back stronger!" - Blaine Roberts

LIVE and LEARN Statistics

LIVE Statistics:

- 61 New Settlement articles
- 149 Updated Settlement articles
 - 63 CLB 3-4 articles
 - 5 Newcomer stories
 - 2 Revised version of the Newcomer Guide "Your First Days in Manitoba"



Units

LEARN Statistics:

Clubs

- 120 + 7 LINC Home Study seats
 - 1388 New learners (the target was 500)
 - 15176 Seats in Drop-In, e-Volunteer, and 1-on-1 orientation
 - 1 Learner attended 455 sessions in the Drop-In program
 - 25 New e-Volunteers
 - 50 Newcomers served through the e-Volunteer program

We Delivered!

57910024Drop-In ClassesCitizenship ClassesReading Clubs24242412Advanced ReadingWriting WorkshopsAdvanced WritingCanadian Idioms

Workshops

Learners' Feedback



"For me, learning with EO is a big opportunity because the classes are free. I spent a lot of money for teachers in my country and know how really expensive an hour with a teacher costs. And I now I'm studying in Canada with Canadian teachers for free."

"I am enjoying my English classes. The classes are amazing, the atmosphere is friendly, and the teachers are very professional." *Luidmyla Nakonechna*

"I'm very proud to be a part of the English Online Community. The community makes me more confident. The teachers always encourage us." Jihad Laguerbia

"I have been studying with Link home study for over 6 months now. Link home study is a great format for learning a language. Thanks to it, I have the opportunity to improve my English at a time that suits me and from the comfort of my home. I am also grateful to my teacher Paige for the informative meetings and for the wealth of useful information that helps me in my English learning." *Kateryna Furdina*

What I like most about the Home Link Study program is the personalized approach towards me as a student, especially from the instructor. The instructor analyzes your interests and learning pace, making each lesson engaging and suited to your abilities. Additionally, this program offers the invaluable opportunity to study at your own pace and at a time that suits you the best." *Hanna B.*

"I am very grateful to be a part of the LINC Home Study. Six months after I feel that my English becomes much better. My teacher Paige helped me to set up my personal plan and achieve it step by step. I enjoy every homework she sends me as they are very interesting and always a subject to discuss with my coworkers." Nadiia Petrushak "The English Online and/or LINC Home Study program has been a great experience for me. Besides the always interesting classes, I have greatly improved my English skills and without English Online I would never have been able to achieve this in such a short period of time. It would be great if the LINC Home Study program would add more material on the subject of looking a job, employee/resume/interviews Thank you LINC Home Study and see you again." *Kateryna Ryshchykovets*

"I chose this program because I depend on my working schedule. It changes weekly. I cannot be enrolled in another type of language course. This program suits those who cannot attend English courses in person. As for me, it allows me to learn English constantly, improve my language level through interesting tasks, and find out interesting information about Canada. Thank you for the great opportunity to learn English online!" Anna Starikova



"I understand more and can talk more with different people, although I attend only evening classes (as I work). Thanks a lot, to the instructors for helping us, this is a really big contribution to our development and adaptation."

Daria Kryvenko

"For me, I find the program and also the teachers really helpful. I especially find myself so confident to talk with other people, and I have learned so many things through this English online program"

Marium Tania

"Mary (e-Volunteer tutor) helped me speak fluently. We spoke a lot! She taught me a lot. I can see how different my life right now is because of her help. I can understand more topics. She did not only teach me English, but also jokes, and we play. Every class was a happy moment for me!" Elvira Rubio

Thank You!

Board Members

Sharmila Vijayann Iwona Gniadek Stephanie Olson Baljit Mann Rehal Cintia Bentes Rodrigues Da Costa Ramzy Farrag Romain Dartois

EO Team

Jillian Fehr
Stella Jude-Ojei
Yini Song
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Tanveen Tatke
Ruxandra Nicolescu
Stella Jude-Ojei
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Nastashya Wall

Ekaterina Lavlinskaya Len Loza Pei-Jean Toews Rahwa Mehreteab Yvonne Marshall Alexis Ogaranko Lori Morency Paige Sneesby Karin Del Pino Karen Loeb

EO e-Volunteers

Alison McGillivray Andrew Mowfitt Fiona Smith Heather Luong Faezeh Khadem Fiona Smith Christopher Tom Tong Mariana Kalvacheva

Mariana Kalvache Neil Reimer Peter Marsh Elizabeth Dale
Sameer Hammad
Ellen (Min Chen)
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Lori Morency
Jill Hart
Jade Wong
Sophia Coley
Tom Tong
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Alena Romanova

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Partners

Achēv

Réseau en Immigration Francophone du Manitoba (RIF Manitoba) Immigrant Employment Council of BC (IEC-BC) Winnipeg English Language Assessment and Referral Centre (WELARC) Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations (MANSO) Canadian College of Educators

Funded by:

Financé par :



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