

### **Keynote Presentation: Happiness in the Workplace**

**9:15 – 10:00 a.m. (All attend!)**

Researchers have been studying happiness in the workplace for more than 20 years. Happiness isn't just about feeling good every moment of the day. That is unrealistic! The science of positive psychology suggests many simple evidence-based interventions that can help people feel more engaged at work, find meaning and purpose, and build good relationships with colleagues which leads to increased well-being and happiness. ESL teachers find meaning in their work because of their students however the profession requires giving of oneself and the chronic use of empathy and depletion of emotional resources are strongly associated with emotional exhaustion and/or professional burnout. Attendees will learn specific strategies and interventions for teacher self-care and how to best adapt appropriate and sustainable strategies for our own well-being and happiness.



**Patrice Palmer** has more than 20 years' experience as an ESL teacher, TESL Trainer and Writer in Canada. She also spent seven amazing years teaching in Hong Kong. Patrice has taught students from 8 to 80 in a variety of programs such as ESP, LINC, ELT, OSLT and EAP. She has a M. Ed. from Brock University, and a M.A. from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) of the University of Toronto. She is currently studying Positive Psychology at Wilfred Laurier University.

### **Morning Workshops – 10:15 – 11:45 a.m. (Choose one)**

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#### **1. Creating Effective Rubrics and Other Assessment Tools**

Are you conducting Portfolio-Based Language Assessment (PBLA) with your class and need some new ideas for simple yet effective assessment tools to evaluate your learners' portfolio artefacts? We'll explore a variety of assessment tool styles including examples of uni- and multi-level tools – that incorporate real-world tasks and relate to the CLBs.



**Susan Webb** is the Coordinator of Language Curriculum Training Services with The Centre for Education & Training. She was an ESL and LINC Instructor with the Toronto District School Board for 20 years and wrote material for the LINC 5-7 Classroom Activities and Financial Literacy Resource. Susan has also developed curricula for COSTI, and has been a technical writer/editor/assistant trainer with LearnIT2teach. She has presented at the TESL Canada, TESL Ontario and TESL Peel-Halton-Etobicoke conferences.

## 2. Keeping Your Classroom Lively With the News

Learn to use everyday news stories as a teaching tool in your classroom to keep students engaged and current. You will learn how to quickly create a variety of multi-level activities based on these news stories that will help strengthen and improve your students' vocabulary, reading and conversational skills.



**Carolyn Flores** is a LINC/ESL instructor and PBLA Lead Teacher with over 20 years of Canadian and overseas teaching/tutoring experience. She has been published with both Cambridge University and Macmillan Education for teacher resources. When she's not teaching, she's busy providing tools/tips for ESL teachers on her blog [www.eslmadeeasy.ca](http://www.eslmadeeasy.ca).

## 3. Getting More Out of the Oxford Picture Dictionary

Learn how to transform the OPD into a more dynamic program through the use of the Online Teacher Resource Centre. Attendees will find out how the OPD/OTR can assist in planning and conducting lessons and learn how to utilize a variety of tools to evaluate students.



**Kevin McCourt** is an ELT Sales Consultant with Oxford University Press. He previously taught ESL for ten years both overseas and here in Canada.

## 4. Creating a Safe Learning Environment

How do you create a safe and inclusive learning environment? I will present some of the things that I do, and ask that you bring examples of activities that YOU do, to make learners feel safe.



**Kate Maven** has a Masters degree in English, and specializes in Pronunciation, Fluency, Writing, and Creativity. She has taught multilevel ESL to adults since 1980, and has presented hands-on, well-received workshops at the TESL Ontario Conference in Toronto, as well as at Peel/Halton/Etobicoke, North York York Region, Waterloo-Wellington and Hamilton affiliates since 2009.

## OPTIONAL AFTERNOON SESSION – (30 participants may register)

**BRITISH COUNCIL IELTS INFO SESSION** The British Council IELTS information session is designed for new ESL teachers and TESL trainees. It focuses on two main areas: 1) Understanding IELTS; and 2) Support and Opportunities for Teachers. Part 1 covers each of the four parts of the test, providing a general overview of the exam. Part 2 exposes participants to a variety of free resources British Council IELTS offers to ESL teachers and informs them about job opportunities with the British Council. The information session lasts for two hours. British Council is a co-owner of IELTS [ielts.ca](http://ielts.ca). Over 3.0 million IELTS tests were taken globally in 2017!



**Dr. Kristjan Seferaj** has over twenty years of international English language teaching, teacher training, and administrative experience. His research interests lie in fields of Language Testing, Teacher Training, Teacher Decision Making, and ESL Methodology. He works for the British Council as IELTS Client Relations Executive for Ontario.