



TEAL NL

Teachers of English as an Additional Language of
Newfoundland and Labrador



Reflecting on the TEAL NL 2024 Conference

Empowering Language Learners: Building Confidence and Competence

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this exceptional event—our presenters, organizers, and participants. Your dedication and expertise continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of language learners throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

Warm regards,
Leo Etchegary
President, TEAL NL

President's Message

On behalf of our TEAL NL Executive Committee, I am thrilled to share that our November 2024 conference, themed *Empowering Language Learners: Building Confidence and Competence*, was a resounding success! The event brought together passionate educators, language professionals, and community stakeholders from across the province, all united by a shared commitment to supporting language learners.

Through engaging workshops, insightful presentations, and lively discussions, we explored innovative strategies and practical tools to help learners gain both confidence and competence in their language journeys. The energy and enthusiasm of our attendees were truly inspiring, and the connections made during the conference will undoubtedly strengthen our collective efforts in the months and years to come.



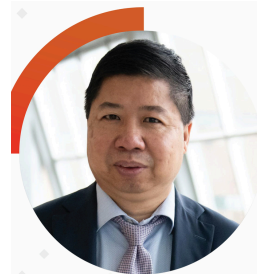
JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER



The TEAL NL 2024 Conference (hybrid) took place on November 22 (onsite in St John's, NL) and November 23 (virtually on Zoom). We would like to extend our gratitude to our guest speakers, keynote speakers, presenters, and participants who contributed to the success of the event. Thank you to Krista Lynn Howell, Minister of Education, Newfoundland and Labrador; Sheldon Barry, Provincial Lead, Multiculturalism, Newfoundland and Labrador; Dr. Pamela Osmond-Johnson, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Memorial University of Newfoundland; and Dr. Xuemei Li, Professor in the Faculty of Education at Memorial University of Newfoundland, for sharing their valuable insights.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Tony Fang, the Stephen Jarislowsky Chair in Economic and Cultural Transformation at Memorial University and a Beyster Fellow at Rutgers University, for his insightful presentation on the opening day of the conference. Dr. Fang shared findings from his Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada-funded research project, titled "Disparities in Settlement and Integration of Racialized Newcomers in Atlantic Canada: Lived Experiences, Root Causes, and Effective Remedies." His presentation shed light on critical challenges faced by racialized newcomers and offered evidence-based solutions for fostering equity and inclusion across the region.

On the second day, we were privileged to hear from Kathy Whynot, a leader in the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development in New Brunswick and a valued member of TESL New Brunswick's Board of Directors. Her keynote address, "Welcoming Growth and Building Connection: Supporting Collaboration in New Brunswick's Diverse Schools," focused on strategies for empowering educators during periods of change. Kathy highlighted innovative approaches to building capacity among teachers and shared affirming practices that strengthen connections with students and families, fostering a more inclusive and supportive school environment.



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Tony Fang



Keynote Speaker

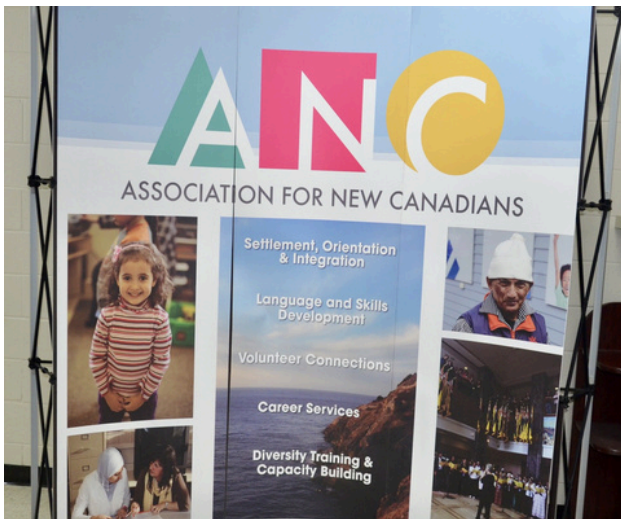
Kathy Whynot



Read More about the 2024 TEAL NL Conference:
<https://tealni.com/>



We are also deeply thankful to our talented presenters: Lana Lehr, Gayathri Tamalapakula, Ahmad Zaied, Mohammad Ehsanul Islam Khan, Ababio Karikari, Arooj Farooqi, Meaghan Harding, Mozghan A. Ghaffarzadeh H., Yahia A.M. Alkhoudary, Mir Sadia Siddequa, Sara Shojaeepour, Yijing Hou, Yi Tao, Mohammad Ekramul Islam Khan, Tamanna Akter, Samia Islam, Imtiaz Hussain, Sharif Alghazo, Qun Zhang, Majid Farham, Nafisa Ahsan Nitu, Herly Urbiztondo-Cervera, Ric Cervera, Plamen Kushkiev, Maliha Islam, Jahidul Azad, and Mehrdad Younesi. Your contributions made the event memorable and impactful, and we are truly grateful for your time and dedication.



We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the incredible student participants who shared their voices and stories during the student panel: Kenda Al Youssef, Mohammed Al Youssef, Kiyoyo Irabona, Parsa Anvar, and Zakaria Masha. Additionally, a heartfelt thank you goes to all who contributed to the newcomer video contest, showcasing inspiring perspectives.

Read More about the Association for New Canadians: <https://ancnl.ca/>

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Association for New Canadians (ANC) and the research team from Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN). ANC not only provides Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) programs but also offers a variety of settlement services to connect immigrants to local communities and support immigrants in many other ways, such as childcare, job-hunting, and cultural integration. The ANC generously provided the venue, including cleaning services, at no cost, and the Office of Public Engagement at MUN awarded a grant to cover the expenses for food, keynote speakers, and other event-related costs. The research team from MUN's Faculty of Education (Dr. Xuemei Li, Dr. Siyin Liang, and Mohammad Ehsanul Islam Khan) brought their expertise in TEAL and academic insights, and worked together with TEAL NL board members (Leo Etchegary, Elizabeth Ares, Hussein Bani Asad, Khatereh Bahmanpour, and Umar Shaik) and volunteers (Elkin Prada Garavito, Irfanul Islam, and Tanushree Chattopadhyay) to make the conference a huge success.



Read More about the Office of Public Engagement at Memorial University of Newfoundland: <https://www.mun.ca/publicengagement/>

FORM A GROUP OF 4 PEOPLE
COME UP WITH A FUN TEAM NAME
LET THE BATTLE BEGIN!!



TEAL NL
Trivia Night

FEBRUARY 20 | 8 PM TO 10 PM
ELKS CLUB, 19 CARPASIAN RD, ST. JOHN'S, NL
PLEASE PRE-REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 17
\$5 PER PERSON. FREE FOR TEAL NL MEMBERS!
HOW TO BE A TEAL NL MEMBER? PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://TEALNL.COM/MEMBERSHIP/](https://tealnl.com/membership/)



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