



# Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC)

LINC (**L**anguage **I**nstruction for **N**ewcomers to **C**anada) classes are funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada. We offer language skill training for community integration, further education and future employment for adults who have recently arrived in Canada. Our priority continues to be to support the needs of our students as they learn English. Through our language program, we help develop survival skills necessary for successful integration into their communities, whether it be further education, employment or independence. The federal government has provided computers at some of our sites to support language learning.

The OCDSB has a long and successful track record of providing ESL and LINC instruction in Ottawa. We maintain ongoing communication with key players in the community and are active in the LINC Advisory Committee to ensure we are meeting the changing needs of newcomer families. The Continuing Education Department is in constant communication with the Ottawa



Language Assessment Centre whose staff provides us with relevant demographic information about where newcomers are settling in the region. We often are proactive regarding program delivery to best meet the needs of our students and their

families. All of our instructional and child care staff meet stringent qualifications. A comprehensive (physical and cognitive) child care program is provided for infants through pre-school ages to prepare them for the Canadian school system. Students and their families

are given the appropriate referrals to the various necessary and appropriate resources in the region that can assist them in the settlement process.

An important component of this program is the quality childcare provided which supports language acquisition and family literacy. We have places for approximately 250 preschoolers at our LINC locations. The LINC program also offers parents opportunities to acquire English second language skills to support their children's learning and attend parent interviews and parent councils.

LINC students are landed immigrants, convention refugees, refugees with proof of intent to land or sponsorship or in certain cases have a Minister's permit. Many have arrived within days of registering in our program. As with ESL students, the objective of LINC newcomers is to acquire the language skills that will help them to integrate into their new communities.

Each year we contract to provide the service to about 700 adult newcomers. However, through the continuous intake model, the service is provided to about double that number over the year. Following is a list of LINC locations:

- ✓ Adult H.S.
- ✓ Bayshore P.S.
- ✓ Confederation H.S.
- ✓ 440 Albert St.
- ✓ Rideau H.S.
- ✓ Debra Dynes Family House
- ✓ Fielding Drive Public School



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