

ELSA NET

Instructors' Bulletin

Financial Literacy

“Financial literacy is having the skills and knowledge to use money wisely. Being financially literate means having the knowledge to make prudent financial decisions, now and for the future” <http://www.esl-literacy.com/fit/>. Along with dealing with a new language and culture, our learners are having to navigate a new financial system in Canada. They are likely to have gaps in their numerical and financial understanding. As teachers, we can play a role in addressing this area of need by integrating financial literacy into our lessons. We hope that you will find the resources and suggestions provided in this bulletin helpful as you address your learners' needs in this specific area.



Professional Development Opportunities



ESL Literacy Network offers a variety of workshops online. Be sure to check out upcoming workshops and training sessions and find the latest resources at <http://www.esl-literacy.com/>.

Leisure Guide - Check out your community Leisure Guide to find a number of workshops and classes that are offered to the community on topics related to finances. Some of these sessions are offered for free or for a small fee. Encourage your students to attend a workshop, provide a task for them to report back to class the next day, or attend a workshop yourself to generate ideas for teaching.

Guest Speaker Ideas

Invite an accountant to present on tax basics. H&R Block will often provide a speaker.

Local Credit Unions offer a range of educational services that include financial literacy for newcomers. Call your local credit union to find out about the services they provide and to invite a guest speaker to visit your class.

In Metro Vancouver, **Vancity** offers workshops called *Each One, Teach One* that are available for newcomers and refugees in the area of personal finances. Invite someone from Vancity to come and talk about the services they provide. Visit <https://www.vancity.com/AboutVancity/InvestingInCommunities/StoriesOfImpact/FinancialLiteracy/EachOneTeachOne/>.



SPRING EVENTS 2014

TESOL International Convention & English Language Expo

Portland, OR

March 26th - 29th

TESL Canada Conference

Regina, SK

May 8th -10th

ABE Conference

Harrison Hot Springs, BC

May 15th - May 16th

BC TEAL

Richmond, BC

May 23rd - May 24th



Resources



Tutela has a number of webinars, audio files, lesson plans, and handouts related to financial literacy. Under

resources, type in “financial literacy” to find this list of resources. <https://tutela.ca/Tutela>



Decoda Literacy Solutions

provides links to a number of resources on financial literacy. Visit their website at <http://decoda.ca/read-all-about-lit/esl-financial-literacy/>.

Settlement At Work has a number of resources including the English for Financial Literacy: Volumes 1-3 - 2013. You will find pdf files for CLB 1–8 as well as audio files that can be downloaded. Visit [http://wiki.settlementatwork.org/wiki/English for Financial Literacy: Volumes 1 - 3](http://wiki.settlementatwork.org/wiki/English_for_Financial_Literacy:_Volumes_1_-_3).

Cultural Orientation Resource Centre

has a number of lesson plans and materials that deal with finances for ESL students. Visit <http://www.culturalorientation.net/> and click on the “resource library” on the top right of the home page.



Canadian Centre for Financial Literacy provides information and

resources for newcomers and those working with newcomers to Canada. Visit their site at <http://www.theccfl.ca/Resources/Newcomer-Resources.aspx>.



People's Law School – ESLA Net has developed a number of lesson plans to go along with the

PLS booklets including lessons on taxes. Watch for announcements in spring 2014.

<http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/>



ESL Literacy Network is produced and maintained by Bow Valley College in Alberta, a national leader in ESL Literacy. The ESL Literacy Network is an online community of practice that provides resources and information to support the professional development of ESL literacy practitioners. Check

out the Financial ESL Literacy Toolbox <http://www.esl-literacy.com/flt/> which aims to help ESL literacy practitioners deliver instruction in the areas of numerical and financial understanding. The financial content is divided into themed areas and further into materials and resources for Literacy Phases I, II and III.

