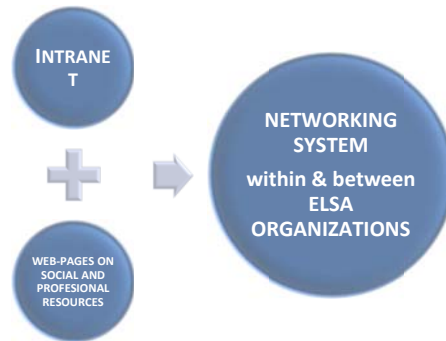


The Power of Networking

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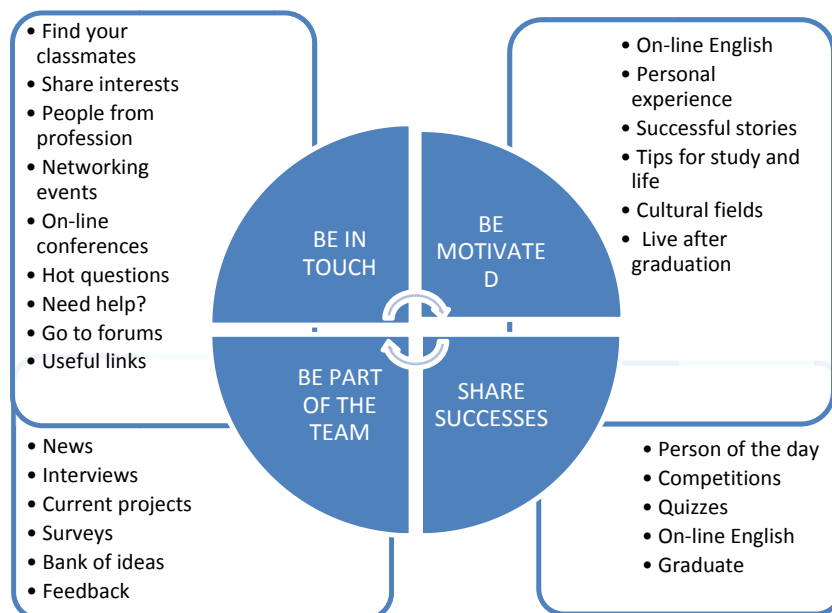
Today we are trying to understand how to build relationships in professional areas. Every immigrant knows that 'networking' is a popular way of finding a job in Canada, but most people have problems with it because adaptation to culture takes time. On the other hand, web-based technologies offer effective instruments of social communications. Nowadays, both the Internet and the Intranet can be bases for personal or corporate networking. The advantages of using computer-mediated systems include: low maintenance, extensive possibilities and quick access to information. The combination of Internet and Intranet systems make it possible to create a new approach to networking among learners in and across various ELSA sites and organizations.



What can the Intranet do?

While the Internet provides open links to other sites, the Intranet links a closed group of participants. Every immigrant is a good resource for other immigrants. Today, an unemployed newcomer may become a business owner or professional in the Canadian market. Social networks greatly enhance immigrant learners' ability to remain in touch with each other and keep up relationships after graduation. Creating an Intranet system with other ELSA sites, settlement programs, and organizations could give immigrants effective tools to help each other and build networks.

Example of the Intranet networking

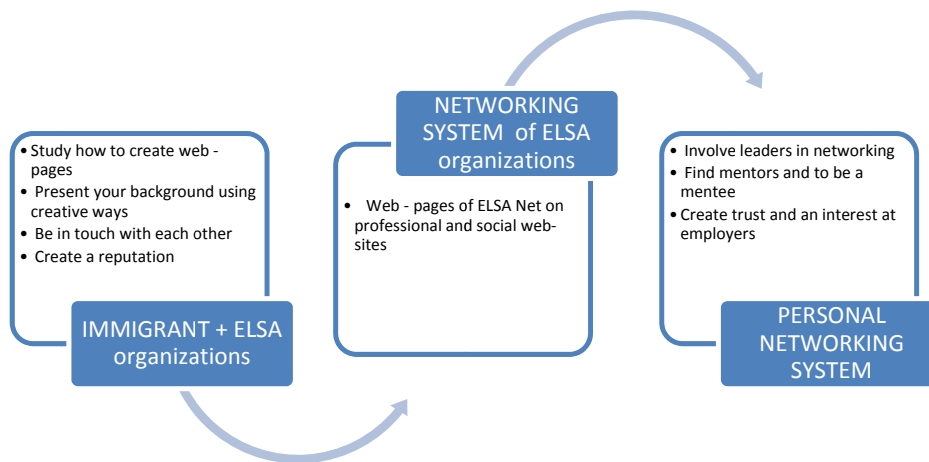


What can the Internet do?

Professional and Social Websites

The main idea is to provide help for immigrants to be in touch with experienced people and give information to employers about their professional needs and interests. The other aim is to present ELSA students on professional and social web-sites as a great resource for employers.

Internet Networking Model



Some years ago we couldn't imagine the variety of web-based communication tools that we have today. In fact, today we are involved in the global information system and these resources give us numerous possibilities to build a networking system and find a less stressful way to be in touch with each other. We are on highway of the new approaches and creative possibilities.