



EAST YORK LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Since 1987

266 Donlands Ave. Toronto , Ontario, M4J 5B1 P:416-425-2666 email: eyleliteracy@gmail.com

Goodbye...

After 35 years, my time at EYLE will come to an end when I retire on May 30th. I'm excited for this next phase in my life, but of course, EYLE will always be a part of me.

Seeing the successes of so many of our students and knowing that I, through my work, have played a small role in those successes has been very rewarding.

Through EYLE I have met, worked with, and become friends with so many wonderful staff, volunteers, students, funders and community members over the years. It is the people and these interactions I will miss the most. Your passion and commitment to the cause of literacy and EYLE, combined with the hard work and determination of our students, has always been inspiring.



EYLE has come a long way in these past few decades and has grown into one of the largest one-to-one literacy programs in Toronto. We have consistently been a Top 100 Charity, and in several years, a Top 10 Impact Charity in Canada and a Top 5 Impact Charity in

Toronto as rated by Charity Intelligence Canada. I have no doubt that EYLE will continue to shine and grow.

Leading up to my retirement the HR Committee and myself worked on a succession plan to ensure a smooth transition during this change.

At the end of April, we welcomed Carolyn Poplak as the new Managing Director. She officially starts in the position on May 20th. Carolyn has extensive non-profit management experience and a Master of Education from U of T. I am confident that EYLE will be in good hands. Please stop by Carolyn's office to say hello.

A special thank you to all for your support over the years. It has

MISSION STATEMENT

EYLE's adult literacy, numeracy and digital literacy programs transform lives and enhance self-worth by empowering individuals to reach their full potential.

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meant a lot to me.

Wishing all the best to EYLE and its members moving forward!

Gail McCullough

...& Hello

I am really excited to be joining the EYLE community! As someone who lives in East York, it means a lot to be part of an organization that's doing such meaningful work in adult literacy, numeracy, and digital skills.

I've spent the last 20+ years working on education and health projects across different levels—local, provincial, and national. Along the way, I've focused a lot on building programs, working with partners, and supporting community-based work.

I look forward to being part of the EYLE community as it continues to grow and evolve in meeting the needs of adult learners.

Carolyn Poplak



Please join us via Zoom on **Wednesday, June 18th, 7:00pm – 8:30pm**, for our 38th Annual Meeting of Members.

Get the updates on how EYLE has performed in the past year and what's coming up in the year ahead. Reports from the Chair, Treasurer, Staff and our HR Committee will be presented.

Say goodbye to two Board members stepping down and help us elect our new Board of Directors.

Please RSVP by June 13th. Zoom invites will be sent out Mon., June 16th.

We hope to see you there!

Success Story

Hello, my name is L.C., and I am a mature student at EYLE since the spring of 2024. I first learned of EYLE about 10 years ago after I saw a posting at a local community paper for volunteer tutors, and I joined as a tutor myself. I had a student for about 2 years, meeting once a week for 2 hours, teaching English literacy and common English idioms.

Since I enjoyed my time at EYLE as a volunteer tutor 10 years ago, I decided to come back as a student. I really liked the one-on-one supportive environment and learning atmosphere. As the world changed with digitization, I found that I needed to upgrade my computer literacy skills.

I was paired with a wonderful tutor C.B., who really put in the effort in our sessions, and I truly appreciate her. Due to the computer knowledge that I gained (Microsoft Word, Excel, both basic and early intermediate) from our sessions, I was able to write and pass the intensive assessments at the YWCA Admin. Assistant Program and was accepted into the program. My goal is to be computer literate enough to re-enter the competitive workforce. Times have changed from the work world of the past and, as a result, older workers have a tougher time finding suitable, sustainable and satisfactory employment, especially if they lack computer skills.

I also enjoy EYLE's webinars on timely subjects needed in today's workforce and personal alertness, such as online safety, financial literacy, and smartphone basics, to name a few. I thank the staff at EYLE for being so accommodating and supportive in the student's learning pathway, providing what they may need in terms of resources, and thank you to my very patient and understanding tutor, C.B.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to our former Treasurer Vanesse Yu and her family on the birth of their daughter, Renli.

Tutors' Corner

Brain or Mind Maps & Essay Writing

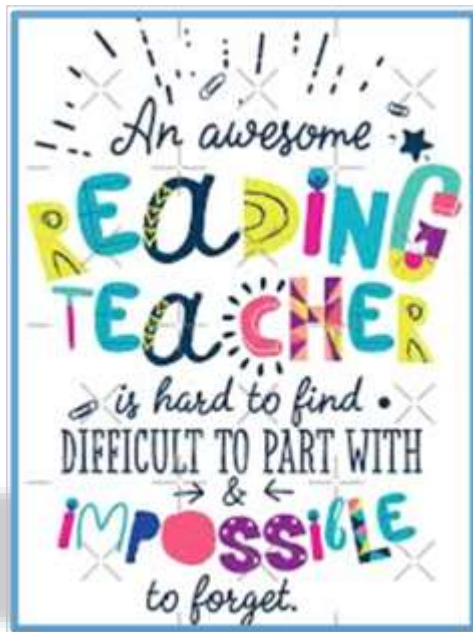
Whether you refer to them as brain maps or mind maps, this writing tool is an excellent way to get ideas or concepts down on paper and map out and organize your piece before starting to write it.

We do talk about them briefly in Tutor Training but go into much more detail in our Essay Writing Workshop. There are various types and designs of brain maps.

In the workshop, we select a couple of topics and do some brain mapping with participants using a free software called Lucidchart. This software offers a variety of simple to more complex templates to work with which makes the process much easier than starting with a blank sheet of paper. The site is very user-friendly.

We have added a shortcut onto the student laptops to make it easier for you. Just open the link and you're ready to go.

If you are working on essay writing or even just story writing with your student, we urge you to explore the possibilities on this platform and incorporate the use of brain maps into your tutoring sessions.



Thank you....

To our ongoing funders: Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and Service Canada for funding our summer student.

Many thanks to the generous foundation, association and corporate donors who have contributed to EYLE since our last issue of eLink: BAP Foundation, Edwards Charitable Foundation, MFS Investment Management Canada Limited, Optimo Clinics, Rotary Club of North York.

Special thanks to our many private donors who make one-time, annual or monthly donations. Your support is vital to the success of our program and appreciated immensely.

For a complete list of our donors please visit our website at: <https://eastyorklearningexperience.ca> and go to the 'Funders' page.

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