



# LONDON COUNCIL FOR ADULT EDUCATION

BOX 2317, CITY CENTRE, 380 WELLINGTON ST., LONDON, ONTARIO N6A 5N9

<http://lcae.luhc.org>

Serving Adult Learners since 1945

## Minutes of LCAE Meeting January 18, 2005

**PRESENT:** Donna Moore (UWO & Toastmasters), Sharon Collins (UWO – Continuing Ed.), Dianne Rumney (TVDSB), Frances Shamley (OHCC), Sheila Lupson (LCRC), Robin Rundle Drake (City of London), Margaret Maciejewski (LPL), Nancy McQuillan (LUHC), Nicole Kovacs (Pathways), Ron Pauls (Success Resources London), Lillian Ostrowski (TVDSB), Sheila Carson (TVDSB), Carmen Sproviere, Jenny Sharp (WIL), May Hey (RTO) Alice Brona (LACW), Tom Crouch (Nokee Kwe)

**REGRETS:** Lara Leitch, Heather Jeffery, Christine Glenn

**GUESTS:** Richard Hill - HNH Machine Ltd.

Amy Thompson, Anne Laure Hug, Janet Gray – LUHC

1. **Welcome:**
  - Donna M. welcomed everyone and introduced Gloria Rolfe from Westminster College
2. **Greetings from Westminster College:**
  - Gloria Rolfe, Program Coordinator at Westminster College welcomed LCAE members to Westminster College and gave an overview of the programs run out of the college. They include:
    - seniors programs
    - bridge (friendly kitchen bridge) and Contract Bridge
    - art classes
    - residence
    - open to a number of ideas and programs
    - \$20.00 membership fee
    - fitness classes
3. **Donna M. also introduced new guests – Richard and Lillian Ostrowsky – ESL Banting (TVDSB). Was previously at Empress.**

4. **Minute Promotions:**  
London Community Resource Centre – (Sheila Lupson) The London Community Resource Centre has moved to 652 Elizabeth Street, London, ON N5Y 6L3. LCRC housed over 120 groups over the past 26 years at 388 Dundas Street. Originally sponsored by LCAE, please join LCRC in a celebration of its **30<sup>th</sup> anniversary** with a charity auction and dinner of February 5, 2005 as we look to the future and reminisce about the past. Tickets are \$25, please call 435-0345 for details.

Thames Valley District School Board – (Lillian Ostrowski) The Empress Language Centre has been closed and the Thames Valley District School Board has opened a new adult ESL site, Sir Frederick Banting Annex, next to Banting Secondary School at 127 Sherwood Forest Square. We offer classes in Listening/Speaking, Reading and Writing for Benchmark 1 – 6 level students. Currently, there are 107 students attending classes.

London & Area Council of Women – (Alice Brona) The LACW is holding a “**Founder’s Day Luncheon**” on Monday, February 14, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. at the Highland Country Club, 279 Commissioners Road E. The speaker will be Janice Zolf, Entertainment Editor – News Now. Tickets are \$25.00 and everyone is welcome.

London Unemployment Help Centre – (Nancy McQuillan) LUHC is holding two events in February.

- 1) A **GetToNetwork** event at the London Convention Centre on February 9/2005 for job seekers, trainers, and service providers. Employers will also be present.
- 2) A full day **seminar with Denise Bissonnette** on February 23/2005 at the Delta London Armouries. This seminar costs \$150.00 and includes: complimentary parking, workshop materials, continental breakfast, morning break refreshments, lunch, afternoon break refreshments and cookies, and a complimentary Survival Meeting Kit. To register call 439-0501.

5. **Donna thanked everyone and introduced Jane Bigalow from the Society for Learning in Retirement.**

- Jane noted that the society is about 10 years old.
- Membership is currently between 200 and 250.
- Peer learning – course cost is \$55.00. Responsibility once you join a group is to make a presentation.
- In 2005 – 10 study groups of 20 people per group.
- All courses run at Westminster.
- Social activities – have speakers, luncheons, dinners, AGM, trips, and meetings to talk about upcoming courses.

6. **Donna M. then introduced our Guest Employer speaker – Mr. Richard Hill from HNH Machine Ltd.**
- HNH designs and builds machines from concept to completion.
  - A lot of robotic welding equipment.
  - Employs a lot of different trades (design, engineering, electrical, millwrights, welders, etc.).
  - Works with international companies – ie, Mexico, China.
  - Always looking for ways of attracting people. Interesting work – does a lot of in-house training.
  - HNH pays for all related training (a lot of training needed as a result of R & D, robotics, and new technology).
  - Unable to compete with places like Cami.
  - Looking at, and has, hired foreign trained tradespeople.
  - Language usually the biggest barrier. Finds the foreign trained individuals very good workers.
  - Works with Fanshawe, UWO, School Boards and LUHC for training and hiring.
  - Was on the PATT committee (program to assist foreign trained professionals to connect with employers).
  - Employs about 50 people; at 40 now but looking at hiring more.
  - E-mail is: [rickhill@hnhmachine.com](mailto:rickhill@hnhmachine.com) Web site: [www.hnhmachine.com](http://www.hnhmachine.com)
7. **Donna M. then introduced Amy Thompson from the London Unemployment Help Centre to speak on the Internationally Trained Individuals (ITI) program running at the Help Centre.**
- Amy explained that the ITI program began in October 2003, with a pilot project aimed at identifying and reducing barriers faced by ITI clients.
  - LUHC worked with Wheable originally on the CLBs (Canadian Language Benchmark).
  - During the pilot, LUHC recognized that, regardless of the ESL level, an individual's accent was a definite barrier to employment.
  - Amy introduced Janet Gray and Anne Hug who volunteer at LUHC to run new programs (two evenings a week) aimed at assisting ITI clients with their pronunciation (sector specific) and reducing their accents.
  - Janet and Anne spoke briefly on their training and experience and what they were involved in with the programs at LUHC.
  - At the end of the Pronunciation/Accent Reduction classes, there is a test (Janet and Anne had to adjust material and curriculum as needed for this program).

- Amy emphasized the excellent assistance of several great volunteers who have assisted with the program design and delivery – Doug Perry from UWO and Speech Pathologist.
- There is a course evaluation (self evaluation) done by participants at the end of the program and Amy commented that all participants noted a difference in their pronunciation abilities.
- A lively question period followed.

**8. Donna M. thanked all the speakers**

- Donna reminded the executive members that the next meeting was on January 25<sup>th</sup> at noon at the Galleria.

**9. Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.**