

# LICENSED TO LEARN Newsletter

Newsletter, November, 2007

Robin Campbell, Chair  
Barry Wansbrough, President

## LICENSED TO LEARN

THE TUTOR TRAINING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander, PC, OC, BA, LLD, Patron

## New Partnerships Build Record Enrolment



L2L's Patron, right,  
and President

### Contents

New Partners - More Schools	1
PALS	1
Westview/YorkU	1
Janet Park – New to L2L	2
Feedback from Schools	2
Feedback from Data	2
Supporting L2L Students	3
Financial summaries	3
Ways to Give	3
L2L Schools and Partners	3
Ready to go!!	4

## Strategic Goals

- ◆ Reliable program evaluation
- ◆ Cost-effective process
- ◆ Grow on partnerships
- ◆ Build sustainability



**Rich Richardson, 1925 - 2007**

L2L lost an irreplaceable friend and supporter in June due to a fatal car accident. Rich, and his good friend, Spencer Martin, had their own charitable organization, the High Road Foundation, dedicated to helping struggling students in the public schools. When that program ran its course, Rich agreed to give the remaining funds to L2L. He joined L2L as a valuable advisor, and Spencer joined the L2L Board.

Rich leaves his wife, Prue, a large family and host of friends. He is deeply missed.

## L2L's World



**We can help! (And they really do!) Over 4000 sessions offered last year across the GTA.**

## Key New Partnerships PALS



Last year, L2L formed a strong partnership with the TDSB's PALS program led by Peppi Minos of Gordon A. Brown MS. With important support from Superintendent Kathy Cowan and other neighbouring families of schools, this partnership has added over half of the **this year's over 30 schools in the program.**

## Westview/YorkU Partnership



Jackie Robinson, (top R) with a group of YorkU preservice teachers in the ACE and 'Readers to Leaders' programs for helping high school students in the 4 high schools in the Jane/Keele Finch area. L2L is providing workshops in tutoring for this program.

## Feedback



**Janet Park, BA, BEd.**

### **L2L's recently appointed Training and Operating Officer**

Joining L2L's staff in August, 2007, Janet brings a solid background in academic and special program experience. A graduate of McMaster's Kinesiology program with a Business minor, she has her teaching degree from OISE.

Janet started her teaching in the tough districts of London, UK, and then in Hamilton, ON, in private special education learning environments.

We welcome Janet at this time of major expansion of the program.



L2L and partner PALS program receive Certificate of Appreciation from the TDSB

## From the Schools

By Lois Lee

Sometimes the people who understand kids best are kids themselves. That's exactly why Diane Dei Amoah believes the peer-tutoring program had a successful startup year at Sir Ernest MacMillan Senior Middle School, where some

## What the Journal Feedback Data Tell Us

L2L is most fortunate to have the collaboration of Ms. Maria Yau, TDSB Researcher and Program Evaluator, as a partner in evaluating the success and impact of the L2L program.

The data is gathered from the journals of the tutors, analysed and the results reviewed by the schools' L2L teacher liaisons.

Tutors report back on L2L's three criteria for peers' success: attendance; attitude in engaging in the tutoring sessions; and work done in the sessions. Success in these criteria, governs successful achievement. Each is judged on a 1 to 4 scale, 3 being the commonly understood standard for the province.

68 students took part.

"They speak the same language," says the school's principal. "When you have another student explaining homework or an assignment, they understand and they get it faster."

"It gave kids a sense of worth," says Larry Lippa, a guidance counsellor at CR Marchant Middle School, where the program also wrapped up its second year. "They had the chance to pass on their knowledge and make an influence on the school."

Attendance was the only issue because the half-hour sessions were held before school.

"It's something that we have to rethink this year," says Lippa. "The key is getting parents on board to get their kids to come."

At CR Marchant, about 30 students were involved. According to Lippa, the program satisfied a critical need among junior students who would have no other support outside of class.

Here is what we found from the reports of 180 tutors in 12 schools: 60% of the students who signed up for tutoring attended regularly. Specific feedback on 237 peers indicated that if the peers could gain a 3 or better standing in the three L2L criteria, they had an 80% to 90% chance of moving from a 2 (under the standard) to a 3, (the standard), in the topic being tutored.

When asked in an open question how the program contributed to the tutors' success, the top response was 'teaching skills (also how to work with and help younger kids); helps to review what they studied before; feel happy, confident and successful that I can help; and connecting (social – working with – knowing others.)'

**'The more time we spend on how students learn, the less time we will spend on how they behave.' Barry Wansbrough**

## Supporting Students at Risk Through L2L

### L2L Financial Year 2006-2007

**Revenue:** Up 37% to \$67,613 **Expense:**

Up 10% to \$34,691 **Budget: 2006-2007**

**Income:** \$70,000, **Expense:** \$46,035

**Budget 2007-2008 (proposed)**

**Revenue:** \$132,500 **Expense:** \$131,500

- Program: \$95,500
- Operations: \$36,000

The increase in the current budget reflects the addition of the new fulltime Trainer and Operating Officer, and the attendant increase in expense of tripling the number of schools in the program.

70% of the budgeted funds go directly to training and supplies for the tutors.

## Means of Giving: Making It Happen

L2L welcomes support from all those wishing to help our tutors help their failing school mates.

Here's how:

1. **Send a cheque** to L2L – address below
2. **Instruct United Way** to direct part of your contribution to L2L.

3. **Give online** on L2L's Home Page – **Donate Now** icon.
4. **Give shares in companies.** No tax on capital gain – full receipt for total given.

**Each donation will receive a charitable receipt for tax purposes. Your help will make all the difference. Please help.**

## Schools and Partners This Year

Winona Drive Senior Public School (2002)  
 McMurrich Public School (2002)  
 Willowdale Middle School (2005)  
 Gordon A Brown MS - PALS (2006)  
 CR Marchant MS (2006)  
 Sir Ernest MacMillan Sr PS (2006)  
 Earl Grey Senior Public School (2005)  
 Westwood MS (2007)  
 Don Mills MS (2007)  
 Lord Lansdowne MS (2007)  
 Humbercrest PS (2007)  
 Brookview MS (2007)  
 Bloordale MS (2007)  
 Kent MS (2007)  
 Bayview (2006)MS  
 Parkside Elementary School (2007)  
 DA Morrison MS (2008)  
 Duke of Connaught Jr & Sr PS (2007)  
 Humber Summit MS (2004)  
 Cosburn MS (2008)  
 Ionview PS (2007)

Norway PS (2007)  
 Holy Cross Catholic School (2006)  
 East York CI (2005)  
 Sir Sandford Fleming Academy (2006)  
 Lakeshore CI (2007)  
 Don Mills CI (2007)  
 Marc Garneau CI (2007)  
 RH King Academy (2007)  
 SATEC@WA Porter CI (2007)

## Special Partners

- The Toronto District School Board
- Schools Without Borders: Shree Mangal DVP School, Katmandu, Nepal
- The TDSB's Westview-YorkU Partnership: 4 NW2 Secondary Schools
- TDSB's PALS Program
- The Eva Rothwell Learning Centre, Hamilton, ON



**The only unicycle program in L2L last year!!**

L2L's partnership with the Shree Mangel DVP Schools in Katmandu Nepal through Schools Without Borders, runs the program throughout the curriculum and activities.

Zamling Lama, the L2L Liaison, has done an outstanding job in most troubled times. (It's not him on the bike! He's watching.)



L2L helped to facilitate an important program in the deep North End of Hamilton this summer.

The program ran in the Eva Rothwell Learning Center in collaboration with the Hamilton Wentworth DSB, The Robert Land Community Centre and generous support from Edward Palonek, son of Eva Rothwell and a North Ender himself.

Thirteen youth who have fallen through the regular and special ed cracks started in July, and the numbers rose to over 30 by mid-August.

The program stressed 'learning their way'. It worked.



## Our Tutors – Ready to Go!

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## Our Board, Volunteers and Advisor

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Catherine Newell, LLB Registrar  
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