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2018

MEET OUR STUDENTS .....PAGES 1 & 2

# CLASS NEWSLETTER

"LEARNING  
IS A TREASURE  
THAT WILL FOLLOW  
ITS OWNER  
EVERYWHERE."

- CHINESE PROVERB-



A CREATIVE WRITING PROJECT BY  
THE ESL INTERMEDIATE CLASS  
EQUILIBRIUM SCHOOL

## A CREATIVE WRITING PROJECT BY THE ESL INTERMEDIATE CLASS

**DEAR STUDENTS AND STAFF,  
SUMMER IS ALMOST OVER. IN CALGARY WE HAD PLENTY OF SUNNY  
DAYS, HIGH TEMPERATURES, AND IT IS NOW TIME TO ENJOY THE LAST  
DAYS OF WARM WEATHER.  
WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER NEWSLETTER.  
WE WILL BE SHARING WITH YOU STORIES ABOUT OUR FELLOW STU-  
DENTS, FIELD TRIPS, AND SPORTS.**

### MEET OUR STUDENTS

Have you ever met someone from Tajikistan? Let me introduce you to Nargiza. She started studying 10 months ago in the LINC program. Nargiza arrived in Canada on August 16, 2015 to be with her husband.



She did not like Calgary at first, but now she likes it because people are very friendly and helpful. Nargiza started school in December 2017 and her focus is to pass her driver license and improve her English.

**-MINA -**

This is a short story about Svetlana who is in the LINC program. She came to Canada in 2015 from the Ukraine to escape the war between Russia and the Ukraine. Svetlana has a husband and two children. She appreciates the fact that individuals have more freedom in Canada and can move wherever they want. Svetlana does not agree with Canada's education system, and she feels the waiting time to see a medical specialist is too long. On my question, "What future can Canada offer you?" she replied, "Stability, freedom, peaceful living, and a better quality of life."

**- AKMARAL -**



Peter started his GED course the beginning of July. During the 16 weeks he will study English, Math, Social Studies and Science. The



GED course will give Peter more job opportunities as well as an opportunity to attend college. Peter prefers taking the course at school instead of doing it online. He is very excited about getting his qualifications and is inspired to learn more.

-VINCE-

Have you ever climbed the stairs of the Calgary Tower? I have never tried to do that, but Vince has been invited to participate in a stair climbing competition organized by the Gym Association of Alberta. He has been training Monday to Friday every week. During the training season he is doing roller blading and climbing 3500 to 4000 stairs to strengthen his

legs. There will be more than 1000 people participating in the competition. Vince is doing this because he wants to know what his personal limits are? The event takes place Saturday, September 8, 2018. Go Vince go!

-ISHWOR-



When my teacher asked me to interview Gary, a computer student, I did not know what to expect. I was surprised to meet an easy going, sociable person. Gary worked as a heavy equipment operator, excavator, and had his own business. He is also a professional airplane pilot. After an injury he had to upgrade his computer skills to find work in a different field. Gary began his 8-week computer course during the beginning of July to learn Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. His funny stories made me laugh. I thanked him for taking the time to share his journey with me.

-VINCE-

I am going to introduce Samir. He is one of our LINC students. Samir came to Canada five years ago and thinks that Canada is a great country. He enjoys his class very much.

-AMIR-



## FIELD TRIPS

### THE CALGARY STAMPEDE

On July 11, 2018 the ESL students and teachers took the C-train downtown to attend the Stampede festivities at Olympic Plaza and Stephen Avenue. After we enjoyed a free stampede breakfast, we saw the old timers' parade passing with their wagons and beautiful horses. Some of us were brave enough to stand beside a horse for a photo.

We walked down Stephen Avenue and stopped at some of the vendors selling interesting musical instruments, hats, t-shirts, and many more items. The line dancers kept our attention with their quick moves and rhythmic steps. We enjoyed the live music and general atmosphere of the stampede.

We went to the Devonian Gardens for lunch. Most of the students packed their own lunch and we sat in groups enjoying the beautiful surroundings. After lunch we took the C-train back to Sunnyside station where we got off.

All the students enjoyed the day and we are very thankful for the opportunity of being together and sharing this once a year event. It was a great day and we all went home tired.

*-SARA AND SOL -*



### ROYAL TYRRELL MUSEUM – DRUMHELLER

When Dina Salivan was given 12 months to live, she decided to make the most of her life by helping others. Her cancer did not stop her from spreading her passion to help others by paying it forward.

Equilibrium School honored Dina's memory and organized the trip to continue Dina's legacy by paying it forward. On July 26, the LINC, ESL students, and staff enjoyed a relaxing trip on a Red Arrow bus. Dina's legacy will live on.

The students were very happy and excited about going to Drumheller. For some it was their first experience to the Royal Tyrrell Museum. Some students took their children with them. We all toured the

museum and then had lunch together before we all got back on the bus to Calgary. We all really enjoyed the day and are very thankful for our school's administration for organizing this memorable experience.

*- SARA AND SOL -*

THE LIMITS OF LANGUAGE MEAN  
THE LIMITS OF MY WORLD.  
-LUDWIG WITTGENSTEN





## SPORTS

### 2018 WORLD CUP SOCCER

Russia hosted the 21<sup>st</sup> FIFA World Cup Soccer Tournament. Soccer is now the world's most popular game. It is watched by millions and is played by everyone from young children to professional players. 32 teams from 5 confederations participated in this event. Brazil had won the cup five times and is the only team to have played in every tournament. Other world cup winners are Germany, Italy, Spain, England, Argentina, France, and Uruguay. The winner of this year's cup is France, beating Croatia in the final. Qatar plans to host the 2022 finals, and the 2026 world cup will be hosted by Canada, the United States, and Mexico jointly.

-KANNAN -



### GOOD-BYE JEROME

Jerome Iginla (people also call him *The Most Famous Canadian Hockey Player of the 21<sup>st</sup> century*) has retired from professional hockey. He was introduced to hockey at age 7 and played minor hockey in St. Albert, Alberta. At age 18 Jerome was selected to play for the Dallas Stars. In 2000 The Calgary Flames signed a contract with him. Jerome was already a famous player with great talent and played for The Flames for 16 seasons. He was the captain for 9 seasons. His best season was in 2007/08 and he also won the Maurice Richard Trophy that year. He never won the Stanley Cup, but in 2002 Iginla became the first black male athlete to win a gold medal in an Olympic Winter Games, when Team Canada won the men's hockey tournament. In the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, Iginla led the tournament with five goals as Canada won its first Olympic gold medal in men's hockey on home soil. Jerome's dream is to open a private hockey school and maybe become a hockey coach in the National Hockey League.

-VINCE -

## A TRUE FISHING STORY

Almost five years ago, I was fishing on the Richelieu river with my friend Sebastien when our conversation turned to the old classic story of fishing. Sebastien and I have an extremely strong relationship. We have been fishing together for more than 20 years. The story began on a beautiful hot and sunny Saturday. When Sebastien called me asking if I want to go fishing I responded yes right way and told him I will be there in 30 minutes. 30 minutes later I was there helping him to park the boat. After that, we started cruising on the river. It was so quiet, we could hear the fly touching the water.

Then we started fishing and talking about our previous fishing trip. Sebastien brought back our previous story about the biggest fish ever seen by both of us. I told Sebastien I cannot believe how big the fish was. We tried off to bring back this fish. It was impossible because it was too strong for us, but we never give up or let go. 45 minutes later this big fish started to get



tired. We waited for this moment almost one hour. The fish was getting closer and closer to the boat when another big fish appeared close to the boat. I said, "Sebastien come see the giant fish". Sebastien immediately put his fishing line in the water. Surprisingly, the fish bit. We both could not believe what just

happened. It looked like a movie, but Sebastien's journey just began with this new fish. I told him, "Let your fish get tired and come help me to bring the first fish". Finally, after 1 hour and 35 minutes we got the a out. We both never saw one fish like that

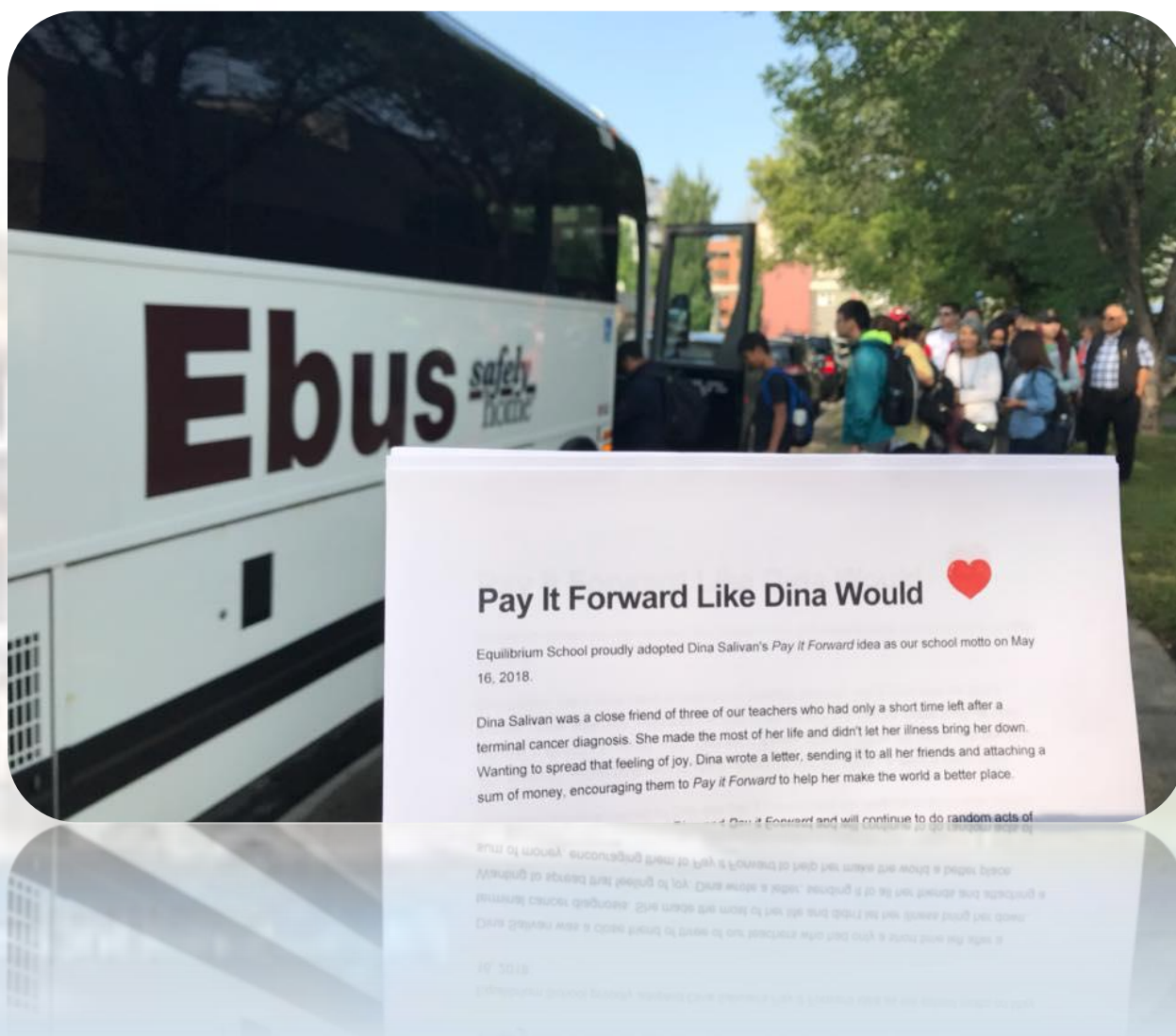


even in a picture. It looked like a historical fish with enormous teeth and a dark greenish color. Its eyes were metallic blue with a red line around. We put the fish on the little scales and the scales showed 89.1 pound. It was probably the biggest fish ever seen from this river. We put the big fish on the floor then put a towel on top to protect it from the sun. Then both of us were focused to bring down the second one close to the boat. The second fish looked bigger than the previous one. It was very hard to bring this one close to us. We thought it will never get tired, but 1 hour and 48 minutes later the fish was out from the water. The second fish had the same characteristics as the first one, but this one the scale was showing 101.7 pounds.

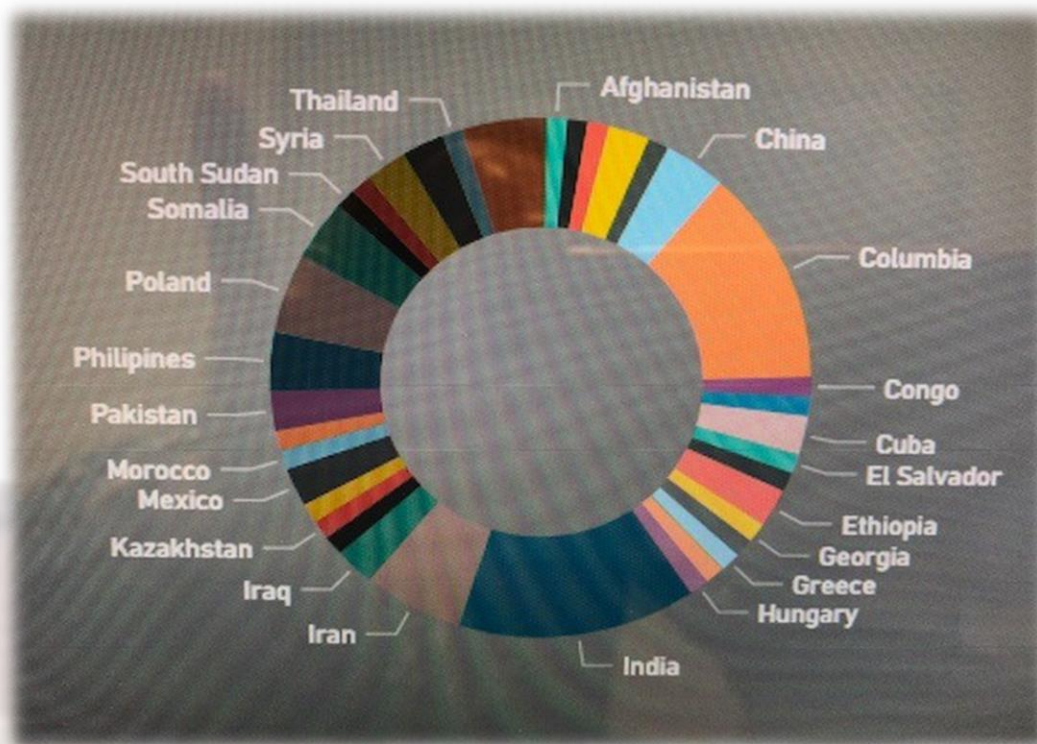


It was unbelievable to be able to catch two big fish in the same day. Sebastien and I were very tired and excited after this hard work. We started the boat and cruised back to the jetty. At the jetty people waited for us to see these two big fish. Every single person took pictures. After that, we put the fish on ice and drove to go see a specialist about these two fish. The specialist had never seen such a fish and was amazed.

He told us he had also never seen something similar in the pass. He also called the news reporter. After a couple of days, the reporter called us back and said that it was two historical fish from 1721. That was the last time someone saw that kind of fish. Today, both fish are in a museum in Montreal, so people can look at them and enjoy our story of fishing on the Richelieu river.







Our students come from all over the world.

### THANK YOU

Thank you to all the students in the ESL Intermediate class for your contribution.

Thank you, Slavica for the design and layout of the newsletter.

Thank you, Darren, for editing.



Equilibrium



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