

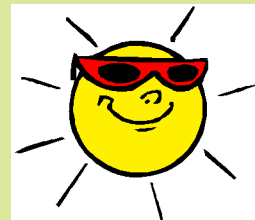


Volunteers recognized at annual Appreciation Night

From filing tax returns to hosting newly arrived immigrants and refugees, numerous volunteers devote their time and talent to ensure the success of ISSofBC's programs and services. On June 15, ISSofBC organized their annual Volunteer Appreciation Night to thank these generous, committed individuals for their contributions.

Organized by **Fatoumata Niane, Dorcas Mendez, Iwona Maciuk, Shannon Lee, Jakob Klith, Jackie Dion** and **Thea Fiddick**, over 100 volunteers attended the Volunteer Appreciation Night, held at the Heritage Hall on Main Street. **Jonathan Lowe** was the emcee of the evening, which featured a sumptuous array of food, Korean Drumming, African Drumming, and musical appearances by the Contention Choir and Chinese zither/flute performers. The certificate ceremony was the highlight of the evening, where volunteers were recognized based on their volunteer hours. **Adassa Brooks** and **Raed Jweihen** were acknowledged for their long term commitments, and **Marguerite Egan** was recognized for her outstanding contribution to ISSofBC.

Volunteers are pivotal in the seamless delivery of ISSofBC's services, and the Volunteer Appreciation Night was a celebration of all the volunteers' hard work, dedication and commitment. Sophie, a Host Program volunteer, attended the celebration and said, "Through your actions you showed us how much you value our contribution to ISSofBC. I was left with the feeling that 'you guys' treat your volunteers like gold."



JUNE 2010

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ISSofBC CONGRATULATES



The Doundounba African Drumming and Dance Ensemble entertains an enthusiastic crowd at Heritage Hall.

Photo: Rob Clinton

Over 100 ISSofBC staff attend safety training

Inspired to provide employees with the knowledge and skills to ensure personal safety in the workplace, **Diane Pearce** and **Kay Fabre** organized eight Workplace & Personal Safety Information Sessions at the ISSofBC Terminal and New Westminster locations.

During the months of May and June, 104 ISSofBC staff participated in these interactive and highly informative sessions.



Constables Lora and Randy from the Vancouver Police Department demonstrate safety techniques.

Facilitated by Constables Randy Inouye, Lora Dujmovic, Linda Malcolm, Mike Lemon and Wes Fung from the Vancouver Police Department (VPD), and Clair MacGougan from the Hastings Sunrise Community Policing Centre, the information sessions covered topics such as using common sense, how to react to threatening encounters, and techniques to avert attack. The VPD also commended **Veronica Lee's** terrific job in

Newly Certified Career Development Practitioners:

Minakshi Bagai
 Freda Fernandes
 Lisa Kolbuc
 Joseph Lui
 Maria Luong
 Editha Magtibay
 Ines Montoya
 Katya Potekhina
 Noel Soares
 Alice Wong
 Windi Wong
 Jennifer York

GREEN TIP

With the hot weather in full swing, here are some tips to stay cool, calm and green this summer!

- Instead of reaching for the air conditioner, consider the underrated ceiling fan. Ceiling fans use less energy than an air conditioner, costs less to buy, and cools like a charm. For Do-It-Yourself types, there's always the classic hand fan, made out of the nearest newspaper, magazine or outdoor concert brochure.

- Make an old fashioned air conditioner: drench some sheets in cold water and hang them over some open windows. The water will evaporate in the breeze, creating a lovely cooling effect.

- Wear clothes in natural fabrics. Fabrics such as cotton, hemp and linen

getting Occupational Health and Safety policies and procedures in place.

Jocelyn Tsai, a Program Assistant with Multilingual Case Management, thoroughly enjoyed the session, and her colleague **Daniel Leung** said "this session allowed me to enhance my knowledge toward personal safety, which I found extremely useful, especially in a work environment with lots of client interaction."

Tri-Cities Job Fair a winner

Partnering with the Coquitlam School Board, ISSoBC hosted the Tri-Cities Job Fair on May 21st at the Port Moody Secondary School. The first joint career fair between ISSoBC and the Coquitlam School Board was a successful undertaking, with over 820 job seekers and nine employers from various labour and service sectors in attendance.

Lois Eaton, the Coordinator for Settlement Worker in Schools for the Coquitlam School District, and **Clifford Bell**, Director of ISSoBC's Language College and Career Services, delivered warm welcome addresses at the Opening Ceremony. Employer Relations Specialists **Jim Quinn** and **Sharon Huang** were also present to attend to all the details of the job fair, from the preparation stage to the wrap-up of the event.



Employment Counsellor Melissa Xu helping a job fair attendee with her work-related questions.

During the five-hour fair, active job seekers eagerly completed application forms and one employer, Safeway, consistently drew long line ups of candidates

ready to hand in their applications. Spirited EOS

breathe better than synthetic fibers and naturally wick moisture away from the body.

- Consider changing your bulbs. Incandescent light bulbs are heat generators, so try switching them for energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs or halogen infra-reds.



COMPUTER TIP

Does your computer freeze or crash in the middle of an important presentation or while you're working on a report? If you've been a victim of untimely computer crashing, here are a few tips to improve your computer's performance:

- Clear your temporary files. Sometimes your PC's virtual memory will become full, and when this happens your computer may run slowly or freeze during a program. This happens because everything you do on your PC - every document you type, every photo you change - is saved

Coquitlam and Burnaby-New Westminster Career Services staff were also on hand to answer questions and provide information about ISSofBC's wide ranging services, ensuring visitors left the ISSofBC booth fully informed.

Contributed by Brenda Alindogan

Refugee children and families celebrate in harmony

On June 5th, over 30 refugee children and their families were treated to a uniquely Canadian celebration at the Cedar Hills Elementary School in Surrey. Celebrating the "World in Harmony," ISSofBC's annual Refugee Children's Party warmly welcomed newly arrived refugee children into the community.

With **Romanda Simpson** and 22 ISSofBC volunteers leading the activities, refugee children aged 3 to 15 years old enjoyed an afternoon of food, crafts, music and games. In addition to featuring a



Denys de Caballero (centre right) at the craft table helping the kids decorate fabric bags.

drumming circle, a face painting station and a balloon magician, the party had a craft table for kids to make musical instruments, picture frames, fabric bags and candles.

The children also had the chance to pose as rock stars - complete with guitar props and a concert stage backdrop - at the photo centre. The photographs were printed out at the party for the kids to take home, thanks to the generous printer donation from **Sally Phung-Ip**.

somewhere on your PC, which hogs up memory.

- Run a spy-ware program. When you download something from the Internet, sometimes other software, unbeknown to you, is included. This software is called "spy-ware" and it can do many things to harm your computer, including allowing someone from another website to see your surfing history. Other spy-ware can try to steal your passwords or other personal information.

- Reboot the PC occasionally. Your PC needs to be restarted in order to reset itself after new programs or equipment are installed. It also erases the virtual memory and goes through a self-diagnostic to look for any problems.



ISSofBC NEWS BLOG

For up to date news and information on migration issues, visit the [ISSofBC News Blog!](#)

This year's Refugee Children's Party was a successful event, leaving many refugee children with painted faces, goody bags and fond memories to take home.

ESL website links students and teachers to valuable resources

When **Janis Fair** started an ESL website for her ELSA students over 10 years ago, she was unaware her modest website, which consisted mostly of website links to ESL activities and exercises, would evolve into an invaluable tool for ISSofBC students and teachers.

The idea of launching an ESL website took root when Janis realized her students encountered some difficulty copying down the web addresses off the classroom board, mistaking letters for numbers and vice versa. "It would save a lot of time and hassle to put all the links in one source, and a website was the best way to do this because all the students would have access to it, both in the computer lab and at home," says Janis, an ELSA Level 3 instructor.

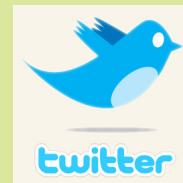
The website turned out to be a great teaching and learning tool, and shortly after, Janis began collaborating with other teachers to turn the website into an ESL resource for International Studies and ELSA classes. Janis' streamlined ESL site now features an updated Community Events page and sections designated for students and teachers, which include resources such as videos, interactive quizzes, vocabulary lists, and PDF lessons.

If you would like to brush up on your vocabulary, try out the interactive quizzes, or view some delicious easy to follow recipes, visit Janis' ESL Home Page at <http://www.issbc.org/janis-esl/>.



ISSofBC IS ON TWITTER!

What's happening at ISSofBC? Get in the know by following us on **Twitter!**



NEW STAFF?

Do you have new or current staff who are not receiving the e-newsletter?

If you would like to add them to the distribution list, email Debra Pangestu, LCCS Departmental Coordinator, at debra.pangestu@issbc.org.





Links, activities and more can be found on Janis Fair's ESL website.

CORRECTION NOTICE

Thea Fiddick's position title is **Volunteer and Women's Programs Manager**, and not Host Program Coordinator, as reflected in the May 2010 issue.

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