



December 2008

Shawqi Rashed to be "dearly missed"

Shawqi Rashed, a strong supporter and long-time member of the ISSofBC Board of Directors, passed away on December 8, 2008. His passing marked the end of over 30 years of active volunteer work for the society, which he helped guide through several terms as president. In her announcement to staff, ED Patricia Woroch described Shawqi as a very "compassionate, caring and wise man (who) will be dearly missed."



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ISSofBC shares spotlight in BC Business Gala

ISSofBC was introduced to over 500 top businesses in Greater Vancouver at a gala that took place at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver on November 26th.

As a major sponsor of the 7th annual BC Business Magazine's "Best Companies to Work for in BC" event, ISSofBC showcased the Employer Solutions initiative—a package of services for employers that comprise hiring support, workplace English training and mentoring connections.

ISSofBC staff involved in employer relations work including Veronica Heringer, Sharon Huang, Cecil Joseph, Ines Montoya, Jim Quinn, Catherine Rana, Dianne Russell, Romanda Simpson, Laurie Sing and Alice Wong attended the attractive Employer Solutions booth designed by Adrian Bailon, who was also at the gala. Executive Director Patricia Woroch and Board Member Manchan Sonachansingh also

Staff celebrate the start of the holidays at the ISSofBC Staff Christmas Party

Fun contests, prizes, great food and Brazilian dancing and Capoeira were all part of the festivities at the ISSofBC Christmas party.

Staff let loose and danced into the night after enjoying a buffet dinner, entertainment and winning prizes.

The event, held at the Empire Landmark Hotel, was an opportunity for staff

represented the agency at the event.

The gala honours BC-based companies that have made it to the annual "Best Companies" list which include some of the largest, most recognizable and progressive employers in the province.

ISSo/BC hosts immigrant serving organizations in SISO workshops



ISSo/BC, in partnership with the Settlement and Integration Services Organization (SISO), welcomed 40 participants from five immigrant serving organizations to a presentation on the Workplace Development Toolkit.

The toolkit is a collection of resources developed to help employers take full advantage of the global skills and experience brought in by internationally trained professionals and tradespeople.

SISO staff led by Gudelia Morency, Toolkit Project Coordinator, and Aurelia Tokaci, Manager of Employment, facilitated two half-day workshops for employment staff from MOSAIC, SUCCESS, Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society (PICS), Multicultural Helping House Society (MHHS), Educacentre and ISSo/BC.

SISO is a settlement and integration organization located in Hamilton, Ontario. To learn more visit the SISO [website](#).

to kick off the holidays.

PHOTOS FROM THE PARTY



Holiday Green Tips

**Avoid wrapping
paper**

*Reuse old paper or
make your own gift
wrap from brown
paper bags*

Give creatively

*Make jewellery,
bake or knit*

Host responsibly

*For Holiday parties,
use reusable glass or
plastic ware and
cloth napkins*

**Make gift tags or
decorations from last
year's cards**

**Don't buy gifts that
are overpackaged**

**Use LED lights
instead of energy-
wasting lights**

*They come in the
same colours and use
a fraction of the
wattage*