

# Multilingual Association of Regina

## JULY-SEPTEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER



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July-Sept 2010  
ISSN 1483-9660

### **President's Message: Indu Jaiswal:**



As many of you already know, June was a very unhappy month for me as on June 12<sup>th</sup>, I lost my husband Paul. I then accepted an offer from my son and my daughter to spend some time with them in Ontario, so I was not involved in MLAR activities for several months. Now back in the community of Regina, I look forward to continuing to work as a volunteer MLAR Board Member in this my second term as President.

During my fairly lengthy out-of-province absence, Ved Arora kept in regular contact with me and informed me that MLAR's activities were being well taken care of, and not to worry. I would like to thank the members of the MLAR Board and our Office Coordinator Emile for taking care of responsibilities during my absence.

I am also happy to inform you that MLAR's **Treasurer Ved Arora** has taken on additional responsibilities as he was elected **President of the Saskatchewan Association for Heritage Languages (SOHL)**, an organization that provides services throughout the province of Saskatchewan. Congratulations Ved. MLAR already works closely with SOHL in support of the Regina Heritage Languages Program and we look forward to continuing that good relationship with SOHL, as well as exploring new avenues of joint services to the many Heritage Language groups in the Regina area. I was also informed that MLAR has applied for special funding from SaskCulture and if funding is

obtained, MLAR and SOHL will participate in a new initiative by the Canadian Languages Association (CLA). The planned initiative is entitled **SPEAK UP: Promoting a Multilingual Canada**. This national initiative is aimed at raising the exposure of the benefits of languages education in Canada.

The above initiative is identified as a "**Grassroots Communication Strategy**" which will focus on increased exposure to the value of supporting Heritage Languages in Canada. Concentrated efforts are planned for the cities of Regina, Saskatoon, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Montreal. This would allow MLAR and SOHL to commit more efforts to hopefully increase the availability of resources for our Heritage Language groups here in Saskatchewan. Whether or not MLAR can take part in this new initiative will of course depend on whether or not SaskCulture approves the requested special project funding.

Upon my return to Regina in late August, I was happy to be able to be present for the Annual Principals' Meeting to involve Heritage Language Principals in planning for the 2010-2011 school year.



The above were present for a **Board Meeting** held just before the Principals' Meeting: **Left to right – Front:** Indu Jaiswal, Mary Kolitsas, Girma Sahl. **Back Row** Ved Arora, Raphael Hwang, Emile Carignan.

A **Principals' Annual Meeting** of Heritage Language schools was held at the Travelodge, Regina on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The following represented their **respective language school**:



Sandra Morin (German)



Toshiko Charrier (Nippon)



Madoka Otani (Japanese)



Fotini Labropulu (Greek)



Raphael Hwang (Chinese)



Rajula Pandya (Hindi)



Santos Garcia (Spanish)



Olga Santander (Spanish)

The **Annual Principals' Meeting** was attended by a number of new persons who took part for the first time. Pictures to the right include Lyla Gess who has been with MLAR for a number of years. Others are new persons who have joined MLAR only this year.

As part of the **planning** for a new school year, a number of topics were on the agenda. In case your school did not attend the meeting, following are some of the topics that were presented.

**RMS Committee:** Ved Arora reminded the principals that conditions of Balfour and Campbell for use of their facilities must be followed, or they could be denied future access.

**Professional Development** Mary Kolitsas mentioned that two workshops are Planned for 2010-2011. The first on November 20, 2010: topic yet to be decided, but may be how to deal with the issue of student attention in class.

Mary also talked about a number of opportunities available through SOHL Including Workshops, Volunteer Award, SOHL Conference Oct 23, 24 at the Regina Inn, Youth Instructor-Helper bursary University of Calgary Certificate in Teaching International Heritage Languages: on-line costs for some to be covered by SOHL.

**Other matters covered** included payment of the MLAR Membership fee for 2010-2011, Teacher-Student lists to submit to MLAR Office as well as Starting Dates for those using **Balfour - Campbell**, Attendance Certificates, Balfour & Campbell re **Emergencies**: place to go.



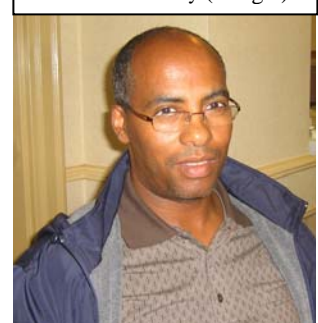
Lyla Gess (Scandinavian)



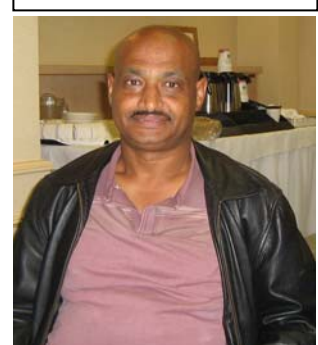
Subrato Ghosh (Bengali)



Ainoul Chowdhury (Bangla)



Girma Maneso (Ethiopian)



Asfaw Debia (Ethiopian)

Lucia Garcia of the Salvadorean Spanish School provided this picture of students celebrating **Mothers Day** on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010.



Below is a photo of Parents and Teachers of the Salvadorean Spanish School celebrating the culmination of their School Year on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, by enjoying an outdoor get-together.



The Regina School of Chinese Studies held its annual Summer Camp again this year. Following are some of the pictures taken during the week-long event. The 6<sup>th</sup> Chinese youth summer camp (July 12-16) was again successful with 41 students in attendance.



Children ranging from ages 5 to 16 from diverse cultural backgrounds experienced Chinese knots, paper folding, play dough, skipping ropes, Chinese Yoyo, dances with ribbons, flag and fan.



Students presented lively dances and yoyo tricks as well as colorful displays of their art works.



The culture teachers came from Taiwan to teach a one-week culture camp in seven cities across Canada in July and August, specializing in hand craft, dance, yoyo and physical exercises.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS School Year 2010-2011

If you missed the **Heritage Language School Principals' Meeting** on August 30<sup>th</sup>, you may request a copy of the Minutes of the meeting from MLAR Office for information.

## BALFOUR COLLEGIATE

Dates NOT Available:

Labour Day Weekend – Sept 4 to 6 2010  
Thanksgiving Weekend – Oct 8 to Oct 12  
Remembrance Day – Nov 11 to Nov 14  
Balfour Function – Dec 9 to Dec 11  
Christmas Break – Dec 24 - Jan 5, 2011  
Balfour Function – Jan 13 to Jan 15  
Family Day Weekend – Feb 18 to Feb 21  
Balfour Function – Mar 18 to Mar 21  
Spring Break – Apr 22 to May 1  
Victoria Day Holiday – May 20 to May 21  
LAST DAY of School – June 16, 2011

## CAMPBELL COLLEGIATE

Dates NOT Available:

Labour Day Weekend – Sept 4 to 6 2010  
Christmas Break – Dec 24 - Jan 5, 2011  
Easter Break – Apr 22 to May 3  
LAST DAY of School – June 16, 2011

## TEACHER WORKSHOPS

Two workshops are planned. The first is planned for November 20, 2010 to be held at the Travelodge on South Albert. The topic planned for this first workshop will involve ways of helping teachers maintain student concentration on lessons in classes held mostly on weekends.

A second workshop planned to be in February/March 2011. A topic that is being considered is the European Language Portfolio as recommended by Sask. Ministry of Education.

## MLAR Website (mlar.ca)

All Heritage Language Schools are requested to have a look at the website and provide to MLAR Office any changes that should be made to the information about their school, so that the information can be kept up to date, and include the information that you want displayed.

## SOHL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This year this conference will be held on October 23 and 24, 2010 at the Regina Inn. There will be a number of Workshops as part of the program, so these should be of interest to Heritage Language School Teachers and Principals. [Phone 780-9275]

Heritage Language School Groups are encouraged to start now to identify selection of teachers to nominate for the **Teachers Award Night** to be held on **March 9, 2011**.

The Multilingual Association of Regina (MLAR) gratefully acknowledges funding assistance from the following:  
SaskCulture Inc., Saskatchewan Lotteries, Saskatchewan Organization for Heritage Languages, Saskatchewan Education, and this year, special project funding from Farm Credit Canada (FCC Regina Spirit Fund)



Saskatchewan Organization  
for Heritage Languages



Saskatchewan  
Ministry of  
Education



Farm Credit Canada  
Financement agricole Canada

Canada