

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES'
LACE (LEARNING AND
COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT)
PROGRAM

LACE PROGRAM

- Free, drop-in program with no pre-registration required
- Began in 1999 at Stanley Milner Library
- Currently runs out of 9 library branches, anywhere from 1-3 times per week per branch
- Daytime, evening and weekend sessions
- 1.5-2 hours in length

OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEWCOMERS

- For conversational English practice
- For social Interaction
- To learn about Canadian customs and norms
- To learn about the Edmonton Public Library, their resources and programs

OBJECTIVE FOR OUR AGENCY

- To provide clients with information that aids integration in the following ways:
- Via LACE volunteers (i.e., job fairs, sponsorship information sessions, social norms)
- Via libraries (i.e., tours, library presentations)
- Via guest speakers (both from within and outside the agency)

FORMAT OF PROGRAM

- Break into groups according to levels of comprehension
- Always speak at the highest level
- Use of open-ended questions
- Use of games, books, magazines, and computers

GUIDELINES FOR VOLUNTEERS

- “ 80/20 rule”
- No “dominators”
- Encourage learners to share their culture
- Avoid asking personal questions until a rapport has developed
- Avoid discussion of religion and politics

CLIENTS

- The clients may be:
 - - On a waiting list for regular ESL classes
 - - Working shift work
 - - May have medical problems
 - - May be seniors who require a more relaxed pace of study

COME TO PLAY?



What is counselling?



LET'S GO PROGRAM

- **ACRONYM FOR LEARN, ENJOY, TALK AND SHARE**

LET'S GO PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- To provide low-income Newcomer families with free, fun, recreational activities in the summer time
- To educate Newcomers on Canadian culture, and norms, as well as on Edmonton's history and local attractions

COMPONENTS OF PROGRAM

- English language practice
- Weekly presentation on Edmonton attractions
- Outdoor exercise (i.e., yoga, Tai Chi)
- Weekly field trip to Edmonton attractions
- End of summer barbeque

FIELD TRIP LOCATIONS

- Alberta Legislature Grounds
- City Hall/ Street Performers Festival
- Victoria Driving Range
- Fort Edmonton Park
- Edmonton Valley Zoo
- Royal Alberta Museum









QUESTIONS??