

## A Successful 29th AGM!

Friends and supporters of EYLE celebrated our 29th Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, June 22 at 7:00. The evening began with the business part of the meeting, as we reviewed events of the past year, said goodbye to Board Members who were leaving and elected a few new ones. After that, attendees celebrated the achievements of students who've attained a full year at EYLE, as well as long time volunteers.

Afterwards, everyone enjoyed refreshments as they mingled, greeting old friends and meeting new ones. The event started out in the back garden, where we basked in the beautiful summer weather before moving into the office area for the socializing.



## Comings and Goings

This year, several longterm members of the Board of Directors had to step down for various reasons. Devon Hone, Dora Body and Mary Dunstan decided not to continue. Their many contributions are greatly appreciated. Our student rep, Aura, also finished her one-year term. They will all be missed.

We would also like to welcome our new Board members: Jeannie Farquharson, Rob Norquay, Wanita Watson-Rhodes and our new student representative, Claudith Hamilton-Gordon.

## Student Recognition

Every year, EYLE presents certificates to students who have been at EYLE for one year. Student certificates were given to Istarlin, Brandon, Thuy, Maryam, Rita, Christine and Nell.

## Thanking our Volunteers

The following volunteers were also honoured:

25 Years: Ric Parney

3 Years: Donna Erling, Michael Schaub

1 Year: Michelle Tara-Kennedy, Andre Siegal,

Peter Small, Allison Wallis, Jeannie Farquharson

## 25 Years Volunteering at EYLE

We'd like to give a special thanks to Ric Parney, who celebrated 25 years as a volunteer at EYLE. Ric started as a tutor in 1991, and joined our Board of Directors in 2000. He's also volunteered at bake sales, pub nights, Word on the Street, silent auctions and more, lending a helping hand and a warm smile whenever he's needed.

*Special Thanks to Trac Ba Luu for his help around the office.*

## What's An Annual General Meeting?

As a registered charity, the law states that EYLE must have an Annual General Meeting. This gives members the chance to find out what goes on behind the scenes when it comes to how the organization is run. Financials and fundraising are just two of the topics discussed. An AGM also gives voting members (anyone who's been a part of EYLE for more than three months) a chance to vote for new board members and approve motions (suggestions for actions to be taken).

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## EYE ON EYLE

### Thank You...

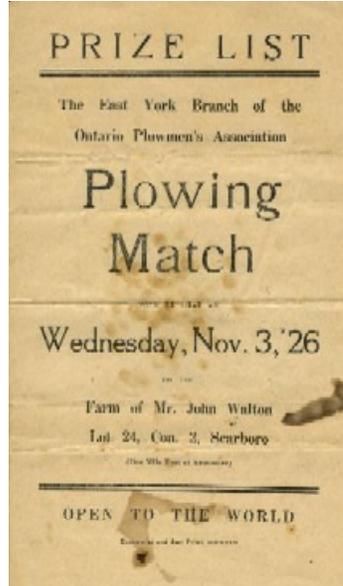
To our funders, and to the Ministry of Education and Advanced Skills Development for their generous, ongoing support; City of Toronto, for their ongoing support; Service Canada; Charity Intelligence

To the following for their kind donations for our AGM:

Davidson's Valu-Mart (Woodbine and Danforth); Home Depot (Curity); Metro Shoppers World; Morgans on the Danforth; Murphy's Law Pub; Rally Sports Bar & Smokehouse

### Congratulations:

To Ricky D. on earning his driver's license.



*This little cutie grew up to become EYLE's mystery benefactor (donor).*

*His family farm in Scarborough also hosted a huge plowing match in 1926. To find out more, please turn to our Local History Section on page 4.*

## FREE MUSEUM AND ARTS FAMILY PASS

*Take your family out on the town with passes to The Royal Ontario Museum, the Toronto Zoo, the Ontario Science Centre and many more!*

The Toronto Public Library has partnered with Sun Life Financial to offer free Museum



+ Arts Passes (MAP) to allow you and your family to explore the best of Toronto's arts and cultural treasures at no cost. With your valid adult Toronto Public Library card, you can take out a pass for your family at any Toronto Public Library branch. Quantities are limited and are issued on a first come first served basis. The passes provide access for **2 adults & up to 5 children.**

Some passes are only available at certain libraries, so please call the library in your area to find out which passes they carry.

In order to use your MAP pass to get into a venue, you'll need to bring:

- MAP pass and date due receipt
- Your library card
- ID (ID requirements may vary; please contact the venue directly)

### *Important things to keep in mind:*

- Passes become available every Saturday morning. Arrive early for the best selection. You only get one pass per week (seven calendar days) per person with a valid adult library card. Each pass admits one family.
- You may get one of each venue's pass once every three months (subject to availability)
- Passes do not have to be returned to the Library but you do have to give them to the venue when you get in, so you can't keep them to use again
- Passes are free. There are no overdue fines or fees on the Sun Life Financial Museum + Arts Pass.

### *Places You Can Visit:*

Aga Khan Museum, Art Gallery of Ontario, Bata Shoe Museum, Black Creek Pioneer Village, Colborne Lodge in High Park, Fort York, Gibson House, Mackenzie House, Montgomery's Inn, Scarborough Museum, Spadina Museum: Historic House & Gardens, Todmorden Mills Heritage Site, Gardiner Ceramics Museum, Museum of Inuit Art, Ontario Science Centre, ROM - Royal Ontario Museum, Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto Zoo - *Written by Duel Phillips*

# TUTORS CORNER : ARE YOU AN ESSAY ENABLER?

Congratulations! Your learner has just entered a college program. All of her (and your) hard work have paid off. Now, instead of working through exercise books, your student has begun to bring you the essays she has been working on, and things are growing complicated.

Aliana knew about her essay three weeks ago. It's due in two days, and when she brings it in for you to look at, it's a mess. Aliana didn't actually get around to starting the essay until last night, and it shows.

You want to help Aliana pass her course. At this point, explaining how to correct it is almost pointless; there's no time for her to make the changes. You're tempted to just rewrite the essay for her. And, perhaps, do a little bit of research; she clearly has no idea what she's writing about, and her thesis sentence is incoherent. She's extremely upset.

*Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.*

*(Chinese proverb)*

Students who come to EYLE are here to learn how to read and write. Faced with a crisis situation (even if it's one of a student's own making), it's easy to override the boundary of being a caring tutor and wade into being an essay enabler. Here are some general guidelines to help you tread that fine line.

1/ Explain what they need to do, give them an example, then let them put together one of their own for their assignment. If their thesis statement is flawed or nonexistent, discuss thesis statements. Give an example from a book or online. Let them create one. Ditto for topic statements.

2/ If the problem has to do with grammar, spelling, punctuation or other mechanical issues, point out the mistake to the learner and see whether they can fix it themselves. If not, you may have to give a quick lesson on whatever rule it is that they're breaking. If the problem involves more complex sentence structure, a more detailed lesson may be required, and you may have to decide what to focus on for that day. Keep track of any problems to review at a later date.

3/ If the essay is incoherent, you can discuss structure and logic, and general flow. If they haven't thought through the subject, ask leading questions. If their explanation is weak or non-existent, ask them to explain what they're trying to say, as you don't understand. Sometimes having to explain something verbally is an excellent way to muster thoughts, and to clarify a topic before writing it down.

4/ What if the student has absolutely no idea what they're talking about? They've only skimmed a couple of chapters. They have done no research. They can't formulate a thesis sentence, or an argument, because they have absolutely no information in their head. In this case, you can recommend sources for research, but DO NOT give in to the temptation to do their work for them.

Your goal is not to help the student get a higher grade, regardless of whether they've learned anything. The point is to help them learn how to write so that they can earn higher grades based on their own ability. If they wait until the last minute and get a low mark as a result, it's possible that dealing with the consequences will help to motivate them in the future. You do not want to become the path of least resistance.

## **Don't Set Your Student Up to Fail**

There are times when too much help can sabotage your student's future. A student who consistently hands in well-thought out, carefully researched essays that are structurally and grammatically sound may not come close to duplicating that quality for exams or in-class assignments. They could face being expelled for cheating, as their previous assignments were obviously not their own work. They could also be hired, based on their college qualifications, only to be fired when they're incapable of doing the work that's expected in a professional manner.

*A tool for panicky procrastinators:  
Put in the start date and due date to receive a time line that you can print out. You can even have reminders emailed to you. To try it out, visit <http://planner.bulibtools.net/>*

# LOCAL HISTORY: THE LEGACY OF BILL WALTON

One afternoon in 2011, a mysterious envelope arrived in the mail. The envelope was from a lawyer's office. Inside, we found a cheque made out to EYLE for \$1,000 from the Estate of William Walton.

Who was William Walton, and why did he donate money to EYLE? As far as anyone can remember, he hadn't been a student or volunteer here. Nobody recognized the name. Almost every year since then, we've received a cheque from Mr. Walton's estate. One day, I decided to find out who he was, and I began to look online.

Bill Walton was a farmer. His house was on lot 24 Concession 2, Township of Scarborough. If you've ever visited the Scarborough Town Centre, you've stood on the land that he used to farm, and his father before him. Bill grew grain and hay. There was an orchard, and they raised pigs and cattle, as well as chickens.

Bill was born in 1919. Their farmhouse, which was built at 1854, was located near Ellesmere and Brimley, just a mile and a quarter from Bill's school. Bill said it didn't seem too far a walk, and for a young boy, walking through the countryside probably offered lots to look at and to do. He described the two room school house as being fairly modern, as it had central heating.

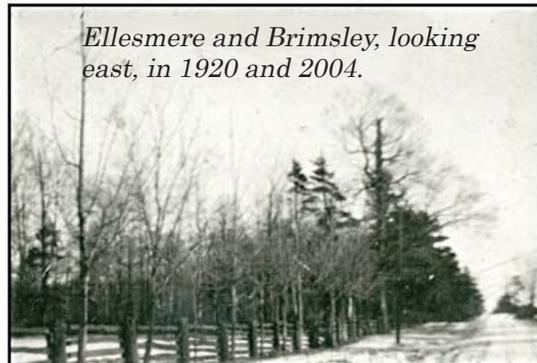
For years, they plowed the land with a horse-drawn plough. Bill's father bought a tractor around 1916, but they didn't use it for plowing. It wasn't stable enough in the fields. Instead, they used it for other farm chores, and to power other machinery. In 1946, Bill bought a new Ford tractor, which had the power and stability to make his life much easier.

Life in the country may have been quiet, but they found ways to keep busy. Bill's father played coronet (a type of trumpet) in the Malvern band. In 1926, the East York Branch of the Ontario Plowman's Association hosted a

Plowing Match that they described as being "open to the world". The prizes were impressive, with a top prize of \$35. Categories included tractors and horse drawn ploughs. There was even a category open to boys 16 and under.

Over the years, Bill would get together with his neighbours at St. Andrew's Church, which was a hub for the little community's social life. One of those neighbours was Thomas Bick, whose pickles went on to become famous. Bill eventually sold his land during the 1950's. Many of his neighbours were already gone, and the countryside was changing and being developed.

Today, parking lots, shopping malls and housing developments cover the land that used to grow food. Bill's legacy lives on, however. He ensured that money from his estate would go on to support local charities, including the Red Door Shelter, Rosalie Hall and East York Learning Experience.



## Learn more about Scarborough history for free!

You can visit an old log house built in the 1830's by William Porteous McCowan, explore an old farmhouse from the 1850's, stroll through the gardens and admire objects taken from everyday life in the time of the pioneers. The Scarborough Historical Museum asks for a donation when you visit, but you can also use a free Toronto Public Library MAP pass to take you and your family. (For more information on the free pass, please see page 2 of this newsletter.)

*To learn more about the museum, please visit [www.scarboroughhistorical.ca](http://www.scarboroughhistorical.ca) and look under "Local History".*

# AFFORDABLE INTERNET FOR TENANTS IN SUBSIDIZED AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT HOUSING



*Rogers is offering \$9.99/month  
Hi-Speed Internet Service  
to Low-Income Tenants*

Rogers Communications is providing broadband internet service at a reduced rate of \$9.99/month to qualified tenants of non-profit housing organizations in Ontario. The Connected for Success program, which was first unveiled as a pilot project geared towards residents of Toronto Community Housing, has since been extended to include households that benefit from RGI (Rent-Geared-to-Income), rent supplement, housing allowance, and rent subsidy within partnered non-profit organizations. As it grows, Connected for Success will bring more Canadians online and give them the tools and resources needed to experience the benefits of being on the internet.

To qualify, you must live in a building in an organization (CMHC, CHFC, ONPHA, etc.) that is participating in the Connected for Success program and have received a letter in the mail about the program. Alternatively, if you are a low-income tenant and not sure if you qualify for the program, you can speak to a Rogers representative who will guide you through the application process.

How to get connected:

- Contact Rogers at 1-866-689-0758 or at [connectedforsuccess@rci.rogers.com](mailto:connectedforsuccess@rci.rogers.com)
- You will need the name, phone number, and address of the non-profit housing organization where you live
- You need to let your housing administration office know that you contacted Rogers about Connected for Success. Rogers will contact them to confirm their status as a non-profit housing establishment, and that you are eligible. This step in the process is done so that Rogers has confirmation that you are part of their target group, and that you meet the

criteria for this program. No personal or confidential information will be shared with Rogers.

- Participating housing providers will deliver the Rogers pre-approved letter to the new qualified tenants introducing the offer from Rogers

*Service Details:*

- 10Mbps download speed and 1Mbps upload speed
- DOCSIS 2.0 Network Modem rental included
  - 30GB data usage allowance with no over usage fees
  - No Credit Checks
  - No cancellation fees

*Article by Duel Phillips*



## **Free WiFi to Go**

The Toronto Public Library and Google are teaming up to make the internet more accessible to

a wide variety of people. Six library branches in low-income neighbourhoods have begun to offer portable wireless internet for free. Each free internet hot spot lets users go online wherever they want, and is good for six months. Right now, all of the hot spots have been taken, but they'll have more spots available in January of next year.

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