

COALITION ON RICHER DIVERSITY [CORD]

A Newfoundland & Labrador Diversity and Immigration Umbrella Organization

Solutions Group A (SGA) – Education

The Education Solutions Group is a coming together of proactive and energetic people who have a passion for public education and promoting diversity.

The group's purpose is to come up with *practical* ways to address diversity by

- ✓ Improving education programs
- ✓ Addressing education issues affecting us now,
- ✓ Contributing positively to the research process.
- ✓ Improving education effectiveness for newcomers,
- ✓ Enhancing English as a Second Language (ESL) development
- ✓ Providing unique services for newcomer students who may have little previous experience with formal education

Members will meet regularly to discuss current education issues. Members will share information on current trends and prospects in all areas of education.

Members will explore strategies on how to

- Assess ESL needs & improve ESL resources
- Improve assessment of newcomer students (initial and assessing achievement)
- Provide cultural sensitivity (Diversity) training for mainstream educators/ general public
- Deal with learning disabilities among newcomer students
- Tutor immigrant children: (after school homework clubs, peer tutoring, etc.)
- Expand adult ESL services (long term and across the province)
- Help newcomer parents understand the school system (resources for parent education and support (peer parent program))
- Identify barriers and successes/resources in the education systems
- Reassess overlapping services (ESL, Adult Basic Education)
- Provide more complete information for internationally trained educational professionals (ITP) before they enter Canada
- Educate newcomers & long-term residence about general culture (more than food, song & dance – use of space, time, etc.)
- Make multicultural resources more prevalent and available in schools

CORD wants your input.

CORD wants to benefit from your ideas and experiences.