

Connecting women  
in need with  
technology through  
mentoring

# iSisters Technology Mentoring Inc.

June 2005  
Newsletter

Hike and Picnic in the Park Fundraiser  
Saturday June 11, 2005



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### Our Mission:

- To provide access to technology
- To develop and deliver technology mentoring programs
- To enhance career opportunities through technological awareness

[www.isisters.org](http://www.isisters.org)

## New Partnership with Youville in Full Swing!

iSisters' newest partnership with the Youville Centre is underway. Both Youville and iSisters are very excited about this program. The mission of this innovative initiative is to develop and implement a new sustainable program for young mothers focused on Information Communication Technology (ICT) and employability skills, as well as to promote life-long learning.

The Youville Centre helps young single mothers provide a brighter future for themselves and their children. In a caring atmosphere, the mothers can complete their high school education while developing strong parenting skills. Their children benefit from a licensed early childhood development program in Youville's bright, child-friendly facility.

Some of the new courses iSis-

*"Without you I wouldn't have had the chance to become a computer whiz."*



*"Thank you for dedicating your time to helping us with computers. My home-page rocks"*

Youville learners become technosavvy. Special thanks to IBM and Advanced Business Interiors for their support of this program.

ters has developed for and with Youville staff include topics such as Internet basics, Web design, media literacy and presentation software. Learners have access to technology learning opportunities while lifelong learning is encouraged and women are empowered with more career opportunities.

For more information, email [info@isisters.org](mailto:info@isisters.org)

## Second Annual Hike & Picnic Fundraiser

Please join us in celebrating our 4th anniversary on **June 11** at 10:30 a.m. when we host our second annual **Hike and Picnic in the Park** fundraiser. We will be meeting at the Relais plein air, in Gatineau Park. Everyone is invited. Expect fun, activities, snacks, and lunch for all!

Funds raised will allow iSisters to continue our work in building sustainable technology mentoring programs for women in need who would otherwise be unable to access or afford such opportunities.

You can register at [www.isisters.org/Hike](http://www.isisters.org/Hike) or send an email to [sgray@isisters.org](mailto:sgray@isisters.org)

You can help in many ways:

- ✓ You can come to the event and participate (\$10 for adults and \$5 for children)
- ✓ You can raise pledges
- ✓ You can donate an item for the silent auction
- ✓ You can enter a team of friends or colleagues

Thanks again to our corporate sponsors and a warm welcome to **Scotiabank**, our newest community partner!



## New Staff Hired

Welcome to our new Program Manager, Judy Puritt. Judy brings years of experience as a classroom teacher and college professor to the iSisters team. She is passionate about using technology as a learning tool and dedicated to empowering women in need.



Judy Puritt,  
Program Manager

As iSisters continues to expand, it has become critical to make some changes. As the program manager, Judy will be able to take over some of the duties previously divided between

the executive director and various volunteers. Judy is very excited about her new role at iSisters and looks forward to new experiences and challenges with enthusiasm. If you would like to learn more about our programs, you can contact Judy directly at [jpuritt@isisters.org](mailto:jpuritt@isisters.org)

We also wish to thank the Community Foundation for its financial support. Without its help, iSisters could not have expanded to this next level and hired our new staff member.



Sarah Gray, Board Chair

## New Board Members Recruited

iSisters has had a very busy few months recruiting new board members. We have been very successful and have four new supporters who will be elected at the fall Annual General Meeting (AGM). Our objectives were to fill the following roles: secretary, board management/governance, fundraising chair, and community relations support.

A heartfelt thank you to Sarah Gray, our acting Board Chair, for overseeing this important step in our organizational strategic plan. We will elect and formally announce our new members at the AGM in early fall.

Just wait until you see who is on the board!

## iTeachnology Update

The goal of iTeachnology is to support the sustainability of iSisters' learning programs by offering a blended learning environment. iTeachnology is being designed as a resource for instructors to use independently and is a critical tool toward partners running sustainable programs.

The first module being developed in this online learning environment will contain all of the lessons and resources required to implement the iSisters Employment Support program.

Through iTeachnology, instructors and learners will be able to log

on and access our award winning lessons, resources and learning materials in a customized, engaging, and flexible environment.

The four sections of iTeachnology include:

- Tech 101—basic introduction to technology (Internet and desktop)
- Career Exploration—how to decide what career is for you
- Career Planning—investigate the options and study findings
- Job Search—resume & cover letter writing; career plans; interview practice



We plan to launch iTeachnology in the fall of 2005. Thank you to the participants involved in designing the iTeachnology package, and a huge thank you to Algonquin College for the use of its Blackboard platform.

### Upcoming Dates:

**June 9**—Youville Graduation: iSisters Executive Director, Cathy Reid, guest speaker

**June 11**—iSisters Hike & Picnic in the Park

**Fall 2005**—Annual AGM (date TBA)

### How can you help?

- ✓ Share this newsletter.
- ✓ Come to our Hike and Picnic.
- ✓ Organize a fundraiser at your office or in your neighbourhood and donate the proceeds to iSisters.
- ✓ Share the iSisters story.
- ✓ Become a monthly donor: email [creid@isisters.org](mailto:creid@isisters.org) for details.

### Contact Information:

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### Next Issue:

- Fundraiser update.
- Updates from the Youville Centre and Tungasuvvingat Inuit.
- Annual General Meeting invitation and details.
- iTeachnology launch.