

Connecting women
in need with
technology through
mentoring

iSisters Technology Mentoring Inc.

Fall 2006
Newsletter



New Learning Centre Open Immigrant Women Services Ottawa



IMMIGRANT WOMEN
SERVICES OTTAWA
Service pour femmes
immigrantes d'Ottawa

The lab at IWSO is now open! Classes began in early October and there are currently nine women participating in a new technology awareness and employment readiness program.

Participants in this program have typically overcome significant hardship in their lives. They sign up to this program to become more familiar with technology and develop skills more akin to Canadian employer requirements. Most of these women are recent immigrants to Canada, have family responsibilities, are speaking English as their second or third language, and have had little or no experience with technology.

Our goal is to help women in this program to learn about technology to enhance their employment options and earning potential. For the first time, we will also help our learners connect with real world work experiences through temporary work placements. Adecco is supporting us in this exciting addition to our program delivery.

This learning centre was made possible because of support from:

IBM Canada for their generous technology grant of 12 new computers.

Advanced Business Interiors for designing the space and donating the furniture.

CompuHome for providing technical support with the lab set up.

iSisters Technology Mentoring is the leader in technology learning and development, which it uses to help empower women in need to live better lives, create brighter futures and build stronger communities.

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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

iSisters Annual General Meeting and Appreciation Reception - November 6

iSisters has had another terrific year and we would like to thank **you** for making it possible.

Please join us at our **Annual General Meeting** to meet our partners, supporters, learners and learn about the future direction of our growing organization.

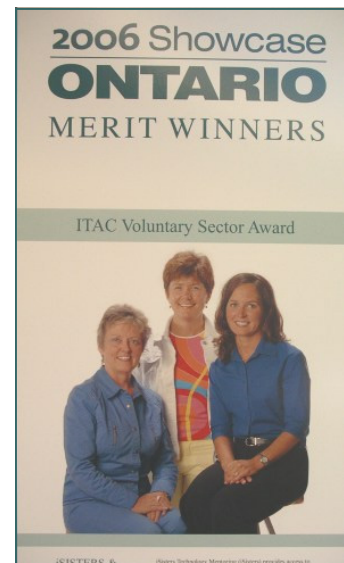
Date: Monday, **November 6, 2006**

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 pm (meeting starts at 6:30 pm)

Location: A-Channel, 87 George Street

Everyone is invited, but space is limited and registration is requested.

Please **RSVP** to info@isisters.org or 613.565.7337.



iSisters earned a Showcase Ontario award.
Read more on page 2.

Showcase Ontario Award Winners

iSisters has earned a 2006 Showcase Ontario award in the ITAC (Information Technology Association of Canada) voluntary sector category. Every year, these awards celebrate "some of our province's most innovative projects and the exceptional people behind them".

The event was held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on September 26.

The festivities included an afternoon ceremony acknowledging all of the recipients across six categories, a reception, and a gala dinner.

All of the ITAC awards recognize the contribution of technology, partnership and innovation to provide services to people in Ontario. The award iSisters received recognizes the program designed in partnership with Tungasuvvingat Inuit.

Since 2003, iSisters has worked closely with TI and specifically Mary Hands, Employment Counselor, to provide technology learning and employment readiness support for Inuit living in Ottawa.



Mary Hands, Employment Counselor Tungasuvvingat Inuit and Cathy Reid, Executive Director, iSisters Technology Mentoring.

Expansion of the Board of Directors

After months of recruitment and a rigorous nomination process, iSisters will be expanding the board of directors. At the November Annual General Meeting, five new board members will join the team.

The goal for this expansion is to build capacity within the iSisters organization to support its current and future programs and prepare for growth. New committees will be established and gaps on existing board teams will be filled with this new support.

Current members of the board include: Carol Sollows, Pat den Boer, Sarah Gray, Bron Vasic and Karen Soloman. For background information on our current directors, please visit our website.

New board members include: Angela Ingratta, Tim Birch-Jones, Gregor Hollander, Steffanie Eckford and Mike Ong Tone.

Thank you to our current directors for your leadership in this process, and to our new members for joining the executive

More about Adecco and iSisters

Thanks to a new community partnership with Adecco, participants in our technology / employability programs will now have access to work placement opportunities.

Adecco is as excited as iSisters about this new partnership.

Adecco recently chose to profile Cathy Reid in its monthly business person profile - available at www.isisters.org/recognition.html.

For more details on Adecco, Canadian leader in recruitment and HR services, visit www.adecco.ca.

Nepean Chamber of Commerce Nomination

iSisters has been nominated for Non-profit of the Year by the Nepean Chamber of Commerce.

The Business Achievement Awards ceremony will be held on October 19.

It should be noted that Bron Vasic, iSisters' acting chair, will also be recognized at the ceremony as his company, Otus, is nominated in the New Business category.

iSisters' supporter, Emily Farrell, of Scotiabank is nominated in the Business Woman of the Year category.

Other News Bytes

- ◆ Thanks to support from Alison Garlough and the team at bv02, iSisters will soon be launching a new website.
- ◆ Cathy Reid was a panelist at the Social Tech Women in IT event in Toronto.
- ◆ We participated in the Ottawa chapter of CATA Women in Technology, the WBN 25 Celebration Gala as well as Youville's and IWSO's AGMs.
- ◆ We offered a full day workshop at the United Way Sharing our Strengths annual conference on community capacity building.

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How can you help?

Share this newsletter.

Donate online at www.iSisters.org.

Come to our Annual General Meeting.

Would your workplace be interested in supplying a **job placement / job shadow** opportunity for a learner? We will have some women ready for job placement/job shadowing late in Nov. Contact Cathy Reid for more information creid@isisters.org.

