

iSisters connects women in need with technology through mentoring.

Our mission:

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

Our vision:

iSisters Technology Mentoring, leader in technology learning and development, helps empower women in need to live better lives, create brighter futures and build stronger communities.

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iSisters AGM Highlights

Thank you to all supporters, volunteers, donors and advocates who came out to support the 2008 Annual General Meeting on November 24, 2008.

Some highlights of the evening included:

Volunteer of the Year went to Fran Harding. Fran brings a wealth of knowledge and support in the events, communications, writing and media relations.

She is an extremely dedicated, independent and talented individual who goes above and beyond.

iSisters was also pleased to present a **Special Recognition Award** to Patricia den Boer, Chair of the iSisters Board of Directors.

Pat's outstanding contribution to the organization over the past six years has exceeded anyone's expectations.

Pat is a dedicated leader and we're happy to recognize her for all of her hard work, commitment and dedication over the years.

Congratulations Pat!



Cathy Lewis congratulates volunteer of the year, Fran Harding



Pat den Boer is recognized for more than 5 years of leadership

Welcome to iTeachnology™

As iSisters continues to grow, expand, and innovate we are excited to launch iTeachnology™!

iTeachnology is an online version of our award winning Employment Support Technology Mentoring Program. **It's live, it's free learning for anyone on the Internet.**

iTeachnology is a *learning and development framework* by which iSisters can deliver technology mentoring services.

These services include:

Delivery of classroom training to partner organization clients (Phase II of iSister's relationship with partner organizations. Phase I is the creation/securing of technology training lab space)

Train-the-trainer professional development: staff of partner organizations are trained by iSisters instructors to deliver their own technology programs.

(Phase III: partner organization self-sufficiency in the delivery of their own technology training)

Curriculum resources (both print and web-based) for use by iSisters instructors and partner organizations for their own in-house technology training)

To access and learn more about iTeachnology please visit our website at:

<http://www.isisters.org/iTea>



When asked **what they like most about the program**, our learners say:

"First, I don't know anything. Now I learned many things about the computer."

"The all embracing way the course has been designed so that each student was able to find her level of computer knowledge and work without hindering each others progress."

"The daycare and staff are great , it's a more laid back program than most schools"

"The lecturer is patient kind and explains every topic clearly."

"My wonderful teacher!"

When asked what the **most valuable things they learned** were, our learners say:

"How to make a resume."

"How to use the internet."

"To be relaxed with computer vocabulary in English."

"I became more confident and able understand and work more independently."

"...don't be scared with the computer."

*"How I can do my own E-mail
How I can type by using all my fingers. I'm so happy with that. I try to do that many times, I couldn't ,but now I can!"*

"To not be afraid of the computer, and enjoy the knowledge that comes with working daily on the computer."

The Frank Cowan Foundation

Last year, iSisters was awarded a multi-year \$60,000 grant from the Frank Cowan Foundation.

The organization is funding our Cornerstone learning program over years. This longer term support allows us to plan strategically as we move forward.

iSisters recently received the second installment of the grant to continue on our program development!

For information about The Frank Cowan Foundation or the Cowan family of companies, please visit :

www.cowangroup.ca

Christine Lenters Daoust, Senior Consultant and Manager at Cowan Benefits Consulting, pictured at right with Jenn McEvoy, Executive Director, iSisters.



Canadian Council on Learning (CCL)

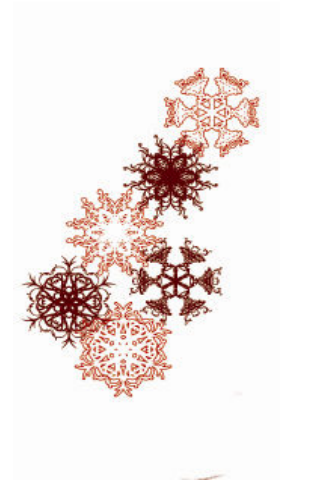
iSisters has been working on a significant research project in collaboration with the Canadian Council on Learning.

The project objective is the evaluation of iSisters Technology Mentoring and employability skill development programs for immigrant women, Inuit women, and young mothers.

This project has been in the works for two years and will be publicly released in early January 2009.

A huge round of applause goes out to Judy Puritt, author of this report, and Steve McKibben, researcher for their hard work, dedication and rich content they have put together.

Stay tuned for the release of the masterpiece.



Expanding to St. Joe's Woman's Centre

iSisters, in collaboration with St. Joe's, will begin learning and program opportunities in 2009 .

iSisters and St. Joe's are extremely excited about this new partnership .

We are looking forward to working with St. Joe's women to help promote educational programs to encourage empowerment, autonomy, and dignity in a safe, non-judgmental environment.

St. Joe's offers support and services to homeless and disadvantaged women and their children.

To learn more about St. Joe's please visit:

www.stjoeswomenscentre.org

Current Program Updates

iSisters is back on-site at **Tungasuvvingat Inuit**, running workshops through November and December. The workshop will wrap up on December 9 followed by a graduation party for our students. Thank you to Malcolm and John Harding of CompuHome for leading such a great program. iSisters courses for Inuit, offer with TI, have been recognized nationally by the Conference Board of Canada.

Zahide Yilbas, iSisters Program manager is running our programs with great success at **Immigrant Women Services Ottawa (IWSO)**. Multi-level classes are now offered here for women that Zahide says "can't get enough...they want to learn more and more and more." Suzan Alkashat, IWSO learner turned teacher will be delivering the level 1 classes and overseeing the drop in classes at IWSO.

iSisters Program manager, Zahide has begun teaching a new course at **Cornerstone**. Classes are running full steam ahead. The learners are eager, excited and can't wait for the next program phase.



Zahide Yilbas, iSisters Program manager and Suzan Alkashat, IWSO learner turned teacher, sharing their personal experiences at the AGM.

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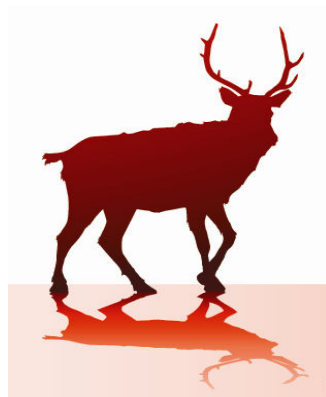
Community Day Saturday Dec. 27, 2008

Come and enjoy a community yoga class at **Core-Elation yoga studio**.

All are welcome – whether you are new or experienced!

All proceeds from the day are donated to iSisters!

For more information please visit: **www.core-elation.com**



iSisters
wishes
you and
your
family a
very
Happy
Holiday
and a
Happy
New Year!

How Can you Help?

Share this newsletter.

Tell others about iSisters

Volunteer at iSisters (email info@isisters.org for information). We are always looking for good people to join our team.

Host a fundraising event at your workplace and donate the proceeds to iSisters.

