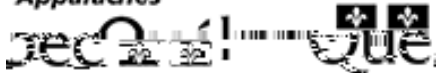


In Conversation

A conversation club for health professionals of the CISSS Chaudière-Appalaches (Thetford Mines sector)



Centre intégré
de santé et de services
sociaux de Chaudière-
Appalaches



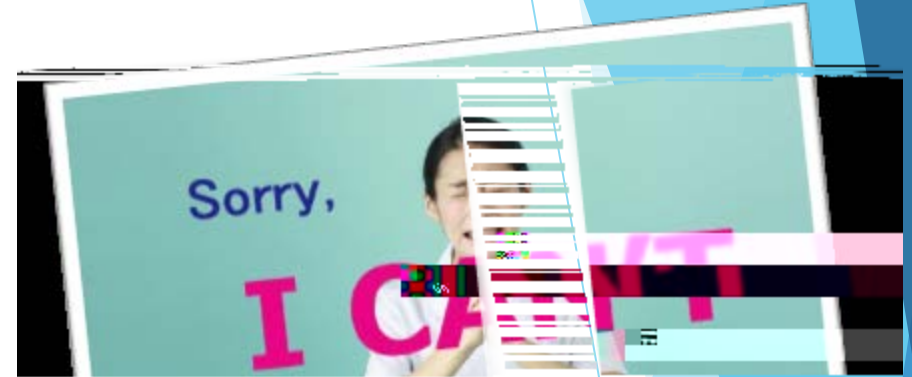


« I understand English, I just can't speak it! »

Other facts:

1. More people than you think understand English fairly well.
2. Most Francophones living outside Montreal have very few opportunities to speak English.
3. What they need is the opportunity to practice and improve their conversation skills.

Oh oh, we're getting somewhere!



The answer: A CONVERSATION CLUB!

How can you help health professionals improve their English language speaking skills?

Start a Conversation Club at your local hospital, CLSC or CHLSD.

What is a Conversation Club?

A Conversation Club is one of the best ways to improve spoken English. English clubs allow English language learners to practice speaking in an informal, relaxed environment. English speaking clubs primarily help participants improve 2 skills - speaking and listening.



How to start a Conversation Club? (...)

Step 3

- ▶ Develop your promotional material and make sure that the material is distributed throughout the establishment where the Conversation Club will take place.
 - ▶ Posters in the Cafeteria and other common spaces for the staff.
 - ▶ Information on the local intranet.
 - ▶ The establishment Facebook page, if there is one.

Step 4

- ▶ Select the participants
 - ▶ Keep in mind that a conversation club is not an English class. Participants need to be able to understand English reasonably well. What they need is to improve their speaking skills.
 - ▶ If needed, ask your facilitator to evaluate the participants.
 - ▶ If you have more registrations than the maximum capacity, give priority to front desk, emergency and nursing staff.



Example of promotional material

Club de conversation en anglais
À l'intention du personnel du CISSS-CA (Secteur



QUAND: à confirmer
LOCAL: à confirmer
COÛT: gratuit

Désirez-vous utiliser vos habiletés de conversation en anglais?
Ceci est un atelier

Contactez Maureen Smillau
418 233 2900

CRITÈRES D'ADMISSIBILITÉ / INSCRIPTION

Cette activité ne s'adresse pas aux personnes qui ont besoin d'un cours de français pour vous aider à vous exprimer avec plus d'aisance en anglais.

Critères d'admissibilité

- Vous êtes membre du personnel du CISSS-CA (Secteur Thetford)
- Vous comprenez l'anglais assez bien de façon générale
- Vous estimez être de niveau intermédiaire ou supérieur en anglais

CAPACITÉ MAXIMALE: 10 PARTICIPANTS — Premier arrivé, premier servi!

Cette activité est organisée par le MDC (www.mdc.info) grâce au financement de Santé Canada et de l'Université de Moncton.

This activity is organized by MDC (www.mdc.info) thanks to funding by Health Canada and Moncton University.

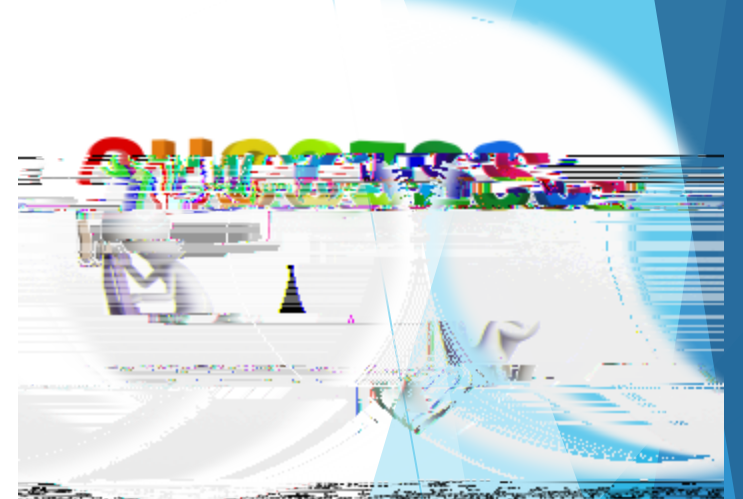
Tips for a successful Conversation Club

- ▶ **Limit the English Speaking club to 10 people or less**

Don't make the English Speaking Club too big. The goal is to give everyone opportunities to speak regularly and you can't do that if the group is too big.

- ▶ **Have a facilitator or conversation leader for the English Speaking Club**

The conversation leader's main responsibility is to make sure everyone gets a chance to speak. Also, the conversation leader could be the first to start talking. Have the conversation leader suggest a topic for discussion or have a list of topics already selected.



Tips for a successful Conversation Club (...)

▶ Pick topics based on the skill level of the group

Start with simple topics but be prepared to explore into more advanced topics. Set aside a portion of the time for general topics such as movies and weather to facilitate the discussion and break the ice, but make sure to include a good portion of the time to subjects related to health.

▶ Use English at the English Speaking club

This is not negotiable. It is easy and only natural to go back to your native language. In almost every conversation club, this happens. Be prepared to interject and bring the discussion back to English. Remember, the whole point of forming an English Speaking club is to [practice English speaking](#), and you should make sure the group does not lose sight of this.



Evaluation Process

The background of the slide is white with abstract blue geometric shapes on the right side. These shapes include overlapping triangles and polygons in various shades of blue, from light sky blue to dark navy blue. The shapes are positioned on the right edge, creating a modern, dynamic feel.