

Connecting women
in need with
technology through
mentoring

iSisters Technology Mentoring Inc.

Winter 2007
Newsletter

Our BIG News!

Ontario Trillium Foundation grant will expand our community based technology learning programs

iSisters Technology Mentoring celebrated a big win thanks to a \$146,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). Richard Patten, MPP for Ottawa Centre and Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier, joined OTF Program Manager Suzanne Bédard in congratulating iSisters at the announcement.

THE ONTARIO
TRILLIUM
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION
TRILLIUM
DE L'ONTARIO



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"iSisters does the kind of community building and empowering work that OTF is designed to support," said MPP Patten. "I'm delighted to see iSisters receive this funding as they are a charity poised to provide the real solutions that vulnerable women in Ottawa need."

With this three-year grant, iSisters will focus on building internal capacity, which will ultimately translate in creating more partnerships and supporting more women. "This funding is critical to our expansion plans," said Executive Director Cathy Reid. "We are honoured by the Ontario Trillium Foundation's commitment and support to educate and empower women in need and ultimately build stronger communities."

The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, receives \$100 million annually from Ontario's charity casino initiative. The Foundation allocates grants to eligible charitable and not-for-profit organizations in the arts and culture, environment, human and social services and sports and recreation sectors.

For more information on OTF, please visit <www.trilliumfoundation.org>.



Suzanne Bédard of the Ontario Trillium Foundation and Richard Patten, Member of Provincial Parliament for Ottawa Centre and Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier, present an OTF plaque to iSisters' director Angela Ingrassia. (Feb 23 / 07)



iSisters' board members (l to r) Gregor Hollander, Pat den Boer, Angela Ingrassia and Tim Birch-Jones on hand to share in the celebrations.

Our Mission:

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

www.isisters.org

March 8 - International Women's Day



As announced on the Status of Women/Canada Website, 2007 marks the 30th anniversary of International

Women's Day. Established in 1977 by the United Nations, this important day provides an opportunity to celebrate the progress made to advance women's rights and to assess the challenges that remain. International Women's Day encourages us to consider steps to bring about equality for women and girls in all their diversity and to celebrate the collective power of women past, present and future. (Retrieved from http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/dates/iwd/index_e.html)

iSisters will be participating in several events on International Women's Day.

We will be mentors to grade 9 girls at the Canadian Information Processing Society "Women in Technology" annual national program aimed at increasing awareness among Canada's female youth about careers in technology. iSisters participated in this event last year and thoroughly enjoyed the presenters, as well as getting to spend the day with teen girls talking about careers and technology.

In the evening, we will be attending the Canadian Federation of University Women and Ottawa Council of Women event. Speakers include Dr. Ruth M. Bell and the Honourable Sheila Copps.

IWSO Update

Our pilot program in the fall of 2006 with Immigrant Women Services Ottawa was a success. Six women graduated full of pride and with increased self esteem. It has been incredible for our program manager, Judy Puritt, to teach a room of women from all over the world who speak many different languages.



Judy Puritt, iSisters Program Manager and a proud learner celebrate at graduation. This learner is from Brazil and is interested in a career in marketing.

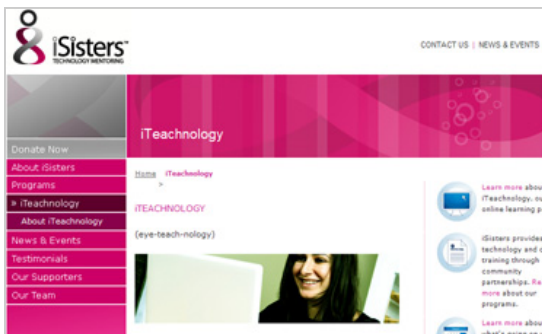
Topics covered in the course included computer basics, keyboarding, using the Internet, online safety, resume writing, and using technology to work in Canada.

A new winter class is well under way, with graduation for this group to be held on Wednesday, March 7. Adjustments to the program have been made based on feedback from our pilot program. Some modifications included adding more computer basics and additional accommodations for English as a second language.

For more information on our program at IWSO contact Judy at jpuritt@isisters.org.

Our New Website

Thank you to **bv02**
www.bv02.com



and the team behind iSisters. Additional new features include the ability to email the site to a friend and access archived news and events. bv02 and iSisters will continue working together to add more features to the site.

A sincere thank you to Andrew, Dave and Scott of bv02 for all the time and support with this project. This dynamic team is also responsible for our recently re-designed brand and logo, which you will see has been incorporated in the new site.

To learn more about the team behind our new site visit www.bv02.com.

We are excited to announce the launch of our new website! Thanks to the generous support of bv02, our new site was launched Tuesday, February 20, 2007.

The new site provides enhanced information about our programs

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Comments? Feedback?

We would love to hear from you.

Please share comments or feedback on our newsletter or new website. How are you celebrating International Women's Day? Other ideas you want to share? Email info@isisters.org.

Upcoming Events

IWSO Program Graduation
Wednesday, March 7
International Women's Day
Thursday, March 8
Hike and Picnic in the Park
Date - Coming Soon