

25th Annual Conference

Proceedings of the

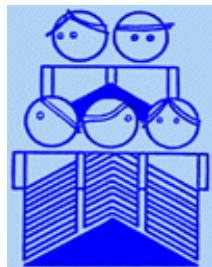
**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF ADULT
EDUCATION (CASAE)**

**L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR L'ÉTUDE DE
L'ÉDUCATION DES ADULTES (ACÉÉA)**

Edited by:

Leona English, St. Francis Xavier University
Janet Groen, University of Calgary

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A Welcome from the CASAE/ACÉÉA Co-Presidents

May 27-30, 2006

Welcome to the CASAE/ACÉÉA 2006 Conference at York University, Toronto, Ontario. This is indeed a momentous occasion since we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of our Association focused on the study and practice of adult education. As the Memory Book that accompanies this Conference Proceedings indicates, it has been quite a quarter century with diverse people, politics, places, and ideas shaping the Canadian field of study and practice.

The 2005-06 academic year has been a rather busy one. Adult education in Canada is rather encompassing and, with the need to maintain or revitalize ongoing initiatives and make space for new ones, there is a great urgency for old and new members to work together to create a division of labor that enables us to meet the many demands placed on CASAE/ACÉÉA. During the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education, we would do well to remember the history of the Canadian field, a history that has valued ethics, community-based practices, and the political ideals of modernity—democracy, freedom, and social justice. We should turn frequently to this history so we can understand how the present is different as CASAE/ACÉÉA contributes to education for adults in local, national, and global contexts.

As your Co-Presidents during the past year, we have noted firsthand the many tasks that CASAE/ACÉÉA is expected to carry out. We have also noted the demands placed on CASAE/ACÉÉA members as a collective of researchers who are concerned with the diverse kinds of instrumental, social, and cultural education needed in times when neoliberal pragmatism has the upper hand. In his last book entitled the *Pedagogy of Indignation*, published in 2004, Paulo Freire challenged educators to be critically intelligent; that is, to be vigilant with the “wakeful capacity for comprehending the new” (p. 4). Let us use the CASAE/ ACÉÉA 2006 conference as a space and time to develop this capacity.

Happy 25th Anniversary CASAE/ACÉÉA!
André P. Grace & Shahrzad Mojab