

## **NCON Professional Development Conference** September 2011

The third annual NCON Professional Development Conference was held on September 29, 2011 at the Stage West All Suite Hotel in Mississauga. Seventy people attended, all frontline workers from immigrant serving agencies.

Maureen Geddes, Geddes Global delivered the opening keynote titled "Delighting In Our Differences!" She was followed by simultaneous presentation of the two featured workshops, each delivered to half the audience in the morning, half in the afternoon.

Berkha Gupta, Peel HIV/AIDS Network, introduced her audience to popular social media tools in "Social Media for Front Line Workers".

Dr. John-Paul Hatala, Flowork International spoke on using your personal contact network as a job-search resource in a workshop titled "Linking Social Capital to Finding A Job." Later in the afternoon, a panel discussion titled "Hiring Internationally Educated Employees: An Employer's Perspective" was conducted. The panel members were all employer representatives.

A hot breakfast, lunch and coffee breaks completed the day.

### **QUOTES TAKEN FROM ATTENDEES AT THE 2011 PD CONFERENCE**

*"I hope funding is continued for these PD events."*

*"These sessions have been very beneficial in every aspect and would like to see them continue."*

*"Thanks for having me; keep up the good work."*

*"Today, Sept. 29th, I'd like to commend organizers of the event; they've done an amazing job, accommodating everybody. Thank you."*

*"Thank you so much. It was a great conference and I learnt a lot from all today's activities."*

*"I appreciate the event; it was very helpful and will enhance my professional skills. The panel was fantastic, very useful. This kind of information helps us to provide our clients with orientation on best practices to find a job."*

For more information please refer to the [NCON Professional Development Flyer, September 29, 2011](#)