



**TESOL 2015**  
International Convention  
& English Language Expo  
25-28 MARCH 2015 • TORONTO, CANADA

**2015 TESOL Convention**  
**General Report**  
**Mike Peacock**  
**Korea TESOL International Outreach Chair**

### **CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

**Conference Name:** TESOL 2015  
International Convention & English Expo

**Date and Location:** March 25-28, 2015  
Toronto Convention Center, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Date and location of next** April 5-8, 2016  
**Conference of this organization:** Baltimore, Maryland, USA

### **YOUR INFORMATION**

**Name:** Mike Peacock

**Phone:** 010-5091-7392

**Current KOTESOL Position:** Daejeon-Chungcheong President  
International Outreach Chair  
Nominations and Elections Chair

### **CONFERENCE REPRESENTATION DETAILS**

1. Who was your main contact person in the hosting organization prior to departure? List his/her email and/or phone contact information in the host organization.

Valerie Borchelt  
Professional Relations Manager  
TESOL International Association  
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Phone: 703-518-2532

2. Main contact person at the conference, if different. (Please list their e-mail

address, etc.)  
Same

## **PAC Council Meeting**

None

## **SYNOPSIS of TESOL 2015**

The Great White North hosted this year's TESOL Convention in Toronto, Ontario, where 8,000 attendees gathered to discuss all things TESOL. The snow flurries on Thursday were enough to entertain those from warmer climates. I attended the conference from Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. While it was nice to meet many new people, it's always great to meet KOTESOL friends you haven't seen for a while. Take a look at who I was able to meet up with!



(From left to right: Michael Jones, Connie Fessler, Sarah Emory, and Mike Peacock)

There was a lot of hype throughout the convention regarding 2016 as being TESOL's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Next year's convention will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, and TESOL is gearing up with various activities to mark this milestone. More info will be released later in the year.

As KOTESOL's representative I was required to attend the various affiliate workshops that took place. Through the workshops I met some great people from MEXITESOL, TESOL Arabia, The Society of Pakistani English Language Teachers, as well as many others. It was an excellent opportunity to share thoughts and ideas on our different organizations. As conferences are a big part of TESOL, that was the topic that led a lot of my conversations. What do other affiliates do with their conferences? The idea of a "roving reporter" came up again and again. It's the idea of having attendees write a report on a presentation they just watched and post it online. This process can create an online discussion of the different topics being covered at the conference. In other ideas, some affiliates have paid webinars at their conference, while others offer them free of charge. The TESOL Convention itself broadcasted its keynote presentations live on the web. They can be found at [http://www.softconference.com/tesol/2015\\_webcast/index.html](http://www.softconference.com/tesol/2015_webcast/index.html). This is something that our organization could possibly look into. Something interesting that The TESOL Convention did was that they had "Roundtable Exchange Sessions". Each

table had a specific theme that attendees could sit at. Moderators then led the informal discussions. It seemed fairly simple to set up, yet the engagement I observed was pretty impressive. Another idea for our conferences.



(Hanging out with the TESOL Arabia representatives)

The venue was held in a proper convention center in downtown Toronto. Registration was held on one floor with the presentations and plenary being held on two lower floors. The Affiliates Booth was location inside of the English Expo room (very similar to KOTESOL's 2015 OP area). The venue also consisted of a large dining area that served as the convention's opening lunch.