

## **Chapter 1. Introduction**

Hi, my name is Stephanie Sodo-Gordon and I'm the curriculum leader of ESL and international languages at William Lyon Mackenzie. This DVD is divided into two parts. The first part relates the stories of my English language learners and their immigrant experiences. It expands on our first DVD entitled Growing New Roots: The Voices of Immigrant Teenagers in Canada. The themes are the following: They deal with issues around parents, language, finding friends, food, clothing, climate and also racism. In addition you will hear the story of a young who talks about how important it is to never give up and to always help others. In the second part you will see the reflections of the students who participated not only in this video, but also in the first video. They discuss how their identity has been impacted, not only in the school but also in the community because of their participation in this project. It is my hope that these videos enlighten us in understanding how our English language learners are affected as new immigrants in Canada. Thank-you.