

LPI & CELPIP



PRESS RELEASE

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UBC's LPI and CELPIP English Language Tests Now Provided by Paragon Testing Enterprises

The **Language Proficiency Index (LPI)** and the **Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP)** have been developed and administered by The University of British Columbia (UBC) ancillary department called **Applied Research and Evaluation Services (ARES)**. UBC has decided to move the activities of this unit to **Paragon Testing Enterprises**. This new company is wholly owned by UBC and began operations on October 1, 2009. **ARES** will continue to operate alongside **Paragon Testing Enterprises** until December 31, 2009.

Paragon Testing Enterprises will maintain the consistency of administration, assessment, and reporting of results for these English language proficiency exams. Many BC and some Canadian post-secondary institutions, language schools, and a host of BC professional organizations use LPI scores for either placement in educational/professional programs or for employment. Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) awards immigration points based on CELPIP-G (General) proficiency levels. The CELPIP -G test is one of only two tests that have been approved by Citizenship & Immigration Canada for which applicants for immigration to Canada can submit the results as evidence of their English proficiency. The CELPIP -A(Academic) test is relied upon by professional organizations such as the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants (CSIC), which require proficiency scores for prospective members and UBC, which accepts test results as evidence of English proficiency for admission to UBC.

The company's mandate is to continue to strengthen its services regarding these two tests and to offer several new products and services that were not offered in the past. These activities include new online and written materials to help test candidates prepare for the LPI and CELPIP tests through self-study; new educational programs to help test candidates prepare for the tests in a group format through arms' length partners; general test delivery computer software that can be licensed to other organizations; and possibly new types of tests such as math proficiency tests.

Paragon Testing Enterprises will operate out of rooms 2 and 6 in the basement of the Neville Scarfe Building (2125 Main Mall) where ARES is now located. Questions regarding future operational issues concerning the LPI and CELPIP tests or the new business activities should be addressed to either Donald Wehrung (604-822-6499) or Joyce Chorney (604-822-5610).

Dr. Donald Wehrung
President, **Paragon Testing Enterprises**