



I AM (A NEW) GRACE
ARRIVED IN CANADA 1999
CANADIAN

Immigrants like Grace make our country strong and more diverse. COSTI provides opportunities for success, helping to make Canada one of the greatest countries in the world.

Visit iamanewcanadian.ca to learn how COSTI's language training and employment programs help employers like Grace create opportunities for talented immigrants.



GRACE SANG

Grace Sang is Managing Director for CleNET Technologies, a leading global technology service provider of technical consulting and software engineering solutions. Headquartered in Chicago, the company opened its first Canadian branch in Markham, Ontario in 2015. CleNET selected the City of Markham for its Canadian Technology and Development Centre, because York Region is Ontario's fastest growing municipality, with a high-quality infrastructure, business-friendly policies, and diverse international talent.

"Having come to Canada from China in 1999 and working as a Senior Engineer for a global company, I know the value that immigrants bring to Canada. CleNET, like many other global companies operating in Canada, relies on immigrants and their diverse work experience and talents to grow our business. So far, we have hired over 40 employees working at our Canadian branch, most of them are newcomers!"

Many newcomers feel alone and isolated when they first arrive. They have difficulty communicating in English, understanding Canadian workplace culture and terminology, values and customs. We want our employees to feel comfortable in their work environment and speak with confidence, both inside and outside of the workplace. That's where COSTI was able to help us.

As a newly established company, CleNET doesn't have the resources to provide specific English language training to employees on-the-job. The flexibility and specialized services offered by COSTI's Language Training at the Workplace Program, allowed us to provide our employees with customized job-specific English language training, on-site at our Markham office.

As a result of participating in the training and English classes, many of our employees have overcome their language difficulties and also learned about the diverse experiences and cultures of their colleagues, allowing everyone to gain an appreciation for the skills and talents that their co-workers bring to the job.

Along with the Language Training at the Workplace Program, COSTI also helps us to tap into international talent through their employment services, both at no cost to us.

I moved to Canada with my family to build a better life for the next generation and to pursue a career in an international platform, and was lucky to join Motorola Canada a few months after I arrived. It's important that Canadians understand the value that newcomers bring to Canada. Everyone that arrives here is eager to help and contribute to building a better nation. Our employees, just like other newcomers, work hard and want to give back, as a way of saying thank you to Canada for believing in them and for giving them the opportunity for a better future."

COSTI's Language Training at the Workplace Program is funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and offers employers, at no cost, job-specific language training to employees who are in need of English as a Second Language. Training is provided on or off the employer's work-site and is customized to the company's business needs. Employers select the class schedules, topics and language functions that are most suitable for their business environment.

Participants of COSTI's Language Training at the Workplace Program can further their knowledge by accessing our Online Services. Workshops such as Safety in the Workplace, Sensitivity and Diversity in the Workplace, and Tips for Staying Employed are available to unemployed and under-employed individuals at no cost.

COSTI's aim is to have this service accessible to all newcomers arriving in Ontario. Support from corporations and the community will allow participants in COSTI's Language Training at the Workplace Program to continue their education after work, on their own time.