

This sections shows the interview questions and answers collected on May 30th 2013 for the purpose of finding the participants view on the workshops as well as their levels of comfort with the technology

What did you know about computers before these workshops?

Rose- Not too much, I started learning in downtown, but it was difficult to travel that distance due to health issues, and after that I postponed further learning. I find it interesting, there are a lot of things you can do on the computer. I have been here (In Canada) for 30 years.

Shirley- I did a six week course, where I learned a little at York gate mall. Since I don't have a computer it became difficult to become proficient. I am very interested in learning more. I have been living in Canada since 92. I also sent pictures through computer to family in the Unites States when I was more familiar with it.

Inez- I did two computer courses, when I first came to Canada I had the time to learn. In Guyana I had a job using manual type writer (bookkeeping). I knew that using a computer is important if I want a job here. I went to a computer class, and I received two certificates. I have always been interested in computers, emailing others, and to be able to communicate with others.

Setamah- I had 6 weeks of practice using a desktop (at York gate mall - Seneca college), and it was once a week. I still remember some things about the workshops. I do remember some of the lessons learned at these workshops. I love Google and use it whenever I can.

[Those who took the class at York Gate Mall explained that the workshop took the class in the evenings after the students were finished classes]

What are some things you learned from these workshops?

Rose- I learned how to send emails, and how put your picture up on the laptop through scanner. I also learned how to send email and insert documents as attachments. I also know the basic functions of the mouse, keyboard, and internet.

Shirley- I learned how to refine my emailing skills, and have the confidence to learn more. The only thing stopping me is the access to laptops. I can access the internet and find Google to search for

any of my needs. It will be hard to refine/build on this information without a computer to practice on.

Inez- I learned how to browse for files on the computer. I learned how to save documents in various folders. I also refined my emailing skills and attachments skills. I also refined my basic computer skills (mouse, keyboard)

Setamah- I learned how to send emails and messages to my daughter. I learned how to check my emails. I learned how to scan photos, save them on the desktop, and then attach those files onto emails to send to family. I can now send pictures to my daughter and she sends images back, which is very exciting. If I had a laptop it would be a lot easier to remember/maintain my knowledge on these topics.

How comfortable are you with using computers now than you were before the workshops?

Rose- I am comfortable. I am now able to consider buying a laptop. I find the laptop very interesting and feel that I have the skills that would allow me to successfully purchase and use laptop.

Shirley- I am very comfortable now. These workshops helped me remember what I learned in the past and have provided me with new skills. If I had a laptop it would be even better.

Inez- I have learned quite a bit. These workshops allowed me to learn new techniques. I created my email account, have a functional email address and password. What I have learned will allow me to go onto a laptop with confidence.

Setamah- I am quite comfortable. I learned a bit more than I learned before. If I don't have a computer to practice than the learning will become more difficult to remember.

What was your favorite part of the program?

Rose- I think scanning was a very fun part. I learned how to put my pictures onto the laptop.

Shirley- I love that I could scan my pictures and put it on the computer. I had fun learning about all the different file folders.

Inez- I liked to learn about scanning, and how to attach documents and send mails to others. I liked creating an email account. I liked learning about YouTube. I thought that was great.

Setamah- I loved learning about YouTube. One of my favorite parts of these workshops was that I have learned how to talk to my daughter through email. This was one of the most memorable parts of the workshops.

If you could change anything about the workshops, what would it be and why?

Rose- There isn't anything that I would like to change.

Shirley- I wouldn't want to change anything. I think that it would be great if we could have workshops that have a longer duration. I want to learn more.

Inez- I don't think I would want to change anything. I just wish to learn more.

Setamah- I don't have much experience to change anything. If we could more workshops it would widen our experience more and we could learn more.

How effective were these workshops to you? (rank 1 to 5, with 5 being very effective)

Rose- 5

Shirley- 5 (I find that these workshops helped to keep our memories sharp)

Inez- 5

Setamah- 5 (Your patience aided our learning experience)

If there were more workshops of this nature, would you attend?

Rose- Yes I would. Location sometimes is an issue.

Shirley- Of course. I would prefer that the commute between the workshops in other centres is closer to home.

Inez- Sure. I prefer workshops in the seniors centre. It is very convenient.

Setamah- Yes. I prefer workshops in this centre, especially during winter when participation can be a problem.