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¹The FPT set out 5 principles: (1) training as part of a comprehensive and inclusive economic strategy; (2) development of a training culture valuing diversity; (3) adequate personal and financial supports; (4) accessibility; and (5) delivery and outcomes which are high quality, gender-sensitive, and inclusive (see Wismer and Lior).

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ROSE ROMBERG

Role Model

Bubbie, bride-like lace shawl blessing candles, Sabbath-flamed.

Zaideh telling tales about Baal Shem Tov I curl his beard.

A thatched-roof hut on earthen floor I sleep in the loft on a hay mattress. Koo-koo-rrah-koo ... the red-crowned rooster's call awakening the day a baby bird softly chirps.

I gaze from my window magenta ribbons the dawning sky my heart pounds.

In the deep forest crowded with spruce, oak and ash trees earth heaves in symphony of whispering sounds I discover speckled eggs in nest pick blueberries and mushrooms my baskets fill.

Through the fields
of sun-bathed buttercups
meadows thick
with purple heather
sweet fragrance fills my senses
envelopes me.
I trail behind Bubbie Sarah
along with edge of marsh grass
she plucks tall, tall reads
braids my first doll.

Rose Romberg was born in Poland and arrived in Toronto in 1925. Several of her poems have appeared in the White Wall Review, and her essay, "Especially for Seniors," was published in Ontario Senior Citizens' Affairs.