



# The Update

## 2009 PGI Ottawa Golf Tournament for Literacy

OCCL's annual golf tournament took place at the lovely Loch March Golf & Country Club on May 28 . Though the weather did not co-operate, our steadfast golfers managed to enjoy a wonderful day that included golf, music, poetry and just plain fun! See page seventeen to read more about the 2009 tournament.

## ASL Video Project

OCCL, in partnership with Ottawa Public Library and the Ottawa Deaf Centre, has produced an ASL video to assist Deaf learners who want to use the library with ease and confidence. There will be a formal launch of the video in the fall. We'll keep you posted as to when and where.

## Fond Farewells

Sadly, we bid farewell to three of our Board members this year:

**Dave Robertson**, a retired CA, who has been our volunteer treasurer for quite some time, has decided to retire from OCCL as well and spend more time playing golf and relaxing at the cottage.

**Kae McColl**, from *People Words & Change*, who served on the OCCL Board for many years will be retiring from her job at the end of August.

**Isobel Bisby** will be working part-time teaching for ALSO and organizing the Amazing Book Race (see page twelve).

Dave, Kae and Isobel, you have made significant contributions to OCCL and we will miss seeing your smiling faces around the Board table. We wish you all the best!

## Summer Program Hours

Several Literacy and Basic Skills agencies have reduced service during the summer months. See the enclosed chart for a list of programming available in July and August.

### 211 Ottawa

Recently, Méline Ladouceur of 211 Ottawa gave a presentation to the Local Planning & Coordination Committee (LPCC). 211 provides free, confidential, multilingual access to information about the full range of non-emergency community, social, health and government services. All 211 calls are answered by certified information specialists who assess each caller's needs and link them to the best available services and programs seven days a week.

The TTY number for 211 is 1-866-540-0565. A one-page information sheet is enclosed.

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

OCCL's mission is to support, promote and strengthen adult literacy services in Ottawa through communication, research and public education.

Please direct any comments or questions to:  
**Executive Director:** MaryWiggin  
**Community Coordinator:** Maureen McGovern

**Address:** 107-211 Bronson Avenue,  
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 6H5

**Phone:** 613-233-3232

**Fax:** 613-233-0299

**Website:** [www.occl.ca](http://www.occl.ca)

**E-mail:** [abcline@occl.ca](mailto:abcline@occl.ca)

### Board of Directors

**Chair:** Marcia Aronson  
**Treasurer:** Edwine Alphonse  
**Literacy Reps:** Kim Oastler  
Brenda Gaitens

**Community reps:** Wendy Siebrasse

### Local Planning & Coordination Committee

**Co-Chairs:** Jan Goatcher/Sara Jappert

### Members:

Brenda Gaitens                      Kathy Holmes  
Chris Girard                        Louise Lalonde  
Kim Oastler                         Julie Newlands  
Lina Léveillé                        Maria Makrakis

**NOTE:** Articles and items published in **The Update** do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Ottawa Community Coalition for Literacy* but are intended to share information and ideas related to adult literacy

### July 19

- Deadline to submit a nomination for **The Francis Lever Memorial Award**. For detailed information and a nomination form visit: [www.on.literacy.ca](http://www.on.literacy.ca).

### September 9

- **Board & LPCC meetings**  
Heartwood House  
153 Chapel Street

### September 24

- **Colleen Cooney Celebration of Literacy Luncheon**  
Restaurant International  
Algonquin College

### Mark your calendars

and watch for an invitation coming your way in late August for the **Colleen Cooney Celebration of Literacy Luncheon**

The luncheon takes place on **Friday, September 25** at the *Restaurant International Algonquin College*

**Keynote Speaker: Alan Cumyn**  
*Celebrated Ottawa Author*

*If you'd like to reserve your spot now call the Coalition office or email Maureen at: [maureenmcgovern@occl.ca](mailto:maureenmcgovern@occl.ca)*



### National and Provincial

#### **NEWS from NALD...**

**NALD@Work** is an online repository containing everything you would need to support a workplace education program. Its resources include program models, learning and research materials, news about what is happening in the field, event listings, contact information and helpful websites.

The **Feature of the Month** page puts the spotlight on either a document, an organization, a program or a website. Check out the features for April, May and June this year.

**April** - Bridging the Gap for Learners with Low Level Literacy Skills -  
<http://library.naldatwork.ca/browse/series?name=Bridging+the+Employment+Gap>

**May** - Literacy and Essential Skills Toolkit -  
[www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/essential\\_skills/general/toolkit.shtml](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/essential_skills/general/toolkit.shtml)

**June** - Workplace Education Manitoba -  
[www.wem.mb.ca/](http://www.wem.mb.ca/)

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#### **Workplace Literacy Facts - from ABC CANADA**

Statistics Canada research has shown that improving the literacy skills of working adults challenged with low literacy would have a significant impact on productivity, innovation, quality, labour market outcomes, income and lifelong learning. In the current economic state, improving literacy and basic skills would allow workers to switch jobs or transition into new ones if displaced.

The benefits of an investment into workplace literacy and basic skills training also extend to employers. They include: better employee morale, engagement and retention, a culture of learning and a healthier workforce.

*cont'd*



### National and Provincial...cont'd

#### Workplace Literacy Facts

- There is a correlation between literacy and wage levels in Canada. A Statistics Canada study indicates that each additional year of education a person receives is worth 8.3 percent on their paycheque. Using an annual base salary of \$30,000, this amounts to an additional \$2,490 per year (*Literacy, Numeracy and Labour Market Outcomes in Canada*, Statistics Canada, 2001).
- The 9 million Canadian adults who have low literacy are about twice as likely to be unemployed (*International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey (IALSS)*, 2005).
- A rise of one percent in literacy scores relative to the international average is associated with an eventual 2.5-per cent relative rise in labour productivity and a 1.5-per cent rise in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per person (*Literacy scores, human capital and growth across 14 OECD countries*, Serge Coulombe, Jean-François Tremblay and Sylvie Marchand, Statistics Canada, 2004).

*From Community Literacy Ontario (CLO)*

#### **Common Assessment Tool Feasibility Study**

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) has recently engaged Bow Valley College, the developer of the Test of Workplace Essential Skills (TOWES), to conduct a study on the feasibility of creating an assessment tool, or suite of tools, based on Human Resources and Skills Development Canada's Essential Skills and common to all LBS streams and transition pathways.

The feasibility study will take into account the complexity of the assessment issues posed in Ontario, including: the four delivery streams; the focus on five different transition pathways identified as part of the Adult Literacy Curriculum (**Apprenticeship, Employment, Education & Training, Independence and Post-Secondary**); and the movement of ESL/FSL learners into LBS programming.

The study is currently in progress and will be completed in June 2009.



## National and Provincial

*News from the Ontario Literacy Coalition (OLC)*

### **Adult Literacy Curriculum 101**

The Adult Literacy Curriculum (ALC) initiative is an undertaking supported by the Learning Ministries of the province of Ontario - Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration.

The ALC is being introduced in order to foster greater quality and consistency of instruction in LBS programs. This instruction tool is expected to lead to improved outcomes for literacy learners, including more and easier transitions to further education or training and more successful transitions to employment.

For more details, visit the Adult Literacy Curriculum page on OLC's website:

[www.on.literacy.ca/whatwedo/initiatives/pd/adultcurriculum](http://www.on.literacy.ca/whatwedo/initiatives/pd/adultcurriculum)

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• The *Ontario Literacy Coalition* welcomes **John MacLaughlin** as the new Manager of Program, Business and Partnership Development.

• John has had a long and distinguished career in the literacy field. He was the founding Executive Director of the Preparatory Training Program. With Harold Alden he co-developed and co-managed Metro-Toronto Movement for Literacy's (MTML) information and referral service for literacy and ESL. Holding several volunteer positions as Treasurer of the Ontario Network of Employment and Skills Training Programs; Committee Member for the Workplace and Workforce Advisory Board of OTAB; and Chair of Fundraising for the Tsunami Relief Fund, John remains a committed community developer.

• John brings a wealth of experience in project management, media and public relations and programming to this new position. He can be reached at [john@on.literacy.ca](mailto:john@on.literacy.ca) or by telephone at 416-963-5787, ext. 24.

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### Community Literacy Ontario (CLO)

There is a wealth of information in the CLO E- Communiqué for June. See the following links for details:

<http://www.ptp.ca/publications/research/> Preparatory Training Program's research report on how community based LBS agencies can help learners prepare for apprenticeships

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zGelGiESy0> YouTube Video on Literacy Services and Laid-Off Workers by Regional Literacy Networks

<http://www.eopg.ca/eng/preApprent.html> Call for proposals for pre-apprenticeship programs

The following is a reprint from the E-Communiqué on Kingston Literacy's TIES Project. Kingston Literacy is looking for several LBS agencies to pilot some of the tools they are developing.

#### **Kingston Literacy's Training Incorporating Essential Skills Project**

*by Karen McGregor*

Kingston Literacy's ([www.kingstonliteracy.com](http://www.kingstonliteracy.com)) TIES Project (*Training Incorporating Essential Skills*) continues to roll forward, gathering speed. With the research completed by Carla Douglas the top 50 entry level jobs in Canada have been identified. From this list, Essential Skills checklists have been developed to aid trainers and counselors to identify the skills required to get a job in that field. This list of 50 has been studied by a reference group comprised of local employment counselors, training board members and training groups to select the top 10 entry level jobs in the region. Their input regarding current trends and opportunities reflect the labour market today instead of information gathered before the recession. Information about the skills required for these 10 jobs will be collected and added to the 50 checklists to create a handy binder that can be used to select employment options, identify the skills required and preview authentic workplace materials related to the job.

When the binder is completed it will be piloted by LBS staff, employment counselors and Ontario Works Case Managers. The applications of this new resource are endless and requests are already coming in for copies as soon as it is available! If any LBS agencies are interested in piloting the new tools, please contact **Karen McGregor** at **Kingston Literacy** at **613-547-2012** or [kmcgregor@kingstonliteracy.com](mailto:kmcgregor@kingstonliteracy.com)



### Across the Pond

*The Telegraph (U.K.) reported the following in April 2009:*

#### **Reading 'can help reduce stress'**

Reading is the best way to relax and even six minutes can be enough to reduce stress levels by more than two-thirds, according to new research conducted by the University of Sussex. research. And it works better and faster than other methods to calm frazzled nerves such as listening to music, going for a walk or settling down with a cup of tea.

Psychologists believe this is because the human mind has to concentrate on reading and the distraction of being taken into a literary world eases the tensions in muscles and the heart.

The research was carried out on a group of volunteers by Mindlab International at the University of Sussex. The volunteers' stress levels and heart rate were increased through a range of tests and exercises before they were tested with a variety of traditional methods of relaxation.

Reading worked best, reducing stress levels by 68 per cent, said cognitive neuropsychologist Dr David Lewis. Subjects only needed to read, silently, for six minutes to slow down the heart rate and ease tension in the muscles, he found. In fact it got subjects to stress levels lower than before they started.

Listening to music reduced the levels by 61 per cent, having a cup of tea or coffee lowered them by 54 per cent and taking a walk by 42 per cent. Playing video games brought them down by 21 per cent from their highest level but still left the volunteers with heart rates above their starting point.

Dr Lewis, who conducted the test, said: "Losing yourself in a book is the ultimate relaxation."

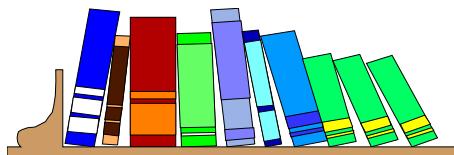
"This is particularly poignant in uncertain economic times when we are all craving a certain amount of escapism. It really doesn't matter what book you read, by losing yourself in a thoroughly engrossing book you can escape from the worries and stresses of the everyday world and spend a while exploring the domain of the author's imagination. This is more than merely a distraction but an active engaging of the imagination as the words on the printed page stimulate your creativity and cause you to enter what is essentially an altered state of consciousness."



## Ottawa Community Coalition for Literacy

Ottawa Public Library (OPL) News

[www.bibliottawalibrary.ca](http://www.bibliottawalibrary.ca)



OPL has updated the *New to Canada* page on their website with information available in multiple world languages (Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Hindi, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Urdu and Vietnamese)

Visitors will also find information on:

- English as a Second Language
- Programs for Newcomers
- Computer Resources
- Community Resources
- Borrowing Materials from Other Libraries
- abc123 - a guide to the Ontario Education System available in 15 languages

Visit:

[www.bibliottawalibrary.ca/experience/newcan/newcan\\_e.html](http://www.bibliottawalibrary.ca/experience/newcan/newcan_e.html)

This information is also available in French.

Check out -

[www.bibliottawalibrary.ca/kidis/index\\_e.html](http://www.bibliottawalibrary.ca/kidis/index_e.html)

for a wealth of information to help children with their reading skills.

Here are some examples from **Bopl's Book Corner:**

**Hear It...** In this game children play with the name and shapes of letters. This helps them develop the skill of LETTER KNOWLEDGE.

**Spot It ...** In this game children see many letters. This helps children develop the skill of PRINT AWARENESS.

**Sing it...** This game is a fun way for children to develop PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS.

**Order it...** In this game children put the "story" in order. This is one step to developing NARRATIVE SKILLS.

**Solve It...** This game helps children build their VOCABULARY.

This information is also available in French.



### National and Provincial

#### A lifeline to literacy

TORONTO, June 2 /CNW/ - If you're reading this article now, consider yourself lucky. For Canadians like Tim Lait, it's not as simple as picking up the paper and scanning the headlines.

As Lait's vision gradually diminished over two decades, reading regular newspapers, magazines and books became impossible for the 38-year-old investment banker.

Fortunately, he found a lifeline to literacy in the CNIB Library. "I would have trouble doing my job if I couldn't get newspapers, magazines and other information in audio format from the CNIB Library," admits Lait.

Lait is not alone. Each year thousands of Canadians rely on the CNIB Library and its collection of audio, digital and braille reading materials. Unique in Canada and funded by charitable donations, the CNIB Library offers over 80,000 titles, more than 50 newspapers, thousands of magazines. It circulates more than 2.2 million items annually to readers with vision loss across the country.

Beyond the vision loss community the CNIB Library can benefit millions more Canadians who cannot read print due to learning disabilities or conditions that make it difficult to even hold a book.

CNIB presently offers an innovative partnership program that allows public libraries to give their print-disabled patrons access to the CNIB Library's collection: 770 of Canada's 3,530 libraries subscribe to the program.

"Audio books taught me how to learn," says Cheryl Feldstein. Diagnosed in the second grade with a learning disability, Feldstein struggled to make sense of information printed on a page. "By listening to books while reading the words, I was able to figure out I was an audio learner," she explains. Gaining this insight, she went on to achieve two college diplomas, with honours. Today, literacy has enabled Feldstein to achieve career success as the executive director of a wildlife rehabilitation shelter.

"Everyone has the right to read, and we have a collective responsibility to ensure they have the resources and opportunity to do so," says John Rafferty, CNIB's president and CEO. "In that respect, the CNIB Library is an essential service for Canadians who can't read print."

For further information: about the CNIB Library call 1-800-563-2642 or visit:

[www.cnib.ca](http://www.cnib.ca)

*Note: Ottawa Public Library (OPL) offers access to Visunet in partnership with CNIB*



## Happy Birthday , Louis!

### Did You Know that 2009 is Louis Braille's 200th birthday?

Born on Jan. 4, 1809 in Coupvray France, Louis Braille lost his vision at age 3. Just 12 years later at the age of 15, he invented an ingenious system of reading and writing by raised dots called The Braille Code, creating a means of literacy for blind people that remains in use today around the world. Being able to manage and manipulate information is vital not only to economic success but also to a person's dignity and perceived self-worth as an educated individual. It is therefore important, regardless of whatever educational program is involved, to ensure that individuals have choices in learning and access to information now and in the future. For those with vision loss, braille equals literacy.

### Heureux Anniversaire Moi, j'apprends!

**Le Centre Moi', j'apprends** is celebrating their 20th anniversary this year. On May 25 Jean-Francois Dugas of Le Droit wrote an article about the program focusing on its primary role and learning for a better life. If you'd like to read the article, go to:

[www.cyberpresse.ca/le-droit/franco-plus](http://www.cyberpresse.ca/le-droit/franco-plus), then scroll down the page to read:  
*Alphabétiser pour sauver sa langue.*

Congratulations to Louise Lalonde and all the dedicated staff **aMoi, j'apprends!**

### OCCL Website ([www.occl.ca](http://www.occl.ca)) Activity Report

*Listed below are the top downloads from our site from March to May*

1. Community Works Handbook & Guide
2. Literacy Outreach Package & Sample Presentation
3. Putting Literacy on the Map
4. **The Update** - OCCL's monthly newsletter

### Charity Gift Cards - Give the Gift of Giving!

A **CanadaHelps charity gift card** is a unique way to send a gift to the person who has everything! Simply pick an amount, choose a card, fill out your gift options, then checkout and pay for the gift card. Your gift recipient will receive an email notification about your gift. He/she can then visit the website to spend the gift card on the charity he/she chooses. It's simple, fun and an innovative gift idea!

Visit [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org) to find out more.



### Books Change Lives

*This article is a reprint from the Winter 2008 CODE newsletter*

#### **If you can learn to read, you can learn to do and be anything!**

By Jana McDade, Communications Manager CODE

William Kamkambwa left secondary school part-way through his first year because his parents could no longer afford the fees. When he wasn't helping them on the family farm, he was reading books from the small, community library located in his village. William was just 14-years-old when he borrowed a book that would change his life.

The book was called "Energy Sources" and inside its colourful pages William found images and information about energy generating windmills. William's house, in a small village called Masitala, in Malawi, had never had electricity.

"I was motivated to develop a windmill after reading the book," says William. "I wanted to improve the living standards in my household, and to reduce poverty at home by providing electrical power at a low cost."

With the book in hand, William began constructing a windmill from whatever materials he could find. Two months later he had erected a tower out of blue-gum tree trunks, fashioned blades out of flattened plastic pipe, built a turbine with spare bicycle parts, and run a copper wire from the tower's base to a car battery and an electrical switch made from flip-flop parts inside his home. The entire structure cost 2200 Malawian Kwacha, about \$20 Canadian.

When the wind picked up the tower shook and clanked as the blades began to turn. Two light bulbs in Williams's house shone bright and the radio boomed. Nobody could believe that William had made electricity by reading a book. William's story quickly spread across Malawi. Skeptics and well-wishers from near and far came to see his invention. The library was busy with inspired readers of all ages.

William went on to build two more windmills in his family compound, another for the local school, and began designs for a windmill powerful enough to irrigate the crops of more than 60 families in his village.

William's ambition caught the eye of entrepreneurs, educators and researchers across the world, some of whom pledged to finance his education. William was accepted into one of the best secondary schools in Malawi's capital city, Lilongwe, where he received his secondary school certificate.

Today, seven years after he borrowed "Energy Sources", 21-year-old William has joined the inaugural class of a new Pan-African prep school called the African Leadership Academy, in Johannesburg, South Africa, on a scholarship.

William says he wants to build a windmill company that will provide energy to people across Africa after graduating. The book William borrowed seven years ago reached his local library through CODE's affiliate the International Book Bank (IBB). Last year with IBB's support, CODE distributed about 242,000 donated brand-new reference and story books to small community libraries just like William's, in nine developing countries.

For more information about CODE, visit their website at: [www.codecan.org](http://www.codecan.org)



### Local News

**People, Words & Change (PWC)** launches a new website!

Check it out at:

<http://pwc-ottawa.ca>

#### **Closed Captioning Technology Now Available at AMC Movie Theatre in Kanata**

People who are deaf can now enjoy movies at the AMC Kanata theatre thanks to a new technology called Rear Window Captioning (RWC). Closed captioning which is different from open captioning in that it is only visible to those with a viewing device provided by the theatre. RWC is a great alternative since it's not distracting to anyone else watching the movie. The rearview mirror-type device fits in the seat's cupholder. A teleprompter on the back wall of the cinema is reflected in the contraption showing the captions for the movie without obscuring the person's view of the screen.

#### **Support ALSO's Race for Family Literacy!**

***The Fifth Annual Amazing Book Race - Saturday , September 26, 2009***

This annual fundraiser consists of teams racing from library branches to independent bookstores, performing different literacy tasks at each. Be one of 50 teams who race on foot and by bus to various literacy hot spots in Ottawa. At each checkpoint, teams complete a fun literacy activity. The event will end with a barbecue awards celebration, live music and a visit by a local celebrity!

All proceeds from **The Amazing Book Race** go to support ALSO (Alternative Learning Styles and Outlooks), a local Ottawa literacy program for low income families who are improving their skills and providing a better start for their children.

For more information about the Race, contact: Isobel Bisby at 613-233-8660 or [bookrace@also-ottawa.org](mailto:bookrace@also-ottawa.org). Visit [www.also-ottawa.org](http://www.also-ottawa.org) and watch a video clip to



## **Presentations, Workshops & Training**

A Conference for Literacy Practitioners  
**Essential Skills in Instruction: From What to How**

October 28 & 29, 2009  
Delta Ottawa Hotel

The Essential Skills in Instruction conference is a unique opportunity for practitioners to learn from researchers and experienced practitioners. The main theme of the conference is the effective teaching of the Essential Skills. Many sessions will offer opportunities to hear about existing programs and to examine methodology. Other sessions will take a closer look at approaches taken in various Essential Skills resources.

For more information on the conference and to register, visit: [www.skillplan.ca](http://www.skillplan.ca)  
**Early Bird Registration deadline - July 24**

### **Free Moodle Introductory Courses for Adult Educators**

Moodle, a free open-source online course management system, has been designed using sound pedagogical principles, to help educators create effective online learning opportunities and communities.

AlphaPlus is offering *Introduction to Moodle* training courses. The eight-week training course will be offered:

October 12 - December 4, 2009  
January 18 - March 12, 2010

For more information and/or to register for the course, visit:  
<http://www.alphaplus.ca/newsupdates.asp?eventID=215>



### Resources

#### Family Math

**Family Math Groups: An Exploration of Content and Style** has just been made available at NALD (The National Adult Literacy Database). This new report outlines the project and discusses the effects of the group: parents had fun, grew more interested and less frustrated with math, and learned specific strategies to help their kids with math, which often resulted in improved communication and smoother relationships with their kids. The report finishes with recommendations for facilitating family math groups. It can be down-loaded free of charge at:

[www.nald.ca/library/research/fammatgro/fammatgro.pdf](http://www.nald.ca/library/research/fammatgro/fammatgro.pdf)

The manual, called *Family Math Fun!* is full of family math activities, ready to use in early literacy programs, day care centres, primary grades and Adult Basic Education/Literacy programs. Patterns, recipes, and hand-outs all included (109 pages).

[www.nald.ca/library/learning/familymath/familymath.pdf](http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/familymath/familymath.pdf)

**For more information email:** [Kate.Nonesuch@viu.ca](mailto:Kate.Nonesuch@viu.ca). This project was undertaken by Vancouver Island University, and funded by The Office of Literacy and Essential Skills, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

*The following is reprinted from an article by Arvind Gupta that appeared in the Vancouver Sun on March 18, 2009*

#### How to conquer your math phobia?

Do your palms start to sweat when your child comes to you with math homework? Does your mind turn blank or fuzzy when you look at all those strange symbols? Did you select your career in part due to how little math would be required? If you answered yes to any of these questions there's a good chance that you are among the 20 percent of people who are prone to math anxiety

If you have trouble with a particular area of math, review the basics by using an online programs such as **Math.com**, **Coolmath.com** or **Mathplayground.com**. Sites like these offer lessons, games, puzzles and information that you may enjoy

To discover more resources, read the entire article at:

[www.vancouversun.com/life/conquer+your+math+phobia/1401304/story.html](http://www.vancouversun.com/life/conquer+your+math+phobia/1401304/story.html)



## Ottawa Community Coalition for Literacy

### Resources

#### ELMO Reviews: Exemplary Literacy Materials Online

Literacy BC has created ELMO Reviews or Exemplary Literacy Materials Online. ELMO is a free, interactive, online database of adult and family literacy resources and reviews. It was developed to meet the ongoing need adult literacy providers and learners have for appropriate and high quality instructional and learning resources.

ELMO Reviews brings together literacy resources and best practices in one easily accessible place. ELMO Reviews is designed for adult and family literacy practitioners, volunteers, adult learners, and others interested in literacy issues and resources.

You can access ELMO Reviews at: [www.elmoreviews.ca](http://www.elmoreviews.ca)

Through **The Learning Hub** learners can access online learning activities based on the nine essential skills for work, learning and life. These are: reading text, document use, writing, math, computer use, oral communications, continuous learning, working with others and thinking skills (which includes: problem solving, critical thinking, decision making, job task planning and organizing, significant use of memory and finding information).

The Learning Hub offers Live Classes and Independent Study learning options to learners. When a learner registers with the Learning Hub they are asked to choose how they would like to learn, by taking live classes (scheduled) or independent study (at their own pace).

To find out more, visit: [www.learninghub.ca](http://www.learninghub.ca)

#### Looking for Resources in French?

Visit Literacy Network Northeast's (LNN) new website - [www.literacynet.ca](http://www.literacynet.ca)

The content of the site is now available in both French and English. Here's what you'll find on the site:

- √ Resources for LBS agencies
- √ Research and development projects including documents for the project *Linking Literacy Service Plans to Language*
- √ Links to training opportunities, updates from the ministry news and more...



## Resources

Resources highlighted in Community Literacy Ontario's (CLO) E-Communique June 2009

### The Learning Edge: Apprenticeship Issue

*The Learning Edge*, an online newspaper, is a great resource for adult learners. The latest issue (#10) covers the topic of Apprenticeship. It is written for learners and is interactive and engaging. To access this issue visit: [www.thewclc.ca/edge/issue10/index.html](http://www.thewclc.ca/edge/issue10/index.html)

### Brief Overview of Web 2.0

Web 2.0 is a variety of new online tools and technologies that are user-friendly, cost effective (low cost or often free), highly interactive, and are typically both beneficial and fun to use. Examples of Web 2.0 technologies are blogs, podcasts, video and photosharing sites, Twitter, and Facebook. Common Craft provides a clear overview of Web 2.0 (or, as it is called here, social media). Visit:

[www.commoncraft.com/socialmedia](http://www.commoncraft.com/socialmedia)

AlphaPlus Centre is involved in exploring these new technologies and their application to the Ontario literacy community. Visit their website ([www.alphaplus.ca](http://www.alphaplus.ca)) to learn more about their involvement.

CLO is a partner in the national *Getting Online Project*. This project will soon release some practical print and online resources that highlight many kinds of online learning technologies, including Web 2.0. CLO will be sending out more information on these *Getting Online* resources in the near future.

### Online Training Modules on Literacy by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada

The Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) has prepared three online learning modules that include activities, guiding questions and video clips to guide participants through structured learning tools. The three modules are:

1. Module A: An Overview of Literacy in Canada
2. Module B: Community-Based Literacy Planning
3. Module C: Literacy: Looking at the Immigrant Experience

To learn more about the modules visit: [www.forum2008.cmec.ca/en/modules.html](http://www.forum2008.cmec.ca/en/modules.html)  
(They are also available in French.)

#### Enclosures with this issue:

- 211 Information Sheet
- Ottawa LBS Program Summer Hours Chart



## 2009 PGI Ottawa Golf Tournament for Literacy

On May 28, the Coalition hosted the 21<sup>st</sup> PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy at Loch March Golf & Country Club. Unfortunately we had rain again this year but golfers are a stoic, stubborn breed and they played the game, some sporting rain suits, others sheltering under colourful umbrellas.

The tournament can only happen with lots of planning and hard work. There are many people we must thank for their wonderful contributions.

First, let's hear a round of applause for all of our local sponsors. Our Local Tournament Sponsor is **Burke-Robertson, Barristers & Solicitors**. Committee Chair, **Ted Masters**, and his colleagues, **Jane Murray** and **Mario Gravel** hosted the planning meetings, recruited a number of golfers, made a financial contribution and helped to make the tournament a lot of fun.

**The Ottawa Citizen** is our Golf Day Sponsor, advertiser and printer! The Citizen also covered the cost of the tournament photographer and contributed golfers, prizes and auction items as well as the fabulous services of **Janet Goodell** who has been with us every step of the way for 21 incredible years!

**Bruce Brooks** represented **Collins Barrow Ottawa LLP** on the Organizing Committee. As a Local Sponsor, Collins Barrow contributed prizes, made a financial contribution and fielded enthusiastic foursomes.

The **Ottawa Senators** were winners in our books as they returned as our Cart Sponsor. **Chevy West** was prepared to give away a vehicle at their hole-in-one but sadly no one went home with a new car.

Across the country the 14 PGI Golf Tournaments for Literacy all benefit from the contributions of generous national sponsors:

**Great West Life, London Life and Canada Life**  
**Canada Post**  
**CBC**

Behind the scenes volunteers, **Janet Goodell, Brenda Gaitens, Scott Honeyman, Dee Sullivan** and **Wendy Siebrasse** provided wonderful assistance. Many, many thanks for your help – we couldn't have done it without you!

When the golfers returned to the clubhouse it was time to have a cocktail, enjoy the piano stylings of **John McGovern** and browse through the items displayed for the silent and live auctions (thank you to all the local firms and organizations who donated items). The balloon auction was a big hit again as was a 50/50 draw.

After a delicious buffet dinner, **J. J. Clarke** shone once again as Master of Ceremonies. Congratulations to **Omar Hassan** from the Adaptive Learning Employment Preparation Program at Ottawa-Carleton District School Board who received **The Learner Achievement Award**. **Bruce Brooks** from Collins Barrow was honoured with the **Gzowski Award**. **Phil Jenkins** was our singing poet. His poem, "Divot, Divot" will soon be posted on the OCCL website.



## A Little Humour

### CREATIVE PUNS FOR "EDUCATED MINDS"

1. The roundest knight at King Arthur' s round table w as Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
3. She w as only a whiskey make r, but he lov ed her still.
4. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
5. The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.
6. No matter how much y ou push the envelope, it 'll still be stationery .
7. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
8. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
9. Two silk worms had a r ace. They ended up in a tie.
10. Time flies lik e an arrow . Fruit flies lik e a banana.
11. A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.
12. Two hats were hanging on a hat r ack in the hallw ay. One hat said to the other , 'You stay here; I'll go on a head.'
13. I wondered wh y the baseball k ept getting bigger. Then it hit me.



# Ottawa Community Coalition for Literacy

## HOTLINE STATISTICS

| Contacts                              | March      | April      | May        |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Calls from learners                   | 12         | 7          | 7          |
| On behalf of learners                 | 6          | 4          | 2          |
| Learner follow-up                     | 2          | 1          | 6          |
| From Volunteers                       | 14         | 7          | 8          |
| Literacy Outreach/Community           | 74         | 21         | 67         |
| OCCL Admin                            | 107        | 106        | 82         |
| Workforce Development                 | 33         | 19         | 20         |
| Special Projects/Resources            | 89         | 79         | 77         |
| Provincial and National Activities    | 65         | 49         | 95         |
| Network Calls/LPCC/Board/Emp ON       | 86         | 81         | 82         |
| Training - Learner & Practitioner     | 24         | 23         | 28         |
| Family Literacy/FLD Events            | 16         | 15         | 7          |
| PGI                                   | 34         | 95         | 160        |
| Events                                | 9          |            |            |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>571</b> | <b>507</b> | <b>641</b> |
| <b>Referrals*</b>                     |            |            |            |
| Ottawa-Carleton District School Board | 3          | 1          | 3          |
| Ottawa Catholic School Board          | 4          | 2          | 3          |
| PWC                                   | 2          | 4          | 2          |
| ALSO                                  | 5          | 2          | 2          |
| Algonquin College (CCP)               | 4          |            |            |
| ILC Web site                          | 2          |            |            |
| ELTOC                                 |            |            |            |
| ACElinks                              | 1          |            |            |
| John Howard Society                   | 1          |            | 2          |
| Youth Employment Centre               |            |            | 1          |
| Moi, j'apprends                       |            |            |            |
| Adult High                            |            |            |            |
| St. Nicholas Adult                    |            |            |            |
| Sage Youth                            | 1          |            |            |
| La Cité collegiale                    |            |            |            |
| Language Assessment Centre            |            |            |            |
| Ottawa Public Library                 | 1          | 1          |            |
| No referral                           | 1          | 1          |            |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>25</b>  | <b>11</b>  | <b>13</b>  |

\* At times we make more than one referral per call. The total number of referrals therefore may be higher than the total number of calls received.