



The Update

Provincial Government Provides Increased Funding to Literacy and Basic Skills Programs

On May 24, staff and learners from Literacy and Basic Skills and Academic Upgrading (LBS/AU) programs in Ottawa gathered at ALSO (Alternative Learning Styles & Outlooks) in Heartwood House for a very important announcement. Yasir Naqvi, MPP Ottawa Centre, announced increased funding for literacy programs in Ontario. The provincial government will invest an additional \$44 million in Literacy and Basic Skills over the next three years. This is welcome news for many literacy programs who have been struggling for years with low levels of funding and for 3.4 million Ontario adults who have literacy skills at less than a high school level.

Mary Wiggin and Louise Lalonde (Executive Director, Moi, j'apprends) warmly welcomed Yasir, representatives of LBS/AU programs and several learners.

Jan Goatcher, Coordinator of the Skills Plus program at John Howard Society (JHS), expressed thanks to the Ontario government for their commitment to literacy. JHS will receive a considerable boost with these new funds. They are one of the organizations that will see their base funding increase to \$100,000 a year. Programs, which already receive \$100,000 or more annually, will get an 8 percent increase.

Edward Schuett, an Acelinks student at JHS, expressed his thanks to the program and the instructors for helping him overcome obstacles related to learning. He struggled with school throughout his youth and is happy that through Skills Plus he has been able to move ahead to the ACElinks program.

Catherine Jordan is a learner with People, Words & Change (PWC). She thanked the program for providing her with the opportunity to learn how to use a computer. The computer classes at PWC are giving her the skills she needs to become more employable.

Representatives from most literacy organizations attended the event. These included, Algonquin College, ALSO, ALSO Deaf Adult Program, John Howard Society, Moi, j'apprends, La Cité collégiale, Ottawa Catholic School Board, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board and People Words & Change.

The good news is that Ontario's 2011 Budget – Turning the Corner, committed to permanently increase base funding to service delivery organizations in the province. In Ottawa, programs will receive over \$4.7 million to help 2,319 learners. This additional funding will ensure that literacy programs can continue to deliver programs and serve more learners.

“Ensuring every adult has the opportunity to upgrade their skills is one of the best investments we can make. Not only does it help more people succeed, but it builds a strong foundation for our local economy.” *Yasir Naqvi*

LBS/AU Summer Programming

During the summer months, some of the Literacy and Basic Skills/Academic Upgrading (LBS/AU) programs in Ottawa run on a reduced schedule. For more information visit the OCCL website (www.occl.ca) and click on **2011 LBS Summer Programs**.

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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.

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Chris Girard Carol McMurchy
Simone Edwards - Forde

NOTE: Articles and items published in **The Update** do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ottawa Community Coalition for Literacy

September 8 - International Literacy Day

September 14 - Board & LPCC meetings
Heartwood House
153 Chapel Street

September - Family Literacy Day Planning Committee
Heartwood House
153 Chapel Street

October 12 - LPCC meeting
Heartwood House
153 Chapel Street

October 21 - Friends of Literacy Luncheon
Restaurant International,
Algonquin College

Mark Your Calendars!
Visit our website later this summer
for details about the
2011 Friends of Literacy Luncheon.

The luncheon features a great speaker, wonderful
food and lively conversation.

Hope to see you there on
October 21.



International News

Nigeria Adapts Sesame Street

This article by Susan Njanji appeared in the Ottawa Citizen on May 18, 2011

A yam-loving muppet and another who's HIV positive romp about a set filled with an old drum of oil, a raffia basket and a heap of ubiquitous hot red peppers. Welcome to Sesame Street, Nigerian style.

The local adaptation of the legendary children's educational television series has hit Nigerian screens with the same vocation as its award-winning American model: give pre-schoolers a head start in learning their letters and numbers — and lots of fun while doing so. But **Sesame Square**, as the show is called, has a definite African twist — and not just Big Bird's Nigerian-accented English. Focus is also placed on malaria prevention in a country where the disease kills around 300,000 people a year — or nearly a third of one million malaria deaths on the continent. And it seeks to get the HIV and AIDS message across in an easy-to-understand way for children in Africa, the continent worst hit by the virus.

One of the stars, golden furry five-year-old Kami, a girl muppet, is HIV-positive herself. Another, fuzzy blue male muppet Zobi, owns a yellow taxi and has an obsession with yams, a staple food in Nigeria. In one episode Zobi gets entangled in a mosquito net, insisting he's protecting himself from catching malaria. Kami admonishes him, saying he's not supposed to "wear" it but to sleep under it. "It's fun, it's humorous but it gets them (children) thinking about a mosquito net and why there is a mosquito net in the first place," said Yemisi Ilo, executive producer of the Nigerian series. "Statistics show that at the end of the day malaria and HIV kill more people in this part of the world than anything else." Some 75 million Nigerians, or half of the population, get malaria at least once a year while children younger than five — around 24 million — suffer up to four bouts annually, according to official statistics.

Muppet Kami's own mother died from HIV and she always wears the symbolic red ribbon. But she's a resilient, jovial and affectionate little character, a role aimed at fighting stereotypes about people with HIV and AIDS rather than lecturing small viewers about the disease.

The 30-minute series to be aired twice weekly on Nigeria's national public television, Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), premiered on May 21. Three seasons are planned, with the first entitled "We Can" to celebrate the self-worth and heritage of Nigerian children.

For U.S. ambassador to Nigeria, Terence McCulley, Sesame Square is set "to inspire children to perceive learning as fun and a necessary pathway to success, and to echo President Obama's motto 'Yes, We Can'." The Nigerian series, funded by the US government development agency, USAID, and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), is the latest of some 20 international Sesame Street versions broadcast in 140 countries from Bangladesh to Kosovo. Some of the Nigerian segments will feature original Sesame Street muppets but with voice overs. "What we have done is to dub over the American accented voices with Nigerian voices so we have our own Nigerian Elmo, our own Nigerian Big Bird, our own Bert, Ernie, Grover," said Ilo.

Sesame Workshop CEO, Gary Knell, has said with Sesame Square, Nigerian children "will see other children just like them engaging in exciting activities and lessons that have the potential to foster a lifelong love of learning." Another African twist has been taken into account. In a country where many of the 150 million people have no access to television or if they do, don't always have electricity to power their sets, Sesame Square will also distribute literacy kits targeted at some 80,000 children.



NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL...cont'd

OLC Developing Literacy Screening Tool for Employment Ontario, Employment Services

The OLC (Ontario Literacy Coalition) has been funded to develop a literacy screening tool for Employment Ontario, Employment Services. This tool will be linked to programming while understanding the needs of employment case managers.

The screening tool will be:

- appropriate for large numbers of persons and may sometimes be administered in a group setting
- quick to administer, score and interpret (no more than twenty minutes)
- usable without extensive training of staff
- able to give clear and reasonable guidelines and protocol on whether and how to refer people to a Regional Literacy Network or directly to Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) programming, and
- specific in function and reasonably valid in respect to the entry and end points of the literacy system

The OLC and its partners expect to start conducting field trials later this year in a variety of Employment Ontario Centres. Funding was provided by Employment Ontario's Network Development Fund. For additional information, contact John MacLaughlin at john@literacy.on.ca.

What is Cloud Computing?

Cloud computing is an innovative technology enabling information, commonly stored on personal computer or office hard drives to be stored on virtual drives. These drives, also known as 'the cloud,' provide huge volumes of storage space for software and computing infrastructure over the Internet. This enables software and computing to be delivered as a service anytime, anywhere. AlphaPlus has produced a report called *Cloud Computing: What is cloud computing and why is it important for Adult Literacy?* The opportunities cited in the report include:

- Powerful computing infrastructure and the ability to buy computing software, as needed, over the Internet.
- For educators and learners, cloud computing can help centralize and connect e-learning materials and literacy communities interspersed throughout the internet, and lead to the creation of a centralized online platform, enabling adult educators and learners to share and collaborate on resources, tools, forums and more.
- Literacy funders and organizations will be better able to design and operate e-learning software based on users' online habits and performance. In addition, the report suggests that, as we enter the "smart" age, where free Internet is becoming available in many public places, literacy organizations and researchers can collaborate on cloud computing services, creating synergy and great potential for service.

You can access the AlphaPlus report online at:

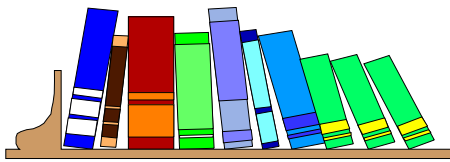
www.alphaplus.ca/en/web-tools/online-publications-a-reportsgroup1/cloud-computing.html



Ottawa Community Coalition for Literacy

Ottawa Public Library (OPL) News

www.bibliottawalibrary.ca



The library hosts a wealth of adult programming throughout the summer months. Log on to the OPL website and click on **Programs - Events and Workshops** at the top of the page to find out about activities taking place at a branch near you. Here is a small sampling of what is available.

Nepean CentrepoinTE Branch

101 CentrepoinTE Drive

Phone: 613-580-2710

Adults 55+ Non-fiction Book Group

Join a discussion of *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell. Pick up a copy at the the Help Desk. Call the branch to register or go online.

Monday, July 12 (11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, August 17 (11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

Beginner Email

Practise receiving, sending and writing emails using Google. Basic computer skills are required. Call the branch to register or go online.

Thursday July 21, 2011 (10:30 am - 12:00 pm)

Beginner Google

An introduction to Google, focusing on web searches. Basic computer skills are required. Call the branch to register or go online.

Thursday July 14, 2011 (10:30 am - 12:00 pm)

Greenboro District Branch

363 Lorry Greenberg Drive

Phone: 613-580-2957

Citizenship Test Preparation

Citizenship Test preparation is offered every Monday (1:00 - 2:30 p.m.) and Thursday (4:30 - 6:00 p.m.) throughout the summer starting on July 4 except for the holiday Monday on August 1.

This program is offered in cooperation with the Lebanese and Arab Social Service Agency (LASSA). To register call 613-796-7221.

Information for all Newcomers (Monday & Thursday Appointments)

Information and referral about jobs, sponsorship, language training, health, citizenship and immigration related applications and more. To book an appointment call LASSA at 613-796-7221, Mondays - 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Thursdays - noon to 7:00 p.m.

Main Library Branch

120 Metcalfe Street

Phone: 613-580-2495

Introduction to the Internet

Hands-on workshop teaching Internet Explorer. Basic computer skills are required. For information call 613-580-2940. Call the branch to register or go online.

Tuesday, July 05 (9:30 am - 11:30 am)

More than Meets the Eye: OPL's Website

Find out what you're missing on the library's website. Reading a newspaper or magazine, accessing Consumer Reports or learning a language are just some of the things you can do from home.

Internet experience is required. For information call 613-580-2940. Call the branch to register or go online.

Tuesday, August 09 (9:30 am - 11:30 am)



Celebrating a Birthday?

Ottawa Public Library Now Offers Children's Birthday Parties

The Ottawa Public Library (OPL) took a new and innovative step and launched a pilot project to host children's birthday parties, starting on June 1, 2011. The project, which will run until May 2012, will see OPL become the first large public library in North America to offer birthday parties for children. The Library sees the idea as an innovative way to maximize library resources, and as a potential source of future revenue.

"We're giving the community something new." said Jane Venus, Manager of Children and Teen Services at OPL. "We're offering kids who love books an option that isn't really available anywhere else."

Three OPL branches, Ruth E. Dickinson, Orléans and Greenboro, have been chosen as host sites for the initial project. "After speaking to many parents about this idea and receiving significant positive support, I was pleased to bring the idea to the OPL Board and management for consideration." said Jan Harder, Chair of the Board. "The kids are going to love it."

Birthday parties will be available for booking between:

- 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturdays
- 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Sundays (except from June to September)

Each two-hour party, designed for children ages 4 to 8, will consist of:

- A one-hour story-based program led by a dynamic library employee
- Use of the party room for the host's own activities for the second hour
- A craft for each child

There are four party themes to choose from: *Digging for Dinos*, *Fun with Furry Friends*, *Under the Sea* and *Everything Princess*.

Parties are allowed for up to 12 children at a price of \$20 per child. For parties with eight children or less, a minimum fee of \$175 will be applied. For more information, visit www.BiblioOttawaLibrary.ca or call InfoService at 613-580-2940.



Accessibility for Canadians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

The Government of Ontario has passed the "Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act" (AODA). This Act (Bill 118) calls on the business community, public sector, and not-for-profit sector to develop, implement and enforce mandatory accessibility standards. Accessibility standards are the rules that businesses and organizations in Ontario will have to follow to identify and remove barriers to accessibility.

The first standard to come into effect is the Accessibility Customer Service Standard. The Ontario government is also developing future standards in the areas of employment, information and communications, transportation and built environment (buildings and other structures).

On May 26 OCCL staff attended a half-day workshop on Ontario's Accessibility Standards for Customer Service. The workshop was offered by the Ontario Nonprofit Network at the United Way office in Ottawa. As you may be aware, all nonprofits and charities in Ontario will have to comply with this standard by January 1, 2012.

At this workshop participants:

- learned about the customer service standard and its requirements
- gained information about the resources available to help organizations understand and meet the requirements of the standard
- discussed approaches to increased awareness and understanding of the customer service standard
- networked with other nonprofit umbrella organizations

You can learn more about the Ontario government's "Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act" by visiting this link: www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/accessibility/index.aspx.

Here are links to share that contain useful information on serving persons with disabilities:

- An informative short video called *An Accessible Ontario by 2025*:
www.ontariononprofitnetwork.ca/en
- A 45 minute training video available in French and English:
www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/mcss/serve-ability/splash.html
- An Accessible Customer Service Standard Resource List with direct links to downloadable resources at:
www.ontariononprofitnetwork.ca/en/resources



Online Canadian Videos About Literacy

Literacy: It Means More Than You Think

Improving quality of life by increasing literacy and essential skills is the goal of the new awareness campaign launched by the Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training (CAMET).

To view the campaign's online videos and TV ads, go to the CAMET home page and find the link under What's New

www.camet-camef.ca



Literacy Builds Communities

This site from Literacy Central in British Columbia was designed specially to introduce community leaders to literacy. The online videos reinforce three key messages:

- Literacy is like Velcro. It makes other learning stick.
- Literacy is the number one indicator of a person's overall well-being and ability to succeed.
- Literacy is a strategy that can support all aspects of community development.

You can view these online videos at:

www.literacycentral.bc.ca/more/vr_buildcomm3.htm

We'd like to take this opportunity to remind you about our online ASL video based on *Getting to Know the Library*. This video was developed by OCCL, in partnership with the Deaf Literacy Initiative and the Ottawa Deaf Centre, to give Deaf learners information about the many different services offered by public libraries. Along with descriptive video *Getting to Know the Library in ASL* has a variety of downloadable activities for instructors to use with their learners.

You can view the video on the Coalition's website at:

www.occl.ca/video/video3.htm



Conferences & Training

The Adult Learning Centres: Grey-Bruce-Georgian invite you to the **2011 Transliteracy Conference**

Location: Kempenfelt Bay Conference Centre, Barrie, Ontario

Dates: June 27-29, 2011

Transliteracy = the ability to read, write and interact across a variety of platforms, tools and media.

- Do you want to be doing more e-learning but are feeling overwhelmed with the internet?
- Do you want a hands-on opportunity to learn how to find, manipulate and use images, sound and video?
- Do you want to find out how to use online twenty-first century learning skills, web applications and services in your educational work?
- Do you want to see how you can use technology including smart boards and e-readers in the classroom?
- Do you want this learning to be fun, gentle and not intimidating?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, this conference is for you. It is designed to support adult educators in embedding e-learning into daily practice. For information on cost and workshops offered visit:

<http://transliteracyinfo.blogspot.com/>

This conference will include sign language interpretation.



Summer Institute 2011: Workplace Literacy and Essential Skills June 27-29, 2011 at Dawson College, Montreal

The topic for Summer Institute 2011 is *Workplace Literacy & Essential Skills: Embedding Practice, Preparing Providers*. This is the third in a series of summer institutes devoted to workplace literacy and essential skills. The first explored the question of “What Works? and Why?”. Summer Institute 2010 asked “What Counts? and Why?” and examined how policy and accountability requirements in different contexts determine what is taught to whom and how success is measured. Several new themes emerged from the 2010 institute, especially the topics of embedded teaching and learning and the qualifications and professionalism of WES (Workplace Essential Skills) providers. The 2011 Institute will focus on these and ongoing concerns of engaging employers and learners.

For more information and to register online, visit:

www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca

Winner of the 2011 Golden Oak Award - Courage and Compassion

Courage and Compassion: Ten Canadians Who Made a Difference by Rona Arato is a collection of short profiles of ten remarkable Canadians who have made a difference to the lives of others through their extraordinary efforts to uphold human rights.

Available from: www.mapletreepress.com



Local Program News

Applying for Ontario Works

There are now three ways to apply for Social Assistance.

1. Online - *NEW!*

Applicants can visit ontario.ca/socialassistance to start the Online Application for Social Assistance. The Online Application is:

- Confidential
- Convenient - the system can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection
- Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- Accessible for people with disabilities
- Available in English and French

The application process includes a screening section that can tell applicants whether or not they might be eligible before they start the application.

2. In Person

Applicants can visit one of four local offices.

3. By Phone

Applicants can call 613-560-6000 to complete the application over the phone.

More information is available at www.ontario.ca/socialassistance

Volunteer Ottawa presents:

A Night at the VOscars

Thursday, September 22, 2011

6:30 Cocktails / 7:30 Dinner

Hilton Garden Inn Ottawa Airport

The VOscars recognize individuals, non-profits and local businesses who raise awareness of volunteering, provide innovation in and around volunteering and/or encourage volunteerism in the community. For more information on this new event and how to nominate someone visit Volunteer Ottawa's home page at:

www.volunteerottawa.ca



Local Program News...continued

ALSO's Amazing Scrabble Race

On September 24, 2011 ALSO's Family Literacy Program will hold the 2nd AMAZING SCRABBLE RACE. In support of ALSO's Family Literacy Program, up to 80 participants will put their literacy skills to the test and compete in a round robin Speed Scrabble Tournament.

How will it all work?

The fundraiser will take place on **Saturday, September 24, 2011** at the Arrow & Loon Pub in the Glebe. Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m. The tournament will run from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. The board game, Scrabble, will be modified to make the game more fast-paced. Players will play in 5-minute power heats, with lots of playing time for everyone. Tournament rules will be explained the day of the tournament. Prizes will be announced on the day of the event, and awarded between 4:00 and 5:00 pm.

Tickets are \$25.00 and go on sale July 1, 2011. All proceeds from ticket sales go directly to Family Literacy programming at ALSO. To purchase a ticket contact Kim by phone (613-233-8660) or email (kim@also-ottawa.org).

Participants are welcome to collect pledges for the event. Tax receipts will be given for donations over \$10.00. Pledge Forms will be available at www.also-ottawa.org.

Race participants will be able to bid on items in the Silent Auction from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Fabulous items will be auctioned including paintings by local Ottawa artists, restaurant gift certificates, theatre tickets and much more. There will also be 50/50 Game Tables.

Join ALSO for a fast-paced fun-filled afternoon in support of their family literacy programming!



RESOURCES

Essential Skills – Have You Used Yours Today?

The project, Essential Skills Literacy: Training Tools for Older Adults, undertaken by the Newfoundland and Labrador Laubach Literacy Council Inc. (NLLLC), has resulted in the development of a teaching and learning resource entitled *Essential Skills – Have You Used Yours Today?*. This project was funded by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, through the Office of Literacy and Essential Skills.

Essential Skills – Have You Used Yours Today? is a complete teaching and learning package designed to help adult learners increase their literacy and essential skills in order to adapt to changing technology on the job. The training package curriculum was developed based on key knowledge and practical skills for everyday living and working. The package consists of a Training Manual, Tutor Handbook, User Guide, Tutor Guides and Student Skill Books.

Free digital copies of these materials can be downloaded. For access to the download page visit:

www.nlllc.ca/es/download_app_form.php.

New Numeracy Course for Adults from Project Read

There is a new math resource available from Project Read called *Adding to My Skills*. This numeracy curriculum for adult learners can be downloaded for free at:

www.projectread.ca/pdf/AddingToMySkills.pdf

Essential Skills Games

available from

The Centre for Skills Development Training

Summer in Smallywood is a series of three essential skills games developed for young adults (15-30) to help enhance their employability:

<http://summerinsmallywood.ca>



RESOURCES on the INTERNET

Check out *Introduction to Blogging for Learners* from AlphaPlus

Blogging is an opportunity for adult literacy organizations, across all streams, to find their voices and to share their learners' stories and organizational successes. Blogging provides organizations with a medium to speak to learners, peers and funders. To find out more go to: <http://alphaplus.ca>. In the **Search** box on the right, type in - **Introduction to Blogging** - A list will appear. Click on **3. Sioux Hudson Literacy Council** and you'll get the information you need.

Tutorials on how to use the AlphaPlus Web Index

AlphaPlus has developed two video tutorials, sometimes also called screencasts, to introduce you to the **AlphaPlus Web Index** and social bookmarking tool called Delicious.

The two tutorials, **An introduction to the AlphaPlus Web Index** and **How to search the social bookmarking tool Delicious**, available without and with caption, are less than four minutes long and can be accessed via the YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/alphaplusvideo

Literacy Link South Central (LLSC) has just completed a two-year project called *Connecting Literacy and Employment through Essential Skills*. As part of this project, seven workbooks have been created that embed Essential Skill activities within employment readiness tasks. They are:

Workbook 1 - Identify the Job Searcher **Workbook 5** - Market Yourself with a Resumé and Cover Letter

Workbook 2 - Identify the Job **Workbook 6** - Market Yourself at the Interview

Workbook 3 - Research Your Occupation **Workbook 7** - Essential Skills to Maintain Employability

Workbook 4 - Essential Skills to Search for Jobs

You can download free copies from their website or use them interactively online at www.llsc.on.ca. LLSC is also taking requests for copies of these resources (full sets only) until the end of July 2011. They are free but there is a charge for shipping and handling. They will begin to fill requests in August while supplies last. To request copies, email communications@bellnet.ca. Include the number of sets you would like and your contact information (name, agency and mailing address) as well as a brief description of how you intend to incorporate the workbooks into your program.



....more Internet Resources

In CLO's May 2011 newsletter, they provided a sneak-peek of online resources from their Resource Fair that took place in April 2011. Over 20 community-based literacy practitioners across the province met on CENTRA to share resources related to online learning for adult students.

CLO is in the process of creating an annotated list of useful websites and other resources for adults. In the meantime, here are three popular websites that were shared:

Basic Computer Skills: Adult Learning Centres Grey-Gruce-Georgian <http://alcbasiccomputertraining.blogspot.com>

This site features lessons in beginning computer skills. The four lessons included are mouse skills, internet basics, searching the internet and email.

QWIKI: www.qwiki.com

This site was launched in February 2011 and is a multi-media online encyclopedia. Like the well-known Wikipedia, Qwiki offers information on a wide-variety of topics. However information is provided using a combination of text, audio, still pictures and videos. Qwiki is suitable for all levels of reading skill and is an excellent site for research projects, fact-finding or just for fun.

GCF Learn Free by Goodwill Community Foundation International: www.gcflearnfree.org

This site is very popular with literacy practitioners across the province. It features information and activities in the areas of computers, reading and math. It is very flexible and allows users to tailor activities to meet individual needs. It includes text, video and audio. Some areas are interactive. Lessons can be provided to students on a weekly basis or they can learn at their own pace.

New Websites

The Canadian Literacy and Learning Network-CLLN (formerly Movement for Canadian Literacy) has a new area for learners on their website. Have a look at: <http://literacy.ca/themes/mcl/learners/index.html>

In April, *Literacy Link Eastern Ontario* (LLEO) launched their new website as part of their 20th anniversary celebration, . Check it out at: www.lleo.ca



....more Internet Resources

The following information comes compliments of the Western Quebec Literacy Council's March 2011 newsletter.

New Ways of Picturing and Learning Math!

Are you looking for a new approach for picturing math problems? Try this website:

http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/topic_t_1.html

You will find visual representations of many math concepts arranged in four levels of proficiency.

Word Games and Puzzles

This is a good introduction to word games and puzzles. In 28 pages it gives you examples of word search and word play games. It has easy crosswords, tongue twisters and riddles. It even shows you how to do sudoku puzzles. You can download it for free through NALD (National Adult Literacy Database) at: www.nald.ca. Click on **Library** on the top menu and type **Word Games and Puzzles** into the search box and tick to box for **Learning Materials**.

Stretch Your Dollars

This 36 page booklet by "Money Mentors" gives lots of ideas to help you manage money. From it you will learn to track where your money goes, how to spend it where you want to and tips for saving money. You can access it online through NALD at:

www.nald.ca/library/learning/money_mentors/stretch_your_dollars/stretch_your_dollars.pdf

Money Math - Everyday Math Skills

Literacy Northwest Territories has created a helpful resource called *Money Math - Everyday Math Skills*. *Money Math* has three sections. Each section has a variety of topics and worksheets and a review page. The workbook is designed so that learners can work on their own or with others.

- Section One: Personal Finances
- Section Two: Saving Money
- Section Three: Consumer Math

You can access this helpful instructional resource at :

www.nald.ca/library/learning/nwt/mathskills/moneymath/moneymath.pdf



Bits & Bites

Literacy and Citizenship in the 21st Century

The Royal Society of Canada is currently organizing their 2011 Annual Symposium that will focus on literacy and citizenship within the Canadian landscape. The Symposium is titled *Literacy and Citizenship in the 21st Century*. The event will take place on **Friday, October 14, 2011** at Library and Archives Canada, in Ottawa.

Literacy and Citizenship in the 21st Century will feature a diverse array of participants including scholars, policy experts, students, and other distinguished guests such as Heather Reisman, CEO of Indigo Books. The Symposium will explore how the role of literacy in Canada is evolving, and will generate ideas for what it means to be an engaged citizen in today's information age.

Discussions will revolve around the following topics:

- Literacy in a Digital Age
- Democratic Values and Public Life
- Identity, Citizenship and Human Rights

If you are interested in finding out more about the The Royal Society of Canada visit their website at www.rsc-src.ca or for more details about the symposium email Jorden Elizabeth Johnson, Communication Assistant at comm-assistant@rsc-src.ca

Warm (*but not too warm*) Wishes to all of you
for a Wonderful Summer!

Mary & Maureen



Top 25 Most Misspelled Words

While spelling champs zip their way through words that many people couldn't even look up in the dictionary, the rest of us still struggle with common but confusing words that are often garbled.

For example, most of the words in the following sentence are misspelled (*yes, it's double-s, double-l, single-p*):

You're acknowlegment of my atempt to accomodate enough wierd camoflage equiptment just shows a concensus would only inadvertantly embarass any seperate liason by the committee in trying to guage a miniscule withdrawl.

Of course, spell check tried to correct some of those words. But not all. So don't trust it.

The vagaries of English spelling rules (i before e except after c doesn't always work), particularly in suffixes and doubled consonants, manage to slay most people sooner or later.

Here, from various sources and discounting cultural differences for words like judgment, are some of the most commonly misspelled words:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. accommodate | 14. gauge |
| 2. consensus | 15. lightning |
| 3. acknowledgement | 16. minuscule |
| 4. argument | 17. achieve |
| 5. commitment | 18. committee |
| 6. deductible | 19. definitely |
| 7. dependent | 20. surprise |
| 8. embarrass | 21. weird |
| 9. harass | 22. camouflage |
| 10. liaison | 23. existence |
| 11. separate | 24. privilege |
| 12. withdrawal | 25. publicly |
| 13. equipment | |

This article by Leslie Ciarula Taylor appeared in the Toronto Star on June 6, 2011.



HOTLINE STATISTICS

Contacts	March	April	May
Calls from learners	6	1	9
On behalf of learners	4	5	4
Learner follow-up	1	1	1
From Volunteers	4	4	1
Literacy Outreach/Community	63	58	56
OCCL Admin	120	85	59
Workforce Development	13	11	13
Provincial and National Activities	41	55	45
Literacy & Basic Skills/ Academic Upgrading	166	116	195
Employment Ontario	78	91	106
Resources/Projects/Project Follow-up	47	52	53
Professional Development	11		15
Family Literacy	49	8	7
Events	10	6	35
Total	613	493	599
Referrals*			
Ottawa-Carleton District School Board	1		1
Ottawa Catholic School Board	1		1
PWC	2	1	4
ALSO	3	1	5
Algonquin College (CCP)	1	1	2
ILC Web site		1	
ELTOC			
ACElinks			
John Howard Society			3
Sage Youth	1	1	
Moi, j'apprends	1		
Adult High			
St. Nicholas Adult			
ACElinks			
Discovery University			
Language Assessment Centre	1		
Ottawa Public Library			1
No referral		1	
Newcomer Information Centre			
Total	11	6	17
* 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.			
OW related calls:	3	3	7
ODSP related calls:			2



Ottawa Community Coalition for Literacy

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Individual Membership - \$25.00

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