



Vol 5 no 2

Spring 2000

Websites

Worth

Remembering:

Essential Skills Database - HRDC
<http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/essentialskills>

Clear Language and Design
<http://www.eastendliteracy.on.ca/clearlanguageanddesign/>

Plain Language Action Network (PLAN)
<http://www.plainlanguage.gov/>

Georgian Literacy
<http://www.georgian.net/gtl/>

Literacy in Ontario: The Rewards Are for Life
http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/training/literacy/ontliteracy/ont_lit.html

Storysacks
<http://www.storysacks.co.uk/>

Words Work Learning Centre
<http://www.nald.ca/wordwork.htm>

Aboriginal Language Projects
<http://www.nald.ca/aborlang/>

Word Monster
<http://www.nald.ca/wordmonster/index.htm>

ALADIN - Adult Learning Documentation and Information Network
<http://www.unesco.org/education/aladin/>

GED Math Practice
<http://home.os.com/~atubman/math.htm>

Spread the Word : Implementing a Community Literacy Festival

by Roger Hannon, Coordinator, Georgian Literacy

Special-event funding is an emerging trend in Collingwood, Ontario. Not only does this community host a plethora of Elvis tribute artists each summer, but a full roster of special events is featured throughout the year ranging from a world-class equestrian event to a gruelling triathlon for people of all ages.

Georgian Literacy, a community-based literacy organization in Collingwood, decided to join the parade of special events during the spring of 1998 with its first-ever **Spread the Word Literacy Festival**. The mission was to provide a fun, family-oriented festival to celebrate the joys of literacy. The organizing committee wanted to inspire an awareness about the importance of literacy at home, in the community and at work.

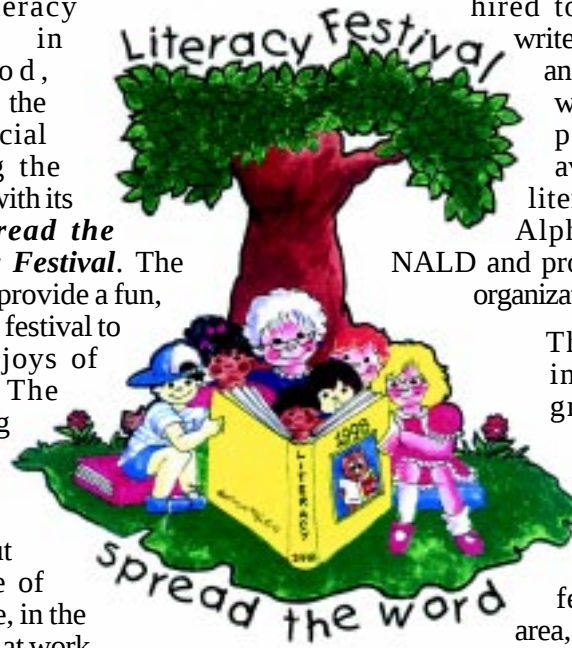
The vision was clear: to unite a family of readers and potential readers through author readings, literacy information, book selling, family-fun activities and live entertainment. The result was an event that increased literacy awareness and

much-needed funding to expand existing literacy programming in order to touch the lives of more potential readers.

Less than one year later, the National Literacy Secretariat approved Georgian Literacy's application to fund a project to develop a how-to guide on implementing a community literacy festival. Cathy Rogers Stahr was hired to research and write this informative and in-depth guide, which totals 70 pages and is available through literacy networks, AlphaPlus Centre, NALD and provincial literacy organizations.

The contents include a back-grounder on literacy, important information about planning a festival for your area, as well as details about committee development, volunteer job descriptions and lists of vital contacts within - and beyond - the literacy field.

There are precise descriptions for the tasks involved in developing various





aspects of a festival, including: author readings; children's activities and entertainment; exhibits and displays; fundraising; food services; marketing; volunteers; hospitality; festival book store; used book sales; and celebrity book auction. In addition, the guide explores the various funding mechanisms available to community groups, from national organizations such as The Canada Council for the Arts to local service clubs.

Involvement by a broad cross-section of the community will help to promote a young festival. Schools, clubs, and youth groups are encouraged to take part in the festival through contests and volunteer participation.

There are copies of «*Spread the Word: How to Implement a Community Literacy Festival*» available at **Georgian Literacy**. For further information, contact Georgian Literacy, 180 Ontario Street, Collingwood ON, L9Y 1M6, Tel. (705) 444-2250, E-mail: geolite@georgian.net WWW: <http://www.georgian.net/gtl/>

The author of "Spread the Word: How to Implement a Community Literacy Festival", Cathy Rogers Stahr (pictured at right) is currently employed as a literacy instructor with the Simcoe County District School Board. She has also worked as an English instructor teaching ESL. Cathy obtained her Masters Degree in Public History, and Bachelor's Degree in History. She was a volunteer with the Dryden Literacy Association before moving to Collingwood, where she volunteers with Georgian literacy and the Spread the Word Literacy Festival.



Moving?

Make sure your copy of *Networks/Réseaux* follows you to your new location by letting the National Adult Literacy Database know your new address. Send your change-of-address information by



Email: info@nald.ca;
Post: NALD, Scovil House,
703 Brunswick Street,
Fredericton, NB E3B 1H8;
Fax: (506) 457-6910;.
Call : (506) 457-6900 or
toll-free, 1-800-720-6253

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Networks

The **NALD** Newsletter
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Spring 2000
ISSN 1485-2713

Networks, the newsletter of the National Adult Literacy Database Inc., provides the Canadian literacy community with current information on educational activities in adult literacy and basic adult education.

NALD keeps literacy practitioners, learners, administrators policy makers and researchers informed on trends, recent publications, available resources, upcoming events and ongoing activities both nationally and in the regions.

For further information, or to give your comments, please contact:

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703 Brunswick Street
Fredericton, New Brunswick
Canada E3B 1H8

Toll Free:
1 800 720 NALD (6253)
Tel: 506 457 6900
Fax: 506 457 6910
info@nald.ca
<http://www.nald.ca>



HRDC Essential Skills Database:

Website & CD-ROM

What will your learners be reading in the workplace? What writing tasks will they face?

Human Resources Development Canada's new web site (www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/essentialskills) gives you a glimpse into a broad range of workplaces across Canada.

HRDC has conducted extensive research on these **Essential Skills**: *Reading text; Document use; Writing; Numeracy; Oral communication; Working with others; Computer use; Continuous learning and Thinking skills (which has been subdivided into the following: Problem Solving, Decision Making, Job task planning and organizing, Significant use of memory and Finding information).*

HRDC asked 3,000 workers across Canada how they used these skills in their jobs. Those interviewed came from a broad range of jobs that covered all occupations that can be entered with complete or incomplete high school. The jobs covered all occupations classified at Skill Levels C and D in the *National Occupational Classification*. The findings are summarized in 150 occupational profiles that are a rich source of information. They provide information on the complexity of the tasks performed in each occupation. The complexity rating scales developed for Text Reading and Document Use are compatible with the International Adult Literacy Survey (IALS) scales. The Profiles also include example tasks illustrating the use of these skills in each occupation and at the different levels of complexity. Included as well is specific information about the manner in which the skills are used in each occupation; e.g., whether the text reading includes letters, manuals or books, or whether the numeracy tasks include the use of integers, fractions or decimals.

Though HRDC has made this information available in the past, the new site provides searching capabilities and access to related resources far beyond what was previously available. You can easily search through the site to find:

- Information on particular occupations.
- Occupational profiles that contain keywords of interest to you.
- Example tasks that illustrate particular levels of skill (e.g., problem solving at Complexity Level 3).
- Occupations where skills are used in particular ways (e.g., occupations that use geometry).
- Occupations for which the most important essential skills include a certain skill, such as oral communication, or do not include a skill, such as numeracy.

The site also allows you to link directly to other related resources, including the National Occupational Classification and Sector Council web sites. And the site will continue to grow. Data collection continues and



profiles of higher skill occupations will be added, as they become available. This spring, the site will be expanded to include a collection of authentic workplace materials that can be used in classroom learning activities and that further illustrate the use of these skills in Canadian workplaces.

What if you don't have access to the Internet? NALD has received funding from HRDC to produce a CD-ROM version of this web site. NALD is preparing to develop a searchable CD-ROM containing the **Essential Skills Database** and make it available to those who would find it useful: course and curriculum developers, trainers and teachers, guidance and career counsellors, employers, parents, mentors and student advisors, learners and workplace and occupational researchers. For more information on ordering the CD-ROM, please contact NALD at 1-800-720 6253 or email info@nald.ca



Human Resources
Development Canada

Développement des
ressources humaines Canada

Networks Datebook

Submit your events
for publication on
our website and here in our datebook!
To see how, visit our
events page at www.nald.ca

... with an international focus

June 8 - 10, 2000

Laubach Literacy Action Biennial Conference - Orlando FA USA

Org: Laubach Literacy International
Contact: Janet Kiemstra, Laubach Literacy, 1320 Jamesville AVE, Box 131, Syracuse NY 13210 USA
Tel: 315 422 9121 x 283 Fax: 315 422 6369
jhiemstra@laubach.org
www.laubach.org/

June 14-17, 2000

Adult Literacy and Technology Conference 2000 Bridging the Digital Divide - Washington DC USA

Org: PBS LiteracyLink
Contact: ALT 2000 Program Committee, c/o Tela Hansom-Pitt, PBS LiteracyLink, 1320 Braddock Place Alexandria VA 22314 USA
Tel: 703-739-5002 Fax: 703-739-8495
thansom@pbs.org

19 - 23 June, 2000

LT2000 Quality Language Teaching through Innovation & Reflection - Hong Kong

Org: Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
Contact: Ms. Candice Poon, Language Centre, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR
Tel.: (852)2358 7850 or 7880 Fax: (852)2335 0249
LCLT2000@UST.HK
lc.ust.hk/~centre/LT2000.html

June 26 - 28, 2000

Connecting at the Crossroads - NECC 2000 - Atlanta GA United States

Org: National Educational Computing Association
Contact: NCCE 2000 Registration, 1277 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-1277 USA
Toll Free: 1-(800) 280-6218
Telephone: (541) 346-3537 Fax: (541) 346-3545
neccreg@oregon.uoregon.edu

June 26-July 1, 2000

EDMEDIA 2000 - Montréal QC Canada
Org: Computer Research Institute of Montréal
Contact: EDMEDIA 2000/AACE, PO Box 2966, Charlottesville VA 22902 USA
Tel 804 973 3987 Fax: 804 978 7449
www.aace.org/info.html
conf@aace.org

June 30th - July 2nd, 2000

"CALL in the 21st. Century" conference

Org: ESADE and IATEFL Computer SIG
Contact: Geoff Jordan, ESADE Idiomas, Av. de Esplugues 92-96 08034, Barcelona Spain
jordan@esade.es
Paul Brett: le1969@wlv.ac.uk

July 1 - 4, 2000

Dawning Opportunity, International conference on Rural and Distance Education - Cairns, Queensland Australia

Org: SPERA & AADES
Contact: SPERA & AADES PO Box 379, Darling Heights, Queensland 4350 Australia
Tel: 07 4631 2106 Fax: 07 46 312828

July 9 - 22, 2000

ELT and Education Technology in the Digital Age - University of Brighton

Org: University of Brighton
Contact: Information Manager, The British Council, 1, Beaumont Place Oxford, OX1 2PJ, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 316636
Fax: +44 (0) 1865 557368 / 516590
network.events@britishcouncil.org
www.britishcouncil.org/networkevents

July 11-14, 2000

18th World Congress on Reading "Once Upon a Millennium: The Past, the Present, the Future" - Auckland, New Zealand

Org: International Reading Association
Contact: IRA, 800 Barksdale Road, PO Box 8139, Newark DE 19714-8139, USA
Tel: (302)731-1600 Fax: (302)731-1057
conferences@reading.org
www.reading.org/



August 6 - 19, 2000

Crossing the Border: From Teaching to Training - Cambridge

Org: British Council
Contact: Information Manager, International Networking Events, The British Council, 1, Beaumont Place Oxford OX1 2PJ UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 316636
Fax: +44 (0) 1865 557368 / 516590
network.events@britishcouncil.org
www.britishcouncil.org/networkevents

... with a national focus

June 2-4, 2000

41st Annual Adult Education Research Conference - Vancouver BC

Org: The University of British Columbia
Contact: Roweena Bacchus, Conference Secretary, Department of Educational Studies UBC, 2125 Main Mall, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z4
Tel: (604) 822 -5374 Fax: (604) 822-4244
roweena.bacchus@ubc.ca

June 3-6, 2000

Great Teaching Seminar 2000 - Naramata BC

Org: C2T2
Contact: Centre for Curriculum, Transfer and Technology, Diane Morrison or Cheryle Wilson, dmorrison@ctt.bc.ca; cwilson@ctt.bc.ca, Tel: (250) 413 4409 Fax (250) 413 4403
www.ctt.bc.ca/events/

June 6 - 10, 2000

Up Up and Away - Shaping Our Dreams:

FWIC Convention 2000 - Brandon Manitoba

Org: FWIC
Contact: FWIC, Suite 606, 251 Bank St., Ottawa ON K2P 1X3
Phone/Fax: (613) 234-1090

June 19-23, 2000

PanCanadian Educational Technology Summer Institute - Calgary AB

Org: Mount Royal College and PanCanadian
Contact: Anne Johnson, Summer Institute, Mount Royal College Continuing Education, 4825 Richard Road SW, Calgary AB T3E 6K6
Tel: (403) 240-6042 Fax: (403) 240-8996
ajohnson@mtroyal.ab.ca

August 27 - 30, 2000

Special Needs Conference 2000 - Niagara Falls ON

Org: Diversity World
Contact: Diversity World, P.O Box 1917 Winnipeg MB R3C 3R2
Tel: (831) 457-2709 Fax: (831) 457-2289
info@diversityworld.com
www.diversityworld.com/

... with a provincial focus

June 1 - 3, 2000

Viatlize 2000 - Calgary AB

Org: Wild Rose Foundation
Contact: Tim O'Donnell, Wild Rose Foundation, 204 Legislature Building Edmonton AB T5K 2B6
Tel: 780 422 2325 or (1 800 310-0000 - provincial)

June 2 and 3, 2000

What Works! A Literacy Symposium - Vernon BC

Org: Okanagan University College/School District 22 (Vernon)
Contact: Carol Abernathy, Adult Basic Education Instructor, Okanagan University College, 7000 College Way Vernon BC V1B 2N5
Tel: (250) 545-7291 Fax: (250) 545 - 3277
caaberna@ver1.ouc.bc.ca
www.ouc.bc.ca/literacy

June 12, 2000

PGI Golf Tournament - Bally Haly Golf Club
St. John's, NF
Org: ABC Canada
Contact: Judy Enstrom 709-579-2326
ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation
333 King Street East, 3rd Floor, Toronto ON
M5A 4N2
Fax: (416) 350-6262

June 13 - 16, 2000

Pacific Management Development Institute (PMDI) 2000 - Bowen Island, BC
Org: Centre for Curriculum, Transfer and Technology
Contact: C2T2, Diane Morrison or Cheryle Wilson dmorrison@ctt.bc.ca - cwilson@ctt.bc.ca,
Tel: (250)413-4409 fax (250)413-4403

June 16th, 2000

PGI Golf - Cavendish PEI
Org: ABC Canada and PEI Literacy Alliance
Contact: PEI Literacy Alliance, 3 Queen Street, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 400, Charlottetown PE C1A 7K7
Tel: 902-368-3620 Fax 902-368-3269
peiliteracy.alliance@pei.sympatico.ca
www.nald.ca/peila.htm

June 18, 2000

PGI Golf Tournament - Whitehorse, YK
Org: ABC Canada, Yukon Learn
Contact: Liesel Briggs, ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation, 333 King Street East, 3rd Floor, Toronto ON M5A 4N2
<http://www.abc-canada.org>
Tel: (867) 668-6280 Toll Free 1-888-668-6280
Fax (867) 633-4576
learn@yukon.net

June 19, 2000

PGI Golf Tournament - Halifax NS
Org: ABC Canada
Contact: Deborah Naugler 902-454-3340
ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation
333 King Street East, 3rd Floor, Toronto ON
M5A 4N2
Fax: (416) 350-6262
www.abc-canada.org

June 21, 2000

PGI Golf Tournament - Victoria, BC
Org: ABC Canada
Contact: Willie Blondé 250-361-1551
ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation
333 King Street East, 3rd Floor, Toronto ON
M5A 4N2
Fax: (416) 350-6262
www.abc-canada.org

July 6, 2000

PGI Golf Tournament - Vancouver, BC
Org: ABC Canada
Contact: Linda Mitchell 604-684-0624
ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation
333 King Street East, 3rd Floor, Toronto ON
M5A 4N2
Fax: (416) 350-6262
www.abc-canada.org

August 14 - 25, 2000

12th Annual MULTISENSORY SUMMER SCHOOL - Prince George, British Columbia
Org: The Prince George Dyslexic Support Society
Contact: The Learning Difficulties Centre of Northern BC, 144 George Street, Prince George BC V2L 1P9
Tel: (250)564-8011 Fax: (250)564-8055
ldc@paralynx.com

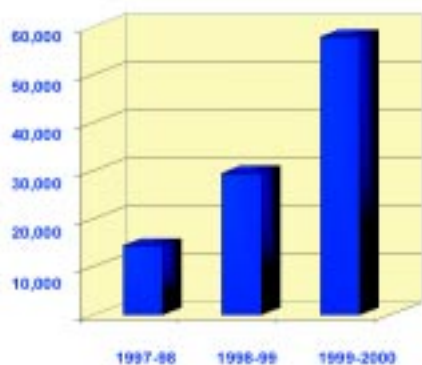
August 10, 2000

PGI Golf Tournament - Regina, SK
Org: ABC Canada
Contact: Susan Clarkson 306-653-7378
clarkson.skfoundation@sk.sympatico.ca
ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation
333 King Street East, 3rd Floor, Toronto ON
M5A 4N2
Fax: (416) 350-6262
www.abc-canada.org



NALD Statistics Soar in March, 2000!!

Average User Session



1997-98: Average User Sessions per Month: 14,337
Page Views: 59,856

1998-99: Average User Sessions per Month: 29,454
Page Views: 143,693

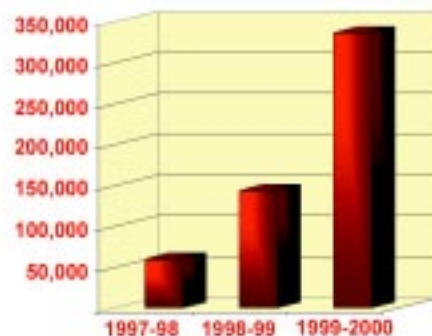
1999-2000: Average User Sessions per Month: 57,756
Page Views: 336,045

NALD finished its fiscal year on March 31st with the largest one-month web site user statistics in its four-year history on the World Wide Web. In March, there were 92,204 user sessions on the NALD web site. Users viewed 729,904 pages of information and downloaded 6,225 full text documents (pdf files). The ten-month total (we lost some of our log files for April and May) for 1999-2000 are User Sessions: 577,568. Pages Viewed: 3,360,453 and Full Documents Downloaded: 30,122.

Over the past three years, the growth rate has been approximately double the number of user sessions each year.



Average Number of Pages Viewed



Visit the NALD website at www.nald.ca



LETTER to the Editor

I would like to clarify the role of the provincial government in providing literacy services in British Columbia (BC). Since 1991, literacy or Fundamental Adult Basic Education (FABE) has been tuition-free in the post-secondary education (PSE) system in BC. Since July 1998, all levels of ABE are tuition-free in the PSE system. School district adult programs have been tuition-free for non-graduates throughout the 1990s.

Nineteen PSE institutions (colleges, university-colleges and institutes) receive base funding for ABE programs which amounted to \$42-million for the current year - \$9-million of that is for the FABE program. In addition, English Language Training programs and Adult Special Education programs are base-funded. These programs increase the total amount going into access or developmental programs. There are also two student assistance programs to help with book costs, other fees and transportation. School district adult programs also receive base funding of about \$48 million from the Ministry of Education for high school completion programs. Thus, in

direct funding, about \$100 million goes to support ABE for about 20,000 FTEs. Income assistance recipients are sponsored through the Ministry of Social Development and Economic Security.

Several colleges in BC developed volunteer literacy outreach programs in the late 1970s & early 1980s and have continued to fund them. With the advent of the National Literacy Secretariat (NLS) grants, several communities began to develop a volunteer tutoring program. Initially, there was no ongoing funding for



these groups. However, in the fall of 1995, the BC government (in partnership with the NLS) hosted a consultation with the field to determine how the monies for the provincial portion of the federal-provincial cost-shared literacy program could be allocated. The provincial portion is \$700,000. There were several other commitments to be considered, but it was agreed that the bulk of that provincial portion - about \$400,000 annually would go to assist community groups.

Well-established groups, such as Literacy Nanaimo (see *Networks*, Fall 1999) and Project Literacy Victoria, are eligible for the maximum assistance grant of \$25,000. Literacy Nanaimo has received an annual grant of this amount since 1997 as well as some additional literacy project funding from the NLS. Public acknowledgment of these funds is expected as a condition of the grants.

This letter is in no way meant to diminish the efforts or great success Literacy Nanaimo and other groups have had in their creative fund-raising efforts. However, I don't want your readers to think there is no government funding for literacy work in BC. There may not be enough to meet all of the various needs, but I think that the evidence I have presented shows that there is a substantial commitment nevertheless.

Sincerely,

Audrey M. Thomas
Education Officer



Developmental Programs
BC Ministry of Advanced
Education, Training and
Technology

Tips for a plan of study and preparation for the GED test

GED candidates can prepare themselves and GED instructors can facilitate preparation by continuing to devote time to reading, using and evaluating maps, graphs, charts, tables, diagrams, cartoons and photographs. Materials should be from a variety of sources and scopes of interests - world, national, regional and local. Students need to practice reading and using visuals to understand history, geography, government and economics - as well as to understand and respond to current events and issues.

[Taken from *Inside Education*, June 1999 edition, printed by the Alberta Correctional Education Association. The article was written by Joyce Hoover, social studies test specialist for the GED Testing Service.]



LitPals (Literacy Partners and Listening Scribes)

by Trish Harrison, ABE Fundamental Instructor and Project Literacy West Kootenay Coordinator

LitPals was a partnership with Selkirk College Fundamental ABE students at the Trail Campus, BC Project Literacy West Kootenay tutors, and Kiro Manor, a long term care facility in Trail that is within walking distance of our college. At first, I planned to use only trained tutors as scribes, but I then decided to see if some of the fundamental ABE students in the class I teach would be interested in becoming scribes. A small group of four students were keen to try. We'd been meeting as a group in a weekly writing group, so had developed a good sense of group and had a ground-work of basic writing skills. We did some preparatory talking about questioning techniques and recording stories. We came up with an initial question sheet to provide a guide for the first meeting and to keep the sessions "on track".

Our first session at Kiro was an orientation to the facility and a tour. Students were given some important information about working with seniors and the philosophy of the residence. Students were asked to sign an agreement as volunteers. This aspect of volunteerism was new for some students - and provided an additional plus aside from literacy gains, to the program. Two students thought they might like to work with seniors (as a paid job) and the volunteer experience has been especially valuable for them.

Some sessions flowed better than others for the students. Some seniors were challenging and drawing out their stories was not easy. Others stories flowed, but following them presented a challenge! However, as Zlata, a scribe said "I liked doing these stories. I worked very hard to make a nice story. It was better than always writing about myself."

At first, the scribes seemed ill at ease. But, after several sessions their comfort level increased and so did their enjoyment. One day, Jacqueline, a scribe, worked with two seniors together. Later she agreed that if she'd been told that she'd ever work with two seniors at a time she wouldn't have believed she could do it! But later she said, "We should do group things!"



Between sessions, students worked hard revising and editing their notes, and then doing the stories on the computer. This supported all the skills being worked on in the classroom. A collection of stories has been gathered. The recreation therapist would like residents to sign a release form before any of their stories are published. The stories turned out well, but more value has resulted from the process of writing, than from the product. Not only have my students' literacy skills benefited, but also we have provided a wonderful opportunity for seniors to share their stories and have visits with people. We hope to continue this project next fall.

Note: LitPals did continue in the fall, and it continued to be an enjoyable and educational way to involve seniors and students as co-learners. Our ABE class has been fortunate in an application to receive funding to host a learner event "A Celebration of Stories". With this funding, we plan to publish the stories, and to host an event at the senior's facility to celebrate the partnership between the college and Kiro Manor. I'd recommend that other groups consider embarking on such a project. It is wonderful to involve different generations - and to develop partnerships in the community. To contact Trish Harrison, Email : trishharrison@hotmail.com



by Pascale Soucy, Communication Coordinator

We have grown a lot in the past year! Not only do we have more employees to better serve you, we are also developing new products and services. Look for these in the year 2000!

Our mandate remains the same: to provide information, resources and services to adult literacy and language learning programs via practitioners working in Deaf, Native, Francophone, Anglophone and second language learning communities in Ontario. When we refer to practitioners, we include tutors, instructors, trainers, volunteers and researchers.

Our literacy and second language learning services include:

Information services:

Consultation: general information, requests and referrals provided by trained staff

Electronic information: a Web site that explains our range of services at <http://alphaplus.ca>

Publications: a newsletter, Quick-Lists and a Guide to Literacy Services in Ontario

Resources:

Library collections:

- a general collection and a learner collection that include books, software and audio/visual material available for loan to individuals or as mini-collections to organizations
- a periodicals collection which can be used on-site

On-line communication:

- AlphaCom: a discussion system accessible through our Web site at <http://alphaplus.ca>

Web-based resources:

- AlphaBase: a listing of organizations involved in the literacy and ESL fields in Ontario

- AlphaCat: a catalogue of library materials

- AlphaPlus Index to Literacy and ESL Web sites and resources

Distance Education: the AlphaRoute project, that will be launched in September 2000

Support services:

Technical Support: access to technical support on basic computer use at 1 (877) 772-2345.

Field Outreach: a team of field consultants acting as liaison between Centre AlphaPlus Centre and its communities Professional development, research support and curriculum development available through our information and resources services.

Centre AlphaPlus Centre, 2040 Yonge Street, 3rd Floor, Toronto ON M4S 1Z9

Tel: 1 (800) 788-1120 TTY: 1 (800) 788-1912
<http://alphaplus.ca>

Or, send me an email at:
psoucy@alphaplus.ca

Cool URLs

Quia ! Create your own learning activities
<http://www.quia.com/>

The Literacy Bookshelf

Guide to Literacy Services in Ontario (2000)

Centre AlphaPlus Centre

A guide that was created from the information in AlphaBase, the online listing of organisations involved in the literacy and ESL fields in Ontario developed by Centre AlphaPlus Centre. Provides easy access to information about adult literacy organisations in Ontario.

Contact: Centre AlphaPlus Centre, 2040 Yonge Street, 3rd floor, Toronto ON M4S 1Z9
Tel. (416) 975-1404 or 1-800-788-1116
Fax (416) 975-4608 or 1-800-788-1417
info@alphaont.ca
<http://alphaplus.ca>

Inside Out, Kit

Correctional Service of Canada (CSC)

Teacher's Kit designed for high school students, containing a series of fun and fact-based learning activities that encourages students to take a fresh look at the criminal justice system. Focuses on corrections and conditional release, looks at what happens to an offender after he's behind bars. Includes comprehensive teachers' notes and interactive components such as a video, student activities, handouts and other classroom resources.

Contact: SCC, Communications and Consultations Sector, 340 Laurier Avenue West, 7th floor, Ottawa ON K1A 0P9,
Fax (613) 947-0091,
<http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca>

Read to Me®, Freeware

Hawaii Education Literacy Project

Read to Me® is a text-to-speech program that reads Web Pages; allows you to customize the pronunciation of mispronounced words; reads text from the Windows® Clipboard, Microsoft Word®, text files, or the Internet; highlights words or sentences while reading; allows you to customize Reading Speed, Pitch and Volume and to choose from five Talking Heads; looks up word definitions, etc.

Contact: Mr. Hayden, President, Hawaii Education Literacy Project (HELP): chrishayden@telebot.com
<http://www.helpread.com>

Adult Literacy Educator Skills List (1999)

by Mary Ellen Belfiore

A composite list of skills and knowledge of literacy educators in Ontario. Consists of seven individual categories of skills, each of which details underlying knowledge and understanding, and related general awareness. Intended to describe the skills and knowledge of adult literacy practitioners who instruct on a paid or volunteer basis, in a full-time or minimally half-time position.

Contact: Ontario Literacy Coalition (OLC), 365 Bloor Street East, Suite # 1003, Toronto ON M4W 3L4
Tel. (416) 963-5787, Fax (416) 963-8102.

Best Program Practices Self-Evaluation Kit Pilot Phase (1999)

Saskatchewan Literacy Network (SLN)

A framework to help programs examine their practice, reflect upon it and see how things could be improved. The *Best Program Practices* are being formulated through a process of research and consultation, and are the ideal literacy activities. Thirteen key values or concepts have been identified; they are called standards and include indicators and sample measures.

Contact: SLN, 206-220-3rd Ave South, Saskatoon SK S7K 1M1
Tel. (306) 653-7368, Fax (306) 653-1704,
sklit@sk.sympatico.ca
<http://www.nald.ca/sklitnet.htm>

Also available online in NALD's *Full-Text Documents*.



Creative Arts Therapy Program: 1998-1999 Report and Evaluation (1999)

by Liza Miles-Husain & Sharen Johnston, Victoria READ Society

Project provided a program of creative arts therapy to literacy students at Victoria READ Society. Designed to offer students an opportunity to explore life issues through art in a group setting to facilitate awareness of behaviour or emotional issues which may interfere with the student's access to further training and future employment.

Contact: Victoria READ Society, 720 Linden Ave., Victoria BC V8V 4G7
Tel. (250) 388-7225, Fax (250) 386-8330,
info@readsociety.bc.ca
<http://www.readsociety.bc.ca/>
Online soon in the *NALD Literacy Collection*.

Exploring Adult Literacy, Electronic Journal

An evolving electronic journal intended to address the needs of adult literacy practitioners in adult basic education, family literacy and workplace literacy. A peer reviewed journal whose goal is to provide practical, research-based short articles on new ideas in the field as well as position papers, lesson plans, reviews, and an interactive forum for adult literacy providers.

Contact: Editor N. Boraks, Exploring Adult Literacy, Adult Learning Division, CRA Box 842020, Virginia Commonwealth University, School of Education, Richmond VA 23284-2020, USA,
nboraks@atlas.vcu.edu
<http://www.vcu.edu/eduweb/CRA/eal.html>

Handbook for Literacy Tutors (1999)

by Chris Harwood

A pilot edition intended to be a source of useful material to new or experienced tutors in any type of literacy program. Contents include: Overview of Literacy; Learners and Tutors; Introduction to Literacy and Numeracy; Accessibility Issues; Teaching Reading; Teaching Writing; Teaching Numeracy.

Contact: Ottawa-Carleton Coalition for Literacy, 107-211 Bronson Avenue, Ottawa ON K1R 6H5
Tel. (613) 233-3232, Fax (613) 0299
abc.line@sympatico.ca

Also available online in the *NALD Literacy Collection*.

Now I Know (1999)

Edited by Shelley O'Connor, Dawn Dugandzic and Lisette Jones

Presents stories written by adults involved in upgrading programs throughout the Western region of Nova Scotia. These stories tell of the learners' experiences with health-related issues, recounting the challenges and triumphs faced by them and their families during difficult times. Also contains a collection of informative articles outlining many common health concerns.

Contact: Shelburne County Learning Network, P.O. Box 209, Shelburne NS B0T 1W0
Tel. (902) 875-4272.

Online soon in the *NALD Literacy Collection*.

Spread the Word : How to Implement a Community Literacy Festival (1999)

by Cathy Rogers Stahr

The free, accessible day-long celebration featured readings by numerous well-known Canadian authors and many local writers. Visitors enjoyed story-telling, children's activities, entertainment, a celebrity book auction, an international food fair, a variety of exhibits, etc.

Contact: For more details and contact information, please see the front page article of this newsletter.



FRONTIER COLLEGE FRONTIÈRE

The federal government recently announced a major contribution to Canada's Frontier College.

The contribution includes:

- ◆ \$12 million to the Frontier College Learning Foundation (an endowment fund)
- ◆ \$3 million to enable Frontier College to organize teams of volunteer literacy tutors at every university in Canada.

This special contribution is being made in honour of Frontier College's 100 years of service to Canada and recognizes a number of unique characteristics about Frontier College:

- ◆ Canada-wide programs since 1899
- ◆ active in both official languages
- ◆ focus on youth and youth leadership development
- ◆ focus on knowledge, learning and literacy
- ◆ one of Canada's original voluntary organizations
- ◆ 100 years of sustained service

This contribution is being made by the government of Canada through the Human Resources Development Department. The funds are not being provided from the budget of the National Literacy Secretariat.

Since 1899, Frontier College teachers and literacy volunteers have worked in partnership with communities across Canada in support of our common commitment to literacy and education for all. This new support will enable Frontier to strengthen our national presence and increase our permanent network of literacy volunteers through our university chapters.

If you have any comments or questions about this announcement, please call me directly at 1-800-555-6523, ext. 306. For more information about Frontier College, please see our Website — www.frontiercollege.ca

John Daniel O'Leary
President, Frontier College



The Alberta Association for Adult Literacy Celebrates 20th Anniversary and Looks Ahead

by Dennis Fendall *

The Alberta Association for Adult Literacy (AAAL) is very proud to have just completed 20 years of excellent service in the province by supporting the efforts of individual literacy programs and educating many different groups about the literacy needs of Albertans.

As a final event to mark our anniversary, the Board and staff of AAAL participated in a retreat to assist in planning for the future of the association. The theme of the retreat was VISION 2020 - in other words - where have we been, where are we now and where are we going?

The first session of the retreat dealt with some of the history of the first 20 years of AAAL and involved discussion about the dedicated original «pioneers» of literacy who developed a vision for literacy in the province and forged ahead valiantly to actualize their vision.

The current Board and staff realize that they are responsible for ensuring

that the efforts of these early literacy workers is recognized and continued. The next session dealt with what AAAL is doing well and where it could be strengthened. Then the participants were involved in discussions and exercises to determine what people believed the association would be like in twenty years from now. There was a strong emphasis on awareness and caring.

Finally the group worked on belief statements about literacy and action goals for the next 6 months. The original intent was to agree on 3 action goals but agreement was reached to work on 9 action goals over the next 6 months. In addition our staff of 7 members - 3 full-time and 4 part-time have agreed to work on 3 goals each over the next 6 months.

All agreed that this was an exciting and challenging time to be involved in literacy and that many different groups throughout the world appear to be recognizing the importance of literacy in eradicating poverty and hunger.



**Dennis Fendall is the first Executive Director of AAAL. Dennis has an extensive background in literacy and numeracy and served most of his professional career with Calgary Catholic Schools as a teacher, principal, and central office administrator. During his years with Calgary Catholic, Dennis was seconded to The Calgary Learning Centre, where he was Executive Director for two years. Most recently, Dennis has worked on a number of projects as a private educational consultant.*

Learner's Corner



RESOURCES FOR LEARNERS

A Woman's Work, Vol. 1 (1999)

Vicky Hallett and Jan Weiten,
Vancouver Community College

The two volumes contain six short biographies of Canadian women who worked in the early part of the 20th century, written for adult literacy students reading at a Grade 4 to 6 level. Also included in the series is a Workbook with reading and writing exercises that relate to each section.

Contact: Basic Education Department, Vancouver Community College, King Edward Campus, PO Box 24620, Station F, Vancouver BC V5N 5T9
Tel. (604) 871-7369
Fax (604) 871-7367

Career Planning Guide for Adult Learners (1999)

Calvin Coish, College of the North Atlantic

Written for adult learners, this publication explores the world of work, occupations and career fields. Interspersed among the practical chapters that provide information about these topics, are the personal stories of five adults who talk about their school and work experiences.

Contact: College of the North Atlantic, PO Box 745, Grand Falls-Windsor NF A2A 2M4,
Tel. (709) 489-4317
<http://www.northatlantic.nf.ca/>

READING is more than phonics! A Parents' Guide for Reading with Beginning or Discouraged Readers (1995)

Vera Goodman

A common-sense book that uncovers some of the influences that affect a learner's progress. Teaches practical strategies and a vocabulary for helping others that goes beyond 'sound it out'.

Cost: \$13.95(+ GST, shipping and handling)
Contact: Vera Goodman, Reading Wings Inc.,
Phone/Fax 1-800-411-9660 or (403) 938-0142,
vgoodman@readingwings.com
<http://www.readingwings.com>

Eager to Learn: A Course on Family Literacy (1999)

Community Services Council (CSC) of Newfoundland and Labrador

Based on the belief that enrollment in ABE gives adult learners the unique ability to co-learn with their children or other young persons in their home environment. Also true for parents enrolled in support programs and community outreach services.

Contact: (CSC) R.E.A.D.Y. Centre, 365 Water St., 2nd Floor, PO Box 1191, St. John's NF A1C 5M9
Tel. (709) 726-4335
Fax (709) 726-7327
ready.scott@thezone.net
<http://www.csc.nf.net/index.htm>

If the School Fits , Video Capital Region Education Council

A 23-minute video that features 13 various-age learners from different agencies talking about their experiences in adult education. Has been used successfully nationwide (in the US) in student recruitment, student orientation, staff training, fund raising, and as curriculum.

Cost : \$10 US

Contact : Ajit Gopalakrishnan, Capitol Region Education Council Adult Training and Development Network, 111 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford CT 06106 USA,
Tel. (860) 524-4046
Fax (860) 246-3304,
<http://www.crec.org/atdn>



Learning for a Lifetime : Express Yourself - Personal Planner (1999) QUILL Network

Personal Planner produced as an organisational tool for learners, to raise awareness of literacy issues and to provide additional funding for local learning programs. Result of cooperation between the artistic community of Ontario, the federal government, and five regional literacy networks in Ontario.

Contact: QUILL Regional Literacy Network, Daytimer Order Desk, Box 1148, Walkerton ON N0G 2V0
Tel. (519) 881-4655
cindy@quillnet.org

Cool URLs

Learners Advisory Network
<http://www.literacy.ca/lan/lan.htm>

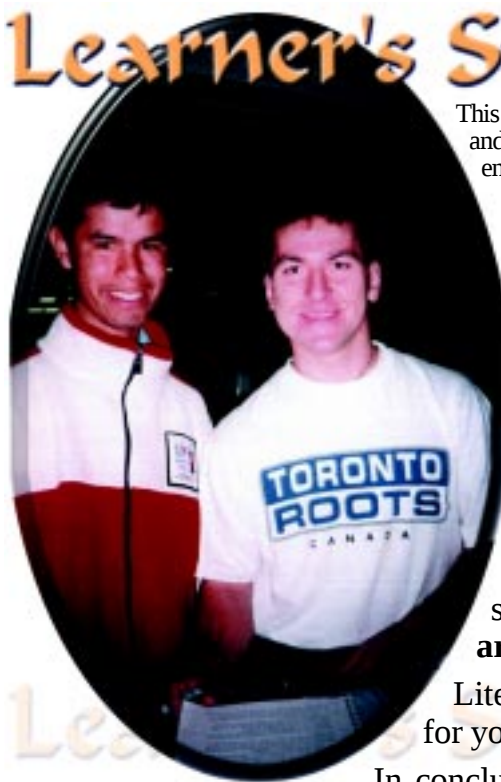
Find Learning Activities
<http://hub2.coe.utk.edu/gtelab/find.html>

PBS Adult Learning Service
<http://www.pbs.org/als/>

Learner's Story Learner's Story

This story was written by Eugene Miller, from Woodstock, Ontario. Eugene is a student at Woodstock and District Developmental Services, a nonprofit agency which provides a range of services designed to enable people with developmental disabilities to successfully participate in community life.

My Visit with Elvis Stojko by Eugene Miller



Well it was quite a day when I went to see Elvis Stojko in Barrie. I traveled to Barrie because of a contest that was held across Canada. I was really surprised when the sponsors from Coca Cola called my house to tell me I won a trip to see Elvis Stojko. He presented me with a fleece Roots Olympic Jacket, plus \$500 dollars to go towards a computer for the literacy program at Blossom Park.

I will remember this day for as long as I live. Seeing Elvis Stojko for the first time was very exciting. I felt very proud to win an essay contest such as this. The title of the contest was «**Why the Special Olympics are important to my family.**»

Literacy students: if you stick to your education many doors will be opened for you to experience more things.

In conclusion I would like to thank all those who helped me in the preparation of this essay. I really appreciated it. So thank you everyone.

[This story was taken with permission from *Keynotes*, published by Literacy Link South Central, Winter 1999 edition]

The battle for world literacy is too often a story of unsung heroes. That's one reason why the NALD newsletter will bring to you, on a regular basis, a list of those individuals, programs and organizations honoured with international, national and provincial recognition for outstanding work in the global literacy initiative.

National

Honourable Joyce Fairbairn, P.C. Literacy Public Awareness Award - 1999 Recipient : Royal Bank Charitable Foundation

Mary Isabel Mackey Award - 1999 Recipients :

Organizers - Janne Cleveland, U. of Victoria; Jessica Duguay, Bishop's University; Chantale Guillemette, U. of Sherbrooke; Karolina Hladik, U. of Winnipeg; Susannah Van Damme, U. of Toronto

Tutors/Reading Buddies - Jamie Hadden, U. of Victoria; Kelly Hepburn, Trent University; Denise Leung, U. of British Columbia; Shannon Slattery, U. of Toronto; Igor Tchoukarine, U. of Sherbrooke

Provincial

Alberta

Literacy Awards of Merit - 1999 Recipients

Administrator category: Carolyn Patterson, Librarian, Calgary Learning Centre

Program Coordinator : Sue Hansen (Goddard), former Alberta Literacy Help Ligne Coordinator

Student : Roger Pequin, Drayton Valley Literacy Society

Organization : Wayne Boss, Boss Consulting

Classroom Instructor : Dr. June Fiorito, Associate Professor and reading specialist, Canadian University College

Volunteer Tutor : James Shuel, Edson

Special Award : Yvette Souque, Program Consultant, NLS, Human Resources Development Canada

Manitoba

Lieutenant Governor's Medal for Literacy -

1999 Recipient : Cheryl Campbell, Winkler

Margaret Laurence Award - 1999

Recipients : Solange Constant, Urban winner; Warren Johnson, Rural winner

New Brunswick

Alpha Awards - 1999 Recipients :

Voluntary Service Organization Awards :

Conseil régional d'alpha

«Madawaska-Centre»

Volunteer Awards : Alban Arsenault - Avenir Alpha; Flora Atyeo - Minto Literacy Council; Rina Bossé - Projet «Clé» St-Joseph; Diane Hunt - Laubach Literacy NB

Alpha Award for Facilitator Excellence : Joe Felix - English Mission CASP; Roland Guitard (posthumous) - Noranda CREW; Terry Phillips - Carleton Literacy Council CASP; Françoise St-Amand - Formation de base St-Léonard

Student Award for Outstanding Individual

Achievement : Camille Arsenault, Avenir Alpha; Steven Hossack, John Howard Society CASP (Fredericton); Marie-Ange Bernier, Comité de formation de base Saint-Quentin; Nancy Kerfont, Saint John Learning Exchange CASP; Madeleine Brown, Partenariat Saint-André; Elizabeth O'Brien, Saint John Learning Exchange CASP; Yvonne Bulger, Partenariat Le Goulet I; Mary Sears, R.E.A.D. Saint John Ltd.; Aline Degraçe, Comité St-Jean-Baptiste "Alpha"; Vance Symes, Rexton & Area CASP; Albéo

Guay, Partenariat Drummond; John Waite, Dalhousie CASP; Mélina Levesque, Comité communautaire Mad-Vic; Wanda White, Saint John Learning Exchange CASP; Phebé Mallet, Partenariat Le Goulet.

Lieutenant-Governor's Award for Early Childhood Literacy : Sussex Regional Library

Nova Scotia

Patron for Literacy Award - 1999 Recipient : Sheree Fitch

Honourary Life Patron for Literacy Award : Senator Joyce Fairbairn

NSPLC Partnership Awards - 1999

Recipients : CBC Maritimes for «Street Cents» Literacy Segments; EastLink Community Television for «MathWorks» Provincial Pilot

NSPLC Literacy Initiative Awards 1999

Recipients : NS Department of Education & Culture for the «Community Learning Initiative» (CLI); Nova Learning for the NS Learner Award; The Co-operators for their computer technology distribution program

Quebec

LPQ Literacy Award - 1999 Recipient : Dennis Trudeau, Newswatch, CBC