



Vol 8 no 3

Websites Worth Remembering:

Ability Online

<http://www.ablelink.org/>

Canadian Association of Independent Living Centres (CAILC)

<http://www.cailc.ca/>

EnableLink - Canadian Abilities Foundation

<http://www.enablelink.org/>

Canadian Centre on Disability Studies

<http://www.disabilitystudies.ca/>

Adaptech

<http://adaptech.dawsoncollege.qc.ca/>

NB Public Libraries Foundation

<http://www.librariesfoundation.ca/>

Adult Literacy Resource Institute (ALRI)

<http://alri.org/>

Word Search

<http://www.fwend.com/wordsearch.htm>

Succès NB Success

<http://www.snbs.gnb.ca/>

The Northern Edge

<http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/northernedge/>

Well-known Canadians

<http://schwinger.harvard.edu/~terning/Canadians/>

"Literacy for Independent Living": A New Literacy and Disability Online Resource

by Susan Forster*

The Canadian Association of Independent Living Centres (CAILC) is very proud to launch a new literacy and disability online resource, **ALiteracy for Independent Living®**.

CAILC is a national umbrella organization run by and for persons with a wide variety of disabilities. We have a network of 26 Independent Living Resource Centres across Canada with more Centres developing each year. Independent Living is a vision, a philosophy and a movement. It is founded on the right of people with disabilities to:

- Live with dignity in their chosen community;
- Participate in all aspects of their own lives; and
- Control and make decisions about their own lives.

This philosophy underlies all the work that we do, including national projects on employment, social policy, crime prevention, literacy and other disability related issues. Literacy for Independent Living (LIL) is an example of one such national project.

The LIL site is currently hosted by the National Adult Literacy Database (NALD) and it is housed on the main CAILC website. LIL's accessible website offers online literacy resources for facilitators working with adult learners with disabilities and it

includes information on assistive devices and disability awareness.

Funded by the National Literacy Secretariat, LIL was the result of a two-year CAILC national project conducted in



Charles Ramsey, Executive Director of NALD, Susan Forster, National Project Manager at LIL/CAILC, Steve Estey, first literacy consultant for the CAILC/NALD project

partnership with NALD. NALD provided the technical and web design expertise and we provided the content, in consultation with our member Centres and a project Advisory Committee. We also surveyed 265 literacy organizations across the country early in the project to find out what kinds of information literacy practitioners would like to see on the site.

Although the online resources found on LIL are exciting, they are limited in number. The reality is that there are numerous gaps in literacy and disability

...continued on page 2



Networks

The **NALD** Newsletter
Vol 8 no 3
2003
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:

The Editor
Networks
c/o NALD Inc.
Scovil House
703 Brunswick Street
Fredericton, New Brunswick
Canada E3B 1H8

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

resources, as this is a field where more work needs to be done in the future. However, we did find some real gems of information.

For example, there is a site from the UK called *A to Z Deafblindness* by James Gallagher (click on *Deaf-Blind* in the *Disability Awareness* section). Another gem is Pat Hatt's guide that outlines best practices on assessment procedures for literacy practitioners whose students are adult learners with cognitive, learning, mobility, psychiatric or sensory disabilities. To find Pat Hatt's guide on the LIL website, click on the *Literacy Information and Resources* button, go to *Learning Disabilities* and then choose *Best Practices*.

Also on the site are: initiatives and strategies on literacy for adult learners with disabilities; more best practices; tools for literacy practitioners who teach adult learners with disabilities; funding for literacy programs and for assistive devices; training and support for assistive devices; etiquette towards people with disabilities and more.

We launched LIL in Ottawa on April 12, 2003 at a CAILC national conference. Dr. Frances A. Power, the current Literacy Consultant for the project, and Charles Ramsey, the Executive Director of NALD, walked us through the website's different sections. Then we sent an information sheet via e-mail to numerous organizations across Canada, to the United States and to the United Kingdom to advertise LIL.

In July 2003 we were very pleased to be informed by the National Literacy Secretariat that more funding was available to continue our work. In the next phase of the project, we will be adding enhancements to the LIL site. For example, while there are many exciting initiatives taking place in several provinces, there is currently no

information available nationally on the accessibility of literacy programs. With this in mind, we plan to add a database to the site with information on the accessibility of literacy programs across Canada. We will also develop a Resource Guide on literacy and disability issues. In late 2004 we plan to host a national literacy and disability symposium to bring together staff from our Centres and representatives from the literacy community so that we can learn from and share with each other.

With these activities we hope to raise awareness, and ultimately our goal is for more persons with disabilities to be able to access literacy programs in their communities. NALD is continuing as our partner on Literacy for Independent Living and we are also pleased that the Movement for Canadian Literacy is going to support us as well.

The creation of this site is innovative: LIL is the first bilingual centralized online library that houses resources on literacy and disabilities. With LIL we have collected up-to-date resources that are useful and respect the Independent Living philosophy that CAILC and its member Centres espouse. LIL came online in May 2003. You can access LIL at <http://www.cailc.ca/lil> or to view it in French go to <http://www.accva.ca/ava>

If you have already heard of our site then we welcome your comments and feedback! If you are not familiar with LIL then check out our resources on literacy and disability.

Contact : *Susan Forster, National Project Manager, CAILC, 1104 170 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa ON K1P 5V5, Tel. (613) 563-2581 ext. 14, Fax (613) 563-3861, TTY (613) 563-4215 projects@cailc.ca
<http://www.cailc.ca/lil>

NALD Networks Production Team

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NALD would like to thank CAILC (ON), Cape Breton Literacy Network (NS), Community Literacy of Ontario (ON), LAPS (AB), Ontario Literacy Coalition (ON), Literacy Alberta (AB), CASP (NB), Centre de formation pour adultes francophones (ON), the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (QC) and Le Tour de lire (QC), who gave us the opportunity to use their photographs and graphics within this newsletter.

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The CBLN, recognizing that literacy is fundamental to lifelong learning, responds to the needs of adult learners.

The **Cape Breton Literacy Network Association** (CBLNA) works in partnership with The Community Learning Association North of Smokey (CLANS), the Cape Breton Victoria Regional School Board (CBVRSB) and the Nova Scotia Community College's Marconi Campus to deliver the adult education programs that make up the Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning (NSSAL) in the Cape Breton region.

Other than the one on one tutoring opportunities offered to local residents by Laubach Literacy volunteers, the Cape Breton Literacy Network Association is the only provider of pre-high school level upgrading programs for adults in the Cape Breton region, south of Cape Smokey.

The Cape Breton Literacy Network Association provides free upgrading classes for all adults 19 years of age and over, who have been out of school for at least one year and who wish to improve their reading, writing, math and technology skills. Before beginning classes, students are informally assessed to determine their skill levels and helped to identify their learning goals. Qualified instructors follow the Nova Scotia Adult Learning Program, Levels 1 and 2 (grades 1 - 8) in all classes. Completion of Level 2 can lead to admission to the Level 3 program at the Nova Scotia Community College or the CBVRSB Adult High Schools and eventually to achievement of the Nova

Scotia High School Diploma for Adults. Both daytime and evening classes are available; and there is a choice of full-time and part-time classes. Classes run from October to May and may be started at any time.

Each year a significant number of adults participate in CBLNA programs and achieve a wide variety of outcomes: along with an improved quality of personal life, many move on to higher level educational programs and/or to employment. Programs offered by the CBLNA thus have a significant impact upon Cape Breton communities.

This school year, 2003-2004, CBLNA will

literacy instructors and the general public, along with access to meeting space and training opportunities. In addition, CBLNA has a strong history of developing partnerships with a wide range of other community agencies and organizations in order to advance the work of both partners. The work of the CBLNA has led to greater awareness of literacy issues in the region. CBLNA also provides volunteer opportunities for community members who are interested in working with adult students under the direction and supervision of an instructor.

Volunteer tutor application forms are available at any CBLNA Learning Centre or interested persons can call 564-8404 for more information.

The Cape Breton Literacy Network (CBLN) was organized in 1989 by the Nova Scotia Department of Education's Adult Education Coordinator to provide a forum for those interested in literacy issues to network and seek solutions to community concerns. The Cape Breton Literacy Network Association (CBLNA) is the corporate entity responsible for the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Network. In September, 1999, it was registered with Nova Scotia Joint Stocks as a non-profit society and also became a federally registered charitable organization at that time. The Network/Network Association has been sponsoring community based adult upgrading classes in the Cape Breton region since 1993.

For more information, contact :
Cape Breton Literacy Network,
P.O. Box 1283
Sydney, NS B1P 6J9
Tel. (902) 5645667
Fax (902) 5648403
Email: cbln@ns.sympatico.ca
<http://www.nald.ca/cbln/>



"Keith Fougere, Jody Guillena, and Frank Barter, Sydney Day Class students, display results of a class computer project."

offer a total of 11 full/part-time programs in five Cape Breton region communities: Glace Bay, Sydney, New Waterford, North Sydney and Baddeck. These classes will begin on September 29 and run until the end of May 2004. More than 150 adults are currently registered for these classes. Anyone interested in obtaining more information about CBLNA programs can call the Sydney Adult Learning Centre at 564-8404.

A literacy resource centre is located at the Sydney Adult Learning Centre at 216 Charlotte Street for the use of

Cool URLs

Saint John Family Literacy Committee
<http://www.nald.ca/sjfamilit/>

Literacy Exchange:
World Resources on Literacy
<http://www.literacyexchange.net/>

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

Internationally...

Dec 3, 2003

Annual Policy Conference - Making the Learning Community a Reality - London UK

Org: NIACE

Contact: NIACE, Renaissance House, 20 Princess Road West, Leicester, LE1 6TP, UK
Tel: +44 (0)116 204 4200
Fax: +44 (0)116 285 4514
<http://www.niace.org.uk>

Dec 4 - 5, 2003

Independent Language Learning: New Research Directions - Milton Keynes UK

Org: The Open University

Contact: The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1908 274066
Fax: +44 (0) 1908 653744
general-enquiries@open.ac.uk

Dec 4, 2003

Training Session - Barrie ON Canada

Org: Barrie Literacy Council

Contact: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network, 69 Mary Street, Barrie, ON L4N 1T2
Tel: (705) 730-1414
Fax: (705) 730-1416
simcoe.muskoka@literacynetwork.ca
<http://www.nald.ca/smln.htm>

Dec 7 - 10, 2003

2003 Workplace Learning Conference - Chicago IL USA

Org: Institute for Work and the Economy

Contact: Maureen Rosenberg, Research Associate, Northern Illinois University, 148 N. Third Street, DeKalb, IL 60115, USA
Tel: (815) 753-2090
Fax: (815) 753-2305
mrosenbe@niu.edu
<http://www.workplace-learning.net>

January 7 - 10, 2004

BETT 2004: The Educational Technology Show - Teaching and Learning with ICT - London, UK

Org:

Contact: The BETT Show, United Kingdom
Telephone: +44 (0)20 8339 7446
Fax: +44 (0)20 8339 7441
bettpr@livewirepr.com
<http://www.bettshow.com>

Jan 29 - 31, 2004

Technology, Reading & Learning Difficulties (TRLTD) Conference - San Francisco CA, USA

Org: Technology, Reading and Learning Disabilities

Contact: Educational Computer Conferences, Inc., 19 Calvert Court, Piedmont, CA 94611 USA
Tel: (510) 594-1249
Fax: (888) 594-1249

Feb 7 - 10, 2004

AACTE: Preparing Quality Professionals: Leading the Way - New York NY USA

Org: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

Contact: AACTE
1307 New York Ave., NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC, 20005-4701 USA

March 5 - 9, 2004

2004 Annual Conference - Embracing Dialog for Improved Services - Tampa, FL, USA

Org: National Association for Adults with Special Learning Needs (NAASLN)

Contact: NAASLN, c/o Correctional Education Association, 4380 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, MD 20706 USA
Tel: 800-496-9222
<http://www.naasln.org>

Within Canada...

Dec 1 - 3, 2003

A-LAPS Facilitator Training session - Edmonton AB

Org: Literacy Alberta

Contact: Lauren MacKenzie, Literacy Alberta, #302, 1300 - 8 Street SW, Calgary, AB T2R 1B2
Tel: (403) 410-1501/410-6990
Fax: (403) 410-9024
lmackenzie@bowvalleycollege.ca
<http://www.literacy-alberta.ca>

Dec 10 - 11, 2003

Bookmates Rock and Read - Winnipeg MB

Org: Bookmates Inc.

Contact: Ms. Barbara Thomasson, Bookmates Inc, St. John's Library, 500 Salter Street, Winnipeg, MB R2W 4M5
Tel: (204) 582-1804

Dec 11, 2003

Training Session - Barrie ON

Org: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network

Contact: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network, 69 Mary Street, Barrie, ON L4N 1T2
Tel: (705) 730-1414
Fax: (705) 730-1416
simcoe.muskoka@literacynetwork.ca
<http://www.nald.ca/smln.htm>

Jan 12 - 13, 2004

Third Pan-Canadian E-learning Workshop - Vancouver BC

Org: CANARIE

Contact: Catherine Power, CANARIE, 110 O'Connor Street - 4th Floor, Ottawa, ON K1P 5M9
Tel: (613) 943-5434
Fax: (613) 943-5443
catherine.power@canarie.ca
<http://www.canarie.ca>

Jan 14 - 15, 2004

Finding A Teacher Training Workshop - Winnipeg MB

Org: Parent-Child Mother Goose Program

Contact: Dianne Blewett, The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program, 720 Bathurst St., Suite 402, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2R4
Tel: (204) 474-1513
Fax: (416) 588-1355
<http://www.nald.ca/mothergooseprogram/workshop.htm>

Jan 22, 2004

13th Annual Bonspiel - Toronto ON

Org: Frontier College

Contact: Sandi Kiverago, Frontier College, 35 Jackes Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4T 1E2, Canada
Tel: (416) 923.3591
Fax: (416) 323.3522
Toll Free: 1.800.555.6523
skiverago@frontiercollege.ca
<http://www.frontiercollege.ca>

Jan 22 - 24, 2004

Improving reading in the workplace: An innovative approach - Kitchener, ON

Org: Centre for Literacy of Quebec

Contact: The Centre for Literacy of Quebec, 3040 Sherbrooke Street West, Room 4B.1-6 Montreal, QC H3Z 1A4
Tel: (514) 931-8731, local 1415
Fax: (514) 931-5181
literacycntr@dawsoncollege.qc.ca
<http://www.nald.ca/litcent.htm>

Jan 27, 2004

Family Literacy Day - all of Canada

Org: ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation

Contact: ABC CANADA, 1450 Don Mills Road, Don Mills, ON M3B 2X7
Tel: (416) 442-2998
Toll Free: 1-800-303-1004
<http://www.nald.ca/literacyevents/flid.asp?lang=1>

Jan 27, 2004

"Food for Thought" celebrity

luncheon - Winnipeg MB

Org: Literacy Partners of Manitoba
Contact: Marg Rose, LPM, Grain Exchange Building, Room 998-167 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0V3

Tel: (204) 947-LPLP (947-5757)

Fax: (204) 956-9315

literacy@mts.net

<http://www.mb.literacy.ca>

Jan 27, 2004

Training Session - Barrie ON

Org: Barrie Literacy Council

Contact: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network, 69 Mary Street, Barrie, ON L4N 1T2

Tel: (705) 730-1414

Fax: (705) 730-1416

simcoe.muskoka@literacynetwork.ca

<http://www.nald.ca/smln.htm>

January 31, 2004

Training Session - Barrie ON

Org: Barrie Literacy Council

Contact: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network, 69 Mary Street, Barrie, ON L4N 1T2

Tel: (705) 730-1414

Fax: (705) 730-1416

simcoe.muskoka@literacynetwork.ca

<http://www.nald.ca/smln.htm>

Feb 1 - 29, 2004

I Love to Read month - Provincially in Manitoba Canada

Org: Literacy Partners of Manitoba

Contact: Marg Rose, Executive Director, LPM, Grain Exchange Building, Room 998-167 Lombard Avenue Winnipeg, MBR3B 0V3

Tel: (204) 947-LPLP (947-5757)

Fax: (204) 956-9315

literacy@mts.net

<http://www.mb.literacy.ca>

Feb 2 - 3, 2004

Teaching Reading to Adults - Montreal PQ

Org: Centre for Literacy of Quebec

Contact: Maureen Hankin, CLQ, 3040 Sherbrooke Street West, Room 4B.1-6 Montreal, QC H3Z 1A4

Tel: (514) 931-8731, local 1415

Fax: (514) 931-5181

literacycntr@dawsoncollege.qc.ca

<http://www.nald.ca/litcent.htm>

February 3, 2004

Training Session - Barrie ON

Org: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network

Contact: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network, 69 Mary Street, Barrie, ON L4N 1T2

Tel: (705) 730-1414

Fax: (705) 730-1416

simcoe.muskoka@literacynetwork.ca

<http://www.nald.ca/smln.htm>

Feb 7, 2004

Training Session - Online Barrie ON

Org: Barrie Literacy Council

Contact: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network, 69 Mary Street, Barrie, ON L4N 1T2

Tel: (705) 730-1414

Fax: (705) 730-1416

simcoe.muskoka@literacynetwork.ca

<http://www.nald.ca/smln.htm>

Feb 10, 2004

Training Session - Barrie ON

Org: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network

Contact: Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network, 69 Mary St., Barrie, ON, L4N 1T2

Tel: (705) 730-1414

Fax: (705) 730-1416

simcoe.muskoka@literacynetwork.ca

<http://www.nald.ca/smln.htm>

Feb 22 - 28, 2004

Freedom to Read Week - All of Canada

Org: Book and Periodical Council (BPC)

Contact: Sarah Thring, BPC, 192 Spadina Avenue, Suite 107 Toronto, ON M5T 2C2

Tel: 416 975-9366

Fax: 416 975-1839

publicity@freedomtoread.ca

<http://www.freedomtoread.ca/index.htm>

Feb 27 - 28, 2004

Links to Learning: Linking Quality Teaching To Success for All Learners

- Toronto, ON

Org: OISE

Contact: The Learning Consortium
252 Bloor Street West, Suite 8-202
Toronto, ON M5S 1V6

Tel: 416-923-6641 x2078

Fax: 416-926-4727

learning_consortium@oise.utoronto.ca

<http://fcis.oise.utoronto.ca/%7Elearning/>

Mar 1, 2004

Community Dance - Parkdale ON

Org: Parkdale Project Read

Contact: Parkdale Project Read, 160A Springhurst Ave, Parkdale, ON

Tel: 416-531-6308

Fax: 416-531-5710

projectread2@bellnet.ca

<http://www.nald.ca/ppr/>

Mar 11 -12, 2004

Casino - Edmonton AB Canada

Org: Centre for Family Literacy

Contact: Centre for Family Literacy
201-11456 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton,
Alberta, T5K 0M1, Canada

cfla@elit.ca

<http://famlit.ca>



Community Literacy of Ontario's Online Training in Foundational Family Literacy

NATIONAL FOUNDATIONAL TRAINING IN
FAMILY LITERACY:
A MADE-IN ONTARIO APPROACH!

In consultation with a pan-Canadian team of experts from universities and family literacy organizations from across Canada, the Centre for Family Literacy developed national *Foundational Training in Family Literacy*. The goals of this foundational training are to provide a common knowledge base to family literacy practitioners across Canada and to give professional credibility to the field. This nationally recognized training is now being offered across Canada by various provincial organizations.

In an effort to offer this national training in family literacy to as many people as possible across Ontario and to acknowledge that different people have diverse training needs and styles, CLO and the OLC are offering the national *Foundational Training in Family Literacy* using two different modes of delivery. CLO will provide this foundational training once per month from January to June 2004 via a series of six live, online, interactive training seminars. OLC will offer a week-long face-to-face institute from Friday, July 23 to Wednesday, July 28, 2004 in Barrie, Ontario.

Community Literacy of Ontario

80 Bradford Street, Suite 508 ● Barrie, Ontario ● L4N 6S7

Tel: 705-733-2312 ● Fax: 705-733-6197 ● E-mail: clo@bellnet.ca

For more information about CLO's online training, please contact either Joanne Kaattari (kaattari@bellnet.ca) or Vicki Trotter (vtrott@ntl.sympatico.ca).

LAPS Celebration

by *Elaine Cairns & Laureen MacKenzie



The **Literacy & Parenting Skills** Program (LAPS) is celebrating the certification of LAPS trainers across Canada. LAPS facilitator training can now be delivered in communities from the Yukon to Nova Scotia.

The LAPS program co-authored in 1996 by Laureen MacKenzie & Elaine Cairns is designed to assist parents to improve their parenting skills while also working on their

literacy skill development. In addition the program encourages parents to model good literacy practices to their children and gives them strategies to assist their children to prepare for school. Among the many topics covered by LAPS are *How to Build Self-Esteem in your Children, Anger Management, Nutrition, Listening Skills and Positive Discipline.*

Over the last six years over a thousand people have been trained and oriented to the program by the LAPS authors. Now with trainers situated in local communities the program can more easily be adapted to meet regional needs and more facilitators can be trained to deliver the program.

Interest in the training has come from a wide cross-section of fields including day-care/head-start programs, health agencies, schools, family resource centres, immigrant-serving agencies and first nations groups. The high demand for the training created the need to train and certify LAPS trainers. Trainer applicants were screened using comprehensive criteria including literacy instruction and parent education expertise, completion of previous facilitator training and experience in delivering workshops in a community setting. Successful applicants participated in advanced training sessions, delivered a LAPS facilitator training in their region, and completed a number of assignments designed to demonstrate their knowledge of LAPS plus parent and literacy education. After the completion of this comprehensive process trainers were certified to deliver LAPS facilitator-training workshops. Typical comments about the training include: AThe training sessions were useful and very informative; ALots of really excellent information and networking; AI really enjoyed the training and found the LAPS material well laid out@.

For information about the Literacy & Parenting Skills Program, or to book a facilitator training in your area please contact :

*Elaine Cairns or Laureen MacKenzie,
LAPS Program Authors and Directors,
Bow Valley College,
332 6 Ave SE
Calgary AB
T2G 4S6
Tel. (403) 410-1501
Fax (403) 2974949
mackenzie@bowvalleycollege.ca or ecairns@bowvalleycollege.ca
<http://www.nald.ca/laps/>

BLAST

The **BUREAU OF LEARNERS**
From **ALBERTA SPEAKERS TEAM**

BLAST Courage. Determination. Perseverance. These are the qualities adult students often display on their literacy journeys. The members of the Bureau of Learners from Alberta Speakers Team (BLAST) are trained professional speakers with engaging and inspiring stories about their literacy experiences.

All BLAST members are literacy students. They speak in their local communities at :

- Schools
- Service clubs
- Churches
- Community agencies
- Conferences
- Training sessions

A BLAST presentation can be tailored to suit the needs and interests of many audiences. The BLAST facilitator will work hand in hand with you to create a BLAST speech that will enhance your:

- Presentations
- Programs
- Client services
- Funding opportunities
- Community connections

If you are interested in seeing a video about the BLAST project or if you want to book a speech from a BLAST member, contact Literacy Alberta at 1-800-767-3231.

BLAST speakers=words will linger with you long after you hear them.

Cool URLs

Active Young Readers

<http://ayr.ednet.ns.ca/>

Dave's ESL Café

<http://www.eslcafe.com/>

Interesting Things for ESL Students

<http://www.manythings.org/>

The Adult Learners Network of Ontario (ALNO)

by Patricia Brady*, OLC Learner Coordinator

The **Ontario Literacy Coalition (OLC)** has a new learners' advisory body. It replaces the old OLC Learners' Council.

The new body is called the **Adult Learners Network of Ontario** or ALNO. (They call themselves the 'all knowing' ones!) It is involved in almost everything that the OLC does. This group helps the OLC to see issues from the perspective of people who have literacy challenges.

ALNO does this by:

- Promoting the exchange of information among ALNO members, as well as between ALNO and OLC members, staff, Board and others. The OLC Board gets advice from ALNO when drafting the policies and procedures of the organization.
- Letting the OLC know about the needs and interests of people with literacy challenges when OLC is researching what the literacy field needs to support its work. It also gives this advice when OLC is developing and carrying out projects.
- Reviewing OLC's progress in including the voice of people with literacy challenges in all aspects of OLC work
- Taking part in OLC meetings such as the Advisory Roundtable meetings with regional and sectoral networks
- Sending a representative to the Movement for Canadian Literacy's Learners Advisory Network

ALNO works with the OLC in other ways. Other ALNO activities include: staffing the OLC booth at Word on the Street Fair,

participating in workshop and conference development and planning, presenting at OLC events, and making contributions to OLC publications such as newsletters and information flyers.

ALNO also encourages learner leadership activity in the OLC through the Kim Strickland Learner Leader Sponsorship Program. This annual program sponsors two learners to the meetings and events around the OLC Annual General Meeting. The program helps people who are interested in literacy to see what provincial literacy volunteer work is like. ALNO hopes that this will encourage the sponsorship winners to continue to volunteer in literacy when they get home, or get involved with the OLC in the future.

The eight people on ALNO represent different areas of the province. To be an ALNO member you must be:

- living in Ontario
- over 18 years old
- a member of the people with literacy challenges membership category of the OLC
- comfortable with others knowing about your literacy challenges



Top Row, Left to Right: Patricia Ashie, Denis Lemieux, Sandy Johnston, Shirley Annable, Bev McKay.

Bottom Row, Left to Right: Dan McGibbon, Peter Fitzpatrick, Donna Lovell.

- interested in the OLC, literacy and issues that affect those who have literacy challenges
- able to serve a three-year term that starts and ends at an OLC Annual General Meeting
- able to travel to and from ALNO meetings

Members of ALNO are selected by a committee that is made up of the OLC Board, staff and ALNO members. Nomination forms for vacant ALNO positions will be available in the spring of 2004.

*For more information about ALNO and the Ontario Literacy Coalition, please visit the OLC website at: <http://www.on.literacy.ca> or contact Patricia Brady, OLC Learner Coordinator at patricia@on.literacy.ca

Teaching
Tips

Some ideas that you can try when teaching low-literate students:

- Help low-literate students develop fine motor skills with hands-on activities, including cutting, poster-making, etc. This allows all students to participate and produce actively, regardless of level.
- Pair or group students with mixed ability levels. Make sure all students have a role to play (more literate students can be "secretary" while beginning students can contribute orally, visually, etc).
- Organize your lessons around the content and themes that are important and new to all students (i.e. content-based). For example, when I teach a math or social studies lesson, the skills and content are the same for all students, yet I can design different reading/writing activities and outcome expectations for students depending on their literacy level. Students might study a map of the town or city you live in, for example.

[Source : nifl-esl listserve]

The Literacy Bookshelf

Moving the Markers: New Perspectives on Adult Literacy Rates in Canada (2003)

by Susan Sussman

A report that explores demographic patterns among Canadian adults with low literacy skills. Research based on the premise that demographic information about people with the lowest literacy skill level can be used to develop more effective and efficient literacy policies and programs.

Contact: Movement for Canadian Literacy (MCL), Suite 300, 180 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa ON K2P 1P5
Tel. (613) 563-2464, Fax (613) 563-2504
mcl@literacy.ca
<http://www.literacy.ca>

Nursing in a New Language (2002)

Lynx Publishing

An ESL textbook designed to help nursing students master the English language skills needed to work in an English-speaking environment or to communicate with English-speaking patients in their own countries. Divided into 20 lessons that cover different types of literature and health topics using language true to real life.

Cost: \$39.95

Contact: Monika Jankowska, Centre AlphaPlus Centre
Tel. (416) 322-1012 ext. 117
Fax (416) 322-0780, TTY (416) 322-5751
mjankowska@alphaplus.ca
<http://www.alphaplus.ca>

Building Community Literacy from the Ground Up (2003)

Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy

A manual that relates the story of the development and collaboration of family literacy and other programs across the Columbia Basin, British Columbia. Provides an example of community and program development that may be useful to other communities wishing to build cooperative movements around specific community issues.

Contact: Jennifer Cliff-Marks, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, P.O. Box 923, Nakusp BC V0G 1R0
Tel. (250) 265-3318, Fax (250) 265-3378,
jcliff-marks@thehub.literacy.bc.ca
<http://www.cbal.org>

Black Youth Literacy: A Guide for Program Development (2003)

Toronto ALFA Centre

Provides organizations and individuals with a framework and building blocks for program development. Contents include: findings from the original project research, a description of the EL.SI (Experiential Learning and Social Investigation) model used, suggestions for at least 50 activities with level descriptors and learning outcomes, intake and assessment tools, and three curriculum resource lists.

Cost: \$20

Contact: Toronto ALFA Centre, 1900 Davenport Road, Toronto ON M6N 1B7
Tel. (416) 652-3652

alfa@alfacentre.ca
<http://www.alfacentre.ca/>

We Are An Island: Cape Breton Island Social Studies Resource (2002)

by Julie Zatzman for the Cape Breton Literacy Network (CBLN)

Appropriate for use with local adult learners and supports the outcomes of the Nova Scotia Adult Learning Program. Consists of 7 units, some dealing with a specific geographical portion of the island. Also contains sections dealing with the geography of the area, its history and economic development, the culture of the area and appropriate learner authored writings.

Contact: CBLN, PO Box 1283, Sydney, NS B1P 6J9
Tel. (902) 564-5667, Fax (902) 564-8403
cbln@ns.sympatico.ca
<http://www.nald.ca/cbln/>

2003 Summer Literacy Institute - Final Report: Strengthening Communities (2003)

by Jean Rasmussen

Workshops covered topics as diverse as early brain development and population health; facilitating adult education; strategic planning for family literacy program development and sustainability, etc. An excellent opportunity to network with other literacy practitioners, and the majority of participants appreciated the opportunity to increase their professional knowledge. *Soon available online in NALD's Full Text Documents.*

Contact: Literacy BC, 601 - 510 W. Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 1L8
Tel. (604) 684-0624 or 1-800-663-1293
Fax (604) 684-8520
info@literacy.bc.ca
<http://www.nald.ca/lbc.htm>

Catch Up multimedia CD ROMs – interactive resources for struggling readers

Oxford Brookes University

A British literacy intervention programme for struggling readers. Designed for children aged between 5 and 10 and comprise a structured programme of 22 individually designed games in exciting animated worlds - *Land of the Dinosaurs, The Tomb of King Heb, Return from Red Planet*, etc.

Contact: John Mitchell, Catch Up
Tel. 01842 752297
info@catchup.org.uk
<http://www.catchup.org.uk/>

Family Literacy: From Theory to Practice (2003)

Editors: Andrea DeBruin-Parecki and Barbara Krol-Sinclair

A book that connects theory to practice. The 14 chapters address four themes: theoretical perspectives; promotion of family literacy in collaboration with schools and communities; descriptions of diverse family literacy programs; evaluation of programs and their participants.

Cost: \$39.95

Contact: Grass Roots Press, Literacy Services of Canada, Ltd., P.O. Box 52192, Edmonton AB T6G 2T5
Tel. (780) 413-6491 or 1-888-303-3213
Fax (780) 413-6582

grassrt@interbaun.com
<http://www.literacyservices.com/>

Family Literacy Best Practices Guide for Programs in Nova Scotia (2003)

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library

Guidelines developed as a foundation on which to build Family Literacy programs in Nova Scotia. Developed to be used in the development and enhancement of Family Literacy programs; to create an understanding of "best practices" in the field of Family Literacy; to assist practitioners in evaluating and targeting areas for further development; to be used as a tool to assist organizations and partners in acquiring and allocating appropriate resources. *Available online at:*

<http://www.nald.ca/clr/best/cover.htm>

Contact: Michelle Bowden, Project Coordinator, Colchester-East Hants Regional Library, 54 Prince Street, Truro NS B2N 1G9
Tel. (902) 895-4183
Fax (902) 895-7149
mbowden@nstc.library.ns.ca
<http://cehlibrary.ednet.ns.ca/>

Literacy for Persons with Disabilities: The Right to Read... and Read Well (2003)

by Chris Homberger, Teamwork Cooperative

A study that focused on issues related to adult literacy for persons with disabilities in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). Purpose: to examine the accessibility and availability of literacy services in HRM for persons with disabilities; research the factors which contribute to the utilization of community based literacy programs by persons with disabilities, etc.

Contact: James C. Bartlett, Team Work Cooperative, Suite 102, 2131 Gottingen Street, Halifax NS B3K 5Z7
Tel. (902) 422-8900 ext.109
Fax (902) 422-3992, TTY (902) 422-8943
jbartlett@teamworkcooperativ.ns.ca

Soon available online in NALD's Full Text Documents.

Report on Literacy in Annapolis County (2002)

by Gerry M. Brown

A project that investigated issues surrounding literacy with a vision for the Annapolis County Learning Network (ACLN) to use in developing an action plan. Recommendations included: establish a professional presence in the ACLN by staffing some permanent presence, i.e. assistant coordinator and literacy support worker; conduct additional research projects to determine literacy issues.

Contact: ACLN, c/o NSCC, Annapolis Valley Campus, RR 1, Lawrencetown NS B0S 1M0
Tel. (902) 532-3408
Fax (902) 532-3401

ACLN98@hotmail.com

<http://www.nald.ca/acln.htm>

Soon available online in NALD's Full Text Documents.

Empowering the Spirit, Ensuring Survival : Phase II Field Development - Moving Towards Action (2003)

Ontario Native Literacy Coalition (ONLC)

Among the project objectives: improve the capacity of ONLC to support its constituents; support process toward the articulation of the Holistic Approach to Native Literacy.

Contact: ONLC, 9463rd Avenue East, Commercial Unit 3, Owen Sound, ON N4K 2K9
Tel. (519) 371-5594
Fax (519) 371-5598

onlc@on.aibn.com

<http://www.nald.ca/onlc.htm>

Strengthening Community Partnerships (2003)

by Roxanne Lepine, Ontario Native Literacy Coalition (ONLC)

A project intended to educate and inform communities and host organisations of the requirements and realities of Literacy and Basic Skills funded Native literacy delivery, program development and administration.

Contact: ONLC, 9463rd Avenue East, Commercial Unit 3, Owen Sound, ON N4K 2K9
Tel. (519) 371-5594
Fax (519) 371-5598

onlc@on.aibn.com

<http://www.nald.ca/onlc.htm>



Harnessing Technology Web Page

<http://www.alri.org/harness/harnessesol.html>

CASP Adult Literacy Network Meets with Education Minister Madeleine Dubé

by *Dianne Fitzpatrick

The CASP (Community Academic Services Program) Adult Literacy Network is a newly formed organization of highly trained and committed practitioners and committee members with a vast wealth of experience in the field of adult literacy and education in New Brunswick.



Left to Right: Facilitators: Christine Mercier, Fernand Thibodeau, Lisa Kinney, Susan Hillman Bourne, Dianne Fitzpatrick, Sandra Doucette, Darlene Travers, Pam Stevenson, Margaret Harriman, Bob Stranach (Committee member), Crystal Crawford-Reynolds (former CASP student)

later explained that she knew a great deal about CASP from her background in social work. All present were pleased to hear that she was aware of the challenging conditions under which some of the CASPs must work.

Others in attendance with Minister Dubé were: Deputy Minister, John Kershaw, Assistant Deputy Minister, Jocelyne Roy-Vienneau, Executive Assistant, Lise Bourgoin and Acting Director - Literacy Secretariat, Rowena Brooks.

Professionals, learners, and community volunteers from rural, urban, English, French, and First Nations communities each gave brief presentations to the Minister. They represented a diverse group of learners who, besides struggling with literacy, face additional challenges in life: poverty, abuse, learning disabilities, criminal histories, and the list goes on.

The purpose of the meeting was to express to the Minister a sincere desire to create a positive and collaborative partnership with the Provincial Government as an essential component of its *Prosperity Plan*, and as a participant in the implementation of the *Quality Learning Agenda*. The network expressed their hope to be included in every phase of the decision-making process for fulfilling the guidelines of the agenda.

The meeting was very positive in nature, and the delegation left feeling optimistic about the possibility of having a productive working partnership with the provincial government.

CASP continues to be an effective, professional, cost-effective and highly adaptable vehicle for the delivery of literacy and academic upgrading services to the adult learners in New Brunswick.

The recent *Landal Report* praises the CASP model, but indicates that it needs to be rejuvenated. After 12 years, even a successful program like CASP requires both redefinition and recommitment in order to keep current and to be prepared for technological and other challenges in the future.

These challenges include the continuing concern that New Brunswick's working age population still falls below international standards of literacy required if our province is to compete successfully in an increasingly aggressive and complex global economy. Within our own provincial economy, demands for skilled workers, trades workers, and even service sector workers are often unmet due to the academic limitations of a significant portion of our workforce.

The Network believes that CASPs continue to be a valuable tool of social and economic policy in New Brunswick. They also believe that this newly formed CASP Adult Literacy Network, along with their sister Francophone CASP Network, can be a helpful partner in the achievement of the provincial government's objectives.

They ask that the N.B. Provincial Government, through the Minister of Education, recognizes their Network as a partner in this process and begin an ongoing dialogue with CASP teachers and volunteers.

*Dianne Fitzpatrick is a teacher/facilitator at **A Second Chance CASP** in Miramichi, New Brunswick. You can reach her by email at: asccasp@nbnet.nb.ca



Reading Wise : Comprehension Strategies That Work (2003)

New Readers Press

This is a graduated, 8-level reading comprehension series using a variety of texts drawn from daily life such as newspapers, magazine articles and product safety labels. Interesting and engaging readings accompanied by tips and strategies that are easy to follow and by written exercises to reinforce the comprehension strategy.

Contact: Laubach Literacy of Canada, 70 Crown St., Suite 225, Saint John NB E2L 2X6

Tel. (506) 634-1980 or 1-877-634-1980

Fax (506) 634-0944 or 1-866-634-0944

newreadersbookstore@nb.aibn.com

<http://www.laubach.ca/>

The Citizenship Wheel

by Clara Manduca

A handy reference tool designed to provide quick questions, facts and answers related to writing a Canadian Citizenship test. Made of two connected wheels : the inner wheel navigates a list of potential questions and the outer wheel provides answers to them.

Cost: \$12

Contact: Monika Jankowska, Marketing and Distribution Coordinator, Centre AlphaPlus Centre
Tel. (416) 322-1012 ext. 117

Fax (416) 322-0780, TTY (416) 322-5751

mjankowska@alphaplus.ca

<http://www.alphaplus.ca>

Dilemma in the Workplace

Educational Activities, Inc.

An interactive program that develops reading comprehension and vocabulary, enhances learners' awareness of workplace dilemmas and etiquette, and promotes critical thinking skills and sound decision-making. Topics represent difficult situations that are encountered every day on the job, and for which there are no easy solutions.

Contact: Monika Jankowska, Marketing and Distribution Coordinator, Centre AlphaPlus Centre
Tel. (416) 322-1012 ext. 117

Fax (416) 322-0780, TTY (416) 322-5751

mjankowska@alphaplus.ca

How to Kit : Literacy Games for Adults (2003)

NWT Literacy Council

Included in the kit : a variety of literacy games for adults, and supporting materials; ideas on how to adapt them to create more games; suggestions for adapting them to French or the Aboriginal languages. Examples of games are : Bingo, Scrabble, Alphabet Scavenger Hunt, Paper Bag Skits, Poetry Poems, Scattergories, etc.

Also available online in pdf format, at :

<http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatnew/nwtlw03/main.htm>

Contact: NWT Literacy Council, Box 761, 5122 - 48th Street, Yellowknife NT X1A 2N6

Tel. (867) 873-9262

Fax (867) 873-2176

info@nwtliteracy.ca

<http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/>

The Road to Reading : Early Steps to Help Children Become Readers, Video (1998)

Grass Roots Press

A video that illustrates how the spirit of family can be enhanced by accessible, informal, everyday activities that expose children to literacy. Many strategies are presented, and the emphasis is on variety, constancy, and enjoyment.

Cost: \$59.95

Contact: Grass Roots Press, Literacy Services of Canada, Ltd., P.O. Box 52192, Edmonton AB T6G 2T5

Tel. (780) 413-6491 or 1-888-303-3213

Fax (780) 413-6582

grassrt@interbaun.com

<http://www.literacyservices.com/>

52 Days by Camel (1998)

by Lawrie Raskin and Debora Pearson

Raskin's journey was inspired by a signpost in Morocco that read "*Timbuktu 52 Days*". Readers will discover some amazing facts about the Sahara Desert's culture, climate, people, and transportation as they join the author on his real-life trek across the Sahara to Timbuktu and beyond. Includes photographs and annotated maps of the journey.

Cost: \$15.95

Contact: Grass Roots Press, Literacy Services of Canada, Ltd., P.O. Box 52192, Edmonton AB T6G 2T5

Tel. (780) 413-6491 or 1-888-303-3213

Fax (780) 413-6582

grassrt@interbaun.com

The Page Turners Collection (2001)

Grass Roots Press

From Australia... Beginning readers will enjoy these entertaining, engaging, and easy-to-read stories. Each story is expanded with amusing line drawings. Includes *Collection 1 : The Hero, The Stud, The Duck, Not Any More, Too Many Marias, I Want a Holiday!* and *Collection 2 : Tattoos, Pay Dirt, The Beach, Spare Parts, A Dog's Life, Bikini Sandals, Just One Friend.*

Cost: \$41.95 (Collection 1) and \$48.95 (Collection 2)

Contact: Grass Roots Press, Literacy Services of Canada, Ltd., P.O. Box 52192, Edmonton AB T6G 2T5

Tel. (780) 413-6491

or 1-888-303-3213

Fax (780) 413-6582

grassrt@interbaun.com

Hana's Suitcase (2002)

by Karen Levine

A true story where the reader follows Fumiko, a young Japanese curator, on her quest to find the owner of a Jewish child's suitcase. The empty suitcase is part of a shipment that Fumiko receives from the Auschwitz museum.

Cost: \$15.95

Contact: Grass Roots Press, Literacy Services of Canada, Ltd., P.O. Box 52192, Edmonton AB T6G 2T5

Tel. (780) 413-6491

or 1-888-303-3213

Fax (780) 413-6582

grassrt@interbaun.com



Internet Links for Independent Study
<http://www.joneslibrary.org/esl/adult.html>

U'Mista Cultural Society
<http://www.umista.org/>

National Assessment of Adult Literacy
<http://nces.ed.gov/naal/>

Canadian children's illustrated books in English
<http://www.slais.ubc.ca/saltman/ccib/home.html>

Learner's Story

The following story was written by Faye Belhumeur, from Swan River, Manitoba. Faye is presently enrolled at the Swan River Adult Education Program. Her first goal when she began upgrading was to obtain her GED, which she did. Now, she is working towards her Mature Student Grade 12 Diploma.

My First Date

by Faye Belhumeur

My first date happened in a very unusual way. First off, it was arranged by a friend. The big date was to take place public skating at the local arena.

Was I ever nervous. Imagine me going on a date with Saul Falen, who looked like Paul McCartney. This being the sixties, anyone resembling a Beatle was hot! My poor finger nails were stubs by the time I got to the rink.

Head down, I made a beeline for the opposite end of the waiting room. Heaven forbid he should be looking at me! On went my skates. Somehow we both made it to the ice at the same time. Once on the ice, we fumbled for each others hand and started skating the rounds. His eyes focused straight ahead and mine also. Round and round we went skating to the music, never once looking at each other.

Finally the buzzer went, announcing public skating was over. Thank heavens! I was a total wreck by then. Hands parted as our skates left the ice, him going in one direction and I in the other.

By this time I just wanted out of there. Skates off, out the door I went. I was totally in love.

Not once during the entire date had we spoken one word.

[This story was taken with permission, from *Learners in Action*, Spring 2003, published by **Movement for Canadian Literacy (MCL)**.]



And, Among The Winners Were...



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

National

Awards for Excellence in Workplace Literacy - 2003 Recipients:

Small Business Initiative: La Ronge Motor Hotel, La Ronge, SK

Medium Business Initiative: J.D. Irving, Limited, Saint John, NB

Large Business Initiative: BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc., Yellowknife, NT

Canadian Association for Distance Education (CADE) Awards of Excellence - 2003 Recipients:

Excellence en conception

pédagogique: Cegep@distance

Excellence in Instructional Design:

Fire Detection and Alarm Systems, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)

Excellence in International

Collaboration: Writing Effectively for UNHCR, The Commonwealth of Learning

Excellence in Partnerships:

Aboriginal Resource Technician Project, Sault College, Contact North, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

Excellence en partenariat:

L'initiative CESA : Communauté électronique au service des apprentissages, Université de Moncton, Ministère de l'Éducation du Nouveau-Brunswick

Excellence en recherche de 2e et 3e cycle: Représentations de l'enseignement et de l'apprentissage par des professeurs utilisant des médias interactifs à distance, Julie Boissonneault, Université Laurentienne

Honourary Lifetime Membership:

Barbara Spronk

CAMA's National Award of Excellence for Municipal Workplace Literacy - 2003 Recipients:

Development of Effective and

Successful Partnerships: City of St. John's (NL) and its partners

Organizational Commitment to Workplace Literacy and Education:

City of Vancouver (BC), and its partners

Creative Design of Workplace

Education Programs: City of

Winnipeg (MB) and CUPE Local 500

Recognition of New Workplace

Education and Literacy Initiatives:

City of Charlottetown (PEI) and its partners

National Adult Literacy Database

(NALD) Award for Contributions to Literacy - 2003 Recipient:

Marilyn Trenholme Counsell, (former) Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick

Provincial

Alberta

Calgary Community Adult Learning Association (C-CALA) - Life of Learning Awards - 2003 Recipients:

Adult Learner: Philippe Gagnon, Inside Out Theatre Project

Instructor/Facilitator: Ruth Bieber, Inside Out Theatre Project

Project Program Designer/Director: Marnie Schaetti, Literacy Alberta

Nova Scotia

Literacy Nova Scotia Scholarship Recipients 2003-2004: Kathy Rector,

Human Services Program - NSCC

Truro; Elizabeth Samson, Office

Information Technology - NSCC

Literacy Nova Scotia Bursary 2003-

2004 Recipients: Georgina Gratto,

ALP - NSCC Pictou; Marcia Stevens,

ALP - Colchester Adult Learning

Association; Deborah Smith, ALP -

NSCC Shelburne



Up
and
Running!

Literacy
Alberta

Two Alberta literacy organizations have joined together to launch a new provincial literacy organization called **Literacy Alberta**. On April 1, 2003, the Alberta Association for Adult Literacy (AAAL) and Literacy Coordinators of Alberta (LCA) were officially amalgamated as one unified provincial literacy organization.

"Our members wanted to keep the services provided by both founding organizations, and add new initiatives which neither organization was doing," comments Marnie Schaetti, a member of Literacy Alberta's 2-person Executive Leadership Team. "When it came time for votes at the annual general meetings, the members voted overwhelmingly in favor of joining together to create a new organization."

Candice Jackson, the other member of the Executive Leadership team adds, "Our members want Literacy Alberta to be a strong voice for literacy. They want a higher profile for literacy, and greater influence and support for literacy students and practitioners."



The new Literacy Alberta board was elected by the first-ever mail-in vote. President Lois Polege says, "It's exciting to be in at the beginning of an organization whose goal is to create a culture of learning and literacy. Our new logo reflects the vision that literacy soars."

The Literacy Alberta office has moved to a new address in Calgary, and is staffed by people from the two previous organizations. Literacy Alberta will continue core services such as the literacy coalition, Literacy Help Line of Alberta, professional development, student support, regional literacy resource people, eLit (electronic communication network for literacy people) and provincial literacy conference. New work will be to strengthen regional networks for students and practitioners, and to begin more systematic initiatives to increase the profile and influence of literacy and those involved with literacy.