

COMMUNITY LITERACY OF ONTARIO MEMBERS' E-COMMUNIQUE JULY 2009

Dear CLO members,

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to present its **JULY 2009** Members' E-Communiqué. Topics covered in this E-Communiqué are:

1. [Overview of the Adult Literacy Curriculum Project](#)
2. [Adult Literacy Curriculum Resources](#)
3. [Online video: "By the Numbers: The Economic Case for Investing In Literacy"](#)
4. [Developments in volunteerism: what's next?](#)
5. [Abilities.ca website](#)

OVERVIEW OF ADULT LITERACY CURRICULUM PROJECT

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities is developing an Adult Literacy Curriculum (ALC). The ALC will be a valuable tool for LBS practitioners that will increase their ability to demonstrate learner achievements to next-step service providers and ultimately lead to improved outcomes for learners, including easier and more successful transitions.

The ALC Project is building upon previous research and analysis and is strongly based on HRSDC's Essential Skills and on the five transition pathways (Independence, Employment, Secondary Credit, Postsecondary, and Apprenticeship) as defined in the Learner Skill Attainment Framework. Piloting of the curriculum package with literacy agencies is scheduled for January 2010.

The ALC is being researched and developed by project staff from AlphaPlus, Community Literacy of Ontario, College Sector Committee, Deaf Literacy Initiative, La Coalition, Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy, Ontario Association of Adult and Continuing Education School Board Administrators, Ontario Native Literacy Coalition, and the Ontario Literacy Coalition.

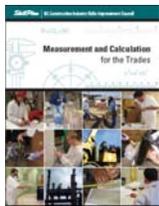
CLO's involvement in the ALC Initiative involves direct research and development of the curriculum, and research into Independence and Employment curriculum materials that are used in agencies to help learners transition to their goals, validation with our member agencies, and piloting of the Independence and Employment portions of the ALC.

In addition to circulating more information in fall 2009, CLO will be providing an ALC project update at our conference in November. Please stay tuned for more information about the progress of this important initiative.

ADULT LITERACY CURRICULUM RESOURCES

Community Literacy of Ontario's Adult Literacy Curriculum research team is working to find the resources most highly recommended by Ontario's practitioners, particularly resources for transitioning adult learners with independence and employment goals. We will be doing site visits and surveys to help us build a list of the best resources and those most adaptable to Essential Skills and the new Adult Literacy Curriculum.

So you don't have to wait for the final product of our research, we plan to provide you with samples of some of the recommendations, in CLO's E-communiqués, over the next few months. Below are two sample documents to get you started. We look forward to hearing about **your** favourite instructional resources. To contact one of CLO's team members, please email Joyce Bigelow at: literacy@frontenac.net.



Workforce
Available from
www.skillplan.ca
283pgs
\$45.00

Measurement and Calculation for the Trades enables learners to build their numeracy skills for apprenticeship and technical training. Using trades applications, it starts by reviewing basic numeracy skills and builds on them to help the learner retain new concepts. It includes illustrated explanations, review and practice in whole numbers, decimals, fractions, ratio/proportion, percent, measurement & conversions, perimeter, area, volume, and right-angle triangles. Measurement and Calculation for the Trades can be used for both individual study and group instruction. Accompanying workbooks are also available for additional trade-specific measurement and calculation problems. As with all SkillPlan publications it provides a link between Essential Skills and success in technical training and on the job.

Communication, Numeracy
Essential Skills: Numeracy and Document Use



Independence &
Workforce

Practical Money Skills for Life is a website, provided by VISA. It has a number of tools, games and information about managing money responsibly. It promotes financial literacy with free educational and consumer resources for all ages. An excellent teaching tool can be found in the "Resources" tab → "Free Materials" → "Classroom". Next go to "Students with Special Needs". Here you will find a free ten-module curriculum covering: Making Decisions, Making Money, Budgeting Your Money, Shopping Wisely, Living on Your Own, Using Banking Services, Understanding Credit, Cars & Loans, Protecting Your Money, and Savings & Investments. You will have to register (no cost) before downloading materials. They also offer a free newsletter with ideas to teach financial management. Visit this website at: www.practicalmoneyskills.com.

Communication, Find/use Information, Numeracy, Work with Others, Self-Direction, Technology
Essential Skills: Reading, Document Use, Numeracy and most others

BY THE NUMBERS: THE ECONOMIC CASE FOR INVESTING IN LITERACY

Scott Murray, President of Data Angel Policy Research Inc., has prepared a compelling online video called *By the Numbers: The Economic Case for Investing in Literacy*. This 10-minute audio/visual presentation overviews solid economic reasons why investing in adult literacy is the best decision Canada could make. This video is housed on the website of Literacy Nova Scotia. You can also access the full report and executive summary on this topic directly from Scott Murray's website: www.dataangel.ca/.

DEVELOPMENTS IN VOLUNTEERISM: WHAT'S NEXT?

Charity Village has prepared an informative article on new developments in volunteerism. The article covers topics such as: the new volunteer; volunteer engagement 101; attracting youth; economic impact and new trends. See: www.charityvillage.com/cv/archive/acov/acov09/acov0915.asp.

ABILITIES.CA WEBSITE

The abilities.ca website is an opportunity for people with disabilities and the broader community to engage in dialogue around issues that matter to all of us. To join the conversation and learn more, just click on www.abilities.ca/.