

*****CLO'S May 2008 E-COMMUNIQUE*****

Dear CLO members,

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to present its May 2008 Members' E-Communiqué.

Topics covered in this E-Communiqué are:

1. [The 2007-2008 Membership Survey Results Are In!](#)
2. [PDF Version of CLO's "The ABCs of the CIPMS" Resource Guide](#)
3. [CLO's Employment Ontario and Literacy: Online, Self-Directed Training](#)
4. [PDF Version of CLO's "Marketing Ourselves" Resource Guide](#)
5. [Slide Deck from Employment Ontario Regional Meetings](#)
6. [Council of Ministers of Education, Canada - Learn Canada 2020 Declaration](#)
7. [The Learning Edge: Apprenticeship Issue](#)
8. [Frank McKenna's "Back to School Canada" Article](#)



Hear All About It: The 2007-2008 Membership Survey Results Are In!

Community Literacy of Ontario conducts an annual survey of the needs, priorities and issues facing community literacy agencies in Ontario. This annual survey provides an excellent and up-to-date overview of the needs and priorities of our sector. This important survey tool also allows our agencies to share their perspective on our services and communication tools. This year, our survey was conducted in March 2008 and we are delighted to report that a total of 79 community literacy agencies responded to our survey.

In addition to sharing the results with our membership, CLO will also be sharing the results with MTCU. The survey results are an excellent mechanism to bring forward the current needs and priorities of the community-based literacy sector.

In total, sixty-eight community literacy agencies shared their perspectives on their top training, support, communication and resource needs. The top needs identified by agencies were access to resources, Continuous Improvement Performance Management System and increased funding. Medium priorities were internal organizational capacity development and learning more about Employment Ontario and the Essential Skills. The following issues were still important, but were ranked less high: workforce/workplace, apprenticeship, learner skill attainment, marketing and English as a second language.

In our membership survey Community Literacy of Ontario also asked community literacy agencies about their perspective on our services and communication tools. A total of 79 community literacy agencies responded to this part of the survey. CLO is pleased to note that we received a high ranking on all of our services.

Please email CLO at clo@bellnet.ca for a copy of the full survey results.

Thank you to all of the agencies who responded to the survey. CLO is grateful for your support!

PDF Version of CLO's "The ABCs of the CIPMS" Resource Guide

The board and staff of Community Literacy of Ontario are extremely pleased to share the PDF version of our recently released resource guide on Continuous Improvement Performance Management System called "*The ABCs of CIPMS*".

This resource guide is 150 pages long and is full of key information on CIPMS. It has the following chapters:

- Introduction to CIPMS
- CIPMS in Literacy and Basic Skills
- Using CIPMS
- Agency Assessment
- Resources and Appendices

The guide was funded by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (Government of Ontario) and was written by Vicki Trottier and Jette Cosburn.

It is available for downloading at:

<http://www.nald.ca/litweb/province/on/clo/resource/cipms/cipms.pdf>

This document was mailed in print format to all Ontario community literacy agencies, regional, sectoral and umbrella literacy networks as well as key Employment Ontario Stakeholders. However, we realize that others are also interested in this valuable resource guide so we are pleased to share this PDF version with you.

CLO's Employment Ontario and Literacy: Online, Self-Directed Training

Community Literacy of Ontario is happy to announce that it has received funding from the Employment Ontario Network Development Fund for a project called "*Employment Ontario and Literacy: Online, Self-Directed Training*."

In this project, Community Literacy of Ontario will research and write the curriculum for an online, self-directed training module called "Employment Ontario and Literacy." This training module will be housed on CLO's highly popular *Literacy Basics* training website (www.nald.ca/literacybasics). This module will be available any time, any where, free-of-charge to literacy practitioners and other Employment Ontario stakeholders across Ontario. This module will appear on the Literacy Basics website in July 2008.

CLO's "*Employment Ontario and Literacy*" online training module will allow users to become familiar with how literacy fits within the overall Employment Ontario picture by providing tools, resources, best practices, case studies, and information on effective partnership development and marketing within the Employment Ontario system. The module will also showcase how Employment Ontario delivery agencies can work together. The benefits of partnerships will be a key element of this module. This module will help literacy agencies to have a more complete understanding of Employment Ontario and their role within this system.

PDF Version of Marketing Ourselves: A Resource Guide for Ontario's Community Literacy Agencies

It is wonderful to share information on another extremely valuable resource from Community Literacy of Ontario: *"Marketing Ourselves: A Resource Guide for Ontario's Community Literacy Agencies"*.

This resource guide was written in response to requests from the literacy community for useful marketing strategies, tools and resources. It was circulated in print copy to all community literacy agencies and regional, sectoral, umbrella literacy networks. However, marketing is an issue of broad interest so we are pleased to be able to share this PDF version in order to increase access across Ontario and beyond.

CLO wants to sincerely thank the Adult Learning, Literacy and Essential Skills Program (Government of Canada) for providing project funding for this valuable resource. We are also grateful to Karen Farrar, project researcher and writer, for her dedication to this project.

"Marketing Ourselves" is an extremely valuable resource for every literacy agency.

<http://www.nald.ca/litweb/province/on/clo/resource/marketing/cover.htm>

Slide Deck from March/April 2008 Employment Ontario Regional Meetings

Employment Ontario held regional meetings with stakeholders in March and April 2008. The purpose of these meetings was:

- To provide the vision of a transformed Employment Ontario
- To outline the steps being taken to achieve Employment Ontario transformation
- To provide context for announcements expected later this spring

Here is a copy of the slide deck from this event.

http://www.eopg.ca/eng/documents/EO_Transformation_Overview.ppt#257

Council of Ministers of Education, Canada - Learn Canada 2020 Declaration

On April 15, 2008, the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada made the "Learn Canada 2020 Declaration". Learn Canada 2020 is the framework the provincial and territorial ministers of education, through the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada, will use to enhance Canada's education systems, learning opportunities, and overall education outcomes. The vision of Learn Canada 2020 is quality lifelong learning opportunities for all Canadians.

Learn Canada 2020 recognizes the direct link between a well-educated population and (1) a vibrant knowledge-based economy in the 21st Century, (2) a socially progressive, sustainable society, and (3) enhanced personal growth opportunities for all Canadians.

Learn Canada 2020 encompasses the four pillars of lifelong learning:

- Early Childhood Learning and Development
- Elementary to High School Systems
- Postsecondary Education
- Adult Learning and Skills Development

For more information on the Learn Canada 2020 Declaration, please visit:

www.cmec.ca/2008declaration.en.stm

New Issue of the Learning Edge – Apprenticeship

Jobs in the skilled trades pay well because skilled workers are in high demand. Most of the skilled trades provide the opportunity for apprenticeships.

The latest issue of The Learning Edge focuses on apprenticeship. The Learning Edge takes a look at five steps that adult learners should take if they are interested in becoming an apprentice. It also looks at a number of questions that learners commonly ask about apprenticeships. In addition, there is a great interview with a college dean about the apprenticeship program and two adults talk about their experience as apprentices.

Click on this link: <http://www.thewclc.ca/edge/issue10/index.html> to access the Learning Edge - Apprenticeship.

Frank McKenna’s “Back to School Canada” Article

Frank McKenna wrote an interesting article on literacy in Canada that was often mentioned at the April Council of Ministers of Education meeting. In this article, he makes a strong link between increased literacy rates and social and economic benefits. Here is an excerpt, followed by the link to the full article.

“There is a prevailing view that Canada is a literate nation, with individuals fully capable of participating in the modern economy. Evidence suggests otherwise. An alarming number of citizens are unable to comprehend, compute and communicate at a level deemed necessary for a knowledgeable worker.

Almost four in 10 youths at age 15 have insufficient reading skills; while more than two in 10 university graduates, almost five in 10 Canadian adults and six in 10 immigrants have inadequate levels of proficiency in English or French.

Moreover, discrepancies exist across regions, and gender and socio-economic lines. Divides are also present between rural and urban residents, as well as between Canadian-born individuals and new arrivals. These outcomes pose a serious threat to our competitive standing in the global marketplace”.

http://www.td.com/communicate/speeches/sept_06_07.jsp

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