

**COMMUNITY LITERACY OF ONTARIO
 MEMBERS' E-COMMUNIQUE
 NOVEMBER 2011**

Dear CLO Members,

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to present its **NOVEMBER 2011 CLO Members' E-Communique**.

Topics covered in this E-Communique are:

- CLO's "Instructor Week" on Facebook
- CLO's AGM, Training Days, and LBS Update by Barb Simmons
- Remembrance Day Learning Resources
- Golden Oak Award Reading Program
- Employment Ontario News and Information
- Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework Survey
- The Khan Academy – an Awesome Online Learning Resource



CLO'S "INSTRUCTOR WEEK" ON FACEBOOK

Have you heard of SHARK WEEK? (<http://dsc.discovery.com/tv/shark-week/>). Well, since live sharks are in short supply in literacy, CLO has had to turn to another kind of week: **INSTRUCTOR WEEK**. Yes, during the week of **November 14 to 18, 2011**, we will hold a week-long discussion on Facebook about tools and resources for instructors and volunteer tutors.

CLO will be holding Instructor Week on our Facebook page using the **FORUM** feature. To access Forum, just click on the top left of CLO's page (a couple of items under the trillium picture). Forum provides a threaded discussion group area. Just to go: www.facebook.com/CommunityLiteracyOntario

Come join literacy instructor Keith Harford for a time of learning and sharing. Plus, you will get to try out a new technology. Sharing ideas, learning about new resources, trying new things? What's not to love?!?!

You can view this discussion whether or not you are a Facebook user. However, you can only comment if you have a Facebook account and have "liked" CLO's page.

Sharks beware – the literacy instructors are coming!



CLO'S AGM, TRAINING DAYS, AND LBS UPDATE BY BARB SIMMONS

Hurrah! Community Literacy of Ontario's AGM and training days are here!

On November 7, 2011, 35 community-based literacy agencies received *Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework Implementation Training*.

On November 8th, 55 agencies joined us for our AGM, table group discussions, a resource fair, and a workshop on *"Using the OALCF with Learners with Independence Goals"*. We were pleased to have Barb Simmons, Director of the Service Delivery Branch for the Employment and Training Division of MTCU, provide us with an informative and encouraging *Update on Literacy and Basic Skills*.



On November 9th an additional 35 community-based agencies received the OALCF implementation training and on November 10th we delivered training to 22 of our literacy network colleagues. Another 35 agencies are taking CLO's OALCF implementation training online on Centra later in November. This does not include the many other practitioners who will undoubtedly access CLO's recorded online version of the Centra training in December 2011. That is a lot of training, information and sharing! Thanks for being on the journey with us.

REMEMBRANCE DAY LEARNING RESOURCES

In honour of Remembrance Day, Veterans Affairs Canada has prepared some helpful learning resources including:

- Tales of Animals in War
- Postcards for Peace
- *"Canada Remembers Times"* (six clear language newsletters highlighting Canada's role in various wars and peacekeeping engagements)

See: www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/veterans-week/educational-resources



THE GOLDEN OAK AWARD READING PROGRAM

The *Golden Oak Award Reading Program* (sponsored by the Ontario Library Association) provides a unique opportunity for new readers in adult literacy programs to read books chosen specifically for them. They can read the books by themselves, with their tutors, or as part of a reading group. This program helps new adult readers to gain the skills to accomplish everyday tasks, as well as foster the love of reading.

For more information about the 2012 *Golden Oak Award Reading Program* visit: www.accessola.org/ola_prod/OLAWEB/Forest_of_Reading/2012_Nominated_Lists/OLAWEB/Forest_of_Reading/Current_Program_Year.aspx?hkey=5af29ddd-628e-431d-9b3b-321b8393bd25

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO NEWS AND INFORMATION

Recent news from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities includes:

- ***New Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework Resources***
New resources include a learner plan template and instructions; descriptions of the five goal paths; and a paper on supporting learners through service co-ordination and referrals
 - www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/oalcf/index.html
- ***MTCU's Service Delivery Advisory Group (SDAG) October Meeting Materials***
 - www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/stakeholder/sdag.html

**EMPLOYMENT
ONTARIO**
Ontario's employment & training network

ONTARIO ADULT LITERACY CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK SURVEY

AlphaPlus received funding from MTCU for a project to collect feedback from Literacy and Basic Skills service providers on the tools and resources that support the new Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework (OALCF) published on the Employment Ontario Partners' Gateway website in April 2011.

The OALCF Online Feedback project involves two surveys. The first survey will collect feedback on the initially posted OALCF documents and the second survey, scheduled for release in February 2012, will collect feedback on the newer OALCF documents posted in Fall 2011.

AlphaPlus is responsible for analyzing feedback collected via the online surveys. The survey objectives and questions were created with the guidance of MTCU. Survey participation and responses are anonymous and voluntary. Please contact AlphaPlus (<http://alphaplus.ca/>) directly with questions related to the OALCF Online Feedback project and surveys. Questions, feedback or requests for information about the OALCF tools and resources can be emailed to MTCU using the "contact us" link on the OALCF website (www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/oalcf/).

Click here to access the **OALCF Online Feedback survey**:

<http://alphaplus.ca/oalcf>

The survey deadline is **December 2, 2011**



THE KHAN ACADEMY – AN AWESOME ONLINE LEARNING RESOURCE

The **Khan Academy** (www.khanacademy.org/) is a free website full of short lessons on a variety of topics such as math, science and geography. To date, over **84 MILLION** lessons have been delivered via this website. The Khan Academy was often mentioned by practitioners at CLO's AGM as a valuable learning resource.