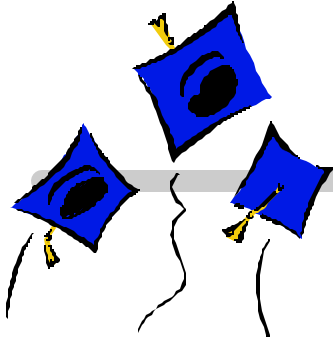


# Our Voice



## National Foundational Training in Family Literacy: Proudly Announcing Ontario's First Graduating Class!

Community Literacy  
of Ontario

80 Bradford Street  
Suite 508

Barrie, Ontario  
L4N 6S7

Tel: 705-733-2312  
Fax: 705-733-6197

[www.nald.ca/  
volman.htm](http://www.nald.ca/volman.htm)

[clo@bellnet.ca](mailto:clo@bellnet.ca)



The Centre for Family Literacy in Alberta, in collaboration with a pan-Canadian advisory group, developed national *Foundational Training in Family Literacy*. The goals of this training are to provide a common base of knowledge to family literacy practitioners across Canada and to give professional credibility to the field. This nationally -recognized training is now being offered all across this country by various provincial organizations.

Community Literacy of Ontario offered national *Foundational Training in Family Literacy* online to 21 participants working in diverse community literacy agencies from across Ontario. CLO is extremely pleased to announce that Ontario's first class will graduate in June 2003. Participants will be presented with official certificates from Maureen Sanders, Executive Director of the Centre for Family Literacy, during the final online course module to be held on June 19, 2003.

CLO's intensive online training took place once per month from January to June 2003. Each module was four hours in length. Our dedicated participants further augmented this rigorous online training with self-study of the course manual, homework assignments, supplementary readings, and an online discussion group on AlphaCom. The evaluation results were overwhelmingly positive and clearly demonstrated that our participants found the content, the facilitation and the online learning experience to be extremely valuable.

CLO's online training was based upon the 10-chapter, 370-page *Foundational Training in Family Literacy* course manual. This manual was developed by the Centre for Family Literacy and each chapter was written by a variety of experts from universities and family literacy organizations from across Canada. CLO also included various Ontario family literacy case studies from: Dryden Literacy Association; Literacy Council of Niagara West; the Timmins Learning Centre; ALSO (Ottawa); Kingston Literacy; the Wellington County Learning Centre; Road to Reading Festival; Frontier College; Hamilton and District Literacy Council; and the Kingston Family Literacy Centre. In addition, we shared current research from the *Making Connections* report developed by the Ontario Literacy Coalition and Kingston Literacy. We thank you all for sharing!

*Foundational Training in Family Literacy* covered the following topics:

- ⇒ MODULE 1: January 2003 – "Understanding Family Literacy" and "The Practice of Family Literacy in an Unjust World"
- ⇒ MODULE 2: February 2003 – "The Dynamics of Working with Parents" and "Working with Parents in a Family Literacy Setting"
- ⇒ MODULE 3: March 2003 – "Understanding Children and Their Development"
- ⇒ MODULE 4: April 2003 – "Understanding Emergent Literacy"
- ⇒ MODULE 5: May 2003 – "Working with Communities" and "Best Practices"
- ⇒ MODULE 6: June 2003 – "Administering a Family Literacy Project" and "Evaluating a Family Literacy Project"

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<a href="#">The Class of 2003!</a>	2
<a href="#">Foundational Training</a>	2
<a href="#">CLO's Hot New Resource</a>	3
<a href="#">CLO's 2003 Conference</a>	4

## National Foundational Training in Family Literacy:

Community Literacy of Ontario is also proud to announce that our course is the first *online* adaptation of the national *Foundational Training in Family Literacy* in Canada. CLO worked closely with the Centre for Family Literacy to ensure that the online training maintained the integrity of the original *Foundational Training* while at the same time being adapted both for online use and for an Ontario context. Community Literacy of Ontario has extensive experience in developing and delivering online training. CLO has developed 14 online workshops and is a leader in using this new technology.

Funding for this online training was provided by the National Literacy Secretariat (HRDC) and the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. CLO's training was facilitated and adapted for online use by Joanne Kaattari, Margaret Maynard, Penny Smith-Jensen and Vicki Trottier.

If you are interested in this valuable national training, don't despair – the Ontario Literacy Coalition will be offering *Foundational Training* at a Training Institute at a later date. Further, CLO has applied for funding to redeliver the online training again to a new group of participants next year. Please contact either organization directly for more details.

The board and staff of Community Literacy of Ontario offer their sincere congratulations to all 21 participants who successfully completed national *Foundational Training in Family Literacy*. Despite busy schedules and intensive online training, there was an amazing 100% completion rate for this course! Your hard work and dedication to family literacy are appreciated!

### Something to Celebrate: The Class of 2003 National Foundational Training in Family Literacy

1. Isobel Bisby, Alternative Learning Styles and Outlooks, Ottawa
2. Susan Couprie, YMCA Literacy Services, Toronto
3. Margaret Daley, Literacy Council of Niagara West, Beamsville
4. Laurel Douma, Walkerton-Youth Literacy Program, Walkerton
5. Brenda Dovick, Sioux-Hudson Literacy Council, Sioux Lookout
6. Lori Farrington, Prince Edward Learning Centre, Picton
7. Laurie Few, Wellington County Learning Centre, Arthur
8. Susan Hughes, Literacy Council of South Temiskaming, Haileybury
9. Anne Jackson, Kingston Literacy, Napanee
10. Sheila Marshall, Timmins Learning Centre, Timmins
11. Cheryl McCulligh, Manitoulin Literacy, Gore Bay
12. Ramona McLennon, Program Read/Ontario Works, Sault Ste. Marie
13. Wanda Minnings, Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network, Barrie
14. Connie Morgan, Barrie Literacy Council, Barrie
15. Trisha Muise, Literacy Council York Simcoe, Newmarket
16. Tim Nicholls-Harrison, Owen Sound Adult Learning Centre, Owen Sound
17. Shelley Olivier, YWCA St.Thomas-Elgin, St. Thomas
18. Catherine Owen, Kingston Family Literacy Centre, Kingston
19. Valerie Sadler, Hamilton & District Literacy Council, Hamilton
20. Denise Tremblay, Iroquois Falls Adult Learning Centre, Cochrane
21. Mary Alice White, Toronto Public Library, North York

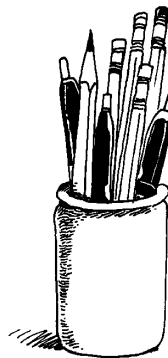


## CLO's Hot New Resource!

### Skills for the Future: A Training Resource for Literacy Practitioners

The demands placed on literacy practitioners are many and varied. If you are feeling just a little busy, then CLO's latest resource *"Skills for the Future: A Training Resource for Literacy Practitioners"* may be just what the doctor ordered! To learn why this is a "must have" resource for any literacy agency, just look at the table of contents and see for yourself:

1. Introduction
2. Understanding the Need
3. Understanding the Role of Your Agency
4. Understanding the Role of The Volunteer
5. The Adult Literacy Learner
6. Identifying and Meeting Learner Needs
7. Instructional Strategies
8. Learner Exit and Follow-up
9. Professional Development



Tell me more you say! Well, CLO is always glad to oblige... *"Understanding the Need"* provides an overview of the field of literacy from a national and a provincial perspective. This snapshot of literacy is focused on the role of community-based agencies in *"Understanding the Role of Your Agency"*. Volunteers have historically played an important role in community literacy agencies in Ontario. In *"Understanding the Role of The Volunteer"* the various elements of volunteer management are explored.

The reasons why adults decide to improve or get help with their literacy skills are many. Literacy agencies need to be aware of the challenges that learners may face so they can provide the best possible learning environment for all learners. *"The Adult Literacy Learner"* looks at the key factors that influence and affect learning and provides checklists and other tools to help agencies identify challenges and solutions.

The task of assessing and identifying the learning needs of adults in literacy agencies in Ontario is placed between two strong and equally demanding forces: one of actual learning (what is learned and how it is learned) and the other of accountability (how you prove it was learned). In *"Identifying and Meeting Learner Needs"*, a learning outcomes approach provides a framework for discussing learner involvement from intake to skill demonstrations.

*"Instructional Strategies"* will challenge you to think about process in the development of instructional strategies in a learning outcomes environment. Sample instructional strategies are provided and a list of suggested resources (print, online and software) is provided at the end of each section.

Learners are important sources of information about the programs they are attending. *"Learner Exit and Follow-up"* looks at the process of exit and the types of information that you should collect—for both program planning and to meet funder requirements. Sample strategies are provided to help you examine your current practice and also to help you plan for the future. *"Professional Development"* focuses on the central role of the literacy practitioner and the value of professional development for improving literacy instruction and practice.

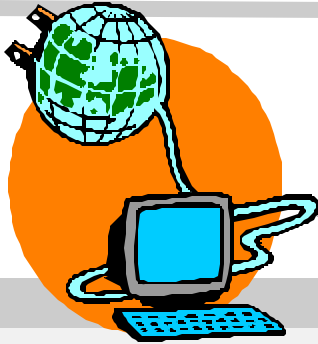
*"Skills for the Future: A Training Resource for Literacy Practitioners"* is part of CLO's practitioner training strategy. Lindsay Kennedy is the researcher and author of this extremely valuable training and orientation resource. It is also being reviewed and edited by a team of experts from the sector. We bet you now wish you'd volunteered for a CLO reference group so you could get a sneak preview of this wonderful resource!

*"A Training Resource for Literacy Practitioners"* was funded with the generous support of the National Literacy Secretariat (HRDC) and the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. It will be circulated at the end of September 2003 to all Anglophone community literacy agencies and to all regional literacy networks.

CLO gratefully acknowledges its funder: the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

OURVOICE is published three times per year by CLO.

Writing and desktop publishing by Joanne Kaattari.



#### CLO's Board of Directors

- Joyce Bigelow (Sharbot Lake)
- Laurie DesLauriers (Napane)
- Betty Ffrench (Sault Ste. Marie)
- Jan Goatcher (Ottawa)
- Margaret Maynard (Beamsville)
- Dan McGibbon (Barrie)
- Joan Robinson (Toronto)
- Valerie Sadler (Hamilton)
- Penny Smith-Jensen (Dryden)
- Brendan Tarry (Burlington)
- Lee Torvi (Renfrew County)
- Denise Tremblay (Iroquois Falls)

#### CLO's Staff

- Joan Beaudry—Administrative Assistant
- Jette Cosburn—Co-Executive Director
- Joanne Kaattari—Co-Executive Director
- Lindsay Kennedy—Practitioner Training
- Vicki Trottier—Family Literacy

## Conference 2003!

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to present "Conference 2003: The Use of Technology in Ontario's Community Literacy Agencies"

- ⇒ When? - September 25-26, 2003
- ⇒ Where? - Horseshoe Resort and Conference Centre, Barrie, Ontario

Come and join your colleagues on September 25 and 26, 2003. We promise you an informative, stimulating and enjoyable time. CLO wants to assist community literacy agencies by increasing their awareness and promoting the effective use of technology. As you are well aware, there is more to technology than word processing and surfing the net! CLO's conference will look at some of the different facets of technology and present you with the opportunity to network and share information and strategies that currently exist in the literacy field. Please contact the CLO office if you would like more information about our conference.

*Conference highlights will include:*

- ⇒ Online writing circles
- ⇒ E-Learning and adaptive technology
- ⇒ Golden Oaks Adult Literacy Book Club
- ⇒ Resources and technical support for non-profits
- ⇒ Innovative approaches to technology
- ⇒ Strategies for delivering computer workshops for learners and learner software
- ⇒ Networking opportunities and **FUN!**

Community Literacy of Ontario sincerely thanks the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities for providing funding for this conference.

## Notice of Community Literacy of Ontario's Annual General Meeting



CLO's Annual General Meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2003 at Horseshoe Resort and Conference Centre, as part of our 2003 conference.