

Employment Ontario Leadership Summit May 15, 2012

*Strengthening Connections between Literacy
and Basic Skills and Employment Services*

Kathy Mills

• *The Centre for Skills Development & Training / <http://thecentre.on.ca/>*

Joanne Kaattari

• *Community Literacy of Ontario / www.nald.ca/clo / Twitter: @Love4Literacy*

Christine Prieur

• *The Centre for Skills Development & Training / <http://thecentre.on.ca/>*

Agenda

- Introductions – *Kathy Mills*
- Promising Practices – *Christine Prieur*
- Provincial Success Stories – *Joanne Kaattari*
- Q & A – *Kathy Mills*

Leadership Summit

May 15th, 2012



Introductions – *Kathy Mills*

- Centre for Skills Development and Training and Community Literacy of Ontario
- Members of MTCU's Service Advisory Delivery Group
- As part of SDAG, pleased to share information on:
 - *Benefits of LBS/ES/community connections*
 - *Promising practices*
 - *Provincial success stories*
 - *Spark discussion!*

MTCU's Expectations – *Christine Prieur*

- Advancing integration across all program lines is a top priority of MTCU Employment and Training Division
- Literacy and Basic Skills is mandated to be a transition-oriented program
- There are five goals paths for LBS
- Employment is a popular goal

Mutual Support

How can LBS help you achieve your targets?

Examples might include:

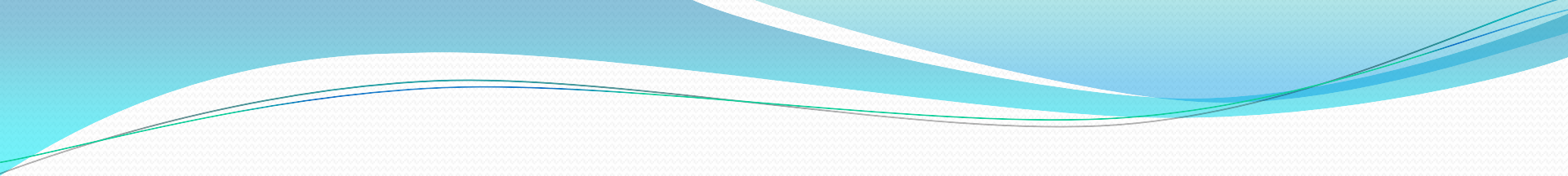
- Second Career success
- Apprenticeship success
- Job search success

And, how can you help LBS?



Literacy-Employment Connections

- Early identification and resolution of a client's academic needs improves participation rates and improves chances for client success



LBS + ES =
service coordination =
client success =
good stats = *happy funder*

What does an LBS client look like?

- ESL client?
- LBS client?
- Client with a learning disability?

Promising Practices

- Increase face-time between LBS and ES staff
- Partner key staff from LBS and ES to work together.
For example: meet to collaborate, examine partnering opportunities, develop a mutual work-plan and share best practices

Partnership Benefits

- These partnerships will increase trust and confidence between LBS and ES staff which will lead to meaningful and successful referrals
- This can also increase ES staff's understanding of literacy tools and resources and how to promote literacy services to clients

How does it work?

- Leverage resources!
- Ask what you can do for your LBS neighbours!
- Ask what you get in return!
- Work together to develop a work-plan...
- Please remember... there are definite capacity issues

Job Retention

- Increase connections between front line ES staff, LBS staff, Job Developers and employers
- Inform ES staff of the flexibility of LBS training:
 - Client can access LBS training before and during employment
 - LBS training can be directly related to the client's employment (i.e., policies and procedure binders, etc.)

Why do we do what we do?

Client video from the Centre for Skills
Development:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgwhP
V2zQnU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgwhPV2zQnU)

Provincial Success Stories – *Joanne Kaattari*

- Just a *small* sampling of provincial connections & partnerships
- Large volume of connections occurring
- Involving LBS, ES *and* other community partners
- Involving various funders and partners
- Funded and unfunded initiatives
- Varies depending on agency capacity & community needs
- Great abilities & skills in both LBS / ES
- Common commitment to client success
- Great starting point: Regional Literacy Networks and LBS agencies



London

- “*Essential Skills for Job Search Success*”
- Literacy Link South Central
- Seven workbooks
- Designed for LBS/ES agencies
- Extremely popular in Ontario and nationally
- OLES funding
- Freely available at:
www.llsc.on.ca/node/99



Windsor-Essex

- “*Getting Connected Initiative*”
- Tri County Literacy Network
- Workforce Windsor Essex
- LBS/ES - and others
- Joint PD
- Presentations from community stakeholders



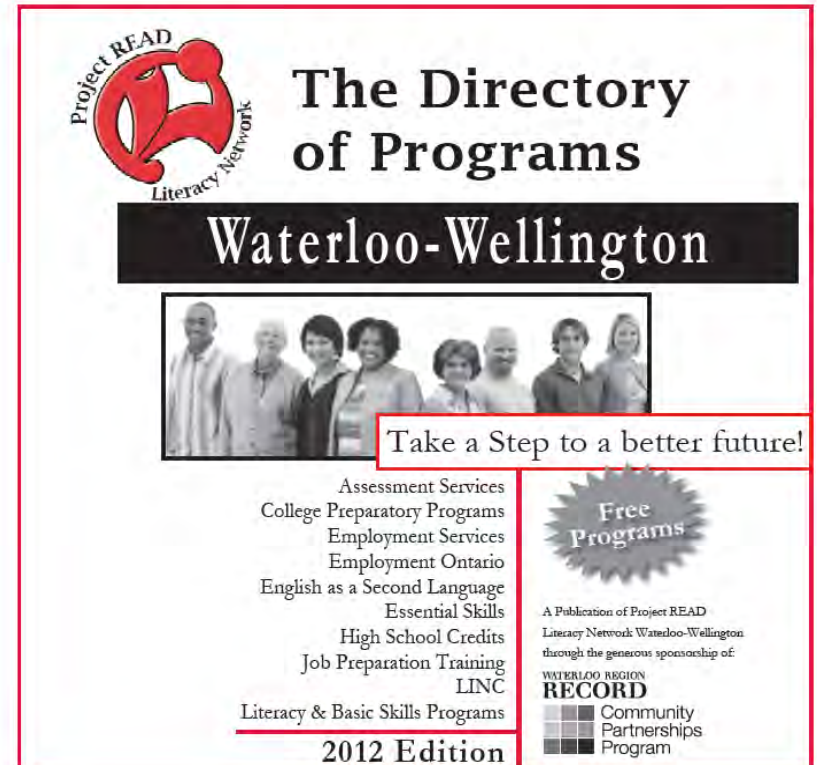
Windsor-Essex

- Tri County Literacy Network
- “*Linking Adult Literacy to Poverty Reduction*”
- LBS, OW, Poverty Roundtable, ES, and others
- Improved community coordination and capacity on poverty issues



Kitchener-Waterloo


- Project Read Literacy Network
- Joint promotions
- Long-time partnership with Waterloo Region Record
- Newspaper insert about LBS agencies
- Updated to include ES – and others
- New name, new look!
- www.projectread.ca/directory.pdf



Project READ
Literacy Network

The Directory of Programs

Waterloo-Wellington



Take a Step to a better future!

Assessment Services
College Preparatory Programs
Employment Services
Employment Ontario
English as a Second Language
Essential Skills
High School Credits
Job Preparation Training
LINC
Literacy & Basic Skills Programs

Free Programs

A Publication of Project READ
Literacy Network Waterloo-Wellington
through the generous sponsorship of:
**WATERLOO REGION
RECORD**
Community Partnerships Program

2012 Edition

Cornwall

- Tri County Literacy Council
- Job Zone (ES)
 - Shared space
 - Assessment centre
- Tri County Literacy Council
 - Homework program for children in elementary school
 - Funded by Trillium Foundation, Royal Bank, United Way



Kingston Literacy and Skills

- Partnership with Salvation Army
 - Free space
 - Literacy programming in shelter locations
- Partnership with Trillium Foundation
 - Online learning lab
 - Networked computers



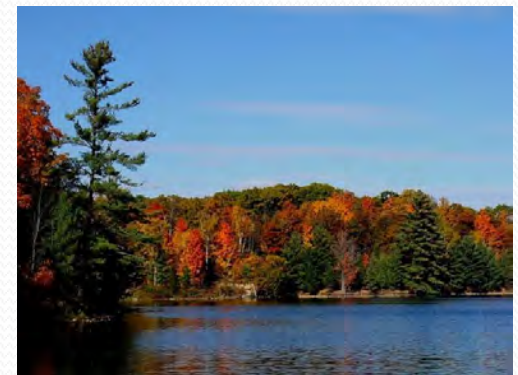
Dryden

- Community partnership of:
 - Dryden Literacy Association
 - Northwest Employment Works (Confederation College)
 - OW
- Worked together to:
 - Joint Job Finding Club
 - Interagency meetings



Sharbot Lake, Northbrook, Bancroft

- Northern Connections Adult Learning Centres (LBS) – diverse partnerships:
 - Limestone DSB
 - St. Lawrence College
 - Frontenac Community Futures
 - Loyalist College
 - Career Edge (ES)



Sudbury

- Sudbury Vocational Resource Centre (ES)
- Education & Workplace Training (LBS)
 - Multi-service centre
- Common referral form / info matrix for LBS/ES/OW
- Ontario March of Dimes



Grey-Bruce-Georgian

- *Grey County: Adult Learning Centre (LBS) and YMCA Employment Resource Centre (ES)*
 - Joint client workshops
- *Bruce County: ALC and VPI Employment Services (ES)*
 - Co-location
- Poverty initiatives



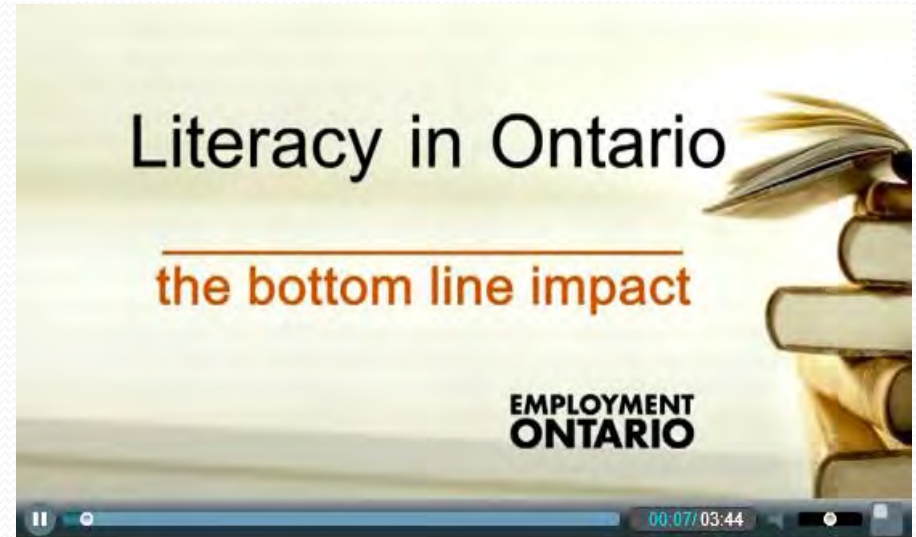
Red Lake

- Created an Employment and Literacy Network:
 - Red Lake Adult Learning Centre
 - Red Lake Career & Employment Centre
 - Confederation College
 - Native Friendship Centre
 - Contact North



Literacy in Ontario-The Bottom Line Impact

- Joint promotions
 - Local Boards Network
 - Niagara Workforce Planning Board
 - Literacy Link Niagara
 - Literacy Link Eastern Ontario
 - Labour Market Group of Renfrew and Lanark
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=rs9eoC-MEFI



Open Mike / Q and A – *Kathy Mills*

- What is happening in your area?
- What success stories are you aware of?
- What suggestions do you have for ES and LBS to link more closely together?
- What next steps will you take?

