

COMMUNITY LITERACY OF ONTARIO MEMBERS' E-COMMUNIQUE DECEMBER 2020

Dear CLO Members,

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to present our **December 2020 Members E-Communiqué**.

The following resources are shared in this e-communiqué:

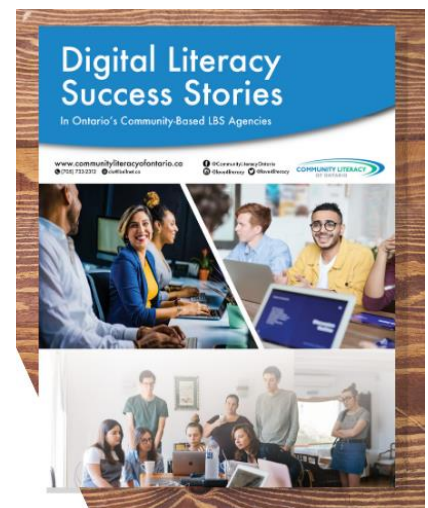
- CLO's Digital Literacy Success Stories Newsletter
- Proud to Announce CLO's New Board of Directors
- Contribute to a Pandemic Planning Manual for LBS!
- New from AlphaPlus: Resources for Online and Offline Learning
- Literacy Held the Line
- Access Forward: Free Training on Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities
- CLEO's Legal Rights Kits for LBS
- Employment Ontario News and Information

CLO's Digital Literacy Success Stories Newsletter

CLO is happy to share its newest resource with you: "[Digital Literacy Success Stories in Ontario's Community-Based LBS Agencies](#)".

For this helpful newsletter, we researched eight digital literacy success stories occurring in a variety of community-based Literacy and Basic Skills agencies across Ontario.

We hope that these success stories increase knowledge of the many innovative ways in which LBS agencies across the province are engaging in digital learning.



Proud to Announce CLO's New Board of Directors

Community Literacy of Ontario held its Annual General Meeting on November 19, 2020.

We are delighted to announce CLO's 2020-2021 Board of Directors! We are so grateful they have stepped up to serve and support community-based LBS agencies.

Central Ontario



- Kirsty King, Learning Centre for Georgina
- Barbara McFater, PTP Adult Learning and Employment Programs (Toronto)
- Trisha Patrick, Literacy Council York Simcoe

Southwestern Ontario



- Tracy Callaghan, Adult Language and Learning (Chatham)
- Anita Hillis-Krause, Haldimand Norfolk Literacy Council

Eastern Ontario



- Kathy Kennedy, Prince Edward Learning Centre (Picton)
- Julie Oliveira, People, Words and Change (Ottawa)

Northeastern Ontario



- Ginette Comeau-Roy, Spark Employment Services (Sudbury)

Members-at-Large



- Shelley Harris, YWCA of St. Thomas-Elgin
- Shannon Lee, Community Learning Alternatives (Belleville)

CLO offers its heartfelt thanks to our outgoing directors, Aly Velji and Helen McLeod. Thank you both for your continual encouragement and support.

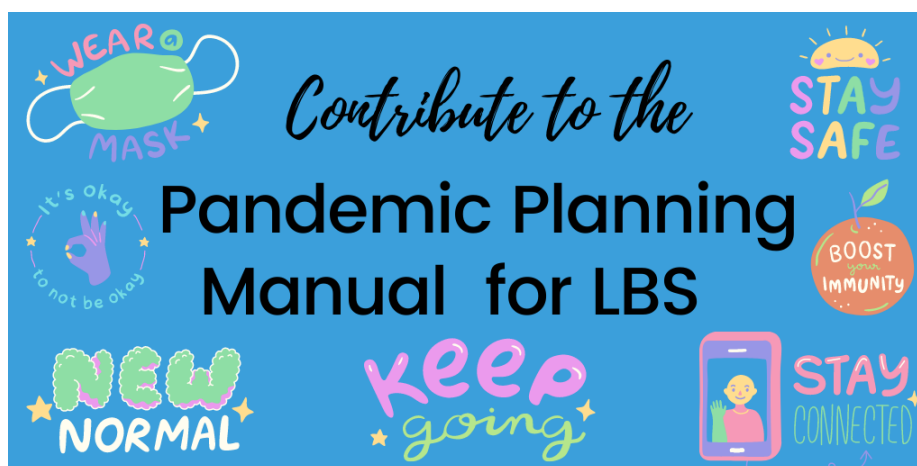


Contribute to a Pandemic Planning Manual for LBS!

[Literacy Link South Central](#) (LLSC) is hosting a Job Creation Partnership Project designed to research and create a **Pandemic Planning Manual** to support LBS agencies during COVID-19. As part of the research for this manual, LLSC would like to hold key informant interviews via telephone or Zoom with a variety of LBS practitioners. They want to learn about the needs and challenges organizations are facing while adapting to COVID-19 and discuss any adaptations and promising practices that may have been developed to cope with the pandemic. These interviews will take place in January 2021.

Literacy Link South Central will be investigating needs and promising practices on a range of topics from technology, to learner needs, to office safety, to mental health, to the logistics of working from home. The **Pandemic Planning Manual** will be completed by late April 2021. It will be freely available online, and CLO will be sure to share it with you in our e-communicue.

While a key informant interview is preferred, if you are interested but unable to participate in a telephone interview, LLSC can also email you the questionnaire. If you can participate in this important initiative, please email Jeremy Marks at jeremy@llsc.on.ca.



New from AlphaPlus: Resources for Online and Offline Learning



AlphaPlus has just released "[Resources for Online and Offline Learning](#)".

This is a curated collection of shareable, free and high-quality learning materials to support learning at OALCF levels 1 and 2.



Literacy Held the Line

In time for CLO's November 2020 AGM, CLO's Co-Executive Director, Joanne Kaattari, wrote this reflection on the COVID-19 pandemic and the amazing response by Ontario's literacy practitioners: "[Literacy Held the Line](#)". Here is an excerpt:

"While other doors closed during the pandemic, adult literacy centres remained open virtually. Despite your own fears, literacy educators connected by phone, text, and Facebook messenger to help learners cope with the pandemic and access needed services.



You mailed books, cards of encouragement, grocery gift cards and more, so that vulnerable people wouldn't feel so alone. You translated complicated government jargon about the pandemic into plain language for learners with low reading levels, and you gathered resources to support them.

You kept up connections, linked people with social services and pandemic information, strove to reduce social isolation, and were a friendly voice in a frightening world."

Access Forward: Free Training on Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities

The [Access Forward](#) website provides free online training modules to meet the training requirements under Ontario's accessibility laws (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act).

There are six training modules. Everyone must take the Module 1 training. It will take been 30 to 40 minutes to complete. For the remaining five modules, employees should take the training modules that are relevant to their work responsibilities.

1. Accessible Customer Service Standard
2. General Requirements
3. Information and Communications Standard
4. Employment Standard
5. Design of Public Spaces Standard
6. Transportation Standard



CLEO's Legal Rights Kits for LBS

Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO) has produced [Legal Rights Kits](#) specifically for Ontario Literacy and Basic Skills practitioners.

Each kit provides ready-made materials to help learners improve literacy skills while learning about legal rights. Kits include task-based activities aligned to the OALCF. There are nine kits, available online at no cost.

Employment Ontario News and Information

The Employment Ontario Partners Gateway (EOPG) website provides important information for LBS agencies. Visit this site regularly at: www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/newpostings.

Recent news on the EOPG includes:

- [2021-2022 Business Plan Templates](#) (December 10, 2020)
- [Memo: Invitation for Project Ideas](#) (December 1, 2020)
- [Overview: Invitation for Project Ideas](#) (December 1, 2020)
- [MLTSD COVID-19 Information Sessions](#) (December 1, 2020)
- [Memo: Group Sponsorship Grant](#) (November 16, 2020)
- [Group Sponsorship Grant Guidelines](#) (November 16, 2020)



Acknowledgements



Learn more about Community Literacy of Ontario and our amazing resources via our [website](#) or on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

