

COMMUNITY LITERACY OF ONTARIO MEMBERS' E-COMMUNIQUE AUGUST 2015

Dear CLO Members,

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to present our **AUGUST 2015 Members' E-Communiqué**.

Topics covered in this e-communiqué are:

1. Why We Do What We Do
2. Partnerships, Resources and Strategies to Engage Ontario Works Clients in Literacy Programming
3. CLO'S October 2015 Workshop Day and AGM
4. Invitation from Bow Valley College to Participate in **Writeforward** National Pilot
5. A Guide to Voting: a Literacy Practitioner Workbook
6. Employment Ontario News and Information



August 2015
E-Communiqué

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

There is no doubt about it, literacy programs create brighter futures.

My friend "J" stopped by to visit the other day. She is enrolled in a Literacy and Basic Skills program and she proudly told me:

"I'm just three credits short of getting my high school diploma. There'll be no stopping me then!"

My friend's tattoo reads:

"Imagine what you could do if you knew you couldn't fail"

It is people like "J" who keep literacy practitioners doing what we do!



PARTNERSHIPS, RESOURCES AND STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE ONTARIO WORKS CLIENTS IN LITERACY PROGRAMMING

In 2015-2016, Community Literacy of Ontario will collect and share information on effective partnerships, resources, and strategies to engage Ontario Works and ODSP clients in literacy programming.

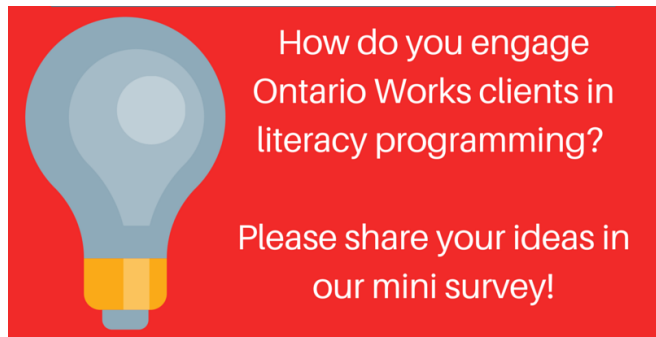
Helpful Resources for Ontario Works Clients:

- [Financial Literacy Resources](#) (by ABC Life Literacy Canada)
- [Interactive Life Skills Tutorials](#) (by GCF Learn Free)
- [Ontario Skills Passport](#) (by the Ontario Ministry of Education)
- [Factors that Facilitate Learner Success in the NWT](#) (by the NWT Literacy Council)

Mini Survey on Ontario Works and Literacy Programming:

Please take a moment to share the strategies and resources that are helpful to you in serving Ontario Works clients in our two-question survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/owstrategies

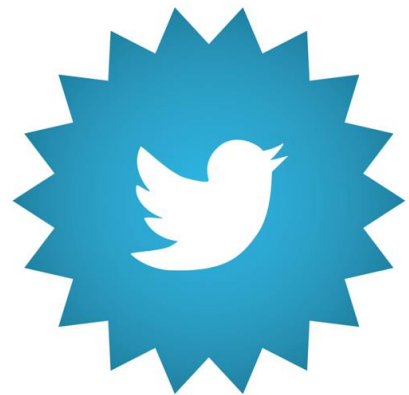


Ontario Works & LBS Tweet Chat:

CLO will be holding a Tweet Chat on the topic of “*How do you support Ontario Works clients in your LBS program?*” This Tweet Chat will be held on **September 29, 2015 from 10-11 a.m.** using the Hashtag **#CLOLearn**.

We are thrilled that [Brant Skills Centre](#) will be co-facilitating this Tweet Chat with us! Watch for more details in September.

We will share the survey results and learnings from the Tweet Chat with you via an online **tip sheet** and **webinar (one is capitalized and other is not)** later in the year.



CLO'S OCTOBER 2015 WORKSHOP DAY AND AGM



Join us in Barrie on October 16, 2015 for CLO's workshop and Annual General Meeting day. Join us for an exciting day of practical tools and information to benefit your organization as well as networking opportunities with colleagues from across the province.

CLO is pleased to present our "**LBS 911 Marketing Clinic**" where participants will assess what works, what doesn't work, and what just might work! CLO will also host an informative session on the new "**Essential Skills for Employment and Education**" (ESEE) tool for assessing learner skill gain.

- **Event date and time:** Friday, October 16, 2015 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Location:** Holiday Inn in Barrie
- **Register at:** www.communityliteracyofontario.ca/about-us/conference-2015/

INVITATION FROM BOW VALLEY COLLEGE TO PARTICIPATE IN WRITEFORWARD NATIONAL PILOT

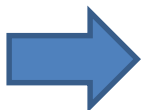
Bow Valley College, Adult Literacy Research Institute, invites you to participate in the national pilot of **writeforward**. The pilot will run from September 15 to November 15, 2015.

writeforward is an informal, low stake writing assessment for use with adult literacy learners. It provides a formative assessment model for adult literacy practitioners to assess their learners' writing skills and provide "constructive guidance about how to improve" (Fenwick and Parsons, 2009).

writeforward is based upon Employment and Social Development Canada's (ESDC) Literacy and Essential Skills framework, adult learning principles, formative assessment and current Writing Theory about teaching adult literacy learners to write. **writeforward** is aligned with Level 1 and Level 2 of Employment and Social Development Canada's (ESDC) Literacy and Essential Skills framework. The complexity levels, contexts, and categories of tasks are all referenced to this framework.

writeforward has 57 authentic easy-to-use adult writing exercises. Each exercise has a customized Rubrics which focusses on writing skills and supports the development of writing strategies and increased confidence and knowledge about writing.

Bow Valley College is looking for college and community settings to use the orientation videos, core materials and the Exercises and Rubrics. Pilot sites will also be asked to participate in an evaluation of the resource. Upon project completion all materials will become a free downloadable resource, similar to [readforward](#).



Contact Samra Admasu from Bow Valley College (sadmasu@bowvalleycollege.ca) if you are interested in participating or require more information.

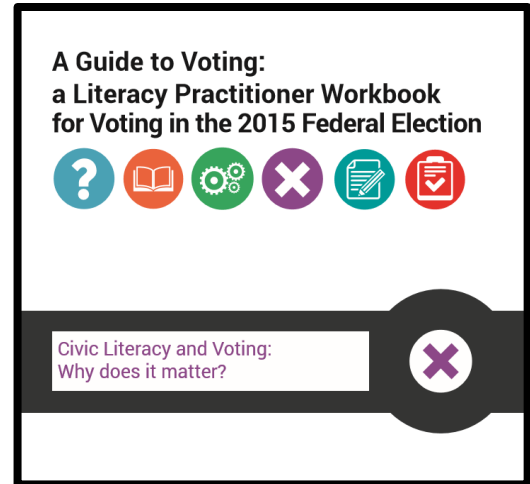


A GUIDE TO VOTING: A LITERACY PRACTITIONER WORKBOOK FOR VOTING IN THE 2015 FEDERAL ELECTION

ABC Life Literacy Canada and Elections Canada have partnered to create "[A Guide to Voting: a Literacy Practitioner Workbook for Voting in the 2015 Federal Election](#)".

This Guide will arm literacy practitioners with the knowledge and resources to introduce civic literacy into the classroom by addressing the following key topics:

- How elections work
- How to register to vote
- Methods for voting
- Types of identification needed to vote
- What happens at polling stations
- Accessibility in the voting process



EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO NEWS AND INFORMATION

MTCU's Employment Ontario Partners Gateway (EOPG) website provides a wealth of important information for LBS agencies. Be sure to check this site regularly at: www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/newpostings



Recent news on the EOPG includes:

- June 29, 2015: [ADM Letter to the EO Network: Youth Job Connection](#)
- July 16, 2015: [Changes to Canadian Business Patterns Affecting the Local Labour Market Planning Update](#)
- July 29, 2015: [ADM Letter to the EO Network: Service Delivery Advisory Group](#)
- July 29, 2015: [Memo to EO Network and Potential Applicants to the Local Employment Planning Council Call for Proposal](#)
- August 5, 2015: [Memo: COJG UpSkill Deadline Extended](#)
- August 18, 2015: [CaMS/2015-4 Bulletin](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This E-Communiqué was researched and written by Joanne Kaattari. For more information about Community Literacy of Ontario, visit our [website](#). CLO receives core funding from the [Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities](#). We are a proud part of the Employment Ontario network.

