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COMMUNITY LITERACY OF ONTARIO MEMBERS' E-COMMUNIQUE JANUARY 2020

Dear CLO Members,

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to present our January 2020 E-Communiqué.

Topics covered in this e-communiqué are:

- Little Free Libraries and Literacy
- New 'Assessment' and 'Exit and Follow-Up' Chapters in CLO's Getting Down to Basics Guide
- Devastating Fire at Literacy Nipissing
- Family Literacy Day 2020
- Hot off the Press: Four Videos from CLO
- Ontario Government Launches 2020 Budget Consultations
- Revenue Canada's One-Stop Information Source for Charities and Giving
- Consultations for a New Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Employment Ontario News and Information







LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES AND LITERACY

Thanks to the support of <u>Foresters Financial Canada</u> and <u>Little Free Library</u>, CLO staff have had the absolute pleasure of coordinating the delivery of 20 Little Free Libraries to Literacy and Basic Skills agencies in communities across Ontario. The distances covered are extensive. The furthest southern point where a library is being sent is St. Thomas, while the furthest eastern point is Ottawa. The distance between these two communities is 650 kilometres. The furthest northern point is Wawa. The distance between Wawa and Ottawa is a 1,000 kilometres.

It's been a joyful journey!

We have just two libraries left. Due to corporate support, the libraries are free. One is awaiting pick-up in North York and the other is at our office in Barrie. (Alternatively, the library could be shipped to you directly, but your shipping costs would be approximately \$175.) Please email CLO at <u>clo@bellnet.ca</u> if you would like to request a Little Free Library.

We are also excited about the potential publicity as these little libraries are extremely charming and popular. Little Free Libraries and literacy: it's a beautiful thing!







NEW 'ASSESSMENT' AND 'EXIT AND FOLLOW-UP' CHAPTERS IN CLO'S GETTING DOWN TO BASICS GUIDE

CLO is pleased to announce the launch of the updated 'Assessment' and 'Exit and Follow-Up' chapters of our "Getting Down to Basics - Service Delivery in LBS Agencies" online guide.

The <u>Assessment</u> chapter explores this service delivery function and its importance throughout a learner's time in an LBS program. The <u>Exit and Follow-Up</u> chapter looks at services as learners leave the program and the follow up afterwards.



DEVASTATING FIRE AT LITERACY NIPISSING

Just before Christmas, the office of <u>Literacy Nipissing</u> burned to the ground. Literacy Nipissing is an amazing community-based, literacy agency located in North Bay. Thankfully, no one was hurt in this terrible fire. Here are two articles where you can read more about this situation:

- Article 1
- Article 2

Literacy Nipissing is receiving strong support from the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development and community partners. They have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from their LBS colleagues; however, at this time, they are still re-building. At a later date, Literacy Nipissing will share an online wish-list of items that can be donated.

FAMILY LITERACY DAY 2020

ABC Life Literacy Canada hosts **Family Literacy Day** every January 27th. This special day was created to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

ABC has created free learning and promotional resources for Family Literacy Day. Click here to download these materials. And please share your stories on social media using the Hashtag **#FLD2020**.







HOT OFF THE PRESS: FOUR VIDEOS FROM CLO

CLO has a new YouTube channel. Did you love "Literacy Why It Matters"? Then be sure to check out our <u>four videos</u> featuring facts about:

- Literacy and Numeracy
- Civic Engagement and Elections
- Employment
- Poverty and Health



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES 2020 BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

Have your say about the priorities for the 2020 Ontario Government Budget.

You can submit your input in three different ways: via an online survey, via a written email submission, or you can apply to attend a face-to-face consultation. The deadline for feedback is February 11th. Click here to participate in these consultations.

REVENUE CANADA'S ONE-STOP INFORMATION SOURCE FOR CHARITIES AND GIVING

Everything you need to know about Revenue Canada's requirements for charities and charitable giving is now available all in one place. Revenue Canada has created a helpful <u>one-stop information source</u> covering topics such as:

- A to Z index of topics for charities
- Filing a return, gifting and receipting, charitable activities, books and records
- Fundraising activities
- o Claiming charitable tax credits
- o Compliance, audits and sanctions
- o Regulation and obligations







CONSULTATIONS FOR A NEW POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY

Province-wide consultations on a new **Poverty Reduction Strategy** are currently underway. As we in the literacy community well know, poverty is a serious issue in Canada and Ontario. The Ontario government is looking for innovative ideas to reduce poverty. Organizations and individuals can provide written submissions to prso@ontario.ca. As well, an online survey will be posted on www.Ontario.ca later in January. Click here to learn more about the consultations.

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO NEWS AND INFORMATION

Employment Ontario and the Literacy and Basic Skills program are now part of the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development.

We can still turn to the Employment Ontario Partners Gateway (EOPG) website for important information for LBS agencies. Visit this site regularly at: www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/newpostings



Recent news on the EOPG includes:

- OHCRIF 2019-2020 Application Form (January 17, 2020)
- Memo to EO Network: Open call for proposals for Skills Catalyst Fund (December 17, 2019)
- Memo: Social Insurance Number Data Collection Update for Literacy and Basic Skills
 Program (December 31, 2019)
- Questions and Answers: Social Insurance Data Collection Update for Literacy and Basic Skills Program (December 31, 2019)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Employment Ontario service is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario through the Canada-Ontario Job Fund Agreement.







