

COMMUNITY LITERACY OF ONTARIO MEMBERS' E-COMMUNIQUE JANUARY 2022

Dear CLO Members,

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

The following resources and news items are shared in this e-communiqué:

- CLO's Factsheets to Help Build Connections Between Employers and LBS
- Announcing Catherine Toovey – CLO's new Executive Director!
- HR Intervals: The New HR toolkit is Here
- Welcome to the 2022 CLO Board!
- Elgin Gleaners Food Share Program
- Ontario Budget Consultations 2022
- The Benefits Wayfinder
- AlphaPlus and Contact North – LBS Digital Capacity Project

CLO's Factsheets to Help Build Connections Between Employers & LBS

CLO has researched and written three factsheets to create awareness and share strategies to help build connections between employers and adult learners in LBS programs.

Our factsheets cover the following topics:

- Barriers to Employment Faced by Learners
- Challenges in Connecting Employers to Learners
- Strategies & Promising Practices

Click [here](#) to download these helpful resources.



Announcing Catherine Toovey – CLO’s New Executive Director!

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Catherine Toovey has been selected as the next Executive Director of Community Literacy of Ontario. Catherine took on this role in January 2022.

Catherine formerly held the position of Research and Communications Coordinator for CLO and has been in the role since 2018. Catherine has a ten-year career in digital marketing and has worked in diverse sectors such as cryptocurrency and medical cannabis. Catherine has over four years' experience working with not-for-profits, including the Barrie Women & Children’s Shelter. Through her four years of employment with CLO, Catherine has learned a great deal about LBS and the community-based sector, and she has made many contacts in the field. Catherine looks forward to learning even more in her new position and broadening her network of connections.

The current Co-Executive Directors, Jette Cosburn and Joanne Kaattari, have previously announced their plans to retire in April 2022. Currently, Jette and Joanne have moved to part-time hours to support the new staff transition.

Together with Catherine and the CLO staff, the Board is looking forward to the next chapter and an exciting future. You can reach Catherine at ctoovey@communityliteracyofontario.ca.



**The Board of Directors
of CLO is pleased to
welcome Catherine
Toovey as the new
Executive Director**



HR Intervals: The New HR Toolkit is Here

The Imagine Canada has just launched a new, revamped and entirely free HR Toolkit designed for nonprofit organizations! This web-based toolkit is hosted on their HR Intervals website.

The toolkit is easy-to-navigate and offers a collection of educational and ready-to-use resources designed to help you better understand, address and guide people management.

See: <https://guide.hrintervals-intervallesrh.ca/hc/en-ca>.



Welcome to the 2022 CLO Board!

Community Literacy of Ontario held its Annual General Meeting on November 16, 2021. We are delighted to announce CLO's 2021-2022 Board of Directors!

Central Ontario

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

Eastern Ontario

- Jennifer Hunter, Prince Edward Learning Centre, Picton
- Christianne Wojcik, Kingston Literacy & Skills, Kingston

Northeastern Ontario

- Christopher Bott, Literacy Council of South Temiskaming, New Liskeard
- Amanda Paufler, North Channel Literacy Council, Elliot Lake (Secretary)

Southwestern Ontario

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

Members-at-Large

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

CLO offers its heartfelt thanks to our outgoing directors, Ginette Comeau-Roy, Kathy Kennedy and Julie Oliveira. Thank you all for your continual encouragement and guidance and strong support of CLO, LBS programming and adult learners.



Elgin Gleaners Food Share Program

And speaking of the CLO Board... Our board meetings are full of dynamic discussion and the sharing of information and resources. Poverty was a topic of discussion at a recent meeting, and CLO's Vice Chair, Shelley Harris of the YWCA of St. Thomas-Elgin, shared information on an innovative program called [Elgin Gleaners](#).

Elgin Gleaners is a program run through YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin in partnership with Southwestern Public Health during the months of June through November. It is focused on promoting and facilitating the sharing of food resources in their community by joining volunteer gleaners (pickers) with volunteer homeowners or farms to harvest fruits and vegetables.

Volunteer training is provided at the start of the picking season and includes several visits to a local farm for hands-on safety training and picking tips. Pick days are pre-scheduled and volunteers can "glean" as for as many or as few pick dates as suits their schedules. Fruit picked is shared equally between homeowners, volunteers and community food programs.

Ontario Budget Consultations 2022

Click [here](#) to share your ideas to help build the 2022 Ontario Budget.

You can give input via an online survey, email or via a written submission. The closing date is February 11, 2022.

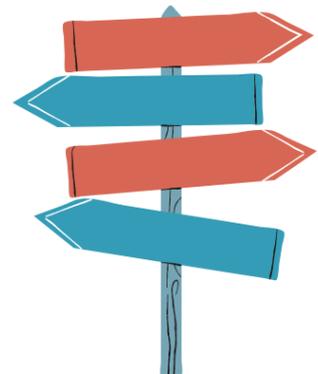


The Benefits Wayfinder

For many Canadians searching for government benefits, it can be hard to know where to start. The [Benefits Wayfinder](#) is a simple, easy to use, plain language tool that helps people on low and modest incomes find and track [the](#) benefits they could get.

The information and resources provided are from federal and provincial governments, and information is updated on an ongoing basis.

The Benefits Wayfinder was developed by Prosper Canada and sponsored by TD Bank Group.



AlphaPlus and Contact North – LBS Digital Capacity Project

In recent years, digital learning and technology have undergone rapid transformation and growth. Accordingly, the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development has funded Contact North and AlphaPlus to undertake the LBS Digital Capacity Project. This Project runs from November 2021 to March 31, 2022. CLO, along with all provincial support organizations, serves on the Advisory Group for this initiative.

The purpose of this project is to consult stakeholders in Ontario’s Literacy and Basic Skills community in order to develop a road map for enhancing LBS system capacity to deliver more services remotely and expand blended learning opportunities to serve more learners.

The LBS Digital Capacity Project has three phases:

1. An initial project consultation meeting was held in December 2021 with representatives from LBS provincial support organizations and e-Channel providers.
2. From January to March, a total of 13 consultation sessions will take place involving learners, instructors, Executive Directors and program managers representing service providers in all streams and sectors.
3. After the consultations, project consultants will prepare a “Road Map” report. LBS provincial support organizations and e-Channel providers will meet to give feedback on the findings.

Acknowledgements

WE LOVE OUR MEMBERS!

The research, writing and production of Community Literacy of Ontario’s e-communicues is funded via membership fees. We are very grateful to our members, and thank them for their support!

Learn more about Community Literacy of Ontario and our amazing resources via our [website](#) or on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Do you want to receive this e-communicue and other information directly to your inbox? Then click [here](#) to become a CLO member!

