

March 31, 2018

Community Literacy of Ontario (CLO) is pleased to share "**HANDS ON, SKILLS UP! Research Report on Employment-Related Experiential Learning in LBS**".

CLO conducted research to identify and share information about employment-related experiential learning opportunities in Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) agencies. We developed a provincial survey to explore experiential learning and an astounding 66 LBS agencies responded. CLO also conducted 26 key informant interviews with LBS agencies and select partners.

Our research report summarizes the data from our survey and key informant interviews, and shares information on the type of experiential learning offered, the benefits and challenges, supports needed, funding issues, and more.

Clearly, experiential learning is alive and well in Ontario's Literacy and Basic Skills agencies. We can learn a great deal from the many LBS agencies that have already been exploring this type of initiative. By offering experiential learning opportunities to adult learners, LBS agencies are reinforcing the valuable skills learners are building, assisting them to meet their goals, and increasing their self-confidence to build their future.

We believe that our research will be of value not only to LBS agencies, MAESD, and our Employment Ontario partners, but to other provincial ministries and stakeholders as well. We hope that our research report is just the beginning of the important task of sharing information and best practices on experiential learning.

Community Literacy of Ontario commends the tireless work of LBS agencies across Ontario and marvel that they don't just "keep on, keeping on", but they can't seem to resist exploring anything and everything, including experiential learning, that will assist adult learners to believe in themselves and help them to realize their amazing potential.

