

COMMUNITY LITERACY OF ONTARIO

MEMBERS' E-COMMUNIQUE

MAY 2011

Dear CLO Members,

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to present its
MAY 2011 CLO Members' E-Communiqué.

Topics covered in this E-Communiqué are:

1. Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework - CLO's Implementation Training
2. Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
3. Laubach Literacy Ontario's Celebration Conference 2011
4. Volunteer Canada's Online Volunteer Quiz
5. North Bay Literacy Council's "Health Literacy Symposium"
6. CLO's Performance Management Training
7. Employment Ontario News and Information
8. Excellent Online Videos about Literacy
9. Sneak-Peek of Online Resources from CLO's Resource Fair



ONTARIO ADULT LITERACY CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK CLO'S IMPLEMENTATION TRAINING

Community Literacy of Ontario is pleased to be delivering six regional Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework (OALCF) Implementation training sessions in May and June 2011 for Anglophone community-based literacy agencies.

To date, two of the six regional sessions have been held, in Thunder Bay and in Cambridge. So far, 41 practitioners and 4 regional network staff have attended the training sessions.

Evaluations have been very positive and CLO is looking forward to hosting the four remaining sessions on the following dates and locations:

- KINGSTON on May 31 and June 1
- TORONTO on June 6 and 7
- LONDON on June 9 and 10
- SUDBURY on June 16 and 17

ACCESSIBILITY FOR ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Government of Ontario has passed the "*Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*" (AODA). This Act (Bill 118) calls on the business community, public sector, and not-for-profit sector to develop, implement and enforce mandatory accessibility standards. Accessibility standards are the rules that businesses and organizations in Ontario will have to follow to identify and remove barriers to accessibility.

The first standard to come into effect is the Accessibility Customer Service Standard. The Ontario government is also developing future standards in the areas of employment; information and communications; transportation; built environment (buildings and other structures).



You can learn more about the Ontario government's "*Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*" by visiting this link:

www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcsc/programs/accessibility/index.aspx

In our April 2011 newsletter, CLO shared more details the implementation of AODA (including training videos) and we also shared the supports community-based agencies will need to implement AODA. You can view our newsletter online at:

www.nald.ca/clo/newslet/2011April.pdf.

CLO is requesting that community-based programs share any policies, procedures, practices that our members have developed around making their programs more accessible. Please email these resources to clo@bellnet.ca.

We will share these samples with our members at a later date.

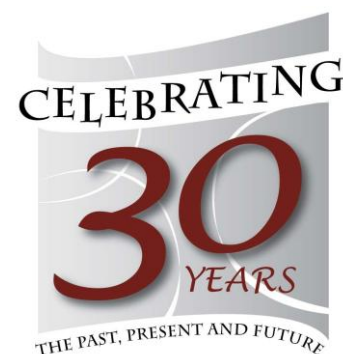


LAUBACH LITERACY ONTARIO'S CELEBRATION CONFERENCE 2011

Laubach Literacy Ontario is celebrating 30 years of operation! **The board and staff of Community Literacy of Ontario send our heartfelt CONGRATULATIONS to Laubach Literacy Ontario!**

LLO will be holding a three-day **Celebration Conference** and AGM. This event will take place at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario from Friday, June 24 to Sunday, June 26, 2011.

The conference begins at 1:00 p.m. Friday, and ends on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. For more information visit the LLO website at www.laubach-on.ca/2011conference.



VOLUNTEER CANADA'S ONLINE VOLUNTEER QUIZ

Volunteer Canada has created a new online Volunteer Quiz (VQ). The VQ quiz is designed to help people discover their volunteer type and match them to volunteer opportunities that suit their personalities, interests, skills and talents.



The VQ categorizes people into six distinct volunteer types and recommends available roles suited to their volunteer profiles and interests. The six types of volunteers identified are: Rookie, Roving Consultant, Type 'A', Groupie, Juggler, and Cameo.

According to Volunteer Canada, the 'Groupie' enjoys the camaraderie of group volunteering activities, and is best suited to large organizations with short-term volunteer activities. The 'Roving Consultant' is suited to work on specific short-term projects with real need for a specialized skill set. 'Cameo'-style volunteers want occasional, flexible opportunities to develop their skills and 'Type As' are highly motivated leaders, driven to contribute to a cause.

So, what is your VQ? Take the online quiz and find out: www.getinvolved.ca/vquiz/english/

NORTH BAY LITERACY COUNCIL'S "HEALTH LITERACY SYMPOSIUM"

The North Bay Literacy Council is pleased to present a "Health Literacy Symposium". This exciting event will be held on Monday, August 29, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the North Bay Regional Health Centre.



This symposium will explore health literacy in Canada, implementation of strategies in health care settings, medical training in health literacy and local literacy and health initiatives. To learn more about this exciting event and to register, click on this link: www.northbayliteracycouncil.ca/index.php?SESSID=0&TMID=TM-JULIE&CMID=SYMP2011

On this site, you can also learn more about health literacy including: understanding health literacy, increasing awareness about health literacy, accessing lesson plans, linking to diverse resources, and conducting a health literacy audit.

CLO'S ONLINE WORKSHOP ON PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Community Literacy of Ontario's online workshop on performance management is full (bursting at the seams in fact!). However, don't despair – we will be recording this workshop and you can view it online at your convenience in June. CLO will share the link to our recorded online workshop in our next e-communiqué.

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO NEWS AND INFORMATION

MTCU's Employment Ontario Partners Gateway (EOPG) website provides a wealth of information on the latest developments. See: www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/newpostings



Recent EOPG updates include:

- [Spring 2011 Update for LBS Delivery Agencies](#)
 - Includes information on LBS Program Evaluation
 - Employment Ontario Information System
 - Adult Literacy and Language Strategy
 - www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/publications/20110505_spring_2011_update_for_lbs_orgs.pdf
- [Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework WEBSITE!](#)
 - The brand new OALCF website has just been launched!
 - Visit www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/oalcf/index.html to:
 - Download the entire OALCF Curriculum Framework document
 - Learn about the background and purpose of the OALCF
 - Access select lists of learning materials commonly used by LBS practitioners
 - Access a collection of select assessment resources
- [Process to Update Service Provider Information on the MTCU Website](#)
 - www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/publications/20110428_process_to_change_record_on_website_memo.pdf

EXCELLENT ONLINE VIDEOS ABOUT LITERACY

Improving quality of life by increasing literacy and essential skills is the goal of the new "*Literacy: It means more than you think*" awareness campaign launched by the Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training.

You can learn all about this campaign at www.camet-camef.ca/default.asp?mn=1.81.2. Click here to **view the campaign's online videos and** TV ads: www.camet-camef.ca/default.asp?mn=1.81.245

Literacy Builds Communities (from British Columbia) has created online videos designed to share the importance of literacy. These videos reinforce three key messages:

- Literacy is like Velcro. It makes other learning stick.
- Literacy is the number one indicator of a person's overall well-being and ability to succeed.
- Literacy is a strategy that can support all aspects of community development

You can view these online videos here:
www.literacycentral.bc.ca/more/vr_buildcomm3.htm



SNEAK-PEEK OF ONLINE RESOURCES FROM CLO'S RESOURCE FAIR

Community Literacy of Ontario was pleased to host its first ever *Online Resource Fair* in April 2011. We are happy to report that it was a **great** success. Over 20 community-based literacy practitioners from across the province met on CENTRA to share resources related to online learning for adult students.

CLO is creating an annotated list of useful websites and other resources for adult students. This will form part of CLO's "*Best Practices in Online Learning for Adult Literacy Students*" resource guide that will be available in December 2011.

In the meantime, however, we wanted to share several popular websites that were shared during the online Resource Fair.



Basic Computer Skills: Adult Learning Centres Grey-Bruce-Georgian:

<http://alcbasiccomputertraining.blogspot.com>

This site features lessons in beginning computer skills. It can also serve as an initial assessment of computer skills. The four lessons included are mouse skills, internet basics, searching the internet and email.

QWIKI: www.qwiki.com

This site was launched in February 2011 and is a multi-media online encyclopedia. Like the well-known Wikipedia, Qwiki offers information on a wide variety of topics. However, information is provided using a combination of text, audio, still pictures and videos. Qwiki is suitable for all levels of reading skill and is an excellent site for research projects, fact-finding or just for fun.

GCF Learn Free by Goodwill Community Foundation International: www.gcflearnfree.org

This site is very popular with literacy practitioners across the province. It features information and activities in the areas of computers, reading and math. It is very flexible and allows users to tailor activities to meet individual needs. It includes text, video and audio. Some areas are interactive. Lessons can be provided to students on a weekly basis or they can learn at their own pace. GCF LearnFree is free of charge.

BBC Skillswise: www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise

A popular site used by many literacy agencies across the province. It features worksheets, quizzes and games for both math, reading and writing. The site is designed for adults working at the beginning levels. It is free of charge.

If you know of any great online resources, please send them to Vicki Trottier at Vicki.trottier@gmail.com.