

# alphabet

## SCOOP

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Newsletter of the British Columbia Councils of Laubach Literacy of Canada - Volume 6 Number 1 - March 2002

## Spring Conference 2002

### Professional development for Laubach tutors

Laubach tutors from across the province will gather in Kamloops April 11-14 for the third annual spring conference, entitled *Learning for Life - Reaching your Peak*.

The conference will highlight several workshops on learning disabilities. Many of our adult literacy students missed learning opportunities early in life because of undiagnosed learning disabilities. We can be better tutors if we can understand our students' challenges.

"Screening for Success" is a two day workshop which aims to help tutors recognize and deal with different kinds of learning disabilities experienced by their students. Developed by the Learning Disabilities Association of Canada (LDAC), the two-day session will be conducted by LLBC President Peg Beaton and Jan Seedhouse, Field Services Coordinator, BC Interior.

A workshop on helping to identify hearing problems will be presented by audiologist Dan Allen. Hearing can be a major factor in students' ability to learn reading and writing. We have to be able to accurately hear words and sentences so that we are able to break them down phonetically and learn how they are constructed.

There are two half-day sessions on family literacy as well. Often a person's reading abilities are dependent upon the learning culture of the home. If parents can't read, or don't encourage reading, it is unlikely that the children will be good readers. The family literacy sessions will examine the range of solutions available to encourage and promote reading in the home.

There will be sessions on board development and on maintaining a Laubach Literacy Council, a session on writing tips for ESL students, plus a panel discussion with both tutors and students.

#### There's fun too!

Laubach tutors are a sociable bunch, so there's likely to be lots of friendly conversation at and around the workshops, as well as during the lunch breaks. (Lunch is included in the conference registration fees.)

Saturday evening will end with a roast beef banquet complete with musical entertainment, door prizes, awards and a silent auction.

Sunday morning the Board of Laubach Literacy of British Columbia will meet to review its plan of action for the coming year.

*Reaching your peak!*   
**LEARNING FOR LIFE**

Laubach Literacy of BC Spring Conference 2002 - April 11-14, Kamloops BC

#### Invite your literacy student

As always, students are especially welcomed to attend the Conference. There are two workshop sessions for students. At one of the sessions, students will consider the possibility of forming a TREE organization in BC.

TREE (Teamwork to Raise Education and Equality) is a national initiative of Laubach Literacy of Canada which has the goal of increasing student involvement, participation and dedication to political action and public awareness about literacy in Canada. (For more information contact Pennyann Tibbits, national TREE coordinator, toll free: 1-877-872-8685, Email: [tibbits@csolve.net](mailto:tibbits@csolve.net))

## Registration Form - Spring Conference 2002, Laubach Literacy of BC

Name.....Telephone.....

I am a  Tutor  Student. Other (specify).....

Address.....

City.....Postal Code.....

E-mail address (we will confirm your registration).....

Hotel accommodations are available at the **Fortune Hotel**, 654 Fortune Drive, 1-800-668-8815  
(\$58 single; \$64 double; \$90 suite)

### Workshops

Check the sessions you will be attending:

- Screening for Success - Thursday and Friday 9am to noon and 1-4pm.
- Writing Skills for ESL Students - Friday 9am to noon.
- Family Literacy 1 - Friday 9am to noon.
- Teaching Strategies for Students with Dyslexia - Friday 1-4pm.
- Board Development - Friday 1-3pm.
- Teaching Strategies for Learning Disabilities - Saturday 10am-noon.
- Student Support Group - Saturday 10am-noon.
- How Hearing Impacts Literacy - Saturday 10am-noon.
- Maintaining a Laubach Literacy Council - Saturday 1-4pm.
- Family Literacy 2 - Saturday 1-4pm.
- Self-Advocacy for Students - Saturday 1-4pm.
- Banquet - Saturday 6-8pm.

### Spring Conference 2002, Laubach Literacy of BC

All sessions take place at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Centre, 236 Poplar Street (Across from the Laubach Office)

Fees: **\$25.00 for early registration**, and **\$20.00 for banquet**.

Late registration fee is \$35. Non-members pay \$35 per day or \$65 for the *Screening for Success* workshop.

No registration fees for students.

Lunch will be provided. If you are interested in car pooling, contact Jerry Horne in Burnaby at (604)263-6606 or  
Jan Seedhouse in Kamloops at 1-800-766-4660.

**To register call (250) 554-1040 in Kamloops or 1-800-766-4660 toll free from anywhere in BC.**

To take advantage of early registration fees, mail a copy of the form above, with registration and banquet fees, to:

**Laubach Literacy of BC  
614 Tranquille Road  
Kamloops BC V2B 3H6**

Reaching your peak!



# LEARNING FOR LIFE

Laubach Literacy of BC Spring Conference 2002 - April 11-14, Kamloops BC

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## Thursday and Friday (April 11,12)

**Screening for Success** - A two day workshop for identifying persons at risk for learning disabilities which was developed by the Learning Disabilities Association of Canada. A binder with resources will be supplied. Presenters: Peg Beaton, LLBC President and Jan Seedhouse, Field Services Coordinator, BC Interior. 9am to 4pm.

## Friday April 12

**Family Literacy 1** - An Introduction to "Early Learning Canada", which provides training for parents and caregivers to prepare children for learning. 9am to noon.

**Writing Skills for ESL Students** - Presented by Dian Henderson and Emma Bourassa. 9am to noon.

**Teaching Strategies for Students with Dyslexia** - Tips and techniques from Orton Gillingham, with emphasis on spelling. Presenter David Broughton. 1-4pm.

**Board and Committee Development** - 1-4pm.

**New Readers Press Book Display and Launch of Volunteer Support Project** - 4-6pm.

## Saturday April 13

**Keynote Address: Literacy and Hearing** - Presented by audiologist Dan Allen. 9-10am. Everyone invited.

**How Hearing Impacts Literacy** - Presented by audiologist Dan Allen. Dan will also administer hearing tests. 10am to noon.



## Saturday (continued)

**Teaching Strategies for Learning Disabilities** - 10am to Noon. Presented by Peg Beaton.

**Student Support Group** - Reaching common goals through TREE, the national students' association. 10am-noon.

**Self-Advocacy for Students** - Making the transition to work and post-secondary education - 1-4pm.

**Maintaining a Laubach Literacy Council** - including tips for public relations and student recruitment - 1-4pm. Presented by Jerry Horne, Field Services Coordinator, BC Lower Mainland.

**Family Literacy 2** - An overview of Family Literacy Programs, Best Practices in Family Literacy, the dynamics of working with parents/adults/families/communities, and administering and evaluating a Family Literacy Project. Tips for parents and teachers. Presented by Kim Jensen. 1-4pm

**Panel Discussion with Tutors and Students** - We can learn from each other to improve communication. 4-5pm.

**Banquet and Annual General Meeting** - Entertainment, awards and door prizes. 6-8pm.

## Sunday April 14

**Board Meeting** - (guests are welcome), Laubach Literacy of British Columbia. 9am to noon.

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To register call (250) 554-1040 in Kamloops or 1-800-766-4660 toll free from anywhere in BC.

# Fieldworkers' reports

*Jan Seedhouse, BC Interior*

I had a very busy October and November, which was a little later than usual but the weather stayed good.



New councils were started in 70 Mile House and Chetwynd, and Lillooet is up and running again. I did a three-hour workshop on tips for ESL tutoring in Valemount, and have since received a training video that can be used with the LifePrints series.

We will have a workshop on ESL tutoring at the conference. The conference promises to be lots of fun as well as learning. The board of Kamloops Laubach are all helping with planning and the space we are renting is across the street from the Kamloops Laubach office on the North Shore (Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Centre), which makes it very handy for all of us.

We intend to present certificates of achievement to students who attend, and also to volunteers who have given more than expected so register early so we can have those made up.

*Jerry Horne, BC Lower Mainland*

Welcome to the new tutors trained in Burnaby during November and February. If we haven't already done so, Fiona Playfair



(Vancouver Tutor Coordinator) and I will find you students.

What we need from all our Lower Mainland tutors is a commitment to help revive Laubach Councils in Richmond, Surrey, North Vancouver and Vancouver. There are executive positions available in almost all Councils. These include jobs for chairperson, secretary/treasurer, librarian and student-tutor coordinator.

The most pressing need is for student-tutor coordinators.

The job involves keeping two lists and deciding on an appropriate match between students and available tutors. The criteria are often simple, and can easily be determined by reading tutors' data sheets.

The most important factor is geography. We try to match students with tutors who live or work nearby to make the meetings as convenient as possible for both.

It's really not a time-consuming job -- perhaps an hour per week would do it. Think about it, and think about other tasks you may have time to do for Laubach Literacy.

We'll be in touch.

## Start a student organization

Grants of \$250 are available to councils which start a local TREE committee. TREE stands for "Teamwork to Raise Education and Equality Student Committee". TREE was created to provide students with the opportunity to participate in leadership development and the promotion of literacy awareness.

How do you start a TREE committee? Begin by asking your student if she/he would like to work with other students from your region on a new national initiative. It is up to the students, but tutors can help.

# Laubach Councils in British Columbia

**Barriere Laubach Literacy Council:**  
Contact Brenda Erhardt  
[barremp1@telus.net](mailto:barremp1@telus.net)

**Kamloops Literacy Council:**  
Judy Haynes

**Land of the Crane Literacy Council:**  
(Shalalth): Sheila Cavanagh

**Laubach Literacy of Logan Lake:**  
Lorraine Boyd (Chair)  
Student-tutor coordinator: Andrea Webb

**Richmond/Delta Council:**  
Joseph Siqueira (Librarian)

**Laubach Literacy Vancouver Council:**  
Fiona Playfair (Volunteer Coordinator)

**Mission Literacy Association:**  
Cheryl Henderson (Chair)  
Contact: Myrna McGregor

**North Shore Literacy Council:**  
Jerry Horne

**Prince George:**  
Darcy Allen

**Shuswap Learning Centre (Chase):**  
Fran O'Rourke

**Surrey/White Rock:**  
Ilze Booth

**North Thompson LLC:**  
Donna Greenwood

**Tri-Cities (Port Coquitlam):**  
Mernie Jacobsen

## BC Fieldworkers

Jan Seedhouse, BC Interior

Jerry Horne, BC Lower Mainland

## Laubach Literacy of Canada

National Development Office  
60-C Elizabeth St.  
Bedford QC J0J 1A0  
1-888-248-2898 (toll-free)  
[www.laubach.ca](http://www.laubach.ca)