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Literacy Strategies Moving Forward

Work on the development of literacy strategies at both the provincial and federal levels is indeed moving forward. At the provincial level, Saskatchewan Learning with the assistance of the Provincial Literacy Steering Committee is finalizing a draft provincial literacy strategy that will soon be shared with key stakeholders across the province through a series of feedback sessions. Connected to the development of this overall Provincial Literacy Strategy is the Aboriginal Literacy Strategic Action Plan that was developed by participants of the Provincial Aboriginal Literacy Gathering held in Fort San in May 2002. Both of these initiatives are key to the future development and growth of literacy within our province.

At the federal level, the Movement for Canadian Literacy (MCL) is taking a lead role, in consultation with provincial and territorial coalitions, in developing a national literacy action agenda that could become part of the federal government's Innovation Agenda.

The objectives for creating this national literacy agenda are:

- To bring a unified literacy community vision to the federal government's Innovation Agenda consultations and ensure that adult literacy/basic education is a component of any national strategy for skills and learning
- To promote the development of a high quality system for adult literacy/basic education that is national in scope, vision and standards, but flexible enough for provinces/territories and communities to identify their own needs and solutions

- To ensure that this system is backed up by policies, funding, infrastructure, and research
- To ensure that literacy services are accessible to all who need them, along with the support necessary to enable them to participate

The ultimate goal of the National Literacy Action Agenda is "to have a comprehensive national strategy for adult literacy and basic education within a larger national strategy for learning throughout life. Provision for adult literacy and basic education must be comparable to the K-12 and post secondary education systems in terms of legitimacy, recognition, infrastructure, and financial support." (literacy.ca, Fall, 2002, Vol. 5, No. 1)

The Movement for Canadian Literacy is inviting our input on the draft literacy action agenda to ensure that the policies MCL advocates are grounded in the realities of literacy learners, practitioners and programs. To facilitate this process, the Network will be organizing a series of consultations within various regions throughout the province. Contact the SLN office for more information.

Once again, we encourage your involvement in these feedback/consultation sessions. The more voices that participate in shaping the future direction for literacy, the more likely it is that literacy strategies developed at both levels will meet our collective needs!

Debbie Purton
Executive Director

Staffing Changes



There have been several recent staff changes at the Network. To begin, the board and staff of the Saskatchewan Literacy Network wish to extend a fond farewell to Terri Peters. After a hectic year of travel and training, Terri decided to join Regina Public Library's Literacy Unit. We wish you much success in your new endeavours!

Rebecca McIvor joins our team as the new Administrative Assistant. In her role as Administrative Assistant, Rebecca will be responsible for:

- Providing administrative support for all staff
- Helping to plan and organize literacy training
- Responding to and provide information for literacy inquiries
- Updating and maintaining the Resource Collection

Rebecca began her position as Administrative Assistant on August 19, 2002. Rebecca has a couple of years experience in an administrative role with past jobs in the government and non-profit sectors, as well as overseas. She looks forward to bringing her past work experience to SLN and learning more about the literacy community. She holds a diploma in Human Resources Management from SIAST Palliser Campus.

**Contact Rebecca at the Saskatoon office at:
306-653-7368 or rebeccamcivor@sasktel.net**

Lisa Erickson has also joined the Network as the new Adult Literacy Coordinator. Lisa assumes responsibility for: promoting adult literacy and plain language, coordinating and/or facilitating training for literacy practitioners, supporting the development of quality adult literacy programs, providing assistance with proposal writing, and coordinating information sharing on new initiatives and developments in the field.

Lisa brings with her several years of experience as an educator and program coordinator, primarily within the not-for-profit sector. Most recently, she was the literacy coordinator at the Calgary John Howard Society. This position gave Lisa the opportunity to dev facilitate a number of innovative projects. Lisa holds a B.A. in Conflict Resolution Studies. An interest in adult and lifelong learning has led her to pursue a graduate degree in Continuing Education, which she is currently

completing through the University of Calgary.

Contact Lisa at:

**lisa.erickson@sasktel.net
tel: 477-9111 fax: 477-9198**

A link with learners.....

Welcome back! Hope you had a good summer and spent time relaxing and enjoying the great weather. We took a break from some of the activities for learners in July and August. However, the next year looks busy with a lot planned for learners in different parts of the province. Here's a brief look at what's been going on:

Learners' Speakers' Bureau

In April, nine learners graduated from a busy two-day training weekend to prepare speeches about their lives in literacy. Since the training, the learner speakers have been busy delivering their stories to a wide variety of audiences including Rotary Clubs, the Literacy Awards of Merit, Aboriginal literacy gathering, and to many other workshops and seminars. To date, over 500 people have heard a speech from one of the learner speakers. And the requests keep on coming in. The response from each group has been very supportive for each learner speaker. The learners have said their experiences in public speaking have added to their own level of self-confidence. The speaking engagements have also led to other great opportunities. One learner speaker entered her speech in the 2002 Canada Post Awards and was awarded in the Individual Achievement Category. Another learner speaker is part of a video production called, *Simply Learning* that is being developed by READ Saskatoon and Shaw Cable. If you would like a learner speaker to address your group, please call me at 384-7403.

Learners' Focus Group

The provincial Learners' Focus Group met on June 15 in Saskatoon. The learners worked with Donna Woloshyn of Sask Learning on giving their input into the new provincial literacy strategy. They worked hard on the document and gave excellent feedback on the new definition of literacy, as well as the goals and objectives of the provincial strategy.



Learners' Speakers' Bureau participants - Back: Donna Zaleschuk, Robb Stinson, Evelyn Halkett, Amber Ross, Lynda Richards, Lynda Taylor (Trainer), Nguene Selinger, Qinglai Zhang. Front: Vidalia Ascon, Norma Podmoroff, Wanxia Wen.

The next meeting for the Learners' Focus Group will be in late October in Saskatoon.

Learners' Support Group

A number of adult literacy learners who are part of the provincial Learners' Focus Group have said they would like to be involved in support groups at their local levels. In response to their request, the SLN received funding from NLS to help start four Learner Support Groups in the province. For adult learners, the benefit of being involved in support groups allows them an opportunity to network with other learners and to support each other, as well as to have a voice in adult literacy issues. We would like to work with any learners or literacy programs to help start a Learners' Support Group in your area.

Book of Changes

Learners are encouraged to look at the *Book of Changes* online, and contribute their stories and photos about how literacy has changed their lives. This book has over 200 learner success stories and it keeps on getting bigger. The *Book of Changes* will be displayed on Parliament Hill for Literacy Action Day on October 24, 2002. It's a great way for learners to have their voice heard by politicians.

<http://www.literacy.ca/lan/bookchnng/cover.htm>

Donna Zaleschuk
Learner Support Coordinator
T: 306-384-7403
donna.zaleschuk@sasktel.net

At International Literacy Day.....

The Saskatoon Literacy Coalition hosted International Literacy Day with SIAST Kelsey Campus on September 6, 2002.

International Literacy Day is held on September 8. The event was held on the front lawn of the campus. Some of the neighbourhood schools were invited to come to this event. They brought their students on September 6. Kelsey Campus had some students from the ABE program and other students from different programs.

Guests speakers were Minister of Saskatchewan Learning, Jim Melenchuk, Mayor Jim Maddin, and SIAST President Bob McCulloch. Rod Goertzen had two students from the ABE program give a short speech.



Minister Melenchuk and Sandra Byers.

I wore my "International Literacy Day" t-shirt. Minister Melenchuk saw me with my t-shirt. He talked with me, shook my hand and asked if he could have his picture taken with me. I have had my picture taken with the former mayor, Henry Dayday, and last year, with the present Mayor, Jim Maddin.

There were also free books, bookmarks, balloons, pencils and cake. It turned out to be a nice event.

Sandra Byers
SLN Learners' Focus Group

Introducing...

.... the Saskatchewan Literacy Network Literacy Information Line.

Call

1-888-511-2111
toll free.





Raise a Reader is a national fund-raising initiative developed by Can-West Global to raise money for family literacy. On October 3rd, newspapers from across the country will sport a special literacy "wrap" featuring literacy stories, photos, and literacy statistics. Groups of volunteers and local celebrities (in special Raise a Reader t-shirts), will stand on high-traffic street corners and give away newspapers for donations. All of the money raised from these donations, single copy sales, and local sponsorship, will go to family literacy programs in each community. In Saskatchewan, the Regina Leader-Post and the Saskatoon StarPhoenix are the participating newspapers.

This is an incredible opportunity to raise awareness about family literacy in our province, due to the large pre-event promotional campaign. The Saskatchewan Literacy Network is proud to be involved.

For more information, please contact Kim at 525-3511 or Donna at 384-7403.

This fall, students are hitting the books in more ways than one

This month Toronto's university and college students are hitting the books in more ways than one.

This month, more than 3,000 students at 35 Canadian university and college campuses will become literacy volunteers through Frontier College, a national Canadian literacy organization. Volunteers at the University of Toronto and York University will work with children in their communities through innovative, community-based literacy programs.



From anywhere... De partout...
to anyone jusqu'à vous

2002 Literacy Awards

The Saskatchewan winners are:

Lynda Richards, Swift Current
Individual Achievement Award

Rod Goertzen, SIAST Kelsey Campus
Educator

Prince Albert Literacy Network (PALN)
Community Leadership Award

Program to teach math on television

Literacy Partners of Manitoba and Tv Worx.ca have partnered to develop a series of television programs called *Math Works Television* within the Tele Learning Project (an initiative that focuses on using television as a distance learning tool). Based on a proven television teaching model, this series will provide adult learners with confidential, home-based delivery of educational materials dealing specifically with math.

The series was developed to provide adult learners with an opportunity to refresh their basic skills. Traditional methods of program delivery are not used by those who most need them due to a number of barriers, such as transportation, childcare, or financial issues. *Math Works Television* provides a way to deliver an educational experience that is confidential, easily accessible, and enjoyable.

Math Works Television will be available this fall on SCN, an educational broadcaster that can be seen coast-to-coast. For a small fee, the series will be available for purchase for private home use. An educational version of the series will also be available for use in teaching environments.

For more information, contact: Robb Mitchell, executive producer, Tv Worx.ca, tel: 204-942-7649 or Email: television@mts.net

International Adult Literacy Day and Adult Learner Week

Prince Albert

Prince Albert City Council declared International Literacy Day in Prince Albert.



A flag-raising ceremony took place at City Hall on Friday, Sept. 6 at 11:00 a.m. The first Prince Albert Literacy Network meeting followed in the City Hall foyer, and the new PALN logo was unveiled.

Babies born at Victoria Hospital on International Literacy Day received a bag of books and information from the Prince Albert Literacy Network.



John Foster and Liz Thompson of PALN holding the Literacy flag.

SIAS Woodland GED students focused on stories of their grandparents and recorded them to create a small booklet on Monday Sept. 9. Sept. 8 is also Grandparents Day!

The Battlefords

Ten years ago in the Battlefords, North West Regional College, with funding from the National Literacy Secretariat, produced a video entitled "Born to Read". This video featured the families of five infants and toddlers, demonstrating reading as an early family activity. On Sunday, Sept 8, the Literacy interest Group of the Battlefords held a celebration of Literacy event at the North Battleford Library. Four of the "Born to Read Babies", ranging in age from ten to thirteen, showed off their reading skills to a crowd of fifty or more people. One of the children even read a short piece in French! The two hour program also featured senior, Bill Lumsdon, reading a poem, and Roy Challis, local actor, with a short reflection on his childhood and his love of the written word. Jack Hillson ,M.L.A., shared his thoughts on literacy and some interesting history about the North Battleford Library. Colleen Sabraw

from the Battlefords Early Childhood Intervention Program along with her daughter Beth provided a story and action song for the younger members of the audience to participate in. Shawna Bunz and Krista Lessard



Back: Cathy & Mark Richardson Mary Mattila, Sarah Leitner. Front: Karen Richardson and Katelin Rawlyk

charmed the audience with their singing throughout the program. Door prizes relating to reading or literacy were won by many of the attendees. A large cake provided a sweet conclusion to the afternoon's celebration.

Swift Current

To commemorate Adult Learners' Week, a proclamation was presented at City Hall. Stories in the local newspaper and interviews by the CEO of Cypress Hills Regional College, Neil Clarke, helped to spread the word about literacy throughout the community.

Saskatoon

International Literacy Day activities were hosted by the Saskatoon Literacy Coalition on the front lawn of SIAS-Kelsey campus. Special guests included Saskatchewan Learning Minister, Jim Melenchuk, Mayor Jim Maddin, and SIAS President Bob McCulloch.



Mayor Jim Maddin, Minister Melenchuk, Dr. McCulloch and friends.

Both Minister Melenchuk and Mayor Maddin read the provincial and city declarations of the special day.

About 400 local students attended the events at the campus, which wrapped up with a book give-away.

Around the Province

ILD celebrations continued...

Regina

Sunday, September 8th, marked the beginning of the International Adult Learners' Week in Canada and International Literacy Day. To mark this important date, the Regina Literacy Association celebrated with the "Regina Monologues".

This event invited learners, their families, and literacy groups, to come together and hear their successes in learning and literacy. Speakers at the event were from different groups around the city such as the Regina Open Door Society, Neil Squire Foundation, SIAST Wascana Campus, Regina Early Learning Centre and the Al Ritchie Family Wellness Centre.

International Literacy Day was recognized on Monday, September 9, at SIAST Wascana Campus.

Students and instructors were invited to the auditorium for a flag raising and various presentations. The celebration began with a welcome from Bill O'Shea, our program head. Noel Selinger, the campus director, gave a presentation explaining the significance of celebrating Adult Learners' Week in conjunction with International Literacy Day. Bill and Noel then raised the literacy flag.

Next Ingrid Alesich, an instructor in the Basic Language Skills class gave a presentation on the power of literacy. Following this two students from the Literacy Learning Centre gave presentations on what literacy means to them. Khatra Abdulahi, who is originally from Somalia spoke about how she was motivated by the desire to read to her children. Cathy Hoa, who came from Vietnam 22 years ago, talked about her wish to be able to read and write in English. Robbie Stinson, a student from the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program also spoke about his difficulties and how literacy was affecting his life.



Robbie Stinson, Learner, SIAST.

Lloydminster

Lloydminster kicked off International Adult Learners' Week by unveiling the Community Learning Network's Provincial Poster Campaign entitled, "What did you learn today?" on September 5th. The Mayor of Lloydminster as well as several MLAs were present to help present the new poster campaign. Over 200 attendees enjoyed activities that promoted lifelong learning as well as goodies and refreshments. From September 3 to September 14:

- International Adult Learners' Week Proclamation was signed by Mayor
- Community Registration - September 3 to promote upcoming courses
- Newspaper articles and photos were published commemorating activities.

Service francsaskois de formation aux adultes

Arrangements were made with Radio Canada to interview some of the service francsaskois de formation aux adultes learners and our French weekly newspaper also participated with an article about the importance of lifelong learning. Readers were asked to answer the important question "At what age should a person stop learning?"

Employers were invited to encourage their staff to take A 15 minute learning break during each working day of the week. Employees could exchange knowledge with activities such as reading a book together, sharing computer tips or taking a grammar lesson. An information flyer was sent to over 7000 rural francophone homes and through the francsaskois schools in the cities.

The International Adult Learners Week was a wonderful opportunity for the SEFFA to launch a family literacy photo contest *L'Alphabet en images*. Photographers are asked to send in unique photos of the alphabet such as the branch of a tree could represent the letter "Y" and a pair of glasses could represent the letter "B". We're sure that the photos received will demonstrate the creativity of the amateur and not so amateur photographers of this area of the province.



News from Prince Albert Literacy Network

Family Literacy

Brenda Lee is the Family Literacy Coordinator again this year. She is assisted by Sherry Phaneuf. PALN welcomes them both back!

Creating Storysacks — A Community Celebration—

The storysacks launch took place at Vincent Massey Community School on April 23. Over 50 people attended. 20 Storysacks were completed in time for the launch, thanks to the enthusiastic involvement of many community groups and individuals.

Over the summer, a *Come Read with Me/Storysacks* program was facilitated by Ngeune Selinger as part of the Riverside Community School and Prince Albert Grand Council "Families and Fun Summer Outing" program.

The Storysacks lending library will be open on Mondays from 12:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the office of the Family Literacy Coordinator, 1895 Central Ave. B West, Prince Albert. Storysacks are available free for a one week lending period. First time borrowers will receive a brief orientation on how to use Storysacks.

For the Love of Reading Presents....

JO ELLEN BOGART, Sat., Sept. 14

Prince Albert was one of several small Canadian cities selected by World Literacy of Canada to host a reading festival. Members met with Allison Fisher, a representative of World Literacy of Canada, in March to begin organizing the festival. It is based on a successful



Jo Ellen Bogart with PALN members.

reading festival in Toronto, the Kama Reading series, hosted by World Literacy of Canada. The event was co-sponsored by World Literacy of Canada, National Literacy Secretariat, Prince Albert Literacy Network, SaskTel and John M. Cuelenaere Public Library.

Canadian children's author Jo Ellen Bogart read from her books, including *The Night the Stars Flew*, to an enthusiastic audience of approximately 135 parents and children. Book sales were coordinated by Venturoso Books and Ms. Bogart signed many books following the reading. Venturoso Books donated \$1.00 from each book sold, to be split between PALN and John M. Cuelenaere Public Library.

After Ms. Bogart's reading, there were door prizes, snacks for everyone, Storysacks, face-painting, a colouring table, a puppet show, a clown and an information table.

PALN hopes to make the reading festival a yearly event.

Pine Grove Correctional Centre

The June meeting of the Prince Albert Literacy Network was held at Pine Grove. The Justice Literacy strategy has been approved provincially and nationally.

Canadian children's author Jo Ellen Bogart visited Pine Grove on Sunday, September 15 for a reading.

Other News

Volunteer tutor training for the Learn to Read program will be held this fall at SIAST Woodland Campus. Anyone interested in volunteering is asked to call 953-5512.

A Family Literacy Program for mothers and children 3 to 4 year-olds is being coordinated through the YWCA. The program includes family literacy, parenting, Storysacks and compiling a book.

Get Caught Reading! Red Wing School is taking part in a national campaign through Scholastic to encourage families to read. The first project includes collecting pictures of families and friends reading to be part of a display at the school. For more information on this program, check out www.getcaughtreading.org

Submitted by
Janet Gray

Prince Albert Literacy Network

Summer at H.E.L.P

Summer Programing at the Regina Home Economics for Living Project was really active and exciting. We had two students from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition who started work with us on May 13th. Erin McNaughton and Shari Petford were a treat to work with. Decisions were made, letters requesting donations were written and the resource book, "More



Than Just Broccoli 4" was edited and revised. The girls planned menus and priced out product (because they were on a BUDGET!) and then it was time for the Summer Reading Seeding Camp to begin.

This camp is organized by the Learning Disabilities Association of Regina and without each other,

there would not be a program. There were three - two week day camps that averaged 18 children each. The children came to the HELP kitchen and prepared their own lunches and two snacks. They learned food preparation, safe food handling and healthy food choice information.

We also attended 10 City of Regina Fun Spots once a week for six weeks and again took the ingredients to make a healthy snack, healthy food choice games and activities.

We had the assistance of two Exchange Students from Quebec this summer as we have had for the last two years. They lent a helping hand and were supposed to learn to speak more English (Nely and Claudi perhaps improved their listening skills more than their spoken English). They loved being busy making the soup mixes so we have sufficient quantities for REACH and their Good Food Box customers for the fall.

The Summer Program was a hands-on learning experience for everyone and through it over 2100 snacks/lunches were produced right on budget target!!!!

*Lucille Saum, Executive Director,
Regina Home Economics for Living
Project*



eLit.ca

On September 3rd of this year, the online conferencing service in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba got a new name and a new look.

The **eLit.ca** Conferencing Service is an online literacy community ('online' meaning that it is available anywhere on the internet, and 'community' meaning that all our users have the same goal - to promote and support literacy by sharing ideas and information). Our common interest is literacy - the ability to read and write, as well as the ability to use numbers, express opinions, think critically, and do all the others things that come along with, or are enhanced by, the ability to use written words.

The idea for an Online Conferencing Service devoted to literacy in the prairies began in 1996, when the Alberta Association for Adult Literacy (AAAL) established a special computer service on the internet to help AAAL board members work together better. In 1997, the service grew to include users from Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Currently, **eLit.ca** is available mainly in Canada's prairie provinces - Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The literacy coalitions in these three provinces - The Alberta Association for Adult Literacy, The Saskatchewan Literacy Network and the Literacy Partners of Manitoba - work together to fund and manage **eLit.ca**. Larger scale growth of **eLit.ca** is also being discussed, with the hopes that someday in the not-too-distant future, everyone in Canada with an interest in literacy will be able to participate.

British Columbia has it's own Online Conferencing Service (The Hub), as do the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (eNorthwest). Both of these service are linked with **eLit.ca**, which basically means that all literacy learners and practitioners in Western Canada can connect with one another without borders or limits.

Joining our online community is simple and free of charge. You can either go to our website, www.eLit.ca, or you can contact

Rachelle Moberly, the **eLit.ca** User Support representative for Saskatchewan, at 306-653-7368, or Rachelle_Moberly@eLit.ca.

Highlights from *Mamawenig*: *Sharing and Celebrating Our Knowledge*

Mamawenig, the first Provincial Aboriginal Literacy Gathering, was held on May 14-16, 2002 at the Echo Valley Conference Centre in Fort San. This event, organized by the Provincial Aboriginal Literacy Steering Committee, provided an opportunity for approximately 250 participants to share their vision for Aboriginal literacy and to learn from each other. The presenters were all practitioners, learners and Elders, who shared the programs and resource materials that they have developed or adapted in their communities. The focus was on "sharing approaches that work".

The Gathering also provided the opportunity for people to participate in a strategic plan process that provided direction and recommendations for a Provincial Aboriginal Literacy Strategy. Elders, learners, practitioners, community leaders and government staff - from all areas of the province, from different types of programs, from First Nations and Metis communities, and from both urban and rural settings - were involved in a process of sharing their vision for Aboriginal literacy, identifying obstacles and developing strategies for realizing the vision. This broad representation provided the diverse input needed for the strategic plan process, and ensured that the Aboriginal Literacy Strategy is truly based on the consensus of people from across the province.

The *Aboriginal Literacy Strategic Action Plan*, which has been developed based on recommendations from participants is being forwarded to Saskatchewan Learning and representatives of other governments for support in carrying the goals, objectives and actions forward to fruition.

Specific highlights from the Gathering included:

- over 250 participants from all areas of Saskatchewan as well as representation from British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nunavut, the Yukon and Connecticut, U.S.A
- involvement of 32 Learners from across the province sponsored by Saskatchewan Learning



Teepees at the Echo Valley Conference Centre.

- Metis and First Nations cultural celebrations that were woven through the whole Gathering - involving Elders and Veterans, drummers, dancers, singers and helpers
- a Keynote Address by Priscilla George, Coordinator of the National Aboriginal Design Committee, on *What is Aboriginal Literacy?*
- Over 30 workshops, facilitated by Elders, practitioners and learners who shared the programs and resource materials that they have developed or adapted in their communities
- participation of First Nation and Metis Elders and Veterans in all aspects of the Gathering
- participation of the National Aboriginal Design Committee, who held their spring meeting at the Echo Valley Conference Center just prior to the Gathering, and then stayed to present and participate
- over 30 volunteers, including 14 facilitators and documenters for the Strategic Planning process, and others who assisted with décor, registration, transportation, childcare, and cultural activities

continued on page 14.



Foundational Training

A very intensive and successful week of Foundational Training was held August 11 to 16 at Good Spirit Lake. Twelve participants from Saskatchewan and twelve from Manitoba attended, as well six trainers from each of the two provinces. Saskatchewan participants came from: Turnor Lake, Dillon, Buffalo Narrows, North Battleford, Prince Albert, Regina, Yorkton, Kamsack and Balcarres. The Saskatchewan trainers were Leona Harasym, Lillis Lawrence, Leanne McLeod, Lynne Mourot and Debbie Purton.



An adorable Aboriginal dancer.

Training was offered in most aspects of family literacy. Sessions presented were:

1. Understanding Family Literacy
2. The Practice of Family Literacy in an Unjust World
3. The Dynamics of Working with Parents
4. Understanding Children and their Development
5. Understanding Emergent Literacy
6. Working with Families in a Family Literacy Setting
7. Working with Communities
8. Administering a Family Literacy Project
9. Evaluating Family Literacy Projects
10. Best Practices in Family Literacy



Rita McCallum from Northlands Collage, hard at work.

Each session was approximately three hours long and involved a great deal of participation and hands-on learning. The extensive manual, written by family literacy practitioners from across Canada provided additional information for participants to use in their programs in the future.

Participants also used the week to network with their counterparts from various parts of Saskatchewan as well as from Manitoba. As usual, participants shared their experiences and learned a great deal from each other as well from the presenters.



The roots and fruits of Family Literacy.

Feedback from participants indicated that the training was well organized and extremely useful. Those in attendance appreciated the participatory nature of the training. The next step will be to develop a plan for future foundational training.



Saskatchewan participants and trainers.



Funding for Programs in Lloydminster

The Lloydminster Learning Council Association LEARN Program has received funding to offer the following Family Literacy Programs this year:

Books for Babies (funded by Alberta Learning)

a 4-week program for parents and babies (birth to 12 months) to help them discover the joy of sharing books with their babies including tips for choosing books for different stages of development.

1-2-3 Rhyme With Me - A Parent-Child Mother Goose Program (funded by Alberta Learning)

an 8-week program for parents and children (12 months to 3 years) that uses rhymes, songs and stories to promote oral language development and positive parenting.

SLN Family Literacy Fact Sheets Available Now

Funded through the Saskatchewan Literacy Foundation and SaskEnergy, SLN developed a series of fact sheets to help people understand what family literacy is and why it is so important. Subjects include:

- Family Literacy
- Who Benefits from Family Literacy?
- Family Literacy and Adult Education
- Family Literacy and Community
- Family Literacy and Employment
- Family Literacy and Health
- Family Literacy and Schools
- Family Literacy and the Justice System
- Family Literacy Programs in Saskatchewan
- Family Literacy Training in Saskatchewan

To get copies of one or more of the fact sheets, call the SLN office at: 653-7368 or toll-free at 1-888-511-2111.

Come Read With Me (funded by AB Learning)

an 8-week program for parents with children ages 3-6 years that uses children's books for ideas, activities and crafts, etc.

Help Your Child To Read and Write (funded by SK Learning)

an 8-week program for parents and children of elementary school age that gives parents strategies to help build their children's confidence and support reading and writing in the home.

These Family Literacy programs will be held in Lloydminster in partnership with Lloydminster Health District, Lloydminster Early Intervention Program, Border City Aboriginal Head Start, Lloydminster Native Friendship Centre, Jack Kemp Community School and Father Gorman Community School.

*Pat Halewich Literacy Coordinator
Lloydminster Learning Council Association
LEARN Program Phone: (780) 875-5763*

2002 Recipients of Can-Sask Career and Employment Services, Regina Office Family Literacy Initiatives funding

- Regina Family Literacy Coordinator
- Home Economics for Living Project (H.E.L.P) Writing the Talk
- Seniors' Centre University of Regina Group
- Circle Project - Down the Reading Road
- Regina Public Library (ESL program)
- Pilot Butte Pre-School



PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy

The 13th Annual PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy was a smashing success!

2002 was the first year that SLN has been involved in the organization of the event. Thank you to the Saskatchewan Literacy Foundation for passing on this opportunity to SLN.

Held on August 8th at the Wascana Country Club in Regina, the tournament was in danger of being washed out because of a torrential rain the night before, but the weather prevailed and we had a wonderful day for golf.

108 golfers participated in the tournament - many of them actual golfers! They started off the day at registration, receiving a wonderful golf gift courtesy of DirectWest. During lunch, held in the Wascana Club's beautiful rose garden, they were serenaded by the Regina Symphony Quartet.

After the shotgun start at 1pm, golfers participated in a Texas Scramble format, enjoying all the extra challenges along the way, such as:

- the putting contest
- pay the pro
- trying to get a hole in one to win a car, courtesy of Taylor Motors, or \$10 000 courtesy Stonecreek Financial.

Golfers enjoyed lots of good fun during the tournament, even though the grasshoppers and geese tried to take over the course. After golfing, everyone returned to the clubhouse for a reception that included a Silent Art Auction. The pieces in the auction were all created by talented Saskatchewan artists. Thank you to them for donating their work to a good cause!



Will Chabun, this year's poet laureate, hard at work.

As this was the first PGI without Peter Gzowski, a pictorial tribute to Peter, designed by organizing committee members, was played during the reception and dinner.

After a splendid dinner, the many prizes donated by various Regina businesses, were handed out to a very appreciative crowd.

Jody Peters, an incredibly funny young comedian from Saskatoon, had us all in stitches, even though our gracious MC, Jill McAllister from Global, was sitting too close to him for her comfort (note to Jill - never sit front and centre while a comedian is performing).

Then came the real reason for supporting this day, the Co-operators Learner Award. Randy Kaduhr from the Co-operators presented the award to this year's winner, Khatra Salat Abdulahi, from Regina Public Library's Literacy Unit.

This year's Gzowski award was given to Lieutenant Governor, Lynda Haverstock, for her ongoing commitment to literacy and her long-time support of the PGI Golf Tournaments.

Will Chabun, this year's poet laureate, capped off the evening by reading his poem. Will captured the essence of this wonderful day in his writing.

Because of the hard work of the PGI committee, the generous donations of national sponsors, local sponsors, hole sponsors, prize sponsors, art contributors, and the many dedicated volunteers, the 2002 PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy was able to raise over \$9000 for SLN's Literacy Line.

A big THANK YOU to everyone!

For more information about the tournament, including the Poet Laureate's poem, the Learner Award winner's bio, the Peter Gzowski tribute, the names of the committee, and more photos, please visit our web site at: www.nald.ca/sklitnet.htm



The 2002 Co-operators Learner Award winner, Khatra Salat Abdulahi with Randy Kaduhr of the Co-operators.

Resources

More than Just Broccoli - 4

Open the Door to the Wonderful World of Cooking...



This new resource from the Home Economics for Living Project (HELP) in Regina will help parents keep their children full of nutritious foods. It contains information:

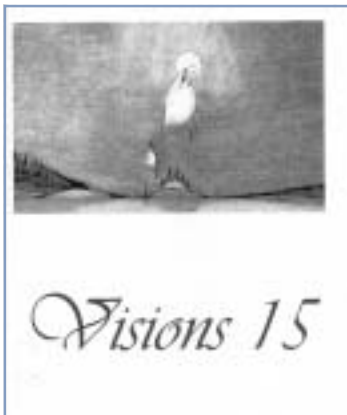
- to help parents cook with their children and teach them the basics of nutrition
- to help parents deal with picky eaters
- to show parents how to get their children to eat more vegetables and fruit
- to help parents keep their families fit

It also contains activities and recipes for the whole family to enjoy. For more information about this new resource, contact:



Home Economics for Living Project
306-347-7877
rehelp@sasktel.net

New from SIAST - Kelsey Campus



VISIONS 15 is the latest literacy publication from Basic Education at SIAST - Kelsey Campus. Joe Hilbig and Ian McLeod, Adult 10 Instructors, continue to encourage students to publish their literacy works in VISIONS. The 2001-2002 contributing students are very proud

of their published work and hope that VISIONS will encourage and support other adults in their quest to develop their literacy skills.

For more information about VISIONS, please contact Rod Goertzen at 306-933-8374. To access a copy on-line, please go to: www.nald.ca

Learners' Speakers' Bureau2002



Did you know....

2 out of 5 people age 16-69 in Saskatchewan have difficulty with reading and writing skills?

Adult literacy is...

More than reading, writing and using numbers.

The ability to understand and use printed information in all kinds of daily activities at home, at work and in the community.

If you are interested in hearing an adult learner speak about literacy and going back to school, contact the Saskatchewan Literacy Network at:



206 -220 3rd Avenue South
Saskatoon, SK S7K 1M1
T: 306-653-7368 sklit@sk.sympatico.ca



This year's SaskEnergy Share the Warmth campaign promises to be one of the best ever. Again the Saskatchewan Literacy Network is partnering with SaskEnergy, the United Way and others to collect and distribute warm fuzzies (including children's books) to people and programs who really need them. Watch for the Share the Warmth drop off boxes at locations near you (SaskEnergy offices, shopping areas, schools, etc.) and participate by donating warm fuzzies such as: gently used or new children's books, blankets, sweaters, touques, mittens, and scarves.

If your family literacy program or project is in need of children's books, please contact:

Kim Blevins - Communications Coordinator,
Saskatchewan Literacy Network
306-525-3511 or
kblevins@accesscomm.ca



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- financial assistance from the National Literacy Secretariat, Saskatchewan Learning, Saskatchewan Department of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority, File Hills Qu'Appelle Adult Learning Centre, Cote First Nation, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, USA as well as a number of corporate sponsors



Organizers: Brian, Sharon, Leanne McLeod, Don Pinay, Maxine Jacques, Debbie Purton.

- over 40 organizations, businesses and individuals who made in-kind contributions of goods and services to support the Gathering

In summary, the Provincial Aboriginal Literacy Gathering was an innovative approach to bringing people together as a learning community for three days, with a plan for ongoing support and development of Aboriginal Literacy based on their visions and recommendations for the future.



Flag bearers: Treaty 4 Veterans.



Elder Panel



Keith Goulet, MLA



Lise Labonte, NLS project officer.

Quotes from the Conference:

"We (Aboriginal people) have given up a country for the promise of the right to exist and the right to education." Dr. Danny Musqua, SIFC

"Literacy is a beautiful thing . . . you can go to places in the world . . . you can create your own world."

Dr. Danny Musqua, SIFC

"The purpose of life is to learn." Dr. Danny Musqua, SIFC

"Be careful because words that are written can be wrong . . . they can be changed." Dr. Danny Musqua, SIFC

"all creation is our campus" Senator Joe Crowe



U of S Researchers Awarded More Than \$145,000 to Study Adult Literacy

A University of Saskatchewan research team has been awarded more than \$145,000 through a federal grant and research stipend to find out what contributes to Sweden's success in improving adult literacy and how to put that information into practice at home. Roughly 40 percent of Canadian adults lack the literacy skills to fully function in society, while the comparable rate in Sweden is only 26 percent, according to international studies.

For the next three years, Professor Keith Walker, education colleague Angela Ward, and community literacy leader and doctoral student Nayda Veeman will probe the opportunities, incentives, and policy tools that promote literacy in both countries.

In September, the team will travel to Sweden to interview policy workers about successful literacy programs. The following spring, they will conduct two months of community interviews to determine what raises literacy levels. Similar interviews will also take place in several Canadian communities.

Once the team has found some answers, MCL will help put that information into action. Regional focus groups will be formed to discuss findings and determine the best way to incorporate information into Canadian policy. The team will consult with policy-makers across Canada, develop a web site to provide ongoing information about the study, organize a virtual conference, present papers at national and international conferences, and prepare a book with findings from the study.

For more information, contact:

Prof. Keith Walker, College of Education University of Saskatchewan Phone: (306) 966-7623

Nayda Veeman, Doctoral Student, College of Education University of Saskatchewan Phone: (306) 966-7660

Kathryn Warden, Research Communications Officer University of Saskatchewan Phone: (306) 966-2506
Email: kathryn.warden@usask.ca

More changes at SLN

Just when you thought your address book was complete, we have some changes for you. Some SLN staff Emails have changed. They are:

Debbie Purton d.purton@sasktel.net

Lynne Mourot lmourot@sasktel.net

Donna Zaleschuk donna.zaleschuk@sasktel.net

Best Practices National Workshop on Literacy

Minister Jane Stewart and Senator Joyce Fairbairn are inviting a select group of Canadian leaders and stakeholders to share and showcase best practices related to literacy initiatives that can help all Canadians. This workshop will take place in Toronto on October 3-4, 2002. Debbie Purton (SLN) and Donna Woloshyn (Saskatchewan Learning), along with several other literacy practitioners from the province, have been invited to attend.

NOTICE

of Saskatchewan Literacy Network Annual General Meeting

Date: October 30

Time: 12 noon - 2 pm

Location: Courtyard Rm, Saskatoon
Inn, Saskatoon

All SLN members are invited to attend.
Lunch will be served. Please RSVP Rebecca at:
653-7368 or rebeccamcivor@sasktel.net

Moving on... moving out... or moving up?

Let us know!

If you're changing your job or changing your address, we'd like to know so that we can keep you up-to-date on literacy events and activities.

Five ways to contact SLN:

Mail:

Simply send us your mailing label with correct information to:

Saskatchewan
Literacy Network
206 – 220 – 3rd Ave S
Saskatoon SK S7K 1M1



Phone:

Call 306-653-7368 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CST.



In person:

Visit our office in downtown Saskatoon—we might even have the coffee on!



Fax:

Just write your name and correct information and fax to:
306-653-1704

Email: Send to:
rebeccamcivor@sasktel.net



Don't forget to visit our website at:

www.nald.ca/sklitnet.htm

- Send submissions to Literacy Matters to:

- **Kim Blevins**
- Fax: **306-525-6412**
- **kblevins@accesscomm.ca**

Calendar of Events

2002

Saturdays	<i>Learner Support Group</i> meetings are held on the last Saturday of each month at the Regina Public Library Main Branch. Contact Donna at: 384-7403 or donna.zaleschuk@sasktel.net for more information.
Oct 3,4	<i>Best Practices National Workshop on Literacy</i> , Toronto.
Oct 10	<i>Storysacks Training</i> , Prince Albert. Queen Mary School. Contact Lynne Mourot at: lmourot@sasktel.net or 764-6183 for more information.
Oct 11	<i>Storysacks Training</i> , Rm 205, SLN office, Saskatoon. Contact Lynne Mourot at: lmourot@sasktel.net or 764-6183 for more information. Registration Deadline, October 3, 2002.
Oct 18	<i>The Secrets of Discipline</i> , presented by Ronald Morrish. 7:00-9:00pm, Moose Jaw. Contact Learning Disabilities Association - Regina Chapter at 352-5327 for more information.
Oct 19	<i>Ronald Morrish presentations</i> , Regina. Call the Learning Disabilities Association - Regina Chapter, for more information.
Oct 24	<i>Literacy Action Day</i> , Parliament Hill, Ottawa.
Oct 24, 25	<i>New Co-ordinator's Training</i> , Rm 205, SLN office, Saskatoon. Registration deadline, October 15 2002.
Oct 29, 30	<i>Provincial Literacy Co-ordinators meeting and SLN AGM</i> , Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon. Open to all literacy practitioners.
Nov 2	<i>Regina Public Library Tutor Conference</i> , Regina. Contact the Literacy Unit at RPL for more information. 777-6009.
Nov 7-9	<i>Alberta Association for Adult Literacy (AAAL) Provincial Literacy Conference, "Literacy, A Blueprint for Tomorrow"</i> , Radisson Calgary Airport Hotel, Calgary.
Nov 15	Deadline for submissions for <i>Literacy Matters</i> .
Nov 12-15	<i>Storysacks Training</i> , (2 sessions) LaRonge. Contact Bebe Ivanochko at ivanochko.bebe@northlandscollege.sk.ca for information.
Nov 12-15	<i>elit Training</i> (3 sessions), LaRonge. Contact Bebe Ivanochko at ivanochko.bebe@northlandscollege.sk.ca for information.
Nov 12-15	<i>Saskatchewan Level 1 Tutor Training</i> , LaRonge. Contact Bebe Ivanochko for more information.
Nov 12-15	<i>Family Literacy Training</i> , LaRonge. Contact Bebe Ivanochko for more information.
Nov 16	<i>LPM AGM and Conference</i> , featuring Ningwakwe, Senator Joyce Fairbairn and the Canada Post Literacy Awards. check www.mb.literacy.ca
Nov 21	<i>Family Fun Night and Open House</i> , 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Learning Disabilities Association - Regina Chapter, 805 Victoria Ave. An evening of activities to help children succeed, an opportunity to make new friends, and check out the new office space.
Nov 21-23	<i>Literacy and Parenting Skills (LAPS)</i> , Regina. Contact Lynne Mourot for more information. Registration deadline, November 12, 2002.
Nov 27	Literacy Community Consultation, Fort Qu'Appelle, 12 noon to 2:30 pm. Purpose: to discuss community literacy needs and issues. Contact the SLN office at 653-7368 or 1-888-511-2111 for more information.
Nov 28-30	<i>Come Read With Me</i> training, Balcarres. Contact Lynne Mourot at: lmourot@sasktel.net or 764-6183 for more information. Registration deadline, November 15, 2002.