



Simcoe/Muskoka
Literacy Network

SIMCOE / MUSKOKA LITERACY NETWORK

NETWORKING

A note from the Network...

Welcome Aboard, Lorraine!



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Lorraine Stacey to the Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network. I look forward to working with her in providing all of the literacy programs in our service area with the level of support you have become accustomed to over the last ten years. The summer will give Lorraine the opportunity to become more familiar with literacy and the bust fall season.

Melanie Remonde

On May 20, 2004, I began a mission as Executive Director that has not yet disappointed me. My initiation into the literacy world has many challenges and an abundance of rewards; however, I am beginning to grasp the full spectrum of the Network's mission. I would like to thank the Board and staff for their support and confidence. I am always rather hesitant to name names for fear that I might inadvertently miss someone. However, I would remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank Melanie Remonde for her stamina and assistance. I am looking forward to working with our community partners and over the summer, I will be getting out to meet with each of them.

mer, I will be getting out to meet with each of them.

The Network has and will continue to forge ahead with partnerships, coordinate community service planning and support literacy agencies in meeting the literacy needs of adults.

Literacy is a down to the ground face-to-face personal issue that will be won with each person. The Network will do whatever it takes to ensure everyone's journey takes him or her directly to the finish line.

Have a safe and happy summer!

Lorraine Stacey

Next issue: Fall 2004

Linking Literacy and Libraries: Community partnerships that work



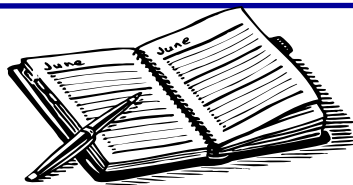
Do LBS programs know what their local public library has to offer? Do public libraries understand the structure and resource needs of LBS programs? Since the fall of 2002, the National Literacy Secretariat has funded *Linking Literacy and Libraries*, a project that has studied relationships between LBS agencies and local public libraries to find out where partnerships are flourishing and where others could take root. By encouraging partnership development, AlphaPlus hopes to increase accessibility, awareness, quality and cost effectiveness of resource delivery to adult literacy programs, practitioners and learners. During *Phase I* of *Linking Literacy and Libraries*, AlphaPlus discovered that:

Over 30% of Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) programs surveyed have existing partnerships with their



Marketing literacy to our target group is a challenge but this is ridiculous!

Continued on page 4...



Network Staff:

Lorraine Stacey - Executive Director
Melanie Remonde - Manager, Programs & Operations
Leeanne Croft - Fund Development

Contact information:

- By e-mail simcoe.muskoka@literacynetwork.ca
- By snail-mail and in person
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- By phone (705) 730-1414
- By fax (705) 730-1416
- Or visit us on the web at www.nald.ca/smln.htm

2003/2004 Board of Directors & Committee Members

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Positions now available, apply at the Network office!

Training & Development Committee

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Committee Reports:

Training & Development Committee

This year was a good one for the Training and Development committee. We had three trainings, 1 in November at the City Hall in Barrie with presentations from Rob Sheppard on Public Relations, Linda Irwin on Writing with your Student, Joanne Stuart on Telling your Story and Tim Nicholls Harrison on FOCUS. We had a good turn out in February for Katrina Grieves' Self Assessment Self Management workshop at

the Zehr's in Barrie and again at the Train Ontario-Learning Works Workshop with Anne Ramsey, Kathy Neill, Christine Pin-sent-Johnson, Carol McMurchy and Tim Nichols Harrison, that we had May 7th at the Holiday Inn. The Simcoe Muskoka Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network is now 10 and we are event scheduled for Friday September 24th. The Board of Directors has graciously donated a thousand dollars to help ensure the day is a success.

There have been many changes at the Network this year and our committee is changing as well. Sadly, I am resigning from the committee after 4 years. This committee exists to coordinate and deliver what you, the practitioner, need in training. So to have a voice and a hand in the future training events of the Network, please let Lorraine or Melanie know that you are interested in serving on this committee.

Respectfully submitted by:
 Ally MacKay
 Chair

Planning & Evaluation Committee:

The Network is seeking volunteers interested in devoting some time toward evaluating our services and planning for the future. Traditionally the *Planning & Evaluation Committee* has played a role in assisting with the development of the Business Plan for the coming

year, has made recommendations for possible projects and has assessed how well the Network delivers its 7 core functions. If you are interested in sharing your expertise, contact Lorraine or Melanie at the Network office at 730-1414. We look forward to hearing from you.

What did you learn today?

OLC outreach materials are now available! The Network has a small supply of personalized note pads to share with members.

ShareYour Ideas!

The Last Farewell Message from Wanda Minnings (continue next page →)

Happy spring! I am pleased to let everyone know that the Network is now sharing office space with the Learning Disabilities Association of Simcoe County and are thrilled at the many benefits this arrangement provides: less expensive rent, meeting/boardroom, private offices and a shared reception desk! There are several important dates coming up that you may want to re-

serve:
 Sept 12th – Road to Reading Festival
 Sept 24th – Network 10th Anniversary Celebration/Training/Awards Day Plan to attend the spring Network meeting which will be held in conjunction with our AGM. There will be several Board positions open for election and we welcome the opportunity for new recruits. The 3rd Annual Road to Reading Festival is planned for Sunday September 12th and

we have expanded the festival by welcoming both the Centre d'access a l'apprentissage and the Learning Disabilities Association of Simcoe County to the reference committee. The Network has applied to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (which had generously funded this project in 2002 & 2003) for continued funding. *Keep your fingers crossed!* HRDC's

Books we love....

A recent survey by Laubach Literacy Canada resulted in the following books that practitioners and volunteers indicated were their favourite stories. Perhaps you will also find your favourite novel amongst those listed.

- Hesselbein on Leadership
- Self Matters by Dr. Phil
- "all of Janet Evanovich's books which make me laugh"
- Fifth Business by Robertson Davies
- Kits Law by Donna Morrissey
- The Colony of Unrequited Dreams by Wayne Johnston
- Find Me by Rosie O'Donnell.
- Agatha Christie's Mysteries
- Dear Devil by Isaac Asimov (short story)
- Ishmael by Daniel Quinn
- The Mists of Avalon series by Marion Zimmer Bradley (loved by 2 people)
- My Mediterranean Caper by Clive Cussler
- Sons of Fortune
- Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt
- The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
- Life of Pi by Yann Martel (loved by 2 people)
- From Beirut to Jerusalem by Thomas Friedman.
- My Times (Living with History-1947-1995) by Pierre Burton
- I'll Love You Forever and by Robert Munsch
- Thomas' Snowsuit by Robert Munsch
- My Mother is Weird by Rachna Gilmore
- Heidi
- Random Passage and Waiting for Time by Bernice Morgan

Thank you to LLO for sharing this great list with us. Definitely some good reads here. Now all we need is TIME!

Coming events.....Anniversary celebrations by the number, Mark your calendars!

-Ontario Literacy Coalition is hosting their Literacy Works Conference and Annual General Meeting June 17 - 19, 2004 at the Hamilton Convention Centre. Subsidized spaces are still available. Register as soon as possible to take advantage of this excellent networking and training opportunity.

-Barrie Literacy Council will be celebrating their **25th Anniversary** by hosting the **2004 Laubach Literacy Ontario Conference June 24 & 24, 2004, in Barrie at Summer Suites, Georgian College. Registrations due: June 11, 2004**

-The Network will be celebrating its collaborative partners, namely, **10th Anniversary** on September 12th, Midland Area Reading Council, Literacy Council of South Simcoe and Literacy Society of South Muskoka. Staff and committee members are already planning for a day of workshops, guest speakers and awards on **September 24th, 2004**. Watch for more details to come over the next couple of months.

- The **3rd Annual Road to Reading Festival 2004** is currently in the planning stages. CLO will host their AGM and conference at the **Fern Resort in Orillia on October 20 - 22/04**. Watch for more detail on their web site: <http://www.nald.ca/PROVINCE/ONT/CLO/events/events.htm> in the coming months.

- **Books for Brunch** will also be hosted again this Sept. by three of the Trillium

Message from Wanda continued...

Workplace Literacy Skills project is currently in the approval process, however, unfortunately our Workplace Literacy Skills for People with Special Needs: Phase II was not approved by MTCU/NLS.

The Network has hired Leanne Croft for the Fund Development position to complete our HRDC-Job Creation Program project which began last Sep-

tember.

And, last but not least, I would like to let you know that I have accepted a position with MTCU and will no longer be the Network Executive Director. I would like to thank those of you who contributed so positively to my work via participation, feedback, and friendship. It is a very small world, and perhaps one day our paths

will cross once again. Therefore, in the meantime, I will only say 'so long' and not 'goodbye'.

Wanda Minnings

Over 40% of libraries surveyed have existing partnerships with local literacy programs.

78% of libraries without partnerships indicated that it would be very to somewhat helpful to develop them.

A majority of libraries surveyed expressed strong interest in having access to AlphaPlus collection resources and staff expertise to support adult literacy and family literacy programming in their libraries and their communities.

These *Phase I* findings confirmed AlphaPlus' original hypothesis that there is willingness and growing commitment on the part of both the LBS and public library communities in Ontario to forge viable partnerships.

Across Ontario, nearly 400 public and First Nation libraries, with 900 branches, are increasingly earmarking promotion of adult literacy as a service objective that supports community development goals. As provincial service delivery agencies – *AlphaPlus, Southern Ontario, Library Service and Ontario Library Service-North* – can facilitate and encourage community efforts through the development of collaborative and effective partnerships. *Phase II of Linking Literacy and Libraries*, now underway, is endeavoring to do just that, with a specific focus on Anglophone and Native literacy.

Linking Literacy and Libraries Phase II is exploring a partnership model that places deposit collections of literacy resources in community libraries for use by learners, programs and the community at large. Deposit collections are customized to the expressed needs of community partners, and contain up to 200 print and audio-visual resources and web site links on related topics. Deposit collections can remain in the community for up to a year. By partnering with your local library to provide learner and community access to deposit collections of adult literacy resources, LBS programs can:

Increase community awareness of availability and access to LBS programs

Increase your community's awareness of the availability of adult literacy resources

Encourage lifelong learning in your community

Support learners' independence goals

Phase II community partners serving as Deposit Collection pilot sites include:

Organization for Literacy in Lambton & Lambton County Library

Sioux Hudson Literacy Council & Sioux Lookout Public Library

Six Nations Literacy Achievement Centre & Six Nations First Nation Public Library

Literacy Network North East, Timmins Adult Learning Centre, Timmins Native Friendship Centre & Timmins Public Library

Future direction for *Linking Literacy and Libraries* is being guided by a Reference Group of key representatives from both the public and First Nations library communities, and the LBS and family literacy communities. The provincial literacy community includes representation from:

Community Literacy Ontario (CLO) Laubach Literacy Ontario

OLC Action for Family Literacy Ontario Journey to Learning Wikwemikong

OLC Advisory Roundtable - LBS College Sector National Literacy Secretariat

Planning for *Phase III* of the *Linking Literacy and Libraries* project is now underway. If funding is approved, AlphaPlus will looking both to expand the deposit collection program within the Anglophone and Native streams, and also to extend it to include the Francophone stream. If developing a partnership with your local library to promote and encourage literacy service delivery in your community, speak with your local library, and contact the project staff at AlphaPlus for more information.

Mary Reynolds

Flora Doehler

Project Coordinator, *Linking Literacy and Libraries*

Deposit Collections Coordinator, *Linking Literacy and Libraries*

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Visit us on the web at:
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*Whatever the
mind can conceive
and believe, the
mind can achieve.*

~ Dr. Napoleon
Hill

Road to Reading Festival... Update!



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2004

10am – 4pm

Southshore Community Centre

Barrie Waterfront

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT TO INCLUDE:

**Cindy Cook From Polka Dot
Author Readings & Storytelling
Visit With Clifford the Big Red Dog
Tribute to Shania Twain**

**Also appearing the Simcoe Dance Academy
Simcoe County Chess Club
Exhibitors and much, much more...**

**Children's Crafts &
Activities**

**Story Telling, Clowns,
Magicians
and
Face Painting**

**To participate or become a sponsor or an exhibitor please con-
tact**

Sue Bannon or Leanne Croft at: (705) 730-0648

Web site: www.roadtoreadingfestival.com