

LAUBACH LITERACY MATTERS

Changing Lives in NB through one-to-one adult literacy services!

VOLUME 2, Issue 2- February 2012- WINTER Edition



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Picture to the left: Irene Matsui, Dennis Gedeon, & Catherine Gedeon during a full group discussion at the Initial Tutor Training workshop in Bathurst in October 2011.

RESOURCES ON OUR WEBSITE

Visited our website lately? We're excited to report that there's a new link, "Resources" there at: www.nald.ca/llnb/

The resources are categorized under the sub-headings of *administrative forms, assessment tools, learning materials, literacy research, and training materials*. We hope that you'll use and find them relevant to what you do on a daily basis.

Click on this link at: <http://www.nald.ca/litweb/province/nb/llnb/resources.htm> to check them out today! Watch for more additions in the months ahead. We welcome comments, ideas, and suggestions to help us improve what you see. ☺



LLNB PARTICIPATES IN PETL'S QUALITY STANDARDS PILOT PROJECT

In mid-summer 2011, LLNB started work as one of the pilot organizations in the Quality Self-Assessment (QSA) Pilot Project with Dianne Léger, Senior Program Consultant, at Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour (PETL). Deanna Allen, LLNB Executive Director, and Joan Perry, LLNB Training & Quality Assurance Coordinator, attended the initial project QSA Tool training and information session on September 8th in Moncton, delivered by Dianne and Pat Stafford, Learning Specialist and Consultant, for the Community Adult Learning Services (CALs) Branch.

With few activity details to report at the October AGM, LLNB's staff team set to work on project document deliverables thereafter. The pilot includes an internal self-assessment of LLNB as an organization, on elements such as management, resources, environment, delivery, partnerships and evidence that will show high performance levels. Our QSA tool copy, being drafted, will list specific tasks in the planning, implementation (includes information-gathering), and evaluation (reporting, action plan, and timeline) phases of the project. Our aim continues to be focussed on the creation of an action plan for continuous program improvement in providing quality one-to-one adult literacy services in NB.

The QSA Pilot Project is part of the Quality Framework launched by the Community Adult Learning Services (CALs) branch of PETL in February 2011. The Quality Framework will apply to all adult literacy and essential skill service delivery undertaken by, on behalf of, or funded by CALs. LLNB will provide Laubach councils with a full copy of the Quality Framework during the project.

BATHURST COUNCIL REVIVAL

Eleven tutors received Laubach tutor certificates from LLNB's Training & Quality Assurance Coordinator, Joan Perry, at a council meeting on November 30th, 2011 at the Heritage Museum in Bathurst.

Bathurst's Tutor-Coordinator, Loretta Pisani set the bar for the new recruits by updating her previous Laubach training (delivered by Laubach Literacy Canada) with the new provincial workshop completed on October 15th.

The 20-hour workshop, delivered over two weekends, was developed from Literacy Alberta's *Creating Learning Partners* training model. It provides a balanced teaching approach in working with adult learners.

In the new training, tutors are introduced to a variety of strategies and methods based on recent adult literacy research. The tutoring tools embrace adult learning principles and best practices in providing one-to-one tutoring services.

LLNB's Executive Director, Deanna Allen, was on hand to speak to the tutors about LLNB's history and new developments, reporting processes, and gave details of council roles that they might be interested in filling.

The Bathurst Laubach Council welcomes volunteers in promoting tutoring services and learner recruitment in the Bathurst region. If you are interested in becoming a literacy volunteer, please call Loretta Pisani at (506) 548-5137.



BATHURST'S NEW TUTORS (L to R) Loretta Pisani, Alphonse Lavigne, Paula Wilson, Estelle Arsenault, Nancy Vienneau, Hérica Matos, Cynthia Richard, Irene Matsui, (with Noella Basque, council member), Kelli deVries, Catherine Gedeon, and Dennis Gedeon.

READ SAINT JOHN REPORTING...

On Saturday December 10th READ Saint John hosted a Tea & Stories fundraiser. Lunch was provided by sponsors Tim Hortons, Subway, and Cora's.

David Goss was the first to take the stage for some interactive storytelling, engaging the guests and handing out mementoes. Nova Quatro, the prize winning Sea Belles quartet, captivated young and old with their beautiful songs. The highlight of the afternoon, moving some to tears, was READ students Andre Tedika and Linda Hebert, reading and telling their stories. Thanks to all who made it possible!



Seabelles sing at READ Saint John Tea & Stories fundraiser featuring David Goss.

...UPCOMING TUTOR TRAINING WORKSHOPS ACROSS NB

Initial Tutor Training Workshops, delivered in an engaging format, are being planned for Laubach councils for the following locations and dates:

Moncton: February 10-11th/24-25th
Call Valarie @852-4777

Florenceville: March 2-3rd/ 23-24th
Call Sue @ 392-6576

Saint John: March 9-10th/ 30-31st
Call Marijke @ 633-2011

Full attendance at both weekend sessions is a requirement for Laubach tutor certification. Certified tutors are matched with an adult learner based upon any number of variables.



MIRAMICHI COUNCIL NEWS

Having a million dollar view of the Miramichi River, Barb Lane and Pat Hegan (above) enjoy the council's new office digs. Suite 208, at 1745 Water Street, is new home to the Miramichi Literacy Council. Call 836-7882 to talk about their one-to-one tutoring services for adult learners.

Lottery for Literacy Draw



These pictures are from the Lottery for Literacy Draw at the Miramichi Literacy Council office in December. Pat Hegan drew the first prize ticket for a set of local artist-signed books. The winner was *Helen Jones*, pictured below with Pat, Barb, and Bob. Barb Lane drew the ticket for the walking stick, won by *Sophie Leggatt*. Special thanks to all who supported it.



Photo by Chopper @ Miramichi Online
A spaghetti dinner fundraiser took place Family Literacy Day, Jan. 27th.



Pat & Barb made presentations at the Newcastle Lions' Club & two Rotary Clubs in January/2011.



BOOTSTRAP GRAMMAR —Free Download

The Adult Basic Education Association of British Columbia's Fall 2011 newsletter, *Groundwork*, recommends a free grammar resource written by retired teacher, *Jean Samis*, from Cranbrook BC.. Her 77-page manual addresses a number of common grammar dilemmas. It can be downloaded from her site @ <http://bootstrapgrammar.ca>



ANTI-SPAM LEGISLATION SITE

The Canadian Government's site at: <http://fightspam.gc.ca/> serves as a single reference point for credible and sanctioned info about Canada's anti-spam legislation (CASL), meant to deter the most damaging and deceptive forms of spam from occurring in Canada. The website has a link to the law, key facts, FAQ, info of the Spam Reporting Centre, and how the law will be enforced and administered.

EYE ON IT —Online Resources

DISCOVERY CHANNEL Link: Ever wonder why the sky is blue? Go to: http://www.discoverychannel.ca/thing_s/?clipid=510969 for a brief explanation. Check out a host of other questions on weather, the human body, and the Universe.

GRASS ROOTS PRESS CATALOGUE is downloadable on their new website at: www.grassrootsbooks.net/ca/

NEW READERS AND MOTIVATION

When tutoring an adult low-level reader, the more these basic motives are awakened, the more success you may have:

1. **Autonomy:** the desire to be self-directed or self-governing (e.g. *Software programs* can be useful tools in helping adult readers feel independent and autonomous as they work to overcome reading challenges)
2. **Mastery:** the urge to get better at stuff (Whether "practice makes perfect" is the case, repetition does help to strengthen skills, increase fluency, and reinforce new content for adult learners. When a learner sees improvement for themselves, learner motivation (& retention) tends to stay high.
3. **Purpose:** the desire to work for something bigger than ourselves Adults experience learning success when they find a hobby, interest, or practical & relevant reason for the learning (e.g. a workplace need)

WEB PICK for Learners/Tutors

→ **People, Words & Change** has an inspirational video of 6 learners sharing their stories, called "Make the Call for Literacy" You can see the video at: <http://pwc-ottawa.ca>

2011 WORD OF THE YEAR

'Pragmatic' — The word, an adjective that means practical and logical, was looked up so often on Merriam-Webster's online dictionary that the publisher says "pragmatic" was the pragmatic choice for its 2011 Word of the Year. Merriam-Webster's annual Words of the Year date back to 2003, when the publisher started making the selection.

A new site feature allows users to tell why they sought that specific word, and the feedback from those who looked up "pragmatic" was that they wanted to reaffirm that the connotation was positive. ...*How practical is that?*

www.merriam-webster.com

Q: What, if anything, can TWITTER do for literacy?

Folks may differ in opinions on the value of TWITTER, but one Canadian author speaks her mind in a message posted Dec. 5th on the CBC News Toronto website at: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/story/2011/12/05/margaret-atwood-digital-twitter-publishing.html> "Rather than turn our noses up at Twitter, we should celebrate it and the internet as new platforms for instant communication and as drivers of literacy," says CanLit legend Margaret Atwood. Thanks to the rise of the internet and of social media, Atwood claims "I would say that reading, as such, has increased. And reading and writing skills have probably increased because what all this texting and so forth replaced was the telephone conversation," she continued. "People have to actually be able to read and write to use the internet, so it's a great literacy driver if kids are given the tools and the incentive to learn the skills that allow them to access it." (HOW TWEET IS IT? One commenter wrote, "Is she serious? Is she being ironic? I'm appalled. I can only respond to her with a question, "Wut r u, like, thinking!?" ...**Why not get your TWEET on and join the conversation?**)

NB LITERACY DAY –What are you planning as a celebration on April 18th?

Since its inception on April 19, 2000, NB Literacy Day has been celebrated on the third Wednesday of April. Literacy groups and organizations are encouraged to mark the day. We welcome your event news and photos for inclusion in upcoming newsletter editions. Send your information to Joan at jperry.llnb@nb.aibn.com

WORKPLACE LITERACY PARTNERSHIP Based on the success of their Labourer Teacher (LT) program, in operation for over 110 years, Frontier College is partnering with the Federal Government (funded in part by the Government of Canada's Office of Literacy and Essential Skills) on the "LT Second Century Project". See: <http://www.newswire.ca/en/story/898279/>

NORTHROP FRYE FESTIVAL WILL BUILD LIFE-SIZE SCULPTURE IN MONCTON

Dawn Arnold, chair of the Moncton-based festival, shared the news in early Dec/2011 with a CBC news reporter. Heritage Canada awarded the festival with \$25000 to help with the project, intended to mark the 100th anniversary of Frye's birth. It will be a life-size piece of public art which they hope to unveil by July 2012, depicting Frye sitting on a park bench, reading a book. Monctonians are expected to step up and help out with raising the rest of the funds needed for the project, honouring one of Moncton's most famous literary citizens.

LEARN LINE FOR REFERRALS TO ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMS

LCNB continues to be a provincial adult literacy program contact shared in Yellow Pages' ads (sponsored by ABC Life Literacy Canada & Yellow Pages Group Co.) Under the heading "LEARN" their toll-free number **1-800-563-2211** is displayed for those needing help with reading, writing, or math. They will refer to literacy organizations and programs in the area.

LLNB's TOLL-FREE LINE is 1-877-633-8899

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT- If you or someone you know is looking for an exciting opportunity to contribute to your community by investing your time in one-to-one adult tutoring services, give LLNB a call and we can provide local council contacts who are recruiting new tutors.

PUBLIC DIALOGUE SESSIONS

The NB2026 Roundtable is holding public dialogue sessions across NB. The citizen engagement initiative is to discuss the value of lifelong learning and make an action plan for transforming NB into the "Learning Province" of Canada.

'LOVE OF READING DOWN'

A 12/12 National Post blog by Megan O'Toole reported a study by *People for Education*, in co-operation with the National Reading Campaign, that showed a dramatic drop over the past decade in percentage of Ontario students in Grades 3 and 6 who say they "like to read." School libraries were cited as "untapped resources" to build reading enjoyment.

NEW PRESIDENT/CEO @ CLLN

This year, **Lindsay Kennedy** started a new role as President and CEO of Canadian Literacy and Learning Network (CLLN- the national coalition advancing LES in Canada.)

Understanding Essential Skills
www.occl.ca/eskills.htm

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