



### Mark Your Calendars:

February is I Love to Read Month  
March 1-7, International Adult Learners Week  
March 20, IRCOM Stationary Bike-a-thon  
April 12 Drop Everything and Read Day  
June 21 PGI Golf Tournament at Elmhurst Golf and Country Club

Image:  
Microsoftclipart.com

## LPM's Family Literacy Day Event

The fun happened on January 27, 2010 in the centre court at Kildonan Place Mall.

Volunteer event planners, Carin Crowe (Chair), Pat Franz, and Doris Quinn were pleased with the number of children who participated in LPM's Family Literacy Day event.

Many of the parents and grandparents in the mall that day stopped by our booth and stayed to see one of the events.



The Story Fairy

The line-up of entertainment included the Story Fairy - Cindy Robin, Aboriginal Story Teller, Marie Baker, and Munch Puppeteer, Darryl Boguski.

The pre-school children listened to the stories the Story Fairy told with rapt attention. Cindy uses a combination of puppets and picture books to share her stories. The Story Fairy stayed for most of the day and put on three 45 minute performances.

Marie Baker's traditional story telling entertained several children and their parents from Turtle Island Family Resource Centre. They had come to Kildonan Place by bus to hear her and the Story Fairy.

Several of the parents who had stopped to hear Darryl Boguski, the Transcona Children's librarian perform, "The Paper Bag Princess", stayed to say hello to Darryl. He knew their children by name. Apparently, if you are in charge of the children's section of a library, you develop a following.

Staff member, Jan Graham, was on hand to share information about parents reading to children from the printable handouts in Carol Goossen's book, *Family Literacy for Adults*.

Birchwood Honda on Regent dropped off a vehicle for us to display at the mall. Honda Canada is a founding sponsor of ABC Canada's nationwide Family Literacy Day, held every year on January 27.

## IRCOM Stationary Bike-a-thon, March 20<sup>th</sup>

Greetings All,

The Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba Inc. (IRCOM) is pleased to invite you to the first-ever IRCOM Stationary Bike Fundraiser on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm at St. James Collegiate (1900 Portage Avenue). The event is being co-hosted by IRCOM and the St. James-Assiniboia School Division. All money raised will be going to support IRCOM programming and administration.

The event will involve 20 teams of 20 riders on stationary bikes (donated by Olympia Cycle & Ski) riding for 20 minutes each. Each rider will secure pledges from friends, family members and their community to support them based on the distance they cycle during their 20 minute slot. Winners will be declared in four categories and scores will be based on total pledges + total kilometres cycled. Prizes will be awarded!



The event will also feature a number of vendors selling fair trade goods including *Ten Thousand Villages*, *African Pot* and *Scarves from Africa for Africa*. Cultural items will be on display throughout the event from cultural groups at IRCOM House. At 6:00 pm a multicultural buffet will be served with live entertainment and an opportunity to socialize with other riders and volunteers.

Image:  
photosearch.com

Interested? There are a number of ways to get involved with this fun event. We are still looking for teams of 20 from businesses, schools, religious organizations and community groups. Enthusiastic volunteers are also needed to help out with tallying kilometres ridden, set up and clean up and greeting participants.

If you have any questions or just want more information, feel free to me at 943-8765, ext 23. Or, send an email to [erina@ircom.ca](mailto:erina@ircom.ca).

Warm regards,

Erin Anderson Volunteer & Communications Coordinator  
Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba (IRCOM)  
Ph: (204) 943-8765 ext. 23  
Fax: (204) 943-4810  
Email: [erina@ircom.ca](mailto:erina@ircom.ca)

---

## The PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy



PGI 2010 registration forms are now online [www.mb.literacy.ca/pgi.htm](http://www.mb.literacy.ca/pgi.htm)

Join Literacy Partners of Manitoba on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 at Elmhurst golf and country club to raise funds for literacy learners in Manitoba.

Registration is at 11:30, followed by lunch. At 12:30 we tee-off with a Texas Scramble Shot Gun start (though, unfortunately, there will be no actual shotgun fired).

The Entry deadline is June 11, 2010 but register now!

Space is limited to the first 128 paid golfers

---

## New CNIB campaign: "Reading is a right, not a privilege"

"What would you do if the benefits of reading were missing from your life... how would you learn, work, or just get lost in a great story?"



The right to read of blind and partially sighted Canadians is in jeopardy. Without immediate government funding for accessible library services, books and essential information in accessible formats will be missing from their lives.

We need your help now to urge Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments to partner with CNIB to support and sustain the CNIB Library and its vital services."

Visit: <http://righttoread.cnib.ca/>

---

## Web resource of the month: AlphaPlus Blog

"Learning Outside the Lines: Adult Literacy in Ontario"

This month the folks at the AlphaPlus Centre in Toronto posted some of the best research in "digital literacies and online distance learning".

### **AlphaPlus Blog**

Learning Outside the Lines : Adult Literacy in Ontario

Click on <http://blog.alphaplus.ca/> to see all the blog entries and to vote on your favorites.

---

## Plain Language training at LPM

We can help you reach a wider audience?

Literacy Partners of Manitoba offers:

Assessments of brochures, web pages and letters. Is your text readable by your target audience? If your clients aren't getting your message, maybe it's how you are wording your message.

Suggestions to improve readability to suit particular audiences. Not everyone reads at a grade 12 level, what changes can widen the appeal of your text?

Re-writes, structural and copy editing. We'll edit your documents to remove those embarrassing errors that make you look bad. And, we'll write in a style appropriate for your audience and purpose.

Training sessions in Plain Language writing. We will teach you how to prepare well laid out documents worded so that people really understand in practical, hands-on, congenial workshops.

For more information

Call Wendy Bulloch at: (204) 954-3855.

Visit [www.mb.literacy.ca](http://www.mb.literacy.ca) for more information on our Plain Language Services.



Image: stock.xchng.com

---

## Fact Sheet: ASSESSMENT OF READINESS SKILLS DURING EARLY CHILDHOOD

The Learning Disabilities Association of Canada and the Learning Disabilities Association of New Brunswick have teamed up to create this clear and informative fact sheet. The authors describe the importance of tracking developmental milestones in:



- hearing and vision
- perception, memory, language, thinking skills, and aptitudes
- listening comprehension and expressive language

and several other spheres of development.

Go to: [www.nald.ca/library/research/ldanb/factsheets/readiness/readiness.pdf](http://www.nald.ca/library/research/ldanb/factsheets/readiness/readiness.pdf)

---

Did you know:



...people with literacy problems have only 2/3 of the income of other adults?

[www.literacy.ca/themes/mcl/PDF/litforlife/poverty.pdf](http://www.literacy.ca/themes/mcl/PDF/litforlife/poverty.pdf)