

Literacy Partners of Manitoba June 2011 E-News

Inside this Issue

| | |
|---|---|
| New Tool for Workers | 1 |
| Plain Language Training | 1 |
| Literacy News | 2 |
| Literacy Research | 2 |
| Practitioner Resources | 3 |
| Essential Skills Resources | 3 |
| Aboriginal Literacy | |
| Symposium Nov. 1 & 2 | 4 |
| LPM Contacts & Services | 4 |

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 2011 Literacy Month
International Literacy Day ~ Take 5 & READ Challenge **September 8th**
Financial Literacy Conference during Learn at Work Week **Sept. 21-22**
Essential Skills Day **Sept. 23**
Raise A Reader Day **Sept. 28**

CSAE National Conference & Showcase September 15-17 in Saskatoon
One of Canada's largest annual educational events dedicated to the not-for-profit sector. This annual event brings together not-for-profit executives and related business professionals from across the country. [More information](#)

International Adult Literacy Survey (IALS): its Meaning and Impact for Policy & Practice Fall Institute, Oct. 25 in Banff, Alberta. For more information and to register [click here](#).

ABC Life Literacy Canada is pleased to be accepting nominations for both the **Dr. Alan Middleton Workplace Literacy and Learning Award** and the Peter Gzowski Life Literacy Fellowship. [Learn more about the awards.](#)

Manitobans with low literacy levels get new tool to improve workplace health and safety

Last year over 15,000 Manitobans were injured seriously enough to miss time from work. When workers do not have the necessary literacy skills to understand their workplace health and safety rights and responsibilities they are at greater risk of being hurt. To help workers struggling with low literacy skills reduce incidences of injuries in their workplaces, Literacy Partners of Manitoba, with support from SAFE Work Manitoba, the Workers' Compensation Board, and The Winnipeg Foundation, have developed a new resource, "**Being SAFE at Work**".

"**Being SAFE at Work**" is written in Plain Language, a clear, simple, reader-friendly style that is accessible to more people. "With 48% of Canadians having less than a Grade 12 education or literacy level of 3, this publication is invaluable" notes Wendy Bulloch, Executive Director of Literacy Partners of Manitoba. "This booklet will help more people understand how to be safe at work" she adds.

"Every worker deserves to be *SAFE* at work, no matter what their literacy level," says project partner Warren Preece, WCB Communications Director. "A booklet like this is a great way to get the *SAFE* work message out to vulnerable workers."

Copies of "**Being SAFE at Work**" will be distributed to immigrant settlement workers and at labor and manufacturing sites this summer. You can download it from our website at www.mb.literacy.ca. If you want more information about Plain Language or want training please visit the LPM website. Plain Language courses are being offered this August (see below).



GO. Be safe.

Do you write for the public? Are you reaching your audience? Plain Language can help! Attend LPM's PLAIN LANGUAGE Training August 9 & 10

Day 1 Tuesday August 9: Introduction to Plain Language
Learn the principles of plain language and clear layout, and the finer points of good writing.

Day 2 Wednesday August 10: Advanced Plain Language
Today you will revise your own documents in a tutorial setting. You must have taken the Day 1 Introductory course.

Courses will be held at the United Way building on Main Street from 9:00am-4:30pm each day, with a maximum of 20 participants per course. The registration deadline is July 15, with LPM member and group discounts available. Lunch is not provided. For registration information and costs please see www.mb.literacy.ca

Literacy News

New Provincial Literacy Organization in BC

Decoda Literacy Solutions is the new provincial literacy organization for British Columbia. It brings together the work, experience and expertise of Literacy BC and the literacy department of 2010 Legacies Now. By supporting and expanding the work being done by literacy groups and community partners throughout the province, they want to take literacy to the next level in BC. Their vision is a culture of community-based learning and literacy that supports the full continuum of priorities that have been identified by communities - from early childhood to family, adult, workplace and emerging literacies. To learn more visit decoda.ca or read their [press release](#). You can contact them at info@decoda.ca.

Unique Program Now Available in Manitoba

St. Amant is pleased to offer a unique training opportunity. “**Literacy for Life: Learning in the Community**” is a tutor training program for assisting adults with intellectual disabilities to develop their literacy skills. The program consists of 8 classroom sessions and 7, 2-hour practicum experiences. Each student tutor develops a literacy portfolio and receives a certificate. The program is available in video conference format through the MB Telehealth Network and runs from October 6 to November 24, 2011. If you know of anyone interested in developing their skills in literacy education, specifically targeting adults with intellectual disabilities, please pass on this information. **Their application deadline is September 15, 2011.** For more information call (204) 258-7049 or email abulloch@stamant.mb.ca.

LITERACY RESEARCH *with a focus on libraries & digital technologies*

Third Generation Public Libraries Research shows that in communities large and small, public libraries have a strong role in literacy and learning, innovation, community development, and prosperity. [Read more](#)

Librarians Fight for a Role in a Digital World by Kate Hammer

Today many Canadian children have never seen a school librarian and never will. Nova Scotia has none, and the full-time equivalent of just three are left in all of New Brunswick. At least one school board in Ontario hasn't had a teacher-librarian in 15 years, and numbers have declined in Alberta and British Columbia as well.

[More...](#)

School Libraries and Information Literacy People for Education and Queen's University conducted a joint study on school libraries and their relationship to student achievement. Data from Grade 3 and 6 EQAO literacy tests were correlated on a school-by-school basis to examine whether a link existed between higher student achievement and school library conditions. [More...](#)

How Cloud Computing Can Contribute to Literacy A new report from AlphaPlus suggests that with the help of cloud computing, the future of cyberspace for adult literacy will see a proliferation of new and easily accessible literacy tools such as smartphone applications, to help read signs and turn text into voice. [More...](#)

To post or not to post... ABC Life Literacy recently developed social media guidelines around the best practices of social media to encourage staff, stakeholders, volunteers and literacy supporters to engage in conversation around literacy and help raise its profile. [Check them out!](#)

Are you reading this online or did you print it out? [E-books outselling print versions on Amazon](#)



PRACTITIONER RESOURCES

Easy Reading: Help for Career Advisors [Easy to read career planning resources](#)

[Adult Literacy Through Family Workshops](#) [Video - 3:27] by Adult Learning Knowledge Centre (AdLKC) (2008)

[Challenging Literacy Prejudices Through Theatre](#) [Video - 3:23] by Adult Learning Knowledge Centre (AdLKC) (2008)

Read Forward is a reading assessment tool for adult learners. It is a series of tests that learners and practitioners can use to assess changes in reading over time. You can order copies from [Bow Valley College](#).

[A Social and Holistic Approach to Numeracy](#) by Labour Education Centre, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) and Workplace Education Manitoba (2011) (PDF)

[Three new online tools for teaching, learning literacy and essential skills](#)

[New tools and resources help build financial literacy skills](#) More than half of Canadians admit to needing help with financial management skills, according to recent Ipsos Reid research. ABC Life Literacy developed tools and resources to help you improve financial skills. See these links:

[Financial Literacy Glossary Part One](#) by ABC Life Literacy Canada (2010) (PDF)

[Financial Literacy Glossary Part Two](#) by ABC Life Literacy Canada (2010) (PDF)

ESSENTIAL SKILLS RESOURCES

[Sign up for workplace and essential skills resources and information](#)

Now you can receive exclusive notification of new publications and resources, along with targeted information on how to increase the essential skills of your employees, by signing up for ABC Life Literacy workplace and essential skills e-communications. [Click here to sign up today!](#)

[Project Summary and Guide to Promoting Essential Skills to Employers](#) by Centre for Education & Training (TCET) (2010) (PDF)

[Essential Skills Profiles: Top 50 Entry-Level Jobs in Canada](#) by Karen McGregor and Carla Douglas (2011) (PDF)

[Essential Skills in Canadian Workplaces - Final Report](#) by Ekos Research Associates Inc. (2007) (PDF)

[Moving Forward on Workplace Learning - Report from the Forum on Employer Investment in Workplace Learning](#) by Ron Saunders (2008) (PDF)

Connecting Literacy and Employment through Essential Skills

Through a two-year project, Literacy Link South Central has developed a set of seven workbooks. These resources embed Essential Skill activities within employment readiness tasks. Finished products are being distributed nation-wide and are on their website www.lisc.on.ca. You can download free copies or use them interactively online. To request copies email communications@bellnet.ca with the amount you'd like and your contact information, as well as a brief description of how you intend to incorporate workbooks into your program.

You cannot help someone get up a hill without getting closer to the top yourself.

General Schwarzkopf

No skill is more crucial to the future of a child, or to a democratic and prosperous society, than literacy.

Los Angeles Times



"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader..."

- Margaret Fuller

**Aboriginal
Literacy
Symposium 2011**

"New Relationships, New Opportunities!"

The 2011 Aboriginal Literacy Symposium will be an opportunity for participants to explore a variety of key concepts.

The goal is to develop a shared vision to improve literacy and essential skills, so Aboriginal people experience greater success in their chosen paths.

Guest speakers include the Honourable James Bartleman, Former Governor General of Ontario, Ningwakwe George, Author and Literacy Advocate, and Ovide Mercredi, Former ANF Nation Chief and Chief of Grand Rapids First Nations.

Sponsorships and trade show booth applications are available on the event webpage at <http://www.aboriginal-literacy2011.ca/>. Registration information and an agenda will be available in September. Keep posted to the event webpage, where you can sign up for Twitter updates and ask organizers questions!

Literacy Partners of Manitoba ...

- *is your literacy link*
- *helps adults access learning programs through our Learn Line*
- *maintains a library of literacy resources, reports, and research materials*
- *offers workshops & training in plain language and related topics*
- *hosts literacy events and fundraisers*
- *administers grants and bursaries for learners and practitioners*
- *publishes learner & instructor writing in Write On! Magazine twice a year*
- *empowers and engages adults in continuous learning through networks and strategic partnerships*



Contact Info

Literacy Partners of MB
401-321 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3A 0A3

Phone: 204-947-5757

Fax: 204-956-9315

Toll free: 1-866-947-5757

Em: literacy@mb.literacy.ca

Web: www.mb.literacy.ca

LEARN Line

learnline@mb.literacy.ca