

# Sept. 2011 E-News

## *Everything you need to know about Literacy & Essential Skills*

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### First of a kind, on-line tool for accessing adult learning programs coming soon!

A new on-line tool to help adults find adult learning and literacy programs in Manitoba is being launched in Winnipeg this month. **GO to LEARN**, an interactive online resource for adults wishing to upgrade their literacy skills, was developed by Literacy Partners of Manitoba (LPM).

Jeremy Johnson, Literacy and Essential Skills Coordinator for LPM, says that this tool was developed because of the need to simplify information about adult learning opportunities, which many found difficult to figure out, particularly literacy learners.

Written in simple, easy to understand language, **GO to LEARN** asks users questions and provides referrals based on responses. Anyone can use it, adult learners, service providers, and other professionals, and it has the potential to grow to include other adult learning opportunities.

To explore **GO to LEARN** or talk to Literacy Partners of Manitoba about its development and the programs it guides users to contact us at 947-5757. The tool will be available on our website at [www.mb.literacy.ca](http://www.mb.literacy.ca) in the coming days.

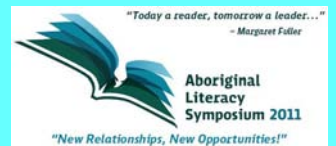
### Winnipeg Free Press Raise-A-Reader Day September 28th

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

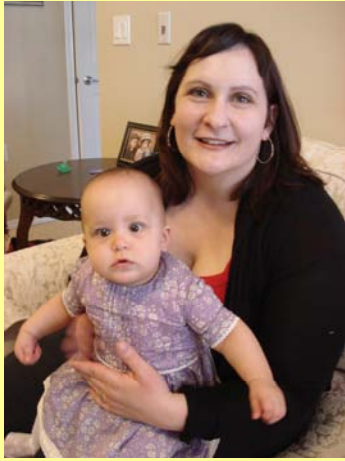
If you can spare a couple of hours early this morning to sell papers and raise funds for family literacy programs call 947-5757.

Or, buy a Free Press from volunteers at area street corners in your community.

### Aboriginal Literacy Symposium: New Relationships, New Opportunities at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg, November 1 & 2



**This gathering presents attendees with the unique opportunity to be part of the development of a shared vision for improved literacy and essential skills for Aboriginal people in Manitoba. Click here to view the [ALS 2011 poster](#). All conference details can be found at [www.aboriginal-literacy2011.ca](http://www.aboriginal-literacy2011.ca).**



## IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T MET JENNFIER MICHALUK, LPM's new LEARN Line Coordinator

Jennifer Michaluk was born and raised in Gilbert Plains, MB. She attended the University of Manitoba, earned a Bachelor of Science degree, and worked in the agriculture industry for 5 years. Jennifer then fulfilled her dream of exploring and studying in other countries.

Jennifer lived and worked abroad in the education field for eight years, on four different continents. Her last position was in Rabat, Morocco as the Education Abroad Coordinator for AMIDEAST. Her and her family currently live in Winnipeg where she has worked on immigration issues. Jennifer is very excited to join the Literacy Partners team.

Welcome Jen (with daughter Yasmina) to the LPM team!

### JOIN US ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER TODAY!

Visit [www.mb.literacy.ca](http://www.mb.literacy.ca) to link to our social media sites, which have the latest info, events and resources related to literacy and essential skills.



## Literacy Partners Of Manitoba

Literacy Partners of Manitoba helps open doors to lifelong learning and a society where everyone participates fully.

**Our Mission:** LPM is committed to supporting learners and practitioners in their efforts to improve Literacy and Essential Skills in Manitoba, and to raise awareness of their importance with stakeholders.

**Our Vision:** Every Manitoban has the Literacy and Essential Skills to reach their potential in the workplace, the community, and family life.

Literacy Partners of Manitoba (LPM) is a non-profit organization governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and is supported by a community-based membership, individual and corporate donors, the Government of Canada Office of Literacy and Essential Skills, and the Province of Manitoba Adult Learning and Literacy Branch, MB Advanced Education and Literacy. We were founded in 1987 as "Literacy Workers' Alliance of MB", incorporated as "Literacy Partners of MB" in 1996.

**LPM 2011 AGM & Awards will take place on November 15, 2011 at the Norwood Hotel. Stay tuned to our website for more info!**

## 2011-2012 LPM Staff

**Wendy Bulloch**, Executive Director  
**Jeremy Johnson**, Literacy and Essential Skills Coordinator  
**Kathy Pavlik**, Admin Assistant/  
Membership Services  
**Jennifer Michaluk**,  
Learner Outreach Coordinator/  
LEARN Line  
**Connie Bell**, Bookkeeper  
Newsletter design and editing:  
**Jennifer Heinrichs**, Contract  
Communications Coordinator

## Board of Directors

**Herman Hansen**, President  
Boeing Canada Senior Manager  
**Holly Banner**, VP & Treasurer  
KLINIC, Director of Finance & HR  
**Ellen Olfert**, Secretary  
ED, Safe Workers of Tomorrow (Retired)  
**Peggy (Margaret) Archer**, Teacher  
**Gail Fishman**, Stevenson-Britannia Adult  
Literacy Program Education Director  
**Edward Kidd**, CIBC Regional Manager  
**James R. Lewis**, Lewis Communications  
**Anita Martens**, Adult Learner Rep  
**Deborah Schnitzer**, Professor, University  
of Winnipeg English Department

# LITERACY PARTNERS OF MANITOBA

# SCHOLARSHIPS

In honour of Manitoba's Adult Learners

Put your experiences as an adult learner in writing or on video.

Tell us how your journey is helping you build a stronger future.

SEVEN WINNERS from ACROSS THE PROVINCE

Winners will be awarded scholarship at the 2011 LPM AGM.

Work will be published in Write On! Magazine.

Download the poster with all the details from our website today.

The deadline for applications/submissions is now October 15th!

See [www.mb.literacy.ca](http://www.mb.literacy.ca) for more information.



## Literacy Awards

The finalists for the 2011 Canada Post Community Literacy Awards have been announced. Established in 1993 to acknowledge the achievements of Canadians who have made a special effort or an important contribution to literacy, the Community Literacy Awards program continues to celebrate the achievements of both adult learners and those who have helped them learn to read and write. [View site for full information.](#)

[UNESCO's 2011 literacy prize winners: Working for peace and gender equality](#)

[University of Alberta first in Canada to receive award for promoting mental health literacy](#)

## PRACTITIONER RESOURCES

[Skills Development Fact Sheet: Solutions for Skilled Trades Shortages by The Alliance of Sector Councils \(TASC\) \(2011\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Skills Development Fact Sheet: Overcoming Skills Shortages by The Alliance of Sector Councils \(TASC\) \(2011\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Skills Development Fact Sheet: Up-Skilling for the Jobs of Tomorrow by The Alliance of Sector Councils \(TASC\) \(2011\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Skills Development Fact Sheet: Credentials and Integrating Immigrants into the Workforce by The Alliance of Sector Councils \(TASC\) \(2011\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Skills Development Fact Sheet: Aboriginal Engagement in the Workforce by The Alliance of Sector Councils \(TASC\) \(2011\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Science Fun by NWT Literacy Council \(2010\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Lesson Plan: Cooking and Literacy by READ Saskatoon \(2010\) \(PDF\)](#)

## RESEARCH

[Addressing the Literacy Issues of Canada's Aboriginal Population - A Discussion Paper by Rongo H. Wetere \(2009\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Towards the Development of an International Research Strategy for Literacy and Essential Skills - Perspectives from Academic and Practitioner Researchers in Canada and Ireland by Maurice Taylor, Rob Mark, Christine Pinsent-Johnson et al. \(2009\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Collaborative learning in an Aboriginal Adult Literacy Centre by Debra Hauer and Maurice C. Taylor \(2008\) \(PDF\)](#)

## REMINDER

*LPM membership renewals are due. For more information or to renew please contact Kathy at [kpavlik@mb.literacy.ca](mailto:kpavlik@mb.literacy.ca)*

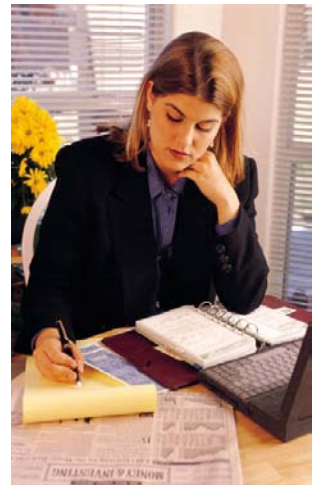
***Literacy Partners of Manitoba & Workplace Education Manitoba  
invite you to Celebrate National Essential Skills Day  
Friday, September 23 at the Viscount Gort  
Essential Skills: Essential to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workplace***

What did you do today? What skills did you use to accomplish your goals at work and at home? What would you have done without those skills? Essential Skills are abilities that equip individuals to fully participate in workplaces and communities. They are not just technical skills, but attitudes and capabilities, building blocks for learning other practical workplace and social skills.

***Essential Skills: Essential to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workplace*** will be a highly interactive, full-day event delivering practical strategies for engaging individuals and techniques for incorporating Essential Skills content into adult learning/employment programs. Participants will learn to view things through an Essential Skills lens.

Literacy Partners of Manitoba is pleased to be co-hosting this event with Workplace Education Manitoba, as part of Learn at Work Week AND Literacy Month celebrations. The forum takes place at the Viscount Gort in Winnipeg from 9:00am-5:00pm. Registration is \$40, lunch included, and all the information can be found at [www.mb.literacy.ca](http://www.mb.literacy.ca). Questions can be directed to Kathy Pavlik at 947-5757.

Essential Skills Day raises awareness of the [nine essential skills](#), as defined by the Government of Canada, and looks at the importance of skills training. Visit the LPM or WEM websites for more information and links to the best essential skills resources available.



## ESSENTIAL SKILLS RESOURCES

SkillPlan offers in-depth workshops for professional development. Their workshops will help you attain the skills required to better prepare and serve industries and institutions in the area of Essential Skills. For more information visit [www.skillplan.ca](http://www.skillplan.ca) and go to Events and Services, Workshops. [Essential Skills Job Profiling](#) September 26 – 29 is a 4-day workshop with daily assignments and a certificate at the end. [Connecting Workplace Needs & Essential Skills](#) November 23 – 25 is a 3-day workshop with an optional final assignment.

### Latest Issue of Essential Skills Bulletin

The fourth issue of OLC's 2011 Essential Skills Bulletin, **Shopping in the Digital Age**, is now available for download on [OLC's website](#). OLC's latest Essential Skills Bulletin focuses on how technology has increased the use of essential skills in the workplace. The bulletin also focuses on problem solving in technology-rich environments and Smartphone technology. Download your free copy of the latest issue of the Essential Skills Bulletin [here](#).

[Get Ready for Work: Bridging the Employment Gap - workforce curricula](#) The Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network (SMLN) developed the **Bridging the Employment Gap** series of workforce curricula to help people upgrade their literacy, numeracy and other essential skills in an entry-level occupational context. There are five occupational sector manuals - *Clerical, Retail, Janitorial, Grounds Maintenance, and Kitchen Help* - as well as a 6th manual called *Ready for Work*, which focuses on "soft skills" needed by employees.

[Smart Sessions for employers - Participatory workshops designed to address the skills-related challenges faced by Canadian employers](#)

# LPM PRACTITIONER *of the Month program*

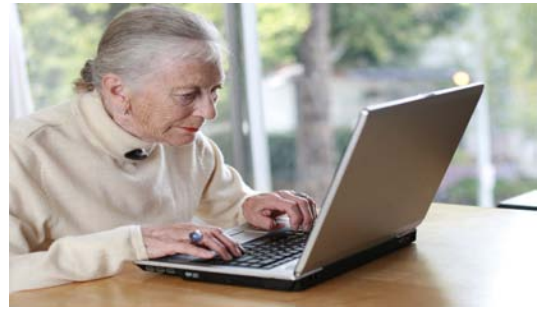
In celebration of Literacy Month and Essential Skills Day, Literacy Partners of Manitoba (LPM) is introducing a new program to recognize and honour all the dedicated, hard-working folks who work with adult learners in our province.

LPM knows how hard adult learning centre practitioners work, how they make every adult learner feel important and successful, and how dedicated and passionate they are about what they do, and we want to recognize and appreciate them.

Each Practitioner of the Month will be featured in our newsletter and receive a Certificate of Recognition from Literacy Partners of Manitoba. At the end of the year, a Practitioner of Excellence will be selected from all the nominees.

Practitioners of the Month are nominated by sending us an email and telling us why a teacher, colleague, friend or neighbour who works with adult learners should be recognized. Nominations are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Tell us who deserves an extra pat on the back for all they do for adult learners in Manitoba at [www.mb.literacy.ca](http://www.mb.literacy.ca)!



## **October is Library Month! Literacy Partners of MB GREAT Library Give-Away is Friday, OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>**

Literacy Partners of Manitoba (LPM) has been cleaning house this past summer and has lots of resources and learning tools for literacy practitioners. If you are a member of LPM the items are free, but donations are appreciated. Non-members are asked to donate a loonie per resource.

LPM is a growing organization – so at 11:00am there will be a short presentation to let you know about our NEW programs and upcoming events. The GREAT Library Give-Away takes place between 10:00am-12:30pm. October 14<sup>th</sup>, so come help yourself to some great learning materials for your programs. There will be door prizes and refreshments too!

## **Manitobans get new resource for understanding adult learning options**

Adults wanting to return to school to upgrade their skills are often confused about their choices. To help people understand their options and choose the most appropriate adult learning program, Literacy Partners of Manitoba (LPM) has developed a new resource, *“Going Back to School”*. This booklet answers some very common questions put forward by folks and was developed to simplify the process of going back to school as an adult. It is written in Plain Language, a clear, simple, reader-friendly, accessible style.

"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 the myriad of adult learning programs and upgrading options available to them throughout our province" she adds.

"Every person deserves to reach their goals and learning is always a positive step towards them," says Jeremy Johnson, LPM Literacy and Essential Skills Coordinator. "A booklet like this is a great way to help them get to the first step on their chosen path."

Copies of *“Going Back to School”* are being distributed to employment and social service agencies, and throughout Manitoba. You can download it from our website at [www.mb.literacy.ca](http://www.mb.literacy.ca). If you want more

## LPM Reader-in-Residence Inspires Others to Follow their Dreams

Literacy Partners of Manitoba has acquired a new fan, volunteer, and spokesperson, one whose passion for learning and following dreams will inspire even the most fearful of folks wanting to better their lives. Flo Oramasionwu is an aspiring local R&B artist whose star seems to shine whether she's talking about her love of reading, love of music, or passion for helping others follow dreams through learning.

Flo's passion for supporting literacy and adult learning comes from her deep belief that "making time to read is the best way to broaden your mind, expand your imagination, motivate yourself, and succeed" She claims to have digested books growing up, knowing that the more she learned the better off she'd be. She knew it would open doors and change her future. She also saw that education, or lack thereof, was the way people had historically been held back from leading better lives, so she is committed to promoting it. "Reading is a positive weapon for social change" she says, adding that "education changes lives and makes a positive difference."

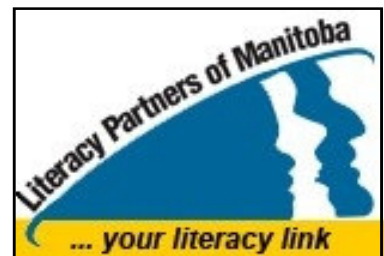


Flo is an amazing role model for those not yet ready, or just starting out on their next learning journey. She believes that it is never too late to pursue a dream and better yourself through education, "it is only the boundaries and restrictions you place on yourself that are holding you back from pursuing your dreams" she says.

To arrange for Flo to visit your adult learning centre call the LPM office at 947-5757. She will be speaking and performing at our AGM on November the 15th as well. LPM's Reader-in-Residence program is available until spring 2012. Read more about Flo at [www.flosoul.com](http://www.flosoul.com) or [www.mb.literacy.ca](http://www.mb.literacy.ca).

## Literacy Partners of Manitoba...

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



### Contact Info

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