



Literacy in Action

LITERACY ALBERTA NEWS

Mark Your Calendar!

June 2009 Practitioner Edition

September 28 – 30, 2009

Low Educated Second Language and Literacy Acquisition Symposium
Banff, Alberta

October 1 – 3, 2009

TESL Canada Conference,
Banff, Alberta

October 18 – 20, 2009

Inspiring Education: A Dialogue with Albertans
Provincial Conversation
Edmonton, Alberta

October 21 – 24, 2009

“Inspiring Leadership”
Provincial Literacy and Learning Symposium,
Red Deer Lodge, Red Deer

November 19 – 20, 2009

“From Monologue to Dialogue: Promoting Health Literacy with Diverse Populations”
6th Annual Diversity and Well-being Conference:
Mount Royal College,
Calgary, Alberta

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Strengthen the voice of literacy - Join Literacy Alberta Today!
LA Staff Contacts: <http://www.literacyalberta.ca/contact.htm>

A Summer Message from Janet Lane

As your programs taper off or close down for the summer, we trust you are looking forward to a time of relaxation and recuperation. However, don’t get too relaxed – there’s a lot to get ready for this fall. We are a busy sector, with big responsibilities and a big part to play. The work you do as practitioners in literacy is extremely important to our society and the recovering economy. You know, and so do many of our leaders and decision makers, that literacy is connected to well-being. It is also foundational to all the learning required in the jobs that currently exist and those that are to be created. Never stop believing that the work you do is valuable, relevant and timely.

We look forward to seeing you at our professional development opportunities this fall especially the *Inspiring Leadership Symposium*, held in partnership with the CLN in October. This promises to be the largest and most diverse of our learning opportunities – a chance for you to connect with a broad cross section of people involved in adult learning and literacy from across the province.

Janet Lane,
Executive Director,
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Literacy Alberta: Highlights and Happenings

- **Opening Doors Literacy Audit Kit: New Supplements Available!**

Health Literacy Audit - With a special emphasis on cultural sensitivity and English as an Additional Language awareness, this tool will help your health organization communicate more effectively with patients from admission to discharge.

Essential Skills Training Audit - This resource contains tools for employees, employers, and workplace trainers to assess employee needs in all of the nine essential skills: reading, document use, numeracy, writing, oral communication, working with others, thinking, computer use, and continuous learning.

To order either of these supplements, contact our main office at (403) 410-6990.

- Literacy Alberta continues to participate in and co-host a Community of Practice which is focusing on issues facing the non profit/volunteer sector. These spirited discussions have a recent guest speaker list which includes: Karen Lynch, Volunteer Alberta; Jocelyn Daw, Imagine Canada; Martha Parker, Leader and Spokeswoman in the Volunteer Sector; and Laurel Benson, President & CEO Volunteer Calgary. These meetings are 'open' to the larger community. If you have an interest in joining us please email bgowan@literacyalberta.ca
- The **Pathways professional development program** developed by Literacy Alberta has been accepted as part of the selection of elective courses in the Certificate in Adult and Continuing Education program offered by the Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta. Details of the program are still to be worked out – watch the Literacy Alberta website and SHARE for updates as they become available.
- The **Pathways Spring Professional Development Institute** held at the University of Alberta, June 7-10 was an unqualified success! Thank you to the 24 participants and to our sponsors: the Canadian Centre for Research on Literacy, the Office of Literacy and Essential Skills, and Community Programs Branch, Alberta Advanced Education and Technology.

Literacy and Learning Symposium
Oct. 21 – 24, 2009
“Inspiring Leadership”
Key Note Speaker: Shelagh Rogers,
Literacy Advocate and CBC Radio Host



This is an event not to be missed! The symposium is a joint project of Literacy Alberta and the Community Learning Network. Registration will be online. Watch

for details to be posted on our websites by the end of June.

<http://www.literacyalberta.ca> or <http://www.communitylearning.info>

A limited amount of bursaries are available for adult literacy learners and Literacy Alberta members. Contact cjackson@literacyalberta.ca or <http://www.literacyalberta.ca/whatsnew/bursary09.pdf>

Literacy Alberta Awards of Excellence 2009

This award recognizes exceptional accomplishments and personal achievements in the literacy field in Alberta. Awards are presented in four categories:

Adult Learner Practitioner Volunteer Organization

Send nominations to: Awards of Excellence Selection Committee
3060 17th Ave SW, Calgary, AB T3E 7G8.

It's time to start thinking about who you would like to honor. Deadline for nominations is September 20, 2009. Awards will be presented at the provincial symposium in October.

<http://www.literacyalberta.ca>



LearningLinks Resource Centre has over 14,500 resources on literacy, learning disabilities, and attention deficit disorders. Go to the LearningLinks iPAC (Internet Public Access Catalogue) and click on new items to view the 102 recently added items. You'll find some great literacy materials! Contact Laura Godfrey, LearningLinks librarian, to set up your online access at (403) 249-4606, 1-877-686-9300 or <http://www.literacyalberta.ca/library.htm>

Literacy Alberta Board News

LA is looking for qualified and committed candidates interested in joining our Board of Directors. The board is comprised of literacy learners, tutors, practitioners, and others who are friends of literacy. If you, or someone you know, would like to serve and contribute to a vibrant and dedicated board, please contact the chair of the nominating committee, Michael Raven, at mraven@literacyalberta.ca for a board recruitment information package. Resumes should be submitted by June 30, 2009. We will interview candidates over the summer. The new Board of Directors will be presented for election at the Annual General Meeting October 22 during the Literacy and Learning Symposium in Red Deer.

Regional Meetings and Coordinator Training

This has been a wonderful year of Regional Meetings and Coordinator Training. Thanks so much to all of the Resource Persons (RP's) from around the province who have hosted great networking and PD events for the literacy and learning programs in your regions. Welcome to all of the new VTALS coordinators! Have a safe and relaxing summer. Thanks for everything you do!

News from SHARE

New Forum:

CERTESL program at the University of Saskatchewan

Any burning questions and study strategies for this program?

Join in the fun at: <http://share.literacyalberta.ca/course/view.php?id=51>



iCCAN - You can TOO!

Over 30 classroom and desktop units are installed throughout Alberta. Please contact Yvonne Stewart at ystewart@literacyalberta.ca or 1-866-410-5708 if you are ready to install video conferencing or have programming ideas.

If you haven't heard about the ICCAN project, check out SHARE on the Literacy Alberta website for full, up-to-date information.

<http://www.literacyalberta.ca>

(Funded by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology's Access to the Future Fund)

Inspiring Education: A Dialogue with Albertans

As many of you know, the government of Alberta has been inviting Albertans from communities around the province to participate in a dialogue about education as a foundation for building the future societal and economic success of the province. The discussions focus on five key values: opportunity, fairness, citizenship, choice, and diversity. These discussions will lead up to a Provincial Conversation in Edmonton, Oct. 18 – 20, 2009. Community Conversations remaining: Calgary, June 17 and Edmonton, June 20.

Check out <http://www.inspiringeducation.alberta.ca/>

for full details and join in on this vitally important conversation.

Community Alignment Task Team

The task team struck to determine the best ways to move forward with aligning community programs and their local Comprehensive Community Institutions (CCIs) has met a few times and is not quite finished with the work.

We understand that there is likely to be a report in October and consultations with the field in September.

Low Educated Second Language and Literacy Acquisition (LESLLA) Symposium, September 28-30, 2009

Banff, Alberta

LESLLA 2009 will be held in Banff immediately prior to the TESL Canada Conference. Registration is now open.

<http://www.leslla.org/workshops/2009/htm>

TESL Canada Conference

Oct. 1-3, 2009

“Weaving Pathways: Interculturalism and Language”

The Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta

The Thursday Oct. 1 symposia will have a focus on literacy. See the website for full details. <http://www.tesl.ca>

6th Annual Diversity and Well-being Conference

Nov. 19 – 20, 2009

“From Monologue to Dialogue:

Promoting Health Literacy with Diverse Populations”

Mount Royal College, Calgary, Alberta

Learn about health literacy, its effect on your work and approaches to understanding health literacy and diverse populations. Literacy Alberta is submitting a proposal to present at this conference. Registration opens July 17, 2009. For more information, check out the website:

http://www.calgaryhealthregion.ca/programs/diversity/news_events/conference_09.htm

Composite Learning Index: Canada’s Score Drops

The composite learning index measures Canada’s progress in lifelong learning. This year, for the first time, Canada’s overall score has declined. Go to the Canadian Council of Learning website to find out more.

<http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CLI2009>

Literacy Alberta has room rentals and videoconferencing available

For information on booking and prices, contact Sandra Newell at 403-410-6990 or email: snewell@literacyalberta.ca

Strengthen the voice of literacy in Alberta – Join Literacy Alberta Today!

As a member of Literacy Alberta, these are only a few of the benefits you’ll enjoy:

- Access to LearningLinks Resource Centre
- *Literacy in Action Bulletin*, newsletter published bi-monthly
- Discounted rates for literacy materials and professional development workshops
- Access to SHARE, our online community for literacy practitioners/educators

Discover the many benefits of membership and add your voice in support of literacy in Alberta. <http://www.literacyalberta.ca>