



Literacy in Action

The Bulletin of Literacy Alberta

Feb/Mar Practitioner/Volunteer Edition Page 1

Mark Your Calendar!

March 18, 2005

Deadline to vote in the Literacy Alberta Election
If you have questions about the Mail-in Ballot process, call 1-800-410-6584

Week of April 3, 2005

Literacy Alberta Board announcement will be mailed to members

June 9, 10 and 11, 2005

Vitalize Conference
Telus Convention Centre,
Calgary, AB
www.cd.gov.ab.ca/wrf
Click on "Vitalize"

June 27, 28 and 29, 2005

Adult Basic Education
and Literacy, Media and
Technology Summer Institute
Montreal, PQ
www.nald.ca/litcent.htm

Announcements

Group Insurance

Literacy Alberta has recently moved its Directors' and Officers' Liability insurance and office insurance to the Community Learning Network Group Insurance Program. Literacy Alberta's premiums were reduced while the level of coverage increased under the group insurance policy. Group insurance is generally less expensive because it is sold in quantity.

Other councils and literacy organizations may be able to reduce their premiums by becoming part of the CLN group insurance. Any organizations involved in the Community Adult Learning Program (CALP) can be a part of the group insurance as well as literacy societies. For further information contact Mairi Babey, CLN Manager, at 403-948-5667.

National Literacy Secretariat Call for Proposals

NLS is now accepting project proposal submissions. The Call for Proposals is posted on the NLS website. Deadline to submit applications is **Friday, April 1, 2005.**

*Please note the **new** NLS website address

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/gateways/nav/top_nav/program/nls.shtml

Help Line Casino - Come and Volunteer!

Our 7th fund raising casino is just around the corner! We need volunteers to work the casino May 31 and June 1 in Calgary. Out of town volunteers will have their accommodation paid for by Help Line. If you can help, contact Cindy Easton at 1-800-767-3231 or Helpline@eLit.ca.

BLASTing On

The BLASTing On project started January 1, 2005. The Student Speakers Bureau is ready to provide your group with breath-taking, awe-inspiring speakers. Speeches can be tailored to meet the needs of your group. We have speakers and are willing to travel! Book your speaker soon. For more information call Cindy Easton at 1-800-767-3231.



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New Resources in the L.A. Library

The Travelling Trunks will all be getting new resources! We are busy updating materials and adding items to the trunks. We are working on putting together Travelling Totes, which are smaller versions of the Travelling Trunks. We will let you know when they are ready to borrow.

The Violence and Learning: Taking Action (VALTA) trunk is now available for borrowing. We also have the ESL, ESL Student, Family Literacy, Learning Disabilities, Program Admin, and Tutor Training Trunks available. Call Laura to book a Trunk at 403-410-6993 or email Laura_Godfrey@eLit.ca.



Surfing Sites...

- www.readwritethink.org offers more than 350 peer-reviewed lesson plans covering a wide range of K-12 reading and language arts topics. In addition to lessons, the web site features a calendar, a list of related resources and a collection of useful online student materials.
- www.literacy-alberta.ca is updated regularly. Check out previous bulletins you may have missed, or find out about literacy events, new professional development opportunities, and Literacy Alberta activities. This is your web site! Feedback and new event postings are always welcome. Email Office@eLit.ca with your news.

Did You Know About...?

Development and Partnerships

Many thanks to these organizations for their recent generous contributions:

- Brookfield Properties Corporation
- Boys and Girls Club of Calgary
- Calgary Herald Raise a Reader
- Calgary Learning Centre
- Calgary Public Library
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- Further Education Society
- Red Carpet Coffee Services
- The Reading Foundation
- Pattison Outdoor Advertising

Literacy Awards of Excellence

These special Awards are given every year to people and groups in Alberta who have made a difference for literacy. Nominations are accepted all year round. Call the office for a nomination form. Awards will be presented at the Provincial Literacy Conference Banquet on Friday, November 4, 2005 in Edmonton.

Literacy Alberta Bursary Fund

Did you know that Literacy Alberta's annual fundraising goal for bursaries is **\$30,000**? Every year, we work to raise as much money as we can to make the Provincial Literacy Conference a reality for people all over Alberta who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend.

In 2004, Literacy Alberta sponsored 60 students and 45 tutors to attend the Provincial Literacy Conference. We want to sponsor even more people this year. We can only do this with your support. To contribute to the 2005 Bursary Fund, please contact Literacy Alberta. Tax receipts are issued for contributions of \$20.00 or more. Thanks for supporting student and tutor involvement!



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Mark Your Calendar!

Regional Meeting Dates

February 17, 2005

Red Deer
Contact Donna Grutter
403-346-2533

March 4, 2005

Edmonton
Contact Terry Regimbald
780-459-6892

March 17 and 18, 2005

Grande Prairie
Contact Barbara Wearmouth
780-354-2656

March 19, 2005

Westlock
Contact Carol Roberts
780-674-7532

March 21, 2005

Calgary
Contact Carol McCullough
403-410-1525

Professional Development Training News

Best Practices Seminars (formerly Advanced Coordinator Training)

"Making Connections in your Community"

How well is the literacy program known in your community? This workshop is an opportunity to review, explore and further develop ways that can support your efforts in promoting the program and making those important connections.

This year Literacy Alberta is presenting the workshop in two locations:

Friday, April 1, Coast Terrace Inn, Edmonton, repeated on:

Friday, April 8, Kahanoff Centre, Calgary

Information and registration brochures will be mailed shortly. For more information contact Candice Jackson 780-416-8210 or email Candice_Jackson@eLit.ca.

New Coordinator Training (NCT)

NCT will be held April 20, 21 and 22, 2005 at Star of the North Retreat Centre in St. Albert. For more information contact Candice Jackson 780-416-8210 or email Candice_Jackson@eLit.ca.

SPPD: A Program of study for literacy coordinators

The *Strengthening Pathways to Professional Development* Project is underway. The intent of the project is to create a program of study for literacy coordinators. If you would like to be involved as a curriculum developer or content reviewer, please contact Judy Murphy 780-430-7562; email Judy_Murphy@eLit.ca or Candice Jackson 780-416-8210, email Candice_Jackson@eLit.ca.

LCA Legacy Bursary—Supporting Professional Development

This bursary is open to those who currently coordinate a Volunteer Tutor Adult Literacy Program funded through Alberta Advanced Education. Deadline for applications is April 30. Contact Candice Jackson at 780-416-8210 or email Candice_Jackson@eLit.ca.



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News from Your Regions

Are you a STAR? Would you like to be?

Literacy Alberta is looking for a STAR (Student Tutor Activities Resource) person or team for each of the Lloydminster, Grande Prairie, Fort McMurray and Calgary regions.

What is STAR?

STAR is an opportunity to enhance the tutor and learner experience in your region. For example, the STAR person could help to organize workshops for tutors that build on tutor basic training, as well as activities that create fun learning activities for students and tutors.

STAR looks at the broadest definition of adult learner (VTALP to college upgrading) and the tutors attached to those programs. It also creates partnership opportunities within the communities from door prizes to sponsoring the coffee, to fundraising with increased community profile.

Please consider this opportunity and contact Berniece Gowan at 403-410-6991 or Candice Jackson at 780-416-8210.

Whitecourt Region STAR News

Whitecourt region's plan for a One-Day Regional Conference has come together. This conference will take place in Westlock on March 19, 2005. Literacy programs and their students and tutors have been contacted.

The Whitecourt STAR, Teena Pankonin, is working very hard to integrate this conference with other regional activities for coordinators, tutors and students. Please make a note of the date of the conference and support this regional activity.

For information about registration, workshops, or how you can become involved, call Teena at 780-349-6333 or 780-674-7532.

Red Deer Region STAR News

Bonnie Ireland is the STAR in the Red Deer region. She is planning a student and tutor One-day Regional Conference. The conference will be on April 9, 2005 at the Kerry Wood Nature Center in Red Deer. Bonnie is very pleased with how the plans are coming together and looks forward to this being a fun and exciting learning opportunity.

You are encouraged to make the most of this regional activity. Call Bonnie Ireland at 403-742-2999 for information.

"Never mistake knowledge for wisdom. One helps you make a living, the other helps you make a life."

-Sandra Carey

New Address?

New Information?

Just want to talk to us?

You can contact us by ...



Mail

If you have changes to your mailing information, just send us your mailing label along with the correct information to:

Literacy Alberta
302, 1300 - 8 Street SW
Calgary, AB T2R 1B2



Phone

1-800-410-6584 Toll-free
Calgary and area call
403-410-6990
Call between the hours of
8:00 am & 4:00 pm



In Person

Come and visit our office in downtown Calgary -- we'd love to see you!



Fax

403-410-9024



Email

Send emails to:
office@eLit.ca

Check out our website at
www.literacy-alberta.ca

Send submissions to:
office@eLit.ca