

Student Director Report to the Board July 2007

June 4th I headed to Ottawa for a week of MCL strategy planning meetings. I was excited about attending my first MCL Board meeting as a LAN member. The MCL Board includes the ED's from across the country and 4 Learner Reps. During the flight, I took the time to go over the agenda for the meetings and I realized that I was not that nervous. Because I have attended a couple of LA strategy planning meetings, I knew what to expect, and that gave me confidence going into the meetings.

The first day, directors and practitioners from various literacy groups across the country were invited to participate. It was a very long and very intense week of meetings. A variety of topics were covered including the MCL's mission, role, values and the challenges we face for the future.

Carey Rigby-Wilcox, the Learner Rep from Saskatchewan, had her latest book for sale. She did the illustrations for another book a couple of years ago, but she wrote and illustrated this book all by herself. It is called "Ten Little Ladybugs in my Jar". Her third book will be out this summer and she has donated a part of the profits from her books to the literacy group Read Saskatchewan.

Also, while we were there, Jean Rasmussen, the Literacy BC ED, mentioned a summer program they are organizing. She invited the 4 Learner Reps to attend and said Literacy BC would pay for our transportation and registration. It is called "Looking with new eyes: Leadership in Literacy 2007" and has two parts. First is an online conference that has already started and runs until July 20th. The second is Face-to-Face courses and workshops July 23-27 at Simon Fraser University. The online conference is broken into Learner, Tutor and Practitioner sections. The workshops at SFU will have morning courses broken into the same groups and then the afternoon workshops will bring everyone together. Courses will focus on the work of the Canadian Council on Learning in the areas of adult learning, health learning, aboriginal learning, work and learning and early childhood learning. I have already started the online conference and am looking forward to going to University...wow, I'm going to University....more proof I am living the dream!

Thanks Literacy Alberta and Literacy BC!

Daniel Haines
Student Director