

Northern Network News

The Northern Networks (LNN, LNW & MNN) are working together to consolidate and share information to help ensure that all of our service providers are kept informed.

Information will be compiled into a friendly e-news format and shared bi-weekly/monthly (depending on the topic and timelines) with you all. This way we can also update service providers about recent discussions on the www.northernliteracy.ca forums.

Special Projects Edition
Volume 5

Inside this issue

Overview of the 2013/14 Regional Network
and Support Organization projects

For the TCU Summary of 2013/14 Service Delivery
Network Development Fund (SDNDF) Projects,
[http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/publications/
sdndf_2014_summary_of_2013-2014projects.pdf](http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/publications/sdndf_2014_summary_of_2013-2014projects.pdf)



2013-14 Projects

Alpha Plus: Preparing Digital Educators

The Preparing Digital Educators project was funded by the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities. Assistance and support was also provided by Literacy Link South Central, Literacy Northwest, Literacy Ontario Central South and Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy.

This project allowed Alpha Plus to provide professional training workshops and 5 online videos. These workshops and videos were designed to help educators and Employment Ontario service delivery agencies to competently incorporate digital technology skills and tasks in the literacy classroom. This training focused on inspiring and supporting participants who were not comfortable with technology, or haven't used technology in the classroom. Special emphasis was placed on tools and resources that educators can use to help students develop their OALCF Use Digital Technology competency.

To find out more information visit Alpha Plus' website:

<http://www.alphaplus.ca/en/about/activities-and-opportunities/current-activities.html>

Alpha Plus: Développement des nouvelles tâches



The Développement des nouvelles tâches project was funded by the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities.

This project produced a French-language instructional resource that supports the implementation of the Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework (OALCF) and adapts to meet the needs of the Francophone adult literacy programs in Ontario. The resource contains sample tasks for the OALCF competency Use Digital Technology and will follow a similar approach to the development of adult education materials for the OALCF as the Anglophone resource "Supporting task-based programming related to Using Digital technology" published last year. To find out more information please visit Alpha Plus' website:

<http://www.alphaplus.ca/en/about/activities-and-opportunities/current-activities.html>

CLO Developing Online Training Modules for the OALCF

Funded by MTCU, Community Literacy of Ontario developed 5 new modules and training guides on Information & Referral; Assessment; Learner Plan Development; Training; and Follow-Up. CLO hosted 5 webinars to introduce literacy practitioners to the new resources and how to use them. These webinars were recorded and posted on CLO's website. CLO updated the OALCF & Key Service Delivery videos as well, which is available on CLO's website (under the publications subheading).



To view the webinars, service delivery videos, modules and training guides, please visit CLO's website:

<http://www.communityliteracyofontario.ca/>

To view the online self-study modules please visit: <http://literacybasics.ca>

CLO: Social Media Marketing Project



CLO has been funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation for a two year project (April 2013– March 2015) to research and develop social media marketing materials and resources for Ontario's community-based literacy agencies. The resources and templates will enable Ontario's adult literacy agencies to create effective marketing strategies and tools using new media such as Twitter, Pinterest, LinkedIn, Facebook, YouTube and more. These social marketing resources will be posted to CLO's website in July 2014. Both online and face-to-face training sessions will also be delivered to support agencies to use these new resources. This project is still in the development stage, but to find out what is planned for the upcoming fiscal year please visit CLO's website at the following link:

<http://www.communityliteracyofontario.ca/social-media-marketing/>

CSC: Essential Skills for Health Sciences

The Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities funded the College Sector Committee for the third in the series of online career exploration, assessment and training plan development tools for students pursuing a career in the field of Health Sciences. This resource once developed will provide assessments linked to the 500 point IALS scale like the ESOT and ESEE resource. The project will be ready for piloting in College Sector ACE Programs in 2014-15.



College Sector Committee
for Adult Upgrading

This project is on track for completion by March 31, 2014.

CSC: Numeracy Essential Skills Online Support Course

This project funded by MTCU, provides targeted remediation for individuals whose essential skills testing indicates that with specific remediation they will be ready for ACE level courses. The Numeracy Support course would allow targeted remediation in these specific areas enabling the student to acquire the necessary skills in order to move quickly through Core Mathematics to the more advanced subjects required to transition to postsecondary, apprenticeship and skills training. This ensures the continuing engagement of the student and the acquisition of the necessary numeracy skills as quickly as possible. A 45-hour Numeracy support course was developed, piloted and finalized.



College Sector Committee
for Adult Upgrading

CSC: Engaging Aboriginal LBS 3 Learners in Online Learning

The purpose of the Engaging Aboriginal LBS 3 Learners in Online Learning project, funded by MTCU, is to improve the design of distance learning to better engage this demographic. The College Sector Committee is conducting research primarily with Aboriginal learners in the North to determine why they do and do not participate in online learning opportunities. The results of the Research Report will be submitted to MTCU in April.

DLI: Making Clear Writing Accessible to the Deaf Community

Funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Deaf Literacy Initiative and the Adult Basic Education Association collaborated on the Making Clear Writing Accessible to the Deaf Community project. This was achieved by building on



**Deaf Literacy
Initiative**

the approved LNO guidelines, online course and DVD. The course has been translated in American Sign Language (ASL) and is running now. In addition, the DVD has been shot and is being edited and will be available in June when the project ends. Currently, an online course is running with the Steering Group and edits will occur once the pilot is done. From this point on, the Deaf Stream can access any online training session run through the LNO course.

DLI: Assessment Tool for Independent Goal Path

The Assessment Tool for Independent Goal Path project, funded by MTCU, is currently in the development stages. In the fall of 2013, DLI provided networking sessions to gather input and are continuing to develop a draft assessment tool for the Independence goal path. It is planned to do two field testing sessions with learners province wide.

IAT level 1 has been revised and the next step is to do piloting in random programs in the deaf stream. DLI has submitted for phase 2– Enhanced Assessment Tool for the Independent Goal Path (IAT) to SDNDF to continue this phase. With phase 2, IAT Level 2 and 3 would be developed targeting college programs. This tool, IAT would assess the Deaf learners in languages, English and ASL plus numeracy.



DLI: Deaf CAMERA & Bridging to Deaf Success (BDS)

With funding provided by MTCU, Deaf CAMERA stage 1 to 3 is now available to the literacy programs in the deaf stream. The next step is to send out a marketing initiative related to Deaf CAMERA that we have an assessor who will provide in depth of Deaf CAMERA stage 1 to 3 to employment agencies where they have deaf or hard of hearing clients. DLI will be doing face-to-face training on Deaf CAMERA assessment to employment agencies for a fee in late spring.

Essential Skills Ontario: Career Ladders: Helping Communities Toward Integrated and Responsive Service Delivery

Initiated by Essential Skills Ontario in partnership with Literacy Link South Central, the Literacy Network of Durham Region and Literacy Northwest, and funded by MTCU. Career Ladders: Helping Communities Toward Integrated and Responsive Service Delivery is an initiative that is examining the applicability of a career ladders approach that could be applied in communities across Ontario. Career Ladders Guide will be published and available on the Essential Skills Ontario website.



LLO: Task-Based Activities for the LWR Series

Laubach Literacy Ontario, with funding provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, worked to develop task-based activities booklets and accompanying practitioner guides correlated to levels 3&4 using criteria outlined by the OALCF. The task-based activities for LWR1 is now available for download on LLO's website. The activities can be downloaded as one booklet or individually. Books 2,3, and 4 will be available late Spring 2014. To view book 1, use the following link:

<http://www.laubach-on.ca/bookstore/book/lwr-plus-task-based-activities-lwr-book-1>

LLO: Literacy Bridges

Literacy Bridges: Adapting Literacy Tutor Training and Resources based on Bridges out of Poverty Principles is a MTCU funded project ending March 31, 2014. Training was provided in the form of 2 webinars. Webinar 1 was based on principles of Bridges Out of Poverty and webinar 2 was reviewing online modules and LLO's Moodle Classroom trainingpost. Resources related to this project include interactive modules for online and blended training options, as well as modules for face-to-face training that are posted on LLO's website and on Moodle in Microsoft Word format.



LLEO: Aligning Ten Employment Services Workshops with the OALCF

Funding by MTCU, the Aligning Ten Employment Services Workshops with the OALCF project will produce OALCF alignment charts to assist LBS learners to know when they have Competencies and Levels to be successful in the workshop. These charts and respective materials/handouts will be available on LLEO's website. Employment Services as well as LBS staff will be trained to use the resources with face-to-face and online training.



LLSC: LBS and Apprenticeship: Supporting Clients Through Curriculum Development

Funding by MTCU, the LBS and Apprenticeship: Supporting Clients Through Curriculum Development project, will provide 3 modules of curriculum for LBS learners who are interested in exploring apprenticeship in the areas of construction trades group, automotive-related trades group and food trades group. The curricula are being put on the LearningHUB and the tasks are going to be available on the task-based portal by the end of April 2014.



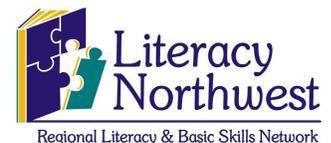
LLSC: Coordinating to Bring Marginalized Clients to Employment

Funded by MTCU and LMP, the Coordinating to Bring Marginalized Clients to Employment project is exploring 10 strategies in the Western Region is now complete. Webinars were developed October to December 2013 to detail the findings of the 10 strategies, which are now available on the Learning Networks of Ontario website. Along with webinars, reports for each of the 10 strategies, an overall report and an overall evaluation report are available on the LNO website. A second phase began in January 2014 and seven strategies are being explored. This second phase explores how the seven Western Region networks can assist in coordination and development to aid vulnerable populations in accessing training/education/employment. The second phase will conclude December



LNW: Common Assessment for the OALCF Goal Paths

During this MTCU funded project, research was conducted to inform the development of five goal-specific assessment resources to be piloted by both Anglophone and Francophone LBS delivery agencies. Training webinars will be provided for LBS practitioners and are to be delivered in both English and French. These goal path specific assessment tools have been developed and were piloted through until mid February. Newsletters to show the link between assessment, learning plan and goal path attainment will be available in English and French, along with resources and final reports will be posted to the Northern Networks website by April 2014.



LNW: Developing Best Practices for Increasing, Supporting and Retaining Apprentices in Northern Ontario

This MTCU funded project, builds upon the findings and recommendations of the 2012-13 Supporting Apprenticeship Completions: Models of Service Provision project, to promote capacity building within the OALCF apprenticeship goal path by providing LBS service providers with more robust apprenticeship-specific tools and services. All 36 tasks at complexity levels 2 & 3 for the 'Find and use information' and 'Understand and use numbers' competencies have been developed and piloted, and are now in the stages of being reviewed and formatted for posting on QUILL's Task-Based Activities portal. Upon completion of formatting, the tasks will also be provided to support Literacy Link South Central's Apprenticeship Curriculum Project. The webinar to introduce tasks specific to apprenticeship completion and apprenticeship curriculum is expected to be developed and delivered in March 2014.



MTML: OALCF Implementation Strategy Training

Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy (MTML) with funding provided by MTCU developed the ESKARGO resource. On-site training for LBS practitioners and networks has been delivered.



The ESKARGO and other resources were provided to participants on a USB stick. To access this resource please go to: <http://www.lbspractitionertraining.com/component/content/article/349-eskargo-and-oalcf-implementation-strategy-resource>

MTML: LBS & Employment Services

This MTCU funded project gets LBS and Employment Services working together to support adults with workforce literacy and employability barriers to access and sustain employment and create an integrated workforce literacy & essential skills program that prepares participants for employment in the food service industry, thus meeting a local labour market need. The goals of this project were to create a demonstration project that would be short, targeted and meets the local labour market need, provides a holistic wrap-around approach and works closely with a local ES provider. MTCU's priority of creating effective learner transitions from one EO program to another was supported. A final report to consolidate findings is to be shared across the province.

ONLC: Task Development Project

The Ontario Native Literacy Coalition partnered with QUILL and through MTCU funding developed the Task Development Project. The resource developed will be 100 Native specific task based activities available under the resource section of the ONLC website (www.onlc.ca). A practitioner guide will also be available on the website under resources or a hard copy can be ordered from ONLC by completing a request form available on the website. Two part Native specific webinars will be available on the website that provide training on building task-based activities for Native steam LBS.



PHDALN: Youth Engagement in the EO Employment Service

Peel Halton Dufferin Adult Learning Network (PHDALN) have partnered with the Centre for Skills Development & Training to work on the MTCU funded Youth Engagement in EO Employment Services project. All materials will be posted by April 15, 2014 on the project website: www.youthoughtright.ca. The website will continue to be supported after the project concludes. The results will be presented at Futures conference on October 8th 2014.

PHDALN: Developing the Skills Training Pathway in Peel Region



Developing the Skills Training Pathway in Peel Region MTCU funded project, the materials have been distributed to LBS service providers in the Peel Region.

Project Read: Skills Support: Needs Assessment of Electrical Industry in our Region

The purpose of the MTCU funded project is to gather evidence of the key, underlying skills sets of an effective, adaptable electrical apprentice who can cope with the rising knowledge and technology demands of the industry. The work tasks will be analysed to determine the skills required to perform them and conduct 25 skills assessments with apprentices to identify existing gaps and strengths. There will be 2 local presentations of the project results with EO partners (LBS, ES, etc). The final report of the project has been shared as an electronic file,



QUILL: Teach Practitioners to Fish (Build Tasks)

QUILL Learning Network along with its partners Project READ, AlphaPlus, COFA, DLI and ONLIC, along with MTCU funding, have been working to keep the Teaching Practitioners to Fish (Build Tasks) project on track. This project was to create a four module webinar training on building task-based activities for LBS. Three webinars were produced and will be accessible on the Task-based Activities Portal for LBS with all the handouts and practitioner guide. These webinars are also available in American Sign Language (ASL) and French in the specific stream section on the portal.



SMLN: Formalizing Transitions Between Employment Services and LBS

The main goals of this MTCU funded project are to research and share best practices related to transitioning clients between ES and LBS, and to pilot some of these best practices in Simcoe Muskoka and possibly in QUILL, while simultaneously investigating how the transitioning of clients between ES and LBS can be effectively documented and integrated into current LSP processes and products. Webinars have been provided on a final best practices guide and will



Simcoe/Muskoka
Literacy Network

Tri-County Literacy Network: Celebration of Learning

The Ontario Trillium Foundation funded the Celebration of Learning project lead by the Tri-County Literacy Network. The Celebration of Learning Speaker series wrapped up in the fall of 2013. During the year-long series there were 16 presentations given by 7 presenters to approximately 5000 people.



Tri-County Literacy Network: Labour Market Partnership Project

To view the webinars created in association with Literacy Link South Central and the Labour Market Partnership project funding please click on the following links:

[Webinar #1, delivered by Literacy Link South Central](#): Literacy and the Young Single Male and Targeted Employment Support for Job Seekers with Low Literacy Skills

[Webinar #2, delivered by QUILL Learning Network and Tri-County Literacy Network](#): Mastering the Puzzle Pieces - Relationship Building

[Webinar #3, delivered by Peel-Halton-Dufferin Adult Learning Network](#): Clearer Sightlines to Employment in Dufferin County

[Webinar #4, delivered by Project READ Literacy Network](#): Labour Adjustment and Literacy Activities

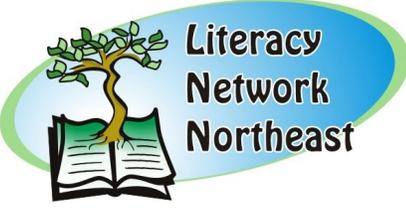
[Webinar #5, delivered by Adult Basic Education Association and Literacy Link Niagara](#): Supporting LBS Practitioners in Linking Learners to Employment

To view the slides of each webinar or supporting documentation please click on the following link:

<http://www.llsc.on.ca/what-we-do/projects>

Your Northern Networks

Website: www.northernliteracy.ca

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