

Provincial Adult Literacy Profile Funders, Providers and Accountability

Manitoba

Total population (2007)	1,186,700
First Nations (2006)	175,395
Immigrant (2006) [Visible minority, 2001]	151,230 [87,110]
Francophone (2006)	43,955
Urban (2001)	72%
Rural (2001)	28%
Senior/65 yrs and older (2007)	160,800

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/start-debut-eng.html?gaw=08001>

[Manitoba Summary Tables:

<http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/pro01/pro107-eng.htm>]

Methodology

One objective of Connecting the Dots is to provide the first pan-Canadian overview of funding, delivery, and accountability practices in adult literacy services. The Provincial/Territorial Adult Literacy Profiles is one of the deliverables that helps meet that objective. Each profile offers a “snapshot” of adult literacy funding, services and accountability practices for a specific province or territory. It was constructed exclusively on the basis of online research using a variety of web sites. No interviews with literacy funders, providers or practitioners were conducted in this process. Online research for this profile was conducted between December 3 and 19, 2008, and represents the information that was publicly available at that point in time. It should not be used for further research purposes without validation. The date when web pages were last modified is noted when such information was indicated.

1. Funders

Public — Provincial Government

Government of Manitoba — Advanced Education and Literacy (AEL)

- Through the **Adult Learning and Literacy Program (ALL)**, AEL administers, funds and supports the development and delivery of “adult focused programming . . . designed to enable Manitobans to improve their ability to understand and employ printed information in daily living activities at work, at home, and in the community, and to obtain high school credentials so they can access higher education and/or better employment opportunities”.

Key Recent Statements and Directions

To better address the literacy needs of the population, and “stimulate renewed action”, Manitoba recently created a Minister responsible for literacy and passed the **Adult Literacy Act** (effective January 1, 2009). The Act calls for the new Minister to “lead the development, implementation and evaluation of an *adult literacy strategy* for Manitoba”. This task is to be a broadly collaborative effort, involving consultations with other government ministers and agencies, literacy practitioners, immigrant and aboriginal organizations, as well as various communities and non-government organizations. Consultations began in April 2008 and recommendations were gathered together and published in November 2008.

Manitoba Adult Literacy Program (MALP) Established by the Adult Literacy Act, the Program is a central component of the new provincial strategy, intended to “provide support for agencies that offer literacy programs for adults seeking to improve their literacy skills”.

Recipients of funding through ALL

- Adult Learning Centres (ALCs)
- non-profit organizations
- libraries
- correctional facilities
- training centres
- First Nations band councils

Funding Streams

- ALL
- Post January 2009 — MALP

Funding amounts through ALL

- 2006-7 ALC Funding Allocation: \$14,435,000
- number of registered ALCs funded entirely by sources other than ALL in 2006-2007: 2 (out of 42)

Populations served by ALL

- immigrant
- Aboriginal

- Francophone
- unemployed/job-seekers, employers
- families

Volunteers: statistics not located

Number of learners

According to AEL's 2006-7 Annual Rep on ALCs:

- Number of learners registered at ALCs: 8,300
- Total number of ALC graduates: 1,260
- Number of Aboriginal graduates: 419

Profile of ALC learners in 2006-7

- Aboriginal: 37.4%
- employed either part - or full-time: 44.0%
- employment insurance recipient: 5.6%
- employment and income assistance recipient: 17.6%
- single parent with child(ren) under age 12: 15.7%
- speaker of English as an additional language: 19.6%
- female 58%, male 42%
- 19-24 years old 43%, 25-34, 27%, 35-44 14%
- last completed grade: Grade 10 or 11 43%, Grade 12 or equivalent 24 %, Grade 8 or 9 21%
- last attended school: past 5 years 46%, 6-10 years ago 18%, 11-20 years ago 14%

Other Public Funding

1. other provincial ministries/departments
2. federal government

Private and Non-Profit Funding

Additional support is provided by the private sector, from corporations, foundations and individuals.

Sources Section 1

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/acl/index.html>

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/acl/all/index.html> (last modified 22 Sept. 2008)

http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/acl/all/publications/07_alc_ar.pdf

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/adultliteracystrategy/index.html>

<http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/2007/c00907e.php#>

2. Providers

Adult Learning Centres (ALCs) — 44 registered with ALL, delivering programs in 82 locations (including community colleges, training centres, adult education centres, community centres). ALCs are registered annually and are charged with providing tuition-free high school credit and upgrading courses based on “recognized principles of adult education”. An ALC is either:

- a. a partnership between a recognized education institution and a non-profit organization, a correctional facility, a training centre, or a First Nations band council
- b. a “stand-alone centre operated by a recognized educational institution”, or
- c. under certain conditions, a “stand-alone centre operated by one of the possible partners listed in a”.

2. **Pluri-elles (Manitoba), Inc.** — a non-profit organization that coordinates and offers Francophone literacy services and programs. The organization operates 12 centres offering French literacy programming in rural areas, serving 19 communities.

Recent Recommendations

According to the April 2008 consultations in held in connection with developing a new literacy strategy for the province, there exists a “strong need for a more coherent system that continues to facilitate the community-based model”.

Types of Adult Literacy Programs Offered

A range of programs is offered locally, tailored to the needs of communities, demographic groups individuals and families and responding to their specific daily, academic and vocational needs.

Provincial Organizations

Literacy Partners of Manitoba (LPM) — the largest provincial coalition of literacy workers, tutors, supporters and learners in Manitoba, committed to raising literacy levels in the province. LPM serves the population by informing business, labour, the media, government, and the public about literacy issues.

Adult Secondary Education Council (ASEC) Association of adult educators in the province of Manitoba, most of whom work in ALCs.

Both organizations have comprehensive websites with useful links for learners and practitioners.

Organizations Promoting/Providing Practitioner Training and PD

- AEL’s ALL Program
- LPM
- ASEC
- deliverers of literacy programs and services

Sources Section 2

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/acl/index.html>

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/acl/all/index.html> (last modified 22 Sept. 2008)

<http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/a005e.php> (last modified 10 Dec. 2008)

http://www.gov.mb.ca/adultliteracystrategy/pdf/final_report_en.pdf (Nov. 2008)

<http://www.mb.literacy.ca/>

http://www.asecmanitoba.ca/Adult_Educators_in_Manitoba/Welcome.html (last modified 24 Nov. 2008)

<http://www.pluri-elles.mb.ca/accueil.php> (2008)

3. Accountability/Reporting

ALC Reporting

The Adult Learning Centres Act and General Regulations (effective July 2003), administered by ALL, “establish accountability standards that ALCs meet in order to ensure public monies are well spent and adult learners are well served”:

- ALCs submit statistical data to ALL on an interim and year-end basis, providing a quantitative description (enrolment and performance measures) of programs and of the learners populations served.
- The government-appointed Registrar of ALCs may personally (or via an authorized person) evaluate programs through inspection of a centre, observation of how programs are offered, interviews with or survey of learners at the centre or off-site

These accountability provisions will also apply under MALP (effective January 2009).

Good Practice Guide Program Analysis for Adult and Family Literacy Programs 2007-2008

A qualitative assessment tool for the evaluation of progress in the literacy program and methods of program improvement, intended to be used by literacy groups for “self-analysis” (i.e. organizational/program assessment). It provides sample surveys for literacy group coordinators, instructors, volunteers, and learners, as well as a summary outline for pulling together key issues arising from the information gathered.

Reporting by AEL

Within six months after the end of each program year, AEL must prepare an annual report on the ALCs (available online). When MALP comes into effect in January 2009, AEL will be required (within six months after the end of each program year), to prepare an annual report “on the adult literacy strategy for Manitoba”, containing a summary of MALP’s performance of MALP in the program year.

Recent Recommendations

During the April 2008 consultations held in connection with developing a new literacy strategy for the province, “there was brief but significant input on measuring the progress of the proposed Manitoba Literacy Strategy”. Suggestions for meaningful data on learners included:

- results of the international literacy surveys
- progress related to learner-centred goals
- the number of adults accessing literacy programs
- ALC graduation rates

- the number of Mature Student Diplomas granted
- the number of GED completions
- successful transitions to post secondary levels of education
- sustainable employment successes among adults having received literacy training
- external evaluation of programs based on government criteria
- a yearly statistical report on progress

Sources Section 3

<http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/a005e.php> (last modified 10 Dec. 2008)

http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/acl/all/publications/07_alc_ar.pdf

<http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/2007/c00907e.php#>

http://www.gov.mb.ca/adultliteracystrategy/pdf/final_report_en.pdf (Nov. 2008)

<http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/CASAE/CONFITEA%20VI/CANADA%20FINAL%20CONFITEA%20VI%20EN.pdf> (Oct. 2008)