



Launch of new web site

In January 2011 The Centre for Literacy launched its newly designed web site to better serve Canada's literacy and essential skills community in our new role as a national centre of expertise. The dynamic design features a clear layout with an easy-to-navigate format, access to research publications, links pages, online registration to learning events and much more. Check our new site: www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca

IALSS – Its Meaning and Impact for Policy and Practice

October 23-25, 2011
Banff, AB

Planning continues on our first Fall institute in collaboration with Bow Valley College and other partners. We are creating a program that explores the evolving methodology, and impacts on policy and practice of the international literacy assessments over two decades. The program will examine the "story" of the International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey (IALSS) in Canada and several other countries. Confirmed international invitees include Irwin Kirsch (US), Greg Brooks (UK), John Vorhaus (UK), Steve Reder (US) and Egil Gabrielsen (Norway). Details will be available in late March.

The Centre for Literacy News from The Centre February 2011



Institute filling!

This year's topics include embedding literacy and essential skills in workplace education programs and qualifications and professionalism for providers.

As a preview, The Centre will host two webinars in March featuring this year's invitees. **Ann Kelly**, School of Education and Professional Studies, Adult & Vocational Education, Griffiths University in Australia, will examine embedding WLES in general and vocational training from an Australian perspective on March 22. On March 29, **Anne McKeown**, Professional Development Manager for the London Strategic Unit at the National Research and Development Centre will review possible overlaps between ESOL/Literacy issues in WLES assessments and provision. See our web site for webinar registration details. Link to online registration for Summer Institute:

http://www.regonline.ca/summer_institute_2011_workplace_literacy_essential

Research begins in Nova Scotia and Manitoba

Measures of Success is a three-year national research project designed to develop and apply an evaluation model in work sites in Manitoba and Nova Scotia to measure the long-term outcomes of workplace literacy and essential skills initiatives, using qualitative and quantitative methods.



Since November 2010, the project has accomplished the following:

- **Field researchers** have been trained to collect and analyze data from work sites
- **Work site selection** is underway to choose 10 worksites in each province
- **Research has begun in both provinces!**

Team members from Manitoba and Nova Scotia will present at the Summer Institute. Check the web site for ongoing updates and available resources.

www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca/projects/measures-success-workplace-literacy-and-essential-skills

New research study:

Understanding literacy needs of Quebec Anglophone adults

This study is designed to deepen knowledge and understanding of the literacy (broadly defined, to include family and health literacy) and essential skills needs of Anglophone adults in Quebec to better serve English-speaking communities across the province. Researchers are surveying relevant research literature, and meeting the organizations and the people providing English literacy and essential skills services in Quebec.

The Centre for Literacy

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This project was made possible with funding support from the Government of Canada's Office of Literacy and Essential Skills

New board member

We welcome Greg Gillis, to our Board of Directors. Greg brings new perspectives to the organization.

Greg is Vice-President, Atlantic Canada Operations for AMEC Earth & Environmental Limited based in Fredericton, NB. He has worked in the environmental field in Canada and internationally in 30 countries.

Greg has a strong commitment to life-long learning and basic education as well as workplace literacy. He tutors a Grade 4 student weekly. He serves on the boards of several Atlantic organizations including the New Brunswick Literacy Council.

Board 2010-11

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*Executive Director
The Centre for Literacy*

Elizabeth Walcot [Past-President]
Learning Disabilities Consultant

- A summary of the literature will be published online in June 2011
 - Interviews have started and focus groups will take place in March
- The project is funded by the Office of Literacy and Essential Skills (OLES), Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

OUTCOMES FROM:

Lire/Imagine/Read

Lire/Imagine/Read, the literacy promotion project at the Montreal Children's Hospital, has become part of the Social Paediatrics Program as it continues to be integrated into the hospital's family practice programming. This new status is recognized on the Montreal Children's Hospital web site. See: <http://www.thechildren.com/en/patients/lire-imagine-read-project.aspx>. The Centre for Literacy is now designing professional development for their paediatric residents. We also participated in the annual Family Literacy Day event, on February 2, 2011. Dr. Susan Rvachew, from the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders, McGill University, spoke at Medical Ground Rounds on early language development and literacy. Hundreds of books were given out that day to children, and information on literacy was given to staff and parents.

Writers in the Community

The Centre for Literacy, in collaboration with the Quebec Writers' Federation since 2007, has offered, and tracked the outcomes of writing workshops for Montreal youth excluded from the mainstream. Local writers facilitate workshops that empower at-risk adolescents to envision a different and better future through literary endeavours. Community partners are taking on increased responsibility to help fund the programs and measure impacts for the participants and their organizations. In 2011, we will offer 10 series of 8 workshops each in seven different venues in the Montreal area. The Quebec Writers' Federation is looking for new writer/facilitators for the Writers in the Community program. See http://www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca/sites/default/files/Call_for_Writer-Facilitators.pdf

Health literacy

Calgary Charter – en français

The Calgary Charter on Health Literacy has been translated into French and print copies are now available from The Centre. This document proposes core principles to underpin and adapt health literacy curricula. It emphasizes the roles of patients/clients, providers and health care systems. Pdf versions in English and French can be downloaded at http://www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca/sites/default/files/CFL_Calgary_Charter_2011.pdf or http://www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca/sites/default/files/CFL_Calgary_Charter_2011_fre.pdf

Health literacy CME Online

The new online CME course on health literacy launched in January by the Canadian Medical Association and several other health care professional groups is now available at www.mdcme.ca with open access for anyone interested. It carries 1.5 continuing education credits for practicing professionals. The Centre is collaborating with several francophone organizations on adapting and translating the module into French.

Resource Discovery Centre – A Library Transformed

Recognizing that a library is far more than the sum of its materials, we are calling ourselves "resource discovery centre". We highlight the expertise we offer to help clients navigate today's overwhelming array of physical and virtual resources and information. See our web site for new services. http://www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca/resource_centre

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