

This Week in Literacy

August 27, 2009

The NWT Literacy Council is a non-profit, non-government agency dedicated to supporting the development of literacy in all official languages of the NWT.

In this E-News

- [Literacy Dates](#)
- [Community Events and Information](#)
- [In the News](#)
- [Resources and Websites](#)

Literacy Dates

International Literacy Day	September 8
Learn at Work Week	September 21 - 25
NWT Literacy Week	September 27 – October 3
World Teachers' Day	October 5
Human Rights Day	December 10
National Family Literacy Day	January 27

Community Events and Information

Take the International Literacy Day Challenge!

September 8 is International Literacy Day. Are you up for the challenge? Started by UNESCO in 1966, the day highlights the importance of literacy to individuals, communities and societies. Expand your definition of literacy beyond reading and writing and think about the role of learning in your life – as a citizen, a student, a worker, a parent, a volunteer and a friend.

Every year on International Literacy Day, celebrations take place around the world to support literacy and learning. This year, celebrate with millions of others by taking the International Literacy Day challenge to bring literacy to life in your home, at school, in your workplace and in your community.

Learn a new recipe.

Add to a blog, Facebook, Twitter or other social media.

Sign up for a community course.

Update your resume.

Learn at Work Week – September 21 - 25

It is well documented that Canadian firms are falling behind in investing in skills development. However, it is also well documented that learning has a positive impact on key business measures such as job performance and productivity. This weeklong celebration includes a number of activities

and events designed to promote the importance of workplace learning and performance to key stakeholders and the public-at-large. Goals of the Learn @ Work Week

- To raise awareness of the impact of workplace learning
- To celebrate the best practices of workplace learning
- To celebrate the success of the 'learning organization'

To download a fact sheet about Learn at Work Week go to

<http://www.cstd.ca/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=zP2wrjOLXD0%3d&tabid=79>.

Get Ready for NWT Literacy Week 2009 – September 27 – October 3

We encourage communities to get together to start planning for your community. It is never too early! The NWTLC has sent out literacy week packages to all schools, daycares, youth programs, adult learning centres, health programs and NGOs. The packages include the following:

- Read for 15 poster and fax back form
- Literacy Calendar (poster format)
- NWT Literacy Week Colouring Book (you can download from our website www.nwt.literacy.ca if you would like to hand out copies to students and families)
- How to Kits: (feel free to photocopy or download from our website)
 1. TV Free from A to Z
 2. Puppetry
- Prizes to celebrate NWT Literacy Week
- "How did you celebrate NWT Literacy Week 2009?" fax back form
- List of NWT Literacy Council Board of Directors
- Info on who we are
- 2009/10 training calendar

You can also download all these documents from our website at

<http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatsnew.htm>.

Program Planning and Proposal Writing Workshop

Hosted by the NWT Literacy Council

When: October 14 & 15

Where: Northern United Place

Cost: FREE

There is limited space. Register by September 20th. Download the registration form and fax it to us at 873-2176. You can download a registration form from our website at

<http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatsnew.htm>.

Facilitation Skills Workshop

Hosted by the NWT Literacy Council

When: November 12

Where: Northern United Place

Cost: FREE

There is limited space. Register by October 20th. Download the registration form and fax it to us at 873-2176. You can download a registration form from our website at

<http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatsnew.htm>.

NWT Literacy Council Training Calendar for 2009-10

Get our new training calendar online at <http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatsnew.htm> and sign up for our Program Planning and Proposal Writing workshop in October or any of our other workshops by emailing us at nwt@nwtliteracy.ca.

Cultivating Connections: Global Perspectives and Practices in Family Literacy

National Family Literacy Conference

The Centre for Family Literacy is hosting this conference in Edmonton next summer from July 15 – 17, 2010. Go to <http://familit.ca/ccc> for more information.

10th Anniversary of FASD Awareness Day - September 9, 2009

9:00 AM	Walk from the Centre for Northern Families
9:09 AM	Bell concordance at Holy Trinity Anglican Church
10:00 AM	BreakFASD at Salvation Army
12:00 PM -3:00 PM	Information booth and barbecue outside Post Office

For more information contact Candace Demone at 873-9069, Coordinator of FASD Services, Yellowknife Association for Community Living.

New Adult Literacy Courses to be offered online as part of the Certificate in Adult & Continuing Education (CACE)

The **University of Alberta**, Faculty of Extension is pleased to announce a new collaborative relationship with **Literacy Alberta**.

Beginning in the fall of 2009, professional development courses for adult literacy practitioners will be offered through the Adult and Continuing Education program in the Faculty of Extension. Interested individuals can enroll in these courses at any time.

For a list of upcoming Adult Literacy courses offered at the University of Alberta, or to learn more about the CACE program, please go to the program website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/cace/ or send an email to: jennifer.cameron@ualberta.ca.

The Aklavik Journal

By Ben Nind based on the community newspaper by Bern Will Brown and Ellen Binder

"The Aklavik Journal", is a reminiscent theatrical romp through the first three issues of Aklavik's first newspaper produced in the mid 1950's. "The Aklavik Journal" features Reneltta Arluk, Ben Nind and Elora Braden. This is a family presentation and seating is limited to 30 tickets per performance, so be sure and get your tickets early.

Where: On Stage at the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre

When: Thursday August 27@ 8:00pm
Friday August 28@ 8:00pm
Saturday August 29 @ 12:00pm
Saturday August 29 @ 8:00pm

Tickets can be purchased online at www.naccnt.ca.

In the News

Cavendish Farms: Employees crunch more than potatoes at award-winning learning centre

By Laura Eggertson, Aug. 19, 2009

About three times each week 60-year-old Richard McKinnon takes a break from his job and returns to the classroom to brush up on his math; the final step on his belated journey to earn his high-school diploma. Of course, there's nothing unusual about a high-school dropout cracking the books again—what is unusual is his classroom, which is located inside a french-fry factory. McKinnon is just one of dozens of employees at Prince Edward Island-based Cavendish Farms who have taken advantage of the company's unique on-site school to either enhance their education or upgrade their skills. An employee of the Canadian spud giant since he was a teen, McKinnon had thought about going back to school for years but never seriously pursued it until the company introduced its Learning Centre in 2004. To read more go to <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Newsroom/PracticallySpeaking/20090819CavendishFarms.htm>.

Minority Francophone Education in Canada

August 20, 2009

“Language is more than a mere means of communication; it is part and parcel of the identity and culture of the people speaking it.”

—Chief Justice Brian Dickson

Access to French-language education has been a hard-won right for francophones outside of Quebec. While this is now a right enshrined in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and in the Official Languages Act, minority francophone education continues to face important challenges, including the persistent finding that francophones in minority-language contexts are falling behind their majority-language counterparts in literacy proficiency. To read more go to <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Reports/LessonsInLearning/LinL20090919MinorityFrancophoneEducationinCanada.htm?Language=EN>.

Five universities team up to push for the lion's share of research dollars

By Elizabeth Church, from Monday's Globe and Mail Monday, Aug. 24, 2009

The leaders of five top universities have unleashed a raging debate on the nation's campuses, arguing that Canada needs an elite group of postsecondary institutions focusing on research and graduate education. The leaders of the universities of British Columbia, Alberta, Toronto and Montreal, as well as McGill, are pushing for what they describe as a national strategy for higher education. But they have run up against criticism from peers who see their efforts as a less-than-subtle attempt to get a larger share of scarce resources. To read more go to <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/five-universities-team-up-to-push-for-the-lions-share-of-research-dollars/article1261964>.

Resources and Websites

Skills for the Future: A Training Resource for Literacy Practitioners

By Lindsay Kennedy, Community Literacy of Ontario

The content of “Skills for the Future” solidly reflects and supports the work that practitioners do as literacy providers. The framework behind the content is a reflection of current approaches to and assumptions about literacy—in terms of both content and process. That is, the how and the why of our approach to literacy within our agencies, within our communities and most importantly, with learners. To download a copy of this resource go to

<http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/clo/skills/skills.pdf>.

How Basic Skills Training Benefits Business

By the Read Society

<http://www.nald.ca/library/research/read/worklit/worklit.pdf>

Interview of the Month

A life lived for education and women’s empowerment

Dr Lalage Bown, who spent more than 30 years working in Adult Education at Universities in Zambia and Nigeria, will give the International Literacy Day Lecture on ‘Literacy and Empowerment’ at UNESCO headquarters in Paris on September 8. She gives *Eduinfo* a sneak preview of her lecture and talks about her life spent in the field of adult education and female empowerment. To read more go to

http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=59368&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

2010 Preschool Language and Literacy Calendar – Now available

The **Hanen Centre** is delighted to announce the launch of their 2010 Preschool Language and Literacy Calendar! Once again, the 2010 calendar includes an updated research focus and offers tips for both parents and educators on how to best support children's language and literacy development. Each month includes a research based theme that highlights a critically important area of language and literacy development during children’s preschool years. The calendar is brought to life by beautiful new photographs of early childhood educators, parents and children engaged in enjoyable and meaningful language and literacy activities. Available in English, French, Spanish and Dutch, the 2010 calendar will be available for purchase in their online store for \$10, starting September 1, 2009. Please visit their website at www.hanen.org/calendar, to take a look at a few sample pages. If you are interested in bulk rates, please contact Angie Velarde at angie.velarde@hanen.org or by phone at 416.921.1073 ext. 232 for details.

Our Side of the Mountain 2009

Adult Learning Association

A collection of stories, poems and ideas written down by adult students of the Adult Learning

Association of Cape Breton County. <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/mountain/2009/osm09.pdf>.

Memories of My Childhood and Other Stories

This booklet is a collection of 18 writings by students. It is the result of a cross-Canada contest. It was hoped that this would be an incentive for new readers to practise their writing skills. It was also intended that the selections would provide suitable and interesting reading material for students. Three categories of writings are included: poetry, creative stories, and the experiences of students when learning to read and how much their achievements have meant to them. To download a copy go to <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/llc/memories/memories.pdf>.