

Charting The Future

There have been many changes in the literacy landscape in the NWT over the past two years. The Government of the NWT has made significant commitments to literacy through the NWT Literacy Strategy, the Aboriginal Languages Strategy and the Early Childhood Development Framework for Action. This in turn has provided new opportunities for literacy activities and programs at the community level.

These changes have had an impact on our work at the Literacy Council as well. In December 2002, the board and staff of the Literacy Council participated in a strategic planning workshop. We began to work on identifying what we need to do as an organization to continue to support and enhance community literacy development across the NWT.

Some questions we asked ourselves:

- √ What have been our successes over the past three years?
- √ What have been our challenges?
- √ What trends can we identify that might affect our work?
- √ What is our vision for literacy and for the NWT Literacy Council for the next 3 to 5 years?
- √ What strategies can we put in place to move us closer to that vision?

Over the next month, a draft plan will be finalized and we will be asking for input from our literacy partners. The final plan should be available by the summer.

What's Inside

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Literacy Matters

Family Literacy Video

We recently visited Holman where we filmed a variety of community-based programs. We would like to thank the people of Holman for inviting us into their homes and community programs to film literacy related events. It was a thrill to be in Holman and participate in their culture and literacy programs. We filmed a 1-2-3 Rhyme With Me Program, the Traditional Sewing Program, the Sing Along Group, and the Reading with an Adult Program.



Maggie Alanak teaching her sons traditional sewing

We have now finished filming for the family literacy video. The video will be edited in the next couple of months and will be ready by the end of June. We will be sending copies to each community.

A big thank you to all the people and communities who participated in the video. We couldn't have done it without you!



Best Practices in Action – We want to hear from you!

The NWT Literacy Council invites you to participate in the Best Practices in Action project by sharing your best practices with us. It can be something that has worked in an adult literacy or basic education program, family literacy program, workplace literacy program or any other community-based literacy initiative. Your ideas will form the basis of the resource guide of practical ideas that will help educators apply best practices in their programs. We want to hear what is working in northern adult literacy and basic education programs. We hope that you will share your program/community development ideas, learning activities, and products with us.

For more information, you can go to our website at www.nwt.literacy.ca or call 867-873-9262.

Keep Up-to-Date with happenings at the NWT Literacy Council

Would you like to get email updates about events, new resources and projects, new items on our website, and other Literacy Council news between our regular newsletters? Send us an email (dmulders@nwtliteracy.ca) and we will add you to our email distribution list.



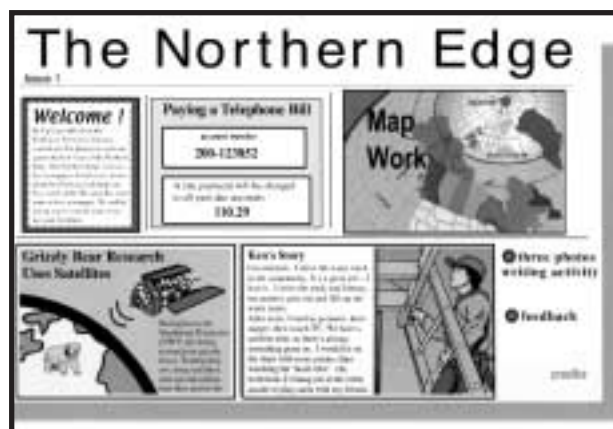
The Northern Edge

The Northern Edge, a new online newspaper for adult literacy learners, was launched on February 4, 2003. The NWT Literacy Council developed *The Northern Edge* with funding from Information Networks, Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

The Northern Edge is an interactive online newspaper that has articles and online language quizzes written at a level and in a style that is accessible to a range of learners. The learners can hear the articles read to them and they can read along following the text as it is highlighted in blue. One story is also available in Dogrib.

The first issue has articles on grizzly bear research in the NWT, reading and saving money on your phone bill, and being physically active. Also, there is a story on map work and a writing activity where learners can email their writing to the editors.

Visit: www.nwt.literacy.ca and follow the link to *The Northern Edge*.



Adult learner trying out *The Northern Edge* at the launch at the Native Women's Association

Lessons from the Land

The Idaa Trail Study Guide is a new resource for adult learners and educators in the NWT. It was produced by the NWT Literacy Council to accompany the first trail on the Lessons from the Land website. The Idaa Trail is a great northern and culturally relevant resource for NWT learners, developed by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. On the website (www.lessonsfromtheland.ca) you can take a virtual journey up the Idaa Trail.

The study guide has learning activities, comprehension questions, word searches, suggestions for journal writing and in-depth research, learner handouts and lots more. All the activities are linked with the 110 and 120 Adult Literacy and Basic Education (ALBE) science, social studies, and English curricula.

To get a copy of *The Idaa Trail Study Guide*, contact the NWT Literacy Council at (867) 873-9262 or download it from our website at: www.nwt.literacy.ca.





Literacy Matters

Family Literacy Day Highlights

Family Literacy Day is a national initiative that promotes the importance of reading and learning together as a family. Communities across the north celebrated Family Literacy Day, on January 27th, in many ways. Pyjama reading parties, family literacy nights, reading circles, are just a few of the ways that communities celebrated family literacy.

Hay River

Growing Together and the Centennial Public Library held a pancake and book night. Families met at the library to share a pancake dinner and to read books and do crafts. It was a great night with lots of participation.



Fort Resolution

The Deninu School in Fort Resolution held a family picnic in the gym to celebrate Family Literacy Day. Bannock and tea was served to families. Families shared reading, played games and parents listened to their children read them their stories.



Deline

Deline celebrated Family Literacy Day by holding a family literacy night at the Cultural Centre. They had pizza, played Slavey bingo, read books and played a memory game. There were door prizes for families and over 100 people attended the event!



Trout Lake

The Charles Tetcho School made books at school and held a family literacy night to celebrate National Family Literacy Day. At the family literacy night, families played scattergories and picture bingo and read books.



10 people participated in the family literacy night in Trout Lake



Literacy Matters



Family Literacy Day Highlights

Lutselk'e

Lutselk'e Dene School held a family literacy night for community members. They had a Valentine's theme and did the following activities:

- √ Read "Mama, Do You Love Me" and "Carry Me, Mama"
- √ Played picture bingo using the words and pictures from the two stories
- √ Read "Yuck, A Love Story"
- √ Did several activities such as word searches, a crossword, Valentine's words list, making Valentine's cards
- √ Served drinks and cookies and then each child chose a book to take home.

There were 35 children and 15 adults who attended the activity. "We were very excited about the great turn out for Family Literacy Day," said Yasemin Heyck, the principal from the school.



Lutselk'e Family Literacy Night

Rae-Edzo

The Elizabeth Mackenzie Elementary School held a family literacy night for community members.

Families made homemade books, listened to stories and won lots of door prizes. The event was a huge success with many of families participating. Backpacks for children ages 3, 4 and 5 were given out as well.



Parents did craft activities with their children

Parents read with their children at the family literacy night in Rae-Edzo





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Early Childhood Development Framework for Action

Many of you took part in a Family Literacy Training Institute or distributed Family Learning Backpacks. But did you know these are part of a larger project—the Early Childhood Development Framework for Action? This is a three-year joint project between the Depts. of Health and Social Services and Education, Culture and Employment. Here are the different parts of the project.

Nipissing Screening Tool—This screening tool lets nurses and CHRs identify developmental delays in children from 0-6 years.

Home Support Program—A few communities will introduce this program this year. The program helps parents develop skills to support their child's development. A home visitor will visit families with a newborn baby and talk to them about their baby. The family may have the opportunity for further home visits.

Child Development Resource Kit—This kit provides toys and literacy materials for one-on-one work with a child in early intervention programs. Staff show parents activities that they can do at home with their child.

Healthy Family Kits—These kits help families become more aware of their children's development. They include materials to help parents interact with their child, as well as information on the different stages of children's development. There are four kits:

- √ A Healthy Pregnancy Kit to help the mother have a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby.
- √ A Birth Kit that includes a diaper bag, a sleeper, a baby memory book, and a baby's story book.
- √ A Six Month Kit that has a photo box, toothbrush, learning activity cards, an infant teething ring and another book.
- √ A One Year Kit with an infant toothbrush, more learning activity cards, a sippy cup, and a book.

Community Nutrition Programs, doctors' clinics, hospitals and/or health centres distribute the kits.



Literacy Matters



Early Childhood Development Framework for Action

The Family Learning Kits—Many of you have seen or even distributed these literacy backpacks in your community for four and five year olds. Around 1600 families have received them.



Enhanced Rehabilitation Supports—This program includes hearing and speech-language programs. All newborn babies will have their hearing screened in the three regional hospitals. As well, NWT health centres will receive new hearing equipment.

Language Nests—This year, staff from ECE will work with 12 communities to pilot test early childhood programs that are based on the culture and language of the community.

Child and Family Resource Centres—This is an integrated approach to programs and services for families with young children. Pilot communities will get some help to develop a plan for an integrated resource centre.

Northern Parenting and Literacy Program—This is the Family Literacy Training Institutes that the NWT Literacy Council ran. More than 150 people, from every community, have been trained. The funding for family literacy projects provides a small amount of funding to each community to allow people who have taken part in the training to run a family literacy project.



Public Awareness Campaign—Posters and announcements on radio and TV will help people understand the importance of early childhood development.



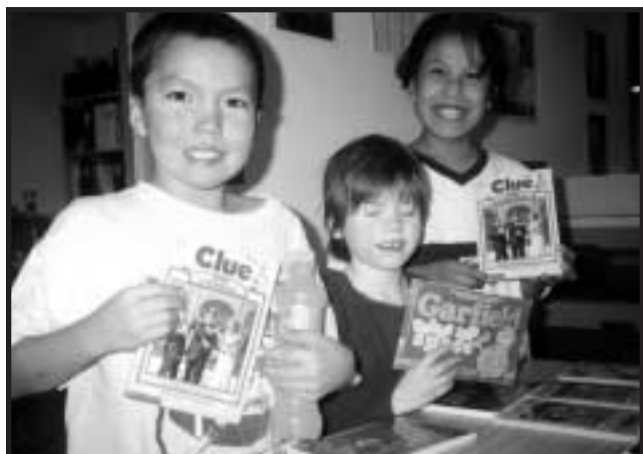


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3rd Annual Children's Book Drive

The NWT Literacy Council is preparing for its third annual Children's Book Drive. We will be collecting good quality used or new children's books to support northern communities that do not have access to a library or bookstore.

In the past, we have donated books to Holman, Paulatuk, Deline, Tuktoyaktuk, Aklavik, and Wha Ti.



Family Book Giveaway in Deline in 2001



Family Book Giveaway in Holman in 2001

Books were given to families through the health centre or through family literacy nights. Communities reported that families were thrilled about receiving books and were reading more regularly at home.

For the month of May you can drop off books at the NWT Literacy Council, the Yellowknife Direct Charge Co-op and the Book Cellar.

**Support literacy in
the north by giving
the gift of reading!**

Check Out Our Website!

Check out our website at www.nwt.literacy.ca. We are adding to it regularly.

You will find information on:

- ✓ family literacy
- ✓ adult literacy
- ✓ free workshops by the council
- ✓ community development
- ✓ plain language
- ✓ Aboriginal language
- ✓ literacy facts
- ✓ resources



Literacy Matters



Many Thanks

We want to extend our sincere thanks to the many organizations and individuals who have supported our work over the past year. It has allowed us to:

- √ Provide training, outreach and support to community and family literacy programs across the NWT.
- √ Develop and publish new print-based and electronic resources for literacy programs.
- √ Distribute promotional tools to communities across the NWT.

It is exciting to see the growth in literacy programs and services in the NWT. Your support makes it happen!

Thank you!

Government

- √ Department of Education, Culture and Employment, NWT Literacy Strategy
- √ Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Early Childhood Development Framework for Action
- √ Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Healthy Children's Initiative
- √ Office of the Premier, GNWT
- √ National Literacy Secretariat, Human Resources Development Canada

Corporate Sponsors

- √ First Air
- √ Enbridge Pipelines (NW) Inc.
- √ Northwestel
- √ BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc
- √ Chevron
- √ CIBC
- √ Mack Travel
- √ NWT Power Corporation
- √ Northwest Transport
- √ Creative Basics
- √ Avery Cooper Financial Corp.
- √ Yellowknife Book Cellar
- √ Lutra Associates Ltd.
- √ Atco Frontec Services
- √ Northland Utilities
- √ Canadian Tire
- √ Yellowknife Direct Charge Co-op

Individuals and Volunteers

- √ Frances Hunter
- √ Frieda Maaskant
- √ Loretta Foley
- √ Lois Little
- √ Joe Handley
- √ Peter Redvers
- √ Maureen Marshall
- √ Stephen Rowan
- √ Louise Vertes
- √ Ken Latour
- √ Jim Robertson
- √ Rotary Club of Yellowknife
- √ Yellowknife Firefighters





Literacy Matters

What's Happening in the Community?

Wekweti

In late January, the Community Literacy Facilitator traveled to Wekweti to deliver the Tools for Community Building Workshop and True Colours in partnership with the Adult Learning Centre. There were 7 people who attended these workshops. The first day of the workshop focused on community-based literacy programs. The participants participated in a photo-literacy activity and created a book about their day at the workshop. The second day focused on program planning and proposal writing. The group decided to write a proposal for a Toy and Resource Centre. The group has formed a literacy committee dedicated to literacy issues in their community.

The high school students attended the True Colours Workshop. True Colours is a personality type assessment and helps people understand their strengths and possible career paths.



Paulatuk

The Community Literacy Facilitator traveled to Paulatuk to deliver the Tools for Community Building workshop in mid-February. The group that attended the workshop decided to create a proposal to address the youth literacy and cultural needs of the community. The proposal proposes to develop and run a youth literacy on the land project for young people in the community. Good luck Paulatuk on your project!

The Paulatuk Learning Centre and the NWT Literacy Council co-sponsored a Family Literacy Night. The event was very well attended with 25 children and 10 adults. Families played word bingo, shared reading and made magnets. It was a great night!



The kindergarten and grade 1 class in Paulatuk showing off their colouring from A Promise is a Promise



Literacy Matters



What's happening in the communities?

Fort Providence

Fort Providence's Family Literacy Coordinator, Aline Gargan, has organized several literacy programs and events for the community of Fort Providence.

They have done the following activities:

- ✓ family literacy nights
- ✓ baby books
- ✓ free book give aways
- ✓ home visits
- ✓ given away backpacks
- ✓ shared reading activities
- ✓ craft nights
- ✓ puppet shows
- ✓ nutrition education

The Family Literacy Coordinator will be organizing a 1-2-3 Rhyme With Me program for the month of March. If you would like more information about Fort Providence's Family Literacy programs call Aline Gargan at (867) 699-3131.



Books and crafts

Fort Resolution

The Fort Resolution Community Learning Centre has a variety of community-based literacy programs happening in their community. They are currently doing:

- ✓ A Senior's Literacy Program
- ✓ Families First Parenting Program
- ✓ A Children's Reading Circle
- ✓ Tutoring for Adults



Participant from the Families First Program



Puppet making is a great family literacy activity!





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Proposal Writing Tips

A lot of work goes into getting a proposal to the point where it looks good enough to send out. You should include the following information in your proposal:

Title Page:

- ✓ The name of your project
- ✓ The name of the funding organization and their contact information
- ✓ Your group's name and contact information
- ✓ A graphic or picture is optional

Cover Letter:

- ✓ Describe your project
- ✓ Say something about why the project is important

Summary:

- ✓ Short and clear description of your project
- ✓ The reasons why the project is important
- ✓ Who the project is intended for?

The Introduction:

- ✓ Who is your group?
- ✓ What is your group's background?
- ✓ What related experience does your group have?

The Need for the Project:

- ✓ Why is this project needed in your community?
- ✓ Show some statistics to back up the need for your project

Goal and Objectives:

- ✓ Your project goal is a broad statement about the purpose of your project.
- ✓ The objectives describe the ways in which you will carry out your goal.

The Action Plan:

- ✓ What steps will you follow to do the project?
- ✓ Who, when and how?

The Outcomes:

- ✓ What do you expect will happen as a result of the project?
- ✓ What knowledge, skills, experience, resource materials, partnerships, new activities will the project produce?

The Evaluation:

- ✓ Funders need to see a plan for how you will evaluate your work.
- ✓ How will you show that you were able to meet the objectives of your project?
- ✓ How will you gather this information?

The Budget:

- ✓ What is the total value of the project?
- ✓ What will the money pay for?
- ✓ Who else is giving resources to support the project?





Proposal Writing Tips

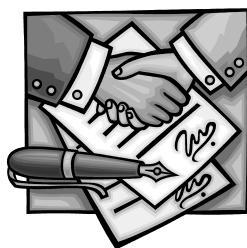
What should you include in your appendices?

The appendices are the place to put short pieces of information that support your proposal.

- √ Relevant newspaper clippings
- √ Articles about your group, organization, programs, etc.
- √ Personal stories of success
- √ A list of other funders
- √ Evaluation tools
- √ Short biographies of key staff
- √ 3 support letters

What writing style is best?

- √ Use clear language and easy to read sentences.
- √ Avoid using jargon (words that only some people know).
- √ Avoid using acronyms (eg: NWTLC, HRDC).
- √ Write as you would to the general public.
- √ Be honest and positive.
- √ Support your comments with examples.
- √ Sound committed to your goals.



What can you do after you send in your proposal?

- √ Call to make sure they received your proposal.
- √ Wait three or four weeks and then call your contact to find out what is happening with your proposal.
- √ If you are turned down, find out why.



Funding

Contact your Regional Career Centres for more information about literacy funding.

- √ **North Slave Career Centre**
(867) 766-5100
- √ **Inuvik Career Centre**
(867) 777-7434
- √ **South Slave Career Centre**
(867) 872-7212
- √ **Deh Cho Career Centre**
(867) 695-7332

Or call:

Gloria Iatridis - Coordinator, Literacy and Adult Education
873-3482





Literacy Matters

Literacy Leader Awards

The NWT Literacy Council recognizes individuals, organizations and businesses that volunteer in literacy programs or sponsor literacy activities in their community.

Our Literacy Leader Award goes to the **Inuvik Literacy Committee**. We would like to commend the Inuvik Literacy Committee for their dedication to literacy. The literacy committee is a volunteer committee that meets monthly to discuss literacy issues in Inuvik. They have a mandate to promote literacy in Inuvik by planning local literacy activities.

Local literacy committees are an excellent way to develop partnerships and create community-based literacy activities. If you would like more information about Inuvik's Literacy Committee, please contact Ruth Elanik at (867) 777-7093.

Way to go Inuvik Literacy Committee!

If you would like to recommend an individual, organization or business to be highlighted in our next newsletter please call us at 873-9262 or email us at info@nwtliteracy.ca



Computer Tip

Inserting Clip Art (for Microsoft word)
Inserting clip art and pictures can help to 'get the message across' and it is easy to do.

Instructions:

1. Click the area where you want to insert the clip art.
2. Click on ... **Insert**
3. Click on ... **Picture**
4. Click on ... **Clip Art**
5. Choose the Clip Art that you want.
 - * You can search for clip art in the Clip Art Gallery by typing in a word.
 - * You can click on a category and browse through the clip art.
 - * If you have access to the Internet, you can look for 'Clips Online.'
6. Click on the clip art you want to insert.
7. Click on **Insert Clip**.
8. When you are finished using the Clip Gallery, click the **Close** button on the Clip Gallery title bar.
9. When your clip art is in your document, double click on it. Click on ... **Layout**
Click on ... **Tight**
This will allow you to move the clip art around.

Some formating tips:

Resize  Move 

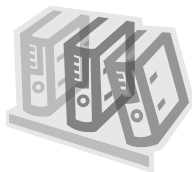


Literacy Matters



Resources and Useful Websites

Diabetes Discovery Kit: Diabetes Prevention Activities for Children 0-6



This is a great resource for early childhood programs.

What's in it?

- ✓ Explore and Discover Booklet
- ✓ Storybooks about Health
- ✓ Diabetes Prevention Poster
- ✓ Northern Food Guide Card Game
- ✓ Northern Activity Trail Board Game
- ✓ Learn With Fun & Food Activity Booklet
- ✓ Food and Fun Flipchart
- ✓ Pamphlets about Diabetes
- ✓ Cook Kit for Children
- ✓ 50 Fun Ideas for You and Your Family
- ✓ Grandmother Puppet and Puppet Plays

It all comes in a custom made container!

For more information call or email:

1-866-4DD-KITS

info@diabetesdiscoverykit.com

The kits will be ready in June, but you can order your kit now and pre-pay. The kits cost \$300 plus shipping and handling.

On the Right Track will soon be available in all the official languages of the NWT. This booklet gives suggestions on how to help children discover the love of reading.



On the Right Track

provides information on how to help children with learning for each developmental stage.

- **French:** Sur la bonne piste: Grandir ensemble et apprendre en famille
- **Inuinnaqtun:** Nakunihamut: Qitunngariit Angirlivaliayut Ayuiqpaliaplutiglu Atauttikkut
- **Dogrib:** Tılı Ehkw'ı k'è: Ełeot'ı ełexè geèze xè hoghàgeètò
- **Gwich'in:** Tani nıziı gwakak t'ohch'uu: Zhehk'oo Kat Nihkhah gıık'atr'aanjıı ts'at dıık'ııtr'ıjıı
- **N. Slavey:** ?etene ?əhw'ı K'e: Dene Káde?á ?elehé Yáts'erıyá ?elehé Dene Gáhurete
- **S. Slavey:** Ek'ėlu k'ėh Nezu Ats'ėt'ı: ?ehėh Zhats'ėnızhėę gots'ėh ?ehėh Goghagonete
- **Cree:** kwayask ohpıkiháwasowın: anıki ká-pėyakoskánėwıhk ta-wıci-kıskınohamahcıık ékwa ta-wıci-kıskınohamásocık
- **Chipewyan:** ?eltth'ı tsén ?ghálada: Deneskéne xél dánıje-ú ?ıla t'ası horılden





Literacy Matters

Family Literacy Trainee Update

Since my last update, family literacy has been keeping me quite busy. In January, I was given the opportunity to travel to Wekweti along with Lisa to co-facilitate a Community Development Workshop. It was great! It was my first trip to Wekweti and I would love to go back.

Also as part of my training, I have been working with the Literacy Outreach Center twice a week as a volunteer tutor to gain more hands-on experience in working with learners. I have also been helping out with developing a Families First workshop for the Yellowknives Dene Learning Center.

I am currently working on developing craft and learning activities for books that will be used in a 'Books in the Home' kit. The kit will have all the books needed to run a 'Books in the Home' project and learning activities to accompany each book.



Agnes Etsemba - Family Literacy Trainee

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