

Network News

A newsletter for the Tri-County Literacy Network serving the
Municipality of Chatham-Kent, Essex and Lambton Counties

How to Find Us

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2008-2009 Board of Directors

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*"The purpose of learning is growth, and our minds, unlike our
bodies, can continue growing as we continue to live."
~Mortimer Adler~*

We would like to take this opportunity to wish the very best to you and
yours over the holiday season.

Please note that our office will be closed Friday, December 19, 2008
until Friday, January 2, 2009 and will reopen Monday January 5, 2009.

We hope you have a happy, healthy and safe holiday season and we'll
see you in the New Year!

*We want to hear your comments and suggestions!
Click on the email address below and give us your feedback.*

tcln@cogeco.net

Message from the Executive Director

Season's Greetings!



It has been an interesting, exciting and busy year since our last Newsletter in March 2008.

In response to the numerous plant closures and lay-offs in our tri-county region, we have been involved in a pilot project with Literacy Link South Central and the western region literacy networks (Learning Networks of Ontario – Southwest) aimed at assessing laid-off workers. Through this project we have offered and provided educational interviews at the Inergy Action Centre in Blenheim, Community Transitions Project in Wallaceburg and the Plastech Action Centre in Leamington. These educational interviews have assisted people by providing them with information on further education and training options related to their needs and goals. Feedback from the participants has been very positive.

As far as professional development, in the spring we organized and hosted Getting Connected III in Windsor and Sarnia. The workshop was for Employment Ontario staff including Literacy & Basic Skills, Job Connect, Apprenticeship, Employment Assistance Services as well as Employment Benefits and Support Measures staff. This was a great opportunity for networking and information sharing with 62 Windsor-Essex Employment Ontario representatives at the workshop in Windsor on June 13, 2008 and 59 Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton Employment Ontario representatives in Sarnia on June 6, 2008. Thanks to Sandra Hennessey and the Literacy & Basic Skills programs in the tri-county region for all your hard work in making this a success!

In the fall we hosted “Through Worker’s Eyes – Developing Authentic Workplace Learning Activities” and “The 3 R’s of Research”. Thanks to QUILL, LiNDR and presenter Cindy Davidson, for making this possible!

We are working in partnership with Sarnia Lambton Workforce Development Board on an employer breakfast on essential skills for the winter in Sarnia-Lambton. We also hope to learn more about possible new projects for 2009 for Windsor-Essex.

The newsletter provides an update of some of our public awareness activities and learner success stories in the region plus an update on new resources available for borrowing from our library.

We hope you will join us in celebrating Family Literacy Day by attending or hosting a Family Game Event! All households and workplaces are encouraged to participate for the fun of learning. More details inside.

Best wishes for the holiday season and 2009!

Andrea Dickinson

Tri-County Literacy Network's Literacy Promotion Awards for 2008

Tri-County Literacy Network Literacy Promotion Award Recipient for Chatham-Kent for 2008

This year, in Chatham-Kent, we would like to recognize the contributions of **Tom Campbell**.

Tom Campbell is that special kind of person who likes to help others without any expectation of recognition or reward. Behind the scenes, for the past 4 years, Tom has supported the cause of literacy through his generous sponsorship of the Tri-County Literacy Network. He has expressed his sincere belief and interest in the efforts of the Tri-County Literacy Network in its work to support adult literacy programs in Chatham-Kent, Sarnia-Lambton and Windsor-Essex as well as its ongoing promotion of literacy in the community. His generosity has helped the Tri-County Literacy Network to thrive for the benefit of the community. Tom Campbell, through his support to the non-profit sector, is an excellent role model for other individuals and businesses in our community. His contributions to such a worthy cause make Chatham-Kent a more caring community.



Ray Ferguson (right) receives the Literacy Promotion Award from Trish Daubs, President, Tri-County Literacy Network



Tri-County Literacy Network Literacy Promotion Award Recipient for Sarnia-Lambton for 2008

This year, in Sarnia-Lambton, we would like to recognize the contributions of **Ray Ferguson**.

Ray Ferguson's love of learning has been lifelong. Retired, several years ago, he decided to lend his skills and his knowledge when he volunteered to assist with the LBS program at Lambton College. His time there was put to good use as he saw many adult learners go on to achieve their academic goals.

More recently, Ray decided to return to school to take a computer course. He discovered that he was only 4 credits short of achieving his own goal of obtaining his high school diploma. Since it had been a few years since he had done English, he decided to upgrade his skills in the Literacy and Basic Skills program. Soon Ray was excelling in his courses and to use his own words, he "never realized that learning could be so enjoyable." Much to the delight of his family and his teachers, at the age of 76, Ray Ferguson received his high school diploma at a graduation ceremony on May 28, 2008. His accomplishments have inspired all of those who know him.

Ray's love of learning has affected almost everyone who knows him. His contributions to the Literacy and Basic Skills program were significant. Ray leads by example. His own accomplishments are proof of this. The local newspaper was so taken by his story that they wanted to interview him for a feature story they were doing on the most recent graduation. When Ray realized that his story would inspire others to come forth, he agreed to be interviewed. His story appeared in the local newspaper and upon reading it, a local A Channel news reporter was so taken by it that she wanted to also meet with Ray to discuss his accomplishments for a television report. Modest about all the publicity he was receiving, Ray agreed to do the television piece because he wanted to promote the program to others in the community. Since completing his program with the Lambton Kent District School Board, Ray will continue his lifelong learning journey by taking university courses in the future. We are sure he will continue to inspire anyone who has the privilege of crossing his path.

Tri-County Literacy Network Literacy Promotion Award Recipient for Windsor-Essex for 2008

This year, in Sarnia-Lambton, we would like to recognize the contributions of **Nancy Friesen**.

Nancy's primary education was mostly in Mennonite schools in Mexico. As an adult, married and with 2 children, she decided to go back to school and work on her GED. She was successful in completing this through the Invest Centre in Leamington (Greater Essex County District School Board), and the same month was hired by South Essex Community Council to be the Program Leader for the ImPACT (Immigrant Parent and Child Training) program. Being in on the ground floor of program development was quite a challenge, but Nancy rose to the occasion and proved to be instrumental in inspiring other women from her cultural background. The literacy program for low-German speaking mothers and their children was, and still is, very successful.

Nancy's efforts have empowered at least 50 women per year to attend classes, learning reading, writing and life skills. Their children have been impacted by being in a learning readiness environment preparing them for the Canadian school system.

Nancy has moved on to a new position as a Settlement worker in schools in Leamington. She is still able to assist the same population group and continues to refer them to literacy programs, as well as to other services in our community.



Nancy Friesen (left) receives the Literacy Promotion Award from Andrea Dickinson, Executive Director, Tri-County Literacy Network



“Celebrating International Literacy Day”



Guest Author: Mary Lou Dickinson

The Tri-County Literacy Network celebrated International Literacy Day at the William Street Café at 28 William Street South in Chatham on Friday September 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. by hosting a reading for adults by guest author Mary Lou Dickinson.

Mary Lou Dickinson read from and talked about her recently published book of short fictional stories, *One Day It Happens*, about people from all walks of life dealing with their everyday lives and issues. She was also available after her presentation to sell and autograph books. Her presentation was made possible through the financial assistance of the Canada Council through the Writers' Union of Canada.

Mary Lou Dickinson grew up in northern Quebec. After attending university in Montreal, she moved to Michigan. Then she settled in Toronto where she has lived ever since. She worked for many years as a crisis counselor. Her fiction has been published in the *University of Windsor Review*, *Descant*, *Waves*, *Grain*, *Northern Journey*, *Impulse*, *Writ*, *The Fiddlehead*, *Canadian Woman Studies* and broadcast on CBC Radio. Her first book, a collection of short stories, *One Day It Happens*, was published by Inanna Publications in May 2007.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2009

CELEBRATE FAMILY LITERACY DAY

Family Literacy Day is recognized nationally on Tuesday, January 27, 2009.

For information on events in **Sarnia-Lambton**, please contact the Organization for Literacy in Lambton at 519-332-4876.

For information on events in **Chatham-Kent**, please contact the Ontario Early Years Centre at 519-358-1451 and the Chatham Kent Public Library at 519-354-2940.

For information on events in **Windsor-Essex**, please contact the Windsor Public Library at 519-255-6770.

Please visit **ABC CANADA'S** website at www.abc-canada.org for general information about this day.

Need help, helping them?



Help is a phone call away

- We can help you improve your skills so that you can help your kids with their homework
- Free confidential service
- Adult learning environment
- Learn at your own pace
- Practical skills
- Focused on your goal

For more information about programs that can help call Tri-County Literacy Network at 519-355-1771 or toll free at 1-877-333-4833 or visit www.tcln.on.ca.

Celebrate Family Literacy Day
by attending or hosting a Family Game Event!

The Chatham-Kent Public Library, 120 Queen Street, Chatham ON
presents

Play & Stay

an evening storytime to celebrate **Family Literacy Day**
on **Wednesday, January 28th** at **6:45 p.m.**



Join us for one hour of stories, cinema and great games!

This program is most suitable for, but not limited to,
children ages 3 to 8 and parents/caregivers.

Please register by calling the Children's Room at
519-354-2940 ext. 247 beginning January 19th.

Chatham-Kent Public Library

...where people and ideas meet

www.chatham-kent.ca/library

Celebrate Family Literacy Day
by attending or hosting a Family Game Event!

Join us at
Ontario Early Years For

F
G A M E
M
N I G H T
L
Y

Fun and Free!
for parents and Children
3 - 6 years old!

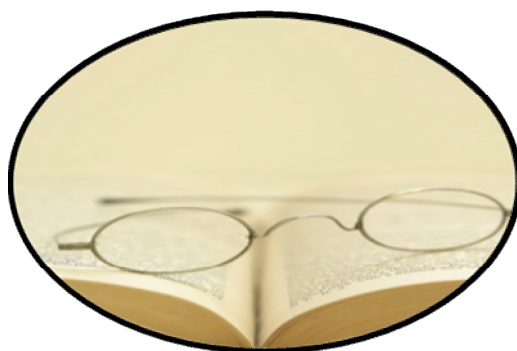
Pizza provided
in Chatham!

182 King St
Blenheim!
6:00 - 7:00pm

215 Murray St.
Chatham!
5:30 - 7:00 pm

150 University
Ave
Wallaceburg!
10:00-11:30am
6:00 - 7:30pm

Celebrate Family Literacy
Tuesday, Jan. 27
Register @ 358-1451x0



Resource Library – New Resources

All resources are available through the Tri-County Literacy Network office.

Please contact us at 519-355-1771 or toll free at 1-877-333-4833.

1. **Circle of Literacy** - #395
(Project Read, Jane Tuer, Lorri Sauve – December 2007)
A collaboration guide for literacy development in Waterloo, Niagara & Ottawa
2. **Learning Works CD – Connecting to the workplaces** - #396
(Susan Taylor/LNN – April 2008)
Building curricula for validated demonstrations Phase II
3. **Marketing Ourselves** - #397
(Karen Farrar/CLO – March 2008)
A resource guide for Ontario's community literacy agencies.
4. **FASPA AND MORE** - #398
(SECC – April 2008)
Book of recipes compiled by the Leamington ImPACT group (Immigrant Parent and Child Training Program).
5. **Governing For Results** - #399
(Literacy Network of Durham Region – May 2008)
Practitioner toolkit.
6. **Laubach Literacy Ontario E-Magazine** - #401
(Robyn Cook-Ritchie – May 2008)
Expressions E-Magazine Collection & Compendium information.
7. **Reading the Future: Planning to Meet Canada's Future Literacy Needs** - #402
(Canadian Council on Learning – June 2008)
To assist policy-makers, planners and adult educators.
8. **The ABC's of CIPMS** - #403
(CLO – June 2008)
Continuous Improvement Performance Management System.
9. **For My Child** - #404
(CIRCEM – December 2007)
Phase 3 – A study of the impact of French-language family literacy program.

10. **Learning Works – Giving Control Back To Displaced Workers** - #405
(ABEA, LLSC & QLLRLN – July 2008)
Promotional tool for displaced workers – 8 min. DVD.
11. **Chatham-Kent Community Strategic Plan – Second Edition** - #406
(Municipality of Chatham-Kent – July 2008)
Strategic plan.
12. **The Industrial & Agricultural Business Directory** - #407
(Municipality of Chatham-Kent – July 2008)
Directory.
13. **OLC Action for Family Literacy in Ontario** - #408
(Ontario Literacy Coalition – July 2008)
Report of Fall 2006 forums.
14. **Essential Skills for Success (College, Postsecondary, Apprenticeship)** - #409
(B. Glass, S. Kallio, D. Goforth – September 2007)
Part of Learner Skill Attainment Framework Initiative – Adult upgrading.
15. **Chatham-Kent Rural Guide 2007** - #410
(Ridgetown OMAFARA – September 2007)
Variety of products and services to the Chatham-Kent community.
16. **Ontario's Looming Labour Shortage** - #411
(The Conference Board of Canada – October 2007)
Possible strategies to engage unused and underutilized Human Resources.
17. **The Link Between Essential Skills and Success in Apprenticeship Training** - #412
(Government of Canada – June 2007)
Final report – An analysis of selected essential skills initiatives in apprenticeship.
18. **IALS – Gaining and Losing Literacy Skills Over the Lifecourse** - #413
(J.D. Willms & T.S. Murray – July 2007)
Statistics report.
19. **Fitting In – Five Canadian Roundtables** - #414
(Canadian Labour & Business Centre – August 2007)
Engagement with Regional Stakeholders on integrating internationally-trained workers.
20. **Apprentice Bound (CD)** - #415
(Georgian College – July 2008)
Final – practitioner training.
21. **Aboriginal Inclusion in Employment Ontario** - #416
(Ontario Native Language Coalition – August 2008)
Powerpoint presentation on Aboriginal Inclusion in Employment Ontario (CD with hard copy).
22. **Literacy Basics – Employment Ontario** - #417
(CLO – August 2008)
Background and overview.

23. **Literacy Basics - #418**
(CLO – August 2008)
CIPMS 2008.
24. **Common Assessment of Essential Skills (CAES) - #419**
(LLEO – May 2008)
Common Assessment of Essential Skills resource (template, ruler & user guide).
25. **Learner Skill Attainment Framework (Validation Report) - #420**
(Goforth Consulting/College Sector Committee – June 2008)
Report – why the Learner Skill Attainment was needed, development process etc.
26. **Testing....TOWES Final Report - #421**
(Goforth Consulting/College Sector Committee – June 2008)
Part of the Learner Skill Attainment Initiative.
27. **College Sector Committee – TOWES Data Analysis – Project Findings - #422**
(Bow Valley College – June 2008)
Report – TOWES test results – TOWES Baseline Testing portion of LSA.
28. **Be Informed About....Consumer Issues - #423**
(Consumer Measures Committee – September 2008)
Consumer information series with accompanying CD (French & English).
29. **Niagara Pathways Project - #424**
(Literacy Link Niagara – September 2008)
Research into the nature and best practices of partnerships between organizations in Niagara.
30. **Handbook of Employment Ontario Terms & References - #425**
(CESBA – September 2008)
Provides definitions, explanations & examples of key terms and references re: EO & CIPMS.
31. **The OLC Workplace/Workforce Literacy Symposium – Reflections Paper - #426**
(OLC – 2005)
Provides a common starting point and forward looking perspective
32. **Essential Skills and the Labour Movement - #427**
(Canadian Labour Congress – August 2005)
Goal: to look into labour's involvement and experience with essential skills.
33. **Sarnia-Lambton Training Board 2005-2006 Annual Report - #428**
(SLTB – December 2006)
Annual Report.
34. **Community Profile (FULL VERSION) – LIFE in Sarnia-Lambton - 2nd Edition - #429**
(SLWDB – 2006/2007)
The report identifies the top community priorities determined by various indicators.
35. **Community Profile (SUMMARY) – LIFE in Sarnia-Lambton - 2nd Edition - #430**
(SLWDB – 2006/2007)
Summary of resource #429.

36. **Get Set Learn! - #431**
(Lorri Sauve/Project READ – January 2006)
A case study of a Family Literacy program in Waterloo Region.
37. **Workforce Essential Skills Training (WEST) Project - #432**
(LLEO – August 2008)
5 C.D. package re: job curricula (Day Care Provider, Cleaner, Service Station Attendant, Truck Driver and Grocery Clerk/Store Shelf Stockers)
38. **Essential Skills for the Changing Workplace - #433**
(Marion Bruce, Centre for Education & Training – October 2008)
Workshop notes & powerpoint presentation.
39. **Community-Led Libraries Toolkit (Working Together Project) - #434**
(Brian Campbell – October 2008)
Vancouver project to develop methods for libraries to work with low-income communities.
40. **The Level Descriptions Manual - #435**
(OLC – 2000)
A learning outcomes approach to describing levels of skill in Communications & Numeracy.

Employment Ontario staff will be interested in the Employment Ontario Partners' Gateway website at www.eopg.ca

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO

Ontario's employment & training network

www.ontario.ca/employmentontario

or

call toll free at 1-800-387-5656

