

# Network News

A newsletter for the Tri-County Literacy Network serving  
Chatham-Kent, Sarnia-Lambton and Windsor-Essex

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## ***How to Find Us***

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**Office Hours:**

**Monday – Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

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**2013-2014  
Board of Directors**

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***Joyeuses fêtes***

*"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember,  
involve me and I learn."  
~ Benjamin Franklin~*

**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 20,  
2013 and will reopen Monday January 6, 2014.**

**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](mailto:tcln@cogeco.net)***

# Message from the Executive Director

## *Season's Greetings!*

In 2013 we were very busy supporting the Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) programs in the tri-county region with the Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework (OALCF), the Performance Management Framework (PMF) and with service coordination within the Employment Ontario network as well as with Ontario Works/Employment and Social Services.

Based on input from the programs, we organized the Spring and Fall workshops this year to assist with this.

We offered a **webinar** on “Protecting Privacy” in partnership with Community Literacy of Ontario to the LBS and ES (Employment Services) programs (26 registered) in our region on May 3, 2013 with great feedback on the content and mode of delivery.

The **Spring Professional Development workshop 2013** was held on June 17, 2013 in Chatham for LBS programs in the tri-county region. Paul E. Broad presented on “The Importance of Confidentiality & Privacy for Service Providers”, Brian Thwaites on “Train Your Brian: It’s All About Learning” and Angela Hoyt on “Self Care and the Performance Management System”. It was sponsored by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ontario government, and Employment Ontario. There were 60 registered and 53 attended plus 12 learners attended the Brian Thwaites’ workshop. The evaluations were excellent showing increased knowledge in all areas. The value and usefulness of the sessions were rated almost all 3s and 4s out of 4.

We also provided a **Fall Professional Development workshop** for the LBS programs in the tri-county region on “ESKARGO Anyone? OALCF Implementation Strategy”. A live demonstration of Task-Based Activities for LBS at [www.taskbasedactivitiesforlbs.ca](http://www.taskbasedactivitiesforlbs.ca) was included. Becky Barber presented to us with support from an MTCU funded project of Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy on November 19, 2013. There were 37 registered and 34 attended. Feedback was very positive.

**Getting Connected VI**, with speaker Sarah Delicate on “LBS+ES=?”, was held at the Chatham-Kent John D. Bradley Convention Centre on October 18, 2013. It was sponsored by the Chatham-Kent Workforce Planning Board, the Sarnia-Lambton Workforce Development Board, Workforce WindsorEssex and Employment Ontario. There were about 107 registered and 96 in attendance from tri-county Employment Ontario (EO) programs, Ontario Works/Employment and Social Services, Local Boards and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. Evaluations were very positive, especially in regards to ways that LBS and ES (Employment Services) can work together. The afternoon session focused on LBS discussion tables on EOIS-CaMS (the information management system).

Beyond Getting Connected VII, there were a number of activities that we were involved in as part of improving **service coordination** in the tri-county region this year:

- Implementing common referral forms for LBS and ES/EAS (Employment Assistance Services) in Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton, for LBS in Windsor-Essex and with Employment and Social Services in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent and soon to add for Ontario Works in Sarnia-Lambton

- Meeting with Windsor-Essex Employment Services to discuss the common referral form and process (March 20)
- Updated brochures, website and information and referral charts for Chatham-Kent, Sarnia-Lambton and Windsor-Essex
- Meetings with all Local Boards for updates and Employment Ontario consultations at which the Network and/or LBS programs provided input (April 4, April 18, Sept. 5, Sept. 19, Oct. 3)
- Youth Employment Fund meetings with MTCU (July 16 and 17) and organizing committee work and meetings with youth groups in Chatham-Kent (Aug. 27) and Sarnia-Lambton (Aug 29) which included the Network presenting on the common referral form and protocol and inviting youth groups to join the process
- MTCU Employment Ontario meetings for Chatham-Kent (May 3) and Sarnia-Lambton (May 7) where the Network provided an update on service coordination with regards to the approved referral forms and protocols
- Pre-Business Planning meetings where the Network presented on the Windsor-Essex (Oct. 29), Chatham-Kent (Oct. 31) and Sarnia-Lambton (Nov. 1) Literacy Service Plans
- Sarnia-Lambton Ontario Works and Employment Ontario meeting where a representative of the Network presented on service coordination with regards to the common referral form and protocol (Nov. 7)

As part of the **Celebration of Learning speaker series** funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Government of Ontario, speaking engagements continued in 2013:

- Deborah Ellis presented on April 30, 2013 at the elementary level and an evening public event. Deborah Ellis presented in the morning at Tecumseh Public School and John N. Given joined them (221 grade 6, 7 and 8 students total) as well as an afternoon presentation at Our Lady of Fatima and Monsignor Uyen joined them (420 grade 4 to 8 students) followed by a presentation at the Chatham Christian School (100 grade 4 to 8 students). The Chatham-Kent Sexual Assault Crisis Centre partnered with us for Deborah Ellis' evening presentation at Aristos and about 70 attended this event. Coverage was great in all media including radio interviews on April 22 and April 23, 2013.
- Brian Thwaites presented on June 6, 2013 to a sold out crowd of 175 older adults at the Active Lifestyle Centre for a dinner and evening public event in Chatham and June 7, 2013 for the Spring PD in Chatham for tri-county 56 (63 registered) practitioners and learners. Coverage was great in all media including radio interviews.
- We were able to bring Metis author David Bouchard from British Columbia to Chatham-Kent on September 9, 2013 and September 10, 2013. David spoke at the Paincourt Secondary School (he presented in French and English for this presentation) to a full school assembly of 205 students and to Blenheim District High School to a full school assembly of 400 students. Feedback was very positive and the francophone media attended Paincourt and the Blenheim New Tribune had coverage in their newspaper. David spoke at the Wallaceburg District Secondary School (WDSS) to a full school assembly of 720 students and at the Walpole Island Elementary School to two assemblies of 240 students total. Coverage was provided by the Wallaceburg Courier Press and the Chatham Daily News of the presentation at WDSS. Students and staff were very engaged with his presentation which included his playing a variety of flutes as well as readings from his books. Both the LKDSB and the Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence assisted with sponsorship towards these events. It was a wonderful way to wrap up the series.

Thanks to our sponsors and partners we were able to offer 16 presentations by 7 presenters to 5,000 people in Chatham-Kent during September 2012 to September 2013! Feedback on these events has been extremely positive.

In Windsor-Essex we implemented a piece of the Western Region **Labour Market Partnership project**, led by Literacy Link South Central. This was a follow-up to the Linking Adult Literacy to Poverty Reduction project and included a survey of participants from the Bridges Out of Poverty training (part one and part two), roundtable discussion of the results and next steps facilitated by Jen Kirkham as well as a provincial webinar.

After discussions with the LBS programs and Local Boards, we prepared, completed and submitted the 2014-2015 **Literacy Service Plans** for Chatham-Kent, Sarnia-Lambton and Windsor-Essex, representing 15 sites.

At our **Literacy and Basic Skills Local Planning and Coordination (LPC) meetings** we discussed our Work Plan, professional development, program updates, MTCU updates, service coordination, best practices and Literacy Service Planning. We also invited Employment Services as well as Employment and Social Services to meet with the Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton LPC group and Employment and Social Services, Employment Services, Workforce WindsorEssex and Pathway To Potential to meet with the Windsor-Essex LPC group. MTCU also provided updates at these meetings on the Ontario College of Trades.

The Network continued to meet with the **Learning Networks of Ontario** provincially and the Learning Networks of Ontario – Western Region for the purpose of information sharing and professional development. We also continued to work with Essential Skills Ontario.

The newsletter provides an update of some of our public awareness and professional development activities in the region plus an update on new resources available for borrowing from our library. A special congratulations to Kathy Brosnan and Terry Plain, recipients of the Tri-County Literacy Network's Literacy and Learning Promotion Awards.

We hope you will celebrate **Family Literacy Day** on January 27, 2014. Please see details inside for more information.

Best wishes for the holiday season and 2014!

*Andrea Dickinson*







### Tri-County Literacy Network Literacy and Learning Promotion Award Recipient for Windsor-Essex for 2012/2013

This year, in Windsor-Essex, we would like to recognize the contributions of **Kathy Brosnan**.

Kathy Brosnan is a believer in Literacy and Basic Skills programming and in education as a pathway to success. She has been an Ontario Works caseworker with Employment & Social Services for five years. Through the years Kathy has helped many individuals find their way to LBS programs in the community. Kathy does more than make referrals though; she also takes on a partnership role in her client's education. She stays in constant contact with us as LBS providers throughout her client's progression. She uses our learner attendance reports to motivate her clients towards success and as a reminder of the importance of attending regularly. When we have a learner referral who works with Kathy, we know that we have a reliable partner who will encourage the learner and who will help keep them on track. Kathy believes in Literacy and Basic Skills Programs both as a method for increasing her client's success and for improving their self-esteem.

Kathy has referred several clients to our program over the years who have reached their goals. With the help of Kathy's motivation these clients have overcome their barriers and reached their goal path destinations.

One of Kathy's clients is proof of how this collaboration can work so well, he came to us after having been out of the workforce for several years. He was an older gentleman who reported feeling like he was too old to find employment. Kathy referred him to us for full-time LBS participation and then supported him as his program changed to part-time LBS with part-time volunteering and then celebrated with us as he moved onto full-time employment. The client gained so much confidence from regularly attending class, making new friends, and successfully completing his goals that his entire attitude towards working changed. He took this confidence with him into his volunteering position and became a key asset. When a job became available for him the association was happy to extend him their recommendation. The client has been employed for several years now. Kathy understood that this client needed the community and training that an LBS program provided. She supported the client as he moved from learner to volunteer to employee.



Andrea Dickinson, Executive Director, Tri-County Literacy Network presents the Literacy and Learning Promotion Award 2012/2013 for Windsor-Essex to Kathy Brosnan (left), City of Windsor, Employment and Social Services.



## Tri-County Literacy Network Literacy and Learning Promotion Award Recipient for Sarnia-Lambton for 2012/2013

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

Terry has been involved with Aamjiwnaang's Literacy program from its conception. It is going on 25 years now, and he is just as dedicated to the program and its learners as he was when he began.

- He doesn't think twice about using his personal time to bring learners to and from class.
- He has a very positive attitude; no one, learners or staff, ever leave the class without Terry telling them that he's glad they're there.
- He goes the extra mile by providing healthy food/snacks for learners.
- He will volunteer to drive learners to other locations, to make sure they are/were able to attend class that day, at least for a little while.
- He is the face of literacy in this community.

Terry's contributions have definitely made a positive impact on the lives of the learners, staff, and community-at-large, which is clearly evident by the following:

- He encourages people and gives them hope when they don't feel great about themselves.
- He makes sure that every member of the literacy team feels important and they are doing a great job.
- He is so well known, respected, and loved throughout the community because of his dedication to the community, their learning and the literacy program.
- He would do whatever it took if it meant a person would be able to include LBS in his/her life.

For those who know Terry, it is easy to see how his contributions to literacy have made a positive impact on his own life. He never complains, although he is run crazy at times; he is always smiling; and every day is a good day because he has people to reach out to and work to do for the program.



Andrea Dickinson, Executive Director, Tri-County Literacy Network presents the Literacy and Learning Promotion Award 2012/2013 for Sarnia-Lambton to Terry Plain (left), Literacy Worker, Aamjiwnaang Alternative and Continuing Education Centre.



# **Celebration of Learning – Speaker Series 2013**

(Ontario Trillium Foundation Project, Celebration of Learning – Speaker Series 2012/2013)  
~continued~

Presented on Tuesday, April 30, 2013

Our Lady of Fatima, Tecumseh Public School, Chatham Christian School  
& Aristo's Banquet Hall

## **Deborah Ellis**



Michelle Schryer, Executive Director, Chatham-Kent Sexual Assault Crisis Centre (left)  
Andrea Dickinson, Executive Director, Tri-County Literacy Network and Author, Deborah  
Ellis (right)

Deborah Ellis is best known for her Breadwinner Trilogy set in Afghanistan and Pakistan — a series that has been published in twenty-five languages, with more than one million dollars in royalties donated to Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan and Street Kids International. She has won the Governor General's Award, the Ruth Schwartz Award, the University of California's Middle East Book Award, Sweden's Peter Pan Prize, the Jane Addams Children's Book Award and the Vicky Metcalf Award for a Body of Work. She recently received the Ontario Library Association's President's Award for Exceptional Achievement, and she has been named to the Order of Ontario. Deborah lives in Simcoe, Ontario.

Thanks to Deborah Ellis for sharing her inspiring journey in our community.



Presented on:  
Thursday, June 6, 2013 – Active Lifestyle Centre  
&  
Friday, June 7, 2013 (Spring Professional Development)  
Chatham-Kent John D. Bradley Convention Centre

**Brian Thwaits**  
Entertaining Author/Presenter



Brain Thwaits is an award-winning educator and learning expert who challenges his audiences to explore the way they think, learn and communicate.

He's shown thousands of people from all walks of life how to supercharge their brains -- so they can excel in the workplace, in the classroom, and in their personal lives. Brian is the author of *The Big Learn: Smart Ways to Use Your Brain*.

Thanks to Brian Thwaits for inspiring members in our community as well as in our literacy field with his positive and topical messages on life-long learning.



Presented on:  
Monday, September 9, 2013  
École secondaire de Pain Court & Blenheim District High School

Tuesday, September 10, 2013  
Wallaceburg District Secondary School & Walpole Island Elementary School

**David Bouchard**  
Canadian Métis Author



Canadian Métis author and literacy advocate David Bouchard has produced more than fifty books for readers of all ages, including two guides on reading for parents and educators.

An erstwhile teacher and school principal, he is particularly concerned with Aboriginal-related issues and is a sought-after speaker for conference keynotes and school presentations and on topics of reading, literacy and aboriginal well-being.

David Bouchard's books have won numerous awards, including a Special Mention for Non-Fiction in the 2010 Bologna Ragazzi Awards for *The Drum Calls Softly*, a Gold Medal in the 2008 Moonbeam Award for *I am Raven*, the 2004 Governor General's Award for *The Song Within My Heart*, the 1999 Red Cedar Award for *The Great Race* and the 1997 Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award for *Voices from the Wild*. An Aboriginal Carol was included in the 2008 White Ravens Catalogue.

In April 2009, Bouchard was named as a Member of the Order of Canada "for his contributions as an author of children's books and an advocate who has championed the cause of reading and writing, and who has shared his pride as a member of the Métis community through his stories."

Thanks to David Bouchard for travelling here from British Columbia to promote a love of reading and learning as well as sharing his Metis culture with us.

# Spring Professional Development

June 7, 2013 - Chatham-Kent John D. Bradley Convention Centre



**Topic: "The Importance of Confidentiality & Privacy For Service Providers"**

**Speaker:** Paul E. Broad, Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart Storie LLP, Lawyer

Paul Broad is a partner in the law firm of Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart Storie LLP in London, ON, where he represents a range of employers in both the private and public sectors. Paul practices out of the firm's London office, and is chair of the firm's Knowledge Management Group. In that capacity, Paul provides research and related support services to other members of the firm, with an emphasis on legal and statutory compliance and new legal developments. In addition, Paul carries on a practice in which he advises clients in a full range of labour and employment areas, with a particular emphasis on privacy and freedom of information, information management practices, employment standards, accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities, human rights and legal and statutory compliance initiatives.



**Topic: "Self Care and the Performance Management System"**

**Speaker:** Angela Hoyt, Evolution Group Inc.

Angela Hoyt, Evolution Group Inc. is a dynamic trainer, facilitator and award winning executive coach. Angela has an in-depth understanding of MTCU and EO policies and programs, the LBS PMS, EOIS-CaMS performance and operational reports and performance leadership. She recently designed and delivered three Community Literacy of Ontario (CLO) webinars on "Leading the Way" pertaining to leadership and the LBS PMS. In addition, she recently designed and delivered 17 MTCU LBS Performance Management System training sessions to LBS service providers and support organizations, representing the LBS sectors and streams, across the province.

# Getting Connected Phase VI

October 18, 2013 – Chatham-Kent John D. Bradley Convention Centre

## Sponsors/Partners:

Chatham-Kent Workforce Planning Board, Sarnia-Lambton Workforce Development Board and Workforce WindsorEssex

**Sarah Delicate**  
BBMD Consulting



Sarah Delicate is a recognized leader in Outcome-Based Performance Measurement and Integrated Management. She has worked directly with 100's of service delivery agencies and government bodies towards understanding, developing and successfully implementing outcomes-based management. Sarah's high-energy, dynamic facilitation style and her results-orientation guarantees that all participants leave feeling invigorated, well-challenged, knowledgeable, and ready to hit the ground running.

## Workshop outline:

LBS + ES = ?

ES and LBS are now together under the Employment Ontario Umbrella, and strong collaboration is critical to best support clients and learners to achieve their goals. But these are early days, and many are still trying to figure out the rules of play. There are still many unanswered questions: What do they actually *do* over there in LBS? What is it that ES is all about? Why do they want my client? What do they want me to do with their client? *Whose client is it anyway?* How does this all add up in CaMS and MTCU's assessment of my performance?

This workshop explored the interconnections between LBS and ES in a practical, no-nonsense manner that will not only convince you that collaboration is the best strategy for your clients, your learners and your community, but is also a great strategy to demonstrate organizational capacity and to achieve your contracted commitments. The last hour of this session was spent exploring further connections with OW and EAS, and sharing best practices in implementation.

# ESKARGO Anyone?

## OALCF Implementation Strategy

November 19, 2013 – Chatham-Kent John D. Bradley Convention Centre

### Sponsor/Partner:

Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy (MTML)



Becky Barber is the developer of the *ESKARGO* and *The OALCF Implementation Strategy Resource (ISR)*, and is currently the OALCF Training Project Manager at the Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy. Having worked in adult literacy for over 10 years as practitioner, program manager, resource developer and trainer, Becky brought experience and understanding to the challenges practitioners and managers encounter. Her forthright, fun and energetic training is recognized province-wide as engaging, relevant and, above all,





# Looking Forward to 2014

## **Celebrate Family Literacy Day**

Family Literacy Day is recognized nationally on January 27, 2014.

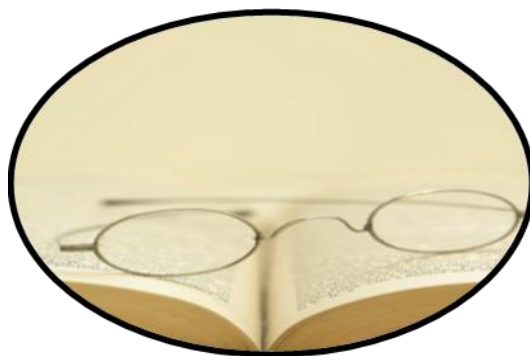
Please visit **ABC Life Literacy Canada's** website at [www.familyliteracyday.ca](http://www.familyliteracyday.ca) for great family literacy ideas and general information about this day.



### **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](http://www.tcln.on.ca).**



## **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.

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1. **Reducing Risk - Protecting People - #505**  
(Cindy Davidson/CLO - March 2013)  
An Annotated Guide to Risk Management Resources
2. **Targeted Literacy Programming & Outreach - #506**  
(Literacy Link South Central - March 2013)  
Single Males on Ontario Works - includes 4 modules.
3. **My Name is Parvana - #507**  
(Author Deborah Ellis - April 2013)  
Fictional story - suitable for children grade 4 and up as well as adults.
4. **The Big Learn - smart ways to use your brain - #508**  
(Brian Thwaites - June 2013)  
Tips & tricks - using your brain
5. A number of **David Bouchard** books are available to borrow too.

Employment Ontario staff will be interested in the Employment Ontario Partners' Gateway website at [www.eopg.ca](http://www.eopg.ca) .



[www.ontario.ca/employmentontario](http://www.ontario.ca/employmentontario)  
or call toll free at 1-800-387-5656

Special thanks to our funders and partners for the  
Celebration of Learning - Speaker Series continued in 2013,  
Spring Professional Development, Getting Connected Phase VI  
and ESKARGO

For more details on the various events please see pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.



Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Government of Ontario



**2014**



*Happy New Year!*  
*Heureuse Nouvelle Année!*