

Laubach Links



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NLLLC Provincial Newsletter

The President's

Corner

Greetings everyone!

By now all interested councils should have received their application for Summer Reading for Fun. The provincial board met in Grand



Falls-Windsor on February 13&14 to discuss the strategic directions for the province and the changes that are happening at the National level in the near future. We were proud to have Bessie Merrigan, LLC National President, as an invited guest at the meeting. She gave us some insight into what is happening with the board. Now is the time to get fundraising started to send delegates to the AGM in Grand Falls -Windsor in October 2004. Also, please keep in mind that we are still looking for a council to host AGM 2005. Keep smiling spring is just around the corner and we can finally get out of this long winter which had record-breaking snowfalls.

son and a daughter, who are both attending university in St. John's. Wanda has worked with the Labrador White Bear Literacy Council since 1996 and we are very fortunate she agreed to join the NLLLC Board. I sincerely apologize to Wanda for omitting her from the list.



Seeking a New

Provincial Treasurer

Vanessa Reid, the provincial treasurer, has decided to step down for personal reasons. Is there anyone among you who is interested in this position or can you identify someone in your community or council who might prove to be a good board member? The Newfoundland and Labrador Laubach Literacy Council is planning for the future and I think it will grow very strong over the next few years. The Board meets face to face approximately 2 - 3 times a year and has teleconferences approximately twice a year. The Board pays all expenses for hotels, meals and transportation. The next meeting is scheduled for May 7 and 8 in Corner Brook.

Qualifications:

1. Although knowing how to add and subtract is important, it is not essential. We can provide you with a calculator. The numbers are not so big as to cause great stress.
2. You must be able to read and write effectively to read bank and government correspondence. You will be one of three signing authorities. This is to protect you as well as the organization.

Introducing Wanda Parr

In our last newsletter all of the members of the newly elected provincial board were highlighted except the representative from Labrador Wanda Parr. We feel the need to rectify this immediately as she is a vital part of the new Board.

Wanda lives with her husband Alec in a small community nestled in the South Coast of Labrador called Port Hope Simpson. She has two children, a



3. You need to be organized. You will need to know how to file and keep pertinent information so as to ensure receipts are kept in a logical manner.

4. You need to be aware of time lines as you need to complete forms for the organization for their charitable and incorporation status. This is essential to allowing the organization to keep moving.

4. Both male and female members can apply although I am sure Lloyd would prefer to have another male on the Board. He is vastly outnumbered, but he is not complaining - yet.

5. A sense of humour and a lot of patience is critical. The Board is in a 'learning mode' and requires people with a lot of patience who will laugh at us and with us when we "goof."

6. This is a volunteer - working position. In other words you will work a lot but won't get paid for it.

7. Training is provided "on the job" so to speak. It's a trial by fire thing with everyone throwing in their two-cents worth.

(This is why you need a sense of humour)

Laubach Enhanced Training System

by Lillian Moores

NLLLC Provincial Training Officer

Laubach Literacy of Canada has been working to enhance its training system. Laubach Literacy Ontario is currently managing Phase three of the project. The new system has been devised to give each trainer and council the ability to add relevant topics while still maintaining a national quality standard. To support the new standards, workshop modules on the Laubach teaching principles and evaluating the effectiveness of the workshop design are in development.

A LETS information package has been sent to all registered Laubach trainers and apprenticing trainers regarding these new standards and implementation process.

If you wish to learn more about Laubach's Enhanced Training System please visit www.laubach.ca and click on Training-LETS Consultation.

Ice breakers

by Anne Hughes - Trainer

Beginning a training is always difficult, but you can ease your participants into the session by providing a little light fun at the beginning of the day.

Icebreaker # 1

1. Break the participants into groups of two and give them 30 seconds to look at their partner and talk to them.
2. Then ask the participants to turn back to back with their partners and tell the group three things that you observed or noticed about the other person. This can include what the partner was wearing etc.

Icebreaker # 2

1. Put pictures of the 4 seasons around the room and get attendees to go and stand by the picture they like the most.
2. Discuss with others in that group why they chose that one.
3. Ask one person in that group to report back to the large group.

Variations of the same Icebreaker include:

1. You can also use four tools (e.g., hammer, saw, screwdriver, tape measure) or animals.

Icebreaker # 3

1. Ask attendees to complete the following sentence with one word:

When I think of tutoring I feel . . . (1 word).

2. Place the words on a wall or chart board and group them if possible.

Icebreaker # 4

1. Use a hallway and make a big square on the floor with masking or painter's tape. Make a big + sign. This is a good exercise to use when doing learning styles.

On the wall by each quadrant place one of the following 4 signs

- ▶ Someone shows me, then I do it.
 - ▶ Someone tells me how, then I do it.
 - ▶ I read how, then I do it.
 - ▶ Someone tells and shows me, then I do it.
3. Ask participants to go into hallway and look at the signs. Think about how you have learned to do the following things. Then they should stand in the square (or straddle the lines) that will answer a question about how you have learned to do these things.
- ▶ to swim
 - ▶ to speak another language
 - ▶ to drive a car
 - ▶ to write a resume
 - ▶ to use a computer
 - ▶ to read a road map
 - ▶ to make a large purchase (buy a house/car etc.)
 - ▶ to read and write
4. Ask participants to return to the training room and discuss the following questions:
- ▶ Were you successful in learning what you wanted to learn?
 - ▶ If so, why do you think you were?
 - ▶ If not, why do you think you weren't?

Meet the new

Long Range Literacy Council



Members include: Jacqueline Payne - President; Sherry Legge - Vice President, Cara Welsh - Student-Tutor Coordinator, Crystal Smith - Secretary, Tracey Ellsworth - Treasurer and Nancy Brown - Publicity. Other members include Cynthia Caines, Holly Payne, Martha Goosney, Chrissy Payne and Tina Bennett.

Since the council has revived, the members are providing services for seniors to write letters and read to whomever requests it. They currently have two students being tutored and have applied for a Summer Reading for Fun Program in their area. The council is providing books for new parents and has scheduled a training for new tutors for April 23 and 24.

Dates to Remember

May 7-8 Meeting of the NLLLC Board - Corner Brook

March 30 - Council information to be sent to Isabella

April 18-24 Volunteer Week

June 4-6 Annual General Meeting of Laubach Literacy of Canada

June 28 - July 1 SRF Tutor Training



Changing Times with Laubach Literacy - Part I

By Bessie Merrigan

At the request of our national funder, National Literacy Secretariat, Laubach Literacy of Canada (LLC) undertook a formal organizational review in September 2001, which was completed in July 2002. This evaluation revealed many strengths of LLC, but also pointed out a high level of dissatisfaction within the organization. In October 2002, approximately 75 LLC members (Board, staff, students, volunteers) met

for three days in Ottawa to review the results of the evaluation and to begin a process which would bring about some of the changes recommended in the evaluation. Representatives from Newfoundland attended that meeting

The Strategic Planning Committee, called the Blueprint Committee has been extremely busy since April 2003 developing a strategic plan to address the critical issues identified in the Organizational Evaluation. Part one of the Strategic plan was presented and adapted in Saint John, New Brunswick at the June 7th Annual General Meeting. Again Newfoundland was well represented.

Since June, 2003, the Blueprint Committee has completed Part Two of the Strategic Plan and carried out an extensive consultation process that included input from Provincial Presidents, Training and Certification volunteers, students, tutors and other volunteers from across the country. After studying these responses in depth, the Blueprint committee met for the final time to finish writing the Strategic plan and to produce new by-laws. Both of these documents will be voted on by the membership at the Annual General Meeting in Ottawa, June 2004.

How does this impact on the individual provincial organizations and the students and tutors throughout Canada? Major changes have already been approved. Only Provincial/Territorial Incorporated organizations, for example, *Newfoundland and Labrador Laubach Literacy Council*, will be members of the new Board. Provincial/Territorial will become LLC members by meeting requirements that contribute to Laubach's missions and goals. Each provincial organization will have one vote at Annual General meetings of Laubach Literacy of Canada. Local councils and individual members within those councils will be members only of their provincial organizations as determined by the local or provincial by-laws. In terms of accountability, Provincial/Territorial members will submit their by-laws to Laubach Literacy of Canada for information purposes. Communication to the local councils will mainly be through the provincial bodies.

The roles of the various levels of LLC are outlined in the following table.

Organization	Functions	Accountability
Local Councils	Direct Service Delivery Student-centre focus	Report to Provincial/Territorial Send statistics to provincial organization LLC will develop one form for statistics
Provincial/ Territorial	Support to local councils and others Implement standards and training guidelines	Accountable to their members and responsible for their commitments to the National LLC
National	Support Provincial/Territorial Establish standards and training guidelines Develop national strategies related to product development and training methods Work on national policy issues	Accountable to its members Reports to its members and to national funders. Ensures evaluation every five years