

The President's Corner



BESSIE
MERRIGAN
NLLLC
President

Happy Easter

Easter has just finished, but it is always nice to wish people the blessings of the season. Spring is also arriving with new growth and promises of new beginnings. What a wonderful time of year!

Newfoundland and Labrador Laubach Literacy is also experiencing new beginnings with the hiring of a new Executive Director, Margie Lewis. Check her out on page two of this newsletter. Our national organization is also experiencing some changes which I will share with you as they progress.

Attached to this newsletter is information about the Regional Symposiums. This funding from the National Office for Literacy is your opportunity to participate in new or supplementary training. Please share this information with any like-minded community group or individuals who might want to participate. Your participation is important to the future success of this organization, so I am sure that most tutors and council members will want to participate. The training will be customized to your wants and wishes, so get those needs assessment forms in as quickly as you can. Thanks as always for your continued interest in literacy in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Yours in Literacy

Bessie

Stepping Down

After 14 years, Bev Hulan is stepping down as president of Bay St. George Literacy Council, Inc. Bev has contributed greatly to literacy in the Bay St. George area. She was instrumental in setting up a reading centre at the College of the North Atlantic and in obtaining the resource centre that serves as the current location of the Council. Along with the Bay St. George Literacy Council Inc., we extend a sincere thank-you to Bev for her many years of service as president. Bev will continue with the council as public relations officer. We would also like to join the Bay St. George Literacy Council Inc. in welcoming Louise Fillatre who will assume the role of president in September of 2007. Louise brings an array of managerial experiences with her that will prove to be an asset to the Council. Council members look forward to working with Louise in her new role.



Bev Hulan



Louise Fillatre

Thoughts

"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."

**-Robert Frost-
(1874-1963)**

Contents

The President's Corner	1
Stepping Down	1
Volunteer Appreciation	2
From the ED's Desk	2
Literacy Workshop	2
Regional Symposium	3
Needs Assessment	4

Contact Us

Executive Director
Margie Lewis
Laubach@nf.aibn.com
Box 822,
141 O'Connell Drive
Corner Brook, NL
A2H 6H6
P: 1-800-863-0373 or
(709) 634-5081

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.nald.ca/nlllc

We appreciate our Volunteers!

NLLLC is truly an organization dependent on volunteers, with only one full-time employee and a small but dedicated Board of Directors. In recognition of National Volunteer Week which is April 15-21, 2007, we would like to extend a big thank you and show appreciation for our unsung heroes who help us operate provincially. To all Laubach volunteers - without you our work never could be done.



DARA SQUIRES

Welcome!

We extend a warm welcome to Dara Squires, the new Provincial Coordinator for **Books for Babies®**.

Enhancing Family Literacy Workshop

On March 22, 2007, the Northshore Early Childhood Association staff participated in an Enhancing Family Literacy Workshop which was a joint presentation by the provincial Books for Babies' coordinator and NLLLC Executive Director. For their efforts, both NLLLC and Books for Babies received a generous donation to their programs. Thanks Valerie and staff for your participation and generosity!



Participants discuss the definition of family literacy

From the ED's desk...

Greetings,

My job as executive director started with a whirlwind of activity as I arrived along with many end of the year responsibilities. I found out quickly that the Board is terrific - from giving advice and support, to picking up pizza for meetings. They make it really easy to enjoy my work. I have come to appreciate the high regard in which they are held in literacy circles. I was also very fortunate to have Melanie's help to transition into my new role. She answered many questions despite the fact that she is also in the midst of adjusting to a new job. I have also had the good fortune to work closely with Dara Squire, the new provincial coordinator for books for Babies. She is a wealth of information. As I assume my new position, I am excited by the possibilities and the opportunity to work with many of you in the coming months. Please don't hesitate to contact me at anytime.



Margie Lewis
Executive
Director,
NLLLC

CALL FOR NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

We encourage you to tell us about what you are doing in your community relating to literacy. If you have anything to share, we would like to hear from you. Contributions should be sent to the executive director's attention by mail to the provincial address, faxed to (709) 634-3126 or sby e-mail to laubach@nf.aibn.com.

A new look . . .

Yes, with a new executive director there are bound to be changes. The Laubach Links newsletter is about to have a makeover. What features would you like to see in the newsletter? Please feel free to comment. I welcome new ideas!

Got a question? Ask us!

Send your questions by mail to the provincial address, call 1800-863-0373 or send an e-mail to laubach@nf.aibn.com.

The **A B C S** of Regional Symposiums

LOOKING FOR NEW IDEAS?

The Newfoundland and Labrador Laubach Literacy Council Inc. (NLLLC) has received funding from the Adult Learning Literacy Essential Skills Program to facilitate regional training symposiums at four sites in the province. The regional symposiums are vital to support the ongoing effort to provide quality literacy programs to our communities. The symposiums will offer excellent opportunities to enhance your skills and to network with others in the field of adult literacy. Training is open to all trained tutors (active or inactive) and literacy stakeholders in the community. Funding will be available to allow people to travel to these symposiums.

We request your completion of the following Training Needs Assessment to help us learn more about your training and information needs and preferences. Due to funding limitations, please note that this will be your only opportunity to provide input into the symposium training content. Your completed application will be considered as pre-registration. As well, due to space and funding limitations, registration for these symposiums will be limited, with priority given to Laubach tutors, so please respond at your earliest convenience. ***Important: All returned surveys will be date stamped and final site selection will be based on the largest number of responses for a particular area.***

The information that you and others offer will assist us in our continuing effort to provide better training and will essentially be used to determine the contents of the training symposium for each site. Your responses are very important to us; we can only offer the right training and ensure we are addressing the real issues if we know what you need. This questionnaire will allow us to more effectively focus our limited resources, time and effort toward providing appropriate training to meet everyone's needs.

It is hoped that the training symposiums will:

- Enhance local literacy councils' ability to deliver services and increase abilities to better respond to the needs of adult literacy learners
- Increase interest in the provision of adult literacy tutoring by building the capacity of tutors and other key stakeholders in the delivery of adult literacy
- Encourage partnership development among literacy practitioners and provide a means for networking and connecting with literacy stakeholders
- Facilitate information sharing and increase the knowledge and skills of participants
- Increase public awareness about literacy issues

Your answers will be tabulated with those of others to:

- **Determine information needs**
- **Determine content requirements and scope of training**
- **Determine desired training outcomes and provide a basis of measurement**
- **Determine format preferences, and**
- **Determine the location of the symposiums.**

Training Needs Assessment

Please answer all of the following questions and send the completed assessment *by April 30, 2007* to the provincial mailing address located in the contact section on the first page of the newsletter.

Training Topics

The following table lists possible training topics for the regional symposiums. Indicate the top three (3) training topics which would make the most positive difference in your ability to work with literacy learners?

Topic # ____ Topic # ____ Topic # ____

Other (please specify)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. ESL training | 2. Encouraging and motivating learners |
| 3. Learning styles | 4. Tutoring for GED |
| 5. Working with diverse learners; the tutoring relationship) | 6. Building learner self-esteem and self-confidence |
| 7. Spelling/Math techniques | 8. Assessing and evaluating learner needs |
| 9. Participatory tutoring skills | 10. Lesson planning |
| 11. Adapting and developing training materials | 12. Interpersonal communication |

Additional Topics

We **may be able** to offer the following training. Indicate the top three (3) training topics which you would like to participate in.

Topic # ____ Topic # ____ Topic # ____

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Board development | 2. Meeting management | 3. Leadership and motivation |
| 4. Communications | 5. Legal issues – Non profit | 6. Group dynamics |

Delivery Methods

The following table lists the possible methods of delivery for the regional symposium topics. Indicate the method of c you prefer most and least.

Most preferred method of delivery # ____ Least preferred method of delivery # ____

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Instructional-theory and practice | 5. Facilitated discussion - roundtable |
| 2. Lesson Planning | 6. Topical presentation: Guest speaker; keynote address |
| 3. Forum: Q &A Panel | 7. Concurrent session offering choice to participants |
| 4. Participatory tutoring skills | 8. Interactive and participatory – small groups and breakout sessions |

Name : _____ Title _____

Organization/ Council Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

*I **am** interested in attending a symposium.*

Please send more information.

*I **am not** interested in participating at this time but inform me of other opportunities.*

*I **am not** interested in receiving future newsletters. Please remove me from your newsletter distribution list.*

I would prefer you send the newsletter through e-mail

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. We appreciate your input.