

# Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network E-Bulletin

## July 2017



Welcome to Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network’s E-Bulletin, a round-up of information and news of interest to agencies supported by SMLN. All hyperlinks were working properly at the time of publication.

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### 1. Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL)

[Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation](#) came into effect on July 1, 2014. The 3-year grace period for coming into compliance ended July 1, 2017. The legislation pertains mainly to commercial electronic messages. Many electronic communications of most non-profit/non-commercial organisations are exempt from CASL. However, if you do offer items or services for sale to the general public, you should check the regulations to make sure you are in compliance with the regulations. You can find more information at <http://fightspam.gc.ca/eic/site/030.nsf/eng/00304.html>

<http://www.imaginecanada.ca/resources-and-tools/resources/canada%E2%80%99s-anti-spam-law-casl-faqs-relevant-all-registered-charities-and>  
<https://www2.deloitte.com/ca/en/pages/risk/articles/canada-anti-spam-law-casl-faq.html>

## 2. Has your agency fully implemented the OALCF?

This year, SMLN, QUILL Learning Network and the Northern Regional Networks are working to support and inform the efforts of LBS delivery agencies that are still striving to implement the fully-in-place indicators for the [4 dimensions](#) of the Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework (OALCF). This work will also support new staff who may not have received the initial OALCF training. SMLN and QUILL are supporting service providers on the dimension “Transition-Oriented Programming” and will be contacting key informants identified by regional networks across the province. We will present a webinar of the collected information and resources in the fall.

The 3 Northern Networks are working on “Task-based Assessment” and are hosting a 5-part webinar series. Webinar #1, “[Understanding the Difference Between Task-based and Skills-based Assessment](#)” was on Tuesday, June 27, 2017. We will let you know when the next 4 webinars are scheduled. All webinars will be recorded.

## 3. Province proposes changes to workplace legislation

The Ontario government has announced [proposed changes to workplace legislation](#), including sweeping reforms on minimum wage, paid sick leave, equal pay for part-time workers and more.

These are systemic changes that will affect all employers and employees. They have the potential to strengthen the movement for decent work. However, they will also have impacts on the bottom lines of businesses and organisations, and potentially on the income tax level of employees. It is indeed a complex topic. For more details, go to

<https://news.ontario.ca/mol/en/2017/05/proposed-changes-to-ontarios-employment-and-labour-laws.html>

#### 4. Canadian workforce set for immense shift in next decade

Article from the London Local Employment Planning Council newsletter, May 2017

Canadian employers are challenging the established norms of the country's workforce and are already hiring a broad variety of non-traditional workers (i.e. contract, consultant, remote or freelance). According to a [new study](#) by Randstad Canada, this trend is likely to accelerate over the next decade, fundamentally changing the nature of employment in Canada.

The study involved nearly 1,300 employees and more than 500 HR and c-suite executives across Canada, revealing that non-traditional workers currently make up 20% to 30% of the workforce. This statistic is expected to increase in the next decade. If organizations wish to remain competitive and cost-efficient, they need to embrace an employment model that is flexible and adaptable.

#### 5. The Pledge - #IT STARTS

The Simcoe County Local Immigration Partnership is running a public awareness campaign called IT STARTS, which is designed to take a proactive step towards addressing racism and discrimination in Simcoe County.

IT STARTS works to promote a unified community that encourages collective action against racism and discrimination. To see how **you** can become involved, go to <http://immigration.simcoe.ca/itstarts>

#### 6. Resources and Professional Development

##### a) Apprenticeship “Check Your Skills”

Literacy Link South Central has produced a paper resource called “[Check Your Skills.](#)” This checklist tool provides a tiny snapshot of literacy/Essential Skills needed in the

trades and is intended for use by service providers, in any field, who work with clients who may have Apprenticeship as a goal.

It is meant to be a conversation STARTER around the literacy/Essential Skills needed in the trades. People often focus on academic achievement around the trades and overlook the literacy/Essential skills that are required. Hopefully, this brings the skills piece of the conversation to the forefront.

**b) Barriers, Solutions and Best Practices for Working with Deaf Clients in Niagara with Employment Goals**

During January to March 2017, Literacy Link Niagara (LNN) investigated the barriers, solutions, and best practices for working with deaf clients in Niagara who have employment goals. While the project focused on the Niagara Region, there may be information in the [report](#) that's relevant to other communities as well. LLN will be conducting a webinar about the project in early September. We will notify everyone when the date is confirmed.

**c) Yes I Can - A Mental Health Guide for Adult Literacy Facilitators (2017)**

This [guide](#) provides information and strategies for supporting adult learners living with mental health conditions or disorders. It was designed as an on-line resource, as it has over 900 pages of information, checklists, document templates, etc. It provides information of a wide variety of mental health conditions and disorders, as well as strategies for supporting learners with mental health concerns.

**Also available:**

Recording of the [webinar](#) for "Yes I Can - A Mental Health Guide for Adult Literacy Facilitators" - offers more information about the Mental Health Guide resource and how to use it in the learning environment.

[Q & A Chat Summary from Mental Health Guide webinars](#) - provides a summary of the questions and answers that were discussed during the Mental Health Guide webinars

**d) [LBS and OW Working Together](#)**

As part of their 2016-17 deliverables, Literacy Link Niagara researched and collected strategies, best practices for and barriers to recruiting learners from OW and working

with local OW offices. The information was collected through surveys sent to both service providers and regional networks. The results include some interesting strategies that agencies and networks can consider for this year.

**e) The Future is Here!**

In March 2017, futurist Richard Worzel was invited to speak at Fanshawe College, in London Ontario, as part of their REDTALKS series. The topic for this session was "Re-Imagining the Future of Education." As a futurist, Richard Worzel claimed he doesn't predict the future, he plans for it. From this talk, Literacy Link South Central collected a [summary of nuggets of information](#) that can inform literacy programs on how to plan for the future. Surprisingly, as much as he talked about a 50-year forecast for education, much of what he anticipates for the future is already part of literacy programming today.

**f) Conversations with Employment Ontario Service Providers**

The Centre for Workplace Innovation (OCWI) has released [Conversations with Employment Ontario Service Providers](#), a report based on a series of conversations they initiated with service providers across Ontario. OCWI wanted to learn directly from EO providers' experiences and perspectives about service delivery to ensure that OCWI's activities were relevant.

Also see the OCWI June e-newsletter:

<http://us12.campaign-archive2.com/?u=20bfd285ccf658cd9bbfcbfac&id=b10a5eicca>  
<http://mailchi.mp/ocwi-coie/ocwi-eneews-june-1095765>

## 7. Aboriginal Skilled Trades Education Program

Georgian College is looking for highly motivated applicants for 15 spaces in their techniques programs at the Barrie, Midland and Owen Sound Campuses beginning Sept. 5, 2017. Applicants must identify as First Nation, Metis, Inuit or as a person of Aboriginal ancestry. Please see the [poster](#) for more details.

## 8. SMLN meetings update

Meeting	Date/Time	Location
Orillia LSPC meeting	July 17 9:30am	SMLN office, Orillia
Barrie-South Simcoe LSPC meeting	July 26 1:30pm	OW offices, 136 Bayfield St., Barrie
Muskoka LSPC meeting	August 23 9:30am	Agilec, 195 Wellington St., Bracebridge
North Simcoe LSPC meeting	August 24 9:30am	North Simcoe Learning Centre, 51 Dunlop St., Penetanguishene

## 9. Employment Ontario news

July 10, 2017	<a href="#">Letter to Service Providers - ES Financials on EO Partners' Open Data Portal</a>  <a href="#">Note de service : les données financières des Services d'emploi sur Portail Données ouvertes d'Emploi Ontario pour les fournisseurs de services</a>
July 7	<a href="#">Memo to Service Providers: Update on EOIS External Reference Group</a>  <a href="#">Note de service au réseau EO : mise à jour au sujet du Groupe de référence externe du SIEO</a>
June 16	<a href="#">Joint ADM Letter to EO Network on Four-Year LBS Funding Increase</a>  <a href="#">Lettre conjointe des SMA au réseau Emploi Ontario au sujet de l'augmentation du financement à quatre ans du programme AFB</a>
June 16	<a href="#">Questions and Answers on Four-Year LBS Funding Increase</a>  <a href="#">Questions et réponses au sujet de l'augmentation du financement à quatre ans du programme AFB</a>
June 14, 2017	<a href="#">SDAG Record of Decision</a>

	<a href="#">Compte rendu de décision</a>
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