

Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network E-Bulletin

October 2016

Welcome to Simcoe/Muskoka Literacy Network's E-Bulletin, a round-up of information and news of interest to agencies supported by SMLN. Time-sensitive information may be included, but will also be distributed by separate e-mail message as needed.

Please let us know by the end of each month if you have anything you would like us to include in the next e-bulletin.

Table of Contents

1. Building the Workforce of Tomorrow report – Support Organisations Respond.....	1
2. National Consultation on a Federal Accessibility Legislation.....	2
3. Resources.....	3
4. Dessert Anyone? How to get through the difficult tasks.....	4
5. Employment Ontario news.....	5
6. SMLN Meetings update.....	6

1. Building the Workforce of Tomorrow report – Support Organisations Respond

(adapted from Community Literacy of Ontario's Member's E-Communiqué October 2016)

The Premier's Highly Skilled Workforce Expert Panel has shared its findings in the "[Building the Workforce of Tomorrow; A Shared Responsibility](#)" report. The report makes recommendations on how the province can build on its world-class skills, education and training systems to prepare Ontario's current and future workforce for the technology- and knowledge-based jobs of today and tomorrow.

There are six key areas in the recommendations:

1. Building stronger partnerships between educators and employers
2. Increasing access to job market information

3. Expanding opportunities for learning by experience
4. Promoting both traditional and non-traditional career paths
5. Investing in human capital
6. Closing gaps in skills and competencies

Ontario's LBS Support Organizations believed that it was important to craft a response to this report. Our response was sent to The Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD).

In our response, we highlighted the strengths of the LBS program and how LBS has a role to play in meeting some of the needs identified in the report. The group believed that responding to this report will help raise the profile of LBS within MAESD. We have also requested a meeting with Minister Matthews.

To read a copy of the LBS Support Organizations' response, [please click here](#).

2. National Consultation on a Federal Accessibility Legislation

(Source: Accessibility Ontario newsletter: October 17, 2016)

The Federal Government has recently started a nationwide consultation process with Canadians to inform the development of federal accessibility legislation to transform how the Government of Canada addresses accessibility. The Ministry of Sport and Persons with Disabilities is consulting with stakeholders—including Canadians with disabilities, provinces, territories and municipalities. They would like input on aspects such as

- feedback on the overall goal and approach of the legislation
- to whom the legislation could apply
- what accessibility issues and barriers it could address
- how it could be monitored and enforced
- what else the Government of Canada could do to improve accessibility.

The consultation process is now open, until February 28, 2017. You can participate in the [in-person consultation](#) engagement process as well as [on-line consultation](#). On-line questionnaires are available in English, French, American Sign Language or Langue des

signes québécoise and in preferred format such as digital, handwritten, video or audio submissions. You can also provide your input by telephone, mail, e-mail, fax and TTY.
 Quick links: [English](#) [French](#)

3. Resources

a) [Performance Management newsletter – October 2016](#)

Once again, Literacy Network South Central, based in London, is taking the lead to produce performance management newsletters. The first newsletter focuses on innovation.

b) [Beginner’s Guide for Program Coordinators of Literacy Organizations](#)

This resource has recently been updated. Appendix 4 is an annotated EOIS-CaMS User Guide for New Staff. Available in both French and English.

c) Contact North courses and services

Contact North has published the bilingual catalogue of e-Channel courses offered this fall by the e-Channel organisations, as well as an information brochure about their on-line meeting and training platforms. For your convenience, these are attached with this e-bulletin.

d) Online Community of Practice

Again this year, Contact North is partnering with the Learning Networks of Ontario to offer a variety webinars to provide professional development to practitioners. Two webinars on learning disabilities have already been delivered. Other webinars that have been scheduled are:

Webinar 3:	Nov. 10 th ; 10:00-11:30am	Working with e-Channel – Supporting LBS Learners
Webinar 4:	Dec. 8 th ; 10:00-11:30am	Mental Health – Having the Conversation
Webinar 5:	Mar. 7 th ; 10:00-11:30am	LGBTQ Awareness for LBS

LBS agencies will receive individual invitations to register for the upcoming webinars
 We are not aware if any webinars will be delivered in French.

e) Other upcoming webinars

Nov. 17th 10:00-11:30 am Canadian Language Benchmarks

Nov. 24th 10:00-11:00 am Meet Your Friends, Followers and Fans: Social Media Analytics

Contact [Community Literacy of Ontario](#) for information about these webinars, as well as their ongoing series of evaluation webinars and clinics.

Nov. 8th 3:00-4:00pm Remind – Free communication platform for instructors and students

Contact [AlphaPlus](#) for information.

f) Apprenticeship resources from regional networks

Literacy Link South Central

[LBS Apprenticeship Curriculum - Auto Trade \(2014\)](#)

[LBS Apprenticeship Curriculum - Construction Trade \(2014\)](#)

[LBS Apprenticeship Curriculum - Food Trade \(2014\)](#)

[Barriers to Attracting Apprentices and Completing their Apprenticeships \(2015\)](#)

Northern Networks

[Developing OALCF Apprenticeship Tasks for the Competency "Use Digital Technology](#) (Literacy Northwest)

[Increasing Employer Support for Hiring Apprentices and Supporting Apprentices' Completion](#) (Literacy Northwest)

[Supporting Apprenticeship Completions: A Model of Service Provision](#)
(Mid North Network)

[Supporting Apprenticeship Completions: Developing Best Practices](#)
(Literacy Northwest)

[Supporting Apprenticeship Completions: Exam Preparation Resources for the Certificate of Qualification Writer](#) (Mid North Network)

4. Dessert Anyone? How to get through the difficult tasks...

(reprinted from Paul Hushilt's Expect Everything newsletter; August 30, 2016)

Have you ever been served a dessert that was so big you thought to yourself, "I will not eat this entire thing. I'll be disciplined and just have a taste."

You take a good forkful and enjoy it, knowing that you are indulging yourself just a bit but being good about eating just enough. But then, bit by bit, you carve off slivers of divine

buttery sugary fatty goodness. Sure, you stop eating every so often while you do something else until it calls you again - by name - and then you devour more in tiny grudgingly disciplined bits.

Then you ignore it again.

For a while.

At some point you look over and realize there is so little left it's easily eaten guilt-free. And so you finish it.

That happened to me on a train home over the weekend. All of a sudden it seemed silly not to complete what I had started - a ginormous piece of layered butter-icings chocolate cake. At a critical juncture, it would have been wasteful not to polish it off.

And so I ate it all.

This month, how about looking at something on your to-do list as dessert. Find that task that you just keep putting off. You know the one – a little difficult to work through with just a few too many bites. If you chip away at it long enough, you will suddenly find it irresistible to finish. You'll be happy to check it off your list, and, with no calories!

5. Employment Ontario news

October 7, 2016: [Apprenticeship Resource for Employment Ontario Service Providers](#)
[Apprentissage-Ressource à l'intention des fournisseurs de services d'Emploi Ontario](#)

October 14, 2016: [Memo to EO Network from ADM Fulford regarding the new EOIS External Reference Group](#)
[Note de service au réseau d'EO concernant le nouveau groupe de référence externe du SIEO](#)

October 20, 2016 [Service Provider User Guide](#)
[Guide de l'utilisateur pour les fournisseurs de services](#)

October 19, 2016: [SP Connect/2016-5 Bulletin](#)
[FS Connexion/2016-5 Bulletin](#)

6. SMLN Meetings update

Meeting	Date/Time	Location
Assessors' meeting	November 10; 1:00-4:00pm	Tudhope Room, Orillia Town Hall, 50 Andrew St., Orillia
Network-wide LSPC Meeting	November 16; 10:00am-3:00pm	Ontario Works offices, 136 Bayfield St., Barrie (3 rd floor training room)

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