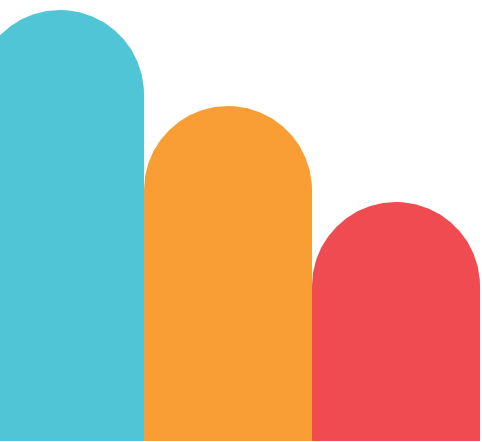


Annual Report

2012 - 2013



Saskatchewan
Literacy Network



Literacy and Learning for Life



The Saskatchewan Literacy Network has not only worked to promote literacy and essential skills in Saskatchewan for nearly 25 years, it has also provided the necessary support for individuals and communities to continuously grow which enables each of us to embrace opportunities and be successful at HOME, at WORK, and in the COMMUNITY.

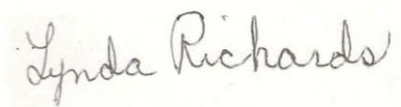
Over the course of the past year, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network has remained active in developing strong relationships with communities and stakeholders while ensuring relevancy in a continually changing international, national and local environment.

Furthermore, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network strives to continue growing and embrace the ever-changing skills necessary to continue the work we have always done and that we plan to do in the future.

Speaking on behalf of my colleagues that sit on the Saskatchewan Literacy Network Board of Directors, I wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the dedicated staff who work to put our vision into action. They make connections with government representatives and community organizations to support the work of literacy and essential skills development in the province. It is with warmth and appreciation that we said goodbye to Elaine Ebenal, who retired from Benchmarks and Special Projects; Matt Leisle, Workforce and Community Literacy; and Victoria Martin, our spring intern. It is with open arms and excitement that we welcome Naome Soleil, Benchmarks and Special Projects; and Desiree Harrison, Workforce and Community Literacy, to our team. It is with special affection that we congratulate Karen Rosser on her successful first year as the Executive Director. We look forward to new opportunities as the future joins us in our present.



vic_secret2060 Apr 24, 12:40pm
via Twitter for iPhone Officially wrapped up my internship with lunch today. Going to miss the @SKLitNet team!! I am so thankful for this opportunity!!



Lynda Richards, Board President
Saskatchewan Literacy Network

SLN Board of Directors 2012 - 2013

Lynda Richards, President (Swift Current)
Dorothy Hyde, Vice President (Saskatoon)
Debora Rutherford, Treasurer (Langham)
Lisa Vargo, Secretary (Saskatoon)

Mark Williment (La Ronge)
Ruth Barker (Weyburn)
Ross Grandel (Saskatoon)
Randy Belanger (Île-à-la-Crosse)



Literacy and Learning for Life



The Saskatchewan Literacy Network wholeheartedly embraces the importance of lifelong learning. Over the past year, we have worked to support literacy and essential skills at HOME, at WORK, and in our COMMUNITIES. We join those raising families, working in Saskatchewan's diverse employment sectors, and in our communities in celebrating the learning that happens in all corners of life.

Over the course of this past year, I had the privilege of embracing the continuous learning opportunities that accompany my role as the Executive Director of the Saskatchewan Literacy Network. We welcomed new staff members and said goodbye to valued colleagues. Our Board of Directors was strengthened by the addition of Randy Belanger, a long time member of our Learners' Focus Committee. This year, we bid goodbye to Mark Williment, former Board President, and Ross Grandel. Your contributions are appreciated and will be missed in the future. It is because of our Board of Directors that the Saskatchewan Literacy Network continues to grow and move in new directions. I thank each and every one of you for your expertise and stewardship and look forward to our future.

In closing, I look forward to building upon our achievements of the past year. The 2012-2013 year has been an exciting time for the Saskatchewan Literacy Network. We have published new materials, conducted our first family literacy webinar series, acknowledged literacy and essential skills champions in the province, and continue to work with literacy and essential skills stakeholders. The pages that follow outline our 2012-2013 accomplishments at HOME, at WORK, and in the COMMUNITY.

Karen Rosser, Executive Director
Saskatchewan Literacy Network

SLN Staff 2012 - 2013

Karen Rosser, Executive Director
Ollie Glemser, Finance Manager
Shirley Larson, Administrative Assistant
Naome Soleil, Benchmarks and Special Projects

Marilyn Stearns, Family Literacy Development
Bonnie Zink, Communications and Knowledge
Mobilization
Desirée Harrison, Workforce and Community
Literacy

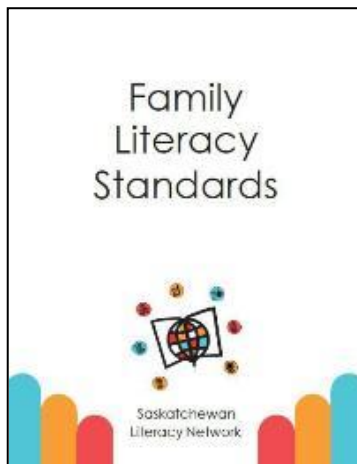


Literacy and Learning for Life

Literacy @HOME

Lifelong learning begins at home with family literacy. Family literacy refers to how families use reading, writing, and communicating to work, learn, and play - both at home and in their community. It is about families taking time to develop relationships.

Throughout this past year, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network has worked to encourage the many ways in which families learn, work, and grow together. We recognize family participation as a means of strengthening learning opportunities and reaching greater potential.



Family Literacy Standards

This year, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network worked hard to update the Family Literacy Standards that are in use by many of our supporters, literacy practitioners, and community partners. Building on the good work of the original document (2000), the updated publication:

- guides sound practice
- encourages high quality family literacy programming
- provides a base for program credibility
- assists with evaluation of family literacy programs
- promotes professionalism in the field of family literacy

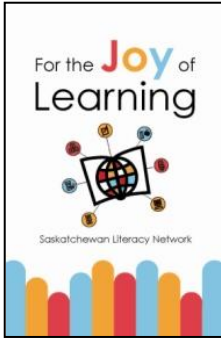
Nearly 600 copies of the *Family Literacy Standards* have been accessed by stakeholders as an electronic download or as a hard copy. For your copy of this publication, please visit the "Publications page" on our website or contact our office.



Karen Rosser and former Minister of Education, Russ Marchuk



Literacy and Learning for Life



For the Joy of Learning

The Saskatchewan Literacy Network published *For the Joy of Learning* as the companion booklet to, *For the Love of Reading*. This resource encourages family learning fun through books, play, and exploration of the world around them. These booklets are offered free of charge through contacting the Saskatchewan Literacy Network office or by electronic download on our website.

A total of 4,756 copies of, *For the Joy of Learning*, have been distributed to stakeholders across the province. For your copy of, *For the Joy of Learning*, please visit the "Publications page" on our website or contact our office.

Family Literacy Webinar Series

Over the course of the past year, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network was very pleased to present a three-part family literacy webinar series. This first of this series was "The Community Impact of Family Literacy Development" presented by Ruth Barker, Saskatchewan Literacy Network board member and Community Services Coordinator (Southeast Regional Library). The second presentation in this series was "Current Research in Family Literacy: Helping Parents Support-Children-Through-School Literacy" presented by Linda Wason-Ellam, University of Saskatchewan professor and reading clinician. The final webinar presented in this series was "Intercultural Communication Essentials for Literacy Educators" presented by Todd Odgers, Director of Norquest College's Centre for Intercultural Education.

These webinars were well attended and continue to be viewed on a regular basis. It is the hope of the Saskatchewan Literacy Network to continue to provide similar cost effective, and informative professional development opportunities in the future.

Please visit <http://sk.literacy.ca/pages/webinars.html> to access the webinar recordings.

AREVA Resources Canada Inc. Youth Leaders for Literacy Project

Over the past two years, AREVA Resources Canada Inc. and the AREVA Foundation, the Northern Lights School Division, and the Saskatchewan Literacy Network had the opportunity to work together to enhance youth centered libraries in several northern Saskatchewan schools through the AREVA Youth Leaders for Literacy project. It provided opportunities to authentically engage and empower students to demonstrate their leadership and project planning abilities, their commitment to listen carefully to the voice of fellow students, as well as determine decision-making processes in the acquisition of new resource materials for their school libraries.

"I'm really proud to be a part of this (AREVA Youth Leaders for Literacy) ...Reading opens your mind to new worlds and inspires you to change your own... I'm glad I could help my community in this way. I hope our library gets bigger and the students get even more excited every year."

Student Participant



Literacy and Learning for Life

Literacy @WORK

The Saskatchewan Literacy Network works to promote and celebrate excellence in the workplace, communicate best practices, promote learning opportunities, and encourage continuous lifelong and life wide learning for all ages.

Throughout this past year, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network has provided quality resources, brought essentials skills training to the workplace, and recognized those who continue to build a strong foundation of essential skills and workplace literacy.

Saskatchewan Literacy Awards of Merit 2013

Her Honour Vaughn Solomon Schofield hosted the twenty-second Saskatchewan Literacy Awards of Merit at Government House on Monday, May 6, 2013. These awards acknowledge outstanding contributions made by Saskatchewan citizens, organizations, and businesses to the advancement and development of literacy and essential skills in our province.

Congratulations to the 2013 recipients. Your hard work and dedication to literacy and essential skills in Saskatchewan is appreciated.

"I congratulate all of this year's award recipients, and I thank them for giving the life-changing gift of literacy. This year's recipient of the Learner award has shown tremendous courage and determination, and is an inspiration to us all."

Her Honour the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

2013 Saskatchewan Literacy Awards of Merit Recipients:

- Workplace Award - Vecima Networks Workplace Essential Skills Training Project (Saskatoon)
- Professional Award - Denise Cote (Kamsack)
- Program or Project Award - North West Regional College/St. Mary's Community School Essential Skills for the Workplace Program (North Battleford)
- Business or Corporation - The Giggle Factory (Saskatoon)
- Volunteer Award - Jim Slough (Regina)
- Cameco Literacy Learner Award and Bursary - Nicole Behr (Regina)

Thank you to our Literacy Learner Award and Bursary sponsor, Cameco, for their continued support and promotion of literacy and essential skills. As well, thank you to the 2013 Saskatchewan Literacy Awards of Merit Selection Committee.



2013 Saskatchewan Literacy Awards of Merit Recipients



Literacy and Learning for Life

Saskatchewan Literacy Network Knowledge Exchange 2012

This two-day annual provincial knowledge exchange provided learning, networking, and professional development opportunities for practitioners and adult learners across the province.

Ninety delegates came together to share their knowledge and learn from each other. A total of 20 sessions were hosted at the knowledge exchange, addressing topics that included "Taking Stock/Looking Forward: The End of the United Nations Literacy Decade" (Brigid Hayes) to "Connecting for Social Innovation Using Knowledge Mobilization" (David Phipps).

The Ministry of Education, Provincial Library and Literacy Office, sponsored a public series of social media presentations that allowed delegates and community members to learn more how to navigate the world of social media and working in an increasingly digitized environment.

This year the Saskatchewan Literacy Network developed a new website for the Knowledge Exchange. Please visit <http://slknknowledgeexchange.ca/> to access resources and more information about the knowledge exchange.



Nora Spinks presenting at the 2012 Saskatchewan Literacy Network Knowledge Exchange

"The world is changing every day. The world revolves around new and improved technology. The people that do not have the updated skills and knowledge, will have a challenge adapting to work environments and demands."

2012 Knowledge Exchange Participant



Literacy and Learning for Life

Literacy in the Community

The Saskatchewan Literacy Network strives to support community initiatives and connect stakeholders with the resources and learning opportunities they need to thrive in their communities.

Throughout this past year, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network has provided training opportunities, developed a new workshop, engaged with communities, and supported community literacy initiatives.

"This course helped me to examine the principles of community building and support the development of family literacy, and to be considerate of home language and cultures."

Bursary Recipient

Family Literacy Certificate Bursary

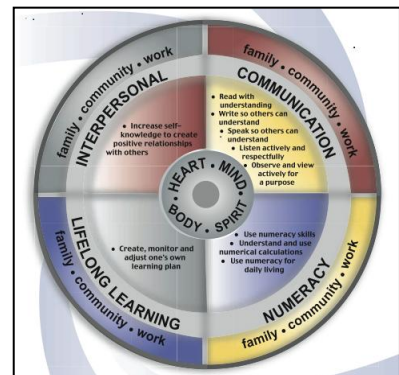
The Family Literacy Certificate Bursary fund was established in 2011 to provide Saskatchewan based literacy practitioners and community educators with a potential to gain a Family Literacy Program Certificate online through Vancouver Community College. Fifteen participants completed the course and had the opportunity to increase their knowledge and skills sets, preparing them to better design, develop, implement, and administer community based and school based family literacy programs.

The Saskatchewan Literacy Network provided ongoing support to all bursary recipients to ensure their success. We congratulate all 15 graduating professionals and wish them much success as they work to put their knowledge into action.

The Circle of Learning: Saskatchewan Adult Literacy Benchmarks – Levels 1 & 2

The Saskatchewan Literacy Network aims to provide literacy and essential skills practitioners, stakeholders and Saskatchewan communities with quality information and resources. With this in mind, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network has focused their attention to revising *The Circle of Learning: Saskatchewan Adult Literacy Benchmarks – Levels 1 & 2* document for 2013.

Over 14,500 copies of *The Circle of Learning: Saskatchewan Adult Literacy Benchmarks – Levels 1 & 2* have been distributed to literacy and essential skills stakeholders this year. For your copy of this document, please visit the "Publications page" on our website or contact our office.



Development of New Training – Introduction to Literacy

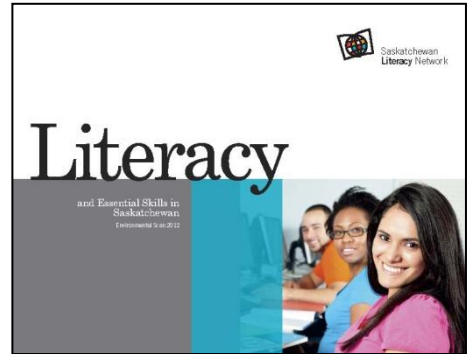
Due to community demand, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network developed a new workshop *Introduction to Literacy*. This training provides participants with a history of literacy development, information on the scope of literacy and the importance of life long learning. This training introduced practical tools and resources to assist learners, individuals, organizations and communities. The Saskatchewan Literacy Network looks forward to broadening the reach of this training in the upcoming year.

Literacy and Learning for Life

Literacy and Essential Skills in Saskatchewan: Environmental Scan 2012

Literacy is much more than “reading, writing, and arithmetic.” It is about how we learn and grow, prepare for a constantly changing world and workplace, and interact with society and our communities. In 2012, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network developed a comprehensive snapshot of the state of literacy and essential skills in Saskatchewan. This publication:

- provides an understanding of existing and emerging skill shortages among Saskatchewan workers,
- shows the challenges of growing Aboriginal and immigrant populations and their literacy needs, and
- enhances understanding of the current state of literacy and essential skills in Saskatchewan.



ESSENTIAL SKILLS
ONTARIO ES Ontario Dec

05, 2012, 12:52 pm via web

Check out @SKLitNet's Literacy and Essential Skills in Saskatchewan:

Environmental Scan 2012

bit.ly/SNs7OE

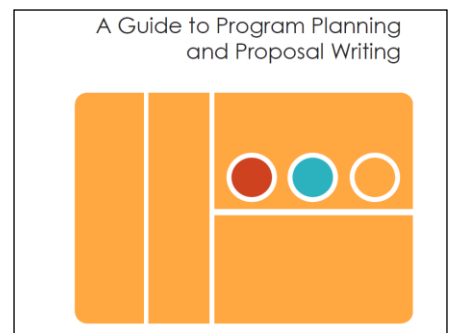
Encouraging strong literacy and essential skills among Saskatchewan's growing population is more important now than ever before. The ability to make critical judgments and decisions about the information and situations we encounter are vital to our success in the ever-changing 21st century.

A total of 1,179 copies of the Environmental Scan have been provided to stakeholders in the province. To obtain a copy of, *Literacy and Essential Skills in Saskatchewan: Environmental Scan 2012*, please visit the "Publications page" on our website or contact our office.

Supporting Community Initiatives

The Saskatchewan Literacy Network has helped to increase the participation of provincial communities in literacy and essential skills development through ongoing support of the SaskSmart Innovations Fund, and will continue this work with the Saskatchewan Community Literacy Fund recipients. These projects work to engage family and adult literacy development opportunities. The Saskatchewan Literacy Network works to sustain learning initiatives throughout the province by supporting the success of others.

This year, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network's *Funding Sources Document* was accessed by 4,500 stakeholders electronically; while, copies of the *Program Planning and Proposal Writing Manual* were distributed approximately 6,500 times. To get your copy of these documents, please visit the "Publications page" on our website or contact our office.



Literacy and Learning for Life

Learners' Focus Committee

The Saskatchewan Literacy Network's Learners' Focus Committee (LFC) is a group of talented individuals from across Saskatchewan. Improved confidence through professional development opportunities has helped our members reach their goals and become successful at home, at work, and in their communities. This year we would like to welcome our new LFC member, Wesley Desjarlais from Saskatoon.

- Randy Belanger (Île-à-la-Crosse)
- Wesley Desjarlais (Saskatoon)
- Gordon Li (Regina)
- Ming Xiang Pan (Regina)
- Lynda Richards (Swift Current)
- Ngeune Selinger (Prince Albert)
- Lin Ling Yuan (Regina)



2012 – 2013 LFC Members:
Lin, Lynda, Nguene, Gordon, Ming
Missing: Randy and Wesley

Contractors

We wish to thank all those who helped us accomplish our goals over the past year. These professionals lent their skills and talents to many of our projects.

- Jana Bassingthwaite, Graphic Designer
- Brigid Hayes, Consultant
- Donna Hesselwood, Family Literacy Contracted Trainer
- Linda Lisa Jones, Family Literacy Contracted Trainer
- Joanne LaBrash, Writer
- Terri Peters, Editor
- Leighton Tebay, Computer Systems Consultant
- Desiree Tirk, Family Literacy Contracted Trainer
- Shannon Wright, Website Design

Funders and Supporters

We greatly appreciate the generous support of the following organizations:

- ABC Life Literacy Canada
- AREVA Resources Canada Inc.
- Cameco Corporation
- Employment and Social Development Canada, Government of Canada
- Government of Saskatchewan's Ministry of Education
- Government of Saskatchewan's Ministry of the Economy
- Institute for Cross-cultural Exchange
- Postmedia Raise-a-Reader, sponsored by The StarPhoenix and Leader-Post

"The LFC has given me the chance to hear about the challenges that are out there and to combat them. I feel part of something "province wide" and that I can make a difference. Our words help form literacy in our province."

Randy Belanger, Board
and LFC member



Literacy and Learning for Life

Where We Have Been 2012-2013

This year, the Saskatchewan Literacy Network has been to many communities within the province and across Canada. We have delivered training sessions and workshops, supported community development, and distributed tools and resources to help communities continue to do the literacy and essential skills work that they do.

2012-2013

- SLN Literacy and Essential Skills Resources
- SLN Workshops/Presentations/ Trainings

Saskatchewan

Banff, AB
Edmonton, AB
Calgary, AB
Vancouver, BC
Penticton, BC



Moncton, NB
Montreal, QC
Halifax, NS
Ottawa, ON



Literacy and Learning for Life



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