

Decoding all those **Acronyms!**

IFPCA: Initiatives fédérales-provinciales conjointes en matière d'alphabétisation

LLC-Q/LVQ: Laubach Literacy Canada – Quebec/ Literacy Volunteers of Quebec

MCL: Movement for Canadian Literacy

NALD: National Adult Literacy Database

NLS: National Literacy Secretariat

QELA: Quebec English Literacy Alliance

QLWG: Quebec Literacy Working Group



Have your Say

We would love to hear from you. Tell us what you think of the newsletter and articles you would like to see in the future! Send us your thoughts and comments and we will try to incorporate them in our next newsletter.



"...the voice of literacy for adult education teachers"

VOX

www.qela.qc.ca



What's Inside

"...the voice of literacy for adult education teachers"

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1 in 5 Quebecers have difficulty reading

and have only few basic skills or strategies for decoding and working with a text. According to the *International Adult Literacy Survey (IALS)*, an estimated one million Quebecers are at Level 1 Literacy Prose, which is defined as adults having few decoding skills. Parents at Level 1 cannot determine the correct dosage of medicine to administer to a sick child, or help their children with their homework.

QLWG: Contact Details

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QLWG's Working for You

QLWG is a grouping of English adult literacy consultants from 11 English school boards across the province of Quebec. Our vision is to provide a leadership role in promoting positive awareness, increasing services and building stronger partnerships within the English school board environment. Our mission is to promote, advance and support adult, youth and family literacy within the English sector. QLWG is committed to lifelong learning.

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International Literacy Day - September 8, 2004

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) celebrates **International Literacy Day** on September 8 each year. It calls attention to the need to eradicate illiteracy, one of UNESCO's primary concerns. According to UNESCO, "Literacy should be seen as an important evolutionary variable in every society. The more a society progresses, the greater is the need for adjustment to new demands and pressures, making literacy a lifelong necessity for all in all societies."

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**RE
source
ROOM**

The Quebec English Literacy Alliance Web Site (www.qela.qc.ca) is a joint provincial partnership of English literacy councils: Laubach Literacy Canada – Quebec / Literacy Volunteers of Quebec (LLC-Q/LVQ) and the Quebec Literacy Working Group.

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Keeping You Connected

The National Literacy and Health Program

is planning the Second Canadian Conference on Literacy and Health. The event takes place from October 17-19 in Ottawa, Canada. For more information, see their link:

www.cpha.ca/literacyandhealth/

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Int'l Literacy Day ...continued

Proclaimed in 1965 at the *World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy* and celebrated for the first time in 1966, International Literacy Day has become a yearly event that spans local communities across the country and around the world.

The Director-General of UNESCO, Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, stresses "as revealed through its effect on women's lives, literacy is a key to development, especially because it places people at the centre of the development process." He emphasizes that literacy is also a key to learning: "It is the basis of lifelong

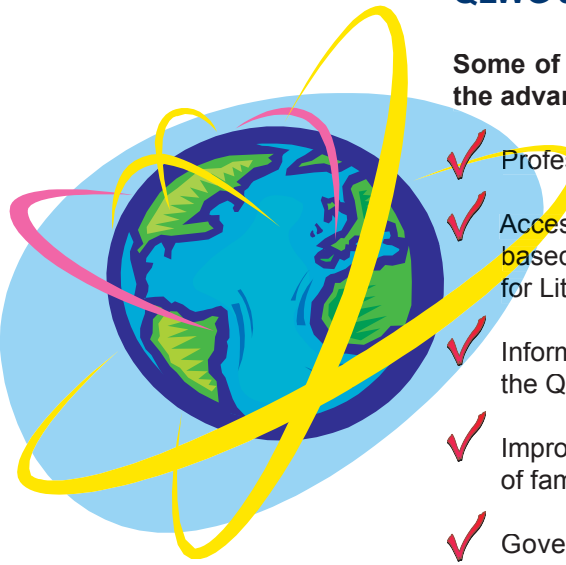
learning which, in our fast-moving world of changing technology and increasing knowledge, bears the rich promise of a fresh start and a second chance."

The UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan states that, while important in its own right, literacy is "a prerequisite for reaching the other objectives the world has set for itself in the Millennium Declaration." Calling for an integrated approach, Mr Annan affirms that the literacy challenge cannot be addressed in isolation from "patterns of poverty, social exclusion and inequalities". ■

QLWG's Working for You ...continued

Some of the ways QLWG can help you in your commitment to lifelong learning and the advancement of literacy:

- ✓ Professional development for teachers, volunteers and coordinators.
- ✓ Access to a vast network of resources through the partnership with the community-based literacy groups (Quebec English Literacy Alliance (QELA)) and with the Centre for Literacy.
- ✓ Information and support through ongoing updates to the school boards, newsletters and the QELA website.
- ✓ Improved learning abilities for your students through literacy instruction and the promotion of family literacy programs within the school boards.
- ✓ Government representation through regular participation on MEQ task forces and committees. ■



The site offers background information about the two partner organizations as well as a wealth of general information about literacy and specific literacy services at the provincial and national levels.

(Resource Room ...continued)

A few points of interest on the site: The QELA Web Site has a growing section of Teaching and Learning Tools (www.qela.qc.ca/aching%20Activities.htm)

Teachers, tutors and students can find a variety of activities, categorized under the following headings:

- **Banking Corner**
- **Basic Skills Corner**
- **Computer Corner**
- **Food and Cooking Corner**
- **Hobbies Corner**
- **Jobs and Career**
- **Sports Corner**

(Keeping you connected ...continued)

Newsletters:

Want to keep abreast of the literacy activities at the reading council in your area? Do you want more information regarding provincial and national organizations?

The QELA site has links to all pertinent newsletters in the province and beyond, including the MEQ's Flash Info Alpha, which is always translated to English.

See our site for details at:

www.qela.qc.ca/Newsletters.htm

Soon to come:

an extensive list of Web sites with lesson plans for the adult literacy teacher or tutor!

QLWG Partner Boards

Central Québec School Board
Eastern Shores School Board
Eastern Townships School Board
English Montreal School Board
Kativik School Board
Littoral School Board
Lester B. Pearson School Board
New Frontiers School Board
Riverside School Board
Sir Wilfred Laurier School Board
Western Quebec School Board



Teachers and Tutors will also find the *Useful Web Sites*

www.qela.qc.ca/usefulwebsites.htm

page informative and helpful in planning and researching lessons.

Pertinent Web sites are listed by category, including:

- **Leading Literacy Sites**
 - **Children's and Family Literacy Resources**
 - **Educational/Information Resources**
 - **English/ESL**
 - **Numeracy Sites**
- ...and more!