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

### It's a fact

Forty-two percent (42%) of Canadians, aged 16-65 do not have the minimum literacy skills for coping with everyday work and life.



Oliva Vachon, Language Arts Student, Western Quebec School Board being presented with the Annual QLWG Recognition Award by his teacher, Christy Ogbuagu at the Hull Adult Education Centre's graduation on June 23, 2005

### QLWG Graduation Awards

For the past three years, the Quebec Literacy Working Group has given an annual literacy award—usually in the form of a book or a book token— to deserving students in each of our member boards across the province. In most of our boards, these awards are given at the annual graduation ceremonies, along with a personalized certificate to keep as a souvenir of the occasion.

To reach the QLWG rep. in your area and let them know of deserving students in your local adult education centre, please contact Patti Moore at [moorep@cqsbc.qc.ca](mailto:moorep@cqsbc.qc.ca)

## QLWG's Working for You:

### FIRST ENGLISH DISTANCE-EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN QUEBEC

The Quebec Literacy Working Group is currently working on a two year-project to develop a distance education literacy model for Quebec adult learners. We are very excited to have completed the production of our first distance education module: *Orientation Unit : Learning to Learn* as well as a 10-unit Student Workbook which will serve as a model for the creation of our remaining units of study in this our final year of the project.  
(continued on page 2)



### RE SOURCE ROOM

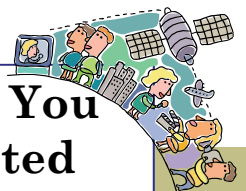
#### FANTASIA—Life Is *NOT* a Fairy Tale\*

*Recent American Idol, Fantasia Barrino, reveals in her recent book that she, in fact, has always had very limited literacy skills.*

*She's doing something about it in the hopes of inspiring others in the same position to break out and free themselves from literacy problems.*

*\*On sale in book stores now.*

### Keeping You Connected



#### Great Contest for Family Literacy Day™

One lucky Canadian family could win a visit from beloved Canadian children's author Robert Munsch at their private in-home ABC CANADA Family Literacy Day™ party on January 23, 2006.

Families just need to write and tell the folks at ABC CANADA what they are planning as a Family Literacy Day™ celebration.

For full *Munch at Home* contest details please visit [www.abc-canada.org](http://www.abc-canada.org).

### QLWG Contact Details

Quebec Literacy Working Group  
Patti Moore, Coordinator  
c/o Eastern Quebec Learning Centre  
3005 William Stuart  
Sainte-Foy (Québec) G1W 1V4  
**Tel:** (418) 651-3022  
**Fax:** (418) 651-3025  
**Email:** [moorep@cqsbc.qc.ca](mailto:moorep@cqsbc.qc.ca)

## The Healthy Aboriginal Network Non-profit Promotion of Aboriginal Health, Literacy and Wellness

This groups recently received funding from Vancouver Coastal Health and Deborah Schwartz of BC Ministry of Health to create a series of comic books on Aboriginal youth health issues.

The first comic will address the heartbreakingly high incidence of Aboriginal youth suicide attempts in a small number of BC communities. The comic is a sort of icebreaker to help engage youth on the topic and help them to recognize feelings in themselves, behaviour in others and reach out before an attempt is made. (continued on page 3)

### QWLG's Working for You ...continued

During the first year of this two-year project, our project writer, Ms. Vicki Hugli, has been very thorough, carefully researching and documenting currently existing distance education models and theories, and simultaneously creating an **Orientation Unit** and a **Student Workbook** which includes 10 complete thematic units of study (7 hrs per unit). All activities will facilitate competency-based learning and target basic reading, writing, mathematical calculations, problem solving, oral communication skills and computer skills.

Ms. Hugli has also created an organised and comprehensive **Tutor Support Guide** which includes helpful notes and teaching tips regarding each unit of study. The *Tutor Support Guide* will enable the teacher or tutor to successfully support students as they navigate each of the units.

As we realize that adult literacy students undertaking a distance education program will need a lot of support and encouragement, we intend to partner closely with our community partners in setting up local support services for these students.

Please watch for more information in the coming months - **to reach the QLWG Local Animator in your area and let them know if you are interested in participating in this project, please contact Patti Moore at [moorep@cqsb.qc.ca](mailto:moorep@cqsb.qc.ca).**

### ADULT LEARNER'S WEEK

Quebec Adult Learners Week, to be held from April 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> is to celebrate adult learning in all its forms and encourage others to participate in learning activities. The goal is to instill – among all adult Quebecers – a passion for lifelong learning and its infinite possibilities in one's personal, social, and professional lives.

The goal will be achieved by promoting:

- ↪ Experiences of adult learners.
- ↪ Adult learners' points of view on the infinite possibilities of learning.
- ↪ The various locations where one can learn.
- ↪ The people and organisations involved in all form of adult education and learning.
- ↪ The benefits of ingraining lifelong learning.

These activities will be accompanied by an informational/promotional campaign in which the medias will play a major role. The campaign is a major communication initiative promoting adult learning in a friendly, down-to-earth tone and using a voice and images of everyday people involved in adult learning in Quebec.

Source: <http://www.semaine.icea.qc.ca/eng/presentation.htm#qui>



Top Row: Darlene Brown, SWLSB; Mario Pasteris, EMSB; Ilze Epnors, ETSB; Linda Martin, RSB; Maria Gudzio, NFSB; Warren Halligan, WQSB. Bottom Row: David Roberts, LSB; Dennis Murray, ESSB; Denise Llewellyn, LBPSB; Patti Moore, CQSB

## 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 Québec School Board

### The Healthy Aboriginal Network ... continued

The creative content will come from professional Aboriginal writers/illustrators/cartoonists and will be reviewed for authenticity by Aboriginal youth focus groups and health professionals.

Comic books were chosen to address health promotion because of the access they give us to youth and their whole families. Most people find comics fun and non-threatening, receive multiple exposures as they 'read' them over and over again, and are able to grasp the story or message visually as well as in written form.

For more information, please contact:

Sean Muir, Executive Director  
328 East Thirty Second Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5V 2Y4  
Telephone: (604) 876-0243 Fax: (604) 876-0240  
Email: [sean@healthyaboriginal.net](mailto:sean@healthyaboriginal.net)

## QELA Corner

### *Teachers! Tutors! Have you visited the QELA site recently?*

*By Patti Moore, QELA Web Site Coordinator*

The Quebec English Literacy Alliance Web Site currently has eight overall themes and hundreds of theme-based teaching activities and links. Visit the following links of the teaching activities page of our site and you will find activities for students on:

- ⇒ Basic skills ([http://www.qela.qc.ca/Basic\\_Skills.htm](http://www.qela.qc.ca/Basic_Skills.htm))
- ⇒ Banking skills (<http://www.qela.qc.ca/Banking.htm>)
- ⇒ Computer skills (<http://www.qela.qc.ca/Computer.htm>)
- ⇒ Hobbies (<http://www.qela.qc.ca/Hobbies.htm>)
- ⇒ Food activities (<http://www.qela.qc.ca/Food.htm>)
- ⇒ Jobs (<http://www.qela.qc.ca/Jobs.htm>)
- ⇒ Sports (<http://www.qela.qc.ca/Sports.htm>)
- ⇒ NALD's 'Story of the week' ([http://www.qela.qc.ca/Story\\_of\\_the\\_week.htm](http://www.qela.qc.ca/Story_of_the_week.htm))

## SOON TO COME:

An extensive list of Web sites with lesson plans for the adult literacy teacher or tutor.

## IMPORTANT DATES

September 8 (annual)	International Literacy Day
January 27 (annual)	Family Literacy Day
April 1 - 7, 2006	Adult Learners' Week
April 23 - 29, 2006	Volunteer Appreciation Week

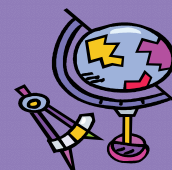
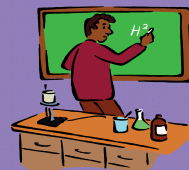


### ***Literacy Posters***

Quebec Literacy Working Group members regularly receive (English) MELS literacy posters that could be put up in your classrooms. To reach your local QLWG rep., please contact Patti Moore, QLWG Coordinator, at [moore@cqsbc.qc.ca](mailto:moore@cqsbc.qc.ca) or call (9418) 651-3022

## 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.



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**VOX**