

## Performance Management Support

Literacy Link South Central continues to be committed to providing performance management assistance to LBS service providers. Through this newsletter, LLSC shares tools, resources and information gathered from our partners around the province that can be used to impact your organization's performance management. If there are specific topics you would like to see in upcoming issues, please contact Literacy Link South Central at [literacylink@gmail.com](mailto:literacylink@gmail.com)

## Innovation

We are dedicating this issue of the Performance Management Newsletter to the concept of innovation. You will be hearing this word more and more, both within our own Ministry (MAESD) and from other funders as well. But what exactly is innovation? What does it mean within the context of Literacy and Basic Skills? We encourage all programs to try to take a moment. If you work with other staff, talk amongst yourselves. How has your program been innovative? How could you be innovative? Innovation is a "wiggly" word – in that it means different things to different people. Having a common understanding of the word might help your agency be more mindful of the innovative work it's already doing, as well as be positioned to take on something innovative in the future!

## Winner of the Innovation Fund

The Board of Directors of LLSC is pleased to announce the winner of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual LLSC Innovation Fund, designed to support and foster innovative work within adult literacy programs. Innovation involves looking at things in a different way and coming up with new ideas to enhance the learning process.

Please join us in congratulating Nokee Kwe as the recipient of the 2016 Innovation Fund! Nokee Kwe will be developing a new Natural Literacy curriculum that will teach Literacy and Basic Skills while encouraging and empowering learners to have a more active role in creating a more sustainable environment. Reforest London will be partnering with Nokee Kwe to write the curriculum and the Cross Cultural Learner Centre and other cultural organizations will be involved in field testing. What a great example of Service Coordination between the LBS system and the community!

## Adult Learners and Technology

Innovation involves the process of looking at things in a new and different way in the hopes of improving on what has already been established. In adult literacy, it's important to be providing our clients with the most suitable tools to enhance their learning progress and overall satisfaction with literacy programming. Nowadays, it is important to consider the use of technology and the impact it has on each learner. Most people have a mobile device of some type but have varying degrees of ability to use it. Adult learners that have been out of school for many years may or may not be familiar with different software applications. Younger adult learners may have grown up with technology and be very adept at using it. For this group of learners, technology is a must when it comes to their learning experience. In both case, the likelihood of a client recommending the agency they worked with will be influenced by their experience associated with technology.

## LLSC Received an Honourable Mention

Literacy Link South Central was pleased to receive an Honourable Mention to the Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life Literacy Innovation award for our Innov-8 program. Innov-8 was tailored to the unique needs of the community partners with whom we were working. This project was created to explore the use of short-term modules based on technology and gamification using SMART basketball programming, Augmented Reality, LeapMotion, MaKey MaKey, Portable Podcasting, and the World of 3D. We offered the programming where our target group (male youth 16-29) was already comfortable congregating, which was a different approach.

Our first goal was to more effectively provide literacy programming to male youth using innovative technology and gamification techniques. The second goal was to determine to what extent place-based learning affects learning outcome for male youth.

We evaluated this project quite thoroughly. If you're interested in seeing the results of the evaluation, please email [literacylink@bellnet.ca](mailto:literacylink@bellnet.ca)

## Resources

1. <https://www.edsurge.com/news/2014-07-11-so-you-think-you-can-educate-adults>

Questions about this newsletter? Please contact us at 519-681-7307 or [literacylink@gamail.com](mailto:literacylink@gamail.com)

