



Opening Doors to Learning

Volunteer News

of Kingston Literacy

Nov./Dec. 2009

*"One is not born
into the world
to do everything
but to do
something."*

- Henry David Thoreau

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Kingston Literacy's Mission Statement

Kingston Literacy furthers the development and growth of adult and family literacy in Kingston and neighbouring communities.

Your Contribution Is Important

Literacy means more than the ability to read and write. It's numeracy (math) and problem-solving as well as computer literacy and computer skills. To succeed economically and socially, adults need the ability to analyze information, understand abstract ideas and acquire many other complex life skills such as task planning and organization.

FACT: Almost half of all Canadian adults (48%) have low literacy performance. That is, they don't have adequate skills to cope in a modern society. For example, they may not have the required computer skills for employment.

FACT: In Ontario, over 50% of the total population has low numeracy performance and 42% has low literacy performance.

Low literacy has social and economic impacts for the individual, their family and our country.

Kingston Literacy is passionate about empowering people by increasing their literacy skills. As a volunteer, whether as a tutor, fundraiser or Board member, you help provide, extend and advise on the services we provide to our clients. Your contribution benefits our entire community.

For further information on the literacy statistics, please see:
www.ccl-cca.ca/ccl/Reports/ReadingFuture
www.on.literacy.ca/tools/facts

(Sources: Reading the Future: Planning to meet Canada's future literacy needs, Fact Sheet, Canadian Council On Learning, 2008; Literacy Facts, Ontario Literacy Coalition).

Kingston Literacy
(613) 547-2012
www.kingstonliteracy.com

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Volunteer Opportunities with Kingston Literacy

Board Committees

The Board of Directors has various committees that support the decision-making process of the Board. Committees include Marketing, Planning and Volunteer Development. If you are interested in becoming a member of a Board Committee, please contact Allison at (613) 547-2012.

Spelling Bee Committee Members

The Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee takes place every May and is Kingston Literacy's premier fundraiser for Family Literacy programs. Planning has begun and volunteers may assist in a number of different areas including with the silent auction, sponsorship and team prizes. If you are interested in assisting with the Bee, please contact Allison at (613) 547-2012.

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Meet and Greet, November 24, 2009, 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

A Meet and Greet for Kingston Literacy volunteers and their friends! Bring a friend and come out and meet other volunteers at Kingston Literacy. Find out what they do as well as introduce your friend to Kingston Literacy! Staff will be on-hand with information and displays that highlight the various volunteer opportunities Kingston Literacy has to offer. Light refreshments will be served.

Family Literacy Day: January 2010

We'll keep you posted about upcoming events celebrating Family Literacy Day.

Hands-On Workshop: February 2010

The Volunteer Development Committee will be arranging a hands-on workshop conducted by a staff member. The Committee would like to hear from you regarding what topic you would like more information on. Topics might include how best to teach math or spelling to your student. We need your feedback! Please email your ideas to laura.kinderman@queensu.ca.

Guest Speaker: April 2010

The Volunteer Development Committee will be arranging for a speaker to come in to do an interactive presentation on learning disabilities.

Comments?

We would love to hear from you. Please email your comments or ideas to Allison at ahandelman@kingstonliteracy.com.