Eager to Learn: A Course on Family Literacy

1. Introduction

Table of Contents

			Page	
1.0	Introduction			1
	1.1	How to use this course		1
	1.2	Format	•••	1
2.0	Ack	nowledgments		2
3.0	How to Contact the Community Services Council			3

1.0 Introduction

Many adult learners are parents. Their own desires to learn and to find educational success motivate them to acquire new skills in helping their children or grandchildren become readers and writers at an early age. The *Eager to Learn* course has been based on the belief that enrollment in A.B.E. gives adult learners the unique ability to co-learn with their children or other young persons in their home environment. This is also true, of course, for parents enrolled in support programs and community outreach services.

1.1 How to use this course

The Community Services Council (CSC) believes there is a wide audience for *Eager to Learn*.

- & as an optional communications skills credit in adult basic education (ABE)
- & as a community course with parents
- & as a part of a family resource centre learning program
- & as a training tool with day care workers or early childhood educators

This is the first edition of *Eager to Learn*. The Community Services Council welcomes comments and suggestions for improvement. The CSC READY Centre, which delivers adult basic education (ABE) services will use *Eager to Learn* as a pilot course and hopes to develop a second edition after pilot testing.

1.2 Format

Eager to Learn has been designed as a resource binder. The course modules can be used independently from the research findings in other sections. The literature review and focus group results, however, provide interesting and unique perspectives on how to plan and deliver family literacy programs of all sorts, not just those meant for a teaching environment.

The Community Services Council encourages readers to review them in connection with the bibliography for new ideas and approaches. Be *Eager to Learn* and use the binder to improve literacy in ways that are meaningful for you.

2.0 Acknowledgements

The Community Services Council READY Centre gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the National Literacy Secretariat - Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), Government of Canada. This project was assisted by the Career Vision program, a pilot project of the Humanities & Social Sciences Federation of Canada (HSSFC) in collaboration with Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC).

The Community Services Council READY Centre is funded by the Department of Human Resources and Employment (HRE), Government of Newfoundland and Labrador through the Services to Employment Program (STEP) enabling adult learner clients of the Department to complete adult basic education (ABE) credits within a supportive counselling environment.

This project was guided by a volunteer Research Advisory Committee comprising:

- Munden Batstone, Program Consultant Department of Education, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
- Elizabeth Crawford, Director of Child Welfare & Community Corrections Human Resources & Employment, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
- Darlene Halleran Early Childhood Educator
- Glenda Jackson, Career Education Facilitator Avalon East School Board
- Prof. Julia O'Sullivan Centre for the Application of Development Science Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Patricia Roberts, Postings Coordinator Public Service Commission, Government of Newfoundland & Labrador
- Penelope M. Rowe, Executive Director Community Services Council (CSC) of Newfoundland & Labrador
- Darlene J. Scott, Program Coordinator Community Services Council READY Centre, ABE Program
- Bill Shallow Member of Community Services Council Board of Directors, and READY Centre Program Advisory Committee
- Caroline Vaughn, Provincial Coordinator Frontier College

We extend our sincere thanks to the many programs and agencies whose wonderful materials have been quoted or adapted, throughout. Credits appear where appropriate. We offer a special thank you to the Newfoundland & Labrador Teachers Association (NLTA).

3.0 How to Contact the Community Services Council

The Community Services Council (CSC) operates in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Community Services Council

Suite 201, 2nd Floor Virginia Park Plaza Newfoundland Drive St. John's, NF A1A 3E9

Tel: (709) 753-9860 Fax:(709) 753-6112 email: csc@thezone.net Homepage: <u>www.csc.nf.net</u>

The READY Centre operated in St. John's, Newfoundland.

READY Centre, CSC

(Referral, Education, Assessment & Development for You) 365 Water Street, 2nd Floor P.O. Box 1191 St. John's, NF A1C 5M9

> Tel: (709) 726-4335 Fax: (709) 726-7327