



LITERACY PROGRAM

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NORTHLANDS COLLEGE CENTRAL REGION PRESENTS:

THE NORTHLANDS ADULT READING CHALLENGE

PROJECT GUIDE



MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH FUNDING
FROM
[THE NATIONAL LITERACY SECRETARIAT](#)

THE 1998 NORTHERN ADULT READING CHALLENGE WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH
FUNDING FROM [THE NATIONAL LITERACY SECRETARIAT](#)

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**MONTH-BY-MONTH
CHECK-LIST**



ADULT NORTHERN LITERACY CHALLENGE

Monthly Activity Check-Sheet

NOVEMBER

- Determine schedule and theme of the Northern Reading Program _____
- Develop Writing Contest posters and distribute _____
- Prepare weekly Writing Contest PSA's and distribute to media _____
- Arrange interviews with media _____
- Determined judges for contest _____
- Prepare November Report _____

DECEMBER

- Determine prizes for Writing Contest and Reading Challenge _____
- Assemble information and materials package for NRP distribution _____
- Determine program success target range _____
- Develop other program materials as time permits _____
- Prepare December Report _____

JANUARY

- Fax introduction to Reading Challenge to media _____
- Prepare Reading Challenge PSA's and distribute to media _____
- Prepare Tracking Sheets and note participation and points _____
- Issue Invitations To Participate to work-sites and institutions _____
- Prepare January Report _____

FEBRUARY

- Collect Writing Contest entries, sort, and deliver to judges _____
- Prepare Certificates and Prize Packages for Writing Contest winners _____
- Prepare Certificates and Gifts for judges _____
- Continue Tracking Reading Challenge progress _____
- Update weekly Reading Challenge results through PSA's _____
- Prepare February Report _____

MARCH

- Determine and notify winners of Writing Contest _____
- Inform media of Writing Contest results _____
- Award Prize packages to Writing Contest winners _____
- Continue tracking Reading Challenge progress _____
- Update weekly Reading Challenge results through PSA's _____
- Determine and notify Reading Challenge Winners _____
- Inform media of Reading Challenge results _____
- Award prize packages to Reading Challenge winners _____
- Finalize results of program and compare with target projections _____
- Prepare final program summary and communicate to media _____
- Prepare March Report _____
- Prepare Final Report _____

1998 PROJECT PROPOSAL AND FINAL REPORT



NORTHERN ADULT READING CHALLENGE

Proposal for funding

Jointly submitted by:

Northlands College
Pahkisimon Nuyeh Library System (PNLS)

Need for Activity

Northern Saskatchewan continues to provide challenges for all educational institutions serving this area. However, there are few learning centres in the north where adults can gain basic literacy skills at their own pace and for their own motivations. Current educational offerings force people to make long term decisions before they have the basic skills adequate to take advantage of them. The total northern population of 35,600 (Health statistics) lives in 38 municipalities or reserve lands (12 different First Nations bands, in all). Most people live in communities of less than 1,000.

The K-12 school systems (both public and band run), Northlands College, the Northern Teacher Education/Professional Access Program (NORTEP/NORPAC), Saskatchewan Indian Federated College (SIFC), and the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) all provide educational opportunities in northern Saskatchewan. There are a few common practices of all above mentioned institutions in that they either follow prescribed curricula, are geared toward the GED examination or are job specific. There is nothing wrong with any of these practices; however, adults who need basic literacy are left out of the race all together. Statistics show that there are very many adults, not all able to take advantage of post-secondary school offerings.

The latest statistics available from Northern Saskatchewan indicates that "a large percentage of its (the north's) population is functionally illiterate - 36% compared to 16% for the province" (Northern Education Services Branch, June 1996, p. 4). In addition, the report states that "it (the north) has a very high unemployment rate - three times the provincial rate" (p. 4). Adults (ages 15 - 64) number 20,663 (63%) (p.9).

There is a great push for youth to stay in school, which is paying off with fewer early school leavers. However, there are still many adults living in the north who left school before finishing. Fully "one-third of the northern population over age 15 has an education level under grade 9" (p. 21). For adults living on northern reserves, the percentage jumps to 53%. The far north has even higher levels of adults with less than grade 9 (70%). Literacy efforts are greatly needed in northern Saskatchewan to prepare adults for functioning in English and to help them get ready for job opportunities as they arise.

Objectives

We again present a collaborative approach between Northlands College and the Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library system of Northern Saskatchewan to increase public awareness of literacy issues and to help northerners participate in reading activities.

- To promote literacy and reading enjoyment.
- To coordinate with other organizations with similar goals, programs and geographic responsibility.
- To establish a reading program applicable to adults in the north using the resources of the libraries and the college.
- To improve communication skills of reading and writing in English in addition to their first language Cree or Dene.
- To raise awareness in the north of the need for increased literacy at all age levels.

Target Group

The 12,000 adults living in the north (on or off the reserve) who are not participating in the adult formal education courses. Those people currently in programs will also be invited to participate.

Description of activity

This a collaboration between the PNLS Teacher/Librarian, an educational consultant (to be hired) and the Literacy Facilitator. We intend to cover the whole north. A part-time program coordinator will be hired to sit on the Northern Reading Program committee. This program is a collaboration of PNLS and the Keewatin Nene Reading Council. This person will be in charge of the adult component of the project. She/he will work in parallel with the PNLS teacher/library and the school library coordinator. The PNLS school and public library coordinator. The committee will be struck in October 1997 to plan the winter activities to promote the reading challenge.

The adult reading challenge will be advertised in conjunction with the K-12 northern reading challenge. The promotion will begin in January 1998 with visits to each of the 14 communities. The communities targeted are:

Far north:	Black Lake, Fond du Lac,
Central region	La Ronge, Montreal Lake, Pinehouse, Southend, Weyakwin, Stanley Mission
Eastern region	Cumberland House, Sandy Bay and Pelican Narrows.
Western region	Beauval, Buffalo Narrows, and La Loche

Publicity will be mainly through radio, community television, and posters at the local level. The volunteer committee will select the theme for the challenge.

The educational consultant, the PNLS teacher/librarian and the school coordinator will create activities revolving around the theme. The challenges are for: (a) most number of books read, and (b) a short essay, topic to be assigned by committee.

The consultant will be responsible for promoting the challenges to the communities. This will require at least two trips to each one. The first trip to explain and provide guidelines. A second trip to present prizes and acknowledge participants. Prizes will be books for most reading and certificates for participation.

Final products

The project is to promote adult literacy in the north. It has two components: a reading challenge and a writing challenge.

The Reading Challenge. An adult who reads the highest number of books within the given timeframe will be awarded in each of the 14 communities targeted. These adults will receive books valued at \$5. In addition, all participants will receive a certificate of participation. We hope that this will encourage further reading. Participant will have made a formal connection to their school or community/public libraries in order to obtain books to read for the challenge.

The Writing Challenge. Adults from all communities will be challenged to write an essay. The educational consultant will be responsible for choosing winners. The five best essays will be published and distributed through the college, school, and library system.

Evaluation Plan

The project will use a summative evaluation process. Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library System (PNLS) will conduct a written evaluation from each community after the completion of the challenge.

The volunteer committee will then review the completed community evaluations forms and conduct a committee evaluation of process and goal achievement. A summary of both will be included in the final report.

Northlands College will review how closely the project adhered to the original objectives.

The resulting collection writing will include an evaluation form as to format and design to be submitted to Northlands College.

ADULT NORTHERN LITERACY CHALLENGE, 1998

Final Report

Project Objectives:

- To promote literacy and reading enjoyment.
- To coordinate with other organizations with similar goals, programs, and geographic responsibilities.
- To establish a reading program applicable to adults in the north, using the resources of the libraries, and the College.
- To improve adult communication skills of reading and writing in English, in addition to a first language of Cree or Dene.
- To raise awareness in the north of the need for increased literacy at all age levels.

Objectives Met:

- Literacy and Reading Enjoyment was successfully promoted in schools, public libraries, and the workplace through the Northern Reading Program, school boxes, taxes to business' and mine-sites, posters, and the media; Radio stations, local cable channels, and newspapers.
- Successfully coordinated with other organizations such as; The Northern Library System, Schools, The Saskatchewan Writers Guild, and the LaRonge Wild Rice Writers Group.
- The foundation for an on-going reading program applicable to adults in the north has definitely been established. The Adult Northern Reading Challenge successfully and naturally partnered with the Northern Reading Program.
- We believe we have succeeded in improving adult communication skills through the reading program, and the writing contest.
- By way of media - PSA's, articles, and interviews - and through contact with the schools, we have increased awareness in the north for the need for increased literacy at all age levels.

Other Activities:

- I became a member of the LaRonge Wild Rice Writers Group and the Saskatchewan Writers Group, participated in judging the writing contest, and acted as liaison between the Northern Reading Program Committee and the judges.
- I became a regular contributor to the on-line newsletter for school kids interested in writing, Winscript. I forwarded all Children's Writing Contest requirements and results, as well as other information.
- I participated in the Story Telling Festival at Gordon Denny School, which occurred on the last day of the Northern Reading Program.
- I covered a "Jello Fling" story at Pre-Cam School in LaRonge, for CBC Radio. The librarian and acting principal of the school had volunteered to be doused in Jello if the students met their Reading Challenge goal of 125,000 points. They exceeded it by quite a bit, actually.
- Together, Bebe Ivanochko and I created the "Rooks and Ravens" board game, a new Tutor/Learner registration sheet, and the Writing Contest Keepsake book.

Facilities:

I found the facilities provided in the Northlands College Administration building, adjacent to the PNLS Library, to be more than adequate. I was able to work closely with library staff incorporating an adult component into the existing Northern Reading Program, while still enjoying easy accessibility to college resources. The room itself was bright and warm (with the addition of a plug-in heater), and I adored being surrounded by books (run-off from the library).

A computer with modem and printer, and the addition of an answering machine or voice mail would have been extremely helpful, eliminating the need for computer work outside the office, and easing the difficulty some had in trying to find me. In spite of call forwarding, and memos, occasionally when individuals tried to connect with me through the College, they were met with "Anita who?" This very likely occurred when regular staff were away.

General Comments:

I thoroughly enjoyed working on the Adult Northern Literacy Challenge. The staff of Northlands College and PNLS were helpful, and absolutely wonderful to work with. Bebe Ivanochko was especially supportive and encouraging, and her trust in my abilities fueled my motivation and enthusiasm for this project. The program ran smoothly and met its objectives. I believe we laid a fine foundation. Adult participation in next years program will undoubtedly grow through an additional focus on family literacy in schools and communities, the installation of Community Reading Corners, and Invitations to Participate being issued to places of employment.

Recommendations For Next Year:

- Further support from teachers and librarians during the Northern Reading Program, could be encouraged by going into the schools and speaking to them about the benefits of Family Literacy. Until this year their focus has, understandably, been primarily the children.
- Develop and send out Invitations to Participate to various workplaces within communities.
- Begin promotion of writing contest in early November, allowing at least three months for adults to develop story ideas, and send them in.
- Rearrange prize categories for writing contest to award only a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize overall. Honorable mentions could be given to "Best in Community" entrants. It may do more harm than good if a participant were to find out that he or she was 1st in community, if there was only one entry from the community. Or worse, that he or she was 2nd in community, if there were only two entries from that community.

It's been a pleasure!

Anita Daher

NATIONAL LITERACY SECRETARIAT
HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

FINAL REPORT

Name and Title of President of Senior Officer: Bill McLaughlin, President
Name of Organization and address: Northlands College
P.O. Box 1000
Air Ronge, Saskatchewan S0J 3G0

Project Contact Person: Bebe Ivanochko **Phone:** (306) 425-4334 **Fax:** (306) 425-2696

Project Title: Northern Adult Reading Challenge

Start and Finish Dates of Project: September 1997 to April 1998

I. Objectives:	<u>Measure of Success</u>
1) To promote literacy and reading enjoyment.	10
2) To coordinate with other organizations with similar goals, programs, and geographic responsibilities.	8
3) To establish a reading program applicable to adults in the North using the resources of libraries and the college.	7
4) To improve communication skills of reading and writing in English in addition to their first languages (Cree/Dene)	7
5) To raise awareness in the north of the need for increased literacy at all age levels.	10

II. How did you evaluate, or measure your success?

- Set community target levels (by adult population) between 3 - 64%.
- Kept track weekly of community participation
- Kept track of points accumulated per adults
- Collected verbal feedback from media, communities
- Conducted interviews with media

III. What activities did your organization do in order to achieve these objectives?

- A. **Media.** Searched for media coverage that would be widely spread Across northern Saskatchewan. For print media targeted central Eastern and Western regions. For radio, we used both CBC and Missinipi Broadcasting Corp. (NMC) – an aboriginal radio network Broadcasting across northern Saskatchewan. To reach local people in communities, we taxed introductory sheets, public service announcements and and weekly updates.
- B. **Community.** The PNLs library system stretches across northern Saskatchewan. The original contest is their initiative. The contest Organizer sat on the organizing committee, her office was located at the library office. Together, the committee set up parameters to reach all communities. Phone calls were made to an schools. Faxes went out to people on contact lists.
- C. **Reading.** 20 out of 27 communities had adult participation in the reading contest with a participation rate from 2 - 34% by adult population. Three communities won prizes for adult reading: Stony Rapids, Beauval and the Rabbit Lake Uranium Minesite resident camp (where the college holds a workplace education project). A total of 342,157 reading points were recorded over the eight week contest from January 19" to March 13, 1998. One point was awarded for each item read, be it magazine article, book, or comic. We purposely set the point system for a small amount of reading to encourage any and all to participate. Community awards were presented at the Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library System (PNLS) annual general meeting.
- D. **Writing.** Five writing entries were awarded for the Adult Writing Contest. Since the winter olympics were on at the time we used the theme: Sports and leisure activities. Individuals were asked to write a fictional sport or leisure activity story of 1,500 words or more. One grand prize, three community prizes and one honorable mention were awarded. Prizes included: One year membership in the Saskatchewan Writer's Guild (grand prize); \$50 book gift certificates (mail orders); a dictionary; a participation certificate; a literacy board game developed for our promotion campaign called "Rooks and Ravens"; and a poster. We utilized our local writers' group to judge the entries. They were honoured to be asked to take part in the contest.

IV. Factors affecting your project

1. What factors contributed to the success of your project?

Factors	Comments
a) Philosophical bias	a) We had to change the public's impression that the contest was just for kids.
b) Funding and support of NLS	b) The project would not have been possible without the financing and the hiring of a dedicated contest organizer with background in media was essential to its success.
c) Planning	c) The writing contest was too short.
d) Coordination	d) There was a good participation from many communities, however we need to have greater contact with other adult programs in the north.
e) Publicity	e) We made good use of local media. Posters, taxes, PSA's, newspapers, and radio were all used. In addition participants were notified of their winning by phone when possible.
f) Resources	f) A literacy board game was created by the contest organizer based on hooks and ladders. We called it "Rooks & Ravens". This game was widely distributed.

2. What problems did you have with your project?

- a. The writing contest was too short. It should run a minimum of three months in order To build momentum. There would be more entries with more time.
- b. The contest organizer worked out from an office created just for the contest. Consequently, she did not have new office equipment. The project was so media related that we should have used computers, software, scanners and fax/modems. Equipment and software is available for desktop publishing. The contest organizer only worked part-time and therefore needed voice mail to answer inquiries.

V. You often need to change your plans after you start a project. Did you change or drop any objectives or were any new objectives added during the project?

No

VI. Were there major changes in your group as a result of this project?

Changes	Comments (explanation)
---------	------------------------

VII. What has been the impact on your group and the community?

Impact	Comments
--------	----------

- a. We were able to involve adults in the contests. In order to expand, we would have to involve adult education courses and instructors, in addition to the general public.
- b. The residential mine site became involved because of connection to Northlands and the availability of a college instructor on site. The miners' point were allocated back to their home communities as there is no community at Rabbit Lake other than the mine.

VIII. Should this project/program he continued?

Yes.

If yes, what plans do you have?

We plan to continue to coordinate the adult contest with PNLs library. We could use our connections to adults through the many types of courses offered.

We should continue to use the WildRice Writers Group for judging.

We have put together a project guide in order to run the project smoothly next year without public relations expertise. The guide is being disseminated.

XI. What recommendations would you make to another group who was planning a similar project?

- The writing contest should start earlier.
- They should establish contact lists and make early contact with public.
- Media push should begin early November.
- Contest should be a winter project, as school librarians, teachers have time to be involved and January to April works well.
- It might be a good idea to coordinate publicity with "Freedom to Read Week", Education Week and Canada Book Day.

X. Budget:

a) Project Revenues

Resources of your own organization		
Donations		
Municipal government		
National Literacy Secretariat		
Other federal government organizations		
Provincial/territorial government		
Other		
TOTAL		

Expenditures	Budget	Actual
Salaries and Benefits		
Honoraria		
Publicity		
Travel, meals and accommodations		
Other: phones and technical support		
office meeting space		
TOTAL		

Surplus or Deficit - Explanation Notes

N/A

Signature of Bookkeeper	Date:
Signature of Signing Officer	Date:

XI. Assessment of service received (not received) from the Department for your project.

Level of Satisfaction

0: totally unsatisfactory 10: fully satisfactory

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1) Accessibility - availability of staff | 10 |
| 2) Promptness of communications | 10 |
| 3) Technical assistance provided | n/a |
| 4) Clear understanding of role of both parties, the Department and your organization. | 10 |
| 5) Service offered in both official languages. | n/a |
| 6) Other | |

XII. How long did it take you to complete this form? 2 1/2 hours

CONTACTS
MEDIA, COMMUNITY, SCHOOL, AND MINE SITES



CONTACTS

Media:

- Radio Stations
- Newspapers
- Local Cable Channels

Schools participating in Reading Program

Community Libraries

Adult Education Facilities

Mine Sites

Forestry Camps

Correctional Institutions

Government Offices

Business'

CONTACTS

Media:

- Radio Stations
- Newspapers
- Local Cable Channels

Schools participating in Reading Program

Community Libraries

Adult Education Facilities

Mine Sites

Forestry Camps

Correctional Institutions

Government Offices

Business'

REPORTS AND FORMS

REGISTRATION, POINTS, UPDATE AND TRACKING



*** MOST ARE COPIES OF 1998 FORMS. SOME ARE GENERALIZED. ***

Registration Form

"Willie Reads For Gold"

Northern Reading Program
January 19th to March 13th, 1998

Purpose: to establish a reading program applicable to the North using the resources of the libraries, and to coordinate with other organizations with similar goals and programs.

Registration Deadline: **December 12th, 1997**

Print clearly

Name of school/library: _____

Name of community: _____

Grades within school: _____

Enrollment as of 30th of September: _____

If possible please break enrollment by K-6: _____ 7 - 12: _____ Adult: _____

Approximate population of community: _____

Name of main contact: _____

Name of substitute or helper: _____

**Fax or mail your registration to Harriet at PNLs office
425-4572**



Northern Reading Program Point Sheet



Each line equals one point.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

Childs Point Total: _____ Adult's Point Total: _____ Adults Participating: _____
Please return sheet with child every Thursday morning.

Participating Community: _____

Name of contact person: _____

Please circle the appropriate week:

Week One:	January 19 - 25	Week Two:	January 26 - February 1
Week Three:	February 2 - 8	Week Four:	February 9 - 15
Week Five:	February 16 - 22	Week Six:	February 23 - March 1
Week Seven:	March 2 - 8	Week Eight:	March 9 - 13

Point break down: K - 6 = _____
 7 - 12 = _____
 Adult = _____

Total points this week: _____

How many adults are participating in the program? _____

What new and wonderful ideas are you or someone on your staff planning to try?

Please submit this update by fax to PNLs office
no later than **5:00 p.m. every Thursday.**

*** Final submission** must be reported to PNLs office
no later than 4:00 p.m. Friday March 13th, 1998.

Any submissions after this time will not be accepted as part of the reading challenge.*



Northern Reading Program 1998

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HEY, FRIEND! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP YOUR HOME COMMUNITY WIN THE TITLE OF READINGEST COMMUNITY, 1998?

Even though you may be miles away, this year, what you read can add points to your home community total.

You earn 1 point per item read, whether that be a book, magazine article, grocery list or TV guide. At the end of each week, pass this form on to an appointed person who will fax or phone the information on to Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library in LaRonge. Help your community, help the kids. For family, life and work.... Reading is your right!

Home Community: _____

Points earned (items read): _____

Date: _____



Beauval (306) 288-4402 La Ronge 1-888-311-1185 Creighton (306) 688-3232

ADULT NORTHERN READING CHALLENGE

Northern Reading Program
1998

WEEKLY UPDATE FORM

fax: 425-4572/4282

phone: 425-4525

Contact Person: _____

Week of (circle one):

Jan 22-29
Feb 12-19
March 5- 13

Jan 29-Feb 5
Feb 19-26

Feb 5-12
Feb 26-March 5

Community

Points

How many adults participating in program? _____

Please submit this fax to the PNLS office no later than 5:00pm every Thursday. Final submission must be sent or phoned in no later than 4:00pm Friday, March 13th, 1998.

WRITING CONTEST PARTICIPATION

Deadline: February 3rd 1998

Communities	Population	# Adults	# Entries
LaRonge			
Black Lake			
Fond du Lac			
Pinehouse			
Southend			
Weyakwin			
Montreal Lake			
Buffalo Narrows			
LaLoche			
Beauval			
Cumberland House			
Sandy Bay			
Pelican Narrows			

ADULT NORTHERN READING CHALLENGE - POINTS AND PARTICIPATION AVERAGES

Community	Adult Pop	Avg Participants	Avg Pnts Com	Avg Pnts PP
LaRonge Area (*) Total	2850			
*AR Gordon Denny				
*AR Senator Myles Venne				
*LR Churchill High				
*LR Pals Lab				
*LR PreCam				
*LR Nortep/Norpac				
Cameco, Rabbit Lake- LaRonge Employees				
*LR Northlands Program Center				
*Stanley Mission				
Beauval	435			
Black Lake	415			
Brabant Lake	65			
Buffalo Narrows	690			
Canoe Lake	295			
Creighton	1485			
Fond Du Lac	380			
Ile a La Crosse	805			
Jans Bay	100			
LaLoche Area (**) Total	1240			
**Clearwater Elementary				
**Dave O'Hara Community Library				
Michel Village, Birch Hills School	55			
Montreal Lake	255			
Sucker River, Chief Moses Rat				
Patuanak, St Louis School	70			
Pelican Narrows, Opawikoscikan	745			
Pinchouse Lake	450			
Sandy Bay	420			
Southend	305			
Stony Rapids	100			
Timber Bay	70			
Turner Lake, Birch Ridge	235			
Uranium City	150			
Weyakwin	150			
Wollaston	300			

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES





Northlands College

ADULT NORTHERN READING CHALLENGE

Northern Reading Program
1998

Suggested activities:

SOCIAL CLUB:

- Meet for coffee/tea
- Book sharing/exchanging
- Play games such as: Charades, Scrabble, Bingo, Trivia, Rooks and Ravens, Monopoly, other....

Points:

Each chapter of a book, recipes - 1 point each

Games - 1 point per person per game

STORY TIME:

- Meet with group of children and read stories
- Follow with a craft, game or snack

Points: 1 point per book per adult

GAMES:

- Collect points when playing any game that involves words and letters

Points: 1 point per person per game. Additional points if instructions read

RECIPE EXCHANGE:

- Meet regularly to enjoy coffee and a snack, and exchange and discuss favorite recipes. Perhaps put together a cookbook.

Points: One point per adults per recipe read. If putting together cookbook, 1 point per recipe per adult working on book (If book has 80 recipes, each person working on book collects 80 points).

SCAVENGER HUNT:

- Gather objects on itemized list to collect points.

Points. 1 point per adult participating. 2 points per organizer

NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE SCAVENGER HUNT:

- Search magazines and newspaper for words on itemized list

Points: 1 point per adult participating. 2 points per organizer

PUBLICITY



NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS



Olympics provide inspiration for writing contest

"Everybody has a story to tell," says Anita Daher.

Daher is the co-ordinator of an Adult Writing Contest that is a new feature of the Northern Reading Program.

For the first time Northlands College has joined with the Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library system and the Kewetin Nene Reading Council in sponsoring the annual reading program.

"Adult literacy is our mandate," says Bebe Ivanochko, literacy facilitator for the Central Region of Northlands College. She notes that there have been writing contests for school students in the past, but not for adults. This contest is one initiative in a campaign for literacy the College will be promoting over the next two years, said Ivanochko.

"Wandering Willie" is the mascot for the reading program and this year's theme is "Willie Reads For Gold", a reference to the Winter Olympics being held in Japan next month.

Accordingly, adults in selected northern communities are invited to write a fictional sports or leisure activity story of 1500 words or more.

The contest is open to adults in the following communities: La Ronge, Fond du Lac, Southend, Montreal Lake, Laloche, Cumberland House, Pelican Narrows, Black Lake, Pinehouse, Weyakwin, Buffalo Narrows, Beauval and Sandy Bay.

As an incentive, the first place winner in each community will receive a prize of \$50 worth of books. Second and third place winners will receive certificate of addition, entries will be compiled into a keepsake book and distributed to each community.

Judging will be conducted by the Wild Rice Writers' Group. The deadline for submissions is February 3, 1998.

Interested, but don't know where to start? Daher suggests "Draw from experience and use your imagination."

by Linda Mikolayenko for Northerner

Never look a gift book in the mouth

This year, adults in the following communities are invited to enter the Northern Reading Program's writing contest: La Ronge and area, Black Lake, Fond du Lac, Pinehouse, Southend, Weyakwin, Montreal Lake, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche, Beauval, Cumberland House, Sandy Bay and Pelican Narrows.

Write a fictional sports or leisure activity story 1500 words or more and you could win a \$50 book prize! First, second and third place winners will be chosen for each community.

Deadline for entries is Feb. 3, 1998.

For more information, contact a library near you, or call the Northlands College number at 1-888-311-1185.

A Picture May Be Worth a Thousand Words, But 1,500 Words Could Be Worth \$50 Worth of Books!

This year, the Northern Reading Program is pleased to invite adults in selected communities to enter a writing contest.

- The theme is Sports and Leisure Activities.
- The requirement is a fictional story, 1,500 words or more.
- The winner in each community will receive a \$50 book prize.
- The deadline is Feb. 3, 1998.

For more information, contact a library near you or call Northern College at 1-888-311-1185.

Feb. 10, 1998

Adults urged to join reading contest

Adults in northern communities, don't forget, the Northern Reading Program wants you, too!

You could help your community win prizes, and the title of Readingest Community 1998!

For the week of Jan. 30 – Feb. 5, the community leading in adult participation is Beauval, and the community leading in adult points is Uranium City.

For more information, contact a library near you, or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185 and ask for Anita.

The Northerner, La Ronge, Saskatchewan, Feb. 24, 1998

Uranium City on top in adult reading

Uranium City adults have burst into the lead in the Northern Reading Program.

Uranium City is leading in both adult participation and in adult points for the week of Feb. 13 – 19.

Don't forget, the Northern Reading Program is for adults as well as children. Call or send in your point total to a local library. You could help your community win prizes, and the title of Readingest Community 1998.

For more information, contact a library near you, or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185 and ask for Anita.

'Jock' is tops in writing contest

Kesia Newton of Stanley Mission pens best entry

Kesia Newton says her friends will be shocked when they hear her latest news.

"People just think of me as a jock," said Newton, a physical education teacher in Stanley Mission. Yet, Newton has won the grand prize in the recent writing contest sponsored by the Northlands College Literacy Office.

The sports and leisure theme of the contest may have helped Newton. Abbie Bird, the main character in her story *To Catch a Dream*, shares many traits with her creator, most notably a love of hockey and a refusal to let people pigeon hole her.

"I've always wanted to write about girls in sports," she said. "It was a good theme for me. The Olympics were on and I had played hockey with the women's hockey (team) coach. I was right into it."

Newton says she has long dreamed of writing, and living in Stanley Mission has freed up some of her time to pursue those dreams. She recently signed up with a correspondence course at the Institute of Children's Literature in the U.S. for which she writes regular assignments which are critiqued by an author and returned to her. *To Catch A Dream* was originally written as an assignment, but the course demanded that she shorten the work considerably. The 1,500 word-plus size of the contest submissions allowed Newton to add some of her favourite parts back in.

Although the contest has given Newton a confidence boost, she still wonders if she has what it takes to become a published writer. Since one of her prizes is a membership to the Saskatchewan Writer's Guild, she may soon find more opportunities to find out.

Finding time to write is also a concern for Susan Smallwood, who placed first in this community. The Air Ronge mother of two, skier, runner and frequent volunteer finds little time to write, but the idea for her story *Daisy's Game* came to her late at night after she read about the contest.

"I woke Dave (her husband) and said I think I know what I'm going to write about," she said. But finding "those large block's of time alone" is hard to do with a toddler wandering through the house. Smallwood has had to make do with her daughter Emma's nap times, although she prefers to immerse herself completely in her writing until she has refined the story to perfection, a process that can take days or weeks, she said.

She has entered other contests in the past and one of her stories was read by Fireside Al (Alan Maitland) on CBC. Although she would like to spend more time on her writing, Smallwood is planning to train for a marathon this fall and will put her pens on hold.

Barb Riley Staff

March 17, 1998

Newton top writer

The Literacy office of Northlands College Central Region is pleased to announce winner of The Sports and Leisure Activities Adult Writing Contest.

Grand Prize: Kesia Newton from Stanley Mission, for "To Catch A Dream." She wins a members to the Saskatchewan Writers Guild, a \$50 book prize and the Wild Rice anthology.

Community Prize Winners: Martin Sasek, Fond du Lac, for "The Five of Diamonds."

Susall Smallwood, Air Rouge, for "Daisy's Game."

Kevin Crosby, Fond du Lac, for "A Winter Journey."

Honourable Mention: Victoria Daigneault, Beauval, for "The Best things in Life Are Free."

Literacy challenge wraps up

The Adult Literacy Challenge has come to an end, and Stony Rapids, Beauval and Rabbit Lake mine are at the top of the heap.

Stony Rapids had the most successful adult participation in the libraries category, and the highest average readership per adult, according to Anita Daher, program assistant for the reading challenge.

Beauval, meanwhile, logged the greatest adult participation per capita (compared to its population).

And Cameco's Rabbit Lake Uranium mine won the fourth category, adult participation in the workplace. Apparently, the mine workers recorded all their reading and contributed their points to their home communities.

"They liked the idea of help in their communities and the kids, even though they had to work away from them," said Daher. Next year, they plan on challenging other mine sites.

Daher noted that each community tried something a little different. In Buffalo Narrows, for instance, adults were invited to phone in their reading point totals, while in Beauval the kids took forms home to record family reading. Adults in Weyakwin studiously recorded how they read newspapers, and Michel Village had volunteers drop in to the school to read with students.

The Adult Literacy Challenge was held in conjunction with the annual Northern Reading Challenge for school students.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS
WRITING CONTEST, READING CHALLENGE



MOST FROM 1998 PROGRAM, SOME GENERALIZED.

TO:

FROM:

RE: Northern Reading Program Writing Contest

Hello,

The Kewetin Nene Reading Council (KNPC) and Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library System (PNLS) have sponsored the Northern Reading Program since 1992. Its purpose has been to establish a reading program applicable to the north using the resources of the libraries to coordinate with other organizations with similar goals and programs and to promote literacy and reading enjoyment. Beginning in 1998, the Literacy Office of Northlands College added its participation with the inclusion of an Adult Writing Contest as part of the Northern Reading Program.

We would very much appreciate your running the following Public Service Announcements during the dates specified. If you have any questions about the Northern Reading Program please contact _____ at _____. Any questions regarding the Adult Writing Contest specifically can be directed to _____ at _____.

Thank you for your support

The Literacy Office of Northlands College is pleased to announce the winners of the
_____ Adult Writing Contest.

First Prize:

Name: _____

Community: _____

Entry: _____

Second Prize:

Name: _____

Community: _____

Entry: _____

Third Prize:

Name: _____

Community: _____

Entry: _____

Honorable Mentions:

Congratulations to all our winners, and remember, for family, life and work...

READING IS YOUR RIGHT!



TO: The Northern Pride

FROM: Anita Daher, Adult Northern Reading Challenge Organizer @ Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library System, LaRouge, SK

RE: Northern Reading Program Writing Contest

Hello,

The Kewetin Nene Reading Council (KNRC) and Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library System (PNLS) have sponsored the Northern Reading Program since 1992. Its purpose has been to establish a reading program applicable to the north using the resources of the libraries, to coordinate with other organizations with similar goals and programs and to promote literacy and reading enjoyment. This year, the Literacy Office of Northlands College has added its participation with the inclusion of an Adult Writing Contest as part of the Northern Reading Program.

We would very much appreciate your running the following Public Service Announcements during the dates specified. If you have any questions about the Northern Reading Program please contact Harriet Roy at PNLS in AirRonge at 306-425-4525. Any questions regarding the Adult Writing Contest specifically can be directed to Anita Daher at 306-425-4658/1-888-311-1185 or e-mail daher@sk.sympatico.ca.

Thank you for your support.

ADULTS IN NORTHERN COMMUNITIES, THIS YEAR THE NORTHERN READING PROGRAM WRITING CONTEST IS OPEN TO YOU TOO!

- The theme is Sports and Leisure Activities
- The requirement is a fictional story, 1500 words or more
- The 1st place winner in each community will receive a \$50 book prize
- The deadline for submissions is February 3rd, 1998

This contest is open to adults in selected communities. For more information contact a library near you or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185

C'MON FRIEND, TELL US A TALE!

This year, the Northern Reading Program invites adults in selected northern communities to enter a writing contest!

- The theme is Sports and Leisure Activities
- The requirement is a fictional story, 1500 words or more
- The 1st place winner in each community will receive a \$50 book prize
- The deadline for submissions is February 3rd, 1998

This contest is open to adults in selected communities. For more information contact a library near you or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185

Once upon a time, there lived an adult in a northern community who thought, why can't I enter this years Northern Reading Program's Writing Contest? Suddenly, along came the Good Book Fairy and POOF! That wish was granted!

- The theme is Sports and Leisure Activities
- The requirement is a fictional story, 1500 words or more
- The 1st place winner in each community will receive a \$50 book prize
- The deadline for submissions is February 3rd, 1998

This contest is open to adults in selected communities. For more information contact a library near you or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185.

A PICTURE MAY BE WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS, BUT THIS YEAR 1500 WORDS COULD BE WORTH \$50 WORTH OF BOOKS!

This year, the Northern Reading Program is pleased to invite adults in selected communities it enter a writing contest.

- The theme is Sports and Leisure Activities
- The requirement is a fictional story, 1500 words or more
- The 1st place winner in each community will receive a \$50 book prize
- The deadline is February 3rd, 1998

For more information contact a library near you or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185.

A FRIEND WHO READS IS A FRIEND INDEED!

This year, adults in selected communities are invited to enter the Northern Reading Program's writing contest. Write a fictional sports or leisure activity, story 1500 words or more and you could win a \$50 book prize! First, second and third place winners will be chosen for each community. Deadline for entries is February 3rd, 1998

For more information contact a library near you, or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185.

NEVER LOOK A GIFT-BOOK IN THE MOUTH!

This Year adults in selected communities are invited to enter the Northern Reading Program's writing contest. Write a fictional sports or leisure activity story 1500 words or more and you could win a \$50 book prize. First, second and 3rd place winners will be chosen for each community. Deadline for entries is February 3rd, 1998.

For more information contact a library near you, or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185.

A BOOK IN THE HAND IS WORTH GOLD IN THE BUSH

This year, adults in selected communities are invited to enter the Northern Reading Program's annual writing contest. Write a fictional sports or leisure activity story 1500 words or more and you could win a \$50 book prize! First, second and third place winners will be chosen for each community. Deadline for entries is February 3rd, 1998.

For more information contact a library near you or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185

IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED, READ, READ AGAIN!

This year, adults in the following communities are invited to enter the Northern Reading Program's writing contest. Write a fictional sports or leisure activity story 1500 words or more and you could win \$50 book prize. First, second and third place winners will be chosen for each community. Deadline for entries is February 3rd, 1998.

For more information contact a library near you or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185.

TICK - TOCK - TICK - TOCK.....

Better hurry! Time is running out to enter your story in this years Northern Reading Program's Adult Writing Contest!

- The theme is Sports and Leisure Activities
- The requirement is a fictional story, 1500 words or more
- The 1st place winner in each community will receive a \$50 book prize
- The deadline for submissions is Feb 3rd, 1998

For more information contact a library near you or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185

BEWARE!

THE DEADLINE IS NEAR!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR STORY IS?

ADULTS IN PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES, if you have written a Sports or Leisure Activity story 1500 word or more...

GET IT IN THE MAIL RIGHT NOW!!!

It MUST be in to:

The Northern Reading Program, ATTN: Anita Daher
Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library System
Bag Service #6600, LaRonge, Sk
S0J 1L0

IT MUST BE IN BY FEBRUARY 3RD

You could be the winner of \$50 worth of books in your community!

For more information contact a library near you or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185.

The Northern Reading Program and the Literacy Office of Northlands College would like to thank all individuals who entered the Sports and Leisure Activities Story Contest. This contest is closed as of February 3rd. All entries will be evaluated by the Wild Rice Writers Group in LaRonge and winners will be notified.

Remember,

Literacy for enjoyment
Literacy for employment
Everyone has the right to read.

Call The Northlands College Literacy Office at 1-888-311-1185

Adults in northern communities, don't forget, the Northern Reading Program wants you too!!

Whether you read a book, a magazine article, a grocery list or the TV guide, just call or send in your point total to a local library. You could help your community win the title of Readingest Community 1998!

For more information contact a library near you, or call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185 and ask for Anita.

** (This PSA will be updated Friday mornings, with numbers on community with most adult readers and community with highest adult point total.

Thanks,

Anita Daher

Adults in northern communities, remember, the Northern Reading Program wants you too! Just call in your points to a school or library in your community.

For the period of _____

Community with greatest adult participation per capita is _____

Community highest average point accumulation per adult is _____

Remember, for family, life and work, **READING IS YOUR RIGHT!**

Call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185 for information on literacy programs near you.

Adults in northern communities, your participation in the Northern Reading Program has been outstanding! It's been a tight race, but who will come out ahead? Here are the final weeks leaders. The overall winners will be announced next week.

For the period of _____

Community with greatest adult participation per capita is _____

Community highest average point accumulation per adult is _____

Remember, for family, life and work, **READING IS YOUR RIGHT!**

Call Northlands College at 1-888-311-1185 for information on literacy programs near you.

The Literacy Office of Northlands College Central Region would like to congratulate the following winners in the Adult Northern Reading Challenge:

_____ for greatest adult participation in the libraries category.

_____ for greatest adult participation in the classrooms category.

The community of _____ for greatest adult participation per capita.

The community of _____ for highest average point accumulation per adult.

Remember, for family, life and work, **READING IS YOUR RIGHT!**

Call Northlands College, 1-888-311-1185

POSTERS





LITERACY PROGRAM

Northern Reading Program 1998

Adult Writing Contest

Theme: Sports and Leisure activities

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This year, for the very first time, we are pleased to invite adults in selected communities to participate in the writing contest portion of the Northern Reading Program. This contest is open to adults in the following communities:

LaRonge	Black Lake
Fond du Lac	Pinehouse
Southend	Weyakwin
Montreal Lake	Buffalo Narrows
Laloche	Beauval
Cumberland House	Sandy Bay
Pelican Narrows	

Individuals are asked to write a fictional sports or leisure activity story 1500 words or more. The first place winner in each community will receive a prize of \$50.00 worth of books. Second and third place winners will receive a certificate of recognition.

All entries will be compiled into a keepsake booklet and distributed to each community.

Deadline for Submissions is February 3rd, 1998



Mail submissions to:

Northern Reading Program, ATTN: Anita Daher,
Pahkisimon Nuye ah Library System,
Bag Service #6600, LaRonge, Sk., S0J 1L0

Beauval (306) 288-4402 La Ronge 1-888-311-1185 Creighton (306) 688-3232

CONTEST SPECIFICS



WRITING CONTEST SPECIFICS



WRITING CONTEST JUDGES FROM WILD RICE GROUP

MICHAEL J. FROESE

DAVID SEALY

GARETH COOK

MARGUERITE SMITH

ANITA DAHER

ENTRIES, SPORTS AND LEISURE ACTIVITY WRITING CONTEST

"The 5 of Diamonds"

- by Martin Sasek

Box 208

Fond du Lac, Sk.,

S0J 0W0

306-686-2053

"A Winter Journey"

- by Kevin Crosby

c/o Principal, FGMS

Fond du Lac, Sk.,

S0J 0W0

"The Best Things In Life Are Free"

- by Victoria Daignealt,

c/o General Delivery

Beauval, Sk.,

S0M 0G0

306-288-2298

"To Catch A Dream"

- by Kesia D. Newton

c/o General Delivery

Stanley Mission, Sk.,

S0I 2P0

306-635-2215/4402

"Daisy's Game"

- by Susan Smallwood

Box 261

AirRonge, Sk.,

S0J 3G0

306-425-2158

THANK YOU GIFTS FOR WILD RICE GROUP

POCKET THESAURUS

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

ROOKS AND RAVENS BOARD GAME

LITERACY BOOKMARK AND BUMPER STICKER

POSTERS

ADULT SPORTS AND LEISURE WRITING CONTEST WINNERS

Northlands College Central Literacy Office

Grand Prize:

Kesia Newton, "To Catch A Dream"
c/o General Delivery
Stanley Mission, Sk
S0J 2P0
306-635-2215

1st In Community:

Susan Smallwood, "Daisy's Game"
Box 261
Air Ronge, SK
S0J 3G0
306-425-2158

Martin Sasek, "The Five Of Diamonds"

Box 208, General Delivery	**New: Box 153
Fond du Lac, Sk	Cheltenham, On.,
S0I 0W0	L0P 1C0
306-686-2053	905-838-2540

2nd In Community:

Kevin Crosby, "A Winter Journey"
Principal FGMS
Fond du Lac, Sk
S0I 0W0

Honorable Mention:

Victoria Daigneault, "The Best Things In Life Are Free"
c/o General Delivery
Beauval, Sk
S0M 0G0
306-288-2298

ADULT NORTHERN READING CHALLENGE PRIZE LIST

GRAND PRIZE - WRITING CONTEST

- A one year Saskatchewan Writers Guild membership will be awarded to the best of all entries. This is in addition to the first place community prize.

FIRST PLACE IN COMMUNITY PRIZE - WRITING CONTEST

- \$50 book prize
- 1st place certificate
- Wild Rice Writers Group Anthology
- Dictionary
- Literacy Bookmark and bumper sticker
- Rooks and Ravens Board Game
- Posters

SECOND PLACE IN COMMUNITY PRIZE - WRITING CONTEST

- \$25 book prize
- 2nd place certificate
- Wild Rice Writers Group Anthology
- Dictionary
- Literacy Bookmark and bumper sticker
- Rooks and Ravens Board Game
- Posters

LIBRARY WITH MOST SUCCESSFUL ADULT PARTICIPATION PLAN

- \$50 book prize
- Certificate
- Literacy station (holder with leaflets, bookmarks, and bumper stickers)
- Rooks and Ravens Board Game
- Posters

CLASSROOM WITH MOST SUCCESSFUL ADULT PARTICIPATION PLAN

- \$50 book prize
- Certificate
- Literacy station (holder with leaflets, bookmarks, and bumper stickers)
- Rooks and Ravens Board Game
- Posters

COMMUNITY WITH GREATEST ADULT PARTICIPATION

- \$50 book prize
- Certificate
- Literacy station (holder with leaflets, bookmarks, and bumper stickers)
- Rooks and Ravens Board Game
- Posters

COMMUNITY WITH GREATEST POINT ACCUMULATION

- \$50 book prize
- Certificate
- Literacy station (holder with leaflets, bookmarks, and bumper stickers)
- Rooks and Ravens Board Game
- Posters

READING CHALLENGE SPECIFICS



ADULT NORTHERN READING CHALLENGE WINNERS

Most Successful Adult Participation Program In The Libraries Category: Stony Rapids School (306-439-2123)

Prize to:

Stony Rapids School Library
c/o General Delivery
Stony Rapids, Sk.,
S0J 2R0

ATTN: Reid Dingwall or Sandra Newis

Most Successful Workplace Participation Program:

Cameco, Rabbit Lake Operation (306-633-2141, ext. 267)

Prize to:

Camico Corporation
Rabbit Lake Operation
c/o Corporate Office
2121 11th St. West
Saskatoon Sk.,
S7M 1J3

ATTN: Vivian Phelps

Community With The Greatest Adult Participation:

Beauval (306-288-2022)

Prize to:

Beauval Public Library
Bag Svc #9000
Beauval, Sk.,
S0M 0G0

ATTN: Joan Buffin

Community With The Highest Average Point Accumulation Per Adult:

Stony Rapids (306-439-2133)

Prize to:

Stony Rapids Clinic
Box 59
Stony Rapids, Sk.,
S0J 2R0

ATTN: Reenie Palmer