

WANTED

TUTORS

REWARDING

EXPERIENCES OFFERED!

More than one in five Canadians will have a hard time reading this sign.
Adults are now waiting for tutors to help them with reading, writing and math skills.

Spare a few hours a week and change somebody's life.

For more information, contact Bruce Steeves at the
Bedford Sackville Literacy Network 869-3838.



Growing Together!

The Bedford Sackville Literacy Network is located at:
Opportunity Place, 506 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville,
Nova Scotia, B4C 2R8 (Across from McDonalds)

Telephone: 869-3838 Fax: 869-3836

e-mail: bsln@chebucto.ns.ca

www.chebucto.ca/Education/BSLN

The Leaf



Funded by the
NS Department
of Education
Community
Learning
Initiative, BSLN is
one of 27
provincial
Learning
Networks that
offer adult
literacy programs
to students in
their
community.

Newsletter of the Bedford Sackville Literacy Network • Fall 2004

“Turning Over a New Leaf” - Message from Bruce Steeves, our New Network Director

I wish to extend a warm “welcome back” to the many returning learners and tutors as well as our instructors. To those who are new to our programs, we hope your experience will be a positive one and you will forever consider yourself a *lifelong learner*. I have been made to feel very welcome since joining BSLN and my learning curve has been made easier due to the incredible support from staff, board members, tutors and learners alike. It is so satisfying to be involved in adult education. Watching learners, tutors, and our capable instructors in action is a source of motivation and inspiration. It is my hope that we can continue to provide the same quality of service, helping adults realize their goals, that previous Network Director Denise Morley was able to establish.

BSLN Board
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Ethel Cunningham

Secretary
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Treasurer
Peter Nash

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Joshua Judah

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Doreen Harris
Elizabeth Gerrard
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Congratulations are in order again for Sandy Martell as he is the recipient of the Susan Jackson Memorial Award given by the Metro Council on Continuing Education. This award has a cash prize value of \$400. Sandy is seen in the photo with new Network Director Bruce Steeves at the recent Word on the Street expo.

BSLN Staff
Network Director
Bruce Steeves
Coordinator
Avril Lewis
Instructors
Karen Harding
Rosemary Jost
Kathleen Higney

Technical Support
Allen White

Do you have experience with non-profit boards? If you are interested in participating in the BSLN Board or being involved in a subcommittee such as fundraising, call the BSLN office at 869-3838 to find out more about upcoming meetings. We would love to have your help!

Mission Statement

The Bedford Sackville Literacy Network is committed to addressing adult learning needs by providing learner-centered, results-oriented services through one-to-one tutoring or small group study.

BSLN
Bedford Sackville Literacy Network
Growing Together



“The Write Stuff”

BSLN wishes to acknowledge the following learners who had short stories published in the book “In Our Words”. Many copies were handed out to the public at the recent *Word on the Street* expo.

Mike Kenny
Frank Lerue
Sandy Martel
Susan Theriault

Jeff Beck
William Marlowe
Monty Mason
Gary Sutts

Did You Know ?

22% of Canadians have serious problems dealing with any printed materials.

62 % of Canadians do have numeracy skills to handle tasks of everyday life.

Less than 10 % of Canadians who would benefit from literacy upgrading actually enrol. Barriers include lack of childcare and transportation.

In 1995 the C.A.S.P. program in New Brunswick won the prestigious UNESCO literacy prize.

C.A.S.P. stands for Community Academic Services Program which is community based adult literacy programs found in many cities and rural areas. It was born in 1991 and is primarily funded by Literacy New Brunswick INC. with local committees expected to provide about 10 % of classroom costs.

Cuba’s Source of National Pride

Mention Cuba and most Canadians think of resorts and beaches. But Cuba has another enviable aspect. It’s literacy rate is estimated at 96 %. When Fidel Castro declared himself Commander in Chief after the revolution his first educational initiative was a literacy campaign. In 1960 25 % of Cuba’s population could not read or write. A massive army of instructors was mobilized. High School and college students along with Teachers fanned out across the countryside armed with lesson books and lanterns. This also helped bridge the differences between cities and countryside. Interestingly the lessons in the manuals were relevant to life and labor experiences in the countryside. One of the lessons included having the learner be able to write a letter to Fidel Castro himself. Over 700,000 of these letters are stored in a museum today. In one year (1961) Cuba’s literacy rate grew to 96 % from 75 %. where it it remains today. Cuba may have shortages thanks to embargoes, but the country has an abundance of persons who can read and write.



Wanted - A Classroom Tutor

Are you available to tutor alongside BSLN instructor, Kathleen Higney, on Monday or Wednesday mornings from 9.00am to 11.00am in Lower Sackville? Our Level 1 morning learners need another pair of helping hands.

Tutoring in the classroom is a good way get started as a tutor without the demands of preparing. If you are interested, call 869-3838 and leave a message for Avril.

BSLN Honour Roll

Many thanks to the following individuals and organizations for their support of BSLN activities:

David Peverill of Acadia Recreation Hall for providing us with daytime program space there. This is our 3rd year of running programs there.

Volunteer Allen White for providing technical support as well as website management.

The staff of the Bedford and Sackville branches of the Halifax Public Library for their support including use of space in which to run BSLN programs.

Heidi Hunt for her computer and technical help including helping make Quark workable and understandable for the new director.

Bedford Place Mall (Stephanie McDougall) for providing free space for BSLN displays during Literacy Action Week.

Basinview School (Lana McMullin) for use of space for our programs.

John Slor and the All Saints Bedford Players for offering us the opportunity to sell tickets on a performance of "The Murder Room" as a fundraiser for BSLN.

Who Was Peter Gzowski and why is his name associated with Literacy ?

Broadcaster, writer, editor, and literacy advocate Peter Gzowski died in 2002. He was a very versatile, engaging personality known for his patriotism, warmth, wit and unpretentious demeanor. From 1982 - 97 he was best remembered as the host of CBC morningside. He was passionate about literacy and founded the Peter Gzowski Invitational Golf Tournaments for literacy which are found in all provinces and territories. Proceeds from these tournaments help literacy programs including BSLN programs. BSLN has benefitted as a result of the PGI. Peter Gzowski, a Canadian and literacy icon.

