

***Listen to Learn Youth Literacy Project***

**Phase II: Iroquois Falls**

Prepared for:

**Literacy Network Northeast**

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National Literacy Secretariat



## Demographic Data

Total Number of Respondents – 6

1.

Gender	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Male	5	83%
Female	1	17%

2.

I was born in Canada	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	6	100%
No	0	0%

3.

I am a member of Canada's First Nations	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	0	0%
No	6	100%

4.

My first language is:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
English	2	33%
French	1	17%
Other	3	50%

5.

I can talk in:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
English	6	100%
French	4	67%
Other	1	17%

Note: More than one answer permitted in this question

6.

<b>Age</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
15	0	0
16	1	17%
17	0	0%
18	2	33%
19	3	50%
20	0	0%
21	0	0%
22	0	0%
23	0	0%
24	0	0%

7.

<b>I am living:</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
with my spouse	1	17%
with one or both parents	4	67%
with other relatives	0	0%
with friends	1	17%
in a group home	0	0%
alone	0	0%

8.

<b>Number of Children</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
0	6	100%
1	0	0%
2	0	0%
3	0	0%
4 or more	0	0%

9.

<b>I work:</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
full time	1	17%
part time	2	33%
not working	3	50%

10.

<b>Each month I get:</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
no money	2	33%
less than \$500	1	17%
\$500-\$899	3	50%
\$900-\$1299	0	0%
\$1300-\$1699	0	0%
\$1700-\$2000	0	0%
over \$2000	0	0%

11.

<b>I study:</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
full time	1	17%
part time	0	0%
not studying	5	83%

12.

<b>I am taking alternative learning classes</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
Yes	0	0%
No	6	100%

13.

<b>I am taking skills upgrading classes</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
Yes	0	0%
No	6	100%

14.

<b>I have taken alternative learning classes in the past</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
Yes	2	33%
No	4	67%

15.

<b>I was (age) when I started taking classes</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents (n=2)</b>
16	2	100%
17	0	0%
18	0	0%
19	0	0%
20	0	0%
21	0	0%
22	0	0%
23	0	0%
24	0	0%

16.

<b>My mother reads:</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
very well	5	83%
well	1	17%
fairly poorly	0	0%
don't know	0	0%

17.

<b>My father reads:</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
very well	2	33%
well	3	50%
fairly poorly	0	0%
don't know	1	17%

18.

<b>My spouse reads:</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
very well	1	17%
well	0	0%
fairly poorly	0	0%
don't know	0	0%
not living with a spouse	5	83%

## “Reasons for Nonparticipation” Data

Total Number of Respondents – 6

### 1. I don't have enough energy to go back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	1	17%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	4	67%
Really Disagree	1	17%

### 2. I would feel strange going back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	3	50%
Disagree	1	17%
Really Disagree	2	33%

### 3. I am usually too tired to go back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	17%
Agree	2	33%
Maybe	2	33%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	1	17%

### 4. I am not motivated enough to go back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	17%
Agree	1	17%
Maybe	1	17%
Disagree	2	33%
Really Disagree	1	17%

### 5. I am too old to go back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	17%
Disagree	2	33%
Really Disagree	3	50%

### 6. I move around too much to go back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	17%
Disagree	1	17%
Really Disagree	4	67%

### 7. I don't think I'm smart enough to go back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	1	17%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	2	33%
Really Disagree	3	50%

### 8. School is too hard

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	2	33%
Maybe	1	17%
Disagree	1	17%
Really Disagree	2	33%

### 9. I couldn't pay for childcare or transportation

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	17%
Disagree	1	17%
Really Disagree	4	67%

**10. I don't think I could use the things I would learn in school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>

**11. I am not set in my ways to go back to school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>

**12. I just don't like school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>67%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>

**13. I don't need a diploma**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>

**14. I don't have enough free time to go back to school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>



**15. Going back to school would be like going to high school all over again**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>

**16. There aren't many people in adult classes who are my age**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>

**17. My friends would laugh at me if I went back to school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>

**18. I felt that my family wouldn't like it if I went back to school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>83%</b>

**19. It would cost me too much money to go back to school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>

**20. I have too many time conflicts at work to go back to school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>

**21. I don't go back to school because nobody knows that I don't already have an education**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>

**22. I don't think that school would be very good**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>

**23. It would take me too long to finish high school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>

**24. A high school diploma wouldn't improve my life**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>

**25. I didn't like school so I don't want to go back**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>

**26. There is too much on my mind to go back to school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>

**27. I don't know anything about adult classes**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>

**28. Going back to school wouldn't make me any smarter**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>

**29. I am too lazy to go back to school**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>

**30. I don't know where there are any classes**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50%</b>

**31. I have to take care of my family**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>

**32. I already know enough**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
<b>Really Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Agree</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Really Disagree</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>67%</b>

## Anecdotal Data

**Total Number of Respondents – 6**

**What does the word “literacy” mean to you?**

Someone who can read, comprehend and use what you learn; not just reading, but anything you can learn

**What do you think is taught through programs like the "Adult Literacy Centre" and the "Alternative School"?**

- Adult Literacy Centre - assist with learning so that people can return to credit-based education; "helps students get back on their feet"
- Alternative School-limited course choice (i.e English, Geography, Math, Business, History); need a broader choice (i.e. Law, Science, Drafting, Accounting)
- Summer School- limited course selection

**What would best meet your needs in a learning environment?**

- More challenging courses
- Age-based learning
- Credit courses
- Courses provided locally/no commuting out of town to attend
- More liberal and relaxed class environment
- Better teacher/student ratio
- More qualified teachers
- Less authority
- Ability to choose a field of study and educate oneself accordingly
- No repetitive teaching
- More variety of courses offered besides languages, math, science, etc.
- Later class start (i.e. 10 am - 5 pm)
- Longer breaks between classes
- Night classes offered as full-time study
- Peer centred alternative learning programs (ages 16-24)
- Flexibility in class (i.e. it is your responsibility to attend and/or catch up, ability to take breaks when you want)
- Interactive and hands-on learning; more practical work and less theory taught
- Smaller teacher -pupil ratio
- Lockers close to classes so students can make it to class on time

### **What made you decide to leave school?**

- If you missed class, “you got hell”
- Too strict/no freedom (i.e. hall passes)
- I was too lazy
- Classes began too early in the morning
- Couldn’t access the teacher for help
- Too much time is spent on reprimanding students compared to teaching; misbehaving students ruin it for everyone else
- Teachers don’t listen/Teachers are always in a rush
- Didn’t get along with teachers
- Found it too boring; lost interest; found lessons repetitious
- Found it too difficult to concentrate when I needed a smoke and wouldn’t be excused from class
- Class sizes were too big
- Class environment was too disruptive
- Needed to get a full time job

### **Do you think a learning program would be too difficult?**

- Majority of the youth said no

### **Do you think you may have a problem with reading or writing?**

- All say no “I can read and write as well as I need to”