

Listen to Learn Youth Literacy Project

Phase II: Kapuskasing

Prepared for:

Literacy Network Northeast

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Demographic Data

Total Number of Respondents – 11

1.

Gender	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Male	8	73%
Female	3	27%

2.

I was born in Canada	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	10	91%
No	1	9%

3.

I am a member of Canada's First Nations	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	1	9%
No	10	91%

4.

My first language is:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
English	6	55%
French	5	45%
Other	0	0%

5.

I can talk in:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
English	11	100%
French	9	82%
Other	0	0%

Note: More than one answer permitted in this question

6.

Age	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
15	1	9%
16	6	55%
17	2	18%
18	1	9%
19	1	9%
20	0	0%
21	0	0%
22	0	0%
23	0	0%
24	0	0%
25	0	0%
26	0	0%

7.

I am living:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
with my spouse	0	0%
with one or both parents	7	64%
with other relatives	0	0%
with friends	1	9%
in a group home	0	0%
alone	3	27%

8.

Number of Children	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
0	11	100%
1	0	0%
2	0	0%
3	0	0%
4 or more	0	0%

9.

I work:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
full time	1	9%
part time	1	9%
not working	9	82%

10.

Each month I get:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
no money	3	27%
less than \$500	8	73%
\$500-\$899	0	0%
\$900-\$1299	0	0%
\$1300-\$1699	0	0%
\$1700-\$2000	0	0%
over \$2000	0	0%

11.

I study:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
full time	9	82%
part time	2	18%
not studying	0	0%

12.

I am taking alternative learning classes	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	0	0%
No	11	100%

13.

I am taking skills upgrading classes	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	1	9%
No	10	91%

14.

I have taken alternative learning classes in the past	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	3	27%
No	8	73%

15.

I was (age) when I started taking classes	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
16	2	67%
17	1	33%
18	0	0%
19	0	0%
20	0	0%
21	0	0%
22	0	0%
23	0	0%
24	0	0%

16.

My mother reads:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
very well	8	73%
well	2	18%
fairly poorly	0	0%
don't know	1	9%

17.

My father reads:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
very well	8	73%
well	2	18%
fairly poorly	1	9%
don't know	0	0

18.

My spouse reads:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
very well	3	27%
well	0	0%
fairly poorly	0	0%
don't know	0	0%
not living with a spouse	8	73%

“Reasons for Nonparticipation” Data

Total Number of Respondents – 9

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	2	22%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	3	33%
Really Disagree	4	44%

2. I would feel strange going back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	2	22%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	4	44%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	2	22%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	2	22%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	2	22%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	11%
Agree	3	33%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	1	11%
Really Disagree	3	33%

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	0	0%
Disagree	4	44%
Really Disagree	5	56%

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	0	0%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	7	78%

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	0	0%
Maybe	2	22%
Disagree	1	11%
Really Disagree	6	67%

8. School is too hard

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	3	33%
Disagree	3	33%
Really Disagree	2	22%

9. I couldn't pay for childcare or transportation

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	2	22%
Maybe	2	22%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	5	56%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	2	22%
Maybe	4	44%
Disagree	0	0
Really Disagree	3	33%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	5	56%
Really Disagree	4	44%

12. I just don't like school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	2	22%
Agree	3	33%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	1	11%

13. I don't need a diploma

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	3	33%
Really Disagree	5	56%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	4	44%
Really Disagree	4	44%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	2	22%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	4	44%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	1	11%
Really Disagree	6	67%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	3	33%
Really Disagree	5	56%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	3	33%
Really Disagree	6	67%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	11%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	1	11%
Really Disagree	5	56%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	4	44%
Really Disagree	4	44%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	6	67%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	11%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	4	44%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	1	11%
Really Disagree	6	67%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	11%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	1	11%
Really Disagree	6	67%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	2	22%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	1	11%
Really Disagree	4	44%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	2	22%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	1	11%
Really Disagree	4	44%

27. I don't know anything about adult classes

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	11%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	5	56%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	2	22%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	4	44%

29. I am too lazy to go back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	2	22%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	3	33%
Really Disagree	3	33%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	8	89%

31. I have to take care of my family

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	11%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	2	22%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	4	44%

32. I already know enough

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	1	11%
Maybe	1	11%
Disagree	2	22%
Really Disagree	5	56%

Anecdotal Data

Total Number of Respondents – 11

What the word “literacy” mean to you?

- Don’t know what it means
- Knowing how to read
- People who have reading problems, enter a literacy program

What do you think is taught through programs like “Centre d’Education Alternative”?

- Independent study
- Correspondence courses

How many of you have ever attended a literacy program or an alternative education program?

- 5 recipients have attended alternative education programs

For those who said yes, how do you feel these literacy programs can help you learn?

- The Alternative School can help you learn by allowing you to learn at your own pace

Would you be willing to attend night classes?

- Majority say no

What would best meet your needs in a learning environment?

- Prefer being in class, as opposed to learning via independent study
- Need structure
- Need a teacher to schedule work
- Shorter school day (i.e. 12 pm – 6 pm or 10:30 am – 4 pm)
- More flexible school environment (i.e. don't have to ask if! need to go to the bathroom)
- Being able to eat in class
- Can wear baseball caps/bandanas in school
- Don’t have to sing the Canadian Anthem
- Able to listen to walkmans while engaged in independent study
- Longer breaks between classes
- Better food in the cafeteria
- Smaller teacher to pupil ratio
- More arts classes (i.e. drawing art, photography, dance, music theatre arts)
- More shop and technology classes
- Being in the same class as my friends
- More flexible teachers

What made you decide to leave school?

- Teachers embarrassed me in class/made me angry
- If you talk in class, teachers shoot chalk at you
- Had a fight in school and left school because of it
- Received a discipline report for rolling my pencil on the desk
- Suspended for swearing
- Fed up with school; "sick of it"
- Kicked out for throwing a desk
- Dropped out after freaking out and almost hitting the principal
- Couldn't find my class at the start of the school year, got in trouble for wandering the halls
- Teachers pick on the same kids all of the time, never giving us any slack
- Teachers tend to pick on students with a reputation; "we never get a second chance"
- More fun being out at school; "I laugh at the kids in school"
- Received a three day suspension for visiting a teacher in the hospital during school hours
- Found school boring
- Teachers were all siding with one another
- Got in trouble for kicking around a hacksack
- Cost too much money (i.e \$21.00 for an English book; \$35.00 for grad fee; school dances, yearbook and student card; fees for uniforms and bathing caps in gym; had to pay for my CPR course)
- Failed a semester because the teacher didn't like my attitude
- Streamlining sucks

Do you think a learning program would be too difficult?

- 5 recipients said yes

Do you think there are financial costs to attend a program?

- Majority say no

Do you think adult classes are available for youth to attend?

- 8 recipients said no
- 2 recipients said yes
- 1 recipient is unsure

Would you rather get a job than go to school?

- Majority think that an education is more important than a job/earning money

Do you have a learning disability?

- 4 recipients think that they may have a learning disability

- 6 recipients feel different from everyone else in class; they feel like they lag behind

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

- 9 recipients say no: “I can read and write as well as I need to”
- 2 recipients are unsure