

Listen to Learn Youth Literacy Project

Phase II: Tri-Towns

Prepared for:

Literacy Network Northeast
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The Listen to Learn Youth Literacy Project was funded by the:

National Literacy Secretariat 

Demographic Data

Total Number of Respondents – 3

1.

Gender	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Male	0	0%
Female	3	100%

2.

I was born in Canada	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	3	100%
No	0	0%

3.

I am a member of Canada's First Nations	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	2	67%
No	1	33%

4.

My first language is:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
English	3	100%
French	0	0%
Other	0	0%

5.

I can talk in:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
English	3	100%
French	0	0%
Other	0	0%

Note: More than one answer permitted in this question

6.

Age	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
15	0	0%
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%

7.

I am living:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
with my spouse	0	0%
with one or both parents	2	67%
with other relatives	1	33%
with friends	0	0%
in a group home	0	0%
alone	0	0%

8.

Number of Children	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
0	2	67%
1	1	33%
2	0	0%
3	0	0%
4 or more	0	0%

9.

I work:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
full time	0	0%
part time	2	67%
not working	1	33%

10.

Each month I get:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
No money	0	0%
less than \$500	2	67%
\$500-\$899	1	33%
\$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	1	33%
part time	1	33%
not studying	1	33%

12.

I am taking alternative learning classes	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	0	0%
No	3	100%

13.

I am taking skills upgrading classes	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	1	33%
No	2	33%

14.

I have taken alternative learning classes in the past	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	1	33%
No	2	67%

15.

I was (age) when I started taking classes	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents (n=1)
16	1	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.

My mother reads:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
very well	1	33%
well	1	33%
fairly poorly	0	0%
don't know	1	33%

17.

My father reads:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
very well	1	33%
well	1	33%
fairly poorly	0	0%
don't know	1	33%

18.

My spouse reads:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
very well	0	0%
well	0	0%
fairly poorly	0	0%
don't know	0	0%
not living with a spouse	3	100%

“Reasons for Nonparticipation” Data

Total Number of Respondents – 3

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree		
Agree		
Maybe		
Disagree		
Really Disagree		

2. I would feel strange going back to school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree		
Agree		
Maybe		
Disagree		
Really Disagree		

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree		
Agree		
Maybe		
Disagree		
Really Disagree		

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree		
Agree		
Maybe		
Disagree		
Really Disagree		

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	33%
Disagree	1	33%
Really Disagree	1	33%

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

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

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	33%
Agree	2	67%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	0	0%

8. School is too hard

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	33%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	2	67%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	0	0%

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	33%
Disagree	2	67%
Really Disagree	0	0%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	2	67%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	33%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	0	0%

11. I am too 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	3	100%
Really Disagree	0	0%

12. I just don't like school

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	1	33%
Agree	2	67%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	0	%

13. I don't need a diploma

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	3	100%

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

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

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

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

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	0	0%
Maybe	2	67%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	1	33%

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	0	0%
Disagree	1	33%
Really Disagree	2	67%

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	1	33%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	2	67%

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

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

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	1	33%
Maybe	1	33%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	1	33%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	1	33%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	2	67%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	3	100%
Really Disagree	0	0%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	2	67%
Maybe	1	33%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	0	0%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	1	33%
Really Disagree	2	67%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	2	67%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	1	33%
Really Disagree	0	0%

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	2	67%
Maybe	1	33%
Disagree	0	0%
Really Disagree	0	0%

27. I don't know anything about adult classes

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

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	1	33%
Really Disagree	2	67%

29. I am too lazy to go back to school

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

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

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Really Agree	0	0%
Agree	2	67%
Maybe	0	0%
Disagree	1	33%
Really Disagree	0	0%

31. I have to take care of my family

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

32. I already know enough

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

Anecdotal Data

Total Number of Respondents – 3

Observers – 1

(Todd Bosak, Temiskaming District Secondary School (705) 657 3073

What does the word “literacy” mean to you?

Someone who can read and write without struggling to do so; respondents feel that more people than not have trouble with reading and writing.

What do you think is taught through programs like the “Literacy Council of South Temiskaming” and the “Northern College”?

- Independent study
- Group and one-on-one tutoring

What would best meet your needs in a learning environment?

- No teachers/Independent learning
- More patient teachers with more content explanation
- Age-based learning; no adults
- Part time afternoon classes; no weekends
- Government funded child care
- Co-op courses; practical learning
- Less or no homework
- Less time spent on disciplining students, and more time on teaching them
- A more casual classroom setting, more trust from teachers (i.e. snacks allowed in the classroom, students allowed to go to the washroom without having to ask)
- Credit courses with more choice/options
- One-on-one learning
- Able to work toward your own goals at school (i.e. lifeguard training as opposed to an OSSD)

What made you decide to leave school?

- Too hard with no help
- Pregnancy and children
- Too much pressure towards life decision-making (i.e. post-secondary and career goals)
- School testing too stressful
- Too much homework (all learning should be done at school)
- Teachers were too concerned with discipline rather than teaching

- Didn't want to complete the 40 required hours of community service; takes time away from school, homework and studying; should be able to graduate without it
- Too much pressure between school, homework and family
- Not enough choices as to where one can go to receive their education
- Teachers quit on me

Do you think a learning program would be too difficult?

- Think it would be easier than regular high school

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

- Unsure if there are costs to attend a program or for supplies associated with it

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

- Unsure if youth can attend adult classes
- Perhaps you have to be 17 years old or over?

Is transportation a barrier to being able to attend school or a learning program

- Yes
- Perhaps bus tickets can be given to needy students who want to attend

Would you rather get a job than go to school?

- No, school is more important because a good job will not be available to those who don't fill the education qualifications
- Rather go to school than get a job

Do you have a learning disability?

- Yes – 1 recipient
- Feels embarrassed of her learning disability; feels singled out - teachers think that they're helping, but are actually making things worse
- Feels self-conscious
- Wants confidentiality and understanding
- Would be more successful if the teacher provided her with more one on one instruction

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

- Yes

Do you want to return to school?

- Yes, I want to be able to make good money for myself or to provide for my family