

The Centre for Literacy

News from The Centre

March 2006

Staffing changes continue

We have recently hired Ronit Yarosky as a grants writer and project manager. Multi-lingual, with a background in political science, Ronit has worked extensively in the not-for-profit sector as employee, volunteer and fund-raiser. We are excited to have her energy and experience on our team.

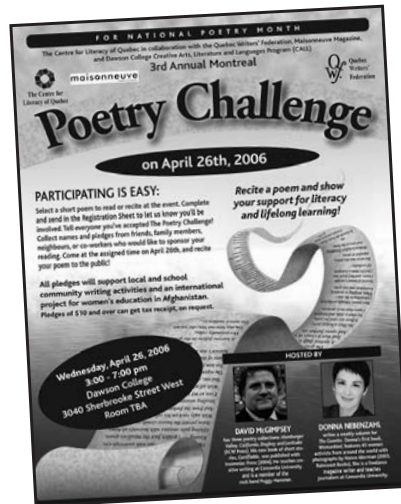
Sally Selvadurai who has worked as an assistant for six years will be leaving at the end of this month to travel with her husband who works abroad for much of the year. We will miss her knowledge, organizational and editing skills, and general good humour early in the morning.

Board of directors

We welcome two new members to the board. Mary Stewart, an educator who recently completed a doctorate in literacy, and Diane Mittermeyer, a professor at McGill's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, will serve a term from 2005-07.

A list of the current board is on our web site. See [About Us](#).

Take the Poetry Challenge



April is National Poetry Month

Students, seniors, teachers, members of the public – everyone welcome!

Find sponsors. Read a poem on a public stage. Raise funds for literacy.

Proceeds will support The Centre's community writing activities, Dawson's student literary magazine, and an Afghan school for girls. Hosts are author and musician David McGimpsey, and columnist and journalism teacher Donna Nebenzahl.

Organized in collaboration with the Quebec Writers' Federation, *Maisonneuve Magazine* and Dawson College Creative Arts, Literature and Language Program (CALL).

Registration forms and sponsor sheets can be downloaded from our web site www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca

Date: Wednesday,
April 26, 2006
Time: 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Dawson College

The Centre for Literacy gratefully acknowledges support towards this event from DGFJ, English Language Arts @ Ministère de l'éducation, loisir et sport (MELS)

Community Writing and Arts at Blue Metropolis 2006

We are on again this year at the Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival

The 2006 theme is City of Words. Film-makers Josh Dorsey and Danny Parr will screen clips from a new \$million feature shot by youth in Point St Charles. Students from Quebec adult centres will read and perform.

To celebrate Quebec Adult Learners' Week, we will inaugurate Recognition Awards for Adult Literacy, in partnership with three Quebec adult literacy and adult education organizations and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. Jacques Demers will be honoured. *Gazette* columnist Mike Boone will host.

Join us on Thursday, April 6, 2006, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., The Hyatt Regency Montreal, Argenteuil Room. Refreshments will be served as part of the awards event.

The Centre for Literacy gratefully acknowledges support towards this event from DGFJ, English Language Arts @ Ministère de l'éducation, loisir et sport (MELS)

Summer Institute 2006: **Accountability and Public Trust: Restoring the Balance**

**Impacts of and alternatives
to accountability measures
in Adult Literacy and Basic Skills**

Dates: Wednesday to Friday
June 28-30, 2006

A unique opportunity for participants from the adult literacy field and other fields in the voluntary and education sectors, and from government and funding agencies to meet on neutral ground, talk about the challenges confronting us all and explore less onerous alternatives that might be considered "accountable" to both parties.

N.B. A government official recently contacted us to say the event appeared to be unfriendly to government. This was not intended, and several current and past government employees will in fact be present and lead discussions. The accountability challenge can only be addressed through positive exchange. The Institute tries to contribute to that process. All participants welcome.

Visit www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca for details and registration instructions for all events.

FROM THE LIBRARY:

For practitioners looking for numeracy resources, The Centre library has just received four (4) copies of a Canadian training CD for *Developing Adult Numeracy: Practitioner Training Course*.

To find out what the library has acquired lately, watch for a Recent Acquisitions list to be added to the web site. To suggest acquisitions, e-mail info@centreforliteracy.qc.ca, attention Paul Beaulieu.

LEARNING FORUM EVENTS



Health Communication workshop But do they understand? Communicating with users and caregivers

Facilitator: Linda Shoheit
Date: May 5, 2006

Effective health communication can occur when barriers such as language, low education, culture, and disability are recognized, when written and verbal communication are adapted, and when alternative tools are used appropriately.

No 'quick fix', but quicker than most: Understanding structures of learning

Facilitator: Professor Michael Hardt, University of Syracuse
Place: McGill University, Faculty of Education, Montreal
Date: June 1 & 2, 2006

Based on Peter Mosenthal's work, this two-day workshop introduces college and university faculty to the concept of structures of learning and instructional applications derived from current psycho-linguistic and reading research on document literacy and learning. Co-sponsored by the Centre for Educational Leadership (CEL), McGill University.

WE NEED: Equipment and Materials

The terms of most of our funding do not permit the purchase of equipment, and technology wears out or becomes obsolete. We do much of our printing and production in-house to keep costs low. If you, as a corporate or private supporter, are willing to donate or finance any of these items, either new or slightly used, here is a list with estimated cost. Some materials are included if grants do not cover their cost.

- 500 Label protectors for library (1 roll/100 protectors, \$25-\$35)
- DVD Player (\$50-\$100)
- VCR (\$100)
- TV to connect to VCR and DVD (\$250-\$300)
- 3 New PC Computers - (approximate cost \$1500 each)
- 1 HP Laser Jet Printer 4250 Printer series - preferably 4250n (Q5401A) (\$1600)
- A new fridge (\$200)
- French storybooks for pre-schoolers in our HIPPY project (40 copies of each, \$10-20 apiece)

Tax receipts are available for the wholesale value of donations.

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