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## AGENDA

### Day 1 – Wednesday, June 25, 2014

- 7:00 – 8:15 **Registration, breakfast** – Gelber Conference Centre  
**Distribution of simultaneous translation equipment**
- 8:15 – 8:45 **Aboriginal Voices**
- 8:45 – 9:00 **Greetings from the host organizations** – The Centre for Literacy, Centre de documentation sur l'éducation des adultes et la condition féminine (CDÉACF), and Réseau pour le développement de l'alphabétisme et des compétences (RESDAC), Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), Center for the Study of Adult Literacy (CSAL), National Centre of Literacy & Numeracy for Adults (New Zealand), National Research and Development Centre for adult literacy and numeracy (NRDC)
- 9:00 – 9:25 **Overview** – Linda Shohet, Normand Lévesque
- Mapping the Institute – Questions, issues, expectations  
Pre-readings and design of the Institute – Linking Research to Practice, Data to People
- 9:25 – 9:40 **Introducing ourselves**
- 9:40 – 10:25 **Presentation:**  
**Learning, Literacy and the Lifecycle**  
How the OECD sees results from PISA and PIAAC link to a broader skills agenda
- William Thorn**, Education Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)  
Presentation (25 minutes), questions (20 minutes)
- 10:25 – 10:45 **BREAK**
- 10:45 – 11:45 **Panel/Discussion:**  
**Large-scale assessments and experience on the ground:  
International perspectives**  
Panelists from four countries will discuss and compare how findings from large-scale assessments are being used to inform policy and practice. David Mallows looks at the Roma in Eastern Europe. Anke Grotlüschen suggests how past research may have led to creating stereotypes of people with low literacy. Aune Valk shares findings from PIAAC and implications about the skills of teachers in 17 countries. Jaleh Soroui describes a consultative process in the U.S. to engage practitioners in seeing how PIAAC can relate to their work.



- **David Mallows**, National Research and Development Centre for adult literacy and numeracy (NRDC), UK
- **Anke Grotlüschen**, University of Hamburg, Germany
- **Aune Valk**, Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia
- **Jaleh Soroui**, American Institute for Research, United States

Panel Discussion (40 minutes), questions (20 minutes)

**Moderator: Linda Shohet**

- 11:45 – 12:15 **Small group discussions of morning presentations**
- 12:15 – 1:10 **LUNCH**
- 1:10 – 1:55 **Presentation:**  
**Low-skilled Readers in Canada: Results for Level 1 and Below**  
Analysis of PIAAC results for the 3.5 million Canadians at or below Level 1 suggests a possible new approach to adult reading instruction for this population
- Steve Reder**, Portland State University
- Respondent: Donald Lurette**, RESDAC  
Moderator: Genevieve Dorais-Beauregard, CDÉACF  
Presentation (20 minutes), response (10 minutes), questions (15 minutes)
- 1:55 – 2:15 **Considering the Pre-readings**  
**How do the design and findings of international assessments influence policy and practice? How much should they?**
- **Art Graesser**, University of Memphis
  - **Tom Schuller**, Longview (UK)
  - **Hervé Dignard**, Institut de coopération pour l'éducation des adultes (ICÉA)
- Moderator: Normand Lévesque**, RESDAC
- 2:15 – 2:25 **Synthesis of the day – Maurice Taylor**, University of Ottawa
- 2:25 – 2:45 **BREAK**
- 2:45 – 3:15 Moe Clark, Fallon C.
- 3:15– 3:45 **Guided Discussion:** Questions and observations on the day's presentations – How do the topics presented today relate to your work? Additional questions for the presenters
- 3:45 – 4:05 **Feedback from tables**



- 4:05 – 4:30      **Q&A SESSION: DAY 1 PRESENTERS**  
THIS 25-MINUTE SESSION WILL ALLOW PARTICIPANTS TO EXPLORE SOME  
OF THEIR QUESTIONS MORE FULLY WITH THE PRESENTERS FROM DAY 1
- 4:30 – 4:40      **Evaluation**
- 5:00 – 7:00      **RECEPTION**  
**Gelber Conference Centre**

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**AGENDA**

**Day 2 – Thursday, June 26, 2014**

- 7:30 – 8:30 **Breakfast/networking**
- 8:30 – 9:00 **Reflections/Feedback from Day 1**
- 9:00 – 9:10 **Looking Forward to Exploring PIAAC Data on Māori Adult Literacy and Numeracy in Aotearoa New Zealand**  
(PowerPoint presentation prepared by: Diana Coben, National Centre of Literacy & Numeracy for Adults / David Earle, Ministry of Education, New Zealand)
- 9:10 – 9:50 **Panel/Discussion**  
**Canada's PIAAC Theme Reports**  
Members of the writing teams for the theme reports will share updates on five of the six theme reports: Aboriginal, Labour markets, Minority Language Communities, Immigrants, and Health and Social Dimensions
- **Christy Bressette**, Council of Ministers of Education, Canada
  - **Bruno Rainville**, Employment and Social Development Canada
  - **Edith Duclos**, Employment and Social Development Canada
  - **Li Xu**, Citizenship and Immigration Canada
  - **Andrea Long**, Public Health Agency of Canada
- Moderator: Katerina Sukovski**, Council of Ministers of Education, Canada
- Panelists (25 minutes), questions (15 minutes)
- 9:50 – 10:30 **Presentation**  
**The Paula Principle: Women, Skills & Reward**  
Can we explain and address the trend of a gender gap in competences and remuneration observed across all OECD countries?
- Tom Schuller**, Longview (UK)
- Presentation (25 minutes), questions (15 minutes)
- 10:30 – 10:50 **BREAK**
- 10:50 – 11:50 **Panel/Discussion**  
**Numeracy and mathematics for adults: Reflections from PISA and PIAAC**  
Based on the PISA and PIAAC assessments of numeracy/mathematical literacy, this session will reflect on implications related to the teaching and learning of numeracy for youth and adults and how they relate to people's daily lives. What

insights do the frameworks, results and research to date offer about performance, the potential impact on policies and practices, and what further research questions can we pose?

- **Dave Tout**, Australian Council for Educational Research
- **Jeff Evans**, Emeritus Reader in Adults' Mathematical Learning, Middlesex University, London, UK

**Moderator: Tom Ciancone**, Adult Education Consultant, Hamilton, ON (retired numeracy instructor, trainer, curriculum writer, “sometime” researcher)

Presentation (15 minutes), exchange (25 minutes), questions (20 minutes)

11:50 –12:10 **Guided Discussion:** Morning presentations

12:10 – 1:10 **LUNCH**

1:10 – 2:10 **Presentations**

**UPSKILL and on-the-ground experience: Context in workplace LES training**

UPSKILL, the largest demonstration research project ever designed to evaluate the outcomes of LES training in the workplace, found enough measurable gain for workers, firms and government to make a business case for investment. However, context was identified as a significant predictor of success. Findings from the study suggest several critical factors in implementing a successful workplace program. What are the implications for policy-makers, providers and employers?

**David Gyarmati**, Social Research and Development Canada (30 minutes)

Futurworx, providing pre-employment training for 30 years in Nova Scotia, has seen an evolution in the demand to develop a broader set of skills for their clients. Their embedded approach requires highly trained instructors and the engagement of employers and other support workers. What does their experience tell us about the similarities or differences in context for programs inside workplaces and pre-employment?

**Randy Lindsay**, FutureWorx

**Paul Brinkhurst**, FutureWorx (20 minutes)

Presentation (30 minutes, 20 minutes), questions (10 minutes)

2:10 - 2:30 **Guided discussion and questions: Future directions for Workplace LES**

2:30 – 2:50 **BREAK**

2:50 – 3:00 **Feedback from discussions**



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3:00 – 3:10     **Synthesis from the day – Philippe Landry, COFA**

3:10 – 3:35     Round table discussion

3:35 – 3:45     **Evaluation**

3:45 – 3:55     **BREAK**

**OPTIONAL SESSION**

**4:00- 5:00**     **Silvano Tocchi**, Director General, Workplace Partnerships Directorate at Employment and Social Development Canada, will meet after hours with participants from the Institute who would like to discuss the nature of literacy and essential projects that are currently of interest to the Government of Canada

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**AGENDA**  
**Day 3 – Friday, June 27, 2014**

- 7:45 - 8:45     **Breakfast** and networking
- 8:45 – 9:10     **Reflections/Feedback from Day 2**
- 9:10 – 9:40     **Presentation / panel discussion:**  
**Key feedback from the PIAAC/PISA conference in Australia – May 2014**
- Dave Tout**, Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER)  
                    Presentation (20 minutes), questions (10 minutes)
- 9:40 – 10:30   **Panel discussion**  
**How should results from PISA and PIAAC be used to inform policy and practice? How can we balance the influence with other research and knowledge from the field?**
- Art Graesser** (University of Memphis) on PS-TRE  
                    **Jeff Evans** (Middlesex University) on numeracy  
                    **David Malloes** (NRDC) on reading  
                    **Hervé Dignard** (ICÉA) on literacy
- Moderator: Genevieve Dorais-Beauregard, CDÉACF**
- Discussion (20 minutes), questions (30 minutes)
- 10:30 – 10:55   **Guided discussion**
- 10:55 – 11:15   **BREAK**
- 11:15 – 11:45   **Canadian lessons from PIAAC and PISA: Provincial/territorial analysis**  
**Discussion with policy people**
- Moderator: Brigid Hayes**, consultant
- 11:45 – 12:15   **Table summations**
- 12:15 – 12:45   **Summing up:** Final plenary comments from participants
- 12:45 – 1:00     **Closing the circle/next steps**
- 1:00 – 1:15     **Evaluations/Closure**
- 1:15 -2:00     **Lunch and Networking**



**OPTIONAL WORKSHOP**

**2:00 – 3:30    How practitioners and policy makers can use PIAAC data**  
**Katerina Sukovski, Council of Ministers of Education, Canada**

A 90-minute hands-on session designed for educators and practitioners that will help them understand and apply learning from large-scale assessment data.