

The Open Door Newsletter

Brought to you by:

**The Adult Learning Centre in
Iroquois Falls and Cochrane**

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Our door is always open.



All about the students!



Ben Ward

Goals: To obtain ACE certificate and move on to college.

Achievements I'm proud of:

'I came here knowing that I wanted to keep my marks above 80% and succeeded. So I guess I can say I'm proud of it, but not surprised. I'm already confident in knowing I will succeed in the future with my education and career'.

Next step:

Sault College September 2011
Construction Carpentry

Bill

Goals:

'To get my grade 12 equivalency so I can get into college'.

Achievements I'm proud of:

'The fact that I went back to school! I didn't think I had it in me'.

Next step:

Northern College September 2011
Computer Engineering Technician

Melissa

Goals:

- To complete LBS Math
- To complete ACE courses
- To complete upgrading
- To begin an apprenticeship in Carpentry with Northern College
- To have a career in Carpentry

Achievements I'm proud of:

'I'm proud to say that after twelve years of being out of school and not having the chance to finish and receive my diploma when I was younger, I have taken the step to register myself with the Adult Learning Centre to obtain my grade 12 so that I am able to better succeed in my career goals!'

Réjeanne MacLeod

Goals:

'To get my math and computer skills updated. I would like to take some courses in college to change my career path'.

Achievements I'm proud of:

'Continuing my education. Focus on end results. Showing my children that you never stop learning'.

Richard M.

Richard is a successful Second Career client who recently graduated from the Aviation Technician / Mechanics course at Canadore College. Richard had a perfect attendance record over his 2 year course. He is currently employed in Cochrane and doing what he loves—working with planes.

Couldn't be prouder of you Richard.

Anne Bernier

Goals: To finish my 'Math Sense' whole numbers and money before the summer holidays.

Achievements I'm proud of: Having my Chemistry completed with an acceptable mark!

My year at the ALC.

by Stephanie Jolin

This year at the Adult Learning Centre I have learned to organize my thoughts and work. I've enjoyed the instructors and they have helped me a lot with my lessons, and have given me new tools and skills that helped me get through my work. I've also learned how to write different types of essays and compose my writing properly, and efficiently.

I've also gotten new skills in math, and that has been a challenge for me because I've always had a learning disability when it came to math and using numbers. Katie has given me a lot of new tools to help make learning math a lot more simple and easy to understand. I've completed my first math book and am currently on my second one. I've also done some extra work pages to help me understand and retain the information.

I've completed one English Challenger and am currently completing another, along with my journal entries and another exercise book called Voyager. I have been challenged by my lessons and believe I am learning well and I want to continue to learn more.

My goals are to complete the program and to obtain my diploma, I will be going back in September and I believe I will learn even more and this will allow me to understand everyday aspects that people need to have and understand.

It has been a challenging year and I am proud to say it's better because I've learned how to do things that I did not know how to do before, and I've enjoyed the challenges set by the instructors. I am looking forward to completing the program and learning even more.

Breaking Barriers

With the rate of low literacy skills in the general population being around 40%, the rate in the prison population is closer to 65%.

In response, the Adult Learning Centre in partnership with Northern College and the Monteith Correctional Centre is in its second year of offering training opportunities to inmates. This project hopefully improves the possibility for inmates to lead a more productive life when they return to their communities. The other goal is that they will look into continuing with their upgrading with other training programs across our region.

Diane Peever is the instructor of the Monteith training program, and with her amazing patience, guidance, and 'huge bag of resources', all of the inmates look forward to their sessions.

Keep up the good work Diane!

Goals and Successes by Heather Baird

Goals:

- To upgrade my education
- To be an example for my children
- To better myself by taking the first step

Achievements I'm proud of:

- Taking the first step to enrol and sticking to it! The staff made it very easy to overcome any 'uncertainties'.
- Being an example to my children, "you are never too old to learn".
- Education—making it known education is important at any age.
- Making time to attend—staff are 'always' there to answer questions.
- Friendly and very approachable teachers.
- Homework—the kids help me! They think that's 'KOOL'.
- It's a learning experience, learning at any age is great!
- I am a better person—any upgrades to my education opens more doors to opportunity.

QUOTE ME

'A teacher is one who makes himself/herself progressively unnecessary!' Thomas Carruthers

New Logo

We want to share our new logo and tag line with you! Let us know what you think.



Take the steps to
higher learning!

Totally Interesting Trivia

- The average person speaks 125 to 150 words per minute.
- On average, the heart beats 100,000 times daily.
- More than 50% of the people in the world have never made or received a telephone call.
- A sneeze travels from your nose/mouth at over 100 mph.
- On average, 12 newborns will be given to the wrong parents daily.
- The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- On average, 100 people choke to death on ballpoint pens every year.
- It takes an average of seven years to grow a Christmas tree of average retail sale height (six feet).
- Each day is 0.00000002 seconds longer than the one before because the Earth is gradually slowing down.
- Lightning strikes the Earth somewhere more than 17 million times per day, or about 200 times every second.
- The average human produces a quart of saliva a day – about 10,000 gallons in a lifetime.

Since its founding, Apple Computer has received hundreds of angry letters claiming that its logo, an apple with a bite taken out, represents original sin.



- About 96% of all American children can recognize Ronald McDonald.

Teaching your kids the value of money!

You have probably seen the commercial from the Bank of Montreal about teaching your kids the value of money.

If you haven't already checked out the site, then do so! It has some wonderful ideas, fun games, a wealth of expert advice, helpful articles, to help give you and your kids a head start on the road toward making money make sense for the entire family.



Log on to the site, and look for 'the zone' that your children fall into. Lots to learn and have fun doing it!

<http://community.bmo.com/smartstepsforparents>



**A special thank you to everyone
who helped out at the
Sportsman's Show in Iroquois Falls.**

**The 'travel scrabble' game was a big hit!
Thanks to Katie for the idea.**

**The winner of the door prize was
Marcie Hilts.
She took home the Canadian
Oxford Dictionary.**

Banana Peel as Rose Fertilizer.



Just flatten a banana peel and bury it under one inch of soil at the base of a rosebush. The peel's potassium feeds the plant and helps it resist disease.

Consider it a nutritional boost for you and your buds.



How do you feel about your 'money management' skills?

(Toronto, ON – May 10, 2011) - Research firm Ipsos Reid unveiled findings of new national research providing insights on the habits and comfort level of Canadians with their financial literacy and math skills.

Key findings from the research showed that:

- **72%** of Canadians say they do not feel confident with their math and money management skills when planning for a secure financial future.
- On average, Canadians put away only \$211 per month for long-term savings. However, 4 in 10 Canadians save nothing while 61% of Canadians save less than \$100 per month.
- **83%** of Canadians are familiar with the term *RRSP* but less than 60% are familiar with *RESP*.
- **79%** of Canadians are not fully confident in their ability to teach another person about money, saving and budgeting.

The Adult Learning Centre can help! Call us to set up an appointment.

We are not financial advisors, but we can help you with basic budgeting, tips and tricks on managing your money, and refer you to people in our communities that offer credit / money management counselling.

2010-2011 Program Results for the ALC

Here are the year-end results of our programs in Cochrane.

Number of clients served this past year:	74
Clients who:	
Attained their goals	58 %
Went off to Employment	42 %
Went to Further Education or Training	22 %
Went to Volunteer Work	11 %
Were satisfied with the ALC program	97.7%

Here are the year-end results of our programs in Iroquois Falls.

Number of clients served this past year:	133
Clients who:	
Attained their goals	39 %
Went off to Employment	18 %
Went to Further Education or Training	15 %
Went to Volunteer Work	23 %
Were satisfied with the ALC program	90.3%

Lack of willpower has caused more failure than lack of intelligence or ability.

Mark Your Calendars



All three locations of the Adult Learning Centre will be closed for the summer.

Our last day of classes for clients is June 23, 2011, but staff will be available until June 30th.

First day of classes this fall begin on September 6th, 2011.

See you then!

Have a great summer and a much deserved break!

Special thanks to all of the ALC staff for the passion they put into their work and their commitment to excellence!



Annual General Meeting

The Adult Learning Centre's Annual General Meeting is on September 19th, 2011 at 6 p.m. in Iroquois Falls.

Everyone welcome.

Do you want to learn more about computers?



New training sessions beginning in the Fall of 2011.
Don't wait! Call us now.

*The Adult Learning Centre is a community based, not for profit adult literacy program.
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