

SOUTH EAST REGIONAL ADULT LEARNING BOARD

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 2016 AGM

First, I would like to give my loud support to the people who have made the last year such a success. We have a diligent, enthusiastic Executive Committee, a committed Board, and great support from our Internal Accountant, our Consultant and our Manager of Operations. Relations with Government representatives have been outstanding.

I have been busy during the last year with external involvement in a number of areas. I was a member of a committee that worked with the New Brunswick Social Policy Research Network (NBSPRN) drilling into the issue of lack of participation by people who could benefit from our services. I was also a member of the Provincial Advisory Committee and the CalNet Working Group outlining a proposal for improving the delivery of the Adult Learning Program in the Province. I also attended a presentation on the provincial data hidden within the publication on the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC). I am a member of the Greater Moncton Literacy Advisory Board (GMLAB).

We gave a presentation to the New Brunswick Literacy Secretariat. The Report "The Power of Literacy" was released in June. We also met with Cathy Rogers, the Minister for Literacy.

Internally, the number of Learners and the number of classes remained consistent with previous years. We closed three classes but opened three new ones. We are particularly excited about the new classes at the YWCA and the consolidated Food Depot.

We cooperated with the Employment and Continuous Learning Services Branch by hiring twelve Interpreters/Translators for the Syrian Newcomers, plus a Financial Literacy Instructor who will continue to work with us this coming year. We also continued our very positive coordination with the Workplace Essential Skills programs.

During the year, we have hired three individual consultants to help us clarify the new WorkSafe regulations; to locate an appropriate site for a stand alone on-line GED testing center; and to coordinate our various initiatives with regard to increasing Learner participation and to identify action that should be taken to address the situation.

Overall, it has been a very active, productive year.

John F Read, President, South East Regional Adult Learning Board.