

COMMUNITY LITERACY PLAN

Quesnel, B.C.



DISTRICT LITERACY PLAN
School District #28 – Quesnel

Submitted for July 15, 2010

Quesnel's District Literacy Plan submitted for July 15, 2010 is built directly upon our previous Plan. The format and headings have remained the same but we have chosen to use a blue font to highlight our updates, changes and additions. The sections that read, "A snapshot of our accomplishments" highlight some of our most recent work.

District Literacy Plan – Quesnel

July 2010

The District Literacy Plan is a statement of our commitment to collaborate with key community stakeholders to improve literacy within our community. It has been built collaboratively on an evidence-based assessment of needs and priorities in Quesnel and surrounding area. We are committed to the ongoing development of this plan. Our Community Literacy Plan is the foundation of this District Plan.

Development Process and Update:

- School District #28, Quesnel was a provincial demonstration district and has been participating in provincial and regional meetings.
- The Quesnel 2010 Legacies – Literacy Now Community Plan was submitted and accepted. It is now in year two of its implementation stage. Many of the original recommendations have already been accomplished. These recommendations include hiring a community literacy coordinator (Literacy Outreach Coordinator), securing a working space for the coordinator and creating a partnership between the School District and the Community Plan Task Force.
- A District representative, the District Literacy Resource Teacher, has been involved in the 2010 Legacies – Literacy Now Community Literacy Task Force from its inception. This representative has been and will continue to be a member of the Task Force.
- The Task Force has applied for and received Society status – Literacy Quesnel Society was established in April 2008. The group is now developing an annual Strategic Plan. The District Literacy Resource Teacher for School District #28 presently holds the position of President of the Literacy Quesnel Society.
- The Superintendent and Director of Instruction-Curriculum have met with the Literacy Quesnel Society Chair, Literacy Outreach Coordinator and our Regional Literacy Coordinator (RLC).

District Literacy Plan Partners and Stakeholders:

- Stakeholders in this plan are members of the Literacy Quesnel Society, Community Partners and School District #28. They include representatives from: School District #28, Cariboo Regional Library, College of New Caledonia – Quesnel Campus, Aboriginal Education, North Cariboo Aboriginal Family Program Society (NCAFPS – also known as the “Long Name Society”), Child Development Centre, Child Care Resource and Referral, Business, the community at large, Literacy BC, Public Health, Ministry for Children and Family Development, Pregnancy Outreach and members of the Child, Youth and Family Network.

Context and Demographics:

The city of Quesnel is the commercial centre of the North Cariboo. It is located in the Central Interior of British Columbia at the confluence of the Quesnel and Fraser Rivers. The community is situated on the traditional lands of the Carrier and Chilcotin Nations.

Serving a population of approximately 3670, K – 12 students in 18 schools, the District administers a budget of approximately \$35.5 million. A significant downturn in the economy and an aging demographic has led to a steady decline in enrollment.

Community demographics:

- Population of 27,000 in city and surrounding area
- Aboriginal population made up of members of four Bands as well as those from other Aboriginal groups
- Our age distribution is similar to the provincial average with the majority of the population between 25 – 64 years (54.3%)
- The average family income is \$56,551
- 15.3% of families' income is below \$20,000

School District Profile

- 14 elementary schools
- 1 junior (grades 8 & 9) and 1 senior secondary (grades 10 – 12) (reconfigured in 2009-2010 from two grade 8 – 12 schools)
- 1 Alternate program
- Distributed Learning
- Continuing Education

Original Community Literacy Plan Goals

GOAL 1:

Establish a vibrant welcoming literacy centre that connects people and groups while also increasing access to programs and information for all literacies for all community members.

UPDATE:

Literacy Quesnel established a small centrally located downtown office space within the community's Child Development Centre in February 2009 – a first step in becoming a resource for the community. Plans are now underway to move into a separate "storefront" office within the same building in September 2010. This new office is significantly bigger and has it's own outside access. This space will house the LOC's office and be used to host meetings and training. School District #28 has generously offered to furnish this space "in kind".

GOAL 2:

Increase literacy awareness, resources, programs and supports through community partnerships to encourage a literacy-minded community in which all members support life-long learning.

UPDATE:

Goal 2 is being facilitated by Goal 1, the development of an accessible, visible office space/ learning centre.

The Society has designed and is circulating a community survey with questions focused on literacy needs, perceptions and wants. The intent of this survey is to gather feedback from the community, similar to that gathered in the writing of the original Literacy Now plan in 2007, and use that input to help the society set directions, formulate new goals if required, and plan activities. To facilitate reaching as many community members as possible, the survey is available on-line and in hard copy. We are sending or taking the survey to businesses, community services, large community gatherings (Family Day in the park, Aboriginal Day) and our more rural communities. It is our plan to have all the surveys completed by the end of June. The work being done by our Literacy Outreach Coordinator has greatly improved community awareness of Literacy Quesnel. We are thoughtfully entering into projects that we anticipate will be supportive and sustainable for our community.

The District Literacy Plan is built on 4 Pillars of ReadNow BC:

- Early Learning,
- School Years,
- Adult Literacy and
- Aboriginal Literacy Success.

The School District Achievement Contract specifically addresses three of the four pillars, ie. Early Learning, School Years, and Aboriginal Literacy Success.

This document continues to build on the original Community Literacy Plan. It is integral that this plan be revisited as our community changes. This plan must be a living document, responsive to our community's issues, priorities and needs.

Early Learning:

UPDATE:

Literacy in the Early Years is being addressed by the following groups and individuals within the community: School District #28 through StrongStart Centres, Child Development Centre, Child Care Resource and Referral, Aboriginal Family Centre, Public Health, the Public Library, Success by Six, Literacy Quesnel Society and the Community Literacy Outreach Coordinator.

In our previous plan, we had proposed the formation of an Early Learning Steering Committee. However, we have found that this step has not been necessary as there are two existing community based committees that are dedicated to improving early learning, Success By 6 and the Parent Child Resource Team, under the umbrella of the Quesnel Child Youth and Family Network. The School District and Literacy Quesnel Society both have long standing members on these committees.

Goal 1: Improve Literacy in the Early Years (0 – 5)

OBJECTIVE 1.1

To help parents build understanding and increased awareness of the importance of family literacy in the early years

Actions:

- Ready Set Learn, a three session/six session, weekly program offered in every elementary school
- Ready Set Learn program introduced at the Aboriginal Family Centre
- An extended (14 session) Ready Set Learn program continuing in Nazko (a rural community including a reserve, 120 km west of Quesnel). Plans are underway to expand this program further in 2010-2011
- StrongStart Centres located in five schools – three full time Centres and one StrongStart outreach program serving two rural school communities
- Re-establishing an Early Learning Centre in Wells (rural community 85 km east of Quesnel) in the Fall of 2010
- Investigating an Early Learning Centre in Nazko (a reserve community 120 km west of Quesnel)
- Roots of Empathy implemented in many elementary schools in the district
- “Welcome to Kindergarten” offered in all elementary schools
- Early Learning Expo – a yearly event held in conjunction with Quesnel's Family Day to showcase services and service providers for children ages 6 and under
- Parents in Education (PIE) in one Kindergarten class – a partnership between Literacy Quesnel Society and School District #28
- Family Story Time Program
- Books for Babies
- Child Care Resource and Referral programs
- Child Development Centre programs
- Aboriginal Family Centre: “Stay and Play”, Aboriginal Literacy and Parenting Skills (ALAPS)
- Three Year Old Screen, “Step by Step”
- Mother Goose programming
- Exploring PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters) and Aboriginal PALS programs – a partnership between Literacy Quesnel and School District #28

OBJECTIVE 1.2

Continue to build partnerships to sustain and strengthen all early years programs and services in our community

Actions:

- Success by Six initiatives
- Early Learning Expo
- Parent Child Resource Team under the umbrella of Quesnel Child Youth Family Network
- Kindergarten Screening facilitated by Northern Health for all children entering school
- participation in the HELP Project Early Development Instrument (EDI)
- developing a partnership with the Recreation Centre to bring literacy into their “building”
- building a partnership with our Public Library
- CCRR programs
- Exploring PALS and Aboriginal PALS programs – a partnership between Literacy Quesnel and SD 28
- Books for Babies supported by Quesnel Rotary
- Member of Pregnancy Outreach now on the executive of Literacy Quesnel
- “Rainbow Bookshelves”: access to books: free - to keep, to borrow, to trade or to lend in community spaces (eg. MCFD, Hospital, Laundromats)

A snapshot of some of our accomplishments:

Family Story Time Program

This year, the community has enjoyed 6 different family story time events with more than 110 families attending. We expanded our repertoire to include Sing for Literacy, Games Night, Creating books and presentations by three local authors. Nutritious snacks were provided at each event to model healthy eating. Once again families received free books as well as literacy and local programming information.

Three year old screen “Step by Step”

Numerous partners enabled the design and establishment of a community wide process for screening three year old children – a gap identified in our original literacy plan. Nineteen Early Childhood Educators have now been trained to administer the screen. Four sessions have been held with 25 families attending.

Early Learning Expo

Literacy Quesnel Society participated in the community's Early Learning Expo held in conjunction with Quesnel's Family Day at the Park. Families took part in a “Make and Take” memory game activity. Some families made the game and played it right there, other families made the game to take home.

This activity was chosen to demonstrate an every day, fun way to “play” with literacy at home. This event gave the LOC an opportunity to talk to parents and give handouts about literacy activities that can be done at home.

Ready, Set, Learn:

This locally developed, parent participation early learning program with a focus on literacy is in its fifth year of operation. Schools with StrongStart Centres offer a three session (once a week) evening program. Non-StrongStart schools offer a six session (once a week) daytime program. Our three most rural schools offer anywhere from a two to fourteen session program. The Aboriginal Family Centre also offers the Ready Set Learn program in conjunction with their programming. This program has been extremely successful. Participant feedback is always extremely positive with comments that include, "I wish the program was longer than 90 minutes"; "My son sings the songs all week long"; "Is it possible to keep the program going for more weeks?"; "It's great that we get to take home a special book each week".

PIE (Parents in Education):

The Parents In Education (PIE) program was facilitated at one of the rural elementary schools and was specifically designed to engage parents in the education of their children. The parents of the Kindergarten class at Bouchie Lake School were invited to participate in the weekly program. The outline of the 90 minute sessions allowed for parents to meet, discuss learning and parenting strategies and then as a group, the participants joined the Kindergarten class to engage in some learning. The parents were able to gain confidence in helping their children and form a stronger relationship with the teacher and the school community by being present on a regular basis. There were an average of 4 parents who came to each session and the program ran from December until May. In 2008 this program had run as a pilot project and was found to be so successful by the teacher, principal and participating parents that LQS committed to facilitating it again.

Books for Babies:

This provincial program had been funded by the province for 3 years – allowing each new born baby to receive the gift of a book bag, complete with a good quality children's book, information on literacy and sometimes a DVD or CD to support extra literacy activities. In 2009, the funding was cancelled. LQS decided to seek alternative ways to keep the program running and was successful in receiving funding from Success by Six and the Rotary Club of Quesnel. The program was thought to be too valuable to lose and we were able to leverage community support and funding to sustain it.

Rainbow Bookshelves:

We are starting with a minimum of 3 rainbow coloured bookshelf units to be placed in various areas of the community eg. Laundromat, doctor's office... The bookshelves will be stocked with gently used books that the public can take, use at the site, borrow or trade. Volunteers from the community will look after the shelves to be sure they are always well stocked and well kept. The intent of this project is to put books at people's fingertips and have books available to those folks who may not otherwise have access or opportunity.

School:

The Plan encompasses the goals from the School District Achievement Contract. The District Literacy Resource Teacher is the link between the School District, Literacy Quesnel Society and the Community Partners.

Goal 2: Improve Student Achievement in Literacy

Objective 2.1 To improve primary students' literacy skills (Grades K – 3)

Actions:

- District Literacy Resource Teacher provides classroom support, consultation, in-service, professional development activities and assessment support for teachers
- District Aboriginal Early Literacy Resource teacher supports Aboriginal primary students who require additional literacy support
- Aboriginal readers who require additional literacy enrichment are supported through the English Skills Development (ESD) Program
- Teachers using classroom assessment data to inform instruction following the Cycle of Instruction (1. Assessment, 2. Analysis, 3. Planning, 4. Teaching)
- Regular meetings with the Aboriginal Early Literacy Resource Teacher and a primary literacy teacher representative from each elementary school to facilitate networking, sharing of information, resources and current literacy research
- Supporting a balanced literacy program in all Kindergarten through grade 3 classrooms
- District wide use of assessment tools, performance standards and rubrics in reading and writing
- District wide use of BC Performance Standards
- Utilizing cross-age and peer support (letter/word/ guided reading buddies)
- [Inservice and classroom support in using programs such as Reading Power – fiction and non-fiction, 6+1 Writing Traits and specific reading strategies](#)
- Book tubs at all elementary schools to support “powers” in the classroom
- Reading Power and Nonfiction Reading Power by Adrienne Gear
- Parents in Education (PIE)
- Peer tutoring in French Immersion
- In-school mentoring program with Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Roots of Empathy program in many elementary schools
- [Taking first steps to Implement One-to-One Tutoring program, a partnership between Literacy Quesnel Society, Lions Club and SD 28](#)
- [“Rainbow Bookshelves”](#): access to books – free, to borrow, to lend in community spaces
- [Investigating PALS \(Parents as Literacy Supporters\) and Aboriginal PALS program – a partnership between Literacy Quesnel Society and School District #28](#)

OBJECTIVE 2.2

To improve intermediate students' literacy skills (Grades 4 - 7)

Actions:

- District Literacy Resource Teacher provides classroom support, consultation, in-service and professional development activities for teachers
- Aboriginal readers who require additional literacy enrichment are supported through the English Skills Development Program
- Teachers using classroom assessment data to inform instruction following the cycle of instruction (1. Assessment, 2. Analysis, 3. Planning, 4. Teaching)
- Intermediate literacy representative established in each school to facilitate networking, sharing of information, resources and current literacy research
- District wide use of assessment tools, performance standards and rubrics in reading and writing. For teachers: to inform instruction and for students: to reflect and take ownership
- Focusing on reading in the content areas through the use of literacy materials that are leveled, and integrate with the Science and Social Studies curriculum
- Literature circles and guided reading supported through inservice, provision of resources and demonstration lessons
- [Inservice and classroom support in using programs such as Reading Power, 6+1 Writing Traits and specific reading strategies](#)
- Universal Designs for Learning (UDL) Pilot Project 2007-08 supported by Ministry of Education and Set BC - has developed into a SmartBoard project that supports differentiated instruction to meet the needs of students with a wide range of needs in the intermediate grades. [Teachers using SmartBoards meet regularly to share practice.](#)
- [Providing alternatives to text books and other reading material to support low level readers ie. Kurzweil Software program used to adapt textbook to speech and writing support](#)
- [Taking first steps to Implement One-to-One Tutoring program, a partnership between Literacy Quesnel Society, Lions Club and SD 28](#)
- ["Rainbow Bookshelves": access to books – free, to borrow, to lend in community spaces](#)

OBJECTIVE 2.3

To improve students' reading comprehension skills – grades 8 – 12

Actions:

- District Literacy Resource Teacher provides support, consultation and in-service for teachers
- Aboriginal readers who require additional literacy enrichment are supported through the English Skills Development Program
- [Providing alternatives to text books and supplementary reading materials to support low level readers ie. Kurzweil Software program used to adapt textbook](#)

to speech and support writing

- Universal Designs for Learning (UDL) Pilot Project 2007-08 at Quesnel Secondary School supported by Ministry of Education and Set BC - has developed into a SmartBoard project that supports differentiated instruction to meet the needs of students with a wide range of needs in secondary grades. [Teachers using SmartBoards meet regularly to share practice.](#)
- At the Junior Secondary school, core courses are offered in a linear timetable to support improved students achievement

A snapshot of our accomplishments:

- Over the past 8 years, we have increased our six-year school completion rates by 10%. Our students' success must be celebrated; however, we need to continually work to move our six-year completion rate from 74% to at least the provincial average of 78% - 80%. Our six year Dogwood completion rate for aboriginal students has increased by 31% in the last 9 years.
- Twelve Primary and intermediate classrooms at three school sites have entered into a new buddy reading program based on kid friendly rubrics and peer coaching.
- Kindergarten classrooms and teachers are ready for the all day, every day program.
- Intermediate and Secondary teachers continue to see reluctant readers engage with quality books through the Literature Circles program.
- [Assessment for Learning: School teams continue to learn about and implement assessment for learning strategies. Five elementary schools are committed to working as part of the Network of Performance Based Schools.](#)
- [A team of 12 teachers and administrators from Correlieu Secondary School formed a bookclub in order to deepen their understanding of assessment for learning strategies at the secondary level. The club will begin its second year in September 2010.](#)
- Students, teachers, administrators and support staff continue to work hard to support each other in striving for literacy success.

Adult:

An Adult Literacy Steering Committee has been established to share practices, investigate present programming and identify gaps. Stakeholders include: School District #28, College of New Caledonia – Quesnel Campus, Continuing Education, Businesses and Ministry services that offer career counseling and retraining, Seniors groups, Aboriginal Service providers and the Literacy Outreach Coordinator, representing Literacy Quesnel Society. There is an agreement within the group to collaborate when one group is in need of another group's expertise/ assistance/ support. All stakeholders are aware of the needs of our adult community but at this time we do not have a structure in place (beyond Continuing Education and the College) to address low literacy issues. It is our challenge to work together to create such a structure.

UPDATE:

The Adult Literacy Steering Committee continues to meet and network in support of the adults in our community. Over the past year, the LOC has met with many adult groups to discuss their specific needs and ways of introducing literacy into their programming or to their clientele. These groups include, Seasons House and Shelter Society, Women's Resource Centre, Employment Service Program Consulting, seniors concerned about literacy issues that impact their lives ie. technology, vision, hearing, mobility..., North Cariboo Aboriginal Program Society, Advocacy Resources of the Central Cariboo (working with people with physical disabilities), Seniors Advocacy Services and the Adult Services Team (a branch of the Quesnel Network). LQS continues to expand its outreach and its advocacy role.

Goal 3: Improve Adult Success in Literacy

OBJECTIVE 3.1

To create partnerships with existing programs and services

Actions:

- Continue to develop and strengthen the adult literacy steering committee
- Developing partnerships in the community where adults already meet (eg. Women's Resource Centre, Seniors Advocacy Group, Friendship Centre, Seasons House, Aboriginal Family Centre)
- One to One Adult Learning Together program in partnership with North Cariboo Aboriginal Family Program Services (NCAFPS)
- Aboriginal Literacy And Parenting Skills (ALAPS) Program in partnership with North Cariboo Aboriginal Family Program Services (NCAFPS)
- Partnership with Advocacy Resources of the Central Cariboo (ARCC)
- Joined Adult Services Team, a branch of the Quesnel Network
- Financial Literacy Workshops
- Family Story Time
- Literacy Outreach Coordinator became a member of Quesnel Rotary
- "Rainbow Bookshelves": access to books – free, to borrow, to lend in community spaces

A snapshot of our accomplishments

ALAPS: A second training session of Aboriginal Literacy and Parenting Skills (ALAPS) was facilitated in the community. Nine local community members were trained as facilitators. The LOC is also a trainer and mentor for ALAPS so the presence and foundation of the program is strong in Quesnel.

Adult Literacy Tutor Training: LQS and North Cariboo Aboriginal Family Program Society co-facilitated a volunteer adult literacy tutor training: One to One, Adults Learning Together program.

Computer Software for the Legally Blind: Literacy Quesnel Society supported Advocacy Resources of the Central Cariboo (ARCC) in presenting specialized training in learning how to manipulate computer software for the legally blind.

Making Connections: After attending and participating in a meeting of the Adult Services Team (a branch of the Quesnel Child, Youth and Family Network) the Literacy Outreach Coordinator was asked to join the group full time. This team explores services and resources for adults in our community and finds ways to address the gaps.

Financial Literacy Workshops: A series of four free workshops were offered to the community. Each workshop addressed a different, specific issue. This partnership between LQS, Investors Group and the library was attended by approximately 30 individuals. Feedback was very positive. There have been specific requests for more workshops.

Family Story Time: These events expose parents and caregivers to a variety of ways to think about and share literacy with their children. Even though these events look like they are aimed at children's enjoyment of rich literacy activities, they are also presenting messages and opportunities to parents and caregivers.

Seasons House: LQS has developed a relationship with staff and tenants of Seasons House and Shelter Society (Quesnel's first homeless shelter). The specific needs of the clientele accessing Seasons House are being explored with the LOC who will then work to find a program that fits the individual.

Aboriginal Literacy Success:

We are very much aware that this pillar needs to be embedded within the Early Years, School and Adult Pillars. It also needs to be addressed as a stand alone issue. Representatives from School District #28, Aboriginal Education Council and Aboriginal Service Providers and our Literacy Outreach Coordinator continue to work together to support the literacy needs of our Aboriginal Community.

Goal 4: To Support Literacy Success in Early Learning, School, Adult and Community Programs for our Aboriginal population

Objective 4.1: To support our Aboriginal families and individuals in their literacy needs

Actions:

- acknowledge and work around the barriers to participation in community programs
- build relationships in a respectful manner
- take small steps
- recognize and acknowledge the cultural literacies of the Aboriginal people
- build greater awareness of the importance of family literacy
- continue to encourage participation in community programs
- continue to encourage representation on Early years and Adult literacy committees
- [Aboriginal Early Literacy Resource Teacher is a member of the Literacy Quesnel Society Task Force](#)
- [Offering a four week summer literacy support program for students, Kindergarten through grade 3](#)
- [Literacy Quesnel Society presence at Aboriginal Days at the Park – a community event celebrating Aboriginal culture](#)
- [Literacy Quesnel Society survey taken to Nazko reserve for responses](#)

A snapshot of our accomplishments

ALAPS: The Literacy Outreach Coordinator has continued the partnership with North Cariboo Aboriginal Family Program Society in co-facilitating a second facilitator training session in our community

Mother Goose Program: continues to be offered in the Aboriginal Family Centre

Meeting with the Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable Steven Point: our LOC initiated an “additional” visit to Quesnel to meet with members of the Nazko and Kluskus Bands – more details in the next section of the report.

How the Literacy Outreach Coordinator position is supporting and enhancing community literacy in our community

Strides continue to be made for improving literacy awareness and access in Quesnel. The Literacy Outreach Coordinator (LOC) is now established as a resource in the community. The proof of this is demonstrated by the increasing number of specific literacy requests from various organizations and services that are being received through the LOC office.

A few recent examples of this are:

- The Rotary Club incoming President participated in our Annual General Meeting. He has since put a call out to his membership for one of their members to sit on our Task Force. The Club then invited us to make a presentation at their weekly meeting to get an update on our activities - in the past, it has been us who have approached the service clubs.
- The LOC was asked to become a member of the Adult Services Team, a committee of the Quesnel Child, Youth and Family network. This committee is comprised of many organizations within our community providing direct services to people in need ie. people with disabilities, women's shelter, transition house, homeless shelter, seniors' support.
- Individuals are calling in to request assistance, having been referred to us by other agencies.
- Computer Literacy for Seniors was requested by participants at the LQS AGM. LQS was able to follow up on this request, find volunteers to help, partner with the public library and offer the first of a series of workshops for seniors.

The LOC has continued to expand the outreach of literacy services by partnering with groups already offering literacy programs (such as North Cariboo Aboriginal Family Programs Society) and by being a consistent, available and initiating presence in the community. As of mid- June, 76% of our survey's respondents stated that they are aware of Literacy Quesnel Society and the Literacy Outreach Coordinator, a testimony to the ever increasing awareness of the LOC. The community groups that we collaborate with to increase literacy access and enhance awareness are many and varied. The very presence of the LOC at community tables and at events helps provide reassurance to the community that literacy is a priority and people are understanding that there is a central starting point for their inquiries.

Recently, the Mayor of Quesnel directed her staff to submit an application for the Canada Post Literacy Award, nominating our Literacy Outreach Coordinator. City Hall staff met with the LOC to discuss the application and fill out the details. This is a

significant indicator that literacy is foremost in the public forum.

Literacy Quesnel Society has now held two AGMs. We are pleased to see the diversity of citizens that attend. Seventeen people participated in this year's meeting including two women who drove from Nazko – a rural community approximately 100kms west of Quesnel. At this Annual General Meeting, LQS increased their total membership by six people and one new member joined the Task Force to replace an outgoing executive.

Literacy Quesnel Society is conducting a survey, similar to the one designed and distributed in the original planning process. We have presented both an online and a hard copy version of this survey and are pleased with the strong response. The replies have indicated that there is a need for literacy development for marginalized youth, Aboriginal people and adults (individuals and parents). LQS will use the data from the survey to design specific literacy programming.

One final example of the work being done and the relationships being built to advance and support literacy in Quesnel occurred recently. The Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable Steven Point, had planned a trip to Williams Lake and Prince George. The intent was to discuss the literacy program His Honour would like to implement in rural and remote Aboriginal communities. Our LOC heard about these visits and contacted Government House to see if Quesnel could also be included on his agenda. Fortunately for us, they agreed to this last minute addition and with only three weeks notice, we were able to arrange meetings between His Honour and both the Nazko and Kluskus Bands, with representatives of the 2 Rotary Clubs, and with the Chief and Manager of the Nazko First Nation. Without a Literacy Outreach Coordinator these meetings would not have happened and a huge opportunity would have been lost. The work of the LOC is critical to the continuing growth of literacy awareness, literacy advocacy and literacy programming for our community.

Literacy Partners in Quesnel

The stakeholders listed below support literacy initiatives in our community.

	Early Years	School	Adult	Aboriginal Success
School District #28	x	x	x	x
Continuing Education			x	x
College of New Caledonia			x	x
Cariboo Regional Library	x	x	x	x
Child Development Centre	x	x		x
Childcare Resource & Referral	x			x
Literacy Quesnel Society	x	x	x	x
Public Health	x	x	x	x
Ministry for Children & Family Development	x	x	x	x
North Cariboo Aboriginal Family Programs Society (NCAFPS)	x		x	x
New Focus Society	x	x	x	x
Seniors Advocacy Group			x	
Quesnel Employment Services			x	x
Community at Large (private tutors, seniors)	x	x	x	x
Success by Six	x		x	x
Child Youth Family Network (Parent Child Resource Team)	x	x	x	x
City of Quesnel	x	x	x	x
Pregnancy Outreach	x		x	x
Quesnel Rotary Club	x	x	x	x
Quesnel Lions' Club		x		x