Arrow Lakes
Community Literacy Plan
2015-2016

Serving the communities of Edgewood, Fauquier, Burton, Nakusp, Beaton, Trout Lake, Hills, Rosebery, New Denver and Silverton
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Reflections on the Current Year

1) Task Group:

   a. Who takes part in the task group?

The Community Literacy Advisory Committee is composed of a variety of stakeholders in the community including educational institutions, WorkBC, library, community advisors, and social service workers. For a complete listing of members please refer to Appendix 1.

   b. How is the work of this group organized?

Our district literacy plan is developed throughout the year with input from CLAC and shared with our community partners in the fall of the new school year.

   • District Literacy partner groups form the Community Literacy Advisory Council (CLAC), meet three times a year, review the draft plan, and confirm the Community Literacy Plan

   • CLAC partners update their relevant programs in the plan and identify gaps in services

   • The Board of Education approves the Community/District Literacy Plan each year in late June

   • The approved Community/District Literacy Plan will be posted on the SD 10 website and shared with all community literacy partners

2) Community Context:

   a. Describe your community in one or two short paragraphs (e.g. size, economy, demographics, and trends). Are there any major changes that have taken place over the last year that impact the ability of organizations to support literacy development – positive or negative?

School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) includes the communities of Edgewood, Fauquier, Burton, Nakusp, Beaton, Trout Lake, Hills, Rosebery, New Denver, and Silverton for a combined population of approximately 5500. The area covers more than 8000 square kms, making it the largest community area of the Columbia Basin. Ferries connect the region in the north to Revelstoke, and in the southwest to the Okanagan. The district serves under 500 students in 5 schools and supports 4 StrongStart centres and numerous literacy programs and services for learners of all ages.

The Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) works closely with local literacy partners in developing and evaluating the plan. As a result of rich and long-term literacy partnerships between CBAL, SD#10, Selkirk College, our Healthy Families network, preschools, WorkBC,
Nakusp Public Library and Reading Centres, we have a wide array of programs that help enhance community literacy. Our aim is therefore to continue to enhance these partnerships, to collectively identify areas of gap and challenge, and to do our best to improve literacy amongst all learners in our Community Literacy Plan.

The region continues to see many families dealing with one parent leaving the area for work and a large senior population. The region’s largest industry, forestry, is slowly recovering and is beginning to see a demand for skilled workers. Selkirk College is responding to this demand and tailoring programs, such as the new Safety and Resource Industry Training course, to train local residents to work in forestry. WorkBC continues to respond to the need for skilled workers by utilizing CBAL to offer employability skills workshops and individual tutoring for specialized training courses such as First Aid. Selkirk College continues to address the issue of geographical barriers by opening up an ABE office in New Denver and expanding to Slocan. The Nakusp Public Library, as well, is responding to the geographical constraints by expanding their services to the reading centres in Burton and Edgewood and now offers Kobo workshops in outlying areas.

3) Community Development and Literacy Collaborations:

   a. Provide an example of an important collaboration that has taken place to support literacy and the work of the task group.

   • A partnership was formed between CBAL and WorkBC to offer weekly employability skills workshops for WorkBC clients

   • School District #10 offered professional development opportunities to all members of the CLAC

   • CBAL is working more closely with the Nakusp Public Library to promote local programs

   • CBAL and School District #10 offered Ready Set Learn and Roots of Empathy

   • Selkirk College began offering ABE programming in Slocan

   • School District #10 and Selkirk College partnered to provide course content for the successful Outdoor Education and Entrepreneurial Class at Burton Academy School

   • Members of the CLAC partnered to put on the Unplug and Play event for Family Literacy Week
4) Goals and Actions for the Past Year:

   a. What priorities, goals or objectives have you addressed in the past year?

   • Continuation of pre-school and StrongStart centres in district elementary schools

   • Partnerships with early learning community partners

   • Ready, Set, Learn held at Nakusp Elementary School, Edgewood Elementary School and Lucerne Elementary-Secondary School

   • Continued Pitter Patter Playgroup, Family Night Out, Mother Goose, and pre-school library visits

   • Partnership between CBAL and CAP-C offered Family Night Out

   • Success by Six continued to produce a monthly calendar with all the early learning programs listed from Edgewood, Fauquier, Burton, Nakusp, New Denver and Silverton

   • Expanded Summer Reading Program at the Library

   • CBAL, WorkBC, SD10 and Selkirk College continued to work collaboratively to refer youth and young adult learners to Arrow Lakes Distributed Learning School and ABE at Selkirk College

   • Assisted the transition of Distributed Learning graduates to post-secondary and employment opportunities

   • Maintained and continued partnership between CBAL and WorkBC and Employment programs to integrate adult literacy into employment programs

   • Continued to provide adult and seniors beginner computer classes

   • ESL programs were offered at the Nakusp CAP Site and Learning Centre

   • CBAL distributed refurbished used computer packages to individuals in need

   • Events throughout the year include Reach a Reader, Family Literacy Day, National Aboriginal Day

   • Continued to provide a wide range of cultural activities to enhance a sense of belonging for aboriginal students and increase aboriginal understanding for all

   • Books Everywhere program continued
• Selkirk College achieved great success with participants gaining employment upon completion of Safety and Resource Industry course, one student with severe disabilities obtaining a dogwood certificate, expansion of ABE classes to Slocan, and first GED in New Denver

• Library visits have increased due to more active programming including a storytelling series and author visits

• Library expanded outreach programming to offer Kobo workshops in Edgewood

• CBAL created Facebook page to increase social media presence and increased awareness of programs

b. **What actions were taken to reach these? What organizations and groups participated in these actions?**

• Continued collaborations and support from new and existing partners have been successful in achieving goals – CBAL, School District #10, Selkirk College, Aboriginal Education Council, WorkBC, Nakusp Public Library, Fauquier Family Programs, CAP-C, Burton Community Learning Centre

• Continued consultations within the Community Literacy Advisory Committee working toward expanding and synchronizing services and programs

c. **What adjustments were made to the plan? Were there new opportunities or were there changes that did not allow for some actions to be taken?**

• New partnership with WorkBC created opportunities for workshops

• Selkirk College expanded services to offer computer and ABE classes in Slocan

• Selkirk College offered a Safety and Resource Industry course

• Teachers’ strike prevented early screening fair

5) **Indications of Success:**

a. **How do you know that actions taken are working to support literacy? What impact have the literacy initiatives had? It is important to include examples to illustrate the impact.**

• Programs such as ESL classes, Mother Goose, and Family Night Out continue to attract new learners and their families

• Attendance at CBAL/WorkBC employability skills workshops increase skills and networking opportunities for learners (154 participants from March 2014-March 2015)
• Selkirk College has an increased number of learners accessing courses by providing service through the summer and offering ABE in New Denver and Slocan

• The maximum number of learners participated in the Blade Runner program with the majority finding employment opportunities upon completion

• The CAP site continues to attract many people (3,642 visitors in the past year)

• New families continue to register at StrongStart Centres

• Library special events are well attended

6) Challenges:

   a. What are the difficulties?

   • Large geographic area poses barriers to program accessibility

   • Lack of literacy funding restricts the number of program offerings

   • Lack of continuity in CLAC membership and attendance at CLAC meetings

   b. What would help?

   • Increased awareness of literacy programming

   • More outreach programming

   • Increased funding for Literacy Outreach Coordinator and literacy programs
Community Literacy Plan 2015-2016

7) For the Coming Year:

   a. Are there new opportunities, challenges or issues in your community? How will you respond to those?
      
      • Mental Health Literacy has been identified as an issue in our community and has become a new goal in our District Literacy Plan
      
      • SD10 will offer shop classes at the elementary level and increase tech integration to expose students to greater opportunities
      
   c. What goals, priorities or objectives will you work on in the coming year? What actions are planned against those goals?

Goal 1: Build on community connections to promote, coordinate and communicate information on existing programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Partnership</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Timeline, Progress</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Provide an ongoing forum for community agencies to network and share information and resources.</td>
<td>CLAC CBAL SD#10 Selkirk College WorkBC Nakusp Public Library</td>
<td>Hold 3 meetings per year (Fall, Winter, Spring)</td>
<td>September 2015 – June 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Invite other organizations to attend CLAC meetings</td>
<td>September 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Increase and improve promotional materials regarding literacy programs/services.</td>
<td>CLAC CBAL SD#10 Selkirk College WorkBC Nakusp Public Library</td>
<td>Maintain social media presence</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Create and distribute written media</td>
<td>Fall 2015 – January 2016</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Build on Unplug &amp; Play Event for Family Literacy Week</td>
<td>January 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goal 2: Increase accessibility to programs that support families and adults in overcoming barriers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Partnership</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Timeline, Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Make screening programs available for preschool age children.</td>
<td>CLAC CBAL SD#10 Selkirk College ASLCS Nakusp Public Library</td>
<td>Provide Ages and Stages questionnaire at StrongStart centres</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Provide outreach programming to rural areas.</td>
<td>SD#10 CBAL CAP-C Selkirk College Success by 6 Nakusp Public Library WorkBC</td>
<td>StrongStart programs in Nakusp, New Denver, Burton, Edgewood and Fauquier Ready, Set, Learn Mother Goose ABE in New Denver Expand library services to Burton and Edgewood reading centres SD#10 offering Outdoor Education Program at Burton Community Learning Centre Offer Workshop Wednesday in rural areas</td>
<td>Ongoing Spring 2015 Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goal 3: Build on collaborative programming approach to increase number of after school activities available to children and youth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Partnership</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Timeline, Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Broaden the membership of the Community Literacy Advisory Committee.</td>
<td>CLAC CBAL PAC Nakusp and Area Youth Society Freedom Quest Nakusp Public Library SD#10</td>
<td>CBAL coordinator to attend PAC meetings Invite other groups to participate in CLAC meetings</td>
<td>September 2015 September 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Create a one page listing of all ongoing activities and distribute via various agencies.</td>
<td>CLAC CBAL PAC Nakusp and Area Youth Society Freedom Quest Nakusp Public Library SD#10</td>
<td>Invite all partners to contribute to a comprehensive listing of programs/services Advertise programs through social media</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goal 4: Increase awareness and opportunities to access resources to mental health literacy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Partnership</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Timeline, Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Increase understanding of mental health and enhance awareness of available services for mental health clients.</td>
<td>CLAC CBAL Nakusp and Area Youth Society Nakusp Public Library SD#10</td>
<td>Bi-weekly facts about mental health in newspaper/social media Create resources for parents Host presentations by outside professionals</td>
<td>Begin Fall 2015 Begin Fall 2015 Winter 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Provide programs to promote mental health and wellness.</td>
<td>CLAC CBAL Nakusp and Area Youth Society Nakusp Public Library SD#10</td>
<td>Beyond the Blues presentation at Selkirk. Lunch &amp; Learn at Selkirk: Stress and coping skills Offer Mental Health First Aid Mother Goose Family Night Out WorkBC workshops aimed at personal health and wellness Unplug &amp; Play Event</td>
<td>October 26, 2015 Fall 2015 TBA Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing January 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Broaden CLAC membership to include local mental health professionals.</td>
<td>CLAC</td>
<td>Invite local health professionals to join CLAC</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
d. What will be required to meet those goals and effectively employ actions for the coming year?

• Effective communication and collaboration among literacy partners
• Continued support from Decoda Literacy Solutions our provincial literacy organization
• Commitment and dedication to community literacy programs

e. How will you measure the success of actions taken to address those goals?

• Attendance of participants and volunteers at various programs
• A more formal and consistent approach to the intake/exit process for adult learners
Appendix

Community Literacy Advisory Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name &amp; Organization</th>
<th>E-mail address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terry Taylor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terry.taylor@sd10.bc.ca">terry.taylor@sd10.bc.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superintendent, SD#10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Bjarnason</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lbjarnason@cbal.org">lbjarnason@cbal.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Literacy Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhonda Palmer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rpalmer@cbal.org">rpalmer@cbal.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Literacy/NES StrongStart</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Kosling</td>
<td><a href="mailto:akosling@selkirk.ca">akosling@selkirk.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selkirk College</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pattie Adam</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pattie.adam@sd10.bc.ca">pattie.adam@sd10.bc.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlene Alexander</td>
<td><a href="mailto:charlearn@msn.com">charlearn@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Denver Nursery School</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Rogers</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bna@netidea.com">bna@netidea.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nakusp Public Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pattie Riley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bna@netidea.com">bna@netidea.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nakusp Public Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Driscoll</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mdriscoll@aslcs.com">mdriscoll@aslcs.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WorkBC – Community Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judy Eichhorst</td>
<td><a href="mailto:judy.eichhorst@sd10.bc.ca">judy.eichhorst@sd10.bc.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Distributed Learning Instructor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ulli Mueller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:umueller@selkirk.ca">umueller@selkirk.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Selkirk College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shori Smith</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ssmith@aslcs.com">ssmith@aslcs.com</a></td>
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<td>WorkBC – Community Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather Dennill</td>
<td><a href="mailto:heather.dennill@sd10.bc.ca">heather.dennill@sd10.bc.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Learning – SD#10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program</td>
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<td>Youth/Adult One to One Tutoring</td>
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<td>ABE - Basic Skills upgrading</td>
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<td>Books for Babies</td>
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<td>Mother Goose</td>
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<td>Success by Six Newsletter</td>
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