



REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, June 20th, 2007

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	Services and Operations Report - Literacy
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Presented By:	Susanna Hubbard Krimmer
Purpose of Report:	For Receipt and Information Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Recommendation

It is recommended that this report be received by the Library Board.

Update

The LPL Service Excellence Model provides literacy and learning outcomes that support people in gaining skills they require to be successful in a knowledge-based society. The services focus on: Basic Literacy (reading, writing, numeracy), Media Literacy, Information Literacy, Career, Job Search, Business and Finance Literacy, Health and Wellness Literacy, Technological Literacy and Multicultural Literacy. Some of the more notable literacy activities, organized by service delivery stream and conducted over the first half of 2007, include:

Collections & Lending

- Let's Read! Family Literacy Kits (children's materials in 17 world languages) prepared by Families First in White Oaks, are now catalogued and can be circulated through Millennium.
- OLA Forest of Trees Reading Program (Silver Birch, Blue Spruce, Red Maple, White Pine and Evergreen) books are available at all locations including an additional set of Blue Spruce books for all four READ locations.
- ESL book clubs feature "Quick Read" titles for new Canadians; program being expanded to branch locations this summer.
- Media Literacy Zine collection, consisting of small magazines, that are independently produced by individuals or collectively, is currently under development. Twelve new zines were donated to the library at the May 12 Indie Media Fair.

Reference, Reader's Advisory, Referral

- Lifelong Learning and Literacy flyer produced to describe and map existing library literacy services
- Consistent signage for all branches entitled "Lifelong Learning and Literacy" as tie-in to Central Lifelong Learning and Literacy Centre
- Space planning continues for Lifelong Learning and Literacy Centre (designated for northeast corner of 2nd floor Central) contains computer lab, literacy lounge and various literacy collections in close proximity
- Feb 12: LPL invited/joined Internet Safety Strategic Task Force (with TVDSB, LDCSB & London Police)
- March 27: Celebrating Literacy event by Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford Local Training Board to discuss importance of workplace literacy
- Literacy London Inc partner advertised adult literacy services at Library with traveling exhibit.
- Service Profile for Literacy created
- Multicultural Literacy activities now integrated into Newcomer Strategy Team (Project Plan/Team created)

Technology

- Tech Literacy Week (April 23-27)-featured staff training in Atomic Learning, Web 2.0, wireless, blogs & RSS, downloadable audio books etc
- June 8: Computer lab moved into Lifelong Learning and Literacy Centre for all public computer classes and Literacy London adult literacy classes
- Multimedia computer for public use now available. It includes a webcam, video & audio editing software plus website design capabilities
- Early Literacy station rollout to all branches expected July 2007

Programming

- Jan 17- book launch and panel discussion for Paul Nesbitt-Larking: Politics, Society and the Media . 64 people in attendance for this media literacy event
- April 17- Literacy For Life event at library featured displays and roundtable discussion with over 100 literacy service providers on subjects including Literacy and Employment, Health, Family and Community. Partnered with Literacy Link South Central, Literacy London, & Wheable.
- R.E.A.D. program (2006-2007) assisted 94 children at four locations (Crouch, Sherwood, Jalna and East London. Family Literacy events and newsletter

added to program. Volunteer appreciation nights at four locations attracted over 100 people in total.

- April 24-26: Community Safety and Crime Prevention committee hosted Community Safety forums in partnership with London Public Library at 7 branch locations
- May 1: London Council for Adult Education Adult Learner Awards attracted 130 people.
- May 12 –Second Annual Indie Media Fair, an event which promotes the creation and distribution of independently produced media including zines, comics, music, websites, blogs and more. Over 200 people attended the Fair, 25 showcased their work.
- Computer classes for seniors initiated on bimonthly schedule. Due to long waiting lists this class will be offered more frequently (once per month) in Fall, 2007.
- 2007 Summer READ program with 12 students possible due to successful Canada Summer Jobs Service Canada grant (funding 11 positions-half salary), plus Friends of London Public Library and LPL funding. Libro Community Builder's Grant still under consideration.
- new Book Buddies program rollout for Summer 2007. This new program involves volunteers reading with children ages 5-12 for twenty minute sessions.

Community Outreach

- Family Literacy Day (Jan 27) Outreach conducted during week of January 22. Literacy Project Team visited 8 locations (Men's Mission, Big Brothers of London, Food Bank, Salvation Army, Middlesex London Health Unit, London Women's Community House, N'Amerind, Daily Bread) and spoke with some 422 people.
- May 9-Skills London Oxford Middlesex Elgin event at Western Fairgrounds. LPL represented as part of Literacy for Life exhibits (Literacy and Health & Literacy and Employment). Spoke with over 500 students and promoted library's literacy services, Employment Resource Centres and Teen Annex.

Notable forthcoming Activities/Opportunities

- June 26-30: Centre for Literacy Summer Institute 2007 entitled "Libraries and Literacy" in Montreal. Follow-up to National Summit on Libraries and Literacy (CLA 2006). LPL Literacy Coordinator attending
- July 9-11:CHUM Television Media Literacy Institute July 9-11
- September: Financial Literacy Series