

# Expressions

Each One Teach One

## E-Magazine

Volume 6  
Issue 1  
Summer 2012

An interactive quarterly  
magazine for literacy students  
and practitioners published by  
Laubach Literacy Ontario

## *OALCF Tutor Training Modules NOW ONLINE!!!*

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## *Conference 2012 Highlights!*

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## *Goal Path Focus: Independence*

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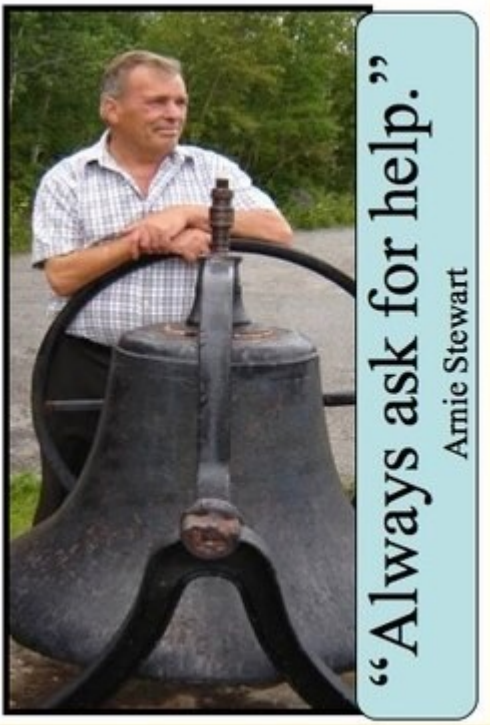
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Laubach Literacy Ontario supports its member agencies in the achievement of higher levels of literacy throughout the province.





Volume 6 of LLO's Expressions E-Magazine is dedicated to the memory of Arnie Stewart. Arnie was a literacy champion, a leader and an inspiration to us all.

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If you have any comments or questions or ideas for articles please feel free to email Robyn Cook-Ritchie: [ritchieg@execulink.com](mailto:ritchieg@execulink.com)

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## Conference 2012 – Small but Mighty!!!

It is always interesting, when the conference is in full swing, to watch people's faces, see the smiles and hear the comments. This is always a good success indicator – based on that...I think we were very successful.

The **workshop choices** this year were excellent judging by comments overheard and written in the evaluations. I have listed a few to give you an idea of the feedback we received: “awesome as usual, wish we had more time, wonderful but too short, this workshop was amazing – learned lots, a great learning experience – opening a pile of possibilities, presenter had lots of knowledge, great job”. I could go on but for those of you who were there ...you know what I mean. For those of you who couldn't make it, I'm sorry you missed our awesome presenters.



Rupert Payea and Annie Aultman

The students attending the **Student AGM** had a new experience – an Election. This year 4 people submitted their names for Student Rep. Keith Allen (North Bay Literacy Council), Annie Aultman (North Bay Literacy Council), Jeremy Katz (Hamilton Literacy Council) and Rupert Payea (Literacy Council of Niagara West). We simulated a real election with polling stations, ballots etc. Each candidate had an opportunity to say why they wanted to be the representative. It was very exciting. The winner was **Annie Aultman** from North Bay....another first....the first female student rep. Congratulations Annie!



Another first for our conference this year was the number of submissions for the **Arnie Stewart Individual**

**Achievement Award.** We had 5 people nominated. – every one of them worthy of this award. The student committee is charged with making this tough decision and it was a difficult one. The candidates this year were: Annie Aultman (North Bay Literacy Council), Denise Mandarin

(The Literacy Group of Waterloo Region – Cambridge), Velma Read (Hamilton Literacy council), Sam Rodriguez (the Literacy Group of Waterloo Region – Kitchener) and Jacobb Watkins (Grand Erie Learning Alternatives). The recipient this year was **Denise Mandarin**. To read more about the awards: <http://www.laubach-on.ca/gethelp/awards> Congratulations to all of you. Four of the candidates were on stage for the presentation by the Student Committee, as well as Barb Stewart (in Arnie's absence) and Gary Porter.



*By Mary Anne Baker*

Speaking of Awards – we also presented **Carol Risidore** (The Literacy Group of Waterloo Region) with the **Lana Faessler Outstanding Service Award** (<http://www.laubach-on.ca/teach/news/conference/award>).

Carol was very proud to receive this award. She made a moving speech about her mentors in literacy, which brought tears to my eyes. She is so worthy of this award.



## And the Winner is....



Brad Ruud from The Literacy Society of South Muskoka won the e-reader.

Other door prizes were won by JoAnne St Louis also from The Literacy Society of South Muskoka (cool drinks stand) and by Kim Bridle from The Hamilton Literacy Council (Coleman cooler).



Once again this year Rubert Payea was out gathering donations enabling him to buy a loaded laptop computer and an e-reader as draw prizes for the students. The winner of the laptop was Rebecca Traynor from The Literacy Group of Waterloo Region.

Our Evaluations Draw for an e-reader with light was won by Darlene McQuire also from the Literacy Society of South Muskoka. We also had a number of winners of our Reach your Goals, Reach your Dreams T-Shirts.

***It was a great gift to win. I was so shocked when my name was called out of so many people that was there. The laptop is a great thing to have, I been wanting one for so long. I didn't think I would of win this lovely gift. I really like doing the workshops this year and would like to go again next year. I enjoyed meeting so many people. I see that I can learn a lot if I put my mind to it. Thank you so much for the lovely gift.***

***Rebecca Traynor from Waterloo, ON***



### **Lesley Andrew – Keynote Speaker – extraordinaire!!**

What an amazing woman. I am actually speechless. She covered so much material and told such personal stories. If there was a dry eye in the audience, I would be surprised. She has overcome so much in her life and she considers her disabilities a blessing. And can she SING – wow. It is impossible to express how great she was. You had to hear her to believe it.

In summary – I think the conference was excellent this year. It was smaller but what we lacked in numbers we made up in enthusiasm. We had no funding and no co host this year but we had great volunteers; family, friends, Student Committee and the Literacy Group of Waterloo Region. Thanks to all of you for helping to make our conference run smoothly.

*By Mary Anne Baker*

For more information about Lesley Andrew or to learn about availability, please contact [www.dreaminprogress.com](http://www.dreaminprogress.com) OR call toll free 1-866-LANDREW.

## **Congratulations Mike!!**



At our conference in 2010 Mike Miron was the recipient of our annual Arnie Stewart Individual Achievement Award.

Being abused as a child, being a part of a failed school system that labeled without diagnosis but still pushed Mike through grade 8, left him a teased and bullied child. Acceptance in grade 9 came with a price – the early start to a path of addictions over two decades long.

After being out of high school for twenty-two years and with little more than a grade nine education Mike walked into the Barrie Literacy Council. After 500 hours of study he graduated to the Learning Centre where he made very clear that it was his intention to complete his grade 12.


Well that was only 2 years ago and Mike has now graduated. Not only that but he was the class valedictorian! Congratulations Mike! We could not be happier for you. You are a true success story.

Seeing Gary Porter (current LLO President of the Board) speak at a function a few years ago was a big part of what inspired Mike to go for his dream. Gary was happy and more than a little proud to attend the graduation ceremonies.

We wish you the best in all of your future endeavours.







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June 12, 2012

Dear LLO Staff & Volunteers

On behalf of the members of the North Bay Literacy Council, I would like to say **THANK YOU** for all the time, hard work and warm hospitality extended to all who attended this year's conference.

It was time well spent learning more about such topics as OALCF and public speaking, to name only a couple. Learning was only one of the benefits of the conference as acquaintances were renewed, friendships expanded and new contacts made all in the name of literacy.

Again, thank you for the time well spent.

We look forward to having you all come to visit, laugh and learn with us next year in North Bay at the LLO Conference.

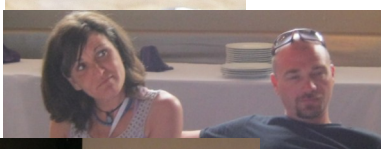
Yours in literacy

*Nancy Miller*



**We received this thank you note from one attendee from North Bay. She welcomes everyone to visit, laugh and learn at next year's conference in North Bay. They are celebrating their 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will co host the conference.**

**We look forward to seeing everyone there – start saving your pennies now!!**



# Program Administration



## Employment Ontario Partners' Gateway updates are now available on RSS!

Subscribe to the Employment Ontario Partners' Gateway RSS feed to get links to new postings delivered right to your desktop!

<http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/>

Ontario's new **Accessibility Standard for Customer Service** is not about physical changes to your premises — it's simply about providing good customer service to everyone. Chances are, you're already making the effort to ensure your organization is providing accessible customer service to people with disabilities.

Open the link below for some helpful guides, templates, tools and checklists to ensure your business is complying with these new rules.

<http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcsc/programs/accessibility/customerService/Under20.aspx>

### SOCIAL MEDIA POSTING GUIDE

#### UNDERSTAND YOUR AUDIENCE

- Know your target audience(s)**  
Tip: Get specific. Create personas.
- You're busy. So are they.**  
Don't waste your time or theirs.
- It's not all about you**  
Show interest in needs of others not just yours.
- Do unto others...**  
Others like mentions & RTs as much as you.
- Limit the pleas for help**  
Ideally keep this below the 10% mark.
- Be responsive**  
Respond within 24 hrs. Aim for less...

#### PLAN YOUR CONTENT

- How much time do you have?**  
Be realistic. Block out time. Stick to it.
- Monthly: content strategy**  
ID what's coming up. Schedule campaigns.
- Monthly: key messages**  
Define key messages for campaigns & events.
- Use an editorial calendar**  
Download a free one at [topnonprofits.com/escal](http://topnonprofits.com/escal).
- Weekly: batch content creation**  
Maximize time. Minimize mental gear shifts.
- Scheduling posts in advance OK**  
Tip: vary timing slightly and avoid :00 and :30.
- Check feeds at least 2x per day**  
If only 2x, then mid morning & late afternoon.
- How will you measure success?**  
Tip: Set measurable goals. Track progress.

#### facebook BEST PRACTICES

- Think headline, not article**  
Get attention. Then add 1, action, or link.
- Post every other day \***  
Best frequency to get and keep likes.
- A picture is worth 1000 words**  
Tip: Limit depressing ones.
- Tell good stories**  
Less statistics. More stakeholder stories.
- Use analytics with your links**  
Insight, good. Dashboard obsession, bad.

#### twitter BEST PRACTICES

- Don't treat it like Facebook**  
Very content & don't auto-post between.
- Post at least once a day \***  
More is better and vary times slightly.
- Space out your tweets**  
No more than 2/hr (excluding @replies).
- Best CTR: 8-9am, 2pm, 5pm, 3pm \***  
(best yourself) Bad: 3am-7am, 10am-1pm, 6-7pm.
- Best RTs: noon-4pm \***  
(best yourself) Bad: Before 10am, after 7pm.
- Tweet on the weekend**  
Less busy means greater CTR but less RTs.
- Keep it short and sweet**  
Below 125 characters allows manual RTs.
- Don't be a downer \***  
(+) tweets shared 34% more, (-) 11% less.
- Place links early (1/4 mark) \***  
Highest probability of CTR. Very end OK also.

\* Based on research by Dan Zarrella <http://danzarrella.com>

CC BY-NC-SA

If you share this resource please provide a link to <http://topnonprofits.com/posting-guide>

TOP NONPROFITS BY CRAIG VAN KORTLAAR

Fall courses for the **Teacher of Adults: Literacy Educator Certificate Program** offered online by Conestoga and Sault Colleges via OntarioLearn are available:

Course Registration - <http://www.conestogac.on.ca/parttime/0961.jsp>

Program Information - <http://www.adultliteracyeducator.com/>



## OALCF Tutor Training Modules

**NOW ONLINE!!!!**

<http://laubach.alphaplus.ca/moodle1/login/index.php>

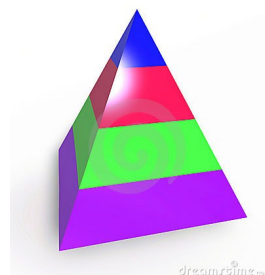


# OALCF Goal Path Focus Independence

The **independence goal path** prepares learners for the literacy and basic skills required in four functions that contribute to personal independence (managing basic needs, managing personal health, managing personal issues and relationships, and participating in the community).

## Goal Path Description for Practitioners and Learners—Independence

<http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/publications/>



## Performance Management 101

Bi-monthly performance management newsletters are being developed and posted on LLSC's website for program reference.

<http://www.llsc.on.ca/about-us/resources>

## Employment Ontario Information System - Case Management System Training Resource Guide for Literacy and Basic Skills Service Providers

Reports are now available for LBS service providers. To read more about reports click on the link to access the latest bulletin:

[http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/publications/cams\\_lbs\\_2012-4\\_bulletin.pdf](http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/publications/cams_lbs_2012-4_bulletin.pdf)

[Click here](#) to access the EOIS-CaMS page and documents.



## LLO students on Facebook!



Are you a Facebook user? Do you want to share your stories, pictures and achievements with other Laubach Literacy Ontario students? Simply Like our **LLO students** page on Facebook!

1. log into your Facebook account
2. visit <https://www.facebook.com/pages/LLO-students/256010761167796>
3. click on **Like** button

### Facebook 101

Want to learn more about Facebook?

Explore FACEBOOK 101 tutorial

(<http://www.gcfllearnfree.org/FaceBook101>)

to get up to speed on how to create, use, and maintain your Facebook account. There are many lessons, interactive activities, videos and extras for you to check out!



### Facebook safety tips

**Use a strong password** – mix upper- and lower-case letters, numbers, and symbols. Make it at least eight characters.

**Don't show your full birthday date** – it's an ideal target for identity theft

**Limit public information** – leave out your phone number and address

**Think before you post** – be sensitive and consider how it will make people feel

**Be selective when accepting 'friend' requests** – ignore requests from people you don't know

**Don't mention you will be away from home** – it's like putting a "no one's home" sign on your door





Arnie Stewart passed away peacefully on August 16<sup>th</sup> 2012, in his home and surrounded by his family, after a brief battle with cancer.

If you would like to leave a comment about Arnie, you can either do so on our [Facebook page](http://www.facebook.com/LaubachLiteracyOntario?ref=hl) (<http://www.facebook.com/LaubachLiteracyOntario?ref=hl>) or on a blog set up by Janet Lee Stinson, by clicking here: [This Side of the Mirror » Blog Archive » Arnie Stewart](http://janetlee.edublogs.org/2012/08/17/arnie-stewart/#.UC6VHkTA2Ik) (<http://janetlee.edublogs.org/2012/08/17/arnie-stewart/#.UC6VHkTA2Ik>)

Our next issue of Expressions will be dedicated to honouring Arnie, and will include comments and remembrances that have been shared with us.

The family has requested that donations of sympathy be made to Laubach Literacy Ontario student fund c/o Lana Faessler at 8A-65 Noecker St, Waterloo, Ont. N2J 2R6

Obituary: <http://yourlifemoments.ca/sitepages/obituary.asp?old=632974>

## Calling all programs!!!

LLO has received funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to develop task-based activities to accompany the Laubach Way to Reading series.

We are looking for four pilot sites to participate in this exciting project.

If your agency is interested in being a pilot site

please contact Robyn Cook-Ritchie:

[ritchieg@execulink.com](mailto:ritchieg@execulink.com)



## Laubach Literacy Bookstore



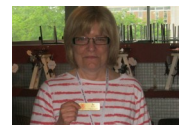
Click [on the link](#) to review the latest **LLO Express** our electronic monthly newsletter.

<http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=527e811a0c782656b30e7f7f3&id=de768dc0c0>

The featured resource in July was *Life Skill Words*.

## Training Development Certification

Congratulations to L. Johanna (Jo) Mutch, our newest certified Laubach trainer! Jo is an active member of the TDAC committee and is also the LLO board vice-president.



# Creative Curriculum

## Corner

**SparkNotes**, originally part of a website called The Spark, is a company started by Harvard students Sam Yagan, Max Krohn, Chris Coyne, and Eli Bolotin in 1999 that originally provided study guides for literature, poetry, history, film, and philosophy. Later, SparkNotes expanded to provide study guides for a number of other subjects, including math, health, physics, biology, chemistry, economics and sociology. SparkNotes does not charge users, but instead uses advertising for revenue.

<http://www.sparknotes.com/sparknotes/>



Click on the link and enter your birth year to find out what happened that year!

<http://whathappenedinmybirthyear.com/>

<http://www.learninghub.ca/Home.aspx>



<http://www.siouxhudsonliteracy.com>



**Decoda**  
LITERACY SOLUTIONS

## Adult Literacy Resources

<http://decoda.ca/adults/adult-literacy-resources/>



TV411 is a collection of entertaining videos and engaging web activities, all designed to help adults reach learning goals.

<http://www.tv411.org/>



Your Legal Rights is a website of legal information for people in Ontario. This site has free, practical, and easy-to-find legal information produced by hundreds of organizations across Ontario.

<http://yourlegalrights.on.ca/>

## Ten Ways to Use Facebook with Learners

1. Set up a dedicated Facebook group for a class
2. Use Facebook Apps
3. Follow news feeds
4. Practice languages
5. Follow figures of interest
6. Use Facebook timeline for a group project
7. Use Facebook questions and polls
8. Use Facebook to send messages and communicate
9. Share multimedia
10. Encourage collaboration



To learn more about how to use Facebook with learners check out this great article:

<http://www.zdnet.com/blog/igeneration/ways-to-use-facebook-effectively-in-class/15269>



## History & Challenges of Assessing Learner Progress in Adult Education & Literacy

The following information was captured by Jose L. Cruz from a special two-hour presentation made for the San Diego Council on Literacy by Dr. Tom Sticht.

1. Many tests, not just normed or criterion-referenced tests, are standardized. Anyone can create a standardized test as long as it is administered and scored in a consistent, or "standard", manner.
2. Knowledge is attained faster than skills. Skills take time and practice. They are not taught.
3. Oracy (listening, speaking, vocabulary) is the foundation for reading. Most often, a person's oracy skills exceeds their reading or decoding skills. The goal is to close this gap so that the person's ability to read catches up with their vocabulary.
4. A first question to ask and answer is, "What are we testing?" Most tests do not test what was taught, especially those that are norm-referenced, criterion-referenced, and competency-based. These tests (CASAS, TABE, ABLE, TALS) are typically those that are recognized as being approved for measuring learner progress.
5. Curriculum-based assessment tools test what was taught.
6. A flaw in literacy instruction is the inclination to focus on general literacy and literacy skills, while minimizing the advantages that come from teaching literacy using a specific content area.
7. Most unfortunate is that literacy assessment tools, like the Test of Adult Literacy Skills (TALS) and others, test general literacy. The data shows that, when this is done, literacy skill advancement appears to be deceptively minimal.
8. When skills are assessed via emphasis of instruction upon specific content areas or goals (read the Bible, prepare for a job, learn about healthcare) knowledge is acquired and skills are improved and can be proven to be improved if the assessment tool relates to the specific content that was taught.
9. Also not being measured are the increases in the confidence level of adult students (parents) who receive instruction and who are able to support the literacy skill acquisition of their children because they are engaged in their own improvement in reading and overall education.
10. What is important is that students are able to transfer skill acquisition to tests that measure general literacy.

Jose L. Cruz, Chief Executive Officer, San Diego Council on Literacy  
[jcruz@literacysandiego.org](mailto:jcruz@literacysandiego.org)

At our conference in June we offered a workshop Exploring Learner Pathways: Meeting at the LBS/ESL Intersections presented by Olga Herrmann, Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy.

The goal of this workshop was to peek into the findings of MTML's project exploring the learner pathways and needs of second language learners in LBS programs across Toronto/York Region. Reflections on 'grey area' learners who may belong in either an ESL Literacy or LBS program and a discussion the implications of the findings for tutors was also included.

The complete report of these findings is now available at <http://learnerpathways.wordpress.com>.



# Fun Stuff!



Great Grammar Links

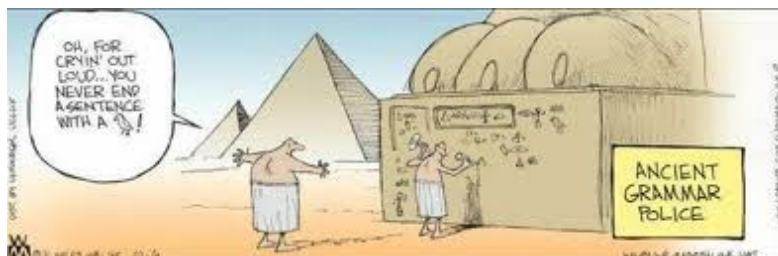
<http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/have-got-grammar.aspx>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/grammar/learnit/learnitv123.shtml>

<http://www.grammartips.homestead.com/like.html>



Want to spice up a PowerPoint? Embed live tweets!  
<http://edudemic.com/2012/05/how-to-integrate-live-tweets-into-your-presentations/>  
 How To Integrate Live Tweets Into Your Presentations | Edudemic



## Working in Adult Literacy Blog

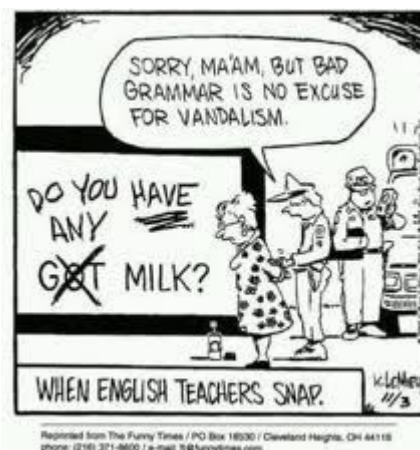
For teachers of adult literacy, numeracy, adult basic education, GED prep and adult ESOL; about teaching and adult learning.

<http://katenonesuch.com/>



Do you want to create your own blog? Click on the link below for blog ideas for non-profit organizations

<http://nonprofitorgs.wordpress.com/2012/05/07/11-blog-content-ideas-for-nonprofits/>







# NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

## Welcome New Members:

In the last three months we have had three new agencies join LLO!

They are **Georgian College** in Owen Sound (for a total of eight school board members), the **Niagara Regional Native Centre Literacy and Basic Skills Program** from St. Catharines (bringing the total of native programs to six). The native program heard about us from other LBS agencies in their LSP group. Our final new member is the **Bob Rumball Centre for the Deaf** in Toronto. The new members have been added to LLO wiki. If you would like to welcome them please post a message: <http://laubachliteracyontario.pbworks.com/w/page/15157379/FrontPage>

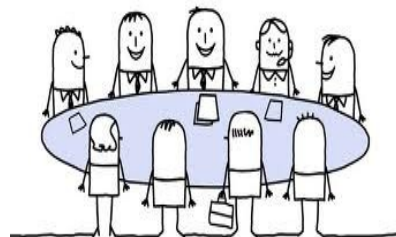
As a result of an exciting student election held at our annual conference as well as one of our board members reaching the end of their term we have some changes to our Board of Directors.

As a whole this board offers many areas of expertise and we look forward to working with everyone.

## We are happy to present you with our new 2012-2013 Board of Directors

Gary Porter  
L. Johanna (Jo) Mutch  
Linda Fetterly  
Henry Sum  
Annie Aultman  
Tracey M. Mollins  
Monika Jankowska-Pacyna  
Gay (Catherine G.) Douglas  
Alicea Fleming

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Student Representative  
Member at Large  
Member at Large  
Member at Large  
Member at Large



We are on **FACEBOOK**.



Be sure to visit and click on LIKE so our posts appear on your newsfeed!!!

LLO is tweeting! Click on the link to follow us: <http://twitter.com/llontario>



## ***Message From The President***

It's been one month since I started my term as President of LLO. I am very pleased with our new Board of Directors and am excited to get working with all of you in continuing LLO's vision and mission to support our member councils and agencies.

Sadly, we have to say goodbye to two dedicated and hardworking members.

Sue Bannon, our past President, E.D. of Midland Reading Council, has spent many years as a board member and three years as President of our Board of Directors.

Rubert Payea, our student representative from Niagara West, has brought his good humor and generosity to the board for the past two years.

Welcome to the newly elected Board members. Alicea Fleming is from the Learning Disabilities Association, Windsor-Essex, and Annie Aultman from North Bay, our new student representative.

I'm excited to work with all of you for the next three years and will do my best to serve my Board and member Councils and Agencies. Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time at [candles48@rogers.com](mailto:candles48@rogers.com).

On behalf of the Board, I wish everyone an enjoyable and safe summer to all of you.

### ***Gary Porter***

President, L.L.O.

