



**LETHBRIDGE LIFELONG  
LEARNING ASSOCIATION**

**2008 ANNUAL REPORTS**

**March 25, 2009**



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**Community Adult Learning Councils**

*Lifelong learning...it's our business*

## LETHBRIDGE LIFELONG LEARNING ASSOCIATION 2008 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

"What did I learn today?" I learned that being President is hard work. In fact, 2008 was a learning year for all our Board members. There were new positions to learn, situations to handle, people to understand, lots of giving and receiving of ideas, and team building. But despite us all Lethbridge Lifelong Learning has had another successful year in 2008.

- Thank you to the Executive Director, Leanne Armstrong, for doing a commendable job, despite some health issues, of fulfilling her job duties and responsibilities. She is such a pleasure to work with.
- Thank you to the non profit organizations that promote and utilize Lethbridge Lifelong Learning.
- Thank you to the 1, 274 adult learners who have accessed programs funded by Lethbridge Lifelong Learning
- Thank you to the Lethbridge College for providing in-house space until November at which time we moved to our own location downtown.
- And very special thank you to Diane Bland, an individual member, who stepped up and assisted us when Leanne was ill.

In February LLLA hosted a networking session. In April Leanne and Rene attended the Pan Canadian literacy conference in Edmonton. We funded a special project called Basic Cooking. It is a DVD that consists of what basic Canadian foods are and the techniques to cook them. LLLA had a display table at the Ywise Women's Conference and Leanne was part of the organizing committee. LLLA partnered with the Read On program at the library to launch the "Caught Reading" photo contest. The winner's photos will be displayed throughout the city. LLLA partnered with International Amnesty to celebrate cultural diversity in the community. In November Leanne, Abby and I attended The Buck Starts Here. I had the good fortune to be able to visit with some of our members as well as meet some new people.

I was able to take a lot of information back to the Board about the process of applying for funding and fundraising. This was invaluable because we are experiencing a tremendous demand for program funding by our organizational members. This possibly indicates a higher profile of Lethbridge Lifelong Learning and/or a greater identification that adult learning needs exist in the community. The Board will be updating the grant application procedure and will be relaying that information to our organizational members prior to the spring granting period. The Board will finalize their application for charitable status in 2009. At this year's networking session; date to be announced, we will be asking our organizational members and those of the board that can attend to brainstorm about fundraising and funding ideas.

A special thanks to our Board. A single thread, standing on its own, can be blown away by the slightest breeze. But it would take quite a wind to blow away a tightly interwoven blanket of many threads. Our Board is a foundation that is resilient and that cannot be easily dismantled when times get tough.

I want to express my gratitude to all my fellow board members for their hard work and support: Rene Plaizier, who in her role as Vice President, applied her enthusiasm, knowledge and energy in furthering LLLA's interests; Grace Duff who diligently undertook the role of Treasurer; Sandra Sitter who continued to work hard as our Secretary; Chris Hansen, for his valuable support and knowledge; and to Pankaj Bhowmik, our newest member.

I want to express my appreciation for the opportunity to be your Board President for 2008 and to everyone who made the experience meaningful and purposeful.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Jensen, LLLA President

## LETHBRIDGE LIFELONG LEARNING ASSOCIATION

### 2008 BOARD ALLOCATION REPORT

In 2008 the Lethbridge Lifelong Learning Association Board of Directors was very active in monitoring the program funding process. The Program Status Report has become a very useful tool to the Board in order to see the status of approved programs and reallocate program funding if needed. The Board reviewed the Program Completion Statement and made some changes in order to be in line with Program Grant Application and also revised the allocation evaluation sheet for evaluating Program Grant proposals.

We were able to fund courses in all four required programming areas in 2008, which helped **1274 adult learners** in Lethbridge. We are very pleased with the results from our Organizational members with regard to **98% (1013/1037) satisfaction** and **97% (1009/1037) meeting personal learning goals** of participants in programs funded by LLLA. The Council is still experiencing a tremendous demand for program funding by Organizational members in 2008. LLLA received over \$195,000.00 in Program Grant Applications, but was only able to budget \$110,000.00 for program allocation. This possibly indicates a higher profile of LLLA in the community and greater identification of adult learning needs existing in the community.

There was one Curriculum and Resource Development Project approved for **\$5,000.00** called Basic Cooking DVD developed by the Chinook Health – Population Health. The Board approved a budget of \$110,000.00 for programming and curriculum & resource development projects in 2007.

Results of Priorities set by Board in 2008:

Priorities from 2008 Business Plan	How Council Addressed the Priority
Adult Basic Literacy: Foundational learning skill, reading, writing, listening, speaking and reviewing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA partially funded the Express Literacy Plus program (2 ongoing sessions) that helped 119 learners on a one-to-one basis from the ages of 16 to 29 with their reading, writing and math skills.</li> <li>• LLLA funded a program called Stepping Away that ran 2 times and helped 20 barriered adults by embedding literacy into everyday activities such as learning to read the Driver's Learner manual.</li> </ul>
Community capacity building and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA funded a program called 2008 ESL Summer Camp (ran 1 time) that helped 11 immigrants develop a sense of Canadian culture through camping and dancing, etc. LLLA helped fund The Chat Room through the YWCA (ran 2 times) that helped 32 single female parents with support, community resources and personal issues.</li> </ul>
Citizenship and Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA funded the Orientation Classes for Citizenship Rights &amp; Responsibilities program (ran 1 time) that helped 7 immigrants understand their rights and responsibilities of being a Canadian citizen.</li> <li>• LLLA funded a program called 2008 ESL Summer Camp (ran 1 time) that helped 11 immigrants integrate into Canadian culture.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA funded a program called Ywise Women's Conference that ran 1 time and helped 63 financially barriered women aged 45+ with mind, body and spirit issues during the one day conference.</li> </ul>
Volunteer training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA funded First Aid and Volunteer Community Training programs that ran 68 times and helped 434 financially barriered adults and volunteers gain these important skills to make our community safer.</li> </ul>
Parenting education and child development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA helped fund The Chat Room through the YWCA (ran 2 times) that helped 32 single female parents with support, community resources and personal issues. <b>The YWCA received a national award for this innovative program.</b></li> </ul>
Integrating Special Needs groups into the larger community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA funded the Orientation Classes for Citizenship Rights &amp; Responsibilities program (ran 1 time) that helped 7 immigrants understand their rights and responsibilities of being a Canadian citizen.</li> <li>• LLLA funded a program called Exploring Art for Special Needs Adult that ran 4 times and helped 141 financially; physically and developmentally challenged adults integrate into the community through their artistic ability.</li> <li>• LLLA funded a program called A survey of Modern Poetry that ran 2 times and helped 20 financially; schizophrenia challenged adults integrate into the community through the use of poetry.</li> <li>• LLLA funded a program called First Aid for Vulnerable Citizens that ran 9 times and helped 77 barriered adults integrate these important skills to make their family and community safer.</li> <li>• LLLA funded a program called Stepping Away that ran 2 times and helped 20 barriered adults gain life skills so they can be more of a functional citizen in the community.</li> <li>• LLLA funded a program called Life Skills program that ran 180 times and helped 24 barriered adults gain life skills to survive in our community.</li> </ul>
Prevention of domestic violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA helped fund The Chat Room through the YWCA (ran 2 times) that helped 32 single female parents with support, community resources and personal issues. <b>The YWCA received a national award for this innovative program.</b></li> <li>• LLLA funded the Suicide Prevention workshops that ran 8 times and helped 160 financially barriered participants cope and deal with this issue.</li> <li>• LLLA funded a program called Reclaiming Well Being after Loss program that ran 2times and helped 14 barriered adults through the grieving process.</li> </ul>

	LLLA funded a program called I like My Life, My Life Likes Me program that ran 2 times and helped 12 barriered adults through such issues as abuse and isolation.
Cultural competencies	LLLA hosted a networking session that covered an introduction to culture competency that helped 12 members.
ESL: Develop basic interpersonal and communication skills	LLLA funded a program called 2008 ESL Summer Camp (ran 1 time) that helped 11 immigrants with their speaking and writing skills in English.
Skill training leading to possible employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLLA funded a program called Soaring Hearts Project that ran 2 times and helped 16 aboriginal women gain native skills in beading, sewing, etc.</li> </ul> LLLA funded a program called Public Service that ran 1 time and helped 12 aboriginal people gain skills in the public service sector.

- **16 programs** (371 sections) for **1274 participants** were provided in all four required programming areas: ABL, ESL, Community Issues and Training for Employment totaling **\$96,964.00**.
- LLLA organizational members **reduced or waived fees for 436 participants** in 2008 in programs funded by LLLA.

## Grants Awarded

List all member agencies awarded grants in 2008 and the combined total dollars provided

Member Agency	Total Grant Amount
Lethbridge Youth Foundation	\$3,500.00
Southern Alberta Ethnic Association	\$4,896.48
Lethbridge John Howard Society	\$12,006.00
Canadian Red Cross	\$ 8,000.00
Lethbridge Community Network	\$ 9,254.00
St. John Ambulance	\$ 5,000.00
Schizophrenia Society	\$ 3,480.00
Canadian Mental Health Association	\$ 9,294.00
Lethbridge Family Services	\$ 9,100.00
YWCA of Lethbridge & District	\$13,527.00
Lethbridge Allied Arts Council	\$ 5,757.00
Blackfoot Canadian Cultural Association	\$10,400.00
Metis Nation Local 2003	\$ 2,750.00
Chinook Health – Population Health	\$ 5,000.00
Total of all grants provided:	\$101,964.48

2008 was a very successful year for Lethbridge Lifelong Learning Association with regards to achieving the priorities set by the Board in allocating program funding and becoming more accountable and efficient with the allocation of program funding.

Respectfully submitted by:

Susan Jensen  
Sandra Sitter  
Grace Duff

Rene Plaizier  
Chris Hansen

**LETHBRIDGE LIFELONG LEARNING ASSOCIATION**  
**NOMINATION REPORT**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION FOR 2009/10**

In accordance with our new Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall be elected from the Individual Members consisting of not less than five (5) individuals and not more than eight (8) individuals. The term of service of a Director is a three (3) year term and may serve two consecutive terms.

**CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION**

*The following individuals have agreed to let their names stand for election to the Board of Directors of Lethbridge Lifelong Learning Association for the 2009/10 year:*

<b>Pankaj Bhowmik</b> -interim since February 2009	Term #1	2009-2012
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Please review the personal biography of the above candidate for election below.

**DIRECTORS**

Remaining terms of elected Directors. For information only.

<b>Susan Jensen</b>	Term #1	2007-2010
<b>Sandra Sitter</b>	Term #1	2007-2010
<b>Chris Hansen</b>	Term #1	2008-2011
<b>Grace Duff</b>	Term #1	2008-2011
<b>Rene Plaizier</b>	Term #1	2008-2011

**CANDIDATES BIOGRAPHY**

**Pankaj Bhowmik**

Pankaj Bhowmik is working as an NSERC visiting fellow in Canadian Government Laboratory (Lethbridge Research Center- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada). He holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture from Bangladesh Agricultural University and a doctorate in plant molecular biology from Ehime University in Japan.

Pankaj worked as a Scientific Officer at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute. He has also worked as a JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) postdoctoral fellow at National Agricultural Research Center in Japan and as an Izaak Killam Postdoctoral researcher at University of Alberta, Canada. Dr. Bhowmik's main area of research is plant physiology and molecular biology in relation to carbohydrate metabolism in plants.

Mr. Bhowmik has demonstrated leadership skills by organizing Multiculturalism Day Festival and Heritage Day Festival as a member of Southern Alberta Ethnic Association (SAEA). Currently he is serving as one of the Vice-Presidents of the SAEA executive body. He is also serving as a School Representative at the District School Council Board, Lethbridge School District No.51 and providing input to the school board on broader education issues and informing the community about education concerns.

Pankaj was born and brought up in Bangladesh. He is married to Suchana Bhowmik and they have two children Pushpita Bhowmik (6) and Sahasro Bhowmik (2). He enjoys traveling, photography and plays cricket.