

## Planning for Summer at TLC

This is the second summer TLC will be keeping its doors open and we are excited by some of the learning sessions we will be offering, based on your interests. Last summer, in addition to regular programming, we ran two very successful workshops, one on improving your communications skills and the other on managing conflict at home, at work or in the community. These may be part of our summer schedule this year as well.

Across Ontario, organizations like TLC have offered some very innovative programming, and they have inspired us. Here are just a few examples: the Port Care Learning Centre recognized that, while there was a lot of interest in obtaining certifications to work in the food service industry (ex. Smart Serve, WHMIS, First Aid/CPR, and Safe Food Handling), many of their clients needed to refresh their basic reading, writing and math skills before they could take training. The result? A combination essential skills and food service industry training program that allowed clients to begin where they needed to, and to end up with their certifications and job-ready.

In Fort Frances, a successful Northern Ontario essential skills program that targets women interested in careers in the administrative field was recently expanded to several First Nations communities. Clients are young women who are looking for work in the administrative or secretarial field, but whose shaky reading writing and math skills were getting in the way of their training. The Valley Adult Learning Association, which offers the same type of programming TLC does, partnered with Ontario Works to provide women with the foundational skills they needed to be ready to move on to post-secondary courses.

Other interesting possibilities include: Feeding A Family, where you'll find straightforward ideas, instructions and activities to add to your toolkit for budgeting and planning meals ; Learning to Communicate by Understanding Internet and E-mail, where you'll be introduced to commonly used terms, practice basic e-mail use and learn how others may interpret your e-mail messages; Maintaining Healthy Self-Esteem On and Off the Job, all about being resilient; and Reading to Understand the Ontario Driver's G1 Knowledge Test, which will help ensure you have the reading skills you need to do well on the test.

If any of these interest you, please call TLC's Program Manager at 613-628-1720. We look forward to planning our summer programming with you in mind.