



Executive Director

JULY 20, 2017

The Fort St. John Literacy Society is a non-profit, charitable organization providing a variety of community literacy programs for individuals and groups who are seeking to upgrade their skills. The Executive Director is responsible for researching, developing, managing and evaluating programs; pursuing new and existing funding opportunities; developing budgets; recruiting, supervising and scheduling staff, maintaining statistical information and producing reports; networking and developing partnerships with local community groups and other literacy organizations; promoting Literacy Society programs; managing day-to-day business of the society. The successful candidate must demonstrate an understanding of project management and critical path development; local/provincial/federal and corporate grants; community development; staff development; fundraising; an ability to develop and work within budgets; an understanding of community literacy issues especially those confronting low literacy and ESL adults and families. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills as well as strong computer skills are required. Qualifications: university degree or diploma in a related field or equivalent combination of education and experience, minimum 5 years administrative experience.

The position is 35 hours/week.

The position will remain open until filled.

Send resume and cover letter to: Carl Waddington, Chair of Literacy Society
cwaddington@fsjliteracy.ca



Fort St. John
Literacy
SOCIETY

Executive Director

The Fort St. John Literacy Society is a non-profit, charitable organization providing a variety of community literacy programs for individuals and groups who are seeking to upgrade their skills. The Executive Director is responsible for researching, developing, managing and evaluating programs; pursuing new and existing funding opportunities; developing budgets; recruiting, supervising and scheduling staff, maintaining statistical information and producing reports; networking and developing partnerships with local community groups and other literacy organizations; promoting Literacy Society programs; managing day-to-day business of the society. The successful candidate must demonstrate an understanding of project management and critical path development; local/provincial/federal and corporate grants; community development; staff development; fundraising; an ability to develop and work within budgets; an understanding of community literacy issues especially those confronting low literacy and ESL adults and families. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills as well as strong computer skills are required. Qualifications: university degree or diploma in a related field or equivalent combination of education and experience, minimum 5 years administrative experience.

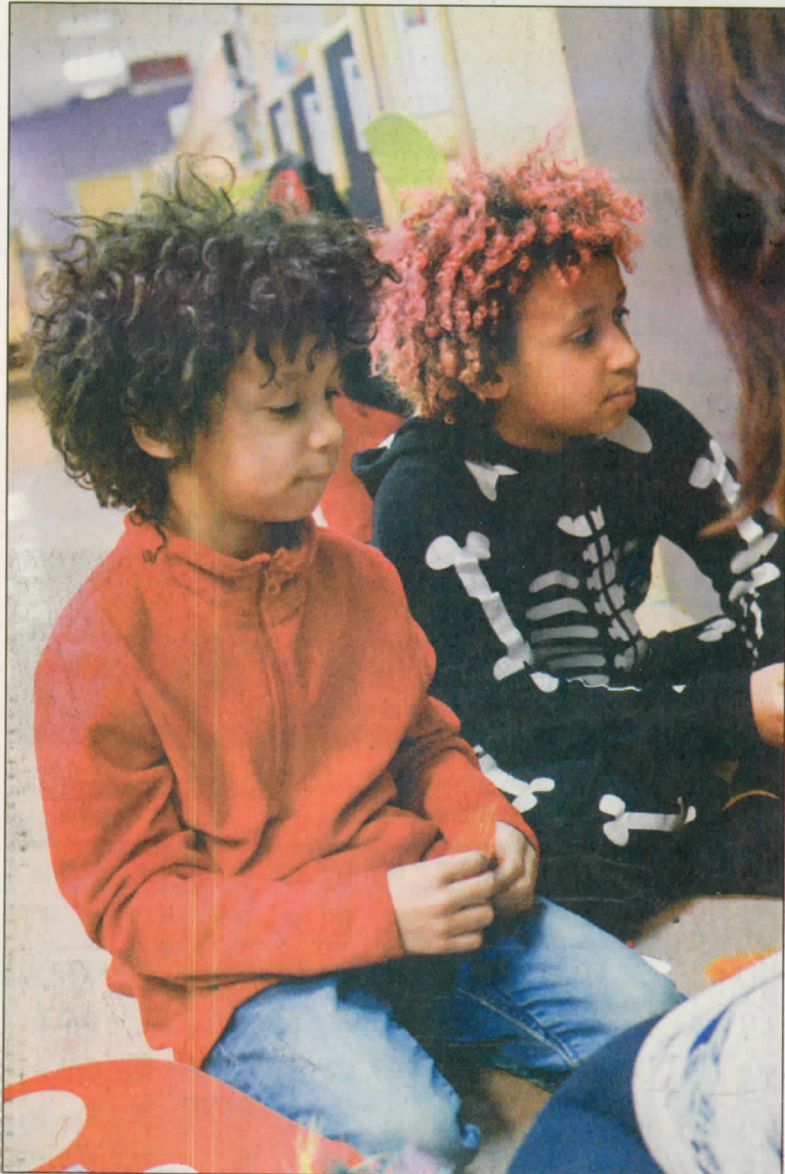
The position is 35 hours/week.

The position will remain open until filled.

Send resume and cover letter to: Carl Waddington, Chair of Literacy Society
cwaddington@fsjliteracy.ca

JULY 27, 2017

ARTS & CULTURE



ALEISHA HENDRY PHOTO

Payton Hickey and Chloe Thibodeau read a book at the Camp-In at the Fort St. John Public Library on Jan. 28.

Camping in for Family Literacy Day

The Fort St. John Public Library held its annual Camp-In for Family Literacy Day on Jan. 28. Kids and parents set up their tents, played games, made crafts, and had songs and snacks around the 'campfire.'

Karim and Yamadou Diallo work on a craft for Year of the Rooster during the Camp-In at the Fort St. John Public Library on Jan. 28.

ALEISHA HENDRY PHOTO



A cozy evening with Fireplace Sessions

ALEISHA HENDRY
ahendry@ahnfsj.ca

Who doesn't like listening to music in front of a nice roaring fire?

Fireplace Sessions at the Evangel Chapel is the place to do just that; local musicians will play in a cozy room in front of a warm fireplace.

Organized by Russell Eggleston, the show is a chance for local artists to play music, tell stories and bond as a community.

"I love live music—my favorites are small, cof-

fee-shop style shows, where people listen and magical moments happen," he said. "These used to be a huge part of my life... and because I missed them so much I created a show and convinced these wonderful people to perform on Feb. 4."

Slated to perform at Fireplace Sessions are Airick Clarke, Lorissa Scriven, Mat Savard, Madi Cornet-Cooper, and Adam Winn & Friends.

Fireplace Sessions takes place Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. at Evangel Chapel. For more information, call 250-800-2606.



ALEISHA HENDRY PHOTO

Amy von Stackelberg, Tristan Callison and Wyatt Whieler play a game outside their tent at the Library Camp-In.

Ballet Kelowna celebrates Canada's 150th Anniversary



Ballet Kelowna, 150 Moves

February 26 2017, 7:30pm

The North Peace Cultural Centre
10015 100th Ave

   **Tickets: npcc.bc.ca or 250-785-1992**

HOROSCOPE

For Thursday February 2, 2017

Oct 3, 2014



David Dyck Photo

Jean McFadden, executive director of the FSJ Literacy Society.

\$32,000 in funding for the Literacy Society

DAVID DYCK
STAFF WRITER

The Fort St. John Literacy Society will get an influx of \$32,000 from the province to fund the Community Adult Literacy Program (CALP), which is offered free of charge to those hoping to improve their reading and writing skills.

The program here in Fort St. John sees on average between 35 and 40 adults per year, said Jean McFadden, the Fort St. John Literacy Society's executive director. That wouldn't be possible without this funding.

"For people who need a little bit of support for their literacy, we're a stepping stone," she said. "Then maybe they want to go into college programs, or from here they want to maybe take a work training program, but they need to get their credentials prerequisites before they get into that." CALP is how they're able to do that.

This year, the CALP program is getting over \$25 million spread out across 90 communities in the province.

Peace River North MLA Pat Pimm said the adult literacy project will improve the daily life of citizens and their families through easy accessibility in local schools, native friendship and community centres.

"Literacy improves personal life, family life and community life," Pimm said in a release.

With projects tailored to meet the needs of young parents, aboriginal learners and other adults in the community, it is expected these projects will help up to 9,000 adult learners in B.C., and will assist in the transition to post-secondary studies and further employment training.

According to a 2012 report from the Program for the Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), "a significant number of Canadians (between one in seven and one in five) have very low levels of proficiency."

With 17 per cent of the general population between the ages of 16 and 65 and 24 per cent of off-reserve aboriginal identifiers performing at the lowest proficiency levels for literacy, this funding couldn't have come at a better time, McFadden said.

"Over the years, the Literacy Society has literally helped hundreds of people through this program in the community, and it makes a huge impact in people's lives," said McFadden.

"We have professional staff meet with the learner, find out what it is that they want to work on," explained McFadden.

They'll also train the volunteers and ensure that the learners are progressing and help them with resources.

She explained that people work at their own pace and in their own time to reach whatever objectives they have, whether it be resume-writing, improving reading comprehension or even basic math.

"It can help them get into further programs or better employment or better life with their families," she said.

The project is a collaboration between Northern Lights College and the Society.

Fort St. John isn't the only community in the Northeast that is getting a chunk of this money. Fort Nelson is slated to get \$52,424, to be split between the Sikanni Adult Learning Centre and the Fort Nelson Family Literacy Drop In Learning Centre.

Michele Taylor contributed reporting to this article.

LOCAL NEWS



Jean McFadden, executive director of the FSJ Literacy Society.

LITERACY from A1

According to a 2012 report from the Program for the Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), "a significant number of Canadians (between one in seven and one in five) have very low levels of proficiency."

With 17 per cent of the general population between the ages of 16 and 65 and 24 per cent of off-reserve aboriginal identifiers performing at the lowest proficiency levels for literacy, this funding couldn't have come at a better time, McFadden said.

"Over the years, the Literacy Society has literally helped hundreds of people through

this program in the community, and it makes a huge impact in people's lives," said McFadden.

"We have professional staff meet with the learner, find out what it is that they want to work on," explained McFadden.

They'll also train the volunteers and ensure that the learners are progressing and help them with resources.

She explained that people work at their own pace and in their own time to reach whatever objectives they have, whether it be resume-writing, improving reading comprehension or even basic math.

"It can help them get into further programs or better employment or better life with their families," she said.

The project is a collaboration between Northern Lights College and the Society.

Fort St. John isn't the only community in the Northeast that is getting a chunk of this money. Fort Nelson is slated to get \$52,424, to be split between the Sikanni Adult Learning Centre and the Fort Nelson Family Literacy Drop In Learning Centre.

Michele Taylor contributed reporting to this article.

*peacereporter@ahnfsj.ca
reporter@dcdn.ca*



JONNY WAKEFIELD PHOTO

Andrew Ho and Brigitte Schilds, members of the Kiwanis Community Band.

ARTS from A1

The centre had an opening earlier this month for Kruk's family and VIPs.

Construction of the Kruk Centre has been controversial, as the project nearly doubled its original budget of \$10 million.

City Council acquired the building, which had been vacated by Canada Post, with the intention of turning it into an arts centre. It is named after former mayor Calvin Kruk, who died suddenly in 2008, when the project was in its infant stages.

The city later switched contractors in midstream, then found extensive, unexpected remediation issues. City officials reported the final cost of the centre came to around \$17.6 million. The provincial Auditor General for Local Government is expected to release a report on the building next year.

Hanen said KPAC was frustrated by the delays, but that everyone Sunday was focusing on the centre itself.

"I made a few tours during the construction and it kept me going, knowing that one day it will be what it is now," she said.

The Kiwanis Community Band was one of the groups performing at Sunday's opening. Band leader Andrew Ho said their soundproofed space, in the basement of the centre, is a vast improvement over facilities at the old Grandview School, KPAC's old home.

"We had to do a lot of sound management ourselves, with egg cartons and gym mats and flags, and then sort of make do. Even then, we were pushing 110 decibels even showing up for practice, at which point you start to lose your hearing," he said.

"We're excited to be in a state of the art facility," said Brigitte Schilds, who plays with the band. "We were playing in an old converted classroom."

In the third-floor quilting studio, Tonya Peirce, a member of the Mile Zero Quilting Guild, said she was happy with the amount of natural light in the centre.

"It's a wonderful thing to have the centre finally open. It's a gorgeous building," she said.

Down in the archives, Walter Schoen was busy sorting through old photographs, maps, documents and video cassettes that make up the South Peace Historical Society's collection. He explained the sudden chill in the air as people entered the climate-controlled vault, which will protect the region's heritage from the elements.

Going forward, KPAC will try to find a tenant to operate the centre's cafe space. They will also look to revamp their concert series, which lapsed in recent years. Hanen said they hope to kick off the series in February 2015 with a performance by Dawson Creek native Roy Forbes.

reporter@dcdn.ca