



PROJECT SUMMARY

Labour Market Study

CLLN's Labour Market Study: Enhancing our knowledge of the L/ES workforce

With funding from the Office of Literacy and Essential Skills (OLES), Canadian Literacy and Learning Network (CLLN) is conducting a labour market study of literacy and essential skills workers. CLLN seeks to consolidate what is known about the L/ES workforce and determine the value of, and whether there is a need for, occupational standards and/or credentials. This 17 month project will survey a large sample of L/ES workers in every province and territory to provide the most comprehensive picture of the L/ES labour force undertaken so far.

Why is it important to know who works in L/ES?

Two feasibility studies from 2010/2011¹ investigating the Literacy and Essential Skills services sector pointed to a significant gap in information related to L/ES practitioners. Conducting an in-depth survey of the L/ES work force would be an appropriate way to fill the gap.

CLLN's labour market study can help us better understand the over-arching human resources issues that may affect Canada's capacity to achieve better L/ES results for Canadians.

What do we want to know about who works in L/ES?

Overall, the survey will provide a national picture of L/ES practitioners who work in a variety of capacities in the field.

In addition to basic demographic indicators, the survey will give us a credible profile of the L/ES workforces educational level; types and availability of current professional development opportunities; career paths into this sector; current pool of skills, knowledge and experience; the participants' sense of job stability, as well as long-term human resources needs.

To provide better context, information on types and sizes of organizations L/ES practitioners work in, work setting (community, workplace, family, school-board, etc.), L/ES program location and specific kind of instruction will be gathered during this study.

When will the profile of L/ES workers be available?

CLLN expects to conduct interviews through the fall of 2012 and into 2013. A report is expected to be completed and disseminated in the summer of 2013.

¹ 2010, the Office of Literacy and Essential Skills (OLES) pursued a study (done by the Canadian Council on Learning) to determine the feasibility of surveying the adult Literacy and Essential Skills service sector (*Feasibility Study for a Survey of Adult Literacy and Essential Skills Providers and Programmes in Canada*). In 2011, Statistics Canada conducted a feasibility study of the analytical potential and limits of using provincially and territorially held administrative data in developing a pan-Canadian portrait of adult L/ES services.