



March 31, 2015

## **MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

---

The Honourable Joanne Bernard, MLA  
Minister of the Community Services, Minister for the Status of Women  
Dartmouth North/ and in memory of the Member for Dartmouth South

Mr. Speaker, Mark Twain once said, “The man who does not read has no advantage over the man who cannot read.” Literacy skills transform lives, generate prosperity and promote social inclusion. Without the right skills, people are kept at the margins of society.

A pillar in our Dartmouth North community who works tirelessly towards the aim of literacy for all, celebrates their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

The Dartmouth Learning Network provides opportunities for adults and their family members to improve their reading, writing, math and communication skills. Most importantly Mr. Speaker, the Dartmouth Learning Network gives participants a love of life-long learning, and hope.

Most recently, I was happy to attend an announcement at The DLN to announce provincial funding for their Employment Readiness program, allowing them to expand their programming from 8 students to 29.

Executive Director Lesley Dunn and her amazing team, including over 40 volunteers, seem to have an inexhaustible supply of energy and enthusiasm for the clients they serve.

I would ask that all members of the House join with me in congratulating the Dartmouth Learning Network on their 30<sup>th</sup> year.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.