

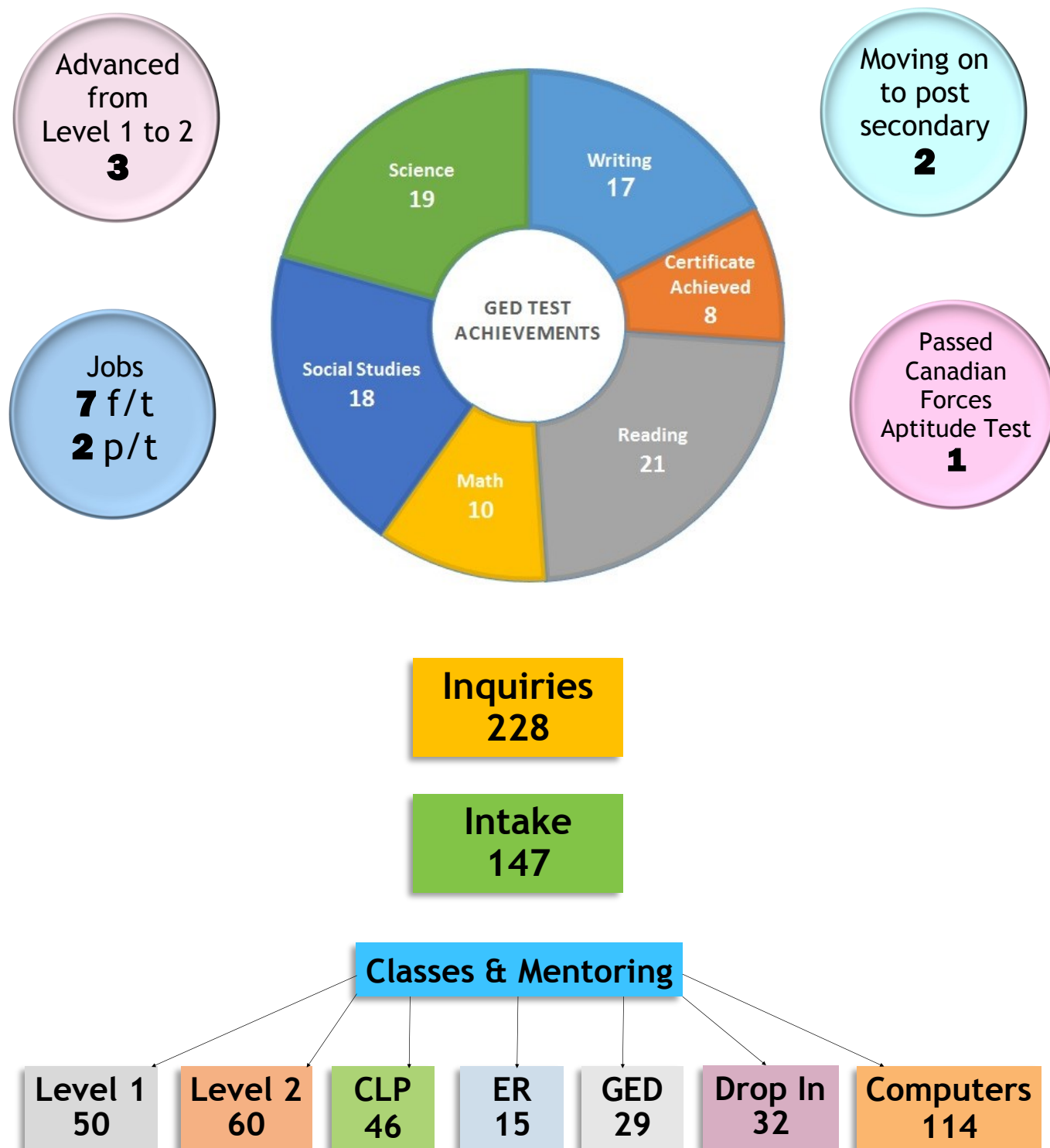
# LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR A STRONGER NOVA SCOTIA



**DARTMOUTH LEARNING NETWORK**  
SEPTEMBER 2017  
TO JUNE 2018

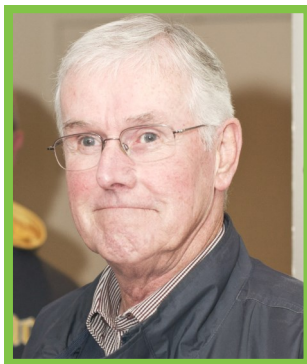
# Statistics Report

2017 – 2018





# Message from the Board Chair



As the school year winds down I think about our learners and how they should be congratulated by all of us for their commitment and hard work.

Nothing happens in a vacuum of course, and there are so many I would like to thank. Alison and her staff, who bring to Dartmouth Learning every day such a high level of professionalism and dedication.

The volunteers, without whom this organization would only be a shadow of what it is. Our funding partners, whose faith in DLN allows us to continue. To all of you, my sincere thanks.

This past year was our first at our new location on Tacoma Drive. As with any move, there have been a few bumps along the way, but the new space is bright and welcoming, and there is now little doubt that it was the right thing to do.

The end of June will mark the end of my term as Board Chair at Dartmouth Learning. Over the past months, nine new members have joined our Board of Directors, bringing with them an amazing array of talents and experience. The Board now, as part of our evolving strategic plan, works in a committee format, which greatly expands the areas in which

the Board can serve. I have nothing but confidence in our future with this skilled and innovative group overseeing the Dartmouth Learning Network.

To the current Board and Board members I have worked with in the past, many thanks. Best wishes to everyone as we continue to learn and grow.

*Ron MacIsaac  
Chair, Board of Directors*

## **2017 – 2018 Dartmouth Learning Network Board Members**

Ron MacIsaac, Chair of the Board  
Phil Pelrine, Treasurer  
Ashley Martel, Secretary (on leave)

## **Current Directors**

Charity Deleon, Cheryl Driscoll, Janice Kenney, Jordan Landry, Olga Manzoni, Zoë Mitchell, Monty Mosher, Jennie Sanford, Brenda Sabo & Evelyn Williamson.

## **Other Directors who Served this Year**

Linda Daley  
Brenda Fay  
Jim Kirby  
Janet MacDonald

# Message from the Executive Director



We have so many stories, big and small to celebrate this year. A beautiful new space; an amazing group of moms who've returned to learning to achieve their General Educational Development (GED) so and move on to college to start their second careers; spending time with Mayor Savage at City Hall during Adult Learning

Week; determined young men

and women working at entry level jobs who are in pursuit of greater job security and earnings by advancing their education; individuals who are redefining who they are and recognize education as a key step in achieving their goals; our many pot-lucks and gatherings that reinforce the wonderful spirit of community that comes from spending time together and being vulnerable with one another; and learners who are persevering despite significant learning differences and challenges in order to enhance their literacy. I could go on and on...

To our learners — Nova Scotia is stronger because of you. Your return to learning directly impacts Nova Scotia's economy. Our province is stronger when everyone has the essential skills

necessary to live and work in a modern economy.

We are thankful to our knowledgeable staff, board and volunteers — their commitment to our learners and to improving their own skills and knowledge are what keeps us moving forward from year to year. I'd like to also thank the Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning who provide financial support and guidance for our Adult Learning Programs. And, last but not least, thanks to all of our community partners who support and promote us, send referrals and partner to do good work.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Alison O'Handley, Executive Director*

## **Dartmouth Learning Network Staff**

Alison O'Handley, Executive Director  
Karen Janik, Administrative Coordinator/eLearning Quality Assurance  
Amanda Sabo, Instructor/Employment Readiness Coordinator  
Trish Derby, Instructor/Family Literacy Coordinator  
Brent McPhee, Instructor  
Gail Thistle (current) & Tyler Colbourne (former) Community Learning Program Coordinator  
Marcia Franklin, eLearning Project Team Lead  
Katie Purdy, eLearning Programmer and Instructional Design

# Level 1 Classes

**1A learners** continued to strengthen their reading skills. Journal writing, discussing current events, reading from a variety of texts and learning through games were some of the skill building activities. Our focus in math was on addition and subtraction with an emphasis on subtraction. Consumer math and “shopping” was a popular activity. Learners also enjoyed using computers to practice their reading and word attack skills as well as their math skills. Our Crazy Volcano was a hit at the Science Fair and the learners enjoyed creating the project.

Through their interest in historical events in Canada and in particular, Nova Scotia, the **1B learners** strengthened their oral reading, word attack and comprehension skills. A robust word study program increased word recognition and comprehension, which was helpful as they read a variety of texts for research, interest and comprehension. Current events and news items played a significant role in our discussions and journals. We looked at history through print, film and hands-on activities. We focused on WW I, the Halifax Explosion, Africville, Black History Month as well as projects on Indigenous People and the history of totem poles. The 1B class honed their mathematical skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We also studied a variety of science topics, including matter, animals and insects; this research helped us to get ready for the 1st Annual Science Fair — this level 1B class had the 3rd and 4th place winners for the Science Fair!

**1C Communications** learners strengthened their reading and comprehension skills through a word study program, science topics and history. They used novels, graphic novels, non-fiction books, science websites and historical timelines to learn about the Halifax Explosion, Africville, Black History Month, and Martin Luther King Jr. We studied mapping and population as they relate to Canada and we took a closer look at the Canadian north – the people and the animals. The 1C learners used their curiosity to inspire them — the 1st place Science Fair winner is a 1C Communications learner.

*Trish Derby,*

*Level 1A/1B Math/Communications & 1C Communications*

At the beginning of the year, I surveyed the **1C Math** learners to see what they wanted to get out of the year in math class; they wanted fractions! We used NSSAL’s Level 1 curriculum and carefully scaffolded through it to add a fractions unit.

The 1C Math class was challenged more than ever this year, but I knew they could do it through the use of manipulatives, step-by-step guided instruction and plenty of practice. One extension activity we used for consumer and decimal math was through the use of a cash register and flyers. All units followed the principle that most math uses the four operations and that you can find patterns that help to “break the code”, making math less intimidating.

*Amanda Sabo,*

*Level 1C Math*



*1B & 1C learners discovered their entrepreneurial spirit when they created items to be sold at our Open House boutique.*



## Our 1st Science Fair

This winter we hosted our first ever Science Fair on March 1st. Our learners made hypotheses, performed research, constructed displays, explained their processes, and answered some very complicated questions.

As we prepared for the fair, science vocabulary, subjects and math were incorporated directly into our communications, math and computer learning, building upon learners' own curiosity about the world around them. At the fair we saw projects on Companion Planting, Mummified Hot Dogs, Light Bulb Types, and Temperatures and Melting Rates of M&M’s, to name but a few.

Thanks to Swiss Chalet and Pleasant Street Diner for their prize donations and to Genevieve and Dave who volunteered their time as judges!

*At left: Science Fair judge Genevieve Campbell speaks with 1B learner Heather C about her Science Fair project.*



# Level 2 Classes

The learners in **2A Communications** indicated early on in the school year that they were interested in preparing for their GED with plans to further their education. We focused on GED Language Arts – reading, writing and critical thinking as well as social studies and science. The class practiced writing narrative essays and wrote for a variety of purposes. Learning more about the history of Canada and Nova Scotia in particular, they focused on issues surrounding Indigenous peoples and African Nova Scotians. The use of laptops was encouraged in class and were often used to practice the online GED test prep site. Many 2A learners have successfully written and passed three out of five GED tests and are well on their way to completion!

Congratulations to the 2A learners for their hard work and their many successes this year!

*Trish Derby*

*Level 2A Communications*

The **2B Communications** class worked hard this year on reading comprehension and writing for several different purposes. The class enjoyed some bridging units upon request in map reading/drawing, history, and science with DLN's first Science Fair. Most members of this group were interested in obtaining their GED, so we practiced five-paragraph narrative essays and read from some GED materials to help promote the type of test prep required, while making learning relevant to all individuals in the class.

*Amanda Sabo*

*Level 2B Communications*

# GED Class

On entry into the **GED Class**, students are asked to write practice tests to see if they are ready to write one or more of the GED tests. We have found that when a student scores well on the Canadian Adult Reading Assessment they are often able to write some of the GED tests on entry into the program. Having these early wins builds their motivation and confidence.

Tutor support allows us to provide small groups or one-to-one instruction using quality resources like the Steck-Vaughn GED textbook, McGraw-Hill for Math, Moving On Up and NS GED prep curriculum resources.

Most of our students have one of two fears: writing the math test or writing the essay. We work with the student to get past whatever fear is preventing them from success on a test, by breaking down the test into chunks (e.g., sentence placement, algebra, etc.).

Many of our learners have written all five GED tests and some are currently writing tests. Those who came to us late in the year will break for the summer, then continue with the course in the fall. The majority of the GED learners want to get their GED for work reasons: some to find work, and others to attend post-secondary education, leading to better employment.



*Colette R (above) quickly advanced from Level 2A to 2B and is now only one test away from earning her GED certificate.*

The **Level 2A and 2B Math** students have used the class to learn new math concepts and to reinforce the math skills they had. Number sense has been encouraged, calculators and times table charts discouraged in class. One in-class concept was  $\pi$  and why it equals 3.14 for every circle. During this subject each student picked a circle and found that the ratio of the circumference and the diameter approached the number 3.14. Some of the Level 2 students have started the GED practice tests, others have advanced to writing tests. Some additional topics included Algebra, Advanced Algebra and GED Prep.

*Brent MacPhee*

*Level 2A & 2B Math*



*Bryan M (left), Marsha B-R (above) and four other DLN learners earned their GED Certificates this year.*

# Community Learning Program

2017-2018 witnessed another successful year with Dartmouth Learning Network's Community Learning Program (CLP). This year more than 30 volunteers supported our learners in working toward their goals to improve their literacy and computer skills, earn their GED, and for some, prepare for the Canadian Forces entrance exam. We had 26 one-on-one matches between September 2017 and June 2018, as well as five volunteers working in our classrooms.

In April, our long standing volunteer **Linda Forward** was awarded both the Halifax Volunteer Award and the Provincial Volunteer Award for 2018. Linda was recognized for these awards based on her many years of service and

dedication to improving the lives of others.

We are very proud to have such kind, compassionate and dedicated volunteers with Dartmouth Learning Network and the Community Learning Program. A heartfelt thank you to each and every volunteer who has given so much of themselves to help our learners to improve their lives through literacy. We would also like to congratulate our



*At left: Linda Forward (left) helped leasha H. (right) prepare for the Canadian Forces Aptitude Test. This year, Linda received Volunteer of the Year awards from both the city and province. Above: seen here at the Discovery Centre with learner Carson F. (right), volunteer Daniel C. (centre) helps out wherever he can, including on field trips.*

In addition to supporting learners in the classroom, the CLP included our learners and tutors in educational field trips, workshops and training. Many of our volunteers have either completed or are participating in the Literacy Nova Scotia Practitioners' Training Program. The skills and knowledge they gain from this program directly contributes to their success in tutoring our learners.

learners who have worked so hard all year and have demonstrated growth in their skills, knowledge and confidence.

*Respectfully,*  
*Gail Thistle*  
*Community Learning Program Coordinator*

## DLN Volunteers

Patricia Bornhym  
Taylor Caddell  
David Campbell  
Genevieve Campbell  
Hilde Carson  
Mike Casey  
Bonie Conrad  
Daniel Cox  
Gayle Cromwell  
Cheryl Driscoll  
David Ferguson  
Debra Fontainbleau  
Linda Forward  
Janice Kenney

Karen King  
Bob Lacey  
Paul Lewis  
Sharon MacIntosh  
Justin McGuire  
Diane McGuirk  
Joan McMullin  
Dale Molenaar  
Wayne Morris  
Paul O'Flaherty  
Kathryn Pike  
Tina Prosser-Cameron  
Margaret Rockwell  
Monica Romero  
Jennie Sanford  
Maria Souza

Nancy Walters  
Nicole Webb  
Rachael Woods

*Special thanks also to our learner volunteers:*

Viola Congo  
Heather Corbin  
Cindy Day  
Carson Fraser  
Nazarene Gray  
Natasha Howard  
Anna Loppie  
Leah Maombi  
Alexandria Marsman



# DLN Volunteer of the Year 2018

The volunteer of the year award is given to a volunteer who not only helps us work towards our vision and mission, but also contributes to our learner, volunteer, and staff community. This year's winner, Patricia Bornhym, began with DLN in the early 2000s and in that time made a big impression on our current and two former Community Learning Program coordinators.

*Zoë Mitchell, CLP Coordinator 2004 to 2016:* Patricia is a volunteer who consistently goes above and beyond in her contributions to DLN. During my time at DLN — along with being a very active volunteer tutor — Patricia often volunteered time and energy to our celebrations and fundraising events. From serving food, to organizing office supplies and helping distribute books, Pat was always there to support DLN on its mission of promoting lifelong learning and serving our community. Over her numerous years at DLN, Patricia has provided support to many students on their learning journeys; students studying GED-level material to earn their diploma, improving their basic reading and spelling skills and improving their comfort with basic numeracy. Patricia is a versatile tutor and an extraordinary volunteer who also brings a brightness to our learning space. We have been truly lucky to have Patricia for a number of years and are blessed she continues to contribute her talent and time to our community.



*DLN Volunteer of the Year 2018 Patricia Bornhym*

*Tyler Colbourne, CLP Coordinator 2016 to February 2018:* Patricia Bornhym was a huge support during my time at DLN. Sometimes people support you in ways you expect or in ways you have asked, and Patricia was always ready to support

when she was asked. However, I found I most benefited from the ways she would support when I *didn't* ask. She always knew the right time to lend a hand, ask a thoughtful question or just be present and available. I think what fuels Patricia is the drive to share joy and compassion. She brought this with her to her one-to-one match, our community events and even to our potlucks. DLN is extremely lucky to have Patricia Bornhym as a volunteer.

*Gail Thistle, CLP Coordinator:* As the current CLP Coordinator, Patricia was the first volunteer I met when I joined DLN this past March. Her caring nature and thoughtfulness was obvious during that first conversation. She demonstrates compassion and sensitivity to our learner's situations and often goes above and beyond to support them in their learning journeys. Often thinking outside the box, Patricia finds creative solutions to learning challenges. She does indeed light up the room with her presence, and especially her smile. We are very fortunate to have Patricia on our team of dedicated volunteers. As one of her learner's put it, "She's awesome!" We certainly agree.

## Tuesday Night Computer Group

This was the sixth year of evening computer classes. We gained a talented and eager volunteer, Daniel Cox, who rounded out our skills on the technical side. Having three volunteers, Bob Lacey, Daniel and myself, we were better able to support learners and avoid interruptions to class due to vacation or illness. Some nights we had enough attendees to host learners in two rooms — one room that was quiet and easy to concentrate in and one room that allowed talking and more collaboration between learners.

The class always has some learners who come back year after year who are independent in their work in the class, but welcome some input or advice when they are challenged with a task they don't know how to complete.

The computer class is always a laid back environment with everyone working on their own self directed learning, but having the right tools has helped learners work more

independently in some learning paths which freed up more time for volunteer to work with others. With the Halifax Public Library introducing Lynda.com online training courses for free, we had a very robust tool for those looking to train in specific software related to their employment goals. Lynda courses in Word and Excel were very useful to some learners and most of these learners were able to only attend a few classes before continuing on their own learning with Lynda, as the courses are even available offline.

Overall I would say the computer class had another successful year. Thank you to Bob and Daniel for all their efforts and contributions to the team! See you in the fall!

*Jennie Sanford,  
Volunteer Instructor  
Computer Group*

# Employment Readiness Class



At left: Employment Readiness learners Nazarene G, Merle S and Viola C volunteered to sort books for distribution throughout the province. Below: Employment Readiness learners Natasha H, Viola C and Merle S took part in a team-building exercise.

Volunteering is an important way to make connections and put classroom skills to use while at the same time being community minded. In September, the class went to the Halifax Harbour Bridges office to help sort books in a warehouse for distribution across the province. They used real receiving documentation to pick orders and arrange them safely and conveniently for pickup. In November, they had a large impact on our Open House in welcoming visitors, serving food and drink, and managing sales in our boutique. Other smaller opportunities to volunteer popped up through the year and the ER group were eager to help where needed.

Learners participated in off-site training to obtain their WorldHost customer service certificate, and emergency first aid/CPR/AED. Like last year, we did WHMIS 2015 in the classroom using technology and group work.

*Amanda Sabo,  
Employment Readiness Instructor*

Through one-on-one meetings and weekly classes, learners in the **Employment Readiness** class were able to fill their job search tool boxes with tips and tricks for finding work, writing resumes and cover letters, stress evaluation and balance, completing free online certifications, using the internet to help search and prepare for job related tasks, creating and adding to a portfolio, and building workplace vocabulary all while learning about and practicing the nine essential skills.



## The Story of the Dartmouth Burnside Community Job Fair

A little over three years ago, we made a commitment to the community of Dartmouth North to host a community job fair building bridges between residents and the Burnside business community. In the spring of 2016, we hosted the first every Dartmouth Burnside Community Job fair in partnership with the Greater Burnside Business Association and the Halifax Partnership. More than 100 residents lined up outside the doors of Farrell Hall that year to meet with the ten businesses we'd convinced to give us a try. With positive feedback from

residents, the businesses who attended and community partners we tried again in 2017 but, with limited resources weren't able to grow the fair.

It's been a great lesson in perseverance and learning from experience for us as an organization and we are happy to report that this year the number of businesses increased to 20 — double what it was before and there were more than 100 residents in attendance.

The reason for our big turnaround — having the right people around the table. Thank you to the Halifax Public Library and Farrell Hall Benevolent Society who coordinated the 'right' conditions to engage residents and the community; and much thanks to SimplyCast, Goodwill Career Centre, the Centre for Entrepreneurship Education & Development and the Greater Burnside Business Association. who provided insights from a business perspective and were invaluable in recruiting new employers to the fair. We are very proud to say that the Dartmouth Burnside Community Job Fair is no longer 'ours' but that we are now one of many great organizations with a passion to build bridges to employment within community.





# Learning in the Community

While we spend much of our time in the classroom here at Dartmouth Learning Network, we would be remiss if we didn't tell you about the learning that happens outside of the classroom. Each year, thanks to the generous support of Literacy Nova Scotia and their PGI Literacy Grant we are able to coordinate excursions and field trips for our learners that greatly enhance their learning.

This year we visited Bedford Institute of Oceanography, the Discovery Centre, Dalhousie University's planetarium, Citadel Hill, the Shubenacadie Wildlife Park, and Millbrook Cultural and Heritage Centre. We were also able to tour Halifax City Hall, hang out with Mayor Savage in his chambers and attend Literacy Nova Scotia's Adult Learner's Week Celebrations.

The impact of these visits are often difficult to measure but easy for us to see when someone who has never been to a museum before walks in for the first time, or when those who've faced many barriers in life are invited by the Mayor join him in his chambers for a visit. Our excursions give learners the opportunity to see, touch, smell, taste, hear and question the world around them. This year, our learners were so inspired by their exposure to the scientific world that we held our first ever science fair.



*Left: posing with a guard at the Halifax Citadel. Above: having fun at BIO Expo 2017. Above right: lots to learn at the Discovery Centre. Right: marking Adult Learners Week with Mayor Mike Savage.*



## Raising Awareness

One of our jobs at Dartmouth Learning Network is to help people understand the importance of investing in lifelong learning and its importance to our economy. To do so, we invite the community into our space and host events so that they develop a better understanding of literacy and the impact on individuals and communities when we invest in learning.

This year we hosted an Open House and Tree Trimming Party and invited our community to join us at Halifax City Hall for a flag raising ceremony celebrating Adult Learners' Week. We welcomed the Village On Main business community into our space for their monthly networking event in April, co-hosted a Family Literacy Day event with the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Halifax (Farrell Street), and hosted our annual Celebration of Learning.

Technology has been invaluable in this effort. Our e-newsletter and social media platforms help us reach so many people that we otherwise wouldn't engage with.

Getting out in the community is another way we build awareness. We'd like to thank the Dartmouth North Community Food Centre and the Stairs Memorial Food Bank for inviting us



*DLN hosted the Village on Main's April networking event.*

into their spaces each month to build awareness of literacy and literacy supports in the community. We've also been to the Dartmouth North Community Fair, the Dartmouth Burnside Community Job Fair, and the Eastern Passage Job Fair to make people aware of options for learning and how lifelong learning benefits their long-term career goals.

# Raising Readers — Math Thinkers



At Dartmouth Learning Network we recognize the importance of helping parents and caregivers gain the skills and knowledge they need to build early language, literacy and numeracy skills in their children. As such, we've committed ourselves to developing easy-to-use practical tools and resources for parents and caregivers under the umbrella of our *Raising Readers — Math Thinkers — As a Community* brand and testing these tools in the community.

This year the Dartmouth Learning Network was once again the recipient of a grant from the Dartmouth Community Health Board Wellness Fund. This grant, along with the support of the Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning, makes it possible for DLN to deliver literacy- and math-based workshops for young children and their caregivers in the Dartmouth area at local family resource centres. Each workshop has a parent and family component so that parents first build their skills and knowledge in early language and literacy, and then see that learning put into action during the family component, complete with stories, songs, crafts and math activities for children 0 - 4 years of age. This year we are developing and testing a kit for parents to take home and use with their child.

Thank you to our community partners for helping us share the gift of early literacy!

## Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day is about promoting the importance of reading and engaging in fun literacy-related activities as a family, and that's exactly what we did to celebrate this special day!

On January 27th, 2018, we welcomed the families from the Dartmouth North Tutoring Program and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Halifax to help us celebrate Family Literacy Day. Families enjoyed making their own books and having a professional family portrait taken by former DLN staff member Tyler Colbourne. There was much laughter and creativity as the families worked on their books. On their way out families received a new book, popcorn and bottled water. Many thanks to long-time DLN volunteer Karen King for the book donation and to Gail Parks from Esso's GO! Station on Ochterloney for providing the popcorn and water!



## Accessible Space

In August of last year, Dartmouth Learning Network packed up all of its belongings and moved to 73 Tacoma Drive, Suite 802. While we very much miss our neighbours in Dartmouth North, we've been welcomed with open arms to the Village on Main business community. There were a number of factors that influenced our decision to move but one of the key factors was accessibility. We are very proud that individuals with mobility challenges no longer face obstacles like stairs and heavy doors to find us. Our building has a wheelchair ramp and designated parking, an automated door, elevators and several wheelchair-friendly washrooms. And, soon we will have an automated door for our office suite.

As a result, we've been able to welcome a number of individuals into our programming this year who otherwise wouldn't have been able to access opportunities to learn.

Thinking about accessibility as we designed our new space, we were reminded that small decisions can have great impacts. In our new space, there is lots of room to navigate and move around without physical barriers in the way. Even doorknobs were considered. And, by making our space more accessible, it's become more convenient for everyone to navigate our space. It's truly been a win-win experience. We recognize that we still have lots to learn when it comes to accessibility but we wanted to let people know that the more we learn, the more we are excited to journey down that path.



# Thank you to our partners!

Good things don't happen in isolation, but rather when we work together towards common goals.

Thank you to the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education, Literacy Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Health Authority for their ongoing support of our programs and services.

Our Dartmouth Learning Network Bridge Club's fundraising efforts support all the extras each year including healthy food and snacks for our learners — thank you for your dedication.

Sincere thanks to all who donated time, money or services to our cause in some way including, but not limited to, Daley Progress, Farrell Benevolent Society, Mr. D Season 7 Productions Company, Robotnik, Grab & Go Cafe, Dalhousie University School of Medicine Service Learning Program, Mount Saint Vincent University Department of Education Community Placement Program, *The North Dartmouth Echo*, *The Beacon*, Chapters/Indigo, Pleasant Street Diner, Sobeys Wyse Road, First Book Canada and Smitty's.

We are ever so grateful to all those who've partnered with us this year, including Boys & Girls Club of Greater Halifax, Farrell Benevolent Society, Dartmouth North Public Library, the Centre for Entrepreneurship Education & Development, Goodwill Career Centre, SimplyCast, Greater Burnside Business Association, and Dartmouth Family Centre. And a sincere thank you to the Dartmouth North Community Food Centre and the Stairs Memorial Food Bank for inviting us into their space each month to promote literacy and lifelong learning.

Lastly, thanks to the Halifax Public Libraries, HRM Recreation and the Dartmouth North Community Food Centre for supporting our tutor-learner matches in the community.

September 2017 to June 2018

**DLNMOVINGONUP.CA**

*Why People are Using*  
**Moving On Up**  
FREE & INTERACTIVE E-LEARNING FOR  
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

**1.) ALIGNS DIRECTLY WITH NS CURRICULUM**  
Progress in Moving On Up equals progress towards an adult high school certificate or equivalency (e.g., GED).

**2.) INCREASES FEEDBACK & INDEPENDENT LEARNING**  
Adult learners get immediate feedback and reduce their dependence on the instructor.

**3.) FACILITATES DIFFERENTIATED LEARNING**  
Instructors get the flexibility they need to meet the diverse needs of multiple learners in the classroom.

**4.) MAKES LEARNING MORE ACCESSIBLE**  
Learning can happen anytime, anywhere with a computer or mobile device and access to the internet.

**5.) BUILDS CONFIDENCE IN ONLINE LEARNING & TEST TAKING**  
Adult learners gain confidence in an online learning environment and are better prepared for online test taking (e.g., GED).

**DARTMOUTH LEARNING NETWORK**  
dartmouthlearning.net  
Icons sourced from [www.flaticon.com](http://www.flaticon.com)

# We asked our learners:

*“What has your time at DLN meant to you?”*

*“I can help my sister with her homework.”*

A.G.

*“I can take my time to get ready for the GED and not feel pressured.”*

Donna M.

*“I feel smarter and more confident with myself.”*

Terry G.

*“DLN has made my life positive.”*

Jeff F.

*“I feel respected by the teachers and students.”*

Carson F.



Dartmouth Learning Network recognizes the support of the Province of Nova Scotia. We are pleased to work in partnership with the Department of Labour and Advanced Education to develop and promote Adult Learning Programs for Nova Scotians.

