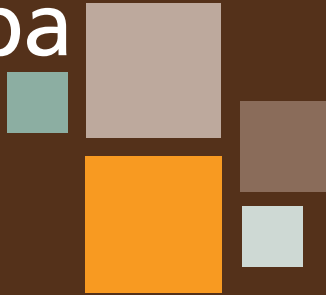


2008-2009
Annual Report



Adult Learning Centres in Manitoba



For you. For your future. For your family.





MINISTER OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Room 162
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0V8
CANADA

His Honour the Honourable Philip S. Lee, C.M., O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba
Room 235, Legislative Building
Winnipeg, (Manitoba) R3C 0V8

Your Honour:

I have the privilege of presenting for the information of Your Honour the Annual Report of Manitoba's Adult Learning Centres for the program year ending June 30, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane McGifford".

Diane McGifford
Minister







Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy
Room 156 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 0V8

Honourable Diane McGifford
Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy
Room 162, Legislative Building
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report for Manitoba's Adult Learning Centres. This report contains program information from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

In 2008-2009, over 8,000 learners chose to make a difference in their lives and attend one of Manitoba's registered adult learning centres. These learners participated in literacy and upgrading programs, earned high school credits, and graduated with Manitoba high school diplomas.

I am particularly pleased to report that 2008-2009 saw the opening of the first Franco-Manitobaine adult learning centre in Manitoba. Located in the heart of St. Boniface, the centre delivers linguistically-appropriate secondary level programming to French-speaking adult learners.

The Centre d'apprentissage franco-manitobain was one of 46 adult learning centres registered to operate in 2008-2009. I commend the teachers and staff of each of these centres for providing sound educational opportunities to their learners, and, in turn, I applaud the learners for taking advantage of the opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather D. Reichert, CA
Deputy Minister







Table of Contents

- I. Introduction 3
- II. Registration and Funding Information for 2008-2009 4
- III. List of Adult Learning Centres and Sites for 2008-2009 5
- IV. Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition
in Adult Learning Centres for 2008-2009 6
- V. Adult Learning Centre Statistical Information for 2008-2009 7

*I ENDED UP COMING TO ACCAC AS A SINGLE MOM...
Having never graduated from high school, I returned nervously to the Collegiate, wondering if I could graduate after being away from school for 12 years. The Collegiate, with its wonderful teachers and advisors, gave me the confidence and skills needed to make a decision on a new career and succeed at graduating. I am now taking a women’s counselling certificate through Athabasca University, and am happier now than I ever have been.*

— Rebecca, Millennium Excellence Award recipient
Assiniboine Community College Adult Collegiate, Brandon

PRIOR TO GRADUATING... I felt as though I was not getting ahead and that I had few options. Midland Adult Education Centre was the key stepping stone I needed and opened the door to a world of opportunity and learning for myself. I graduated from MAEC when I was twenty-one years old and since then I have graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and I have recently been accepted to the University of Manitoba’s Bachelor of Education program.

— Lex, Midland Adult Education Centre, Carman



SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW ME AS AN INSTRUCTOR during the evenings; others may know me simply by the marks you find on your assignments. [A] few of you may remember that I first came through these doors as a student and arrive here today on a path that began similar to that of your own.

What I foresaw as being one of the most difficult challenges in my life became one of the best decisions that I have ever made.

For many years, education had become an intimidating factor in my daily life. What I quickly realized was that here the classroom provided a place to ask questions and solve problems together....Without error and without effort, there is no learning...and without support and encouragement, there is no teaching.

Today, as I continue to expand my horizons I less often ask when class will be over, but instead when will it continue? Opportunities still arise, and they always will. Whether it is in an expanded role in my community..., invitations to speak at events regarding sustainable development, and invitations to share my skills in writing and project management locally, provincially and nationally – one thing I can attest to is that the fruitful turn in my journey began here with a simple table shared by others who wished for more.

— Josh, Brandon Literacy Council, Inc., Brandon



I HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD TO SUCCEED

towards my grade twelve for three or more years. I had my ups and downs throughout the course and finally I fulfilled that goal.... I applied to Brandon University to take a Bachelor of Arts.... I am now accepted, and I am working towards becoming a certified teacher.

— Shazia, Long Plain First Nation Training Centre, Portage la Prairie

I. Introduction

Adult Learning and Literacy of Advanced Education and Literacy is dedicated to improving the educational and employment prospects of this province's adults by working with Manitoba's adult learning centres (ALCs).

Adult Learning and Literacy administers the *Adult Learning Centres Act*, which came into effect July 1, 2003. This report encompasses the sixth year of the Act's implementation.

Adult Learning and Literacy also administers the *Adult Literacy Act* and *Adult Literacy Regulation*, which came into effect January 1, 2009, and which formalize parts of the existing adult literacy program and guide the development of an adult literacy strategy.

ALCs are registered on an annual basis under the *Adult Learning Centres Act* to provide tuition-free high school credit and upgrading courses using recognized principles of adult education. The *Adult Learning Centres – General Regulation* also came into force July 1, 2003. The Act and General Regulation establish accountability standards that ALCs meet in order to ensure public monies are well spent and adult learners are well served.

THIS WEEK, I CAME ACROSS A QUOTATION BY A MAN NAMED

DENIS WAITLEY that said, "There are two primary choices in life: to accept conditions as they exist, or accept responsibility for changing them." By returning to school, we chose to accept responsibility. And that, in my opinion, is the braver choice of the two.

When I dropped out of high school, I told myself I was never going back. I remember feeling as though school was the most pointless thing I could possibly do with my time. But as the years passed, and as I gained a certain amount of insight about the world around me, I realized that school was the place I wanted to be.

I'll never forget the first time I walked up in front of...class to present. My hands were shaking so bad that I could barely read the paper I was holding (and you know everyone can see your hands shaking). What saved me from feeling unbearably humiliated afterward was the fact that every other person who presented after me looked as nervous as I did. From that moment on, I felt such compassion for my classmates as they took the long walk up to the front of the classroom, defiantly charging onward with their presentation despite being short of breath and practically vibrating....I think this compassion comes from understanding....We might not all agree on the details, but we have all navigated through the rugged terrain of the road less commonly travelled. We all have scars. Some are visible, and some are metaphorical. And I don't know about you, but I would rather have a hundred scars and the perspective I have now, than silky smooth skin, and a shallow outlook on life.

I gained perspective and an appreciation for learning. I actually believe in myself now to aim for an honours degree in university. I watched you all gain confidence alongside of me. We have grown here together, and even if we never see each other again, we can look back to this corner of time where we all walked in step, and remember how wonderful it felt to be part of a community of people who were all moving forward.

—Cora, Adult Education Centres (AEC) Inc., Winnipeg



II. Registration and Funding Information for 2008-2009

Under the *Adult Learning Centres Act*, the registration of an ALC is done on an annual basis. Registration is subject to meeting the requirements of the Act, fulfilling the accountability requirements established by the Registrar of Adult Learning and Literacy, and having sufficient funding for the operation of an ALC.

A registered ALC may be funded wholly or partially from Adult Learning and Literacy's funding allocation, or it may be funded entirely by sources other than Adult Learning and Literacy.

ALC Funding Allocation for 2008-2009 \$15,402,000	
Total Number of Registered ALCs for 2008-2009 46	
Number of Registered ALCs that Received Adult Learning and Literacy Funding in 2008-2009 43	Number of Registered ALCs Funded Entirely by Sources Other than Adult Learning and Literacy in 2008-2009 3

WHEN I WAS WRITING THIS SPEECH, I TRIED TO THINK OF INSPIRATIONAL AND MOTIVATIONAL THINGS TO SAY. I tried to think of original and clever things to say. I tried to think of humorous and delightful things to say in order to make my speech unforgettable. In the end, I decided that no matter what I say, we won't remember it after today.

What we will remember from today are the people who are here with us...our proud parents, spouses, family and friends who supported us throughout the year. We will remember the people who could not be here with us today, but will feel their presence in our hearts and hear their words of encouragement in our minds. We will remember saying goodbye to the classmates who sat with us every day in the Louis Riel Institute Adult Learning Centre.

We have learned, laughed and, most of all, matured together. But today doesn't just concern remembering about the past, it is also about looking forward into our future. Life is a series of passageways and we are leaving one and moving onto the next. We will meet new people, make new friends and learn new things. We have all worked very hard to get to this point.

When you leave here today, celebrate what you have accomplished, but look forward with an eye towards how you too can be an inspiration for others.

—Brendan, Student of the Year, Louis Riel Institute Adult Learning Centre, Winnipeg



III. List of Adult Learning Centres and Sites for 2008-2009

An ALC may operate from more than one site. For 2008-2009, the 46 registered ALCs delivered programming from 89 sites.

Aboriginal Community Campus	Keewatin Adult Learning Centre – Split Lake
Assiniboine Community College Adult Collegiate (ACCAC)	Keewatin Adult Learning Centre – The Pas
ACCAC – Ebb and Flow	Keewatin Adult Learning Centre – Thompson
ACCAC – God’s Lake	Kelsey School Division Adult Education Program
ACCAC – Nelson House	Long Plain First Nation Training Centre
ACCAC – Oxford House	Lord Selkirk Learning Centre
ACCAC – Rolling River	Louis Riel Institute Adult Learning Centre
ACCAC – Sioux Valley	Many Faces Education Centre
Assiniboine Community College – Parkland Campus	Midland Adult Education Centre
Assiniboine Community College – Westbran Campus	Minnedosa Adult Learning Centre
Adult Education Centres (AEC) Inc.	Morden Adult Education Centre
Brandon Literacy Council Inc.	Mountain View Adult Learning Centre
Canupawakpa Adult Learning Centre	Peguis Adult Education Learning Centre
Centre d’apprentissage franco-manitobain	Portage la Prairie School Division Adult Education Program
Crossroads Learning Centre Inc.	Portage Learning and Literacy Centre
Faith Adult Learning Centre	Regional Alternative Education Centre
Fieldstone Ventures Education and Training Centre	River East School Division – Biovail Corporation
Frontier School Division Adult Education Programs:	River East School Division – McLeod Adult Learning Centre
Barrows Junction	River East School Division – 17 Wing CFB Site
Berens River	River East School Division – Transcona Community Learning Centre
Birdtail Sioux	Red River College (RRC) – Notre Dame Campus
Brochet	RRC – Princess Street Campus
Camperville	RRC – Steinbach Community Learning Centre
Churchill	RRC – Winkler Community Learning Centre
Cormorant	St. Norbert Adult Education Centre
Cranberry Portage	St. Vital Adult Learning Centre
Duck Bay	Ste. Anne Adult Learning Centre
Fox Lake	Seven Oaks Adult Learning Centre
Gillam	Stevenson-Britannia Adult Literacy Program Inc.
Grand Rapids	Sunrise School Division – Agassiz Adult Education Centre
Gypsumville	Sunrise School Division – Empower Education Centre
Leaf Rapids	Sunrise School Division – New Directions School
Lynn Lake	Sunrise School Division – Springfield Adult Learning Centre
Moose Lake	Swan River Adult Education Program
Pine Creek	Swan River Adult Education Program – Friendship Centre
Skownan	Turtle Mountain Adult Education Centre – Boissevain
South Indian Lake	Turtle Mountain Adult Education Centre – Killarney
Wanipigow	Turtle Mountain Adult Education Centre – Swan Lake
Waterhen (Shingibus)	United Food & Commercial Workers Training Centre
Horizons Learning Centre – Crossways	Urban Circle Training Centre Inc.
Horizons Learning Centre – Elmwood	Winnipeg Adult Education Centre – Off Campus
Horizons Learning Centre – New Directions	Winnipeg Adult Education Centre – Taking Charge!
Horizons Learning Centre – Portage Place	Waywayseecappo Learning Centre
Jobworks Adult Learning Centre	Yellowquill College Inc.
Jobworks Youthbuilders Program	
Kaakiyow li moond likol	

YOU MAY WONDER WHY AT THIS STAGE OF LIFE I COMMITTED MYSELF TO SO MUCH WORK, AND WORK IT WAS! *Self-gratification, and a healthy dose of stubbornness and determination – that is why!*

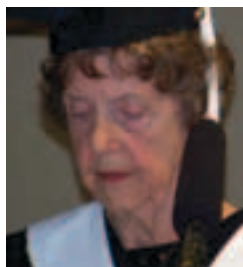
Growing up fatherless in the 30s wasn't easy. My mother became very ill, bedridden in 1935 and I had no alternative but to leave grade XI and care for her.

Grade XII had only [recently] been introduced into the high school and students whose parents could afford it were required to pay \$50 and provide their own table and chair. In those pre-war days, a decent job paid 25 cents an hour, and that was my pay as a telephone operator, where I stayed for five years, and managed to keep the household running.

My family...all have a lust for travel and education. All have several degrees and are pursuing more. Is it any wonder that their Mom and Grandma is happy to have finally achieved her lifelong dream?...Upon looking back, it seems that I have had the best of two worlds, gaining knowledge and experience as I worked in previous vocations and being blessed with good health and a sound mind, before attempting to further my education.

To my fellow Grads...work hard, persevere, dream big and success will come your way. Remember to aim high – shoot for the moon, and even if you fall, you'll land among the stars.

— Sylvia, Turtle Mountain Adult Education Centre, Boissevain



IV. Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition in Adult Learning Centres for 2008-2009

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is a process used to identify, document, assess and recognize skill and knowledge. Full and partial credit may be given so that adult learners avoid unnecessary repetition of learning, enabling them to move forward with increased confidence in themselves and their abilities.

ALCs reported the following PLAR activity for 2008-2009:

Number of learners who received PLAR advising <small>see note</small>	496
Number of learners who earned full credit through PLAR	208
Number of learners who earned partial credit through PLAR	143
Number of full credits awarded through PLAR	349
Number of partial credits awarded through PLAR	211
Number of graduates with PLAR credits	133

Note: PLAR Advising includes all of the following steps:

- Assist the learner to reflect on what he or she knows and can do and to identify relevant learning
- Assist the learner to identify goal(s)
- Agree to and review an action plan for demonstration of learning

V. Adult Learning Centre Statistical Information for 2008-2009

ALCs submit statistical data to Adult Learning and Literacy on an interim and year-end basis. The gathering of statistical information is essential to the development, promotion, provision, and monitoring of adult education in Manitoba. The statistics provide a quantitative description of the ALC programs and the adult learner populations that the programs serve.

NUMBER OF LEARNERS REGISTERED AT ALCs	8,056
NUMBER OF ALC GRADUATES	1,231
NUMBER OF ABORIGINAL GRADUATES	435
NUMBER OF COURSES COMPLETED FOR CREDIT	10,703

Post-Diploma Credits

In recognition of adults' shifting priorities as their life circumstances change, all high school graduates in Manitoba can take up to four tuition-free credit courses at ALCs. These courses are taken as preparation for post-secondary studies and to enhance or create employment opportunities. In 2008-2009, ALC learners registered for 2,886 post-diploma credits.



I AM A GRADUATE AND BOARD MEMBER OF FIELDSTONE VENTURES EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRE. I am currently working as an Educational Assistant at Ashern Central High School. I am also enrolled in the Interlake Teachers Education Program (ITEP). During my time at [Fieldstone], I knew that I wanted to become a teacher...Fieldstone helped me achieve my goals...It is with their help and support that I am now attending Brandon University and doing it locally at Ashern Elks Hall.

— Crystal, Fieldstone Ventures Education and Training Centre Inc., Ashern

WHEN THE GRADES STARTED ROLLING IN, and they were better than anything I have ever gotten before, I began to feel a sense of accomplishment. The day I stepped into that classroom, a whole new world opened up for me. What a great feeling to finally finish something I have been missing for so long. I lately often sit and wonder, "Now what do I want to be when I grow up," because at any age, anything is possible.

— Howie, Many Faces Education Centre, Flin Flon

Statistical Information: Self-declared

ALC learners provide the following information on a self-declared basis. Because of the optional nature of its collection, the information must be considered an approximation of the ALC learner population. General trends or patterns may be indicated.

For 2008-2009, ALCs reported the following statistical information regarding their ALC learners:

First Nation	29%
Métis	10%
Inuit	0.1%
Other <small>(captures data for learners who self-identify as Aboriginal, but do not / cannot specify according to the categories above)</small>	3%
Total First Nation, Métis, Inuit, and Other	42%
Employed either part- or full-time	46%
Employment Insurance recipient	5%
Employment and Income Assistance recipient	18%
Single parent with child(ren) under age 12	18%
Speaker of English as an Additional Language	17%



LIFE IS A SERIES OF PASSAGEWAYS, constantly leaving one and moving onto the next. As we graduate here today we can look to the horizon and move forward with positive assertiveness to where life will take us next. We will meet new people, make new friends and learn new things. As I look at today's grads I wonder where we will be ten years from now. Maybe one of us will be tomorrow's Einstein or whatever we dream we want to be. We must remember not to be afraid of our dreams and not be timid....

When I stepped away from my career with the Winnipeg Sun ten months ago, the future seemed frightening. It was like a dark thundercloud hanging over my head. Now it's like a rainbow and the sun has come out and a new day begins.

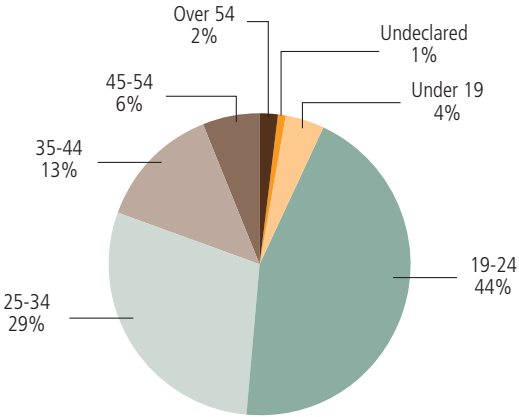
— Sean, Sunrise Adult Learning Centres Program, Beausejour



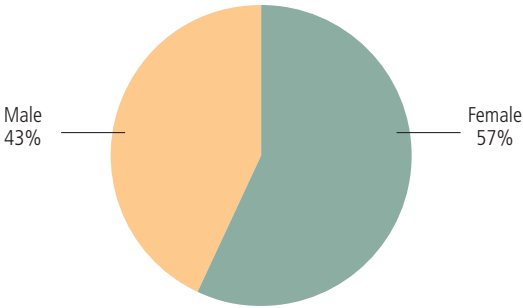
Statistical Information: Age, Gender, and Education History

ALCs are required to collect from their learners the information for the categories of Age, Gender, and Education History.¹ The figures below represent the percent of the adult learner population for each category.²

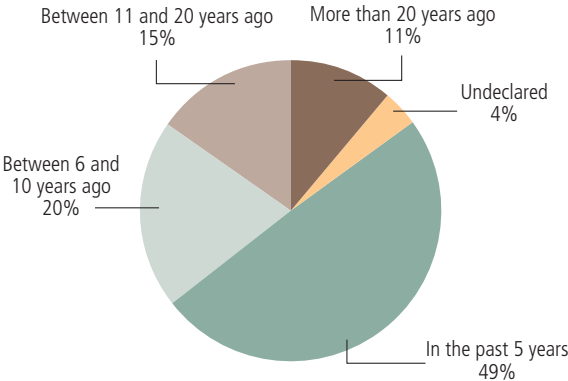
AGE OF ALC LEARNERS



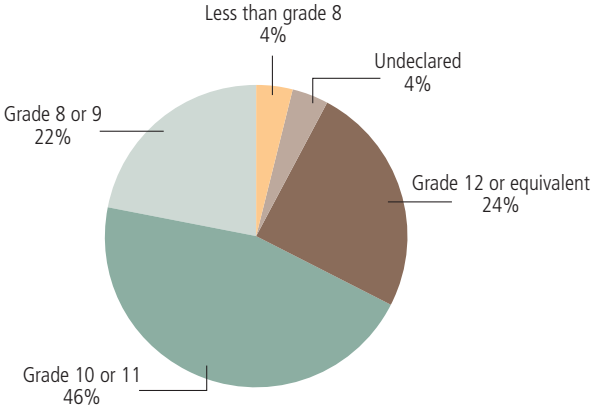
GENDER OF ALC LEARNERS



EDUCATION HISTORY: WHEN ALC LEARNERS LAST ATTENDED SCHOOL



EDUCATION HISTORY: ALC LEARNERS LAST COMPLETED GRADE



¹ An Undeclared option remains available for reporting purposes.
² Because of rounding, percentages may not add up to exactly 100%.



WAYWAYSEECAPPO LEARNING CENTRE, WAYWAYSEECAPPO FIRST NATION

...given me a second chance at getting my high school education.
— Ashley

...gives me a chance to further my education.
— Mary

...a dream for me to go back to school in my own community.
— Joan

...glad that there is an adult learning centre.
— Marilyn

...to get my grade 12. Yeah Yooo!
— Jo-anna

...complete grade 12 and feel better about myself.
— Sharon

...so I can take a trade.
— Shannon

...finish school.
— Rene

...move forward in life.
— Faye

...will open many doors to continue on in education.
— Leslie

...get my grade 12 diploma.
— Laurie