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Ontario Symposium on French Language Adult Education and Training: Panel Discussion – March 26, 2013

> Mary Jean Gallagher, Assistant Deputy Minister, Student Achievement Division

#### **The need for Adult Education in Ontario**



Chart 9: Highest Level of Education - Ages 25 to 64 Years - Ontario

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006



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## Context for Adult Education from 2005 to present

In 2005 the report *Ontario Learns: Strengthening our Adult Education System* was released by MPP Kathleen Wynne, based on consultations led by the MPP with adult students, adult educators, academics, and policy makers.

"In theory, learners should be able to enter the adult education system at any point . . . participate in the appropriate learning program(s), and proceed to the next step, whether employment or further education and training, in the shortest time possible. This is not the current reality in adult education in Ontario. More work is required to create the kind of seamless learner pathways that take learners on the shortest and most effective route to their goal."





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#### **Scope of the Adult Education Strategy**

(Data for Francophone delivery organizations in red)

- Through EDU, TCU and MCI, the government invests over \$200 million (almost \$14 million) annually and supports more than 200,000 (more than 10,000) adult learners in adult literacy, language training and adult credit programs.
- Basic programming for adults includes:
  - EDU adult high school credit program offered by 53 (12) school boards
  - TCU non-credit Literacy Basic Skills training program offered by approximately 40 (2) school boards, 28 (2) colleges and 165 (25) community based service providers
  - MCI non-credit Language training program (ESL/FSL) offered by up to 38 (FSL by 4 francophone + 2 anglophone) school boards





## **Collaborative Partnerships**

(Partnerships, Pathways planning and Transitions)

- Enhancing the "front doors" the points at which adults first access literacy and language services – by coordinating the intake, needs assessment and referral services of the three ministries
- Improving the pathways for those clients who require services from more than one ministry, for example those whose goals include:
  - further education and training
  - employment
- Exploring portable means of sharing learning achievements across the programs (e.g., learning passports or portfolios)





# **Innovative Community Solutions**

Four regional partnership projects funded by EDU

- 1. Province-wide French-language project (led by Coalition ontarienne de formation des adultes, COFA )
- 2. Northwest Education and Training Access Networking (NETAN) Project (led by Lakehead DSB)
- 3. Model of Inclusive Training and Education in Rural Settings (MITERS) Project (led by Loyalist College)
- 4. Adult Learner Pathway Counselling (ALPC) Project (led by London Catholic DSB)





#### **Northwest Education and Training Access Network**



- www.netan.ca
  - reach every student appuyer chaque élève

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- The NETAN project produced both a print and online guide to adult education and training in Northwestern Ontario
- Currently there are 2376 registered users of the NETAN website

"Despite the challenge of a region which stretches 525, 000 km<sup>2</sup> and is home to a diverse population with discontinuity of resources between communities, the NETAN region consists of many dedicated Adult Education leaders and success stories, which need to be acknowledged."

"Collaboration needs to happen among all providers. We are moving that way and working towards working together."

Source: NETAN Final Project Report



### **Roadmaps to Guide Our Way**





Proceedings of a Trank Tank Section Recliftated by ICA Association on June 14, 2011







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# **Harmonization and Alignment**

- Goals
- Partnerships, synergies, collaboration
  - Alignment
  - Coherence
- Effectiveness and efficiency
- Innovation



