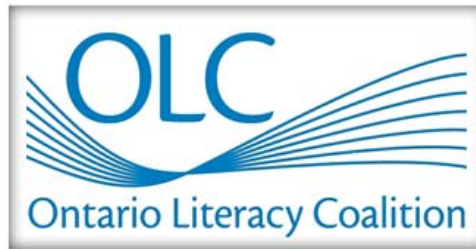


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



OLC Applauds Government of Ontario's Commitment to Literacy and Basic Skills

March 29, 2011 - Toronto, ON - The [Ontario Literacy Coalition](#) (OLC) applauds the Ontario government's decision to invest \$44 million over the next three years in literacy and basic skills. OLC's President and Chair, Trudy Lothian, says, "It is wonderful that Finance Minister Dwight Duncan and this government is investing in adult literacy and essential skills. The Ontario Literacy Coalition commends the provincial government for its foresight in investing in measures that improve the quality of life of Ontarians and supports job creation."

The 2011 Ontario Budget recognizes the need to invest in literacy and basic skills in order to help Ontarians get the skills upgrading they need to succeed in this economy. The new funding will be ongoing, providing a measure of stability to literacy agencies and providers across the province.

OLC Executive Director, Lesley Brown, commends the actions of the Government of Ontario, "On behalf of all those Ontarians who need support in improving literacy and basic skills, thank you. John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities has worked hard to secure the resources necessary to support literacy learners, we appreciate this." Brown continues, "We look forward to working with the Government of Ontario on the effective roll out of this funding to ensure it meets the needs of learners."

The Government of Ontario has chosen to invest in the realities of today, while preparing for tomorrow. OLC hopes that in the future all levels of government will continue to make a strong commitment and investment in Ontario's human infrastructure.

About Ontario Literacy Coalition

The Ontario Literacy Coalition (OLC) makes adult learning opportunities possible by inspiring ideas and informing action. We believe literacy and essential skills is a foundational issue for workplaces, families and communities. OLC works to ensure all adults in Ontario benefit from literacy by gathering data and intelligence, cultivating partnerships, building capacity and advising policy.

For further information, please contact:

Lesley Brown, Executive Director, OLC (416) 963-5787 Ext. 27

Lesley@on.literacy.ca, www.on.literacy.ca