P.A.L.S. Talk
September 2017 Newsletter
Activities and Events

September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Computer Classes start, see Adam.</td>
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<td>September 8</td>
<td>International Literacy Day.</td>
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<td>September 8</td>
<td>Twitter and facebook Campaign, see Adam.</td>
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<td>September 9</td>
<td>Reaching New Heights – Learn about the Program, 10 a.m. - noon.</td>
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<td>September 12</td>
<td>Writing Club starts, 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>September 13</td>
<td>Book Club starts, 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>September 16</td>
<td>Math Literacy Tutor Professional Development, 10 a.m. to noon.</td>
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<td>September 23</td>
<td>LELL Tutor Professional Development, 10 a.m. to noon.</td>
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<td>September 30</td>
<td>Bottle Drive until 3 p.m.</td>
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October

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>Community Thank You</td>
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<td>October 15</td>
<td>Emergency First Aid and CPR, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>Literacy Tutor Professional Development, 10 a.m. to noon.</td>
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November

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<td>November 4</td>
<td>Aboriginal Art – Spirit Painting, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>November 18</td>
<td>Outcomes Workshop and Roundtable, 10 a.m. to noon</td>
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<td>November 26</td>
<td>Math Literacy Test Preparation Class, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.</td>
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December

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>Happy Holiday Party, 6 p.m.</td>
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Social Media

Help us spread the word and raise awareness on social media this September 8th – International Literacy Day. Let everyone know how volunteering can change a life! Call Adam or e-mail computers@palesmonton.ca for more information.

Office number 41, 9912 - 106 Street T5K 1C5
Phone:  780-424-5514
www.palesmonton.ca
Student Activities

Computer Classes
Develop your skills and increase your confidence on computers!
Gain the skills needed to participate in an online society and get on the road to success!

Introduction to Computers
Tuesdays and Sundays, 1 – 3 PM

Computer Skills for Work and Daily Living
Thursdays, 1 – 3 PM
Classes are 2 hours, once a week for 12 weeks.

Do You Need a Computer?
Used computers for sale!
Refurbished desktops for $150 and laptop computers for $135 are available.
Talk to Adam, Computer Literacy Coordinator.

Math Test Preparation
November 26, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Are you planning to take an entrance exam?
Are you near completing the math modules?
This class is for you.

Math in Science
Talk to Monica Das, Math Literacy Coordinator, to register.

Book Club
Wednesdays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., September 13
There is room for participants. We are reading the novel Medicine River by Thomas King, new members must purchase the book and read up to chapter 8 if they wish to join. This book is an advanced book.

Writing Club
Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.  Starts September 12th.
This is the intermediate writing group and will focus on sentences, grammar and paragraph writing. You must be in the Challenger books to join the group.

Talk to Bonnie, Literacy Coordinator
Students for Students – Workshops and Events

Invitation to Join Reaching New Heights
Learn about the Reaching New Heights Program.
Saturday, September 9 at 10 a.m. to noon.

This program is open to all students.
Develop skills that you can use in the community, public speaking, build confidence and self-esteem, and encourage volunteering.

Emergency First Aid and Adult CPR
Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: $20 for P.A.L.S. member.
$90 for non P.A.L.S. member.

Limit 16 people. As space is limited register early.
Register at the office, this includes payment.
Register by October 6.

Aboriginal Art – Spirit Painting
Come and create a painting.
Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Register at P.A.L.S. Office.

Congratulations!

Danny Haines
He was selected for a video to promote the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region Campaign.  www.myunitedway.ca

Thank you to Bonnie, Adam, Eli, Mona, Fatemeh, and Gilbert for playing a role in the video.

Annette Gaudet
She was selected as the Keynote Speaker at the banquet for the Literacy Symposium in September.

The Literacy Symposium is attended by Literacy Programs from across Alberta.
Summer Activities at P.A.L.S.

High Level Trolley, Strathcona Farmers Market and Picnic

Event was planned by the Reaching New Heights Program

Royal Tyrrell Museum at Drumheller
Welcome New Computer Literacy Tutor!
Please welcome our new volunteer tutor Anastasia Atwood to the computer literacy program!

Social Media

International Literacy Day – September 8
P.A.L.S. Tutors
Help us spread the word and raise awareness on social media this September 8th – International Literacy Day.
Share your experiences as a tutor, answer questions from the community, and let everyone know how volunteering can change a life!
Call Adam at 780-424-5514 for more information.

Video Series: Share Your Stories!

How has learning or volunteering with P.A.L.S. changed your life?
P.A.L.S. is looking for students and tutors to share their success stories in a series of short videos to share the benefits of literacy and promote P.A.L.S. in the community.

Let us share your story on our website palsedmonton.ca and social media to let everyone know what literacy means for you!
Call Adam at 780-424-5514 or see him in the office for more information, details and to become involved.

Math Literacy, Monica Das, Coordinator

Math Tutor Professional Development - Teaching different math concepts
September 16, 10 a.m. to noon.
Sometimes volunteer tutors may find themselves wondering on how best to teach adults and may find that the ways they learned are not working as well for the adult learners. This professional development will provide suggestions and tips on how to help adults learn different math concepts and retain them.

Volunteer Coordinator, Della Massey
Meet Della, who has consented to fill in as the Volunteer Coordinator, while Valerie Nelson is on sick leave.

Della has been involved in adult education for more than 20 years. She has been a volunteer in the community for many years and is currently the president of "Let's Talk" Toastmasters club. Della is passionate about literacy and building healthy relationships and is looking forward to meeting everyone.
Literacy – Bonnie Caron, Coordinator

Welcome to Literacy Tutors!
Welcome to the new members of the Literacy Tutor Team - Mary Chau, Megan Cummings, Jaime Bury Mahood and Colin Vince. Thank you for making literacy a priority in your lives!

Tutor Professional Development - Saturday October 28 at 10 a.m. to noon.

Goals and Evaluations
Tutoring is a powerful tool that promotes learning. Much of our success at P.A.L.S. comes from the interaction between you the tutor and your student. This professional development is designed to give you ideas on how to engage your learner, adjust the content and nature of tutoring to meet the needs of your student, and encourage active participation.

Put this event into your calendar and be sure to join us for an interesting morning.

Writing Club
Writing Club begins at 1:30 on Tuesday, September 12th. This is the intermediate writing group and will focus on sentences, grammar and paragraph writing. You must be in the Challenger books to join the group. Tutors! This is an excellent supplementary activity for your student(s) to do. Please encourage them to give the writing circle a try.

Literacy for English Language Learners, Marie Fontaine, Coordinator

Welcome to new LELL tutors
A warm welcome to the LELL team to Leah Schwartz and Sinead McConomy. P.A.L.S is proud to have you on board. Our students are lucky to get such dedicated volunteers.

Marie Full Time
Since August 9th, Marie Fontaine has been the new full time LELL coordinator. A big thanks to all of the tutors who took time to get in touch with her. There are still a few who Marie has yet to meet. She would be pleased to hear from you. Drop by for a chat anytime during the week.

Tutor Professional Development – Saturday, September 23 from 10:00 to noon.

Effective English tutors make use of an assortment of creative teaching methods to build their student’s interest and language skills. Making use of tools like role play and puzzles which stimulate all learner types is the name of the game.

In this workshop, we’ll have a look at some innovative ESL teaching strategies to help you make the most of the time you spend with your students at P.A.L.S. Sounds good? Then come share some of your success stories, learn from other LELL tutors and add something new to your toolbox.

Looking forward to seeing you.
Thank you to the Realtors Community Foundation
For your support to the Math Literacy Program.
You help to Change Lives Through Literacy.

Picture: Jill Didow, Executive Director, Monica Das, P.A.L.S. Math Literacy Coordinator and Ben Officer, President.

Thank you to Save on Food
Mayfield Commons - 170th Street and Stony Plain Road
For providing P.A.L.S. volunteers the opportunity to sell raffle tickets in Save on Foods.

Thank you to the volunteers!
Linda Savage, Tina McEwan, Eunice Milligan, Linda Smith, Dorothy Lane, and Lisa Ostafichuk sold tickets at Save on Foods.

Outcomes Workshop and Roundtable
Saturday, November 18, 10 a.m. to noon

Outcomes - Turn theory into what is happening in your match. See how the results you tell us about are used.

Round Table - Share your creative solutions.
Register with your program coordinator.

Volunteers are needed to tutor students!
Could you talk, e-mail or facebook to your network to assist in the recruitment of volunteers, it would be greatly appreciated.

Community Thank You
On Tuesday, October 10 P.A.L.S. will be thanking our community supporters for their help in change lives through literacy. We need volunteers to deliver the thank yous.

Please contact Della or Shirley for more information.
P.A.L.S. receives the Community Choice Award from Metro Edmonton for Community Services

The following article was published in the August 8, 2017 Metro.

Nooria had to quit her job as a television anchor in Afghanistan because of war and threats to her life for being a woman and working outside the home. She moved to Canada by herself in 2009. In Toronto she attended school to learn English for a year. When she moved to Edmonton she worked twenty hours a day so she could have the funds to sponsor her family. In 2014 she sponsored her family. All this time Nooria never lost her desire to improve her skills. In April 2016, she went to P.A.L.S. to improve her math skills. After the assessment, she was matched with her tutor Paul. Paul quickly realized how hard working and self-motivated she was. So instead of two hours per week they decided to meet for four hours every week on her day off.

Her employer saw her progress and sponsored her for the pastry chef program at NAIT. To do so, Nooria had to have grade 10 math. She registered at Metro Continuing Education and continued working with Paul. In June 2017 she passed her Math 10C. She says it was tough and at times felt like giving up, but with the help from P.A.L.S. and Paul, she accomplished her goal.

Nooria has now joined the P.A.L.S. Literacy for English Language Learners Program to improve her reading and writing skills. She is now confident that she can pass the Pastry program at NAIT and pursue her dream job as a pastry chef.

Math Literacy Program nominated for the 2017 Outstanding Contribution to Community Adult Learning Award

This is a very prestigious award that is given out to programs in Alberta. Last year Bonnie Caron received the award for outstanding contribution to Literacy.

I would like to thank the hard working adult students who have gone on to take their apprenticeship. We received a letter of support from Apprenticeship and Industrial Training that speaks about the success rate of the Math Literacy graduates. It moves me and makes me proud that we can change lives through literacy.

Paul Godsell, a Math Literacy volunteer tutor, wrote a letter of support. He talks about his volunteer experience that I would like to share with you.

The greatest enjoyment of teaching at P.A.L.S. is the trade-off you get with the students. It is not just: you teach – they learn. It’s so much more. When you see their eyes light and they say “I got it, I got it. Give me another question.” When the class is over they ask for homework, after a few months they say “I never thought I could learn all this stuff”.

Shirley Sandul, Executive Director