



Council of the Federation Literacy Award

**2009
Newfoundland and Labrador
Call for Nominations**

INTRODUCTION

Literacy skills are the essential building blocks for the development of a vibrant society and economy. These foundation skills are embedded in activities in the home, school, community and workplace. There is a continuum of development ranging from learning to read through to reading to learn a variety of other skills and perspectives on life. The end of this continuum is the complex set of skills necessary for daily life, employment, citizenship, and personal advancement and enjoyment in our modern and diverse society. Today, the broad definition of literacy includes a variety of skills: reading text, document use, writing, oral communications, numeracy, thinking skills, computer use, working with others and continuous learning.

It is clear that Canada's provinces and territories are repositories of innovative principles, practices and programs that reflect the very highest ideals in literacy best practices, and serve the varying needs of many different types of learners.

The Council of the Federation (established in 2003 by the 13 Premiers in Canada to acknowledge the leadership role provinces and territories play in revitalizing the Canadian federation) has identified a number of key initiatives of importance to Canadians, one of which is literacy. In order to bring recognition to achievements in literacy in every province and territory, Premiers, in July 2004, agreed to create a Council of the Federation Literacy Award. The award recognizes outstanding achievement, innovative practice and excellence in literacy. Beginning in 2005, 13 Council of the Federation Literacy medallions have been presented annually, one for each province and territory. The Council of the Federation Literacy Award covers the entire spectrum of the field, including family, Aboriginal, health, workplace and community literacy and is given to recognize the excellence of educators, volunteers, learners, and community organizations (including non-governmental organizations) and businesses in each province and territory.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR AWARD

For 2009, Newfoundland and Labrador nominations for the Council of the Federation Literacy Award are being accepted for the category of **Literacy Leader**. A Literacy Leader is someone, who by his or her skill, capability, education, position and/or accomplishment, has demonstrated leadership capabilities that have contributed to the advancement of adult literacy development in Newfoundland and Labrador either through public awareness, teaching, program development, volunteer work, research or innovation that he or she has initiated, implemented or supported, whether in a family, learning institution, workplace or community setting.

The Newfoundland and Labrador award will be presented at a special ceremony. The winner will receive a Council of the Federation Literacy Award medallion. Nominations are now open, so please take this opportunity to tell us about a Literacy Leader who has demonstrated excellence and leadership in the field of adult literacy.

The award recipients for each province and territory will be announced at the Premiers' summer 2009 meeting of the Council of the Federation.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

Anyone may nominate an individual living in Newfoundland and Labrador who is 18 years or older. Nominees may also nominate themselves. The nominee should be a strong advocate or champion for adult literacy, and an inspiration to others. As such, the individual you nominate may be a leader, role model or change agent that has worked with learners, educators, volunteers, literacy providers, community groups or organizations and/or businesses/corporations. In this package, you will find everything you need to make your nomination, including a nomination form. Past winners are not eligible.

HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION

The requirements for the award are outlined in the pages that follow. Submissions should be typed and double-spaced on letter-sized (8.5"x11") white stationary, and be a maximum of three pages. They should be numbered but not stapled or bound, except with a paper clip. Attach the completed nomination form from this package to the front of your submission along with two letters of support.

1. Using a maximum of 3 pages, provide a clear and detailed rationale for why the nominee should be considered for this award. Submissions should be typed (double-spaced) on letter-sized (8.5"x11") white stationary. Pages should be numbered, and bound only with a paper clip; not stapled or otherwise joined.

The following elements should be included in the submission:

- a) A summary of the Nominee's achievements describing why she or he deserves the award;
 - b) A description of the nominee's background, including why she or he became involved in literacy, and what role she or he has played in the lives of learners and/or the community;
 - c) A brief statement of the length of time the nominee has been involved with literacy education, promotion, development, research or innovation;
 - d) A description of the positive impact the nominee's efforts have had and/or examples that demonstrate the nominee's commitment to the cause of literacy.
2. Obtain two letters of support from people who can validate the nominee's achievement and add credibility to the nomination by providing examples of the individual's achievements or contributions. Each letter must be a maximum of 1 page in length, typed or clearly hand-written in dark ink.
 3. Complete the nomination form found at the end of this nomination package. The nomination cannot be considered unless the nomination form is signed by the Nominee, thereby indicating their consent.
 4. Attach the completed nomination form to the front of the submission. Attach the two letters of support to the back of the submission.

AWARD RULES

The completed and signed nomination form must accompany each submission. A selection committee will evaluate all submissions based on the eligibility criteria outlined in this nomination package. Entries will be assessed solely on the content and quality of the written submission. Decisions are final.

Do not send books, videos, audiocassettes, CD-ROMs or other such materials.

Submissions will not be returned.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Council of the Federation may publish or publicize information contained in any submission without compensation to the nominators or the nominees.

Please note: Submissions without signed nomination forms will not be accepted.

Entries must be received on or before **May 15, 2009**.

Submissions must be mailed to:

COF Literacy Award Selection Committee
c/o Adult Learning and Literacy Division
Department of Education
Attention: Cindy Christopher
4th Floor, West Block, Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL, A1B 4J6

**NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR NOMINATION FORM
COUNCIL OF THE FEDERATION LITERACY AWARD**

CATEGORY: LITERACY LEADER

NOMINEE INFORMATION (Please print clearly. Nominee must sign below.)

NAME OF NOMINEE _____

NOMINEE'S MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

I accept the nomination for the Council of the Federation Literacy Award and agree to all award rules stated in the nomination package. I confirm that:

The information provided is accurate and I consent to the use and exchange of this information for the sole purpose of evaluating and selecting award recipients.

If I receive this award, I also consent to having my name, age, community, summary of achievements and photograph released to the media and included in Government of Newfoundland and Labrador publications for publicity purposes associated with the award.

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE

DATE

NOMINATOR INFORMATION (Complete this section if the nominator is someone other than the Nominee)

NOMINATOR'S NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____