

# Annual Report

2009–10  
Fiscal Year

## Building Capacity for Literacy and Essential Skills

Movement for  
Canadian Literacy





**Movement for Canadian Literacy** is the national coalition advancing literacy and essential skills across Canada.

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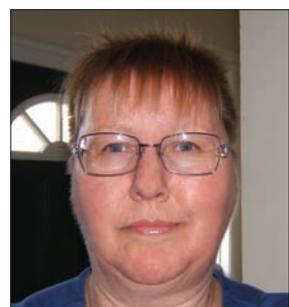
## Report from the Management Team



Janet Lane  
Chair, Board of Directors



Lindsay Kennedy  
Senior Manager



Belinda White  
Office Manager

**F**OR OVER 30 YEARS, Movement for Canadian Literacy (MCL) has provided a forum and voice for literacy organizations, practitioners and learners across the country. In partnership with our member literacy coalitions, learner representatives from every province and territory and other key stakeholders, MCL has supported the literacy and essential skills field through capacity building, public awareness, research and professional development.

In early 2009 the MCL board began to work on changing the board structure and re-engaging in a strategic planning process. To help us with this work we engaged the services of the Institute on Governance (IOG) and Jim Page, a private consultant. Work done by IOG staff and our consultant was instrumental in helping us move forward. At its November 2009 meeting the MCL Board approved a revised structure that features:

- ▶ New standing committees (Executive, the Provinces and Territories Committee, and the Learners Advisory Network Committee).
- ▶ A new board comprised of 4 members from the Provinces and Territories Committee, 2 members of the Learners' Advisory Committee and 4 others; nominations of "Others" will reflect the strategic priorities of MCL.
- ▶ Increased use of advisory committees on an *ad hoc* basis to guide projects, to engage and convene new partners and stakeholders and/or advise on the initiatives of the board.

This year was one of transition for the staff team. Melody Paruboczy left her position as Executive Director and Lindsay Kennedy took on the newly developed role of senior manager. The MCL board, Lindsay and our office manager Belinda White have worked hard to ensure that MCL continues to fulfill its mandate. Chris Harwood continues to provide her high level of support to our Learner's Advisory Committee and we welcomed Deb Byrnes as our government relations/communications officer.

Within this Annual Report you will find a brief review of MCL's activity over the course of the last year as we continued our work to share knowledge, engage with a variety of partners and build awareness to advance literacy and learning across Canada.

# Financial Statement

## Year Ending March 31, 2010

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$418,314</b>	<b>\$434,339</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Salaries and benefits	222,659	202,880
Professional fees	42,793	74,910
Meetings and conferences	68,930	72,858
Overhead	78,200	74,138
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$412,582</b>	<b>\$424,786</b>

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Current assets	84,389	78,042
Capital assets	3,466	4,951
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 87,855</b>	<b>\$ 82,993</b>

<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Total liabilities	30,688	31,558
Total net assets	57,167	51,435
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 87,855</b>	<b>\$ 82,993</b>

**Audit services provided by Rheaume Williams Kalbfleisch, LLP.**

## Funding

MCL gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Office of Literacy and Essential Skills (OLES), Department of Human Resources and Social Development Canada for core funding and Elections Canada for project funding. We also express our appreciation for the funds we received from project partnerships, membership fees and donations.

# MCL Team for 2009–10

## Board of Directors, 2009–10

MCL's Board of Directors is comprised of representatives of Literacy Coalitions from every province and territory and from the Learners Advisory Network Committee.<sup>1</sup>

<b>Alberta</b>	<i>Janet Lane, Literacy Alberta (MCL President) *</i> <i>Daniel Haines ‡</i>
<b>British Columbia</b>	<i>Diana Twiss/ Judy Cavanagh, Literacy BC</i> <i>Ellen Szita* ‡</i>
<b>Manitoba</b>	<i>Lorri Apps/Wendy Bulloch, Literacy Partners of Manitoba</i>
<b>New Brunswick</b>	<i>Penelope Pacey, Literacy Coalition of New Brunswick</i>
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	<i>Caroline Vaughan, Literacy Newfoundland and Labrador (MCL Secretary) *</i>
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<i>Helen Balanoff, NWT Literacy Council</i>
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<i>Ann Marie Downie, Literacy Nova Scotia, Marie David ‡</i>
<b>Nunavut</b>	<i>Kim Crockatt, Nunavut Literacy Council (MCL Vice-President) *</i>
<b>Ontario</b>	<i>Lesley Brown, Ontario Literacy Coalition (MCL Treasurer) *</i> <i>Patricia Ashie* ‡</i>
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	<i>Catherine O'Bryan, PEI Literacy Alliance</i>
<b>Quebec</b>	<i>Louise Quinn, Quebec English Literacy Alliance</i>
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	<i>Grant Young/Elaine Ebenal, Saskatchewan Literacy Network</i>
<b>Yukon</b>	<i>Beth Mulloy, Yukon Literacy Coalition</i>

## Staff

<i>Melody Paruboczy</i>	Executive Director (April–November 2009)
<i>Lindsay Kennedy</i>	Senior Manager
<i>Belinda White</i>	Office Manager
<i>Lynn Marsh</i>	Bookkeeper
<i>Chris Harwood</i>	Consultant, LAN Facilitator
<i>Deb Byrnes</i>	Government Relations & Communications

1. The Learners Advisory Committee is a committee of MCL with learner representatives appointed by their provincial and territorial literacy coalition. Committee members share their knowledge and experiences with MCL and the wider community at a local, provincial and national level.

‡ Member of MCL's Executive Committee.

\* Member of MCL's Learners Advisory Network Committee.

# Performance Highlights for 2009–10

MCL plays a key role in building knowledge and expertise within the field of literacy and essential skills (LES) and with people and organizations from outside the field. In 2009–10 we focused on forming new strategic partnerships in order to elevate literacy and essential skills as an important issue with sectors such as poverty, justice and health.

## Working across the Nation

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**MCL strives towards genuine and authentic involvement of all stakeholders.**

**We work collaboratively with partners and key stakeholders across a wide range of initiatives.**

- ▶ Convened two face-to-face meetings with provincial/territorial literacy coalitions and Learners Advisory Network Committee.
- ▶ Delivered learner leadership activities in conjunction with the Learners Advisory Network Committee.
- ▶ Updated and redesigned MCL's website, including changes to the practitioner and learner pages, and the development of additional interactive content.
- ▶ Contributed to discussions and events hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Education Committee for *International Adult Learners' Week*.
- ▶ Participated on the steering committees of several national projects, including *Connecting the Dots*, *Workplace Essential Skills (WES Can)* project (PtP, Toronto) and *Cultivating Connections — National Family Literacy Conference*.

## Building Knowledge and Expertise

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**MCL is able to reflect the wide diversity of the field and at the same time identify common linkages.**

- ▶ Commissioned and disseminated a follow-up study to our baseline report *Ready or Not... Perspectives on Literacy and Essential Skills in this Economic Downturn*.
- ▶ Prepared and distributed two issues of *Literacy.ca Express* e-bulletin containing key information on capacity building (Focus on Governance and Focus on Promising Practice).
- ▶ Produced and disseminated *In the Works, A Compendium of Literacy and Essential Skills Projects*.

## Sharing Tools and Best Practices

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**MCL is committed to sharing tools and best practices that support improvement in the quality of learning.**

- ▶ Twice in 2009–10, we brought all 13 provincial and territorial literacy coalitions/ networks together to exchange and receive information. MCL's Learners Advisory Network Committee also met twice in 2009–10.
- ▶ Provided face-to-face venue for information-sharing on many OLES-funded projects.
- ▶ Worked with key provincial/territorial stakeholders to identify a number of areas (in terms of tools, supports and best practices) which they felt were missing or under-resourced.

## Partnerships and Networks

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**MCL values the input of a wide range of partners and stakeholders into our work.**

**We build alliances and partnerships to advance literacy and essential skills across the country and to achieve specific objectives.**

- ▶ Partnered in the planning and delivery of *Connecting the Dots: Literacy and Accountability Conference* and participated in ongoing project steering committee work.
- ▶ Active member of the Advisory Committee for the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA) *Literacy and Learning in the Workplace and Community* project.
- ▶ Actively participated on the steering committee for *Cultivating Connections — National Family Literacy Conference 2010*.
- ▶ Participated in planning meeting for *CMEC/UNESCO Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI)*, hosted by the Government of Brazil.
- ▶ Participated in regular meetings with OLES in conjunction with the *National Literacy Table*.
- ▶ Participated as a member of the *National Literacy Table*.
- ▶ Worked with national and provincial literacy organizations to create activities for *International Literacy Day*.
- ▶ Met with *Canada Without Poverty* to establish a "Focus on Poverty" partnership that will highlight the linkages between LES and poverty.



**Movement for Canadian Literacy**

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*Literacy... It's Essential.*