

“Adult learning gave me the confidence to continue my education and pursue a new career. You are never too old to achieve your goal if you really want it.”
- Brenda Boudreau



Brenda grew up in a small fishing village where employment for many family generations was mainly working in a fish plant or on fishing trawlers. “After being employed for 24 years, the fishery closed down and I found myself at age 40 with a grade 10 education and no job. It was the most stressful time of my life. Then I enrolled in adult learning and gained the confidence and skills I needed to change my life.”

Brenda earned her GED at her local adult learning network and decided to pursue an even bigger dream: she was accepted into the Business Administration Program at NSCC and graduated with honours. Today she is gainfully employed in the accounting field. “My advice to anyone is to follow your dreams. You are never too old to learn. If you don’t know where to start, find an adult learning organization in your area. They will lead you on the right path.”



***Literacy and Essential Skills:
Making a Difference in the Lives
of Nova Scotians***

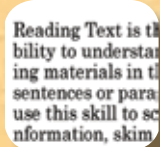
Literacy Nova Scotia works to ensure that literacy and essential skills learning opportunities are available wherever and whenever there is a need or interest.

Literacy and essential skills provide the foundation for learning all other skills. They enable us to succeed in our jobs and adapt to workplace change; they also enable us to evolve in our personal lives and contribute to our communities.

Nine Essential Skills are needed for work, learning and life.

Reading

- Read emails from coworkers
- Read a recipe; read letters from your doctor, landlord, friend
- Read newspapers, billboards, signs, menus



Writing

- Take notes at a meeting; send emails
- Write letters to friends, relatives, your child's teacher
- Share your opinion by writing letters to the editor of your local newspaper



Working with Others

- Listen to and support your boss and coworkers; get your part of the job done
- Create a supportive home environment by listening and caring
- Become a community volunteer



Document Use

- Fill out a job application
- Read nutritional labels on food packaging
- Read bus schedules



Oral Communication

- Give directions to your customers
- Order items by phone
- Discuss health concerns with your doctor



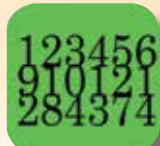
Thinking Skills

- Organize your weekly work schedule
- Plan a family reunion
- Plan a fundraising event at your local school or church



Numeracy

- Keep track of office expenses
- Make a household budget; create a plan to save money for your child's education
- Count out correct change when making a payment



Computer Use

- Send pdf files to a coworker via email
- Use the Internet to shop online
- Use an ATM machine



Continuous Learning

- Take an online course
- Learn how to use new tools for household repairs
- Learn how to play bridge or do yoga at your community recreation centre



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Become a member of Literacy Nova Scotia. Add your voice to the wide membership calling for the advancement of all levels of adult literacy and essential skills in this province and beyond. Read more: www.literacyns.ca/membership.htm

Membership Fees:
Individual \$10/year | Organizational \$75/year

Send your cheque with your name, complete mailing address, phone number and email to:
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