



Preparing learning kits in Thunder Bay.

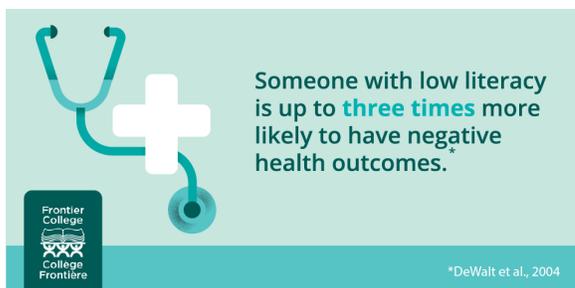
Spring Into Literacy!

Since our last newsletter, so much has changed in Canada and around the world. We hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy.

We are facing unusual circumstances, but we're still working to provide learning support to families, youth, and adults in our communities. Over the last several weeks, our team has worked to expand and improve our [online resources](#), move our tutoring online, send learning and activity kits to families around the country, and come up with innovative ways to connect with people in communities from coast to coast.

Health Spotlight

Literacy and Health



As outlined in Frontier College's [Literacy and Health Discussion Paper](#), literacy is fundamental to "health literacy," which the Public Health Agency of Canada defines as: "The ability to access, comprehend, evaluate, and communicate information as a way to promote, maintain, and improve health in a variety of settings across the life-course."

With daily news updates about COVID-19 and its effect on people's health, finances, and well-being, it's more important than ever that people understand health and safety instructions, prescriptions, and other information about staying healthy during the pandemic. Reading, writing, and numeracy are the backbone of health literacy. In fact, research shows that strengthening literacy skills helps people to improve their health literacy.

Special Appeal: Leave No One Behind



Even as social distancing restrictions have caused us to shift the way we operate, we know that that in times of uncertainty, education is one of the most powerful—and empowering—tools we have.

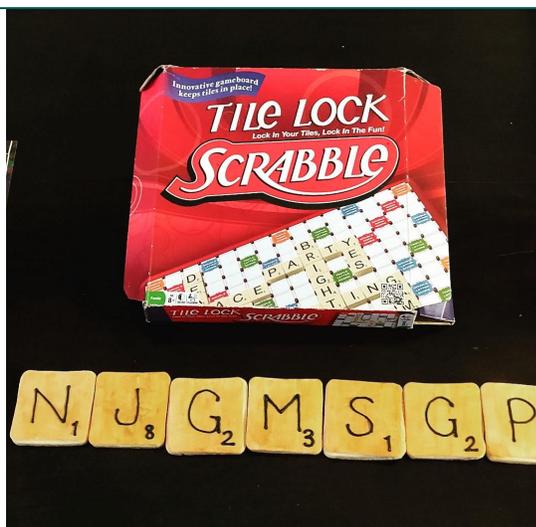
Our \$100,000 goal will enable us to:

- Source and send new, quality books to the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, and distribute them to families.
- Prepare and send home learning kits full of literacy and numeracy activities to First Nation, Métis, and Inuit communities.
- Provide distance tutoring via tablet, computer, or mobile device.
- Distribute pre-recorded audio for radio stations in remote communities—*The Radio Book Club*—and video content for Facebook-based interactions and online storytime sessions.

Help us reach our goal of raising \$100,000 to ensure no one is left behind.

Visit <https://bit.ly/noonebehind> to find out more about our work during COVID-19 and how you can make a difference.

Scrabble Stay At Home Challenge



Looking for a fun way to give back to your community? Why not try the [Scrabble Stay at Home Challenge](#)? Keep it simple: play a game of Scrabble or [Scrabble GO](#) and donate the amount of the highest score! Or double the challenge by setting up a [Fundraising Page](#) and have friends and family sponsor your game-playing fun.

Check out the [tips](#) to host your own virtual game night. Your donation will make real and lasting difference in someone's life.

Program Spotlight

Frontier College in the Yukon

In the Yukon, many of the people we



Learners help those in need in the Yukon.

The Coronavirus has disrupted regular tutoring sessions across the country, but we're pleased to share just how adaptable the Yukon team—learners and staff—has been.

To start, since it's not currently possible for one-to-one meetings to take place in person, tutoring has moved online and now includes some amazing situation-specific modifications.

At the request of the Yukon government, Tutor/Trainer Gwen Ross simplified the language of the Patient Privacy and Personal Health Information Confidentiality training and delivered it to learners. She has also been assisting a learner with creating operating procedures and, amazingly, worked with another to find internet resources to learn how to make masks and coveralls for staff. The learner has since donated this necessary equipment to workers in the region.

work with were born outside of Canada and are studying health and safety, Canadian citizenship, math, English, and other subjects with Frontier College staff while working full-time.

At the end of March, the Yukon government took over one project site for use as the Yukon Respiratory Assessment Center and Self-Isolation Facility (RAC-SIF) and asked for volunteers to help with housekeeping, janitorial, and front desk services.

Nine Frontier College learners, after talking to their families in their home countries and their housemates here in Canada, stepped up and volunteered to provide those services.

We're so proud of their willingness to help people in need, and we want to thank them for their generosity of spirit and hard work.

One learner who is working on his writing skills was asked about his reasons for working at RAC-SIF. Here is an excerpt.

"First of all, I am a housekeeper in the hotel. I starting this job last April. This hotel company supports my visa and so I can make application for Permanent Residence (PR), so I can continue to live and work here. Before I coming to this place, I really wanted to live in Canada, because I was inspired by the culture of work/life and a beautiful nature. I decided to immigrate here. My PR application is process now. This is a one of the reason why I decided to undertake a little dangerous work. I thought that a layoff maybe affect my PR process. But more important, **I want to contribute my new community and Canada. This community accept me even I cannot speak English so well. So, I feel happy that I can make this work for the residents here.**"

2020-2024 Strategic Plan

Prior to the COVID-19, we had made initial announcements about our new five-year Strategic Plan. The spirit of the plan remains, however, some of our bolder activities have been put on hold temporarily due to COVID-19. We are still looking toward a bright future based on three basic tenets, and will have more news to share throughout the year:

- **Increase Impact**
- **Expand Influence**
- **Grow Resources**

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COVID-19 is impacting the way
we work and learn.

Keep safe while keeping educated!

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