



For Immediate Release
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PROVINCE INVESTS \$165,266 IN LOCAL LITERACY NEEDS
McGuinty Government Action Will Help More Than 13,000 People Across Ontario

NEWS

OAKVILLE – Ontario is expanding literacy and basic skills programs in Oakville.

The province is investing an additional \$165,266 in funding in two organizations providing literacy training in Oakville. Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning and the Halton Catholic District School Board are receiving additional funding to expand literacy and essential skills training so more Ontarians can train for more high-skill jobs.

“People remain our number one asset in Oakville,” said Kevin Flynn, MPP Oakville. “Investing in literacy skills means providing more opportunities for people to be their best, strengthening our local economy and helping our neighbourhoods grow.”

The government is investing an additional \$25 million in colleges, school boards and community literacy organizations in the Employment Ontario network across the province to help laid-off workers and other adult learners train for highly skilled jobs.

“Sheridan is delighted to have these additional and much needed resources to assist people in our community to up-skill in our transitioning economy where continuing education for adults is now a necessary precondition to success”, said Dr. Robert Turner President and CEO of Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning. “We are most fortunate to have Kevin Flynn as our strong and vocal champion for post-secondary education in particular and of our community in general.”

“Our Continuing Education Services welcome this additional funding,” notes Alice Anne LeMay, Chair of the Halton Catholic District School Board. “It will enable our Board’s Literacy and Basic Skills Program to expand its literacy and academic upgrading services to support adult learners in our community, who will then be better able to pursue and prepare for new employment opportunities.”

In addition, Ontario is investing \$5 million across the province to expand online literacy training. The e-channel project helps English-speaking, French-speaking and Aboriginal learners living in remote communities.

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“We’re taking action now to help people strengthen their skills while laid off and looking for work so they’ll be better able to find jobs in the new economy,” said John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities and Minister of Research and Innovation.

QUICK FACTS

- 3.4 million Ontario adults have literacy skills at less than a high school level.
- By 2020, about 70 per cent of new jobs are expected to require postsecondary education and training.

LEARN MORE

For information about the [Ontario 2009 budget](#).

For information about [Ontario’s services to strengthen literacy](#).

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