

Apprenticeship and LBS

The St. Lawrence College (Kingston) Model

At St. Lawrence College – Kingston, Stephen Finnegan, the Associate Dean of Apprenticeship and Tourism is well aware of the great things Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) programs do, and has set up a partnership with the campus' LBS program to support struggling apprentices (especially during the classroom portion of the program). A designated co-ordinator screens the individual and makes a soft hand-off of the apprentice to the on-campus LBS program, where they receive the targeted upgrading they need to be successful.

Finnegan is also in discussion with Doug Noyes, Executive Director of Literacy Link Eastern Ontario (LLEO) around two other areas where LBS could support the Apprenticeship program:

- a) LBS staff could work with the trades Instructors, who come from the trade(s) but may not be aware of learning styles, instructional strategies, and other aspects of teaching adults.
- b) LBS could provide some training and support to the volunteers who read the exams for some apprentices who are challenging the Certificate of Qualification. Both Finnegan and many of the Ministry staff affiliated with Apprenticeship thought this would be a great idea.

LBS providers look forward to learning more about the additional supports that are being discussed, and encourage other Training Delivery Agents to develop similar partnerships with their local LBS upgrading providers.