
2009 Lois Hole Adult Learner Award

Colin DesJardine. Received this award in recognition of the courage he demonstrated in stepping forward to ask for help to improve his literacy skills and his commitment to staying with the program until he reaches his goal.



Sandra Irving, Executive Director, Centre for Family Literacy, Colin DesJardine and Jim Hole.

Born and raised in Canada, Colin's courageous journey began in March 2006 when he took the step of coming to the Centre for Family Literacy for help with his math skills. Soon he realized he also needed to vastly improve his literacy skills in order to achieve his goal of getting his level 4 power engineering certification.

Over the past two and a half years Colin has worked with dogged determination to improve. When he first came to the Centre he had trouble with basic addition and subtraction and his math was at a grade two or three level. He now is learning algebra and working through more complex problems in addition to making huge strides in his reading levels.

Colin used to have panic attacks at the prospect of taking conceptual skills tests at work. Now he is signing up for courses and going out of his way to learn more and take those tests.

His intellectual confidence has grown in leaps and bounds in a short period of time. After discovering the joy of literacy, he's now taken up reading in his spare time at home.

2009 Lois Hole Community Leadership Award

This award was presented to Randy Boissonnault for his outstanding and ongoing commitment to family literacy in Alberta. Randy has contributed immensely to the work of the Centre for Family Literacy as a Board member, Chair and Past Chair of the organization. He has served on the National Advisory Committee for projects of the Centre and also on francophone committees that adapted some of the Centre's work.

2009 Lois Hole Community Leadership Award - *continued*



In his time with the Centre, Randy helped usher in an era of significant growth from a budget of less than \$300,000 in 1998 to one of over \$2 million today, assisting to build an organization that now serves over 5,000 participants each year.

Randy represented the Alberta literacy field on a Steering Committee put together by the Minister of Advanced Education to review the shape and scope of advanced education in the province for the next 15 years. He also put his facilitation expertise and literacy knowledge to the test as a facilitator for the national Advisory Committee on Literacy and Essential Skills to the Minister of Human Resources Skills Development Canada. He helped the 17-member committee present a national literacy strategy to the Minister in December 2005.

Randy has volunteered thousands of hours to the cause of literacy locally, provincially, and nationally and it is for his major contributions to the field that he received this award.