



“The Practitioner Training Program is practical, flexible, and enjoyable!”

~ Allison Parsons

Allison Parsons was working as an independent tutor for post-secondary and GED students, and although she loved her work, she was feeling very isolated from the adult education community. Allison felt like she was lacking the support, resources and shared experiences of other adult literacy practitioners. When Allison registered for Literacy Nova Scotia’s Practitioner Training Program, she was thrilled to know that she would be connected to other tutors, trainers and instructors who were eager to develop their skills and share their knowledge of adult literacy best practices. The variety of the courses offered in the program was appealing, and the flexibility of online learning meant she could continue to work and raise her family while she completed the modules.

“The support I received from the staff and Program Facilitator was tremendous, and I felt proud of myself for making the decision to upgrade my teaching skills.”

Allison had a broad range of experience teaching adult learners, but she felt she was lacking knowledge in specific areas of teaching.

“The Practitioner Training modules helped me to develop and organize a “teaching toolbox” that focussed on particular adult learning issues such as reading and writing, math, spelling, computer technology, communications and much more. I gained information and resources about these subjects that was practical and relevant to my position as an instructor for adult learners. The modules were thorough and I felt challenged by the exercises and assignments. I was able to incorporate my daily, instructional practices into the assignments, and I asked my learners for feedback on my projects. As a result of completing each module of the program, I feel better equipped to meet the needs of our adult learners.”

Participating in the Practitioner Training Program gave Allison confidence in herself as an instructor for adult learners. “I rely on my training I received from the program to successfully deal with challenges I experience in the classroom every day. I no longer feel isolated in my teaching since I am now part of a Community Learning Organization. My employer recognizes the value of the training I received from Literacy Nova Scotia, and I have since mentored a colleague through their practicum component of the course.”

Allison says she would absolutely recommend the Practitioner Training Program to other practitioners. “Whether you are an ALP, GED, or Essential Skills Instructor, the knowledge and skills you gain from the modules will help you to define your teaching strategies to provide your clients with excellent instruction. The Practitioner Training Program is practical, flexible, and enjoyable! I feel that my participation in the program has opened many doors for me, and I would like to thank Literacy Nova Scotia for their continued support.”