

# Business Directory

# Schreiber / Terrace Bay win reading challenge

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The week of May 6 to 11 was Literacy Week in Northwest Ontario. The Schreiber/Terrace Bay area was the winner in the Northwestern Ontario Reading Challenge on Friday, May 11. This was one of two events with which the Schreiber/Terrace Bay Community Literacy Program celebrated Literacy Week.

For the Reading Challenge, we asked individuals and organizations to list the total number of hours and minutes that they read on Friday, May 11. All the communities in Northwestern Ontario were challenging each other. The community with the greatest number of minutes read per person (based on population percentages) would be the winner. Schreiber/Terrace Bay logged an impressive 49 minutes per person. Our closest competitor recorded 21 minutes per person.

We had enthusiastic participation from the elementary schools and high schools, the banks and credit unions, the rec centres, the public libraries, the community services offices, the Terrace Bay/Schreiber News staff, Birchwood Terrace, and many, many individuals. We owe our winning status to all of you!

The second event with which we celebrated Literacy Week was

"Readless Wednesday", on Wednesday, May 9. We asked individuals and organizations to try and pass the entire day without reading. No books, newspapers, magazines, menus, grocery labels, lists, posters, or signs. No reading at all! Then we asked them to call us afterwards and tell us what it was like. We had an fascinating array of reactions. They included: "impossible", "like trying not to breathe", "I can't imagine not being able to read", "leaves a big hole in my life", "very difficult", "I need to read to survive", "It's the only time I get to myself all day", "I need it to fall asleep at night", "I need my newspaper fix", and many other responses of a similar vein. We felt that this event would give people who can read, an idea of what it would be like to be in the shoes of a person who cannot read.

the Community Adult Learning Program helps adults who want to learn to read and write, and also helps adults who wish to improve their existing reading and writing skills as well as their math and arithmetic skills. We also provide English as a second language training, and are starting up a Family Literacy program this year to encourage parents and young children to read together. We are accessible to disabled individuals, and provide daycare and babysitting services to our students.

We are located at 312 Manitoba St. in Schreiber, and our number is 824-3164 (between 9:00 and 4:00). A message can be left on weekends and evenings. Dianne Linstead is the community literacy co-ordinator, and Pam McKeever is the workplace literacy co-ordinator.

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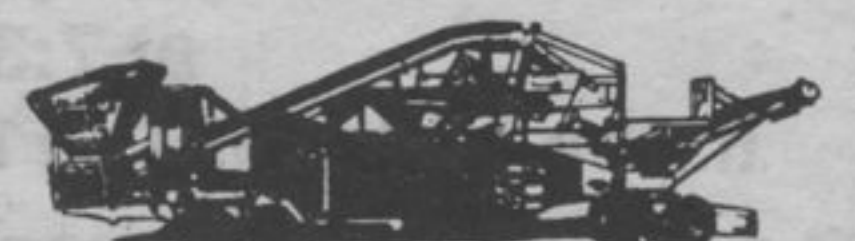
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