

Be the Change...The graphic

by Dawna Lee

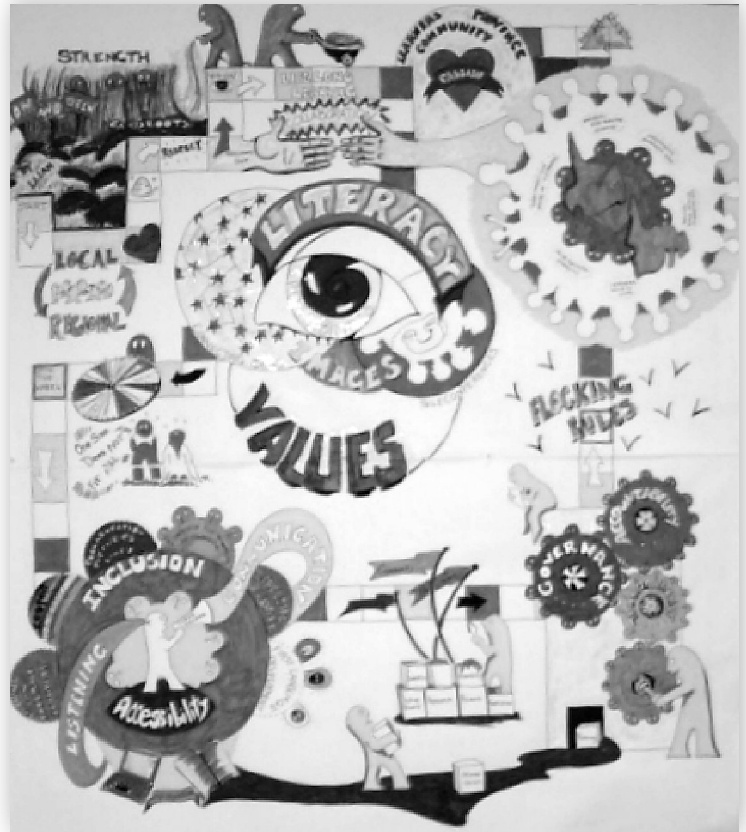
■ In 2004, the Literacy Network Ad Hoc Group (LNAG) was formed in Newfoundland and Labrador to encourage and support discussion among people involved and interested in community-based literacy work in the province. LNAG's mandate was to find out what individuals and organizations would want and need from a grassroots provincial literacy network. LNAG held a series of brown-bag luncheons, community discussions and teleconferences to connect communities throughout the province. We asked, "What are your values and visions for the new network?"

We reported the findings to this question during the "Be the change..." provincial literacy conference in December 2005. After that conference, LNAG was disbanded. Since everyone now knew what people wanted in a provincial literacy network, Literacy Newfoundland & Labrador was established.

We chose to present our research findings using a graphic illustration. We wanted to be inclusive of the diverse conference participants. They represented all levels of literacy and learning backgrounds, and mirrored the reality of literacy within our province. We felt that a graphic illustration would be the best way to make sure we all had a shared awareness of the values we held as a community for the new literacy network.

Choosing to use graphic recording to document our research also allowed us to open creative pathways within the organization and individuals. Since the graphic serves as a living document, this means that it is not a final report. Rather, it can and should be added to as the network grows with more ideas. ■

DAWNA LEE is a literacy practitioner from Newfoundland and Labrador. She documented the process of developing this graphic for the national framework project, *Focused on Practice*. To read the full description of the graphic and the process of creating Literacy Newfoundland and Labrador, go to www.literacyjournal.ca, click on Crazy Wisdom, choose Wild Cards, then Newfoundland and Labrador.



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