



# The Spider's Web

ONTARIO NATIVE LITERACY COALITION NEWSLETTER

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*Fall 2011*

## **ONLC Provincial Conference** **Oct 27-30**

The 2011 provincial OALCF Implementation training is again being held at the Kempenfelt Conference Centre in Barrie and we are hoping that all programs can be represented this year.

Those of you who have been at previous conferences held at Kempenfelt know that it is a unique venue that combines a modern conference centre with a beautiful natural location right on the shore of Lake Simcoe.

Information about the conference, and registration forms, went out to all programs in the Native stream a few weeks ago and the deadline for applications is September 30th.

There are a limited number of rooms available at Kempenfelt for this event so priority is being given to making sure all programs have the opportunity for their staff to be housed on-site. In the past ONLC has opened its training gatherings to agencies outside of the Native Stream but that will not be the case this year. The strong OALCF focus of this event makes it appropriate only for those who are working in TCU-funded LBS programs.

At this point the actual training content is still being developed by the OALCF team so it is unlikely that a formal agenda will be available ahead of time.

We can confirm that the training will occupy the majority of our time on both Friday and Saturday with the wrap-up of the training taking place on Sunday morning. Dinner will be provided at Kempenfelt on Thursday evening and all delegates are strongly encouraged to arrive on the 27<sup>th</sup> as training will begin first thing on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

We would like to thank the practitioners who volunteered last year to sit on an Advisory Team for the fall training. Normally the Advisory Team members would work in cooperation with ONLC staff to design the training content and session choices for the training. In the case of the 2011 fall training, however, their services were not required because the entire content of this training is being prepared by the ministry.

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the ONLC will be held as part of our fall event although at this point the decision has not been made about which day it will be held. When you arrive at the conference centre you will receive a conference folder that contains the final agenda, including the date and time of the AGM. There is currently one vacant seat on the Board so an election will be part of this year's AGM. We hope all the members, i.e. representatives of all the programs, will be able to attend the AGM.

We hope to see all of you in Barrie in October.





## Changes to the Stream

There have been several changes within our programs since the last newsletter was distributed and here are some of the highlights.

**Val Chiblow** left her position with Enjikendaasang in Blind River earlier this month to move to Hamilton where she will be closer to her family. At this point there is no new Coordinator in place.

We would like to officially welcome **Bryan Nahrgang** who joined the Moosonee program this spring. See more in his article later in the newsletter. Some of you may have met him at the spring regional OALCF training and he will be at the fall event. Please make him welcome.

**Kirk Fournier** has left the Timmins program and **Stephanie Fisher** is the new contact person there. Her email is [sfisher@tnfc.ca](mailto:sfisher@tnfc.ca). Stephanie has attended prior provincial training events so some of you may already have met her. See a picture and article from Timmins further in the newsletter.

**Hazel Jordan** is still with the Lovesick Lake program but due to health issues **Stephanie Doughty** is the person to contact there for now. She can be reached at the same email we have used for Hazel in the past.

**Sherri Kitts** continues as the Education Coordinator covering Crystal's maternity leave at Niin Sakaan until the end of this year. Her email is [diabetes@ssmifc.ca](mailto:diabetes@ssmifc.ca).

**Goody Dockstader**, Katwenyes (Fort Erie), is very pleased to announce her new assistant, **Maradee Noble**. Maradee will be at the fall training so you can all meet her there.

**Sioux Hudson Literacy Council** in Sioux Lookout has changed its email address. To reach their office for normal administrative matters the email is now [admin@siouxhudsonliteracy.com](mailto:admin@siouxhudsonliteracy.com). To reach Jonathan directly the email is [jonathan@siouxhudsonliteracy.com](mailto:jonathan@siouxhudsonliteracy.com).

**Darlene King** and her staff at Nbaakaawin Kwe: Native Women's Learning centre are back in their office at 191 Gerrard St. E in Toronto after extensive renovations to their premises.

## Project Update

ONLC is working on the final components of its 'Practitioner Training using Blended Technology' project, funded by MTCU.

This spring the field was introduced to a Basic on-line training course, developed by Warren Butler, for new and less experienced practitioners. That course continues to reside on-line and everyone is encouraged to check it out, whether they are taking it for the first time or going back in to review information it contains. If you have any questions contact [warren@siouxhudsonliteracy.com](mailto:warren@siouxhudsonliteracy.com).

Over the summer work continued on the next phase, an intermediate course for more experienced practitioners. ONLC is working with the course designer, Warren Butler, and the project's volunteer Advisory Group to put the finishing touches on that course.

In addition to the course Introduction, this new on-line training will contain chapters or modules on:

**Instructional Strategies for Practitioners**  
**Organizational Capacity**  
**OALCF Implementation**  
**Prior Learning & Assessment (PLAR) and**  
**Developing Hands-On Learning Activities**

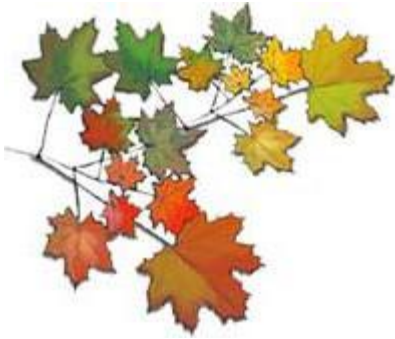
If all goes well the Intermediate Course should be ready by late October or early November.

Our thanks, again, to the members of the volunteer Advisory Group who have been working on this project with us since the beginning of the year. Current members (alphabetically) include:

**Marie Belliveau**, *St. Catharines*  
**Goody Dockstader**, *Fort Erie*  
**Barbara Hill**, *London &*  
**Linda Wright**, *GLA, Sioux Hudson Literacy*

We would also like to thank **Val Chiblow**, who had to withdraw from the Advisory Group when she left the LBS program in Blind River earlier this month, for her input throughout the development of both the Basic and Intermediate courses.





## Ministry Updates

Just a reminder to new practitioners who may not know, that all coordinators and LBS program staff should be checking the ministry's website daily, for their updates and information of vital interest to all programs.

The website address is:

<http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/newpostings>

This is the site that our funder, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) uses to keep the field apprised of changes in procedures, updates of existing protocols and any new information needed by LBS Service Delivery Organizations.

Since August they have posted several new items which you need to check out. These include:

- the LBS Service Delivery Organization Monitoring Package and Report
- changes and updates related to the LBS Activity Reports
- updates that affect LBS Service Delivery Organizations *and*
- information on additional one-time funding for the 2011-12 fiscal year

***If you are not checking the Employment Ontario Partner's Gateway (EOPG) website regularly, you may be missing items of critical importance to your program!***

Keeping current with information posted by the ministry is a program responsibility and ONLC strongly suggests that, if you have not already done so, you bookmark this site and make checking it part of your daily activities.



## Peterborough Native Learning

### Two New Motivational Ideas

With school back in full swing (we were closed for 2 weeks in the summer) the staff have been looking at ways to rejuvenate the learners and the day to day work that they face to meet their goals. One incentive for them is our Learner of the Month Award. A Nomination Committee puts names forward based on 5 categories and a vote is taken. The Learner gets a PNLN mug, a gift certificate for lunch at one of the food court locations (we're in a mall) and a Certificate of Recognition. We also post this information on our Learner Message Board until the next month's winner is chosen. The learner who is picked is part of the Nomination committee for the next winner. If you wish to have further information, let me know.

We have been invited to be a location for a new program started by a local musician. She has invited our learners to come and learn a band instrument, or to bring their instruments and support the newbies. This kind of idea has been near and dear to my heart for years as I love music and find it is a great stress reliever and joy producer, but never found the time to bring it to the learners. This will hopefully get going by mid October. I'll bring you up to date when I see you at the OALCF Training.

Article submitted by:

*Pat Powell Owen, Coordinator  
Peterborough Native Learning Program*



#### **Please Note:**

Family Literacy Day will take place on January 27, 2012. ONLC will send out materials to programs this fall.



## Learning and Violence Project

### RESOURCE KIT TESTING NEEDED!

Do you have learners who have experienced violence or have been the perpetrators of violence?

Do they have trouble focusing on their learning?

Are there times when they read something or someone says or does something and it sends them into an "old" place?

Do they start really strong and then drop out just as suddenly?

As a literacy trainer do you wish you had more awareness and tools to help traumatized learners stay engaged in your program, knowing that literacy is healing work?

Help is a couple of clicks away.....

Please consider field testing the excellent resources found on the Learning and Violence website and providing me with your feedback. I will give prizes!!

The feedback you provide now will help the developers do the final tweaking. I will send you a feedback form when you let me know you're checking it out. It is brief and again, I will give out prizes for every one completed!!

My email address: [info@pnlp.org](mailto:info@pnlp.org)

Submission by:

*Pat Powell Owen, Ontario LBS Rep.,  
Native Stream Learning and Violence Project (Jenny  
Horsman et. al.)*



## New Resource recommendation

On August 30<sup>th</sup> ONLC forwarded a message to all programs about the upcoming Essential Skills Day planned for September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

In the original message from ABC Life Literacy Canada, they mentioned a variety of free tools, resources and information that had been prepared for practitioners' use.

The timelines might have been a bit tight for programs wanting to organize an event at their sites but the information they provided is an excellent resource.

For those who have not checked it out, here is what Pat Powell-Owen, Peterborough Native Learning Program, had to say about it.

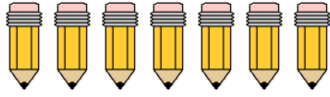
*"I just looked at some of the Essential Skills Day resources under "tools and resources now available!" and there are some great tip sheets, a portfolio template, self assessment of essential skills for the trades, and other great stuff that are free resources, so even if programs can't hold an event, they can access these resources.*

*Many of the activities on the tip sheets are tasks so they tie in with OALCF too. Also, if there is an event, there are free banners, brochures, posters that can be printed off. Worth taking the time to check this out."*

Visit [www.EssentialSkillsDay.ca](http://www.EssentialSkillsDay.ca) to take a look at these free tools, resources and information. If you do decide to hold an 'Essential Skills Day' event at your program ABC Life Literacy would like to know about it. You can contact them at <http://abclifeliteracy.ca/esd/>.

We would also encourage you to do an article for the next newsletter and to send us any pictures you have taken as well.





*"Why I think Katkwenyes is the best Literacy program ever"*



This Essay done by:

*Michael R. Verkaik, a learner with Katwenyes*

Well I am been coming to Katkwenyes from the start I have learn so much from this program how to be a better person and use the teachings that they have for me . Like math and how to use my brain when it comes to money and how to add subtract math susses. I also learn how show how to use my own ides when it comes to journal writing to help to get my mine of thing that been happening before class start's or just write down what I am feeling inside of me so the teacher will knows what is going with me I also learn to how to have more faith in me when it's come to school; work I know that being in this program has boost myself steams and havening a good and loving coordinator like Goody Dockstader to pushing me to what I need it to do even if I don't want to do she will find a way to get down to you show you how to do things even though that it can be hard but keep trying and giving us a good feeling that we did the work that she gives us .I have know others that move from Katkwenyes and got there high school diplomas and moved on for new and more schooling or in to the work force , I know in

my heart that If it was for me taking a friend a vise on going to Katkwenyes in aver had able to write this Essay for this program I know just from being in this program I have seen the improvement of my learning and see myself in the next year moving on and doing things to help other to get where they need to be for them self , I know I was fail by the school board all though my schooling years but that not my fault I am now showing that I can do the school work that the coordinator will be giving me and showing myself and my family that I can do anything that I set my mind to it and one day I will get my dream job as a chief to my own eatery or even go on as just doing rips or even cooking for the primeminer of Canada I know that's a big dream but Goody has show me that I should never give up my dream for know one and keep going for the future .

I know that I have come a long way when I first start it in Katkwenyes and with the help from Goody and the support she give me its great and I hope that she will always know how much I grateful for her motherly love and as a teacher to us .And that's why I think that Katkwenyes is the best literacy program ever!

Submitted by:

*Goody Dockstader, Coordinator, Katwenyes, Fort Erie*



## **Introducing Bryan Nahrgang**

My name is Bryan Nahrgang and I am the director and practitioner for the Adult literacy program for the Moosonee Native Friendship Center. For those of you who don't know, Moosonee is an isolated town located at the tip of James Bay. I have been at this position since January 1<sup>st</sup>, so it is all still relatively new to me. Prior to working at the friendship centre I spent 6 years working as a supply teacher at the three schools we have in Moosonee. I am excited about this new year as I now have some experience working as a practitioner and have a better idea on how to best support my learners.

Submitted by:

*Bryan Nahrgang, Director of Adult Literacy,  
Moosonee Native Friendship Centre*

## Introducing new staff at Timmins program



*Introducing new staff members in Timmins, Stephanie Fisher and Rachel Chapados.*

Greetings from Timmins. My name is Stephanie Fisher and I am an LBS/AU instructor at the Timmins Native Friendship Centre.

I started at the TNFC in January as a placement student from Northern College. I was in my last semester of the Educational Assistant Program. During my placement I met so many wonderful people who I was able to assist with their studies. I was also very lucky to have such wonderful experiences with these individuals who taught me so much about what it is like to be in an adult classroom. Because of these wonderful people I feel I have found my calling. Each day at the TNFC LBS program is a privilege and so rewarding.

As of April, I have been hired on in the LBS program to continue to assist in the succession of these individuals and I cherish every minute of it. I have now been lucky enough to have an assistant Rachel Chapados join our classroom. Rachel is also a graduate of Northern College's Educational Assistant program. She not only has a positive outlook on adult education but a willingness to go above and beyond to help our students succeed!

Article submitted by:

*Stephanie Fisher, Timmins Native Friendship Centre*



## Six Nations Achievement Centre

**Six Nations Achievement Centre** recently held its first *Crafting for Employment* “**Feather Fan Workshop**”, and eight people completed the workshop.

During their time with us, they had the opportunity to craft a feather fan and learn the basic bookkeeping and the math skills needed to maintain a small business. With the help of donations from local agencies, all material was supplied by the Achievement Centre.

This new program was a great success. The learners really enjoyed the class with comments like:

*“I enjoyed this workshop very much.”*

*“I received lots of hints and suggestion from the instructor and other participants.”*

*“All was helpful, it was all new to me.”*

*“I liked the hands on learning.”*

*“Most useful was, cost value of time & materials to be able to finish product conducive to what I might be able to sell product.”*



*This is a picture of the group's feather fans.*

A week later a learner came in to thank us and tell us that she sold her feather fan for \$50.00 and would be making more to sell.

Article submitted by:

*Angel Skye, Six Nations Achievement Centre*

# Good Learning Anywhere

## SHLC Good Learning Anywhere (GLA) now features Aboriginal Australian Career Toolboxes (AACT)

Good Learning Anywhere (GLA) Online Toolboxes are used under license from the [Australian Flexible Learning Toolboxes](#). Toolboxes are high quality, interactive, e-learning and assessment resources featuring scenarios, images and activities (interactive tasks with career focus for aboriginals). They are designed for use by training providers and support online delivery for the vocational education and training sector. SHLC-

GLA purchased these licenses with the intent to rebuild the Toolboxes with content from the different regions within north-western Ontario.

When the new Toolboxes are released learners will be able to compare similar job tasks between Australia and north-western Ontario in the areas of aboriginal archaeology, aboriginal music and aboriginal ecotourism.

Password protected access can be acquired by registering through the GLA website and clicking on the left-hand menu Online Toolboxes. These sites will be updated to buttons in the near future.



### Cultural Resource Management: (Australian Content)

With a focus on the use of cultural knowledge, traditions and significance of specific land sites a learner will need to be a very good detective and tracker to trek through these 9 sites. A learner will gain an appreciation of how basic archaeology is important in establishing land claim sites. (North-western Toolbox coming soon).



### Deadly Jam: (Australian Content)

The Toolbox provides opportunities for learners to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in 4 areas of music performance; (musician, band manager, sound technician, and events manager) within an interactive medium with direct implications for future career pathways. (North-western Toolbox coming soon).



### Indigenous Ecotourism: (Australian Content)

Many communities of aboriginal people are looking to ecotourism as a means of managing their lands and providing jobs for their children. The research and planning stage of an ecotourism product is crucial. It requires expertise not always available in aboriginal communities. This toolbox is a collection of resources which can be used by Indigenous people or communities to develop an Ecotourism Plan specifically for their region. 15 regions of Australia are depicted with access to beautiful scenic photos. **\*\*NOTE\*\*** Listed websites are from successful business and have changed in the last 10 years which requires having a 2<sup>nd</sup> window open to search for the new website.



## PILLOW CASE CHALLENGE COMBINES TECHNOLOGY, LITERACY AND SEWING



The M'Chigeeng Adult and Continuation program in M'Chigeeng held a pillowcase making session last week to teach literacy through hands-on tasks as part of the 1 Million Pillowcase Challenge, an international challenge to create pillowcases to donate to local charities.

“The Sewing and Literacy program is designed to build the sewing and literacy skills of individuals and a strong awareness of traditional skills.” said Clara Corbiere, the Literacy Coordinator at the learning centre, “Participants received instruction in English, math, computers and keyboarding.”

Ms. Corbiere explained how the pillowcase challenge was perfect fit for the program, in addition to helping local organizations. “All the participants will make two pillowcases, one to take home with them and one to donate to Haven House.” Ms. Corbiere said they chose Haven House, a women’s crises shelter in Mindemoya, because it assists Island women and children who have been affected by violence.

During their two sessions last week, participants make a total of 20 pillowcases, 10 of which will be donated along with pillows to the shelter. “The participants just didn’t show up and sew, they used computers to research the sewing technique, learned the language of sewing such as seams, bias, tacking and pivoting, they measured material correctly using rulers and measuring tapes as well as practicing time management. “

The first pillowcase usually takes an individual approximately 60 minutes to complete but the second usually takes about 30 minutes, that is if everything works properly” said Ms. Corbiere. The activity went so well that the centre will be hosting another session and is hoping to donate 20 pillowcases to Kina, a local child protection organization.

For more information about the 1 Million pillowcase Challenge visit the website at <http://www.allpeoplequilt.com/millionpillowcases>

Article submitted by:

Clara Corbiere, M’Chigeeng



## Helpful information re: new LBS Service Delivery Organization Monitoring Protocols

Community Literacy Ontario (CLO) has put together a list of useful online resources to support community-based literacy agencies who want to improve their policies and procedures in the areas of administrative and financial accountability as outlined in the new 2011-12 LBS Monitoring Package for Service Delivery Organizations.

<http://hrcouncil.ca/hr-toolkit/home.cfm>

A human resources toolkit developed by the HR Council for the Nonprofit Sector

<http://checkup.hrcouncil.ca>

An online human resources Check-Up for the Voluntary Sector

<http://nonprofitrisk.imaginecanada.ca/node/678>

Risk Management Resources from Imagine Canada’s Insurance and Liability Resource Centre for NonProfits.

<http://nonprofitrisky.imaginecanada.ca/node/898>

A ‘Governance is Critical’ resource from the same centre as the site shown above

[www.councilofnonprofits.org/knowledge-center/resources-topic/administration-and-management/financial-management](http://www.councilofnonprofits.org/knowledge-center/resources-topic/administration-and-management/financial-management)

A financial management resource from the National Council for NonProfits

[www.muttart.org/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/financial\\_responsibilities.pdf](http://www.muttart.org/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/financial_responsibilities.pdf)

‘Board Development: Financial Responsibilities for Not-for-Profit Boards’ from the Muttart Foundation

[www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/rural/facts/01-047.htm](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/rural/facts/01-047.htm)

A ‘Fact Sheet on Financial Policies and Procedures’ from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food

[www.nald.ca/clo/resource/capacity\\_plus\\_book\\_02.pdf](http://www.nald.ca/clo/resource/capacity_plus_book_02.pdf)

CLO’s ‘Capacity Plus – Organizational Capacity Resource Guide’ –Chapters 2 (Financial Management), 3 (HR Management) and 5 (Customer Service Management)

[www.nald.ca/clo/policies/guide1/devpol-1.pdf](http://www.nald.ca/clo/policies/guide1/devpol-1.pdf)

Volume One of CLO’s ‘Guide for the Development of Policies and Procedures in Ontario’s Community Literacy Agencies’

## New Learning Websites from SHLC

The following websites were found in the Sioux Hudson Literacy Council newsletter. ONLC is happy to share them with you in this newsletter.

<http://www.gcflearnfree.org>

Goodwill Community Foundation provides a number of different online learning courses, all of which are free to the users. Categories include Math, Computers and Reading.

<http://mathkarin.wordpress.com/>

This website is set up by a teacher/practitioner for learners who want to work on math skills of all kinds. There are 24 subject categories to explore, it is very user-friendly and it includes lots of internet activities to support what they are learning.

<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com>

*Practical Money Skills* is an online resource for educators, parents and students focused on financial literacy and education. There are lots of engaging games including Financial Football, Road Trip, Ed's Bank and ways to calculate how much you can afford for a car, how to do a budget and what you need for retirement.

<http://www.khanacademy.org/>

This site has over 2400 educational videos and games. There are a huge number of items to choose from in math, science, banking and money & brain teasers.

<http://www.howstuffworks.com>

*How Stuff Works* explains thousands of topics, from engines to lock-picking to ESP, with video and illustrations so you can learn how everything works. This site has something for everyone.

Our thanks to SHLC for sharing these resources.

You can view the entire SHLC newsletter at:  
[Sioux Hudson Literacy Council Fall Newsletter](#)



## Still More Learning Aids

The following five resources were a sampling of some of the many resources produced by the North West Territories Literacy Council.

**Kitchen Math - Everyday Math Skills**

**Money Math - Everyday Math Skills**

**Home Math**

**How to Kit – Readers Theatre**

**How to Kit—Environmental Print Games**

You can access these and many, many more good resources directly from their website at:

[http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/adultlit\\_res.htm](http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/adultlit_res.htm)



## GLA's On-Line Election Course

The provincial election is coming up fast and, as with the last federal election, the Good Learning Anywhere (GLA) program is offering learners an opportunity to learn more about voting and the importance of exercising their rights.



### *Exploring the 2011 Ontario Election*

On October 6th, 2011, Ontario will be having a provincial election to either re-elect the Liberal Party of Ontario or elect a new party and leader for Ontario. Good Learning Anywhere is offering a 2

hour LIVE Centra course, on **Monday October 3rd at 10:30 am EST**, for learners interested in learning about voting in the upcoming provincial election.

The course is not going to be a political debate. It will focus on the importance of voting in Ontario. Questions that will be covered in this 2 hour course are: What is an election? Why is it important to vote? What is the history of Aboriginal voters in Ontario? Who can vote? Where do people vote? How do people vote? What impact does my vote have? Tasks will include:

1. Use the Elections Ontario website to find and identify your electoral district
2. Read and understand voter card so you know where and when to vote
3. Find and list the MPP candidates in your electoral district

If you are interested in participating in this course, please register online at:

<http://www.siouxhudsonliteracy.com/register.htm>  
or call the office at 866-550-0697.

If you have any questions please email Warren – [warren@siouxhudsonliteracy.com](mailto:warren@siouxhudsonliteracy.com).



## Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

This Act (Bill 118) is a new law that outlines mandatory accessibility standards that are being introduced in Ontario.

The first part comes into effect for not-for-profit sector organizations on January 1, 2012 so if you are not sure what is required take a look at their website at

[www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/accessibility/index.aspx](http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/accessibility/index.aspx)

One of the first things you will need to do is create a plan to make sure your site will meet the new standards and train your site staff.

The government has provided resources to help you implement the new standards. Check out the 'Getting Started' guide at [www.mcass.gov.on.ca/documents/en/mcass/accessibility/Tools/Getting\\_Started\\_less20\\_en.pdf](http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/documents/en/mcass/accessibility/Tools/Getting_Started_less20_en.pdf)



## Baked Indian Pudding

Makes 8 servings – Preheat oven to 300F

- 1/2 c Cornmeal, yellow
- 4 c Milk, whole; hot
- 1/2 c Maple syrup
- 1/4 c Molasses, light
- 2 Eggs; Slightly Beaten
- 2 tb Butter/Margarine; Melted
- 1/3 c Sugar, brown; packed
- 1 ts Salt
- 1/4 ts Cinnamon
- 3/4 ts Ginger
- 1/2 c Milk, whole; cold

In top of double boiler, slowly stir cornmeal into hot milk. Cook over boiling water, stirring occasionally, 20 minutes.

In small bowl, combine rest of ingredients, except cold milk; stir into the cornmeal mixture; mix well.

Turn into a greased 8½ "baking dish; pour cold milk on top, without stirring. Bake, uncovered, 2 hours, or just until set but quivery on top. Do not overbake.

Let stand 30 minutes before serving. Serve warm, with vanilla ice cream.



**from everyone at the ONLC**



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