

## Moncton Roadshow

### For immediate release

For more than eighteen months Laubach Literacy New Brunswick (LLNB) and the Writers' Federation of New Brunswick (WFNB) were actively engaged in a joint project that involved seventeen experienced writers who recorded the non-fiction narratives of seventeen adult literacy students from across the province, celebrating their work and successes. These stories have been compiled in a single volume published by Fredericton's Goose Lane Editions. The title of the book is *Breaking the Word Barrier: Stories of Adults Learning to Read*. The project was a complete volunteer effort on everyone's part.

The introduction is written by New Brunswick's former Lieutenant Governor, Hermenegilde Chiasson. Greg Cook, a Maritime biographer and poet, has written an afterword.

With financial support from the Atlantic Lottery Corporation, the Province of New Brunswick and other donors it was possible to have 2,000 copies of the book printed. All the writers and students who participated in the project have received copies of the book; other copies are being distributed free to all Laubach councils, public libraries, English schools and CALP classes.

Following the unique book launch, which took place in Moncton on October 14th in the 'Dream Centre' of the Atlantic Lottery Corporation, teams made up of the writers and students involved in the project have been touring the province to promote literacy in New Brunswick. Dubbed, "Breaking the Word Barrier Roadshow," the first event was held on October 28<sup>th</sup> in Woodstock. Subsequent shows were staged in Miramichi, Saint John, Sackville and Fredericton. Each Roadshow includes representative adult students and writers making public presentations recounting their experiences in working on the project. Each student tells part of her/his story and the writers read selections from the specific story in the book. All those associated with this project and those who have attended the Roadshows attest to the powerful and compelling messages contained in the true stories that comprise *Breaking the Word Barrier*. The Roadshow brings these inspiring stories to life for the public in each community to appreciate and for those with low literacy skills to be motivated by the messages and successes that the presenters demonstrate. It is a unique opportunity to increase the awareness of the literacy needs in our province and to promote the work of Laubach councils and CALPs in each community.

The next *Breaking the Word Barrier* Roadshow will take place in Moncton on Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> in the main meeting room of the Moncton public library starting at 6:30 p.m. Each person attending will receive a free copy of the book.

For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact Peter Sawyer at [meg@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:meg@nbnet.nb.ca) or phone (506) 388-3013.