

FOR RELEASE
September 8, 2017

Deputy Premier presents literacy award to long-time advocate on International Literacy Day

Deputy Premier Ranj Pillai presented this year's Council of the Federation Literacy Award to long-time advocate Peter Morawsky in Whitehorse today on behalf of Premier Sandy Silver.

Each year since 2004, Canada's premiers present the award to recipients in all 13 provinces and territories. The award celebrates individuals' outstanding achievements, innovative practices and excellence in literacy. It recognizes the importance of literacy to citizen participation in all areas of society.

Quotes

"In honour of International Literacy Day, and on behalf of the Government of Yukon, I extend heartfelt thanks and congratulations to Mr. Morawsky for his important contributions to our community. His many years of leadership at Yukon Learn Society and Yukon Public Legal Education Association have improved the lives of individual Yukoners and strengthened communities."

–Premier Sandy Silver

"Peter Morawsky has devoted many years to championing literacy and legal literacy. His work has played a major role in ensuring Yukoners can understand their rights and have access to justice. I commend Mr. Morawsky for receiving this well-deserved recognition."

–Minister of Justice and Minister of Education Tracy-Anne McPhee

"Peter's vision of growth in literacy and his belief that everyone should have the ability to fully function in today's society has led him to utilize his knowledge, expertise and other volunteer positions to initiate the development of synergistic partnerships for the creation of a wide range of adult literacy services and programs."

–Yukon Learn Society president Mark Davey

Quick facts

- The Council of the Federation's members are the Premiers of the ten provinces and three territories of Canada. It fosters a constructive relationship among the provinces and territories and with the federal government, to strengthen the Canadian federation.
- The Council of the Federation was established in 2003 and the Literacy Award was established in 2004.
- The award defines literacy broadly, including family, Aboriginal, health, workplace and community literacy. It is given to recognize the excellence of educators, volunteers and learners.
- September 8, 2017 is the 51st annual International Literacy Day, as recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Learn more:

Canada's Premiers Announce 2017 Literacy Award Recipients
Council of the Federation

See backgrounder.

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Backgrounder – Peter Morawsky biography

Peter Morawsky is a literacy champion who believes that everyone should have the ability to fully participate in the community. In 2003, he joined the board of the Yukon Public Legal Education Association and contributed to the organization in various leadership roles until 2012. Since 2004, he has served on the Yukon Learn Society's board of directors in various capacities. Morawsky's leadership has led to partnerships between those organizations for projects such as the Self-Advocacy for Women in the Legal System program. He led the development of the publication *Splitting Up: The Yukon Law on Separation*, which has been an important resource.

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