



BRING ONE TO ONE LITERACY TO YOUR COMMUNITY



ONE TO ONE is a unique children's literacy program that provides one-to-one tutoring to elementary school students who struggle with reading. Our trained volunteers work with students in schools during school hours. These students are identified by their teachers as needing a boost in their literacy skills. The program is aimed at the grey-area students, those who do not receive any other resource support directly from the schools (i.e. no designated learning issues) but are not yet reading at grade level and often receive little or no literacy support at home.

ONE TO ONE provides these children with an opportunity to practice their reading in an environment where it is okay to take risks, make mistakes, and learn at their own pace. It is our goal to bring these students up to reading at their appropriate grade level, providing them an opportunity for academic success and hope for a brighter future.

“Through one-to-one tutoring, we help children develop literacy skills to last a lifetime.”

OUR IMPACT



The program began in 1989 at Carleton Elementary in Vancouver as a collaboration between the Vancouver School Board and the Junior League of Greater Vancouver. Teachers at Carleton felt that a number of the students had weak literacy skills and were not reading at grade level. Volunteers from the Junior League came into the school to work with those students and help boost their reading skills and the ONE TO ONE Literacy Program was born.

Our program has grown steadily and has expanded beyond the Vancouver area to several communities around BC. Today our large network of volunteers provide reading assistance to thousands of students throughout the province. Program surveys confirm that we are fulfilling our mission, with 98% of School Coordinators reporting the ONE TO ONE Literacy Program to be successful, 86% of teachers reporting an improvement in reading skills and comprehension for students who participated in the program, and 83% of teachers stating that these students increased their self-confidence.

Another impact of our program is to promote and build volunteerism and literacy capacity in the communities we serve through training individuals as literacy tutors. These individuals not only volunteer their time with our program, but they also take the skills they have learned and share them with the wider community. We believe that by engaging the community through volunteer participation, we strengthen our communities and schools, creating important connections between our schools, parents, and neighbourhoods.

The ONE TO ONE Literacy Society is a registered charity and completely funded by grants and private donations. There is no cost to students to participate in the program.

“As a resource teacher, I am very thankful for this program. It serves to support our at-risk/vulnerable populations and enhances their chance of success.”

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Trained volunteers read with children one-to-one during regular school hours for 30 minutes 2 times per week for the school year (October to June), or 4 times per week for 12-week blocks. Our program is designed to support students, Grades 1-7, with an emphasis on primary grades. The approach is to initiate early critical intervention into the lives of these at-risk children.

Our program model for communities outside the Vancouver area is for Literacy Task Groups or other literacy organizations to adopt the program. Each community designates a District Coordinator to be the main contact and manage the program in the community. The District Coordinator engages schools in the community to participate in the program.

The ONE TO ONE Program can now be offered in your community. A one-time start up fee is charged for all the required guidance to implement the program including initial set-up, support, training, and resources. ONE TO ONE Literacy Society provides ongoing support to ensure continued long-term success of the program.



"I have to say that our school would not be the same without our amazing volunteers. Our volunteers brought joy, confidence, laughter, and success to each of our students in the program. They helped propel our students forward with their reading and comprehension and most of all helped to increase their self esteem. I think that is a true success story."

PROGRAM ROLES EXPLAINED

Who are the Key People for Program Success?



Provincial Program Coordinator

The Provincial Program Coordinator is a ONE TO ONE Literacy staff member who manages the program in all regions in BC outside of the Vancouver area. The Provincial Program Coordinator works closely with the District Coordinator to ensure a successful set up, implementation, and long-term success of the program in the region and provides support in identifying funding sources and potential community partners. A region may be large enough to also have a Regional Liaison involved in the ongoing support of the program.

District Coordinator

The District Coordinator role is often fulfilled by the Literacy Task Group or other literacy organization in a community. The District Coordinator is responsible for setting up and delivering the program in the community with support from ONE TO ONE. This role includes recruiting and training volunteers, securing funding, and being the point of contact for the program within the community. The Coordinator reports annually to ONE TO ONE with information such as participating schools, number of students served, volunteer hours, and additional information as required.



School Coordinator

The School Coordinator is a staff member at the participating school, usually a Resource Teacher, Teacher Librarian, Administrator or other interested staff member. The School Coordinator is responsible for selecting suitable students for the program, scheduling the students, setting up the tutoring space, providing student files, and acting as a liaison between volunteers and the District Coordinator. This role may be assisted by a Lead Volunteer.

Volunteer

The Volunteer is the heart of the program, bringing with them their passion for reading, their joy for books and for working with children. Volunteers commit to reading with students one morning or one afternoon per week for the school year. All volunteers are provided with training and must complete a criminal record check.

“My highlight is that special moment when you see that everything has clicked, a light goes on and my student is now reading, sounding out words on their own and that smile that covers their entire little face!”



INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL COSTS*

1. DRA-Leveled Book Box

- Includes 120 reading books DRA levels 4-24

\$750
(one-time cost)

2. Printed materials

- ONE TO ONE provides all print-ready materials. This is the approximate cost to print these materials including volunteer training manuals, parent handbooks, volunteer badges, student records, etc. and other required supplies

\$50 - 200

** Costs to individual schools are approximate and subject to change.*

Total Individual School Cost = \$800 - 950

"I like ONE TO ONE reading because I get to read, and the volunteer is very kind. Reading is fun and amazing because I can learn and have fun."

GETTING STARTED



The first steps to bringing the ONE TO ONE Literacy Program to your community:

- Designate a District Coordinator, involving the Literacy Task Group or other literacy group in the community.
- Select 2-3 schools to initially participate in the program; additional schools can be added as the program grows.
- Identify the trainer who will provide the training to the volunteers.
- Identify funding sources to cover start-up costs.
- Contact ONE TO ONE to get started!

We look forward to working with you!

For more information, please contact:

Zahida Jaffer

Provincial Program Coordinator

regions@one-to-one.ca

ONE TO ONE Literacy Society

212-475 Main Street
Vancouver BC V6A 2T7
Phone: 604.255.5559

www.one-to-one.ca

