

Co-op offers a wide variety of learning sessions for members and the community

by Ruby Arsenault

Tignish Community Member Relations is a non-profit division of **Tignish Co-op**. Recently, there has been much effort made to offer learning sessions of interest to the community.

Learning sessions are available to members of the co-op and to the general public. "I try to meet the needs of individuals and provide them with learning skills and information that can benefit them," says **Paulette Arsenault**, Community Member Relations.

"Often I create online surveys asking people what interests them and then apply for funding to meet the demands or set up sessions.

"We have accessed various funding sources, and were recently awarded a grant from the PEI Seniors Secretariat," says Paulette. "This funding went towards organizing and implementing activities for our members in the 55-plus age group."

Sessions are held once a week over six weeks. Topics include art lessons, first aid prevention & awareness, basic computer skills, navigating social media, information on available grants, along with square dancing and crafting.

"Throughout the year, I try to provide fun learning activities and sessions for all age groups, such as the babysitting course and home alone program certified by the Red Cross.

"I am also very proud to have received funding to create a community room, which has a full kitchen and board room. This room is frequently used to house our programs, along with healthy living and cooking classes for all age groups, including classes for kids.

"In the future, we plan to offer a course in cooking traditional Acadian foods. I am always open to suggestions and ideas."

The space is also available to other organizations. "All they have to do is call me to book the space and we will be happy to accommodate them."

Paulette oversees the members' 50/50 lottery and the bingo. "The money goes back into the community and to fund various programs."

During the spring and summer, Paulette organized and hosted sessions at the Tignish Home Hardware garden centre, where participants learned valuable gardening and landscaping tips.

"I am presently preparing for the *Very Best Autumn Festival*, a free event held in September, along with various Christmas seasonal events."

The Member Relations department is registered with the PEI Community Bursary allow high school students to gain volunteer hours towards a bursary.



Paulette Arsenault, Community Member Relations, Tignish Co-op.

To volunteer and to stay informed about the many learning sessions, contact **Paulette Arsenault** at **902-853-7332**, or email **tignishmemberrelations@hotmail.com**
Visit **www.facebook.com/tignish.coop**

Computer short courses offered across PEI

by Stacy Dunn

At a time when computer skills are needed in most work settings, it is great to see the following short computer courses offered across PEI. Some are free, and some charge a fee, so it is best to call the locations to get more information.

For updates to this list, visit **www.employmentjourney.com** and search computer courses.

College de l'île

The college offers the following on demand computer training in French year round:

- Introduction to Computers
- Introduction to Word
- Introduction to Excel
- Introduction to PowerPoint
- Introduction to Antidote software
- Intermediate module for Antidote software

For more information on customized training, contact **Collette Aucoin** at **902-854-3010** ext. 224 or email **collette.aucoin@collegedeile.ca**

Part-time training courses are also available. Courses can be taken for personal interest, for professional development or as a part of a part-time program.

To register, contact **Christine Arsenault** at **christine.arsenault@collegedelile.ca** or **1-877-854-3010**, ext. 241.

Visit **www.collegedelile.ca**

Rural Community Learning Inc.

Basic computer training is provided a few times year as needed at Tignish Employment Resource Centre and Alberton Employment Resource Centre by individuals or community groups.

Contact:
Sharon Horne, Executive Director
902-853-3715
Tignish: Ruby Arsenault 902-882-2498
Alberton: Becky Wedge 902-853-2646

Follow both resource centres on Facebook for event listings.

Academy of Learning

Over 100 short courses are available, and you can choose morning, afternoon, evening or online class options. Qualified and expert instructors help every step of the way. They provide customized training for companies, non-profits and government departments year-round.

Short computer courses:

- Introductory Basics
- Keyboard and Typing
- Data Management & Spreadsheet Courses
- Desktop Publishing
- Technical Courses (CompTIA+ 220-901 & 220-902; Network +/- Server +/- Security +/-)
- Web Design
- Wordprocessing

For more information, call **Katherine McQuaid** at **902-894-8973** or email **info@aolpei.ca**

Visit **www.academyoflearning.com**

PEI Public Library Service

There are 26 libraries across PEI, each with free public computers and WiFi anyone can use to access the Internet.

Some locations also offer one-on-one computer training at scheduled times or on a drop-in basis, provided staff is knowledgeable in the topic the individual requests help with. Libraries sometimes offer presentations on technology-related topics such as Internet safety as well. Event listings can be found on libraries' Facebook pages or at **www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/education-and-lifelong-learning/events-your-local-public-library**.

For more information about the PEI Public Library Service, visit **www.library.pe.ca** or call **902-961-7320**.

Seniors College of PEI

With an annual membership fee of \$160, Seniors College of PEI welcomes those 50 years of age and over to enroll in as many courses as they wish during the fall, winter, and spring semesters.

Computer courses offered:

- 3D Printing and Design: an Introduction
- Computer I
- Computer II
- iPad Basics
- iPad Advanced Topics

For more information, contact **Charley Scott** at **902-894-2867**, e-mail **seniorscollege@upe.ca**

Visit **www.seniorscollege.ca**

Career Development Services

Career Development Services (CDS) periodically offers a Basic Computer Job Search Workshop for job seekers who need help with job search computer skills. A team member from CDS will teach how to format word processing documents, email/send attachments, and job search using the Internet.

Call the following locations about these workshops:

Montague | 902-838-5453

Souris | 902-687-1526

Charlottetown | 902-626-2014

Bloomfield | 902-859-2776

Summerside | 902-436-0706

Visit **www.cdspei.ca** and click on **Events/Workshops** or check out event listings on each CDS location's Facebook page.

Holland College

eForcePEI.ca is administered through the Customized Training department at Holland College. Check out the FREE online training, including the following computer training bundles:

- Adobe Acrobat DC
- Adobe Photoshop CC 2015
- Adobe Illustrator CC 2015
- Google Apps Fundamentals
- Google Analytics
- MS Office 2016 Word & Excel (Beginner & Intermediate) PowerPoint & Outlook (Beginner) and Debut Excel

For more information, call **902-566-9372** or email **training@eForcePEI.ca**
Visit **www.eForcePEI.ca**

For other customized courses created for the needs of your organization, contact **Adam Smith** with Holland College's Customized Training Department at **902-566-9653** or email **atsmith@hollandcollege.com**

Holland College also offers credit courses such as Computer Essentials to people who are interested in attending college, but don't know what to take. These courses also help full-time workers who need additional training, but can't take class during the day.

For more information, call **902-566-9334** or toll free: **1-800-446-5265**.

Visit **www.hollandcollege.com** and search **credit courses**.