



# Creating Futures

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## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 21, 2008**

***‘Literacy for Life’ theme of 2008 South Slave In-service***  
***Focus on celebrating and improving upon success of SSDEC’s Literacy Initiative***

Hay River, NT – Celebrating the early successes of the South Slave Divisional Education Council’s new Leadership for Literacy initiative and gearing up to continue the improvements are the focus of the SSDEC’s staff in-service being held in Hay River August 27-28.

Nearly 200 educators from the eight South Slave schools will be on hand, learning new techniques and strategies to incorporate improved literacy and reading skills into every area of the curriculum as well as sharing the many successes achieved during the past year.

Featured presenters include: Dr. Leroy Sloan, a former Deputy Minister of Education, superintendent, principal and teacher who is now a highly respected and sought-after speaker and trainer on education-related topics; and Faye Brownlie, one of BC’s most eminent local literacy experts, who has authored and co-authored a number of must-read teacher resources.

SSDEC Superintendent Curtis Brown says he is excited about this year’s in-service. “In 2007, the Council initiated a focused, multi-year Leadership for Literacy initiative to improve student achievement. The focus of the initiative is on improving reading proficiency and comprehension at all grade levels and across all subject areas. In just one year, we have already had amazing results, which we intend to build upon over the next several years. This in-service will give teachers, principals and classroom assistants the tools they need to maximize students’ success.”

**Parents are also invited to a special evening workshop sponsored by the SSDEC.** On Wednesday, August 27, Dr. Leroy Sloan will present “Student Success is a Team Sport and Parents are Key Players” at 7:00 p.m. at Princess Alexandra School. Dr. Sloan is a highly engaging speaker and trainer who has held a number of high-profile roles in education, including the Deputy Minister of Education for the province of Alberta. Dr. Sloan will provide practical, proven strategies and tips for parents to help their children succeed in school and in life.

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