



How I Became a Journey Person

January 23, 2020



Welcome everyone to “How I Became a Journey Person”. My name is Sara Gill from Adult Basic Education Association in Hamilton and I will be your facilitator today. I’m also joined by Gay Douglas from Literacy Link Niagara who will be assisting me with moderating and Sarah Stocker from Contact North who will be assisting with tech support.

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> Pop Up PD webinar this year and the 2<sup>nd</sup> in our current series - Working with Learners on the Apprenticeship Goal Path.

## About Pop Up PD for Literacy Educators

- free webinar series developed by Ontario's LBS Regional Networks, Sectors and the Provincial Support Organizations for Literacy – for details and to register visit <https://learningnetworks.ca/resources-publications/popuppd/>
- supports LBS practitioners with presentations on topics important to them
- English language webinars presented for LBS practitioners annually since 2015-2016; French language transcriptions coming soon!
- **all** webinar presentations, recording links & transcripts are available here <https://e-channel.ca/practitioners/pop-pd-resources>
- webinar topic ideas welcome – send to [e-channel@contactnorth.ca](mailto:e-channel@contactnorth.ca)



Before we start, I wanted to share a little about the Pop UP PD for Literacy Educators series. This webinar series is developed by Ontario's LBS Regional Networks, Sectors and provincial support organizations for literacy. We know that sometimes it's not easy to access relevant professional development for staff, so our goal is to support LBS practitioners with presentations on topics that are important to them and their work. We've been presenting these webinars in English since 2015-16, and we are pleased to say that soon the webinars will also be accompanied by French-language transcriptions. On your screen, you can see a link to all of the webinars we've done since 2015-16. They've been recorded to enable practitioners to access them at a time and place that is convenient. If you have an idea for a webinar topic, we'd love to hear from you. You can send your ideas to the email address on the screen. Just a note that the links you see on screen are not live in this version, but you'll get the entire presentation with all of the links by email after the session. Sarah will be putting the evaluation link in the text chat along with the registration link for the next webinar in the series.

This year we have focused on 2 themes and each theme has 3 webinars attached to it. The first theme was Working with Learners in Poverty. For webinar descriptions and registration links please visit [learningnetworks.ca](http://learningnetworks.ca) – you can see the full link on screen.

The webinar is being recorded and the playback will be available on the e-channel website after the webinar. As mentioned, you will also receive an email with links to the presentation, the playback as well as the evaluation.

# Today's Webinar – Introducing Our Speakers

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- Lindsay Abbott, Electrician
- Melissa Burger, Millwright
- Diane Williams, Millwright



Today we'll hear from 2 journeypersons and an apprentice and explore their journey through apprenticeship to skilled trades work. There will be an opportunity to ask questions. Please use the text chat throughout the presentation to add comments and questions and we'll do our best to address them as we move through the presentation.

I'd very much like to thank our speakers today for joining us – Lindsay Abbot, Melissa Burger and Diane Williams.

Apprenticeship and skilled trades is at the forefront of many conversations about the labour market and the future of work in Ontario and beyond. With approximately 50,000 people involved in Literacy and Basic Skills programming last year, we want to support learners and practitioners with information, resources and real-life experiences around apprenticeship and skilled-trades. We hope to continue to do this with this presentation today.

# Lindsay Abbott

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Electrician – Bremar Construction  
Canadian Union of Skilled Workers



Lindsay Abbott is an Electrician at Bruce Power, working for Bremar Construction through the Canadian Union of Skilled Workers. Lindsay joined the union in August 2011 and started her Electrical Apprenticeship as one of 7 women in her trade alongside 300 men. Her quick wit and outgoing personality helped her make it through working in a predominantly male workforce. She wants to make it known that women can do the same quality work as men can, and that we all share the same end goal of doing interesting work, making a great living, having opportunities to advance our careers, and coming home safely. She is proud to show her daughters that anything is possible if you put the work in.

Lindsay, over to you...

# Melissa Burger

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Industrial Mechanic Millwright  
Bruce Power



Melissa grew up on a small farm and always enjoyed working with her hands. She didn't attend college right after school. She spent many years working many different jobs but was never quite satisfied. She finally decided to attend college after a considerable amount of time off school. She attended Georgian College in Owen Sound and graduated from the Welding Techniques program. She worked as a welder at a farm equipment manufacturer. The business was sold so it was then that she applied to the posting for a millwright apprentice with Bruce Power. She was fortunate enough to get hired and start her new career in a very rewarding trade. She is now into her third year of the apprenticeship and will be writing her certificate of qualification this year to obtain her red seal.

Thanks for being here Melissa...

# Diane Williams

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Millwright  
Bruce Power



Diane participated in the Women in Trades and Technology program. That's where she first learned what Millwrighting was. She applied to Sarnia Millwrights, wrote the aptitude test and was hired after her interview. She started her apprenticeship at a car plant in Windsor and completed her hours to become a Journey person Millwright. She was hired full time at Bruce Power in March 2007 and became a mechanical maintainer on the tools until January 2013 when she switched to the role of a mechanical planner.

Can't wait to hear more Diane...

Questions/Comments?



Let's check in with Gay to see if we have any questions/comments for our panelists.



**Pop Up PD**  
for Literacy Educators

## Thank you!

Coming soon

- ❖ webinar resources <https://e-channel.ca/practitioners/pop-pd-resources>
- ❖ webinar evaluation
- ❖ registration link for our next webinar

Attended all 3 webinars in the series? Email [literacylink@llsc.on.ca](mailto:literacylink@llsc.on.ca) for a certificate.



Thank you for joining us today. Please complete the evaluation – there is a link to it in the text chat. There is also a link to the next webinar coming up in February.

If you have or will take all 3 webinars in either series, you can apply to get a certificate that you could put in your portfolio. If you have not attended all of the webinars and want to, you can simply watch the playback. To request a certificate please email Tamara Kaattari at [literacylink@llsc.on.ca](mailto:literacylink@llsc.on.ca).