



November 24, 2016

TAL Recognized as Partner in TELUS Internet for Good

The Alberta Library (TAL) will be participating in an innovative province-wide pilot: TAL has been officially recognized by TELUS as a partner in the TELUS Internet for Good program.

The TELUS Internet for Good program provides low-cost high-speed internet to single-parent families receiving income assistance from the Province. To ensure program recipients have access to the internet, TELUS has also partnered with Alberta Computers for Schools to provide low-cost refurbished computers. TAL's role will be to provide digital literacy education to families in the program. Other partners collaborating in this program include the Government of Alberta, Ministry of Human Services and the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Information literacy is of crucial importance to a person's education, employment, and ability to participate in a democratic society but many are marginalized because they lack both the technology and connectivity necessary to function in our online age. However, these are only the tools! To be truly digitally literate, one has to know how to use the technology and identify and locate reliable, accurate information. Through the development of an online bank of high quality digital literacy resources, libraries can help learners of all ages make the most of their online experience.

Through a recommendation by Pilar Martinez of the Edmonton Public Library, TAL was approached by TELUS to be a key partner in this important initiative. TAL's role in this project is to choose and consolidate digital literacy resources for recipients of the TELUS Internet for Good program.

There is an enormous wealth of expertise and resources in digital literacy education among our member libraries. We will be reaching out to our members to assist in the development and success of this program. We are excited to be able to include our members in a program that fits so well with our vision to "work with organizations that share TAL's interest in empowering Albertans through equitable access to library and information services."

We will be making more announcements about this exciting program as information becomes available.

For information:
Renée LeBlanc
Acting CEO, The Alberta Library
780-414-0805 ext. 223
rleblanc@thealbertalibrary.ab.ca