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Focus on Technology: KURZWEIL

Kurzweil is a comprehensive reading, writing and learning software for any struggling reader, including individuals with learning difficulties, dyslexia, attention deficits, etc. It is available at all campuses and is being promoted as a tool for the provision of exam accommodations.

Please check out the link below to read more about the benefits of Kurzweil.

<http://www.alpha-tech.com/lpsb/Kurzweil.pdf>



Bits and Bites

Thank you to Hibernia Management Development Corporation (HMDC) for its generous donation of \$150 000 to purchase assistive technologies for learners with disabilities at all campuses, training for our Resource Facilitators, and contributing to the formation of the Accessibility Centre at our PPD campus.



Focus on Disability: MENTAL HEALTH

There is a strong relationship between a learner's academic career and his or her experience with mental illness. Open this link to explore this relationship further.

<http://www.heretohelp.bc.ca/visions/campuses-vol4/accommodating-students-with-ongoing-mental-health-issues>

Assistive technology (often abbreviated as AT) is any item, piece of equipment, software, or product that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities. Different disabilities require different assistive technologies.

Focus on Individuals: LEAH BENOIT

Leah Benoit is a learner in CNA's Office Administration program (DL) who has a disability. Leah's experiences exemplify "what is possible when barriers are removed and educational opportunities are available to everyone".

Check out Leah's story on page 3 in the Spring 2013 issue of **Currents**.

<http://www.cna.nl.ca/news/newsletters/Currents%20Spring%202013%20web.pdf>



Please look at the photo below and attempt to identify its content.



We do process things differently so it is little wonder that "try harder" will not always work. Now, if you've tried and still can't solve it, try harder! ;-) Actually, the solution can be found on our website.

<http://www.cna.nl.ca/disability-services/picturesolution.pdf>

What is Universal Design for Learning?

Universal Design for Learning is a set of principles for curriculum development that gives all individuals equal opportunities to learn. UDL provides a blueprint for creating instructional goals, methods, materials, and assessments that work for everyone--not a single, one-size-fits-all solution, but rather flexible approaches that can be customized and adjusted for individual needs. For more details, please see the video below.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDvKnY0g6e4>

The Impact of Attitudes

Our attitudes are a choice. We are not born with attitudes; we learn them throughout our lives. And every day, we make choices about the attitudes we live by. Our attitudes are vitally important: they drive our actions, shape social policies and laws, and create the reality of our lives-and the lives of others. When we choose to embrace positive attitudes and actions about disability, we'll see positive outcomes in the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

Kathie Snow

When you have a disability, knowing that you are not defined by it is the sweetest feeling.

Anne Wafula Strike

Is there something you would like included in a future newsletter? Talk to the Coordinator of Disability Services for your campus; we are listening! Please open the link below for more information on our services or to view the newsletter online.

<http://www.cna.nl.ca/disability-services/>