

27th Annual PLAR Conference

PLAR – Unleash the Potential!

PLAR Practitioner (Advisor and Assessor) Training: Phase II

Workshop Facilitator: Paul Zakos

This workshop is the final stage of the two part PLAR Practitioner Training Program which has been in existence for the past 15 years. The Program has been successfully implemented in a variety of post-secondary, workplace and community based contexts locally, nationally and internationally within both mainstream and Indigenous settings.

PLAR or the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is but one component of a larger set of adult learning principles and best practices known as the Adult Learner Focused Institution (ALFI). ALFI is a systematic, evidence-based, quality assurance process consisting of eight (8) benchmarks essential to serving adult learners in any setting. The benchmarks include: outreach, life and career planning, financing, learning outcomes, teaching-learning processes, student support systems, and technology and strategic partnerships. This session will begin with a discussion of the critical role these benchmarks play in assisting adult learners to successfully achieve their personal, educational and employment goals.

Workshop participants must have completed Phase I of the Practitioner Training process and in addition they must also have:

1. Completed and submitted for review their own PLAR Advisor portfolio or a Master portfolio
2. Assisted three (3) others to develop portfolios

Completed Advisor or Master Portfolios must be submitted to the workshop facilitator for review and feedback by May 19, 2016 prior to the second part of the training.

Phase II will focus on the benefits and challenges which accompany the completion of one's own portfolio and in assisting others to develop portfolios for a variety of purposes. This workshop will be interactive and collaborative. It is expected that participants will reflect on and share their learning from the work they have done on the portfolio development process both in compiling their own and assisting others. Completed portfolios will be returned on June 2.

Feedback on the process and content of the PLAR Practitioner Training Program with suggestions for improvement and strengthening the Program will be welcomed.

Upon completion of the requirements outlined above, participants will be issued PLAR Practitioner Certificates from Loyalist College.