

For my LiA project, I deliberately chose to explore further and contribute to the cause of enhancing public understanding and awareness of dyslexia. Delving into this area aligned with my deep-rooted passion for advocating and educating others about this learning difference. To embark on this journey, I pushed myself beyond my comfort zone, initiating connections with esteemed professors and various charity organisations known for their expertise in dyslexia. Thankfully, Dr. Cummine from the University of Alberta and dylsexiaCanada generously accepted my invitation and offered their support for the project so that I could make this project eventually work out. From this program, my greatest lessons centred on adaptability and flexibility. My vision for the final product constantly evolved during the process. Sometimes, fresh inspiration sparked changes, while other times, limitations like a lack of participants or ethical considerations altered my course. Initially aiming to craft a report on the barriers to raising awareness about dyslexia, I sought insights from experienced professionals in the field. Yet, time constraints hindered securing enough interviewees, stalling progress by the end of the program. Instead, I planned a series of dyslexia-experience posters to engage audiences visually. Unfortunately, recruiting participants, particularly within the dyslexiaCanada community, posed challenges due to ethical considerations and age restrictions. Consequently, I leveraged the research data from the photovoice project supervised by Dr. Cummine which allows me to have access to apply to craft the final posters. As a role of team leader, I embraced roles as a decisive decision-maker and an effective communicator. Spearheading the project involved liaising with the professor and organisation, constantly seeking their support for interviews and refining my concepts. Adapting swiftly when plans faltered, I honed problem-solving skills crucial for leadership. I'm immensely grateful to the Laidlaw Foundation for this invaluable opportunity. It allowed me to cultivate leadership and social skills, expand my field of interest, and push my boundaries for personal growth. This experience serves as a stepping stone for my future career, prompting reflection on areas where I need improvement.