

This Week in Literacy

October 10th, 2008

The NWT Literacy Council is a non-profit, non-government agency dedicated to supporting the development of literacy in all official languages of the NWT.

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Literacy Dates

National Family Literacy Day	January 27, 2009
Aboriginal Languages Month	March 2009
International Children's Book Day	April 2, 2009
World Book Day	April 23, 2009

Community Events and Information

Bookmaking

The NWT Literacy Council is holding a Bookmaking workshop on October 22nd in Yellowknife. Participants will learn how to make 8 different kinds of books to make with children or use in their programs. For more information or to register call Kathryn at 1-866-599-6758.

Family Literacy Training Institute

The NWT Literacy Council is holding a Family Literacy Training Institute in Hay River from November 3rd to 7th. Workshops will include Introduction to Family Literacy, 1-2-3 Rhyme with Me, Books in the Home, Brain Basics and Choosing Books for Children. For more information or to register call the Council at 1-866-599-6758.

Canadian Library Month

October 2008 has been designated Canadian Library Month. Libraries across the country will celebrate improving quality of life for all Canadians. For more information visit:

<http://www.nald.ca/info/whatnew/headline/2008/clm-oct08.htm>

In the News

Education Group Calls for Federal Parties to Address Canadian Aboriginal Post Secondary Funding Gap and Cap

CNW, Vancouver, Thursday, October 2nd, 2008

A coalition of Aboriginal and post secondary organizations in BC is calling on the federal parties to make an election commitment to address the funding gap for aboriginal post secondary training and education. To read more go to

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/October2008/02/c2738.html>.

The Politics of Literacy

ABC Canada, Tuesday, October 7th, 2008

Political parties speak out about their platforms concerning literacy. To read more go to http://abc-canada.org/en/the_politics_of_literacy.

Understanding the Academic Trajectories of ESL Students

Canada Council on Learning, Thursday, October 2nd, 2008

Canada depends on a steady flow of immigrants to maintain a viable workforce within an aging population. Many live in urban centres and do not speak English or French as a first language. Research recently undertaken in British Columbia has highlighted the need to look beneath labels like “ESL” and “immigrant students” to observe wide variation in the outcomes of students subsumed by these labels. To read more go to <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Reports/LessonsInLearning/LinL20081002ESLStudents>.

Raise a Reader: Tackling low literacy skills behind prison walls

Denise Ryan, Vancouver Sun, Published: Thursday, September 18, 2008

Mike Oulton is like any other writer struggling to make a living at his craft. He works nights, DJing and hosting parties. During the day the 33-year-old fights the enemy of all writers: that profound sense of being alone at the wheel of a ghost ship only he can fill with life. Other than writing, and mundane things like banking, cooking meals and rebuilding relationships with the family that had all but given up on him, there is one regular appointment he has to keep. It's with his parole officer. To read more go to http://www.canada.com/vancouver_sun/story.html?id=051eabcf-d81c-4663-abcc-f5524d622e92.

Resources and Websites

Northern Edge – Edition 6

Edition 6 of *The Northern Edge*, an online newspaper for adult learners, was launched on October 2nd, 2008. Topics include finding work, northern biographies, adult learner stories and family literacy. To view *The Northern Edge*, go to <http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/resources/northernedge/edge.htm>

Interactive Election Tool

The Movement for Canadian Literacy has created an online tool to help adult learners prepare for the upcoming federal election on October 14th. The interactive website uses animations to answer common questions about the election and includes fun activities. To use the tool, go to <http://www.literacy.ca/themes/mcl/interactive/interactive.html>

Language and Literacy: From Birth...For Life

This multimedia resource kit provides evidence-based tools to help child care practitioners support young children in their lifelong journey of literacy. Portions of the resource kit are available free at http://www.cccf-fcsge.ca/projects/language&literacy-kit_en.html.

Family Math Fun!

by Kate Nonesuch

This kit contains over 40 fun activities that families can do to learn math together. It can also be used with adult learners. It is available for free download at <http://library.nald.ca/item/7080>.