

This Week in Literacy

January 9, 2009

**Happy New Year from the board and staff
of the NWT Literacy Council!**

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.

In this E-News

- [Community Events and Information](#)
- [In the News](#)
- [Resources and Websites](#)

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

Program Planning and Proposal Writing Workshop – Inuvik

Do you want to learn how to write an effective proposal? Do you want to plan for your community? Would you like to learn about different funding pots for literacy and family literacy? The NWT Literacy Council is hosting a Program Planning and Proposal Writing Workshop in Inuvik – January 27th and 28th, 2009. To register for this workshop download a registration form from our website, email lisa@nwtliteracy.ca or call us at 1-866-599-6758. The workshop is free, however participants must pay their own travel and accommodation.

When: January 27 and 28, 2009

Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Where: Aurora College, Inuvik

Cost: FREE

Program Planning and Proposal Writing Workshop – Yellowknife

We had so much interest in the program planning and proposal writing workshop from people in Yellowknife, South Slave, Deh Cho and Tlicho that we decided to deliver one in Yellowknife March 11 and 12 at the Northern United Place – Room 205. We will be sending out information next week for those interested. You can also download a registration form on our website at www.nwt.literacy.ca under What's New.

Family Literacy Day – January 27th, 2009

The NWT Literacy Council will be sending Family Literacy Day packages in the mail in early January. The packages will include:

- Science Fun How-to-Kit
- Reading to Your Children DVD
- Family Literacy Tips for Parents
- Ideas for Family Literacy Day
- Promotional items

Start planning your activities now! You can call the NWT Literacy Council for help and free books! You will also find all the materials we have developed for Family Literacy Day online at <http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatsnew.htm>. Let us know what you are going to do for Family Literacy Day.

Other places to look for ideas or information for Family Literacy Day are:

- http://www.abc-canada.org/family_literacy
- <http://www.nald.ca/info/events/annual/fld/fld.htm>
- http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/fld/fl_day.htm

What are you going to do to celebrate Family Literacy Day?

Let us know what you will be doing for Family Literacy Day and we will include it in our enews!

"We are having a 'PJ and Book Day' and 'Get Caught Reading'. We do it every year. If students get caught reading they win a book prize. They are also excited about coming to school in their pyjamas." **Joyce Karau, Weledeh Catholic School, Yellowknife, NWT**

NWT Literacy Council Has a New Board

We would like to welcome our new board members and thank those who are returning to the board.

President – Suzanne Robinson, Inuvik

Vice President – Bette Lyons, Hay River

Treasurer – Jeri Miltenburger, Fort Smith

Secretary – Amanda Mallon, Yellowknife

Beaufort Delta Representative – Ethel-Jean Gruben, Inuvik

Yellowknife Representative – Summer Halliday

Sahtu Representative – vacant

Tlicho Representative – Marlene Wedawin, Wha Ti

Deh Cho – Dean Harvey, Fort Simpson

South Slave – George Collins, Hay River

The 2009 Great Northern Canada Writing Contest

Do you have a story about the North? To enter, submit a piece of prose, either fiction or non-fiction, of up to 1,000 words about life in the Yukon, Northwest

Territories, Nunavut or Nunavik. Previously published items are not eligible.

1st Prize: \$500 and publication of your story in *above&beyond*, Canada's Arctic Journal

Special Emerging Writer Prize (for those who have never been published for payment) \$250 and publication of your story in *above&beyond*, Canada's Arctic Journal

The deadline for entries is April 30, 2009. For contest rules and eligibility, go to www.northwordsfestival.ca or www.arcticjournal.ca

One River, Two Shores: Reflections on the Mackenzie Gas Project

Come and check out this new film produced by Les Productions Rivard, directed by France Beniot and written by France Beniot and Georgette Duchaine about the Mackenzie Gas Project.

Where: Northern Arts and Cultural Centre

Date: January 17, 2009

Screenings: 2:00 pm English

4:30 French

7:30 English (premiere)

In the News

Ottawa family wins visit from Robert Munsch in national Family Literacy Day contest

ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation is pleased to announce that Ottawa's Kicknosway family and their friends are the lucky winners of the fourth annual "Munsch at Home" Contest and will enjoy a personal visit from best-selling children's author Robert Munsch during their Family Literacy Day celebration on Saturday, January 17. To read more go to <http://www.abc-canada.org/en/robertmunschwinner>

Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training Committed to Improving Literacy Rates in Atlantic Canada

Wednesday, December 17, Charlottetown, Pei

The Atlantic ministers of education and training emerged from meetings in Halifax this week with a commitment to improve literacy rates in Atlantic Canada. Ministers will soon submit a literacy action plan to the Council of Atlantic Premiers that will focus on teacher training, sharing best practices, increasing collaboration among teachers from the Atlantic region, and promoting adult and workplace literacy. To read more go to

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/index.php3?number=news&newsnumber=6097&lang=E>

Storybooks On Paper Better For Children Than Reading Fiction On Computer Screen, According to Expert

ScienceDaily, Dec. 22, 2008

Clicking and scrolling interrupt our attentional focus. Turning and touching the pages instead of clicking on the screen influence our ability for experience and attention. The physical manipulations we have to do with a computer, not related to the reading itself, disturb our mental appreciation, says associate professor Anne Mangen at the Center for Reading Research at the University of Stavanger in Norway. She has investigated the pros and cons of new reading devices. To read more go to

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/12/081219073049.htm>

Resources and Websites

Profiles of Excellence: Champions and Learners in Municipal Workplace Programs

Written by Mary Ellen Belfiore, Produced by the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators , 2008

Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA) is proud to introduce you to five champions of municipal workplace learning and five learners. Our champions are municipal managers who inspired their staff as well as Council members to take up the challenge of supporting adult learning. The learners are municipal workers whose accomplishments have helped others to return to learning. These five workers now serve on CAMA's national Learners' Council for workplace learning and literacy. To download this document go to

<http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/profiles/cover.htm>

Deeper Into Math

Thomas V. C. Dawe, 2005

This resource has exercises in multiplication, division, fractions, decimals and percentage. To download a copy go to <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/deeper/cover.htm>

Adult learning celebrated in six videos

The Canadian Council on Learning's Adult Learning Knowledge Centre (AdLKC) is pleased to announce its launch of six short videos illustrating the power of adult learning. Each video provides a story on how adult learning has positively affected communities, individual learners and professional/community-based organizations. One of the videos is about the Skills Link Program from Inuvik. Check out these videos at [http://www.ccl-](http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/AboutCCL/KnowledgeCentres/AdultLearning/OurWork/Video.htm)

[cca.ca/CCL/AboutCCL/KnowledgeCentres/AdultLearning/OurWork/Video.htm](http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/AboutCCL/KnowledgeCentres/AdultLearning/OurWork/Video.htm)

Top Twenty Downloads in PDF Format of Resources from the NALD Collections for the Month of December 2008

<http://www.nald.ca/top20/2008/dec08.htm>