

This Week in Literacy

November 12, 2009

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

Universal Children's Day	November 20
International Volunteer Day	December 5
Human Rights Day	December 10
National Family Literacy Day	January 27

Community Events and Information

NWT Literacy Council Training Calendar for 2009-10

Get our training calendar online at <http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatsnew.htm> and sign up for our upcoming workshops. Please note that the Facilitation Skills workshop in Yellowknife has been postponed.

Funding Available for Youth Participation at the UN Climate Summit

You are a young person from Northern Canada that cares about climate change and wants to be part of the upcoming United Nations climate change summit in Copenhagen to help out and learn more. If this interests you, you will need you to apply for this funding by submitting your resume along with a one page letter explaining why you want to attend the UN negotiations no later than November 16. Preference will be given Northerners of Aboriginal, Metis and Inuit descent and you will need to be available to leave for Copenhagen some time between December 3 and 7, and return some time between December 18 and 20. See: www.climateactionnetwork.ca for more information.

Kaiser Foundation 2010 National Awards for Excellence Program – Deadline November 20th

Nominate a deserving individual from your organization or from the community for one (or more) of the Awards for Excellence categories. This is your opportunity to have the hard work and efforts of your colleagues in the field of mental health and/or addictions recognized on a national level. For more information contact kaiserassistant@kaiserfoundation.ca

Yellowknife Film Festival Seeks Submissions

Western Arctic Moving Pictures (WAMP) is looking for film and video submissions for the 3rd Yellowknife Film Festival February 5th to 14th. Genre and length don't matter; all submissions will be considered. Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2010. For more information contact Jeremy Emerson at (867) 766-2586.

Invitation to Submit Abstracts for National Family Literacy Conference

The deadline for Abstracts for "Cultivating Connections": 2010 National Family Literacy Conference is November 30, 2009. The complete Call for Abstracts, with information on conference streams, is now available on the conference website at <http://famlit.ca/ccc/call-for-abstracts.shtml>. The National Family Literacy Conference is in Edmonton July 15 – 17th, 2010.

National Student Banner Contest

The National Capital commission (NCC), in partnership with Classroom Connections, is asking students in Grades 5 through 8 to create and submit a one-of-a-kind banner design representing an issue or topic of importance to Canadian youth. Deadline for entries is February 19, 2010. For information visit: http://www.canadascapital.gc.ca/bins/ncc_web_content_page.asp?cid=16297-24521-29608-126865&lang=1

Family Literacy Day Theme

This year's theme for Family Literacy Day is "Singing for Literacy." ABC CANADA is encouraging groups across the country to participate by hosting sing-alongs in their communities. There is also another Munsch at Home Contest. To enter, families must write a short story and submit it online at <http://www.FamilyLiteracyDay.ca>. Deadline is 2 p.m. December 11, 2009. Check out this site in the coming months for promotional items and other Family Literacy Day tips, activities and news.

First Nations Language Keepers Conference

The conference is December 8-9, 2009 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. It celebrates and supports language education for First Nation people. For more information visit www.sicc.sk.ca or phone (306) 244-1146.

In the News

Want to Promote Literacy? Let Kids Read Comics

scientificblogging.com, November 5, 2009

Comics have typically been shunned by educators and parents who want to promote literacy among children. After all, kids should be reading "real" books, which are more complex and require more effort to understand than colorful, picture-filled comic books. But according to University of Illinois library scientist Carol L. Tilley, this critical view of comics is unnecessary. To read more go to http://www.scientificblogging.com/news_articles/want_promote_literacy_let_kids_read_comics

Publication celebrates Frontier College Anniversary

November 10, 2009

A bilingual publication to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Frontier College has been released. It can be downloaded at

http://www.frontiercollege.ca/pdf/Frontier_College_110_bilingual.pdf

Parents Working More Hours than they did 25 years ago: Report

Vancouver Sun, October 26, 2009

Canadian parents are devoting more hours to work today than 25 years ago, but not necessarily earning more money, according to a report by Statistics Canada. For the full story go to

http://www.working.com/vancouver_sun/resources/Canadian+parents+work+more+hours+report/2138270/story.html

Presentations from the Learning Institute: Constructing Curriculum for Health-care Providers

November 3, 2009

The Centre for Literacy in Quebec has posted the presentations from the 2008 Learning Institute in Calgary, Health and Literacy: Constructing Curriculum for Health-Care Providers. The presentations and summaries can be downloaded at

<http://www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca/whatsnew/Healthlitinst/HLinstIndex.htm>

No TV for Tots under 2, says BC Pediatrician

CBC, October 28, 2009

Pediatricians in B.C. are ready to adopt a guideline recommending children under the age of two not watch any television at all, according to one leading doctor in the field. For the full story go to

<http://www.cbc.ca/health/story/2009/10/28/bc-no-television-under-two-pediatrician-recommends.html?ref=rss>

Want a Job? Hit the Books

Globe and Mail, October 28, 2009

New study suggests the chances of finding work again increase with every additional year of schooling. Read the story at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/want-a-job-hit-the-books/article1341535/>

Resources and Websites

New Richard Van Camp Book

Fort Smith-born author Richard Van Camp has launched his second short story collection, *The Moon of Letting Go and other stories*. Published by Enfield and Wizenty. Available at all good book stores.

Nunavut Publishing Company

Inhabit Media in Iqaluit is the first Inuit-owned, Nunavut-based publishing company. It specializes in Inuit myths and legends, in both English and Inuktitut, targeting children and young adults. Their books are meant primarily to boost literacy and reading in the far North, but also tell marvelous stories that may interest everyone across Canada. Their website address is www.inhabitmedia.com

Lesson Plans for ESL Instructors

The Centre for Canadian Benchmarks continues to release more in its series, [Language for Work: CLB and Essential Skills Lesson Plans for ESL Instructors](#). These can be downloaded at

<http://library.nald.ca/learning/browse/recent>

Canadian Association for Prior Learning Assessment (CAPLA)

Establishing an education program in the workplace requires important first steps – assessing and recognizing employee skills and abilities. The Canadian Association for Prior Learning Assessment

(CAPLA) is known for its expertise in prior learning assessment and it is the only national organization in Canada dedicated to the recognition of prior learning (RPL). Check out the NALD feature organization for November at <http://www.naldatwork.ca/information/feature>

Igniting the Power Within

Igniting the Power Within offers certification workshops on Essential Skills and Recognizing Prior Learning (RPL) for First Nations and Metis employment counsellors in Manitoba. Learn more at <http://ignitingthepowerwithin.ca/>