

# This Week in Literacy

November 5, 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.

### Yellowknife Film Festival Seeks Submissions

Western Arctic Moving Pictures (WAMP) is looking for film and video submissions for the 3rd Yellowknife Film Festival February 5<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>. 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.

### National Family Literacy Conference Planned

For the first time in over a decade, a National Family Literacy Conference is set to take place in Edmonton July 15 – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Presentation abstract submissions are due November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009. For more information call (780) 427-5704 or email [deborah.landry@gov.ab.ca](mailto:deborah.landry@gov.ab.ca).

### Canada Council Aboriginal Programs

Individuals or organizations interested in Canada Council Aboriginal Programs should contact Canada Council directly. The deadline to apply for funding is November 15. The programs include the Elder/Youth Legacy Program and Collaborative Exchange Grants Programs. For more information call toll free 1-800-263-5588 ext. 4178 or 4222 or go to [www.canadacouncil.ca](http://www.canadacouncil.ca).

## **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](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](http://www.sicc.sk.ca) or phone (306) 244-1146.

## **In the News**

### **Local School Boards Profit from Funding on National Library Day**

CJCD, October 30, 2009

The GNWT held National Library Day earlier this week and gave two local school boards money for their libraries. The Yellowknife Catholic and Education District #1 boards are each getting a minimum of \$7,000 per school to purchase new books. The deputy minister of education, Dan Daniels, says the money recognizes the need for more resources in the schools.

### **Cutting-edge Approach to Teaching Literacy**

The Daily Gleaner, October 23rd, 2009

Two sisters from Washington hope to change the way educators teach literacy. Joan Moser, a kindergarten to Grade 2 teacher and Gail Moser Boushey, a literacy coach, held professional development workshops for 300 New Brunswick teachers this week to share their internationally recognized literacy teaching model, The Daily 5. The rest of the article can be read at <http://dailygleaner.canadaeast.com/search/article/833547>.

### **Agency Outlines its Commitment to Financial Literacy**

Ottawa, November 3, 2009

The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (FCAC) released its annual report, in which it outlines its achievements and activities in empowering consumers of financial products and services through 2008-2009. Improving the level of financial literacy among Canadians was FCAC's top priority this year. To read about its initiatives go to: [fcac-acfc.gc.ca](http://fcac-acfc.gc.ca).

### **Money Matters: Financial Literacy for Adult Learners**

ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation (ABC CANADA) is raising funds to create a new, free, national financial literacy program, *Money Matters*, for adult learners in communities across the country. While financial literacy programs exist for children and newcomers to Canada, there is a gap in the market for a program that addresses adults with literacy issues. To learn more go to: <http://www.avivacommunityfund.org/ideas/acf1074>.

### **Living and Learning for a Viable Future: The Power of Adult Learning**

The Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI), hosted by the Government of Brazil in Belém from 1 to 4 December 2009, will provide an important platform for policy dialogue and advocacy on adult learning and non-formal education at global level. The conference will draw together UNESCO Member States, United Nations agencies, multi- and bi-lateral cooperation agencies, organisations from civil society, the private sector and learners from all world regions. To view the programme or other information go to <http://www.unesco.org/en/confinteavi/>.

### **First Nations Women and Postsecondary Education: Findings from the 2006 Aboriginal Peoples Survey**

This Statistics Canada article examines the proportion of First Nations women who received financial assistance for their postsecondary studies, as well as the type of assistance received. In addition, some of the reasons for not finishing postsecondary education among First Nations women are investigated. For more go to: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/81-004-x/2009004/article/11018-eng.htm>.

### **New reports from CCL support thriving bilingualism in Nunavut**

The Inuit experience their literacy in a cultural manner, with connections to their local and social contexts. The report *Building a Strong Foundation: Considerations to Support Thriving Bilingualism in Nunavut* and its companion report *Making the Links: Language Acquisition and Literacy Development in the Inuit Language* address the need for a bilingual society in Canada's North. The reports can be downloaded at: <http://www.cclcca.ca/CCL/AboutCCL/KnowledgeExchange/KEInitiatives/bilingualismNunavut.htm>.

## **Resources and Websites**

### **Honouring our Peacekeepers**

The November feature at Ningwakwe Learning Press is *Honouring our Peacekeepers: An Overview of Aboriginal Veterans and Peacekeepers*. Check it out at [http://ningwakwe.on.ca/catalogue\\_files/page0001.htm](http://ningwakwe.on.ca/catalogue_files/page0001.htm).

### **Sexual Assault book for teens updated**

Sexual Assault: a help book for teens in the Northwest Territories has been updated and is available by calling 873-7002 or you can download it at <http://www.justice.gov.nt.ca/VictimServices/documents/EnglishSexualAssaultBookforTeens.pdf>.

### **Early Childhood News**

Early Childhood News is the online resource for teachers and parents of young children, infants to age eight. <http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/default.aspx>.

### **Bridging the Gap Between Literacy and Technology**

The Bridging the Gap curriculum guides offer practitioners the tools to integrate information technology into many of the reading, writing, and computer requirements of today's workplace. This was one of the top resources downloaded at NALD in October at

<http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/Btg/BTGHomePage/HomePage.htm>.

### **Changing the Way We Teach Math**

A Manual for Teaching Basic Math to Adults is available at

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