

This Week in Literacy

April 30, 2010

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 Poetry Month

April

National Mental Health Week

May 3-9

Community Events and Information

Family Literacy Funding for 2010-2011

You can now apply to the NWT Literacy Council for family literacy funding for 2010-2011. The application and criteria for funding can be downloaded at

http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/famlit_funding.htm or call Jill Vaydik at 1-866-599-6758.

Annual Summer Science Program – Deadline to apply: Friday, May 7th

The Institute for Aboriginal Health at UBC in partnership with the First Nations House of Learning is offering a one-week cultural, health and science program for Aboriginal students who have completed grades 8-11. Contact the University of British Columbia, Institute for Aboriginal Health - Phone: 604.822.1795 or 604.822.6612 or check out www.iah.ubc.ca

The 2010 Canada Post Community Literacy Awards – deadline May 21, 2010

This is your opportunity to nominate a deserving adult learner and/or educator from your community for a prestigious award that recognizes personal achievement. For more information visit http://www.canadapost.ca/cpc_email/Literacy/literacy_2010_1.htm

Call for Nominations: 2010 Council of the Federation Literacy Award

The Northwest Territories Council of the Federation Literacy Award honours the achievements of a learner who has overcome obstacles and demonstrated outstanding progress in the pursuit of literacy skills in any of the NWT official languages. Nominations are open to NWT learners of all ages. Nominations require two letters of support and the deadline is May 28, 2010. For a nomination form call 920-8843 or email Margaret_Erasmus@gov.nt.ca

Call for Nominations: 2010 Ministerial Literacy Awards

Do you know an educator or an organization in your community that has excelled in promoting literacy and helping others to improve their literacy levels in any of the NWT's official languages?

Nominations will be accepted in two categories:

- Teachers, tutors or literacy facilitators who have demonstrated outstanding dedication to literacy.
- Organizations, literacy committees or programs which have advocated for literacy and improved literacy levels in their communities.

Nominations require two letters of support. The deadline is May 28, 2010. Contact (867) 920-8843 or [Margaret Erasmus@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Margaret.Erasmus@gov.nt.ca)

The Great Questions Essay Contest -- Deadline May 7, 2010

The Great Questions Essay Contest is for Canadian high school students. For more information go to:

<http://www.greatquestions.com/e/bulletin.html>(English) or

http://www.greatquestions.com/f/gcq_regles.html(français)

EVOKE - Human Rights Digital Art Contest

EVOKE is a call to young Canadians aged 13 to 25 to express their perspectives on human rights through art. The contest closes May 25, 2010. Winners from each province and territory will travel to Winnipeg during summer 2010 and have their art exhibited in front of thousands of people at a ceremony for the Canadian Museum for Human Rights! Find more information at

<http://evoke.tigweb.org/>

SkillPlan Online Training

Numeracy at Work online training is being offered in May by the BC Construction Industry Skills Improvement Council For more information go to

www.skillplan.ca/English/online_training.htm

National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation Scholarships

Financial awards to First Nations (status and non-status), Inuit and Métis students are offered through four major programs and an additional specialized program. The deadlines for scholarships and bursaries range from May 1 to June 1, 2010. For more information visit www.naaf.ca

International Conference on Dynamic Governance – Yukon College June 14-16.

This conference will appeal to those looking for more harmony and engagement in the workplace.

For more information visit <http://www.riverflowsbothways.com/>

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/dcap-bcah/index-eng.cfm> or call 1-800-661-0585.

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Understanding Media Literacy: Inside Plato's Cave

This new Athabasca University course consists of 13 online units designed to aid grades 7 – 12 teachers in helping their students to develop an informed and critical understanding of the nature, impact and techniques of the mass media. For more visit

http://www.nald.ca/info/whatnew/headline/2010/plato_press_release_rev_Apr6_2010.pdf

Certificate Program in Aboriginal Language Revitalization

For information or to register for courses offered this spring and summer by the En'owkin Centre and the University of Victoria go to <http://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/aspnet/Program/Detail/?code=BHATI>

Summer Institute 2010: Workplace Literacy and Essential Skills

The 2010 Summer Institute will bring together policy-makers, literacy and essential skills providers, and researchers to examine what is currently being counted to evaluate the results of Workplace Essential Skills programs and whether enlarging the frame of reference could lead to better outcomes for workers, employers and the country as a whole. For more information go to

<http://www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca/inst/sli2010/index10.htm>

In the News

Canada 'flying blind' on education, near-defunct council warns

Failure to promote lifelong learning is jeopardizing Canada's future economic prosperity, the Canadian Council on Learning warned in its swan-song report Tuesday. To read this report go to:

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/canada-flying-blind-on-education-near-defunct-council-warns/article1517617/>

Canadian teachers give failing grade to child poverty efforts

Teacher leaders from across the country are adding their voices to the national call for action to end child poverty when they met with Parliamentarians as part of the Canadian Teachers' Federation's (CTF) annual Hill Day. For the Federation's report card on child poverty, news release and other information about Hill Day, go to <http://www.ctf-fce.ca/Events/HillDay/?id=625925>

Privacy Commissioner of Canada Hosts Consultation on Children's Online Privacy

Media Awareness Network (MNet) is pleased to be participating in consumer privacy consultations hosted by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada. To read the details go to <http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/index.cfm>

Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada
The April, 2010 issue of *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada* has been released by Statistics Canada. For more go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/100429/dq100429b-eng.htm>

About the 2011 Census teacher's kit

The Statistics Canada 2011 Census Teacher's Kit is provided free of charge, for use in elementary, intermediate and secondary schools, as well as for adult education classes across the country. Each Teacher's Kit contains eight teacher-ready activities and a guide. They can be found at <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2011/ref/teacherskit-trousseenseignant/index-eng.cfm>

Resources and Websites

Developmental Milestones of Early Literacy

This website has a chart that shows the early literacy development of children and what adults can do to support their learning.

http://www.google.ca/search?hl=&q=Developmental+Milestones+of+Early+Literacy&sourceid=navclient-ff&rlz=1B3GGGL_enCA367CA260&ie=UTF-8

April Is National Poetry Month

The PBS Teachers Poetry Activity Pack has education resources and activities focused on poetry for multiple grade levels. Venture into the world of poetry with students as they learn about famous poets and find opportunities to share their own works.

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/activitypacks/reading/poetry/>. For more on National Poetry Month visit <http://www.poets.ca/linktext/npm.htm>

Allowance tips to promote financial literacy

If you're considering paying your children an allowance for household chores, follow these tips to ensure they pick up some money management skills along the way. To read this article go to:

http://www.philly.com/philly/business/personal_finance/041910_allowance_tips.html

1870 Mothers' Day Proclamation

For information about the non-commercial origins of Mother's Day go to

<http://www.peace.ca/mothersdayproclamation.htm>

Video Launches Mental Health Week

A "viral" video launched Mental Health Week 2010. It shows the powerful impact that depression in the workplace has on family life, as seen through the eyes of a child.

<http://www.youtube.com/cmhanational#p/a/u/0/XDTJ1d4woyg>

Video on the Progression of Information Technology

For a short video on the progression of information technology and our rapidly changing world go to

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cL9Wu2kWwSY>

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