

# This Week in Literacy

January 14, 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 Family Literacy Day	January 27
Heritage Day	February 17
World Day of Social Justice	February 20
Freedom to Read Day	February 21-27

## Community Events and Information

### FASD Videoconference Session

Yellowknife Health and Social Services is presenting and FASD videoconference on Teacher and Parent Relationships from 4 – 6 PM on Wednesday, January 20, 2010.

The presenters are Jenifer Fontaine and Debra Organ. For more information contact Sandra Malcolm, FASD Coordinator with Yellowknife Health and Social Services at 873-3319.

### Support available for Polar Teachers Workshop

The Canadian International Polar Year Program Office is offering partial support to a number of Canadian teachers chosen to attend the Polar TEACHERS workshop as part of the Oslo Science Conference June 8-12, 2010. The deadline to apply is January 20, 2010. For more information contact Jennifer Bellman at 819-994-1803.

### Family Literacy Day Tools

To plan a Family Literacy Day event in your community you can download the *Sing for Literacy* Toolkit or the Family Literacy Day Event Guide at [http://www.abc-canada.org/en/family\\_literacy\\_day](http://www.abc-canada.org/en/family_literacy_day). You can also go to What's New on the NWT Literacy Council site for how-to kits and tip sheets at <http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/>.

## **Climate Change and Health Adaptation Funding Guide Available**

Health Canada's Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program is accepting funding proposals for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The Climate Change and Health Adaptation in Northern First Nation and Inuit Communities program is designed to be carried out by communities in cooperation with Aboriginal associations, academics, governments and agencies. Proposal deadline is January 24th, 2010. The guide can be found at <http://www.afn.ca/misc/Funding-App.pdf>.

## **Aboriginal Education Research Forum**

The sixth annual forum is scheduled for April 13 – 15, 2010 in Winnipeg. The deadline for the call for papers is January 30. For information go to <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/aerf/>.

## **In the News**

### **Canadian Council on Learning Funding Cut**

The Canadian Council on Learning has been a rich resource for a number of years. Unfortunately, the Government of Canada has decided to end its funding of CCL when the current agreement expires on March 31, 2010. Read a message from the President and CEO at <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/AboutCCL/PresidentCEO/20100108Funding.htm?Language=EN>. To read an editorial from The Globe and Mail about this topic go to <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/behind-the-political-decision-to-cut-the-lifeline-tories-didnt-like-ccls-message-or-its-independence/article1425246/>.

### **Music Champion Students Compose and Perform Song Honoring Family Literacy Day**

Toronto, ON, January 13, 2010

ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation and The Royal Conservatory's Learning Through the Arts program are partnering to raise awareness of literacy by creating a new song in honour of Family Literacy Day (January 27, 2010). The new literacy song will be written and composed by Toronto-based grade six students from The Royal Conservatory's Etherington and Vukets Music Champion Program with guidance from singer/songwriter/educator, Ciara Adams. To read more go to <http://www.abc-canada.org/musicchampionsrelease>.

### **Canada Earns an 'A' Grade for Results in Education and Skills**

OTTAWA, Jan. 6 /CNW/

Canada earns top marks for its Education and Skills performance, according to the Conference Board's How Canada Performs comparison with 16 other developed countries. The updated Education and Skills rankings, published today, give Canada an "A" grade, an improvement from last year's "B" result. Canada remains second to Finland in overall Education and Skills outcomes, but closed the gap with the leader by improving substantially on two key indicators. To read more go to <http://www.cnw.ca/fr/releases/archive/January2010/06/c6562.html>.

### **As Books Go Beyond Printed Page to Multisensory Experience, What about Reading?**

By Monica Hesse Monday, December 28, 2009

As books evolve to become multimedia experience, how will reading be affected? To read more go to <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/27/AR2009122701973.html>.

## Resources and Websites

### **Ningwakwe Learning Press Resources**

Ningwakwe Learning Press publishes culturally appropriate resources for the Aboriginal literacy field in North America. This Ontario-based company has several new releases. Its catalogue can be found at <http://ningwakwe.on.ca/catalogue.htm> .

### **Health Literacy in Canada: A Healthy Understanding**

By international standards, Canada has a healthy and well-educated population. However, not all Canadians have the skills they need to properly manage their health. To read more go to <http://library.nald.ca/item/8505>.