

This Week in Literacy

June 17, 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

Aboriginal Day

June 21

International Literacy Day

September 8

NWT Literacy Week

September 26 – October 2

Community Events and Information

Family Literacy Coordinator Job Opening

The NWT Literacy Council is looking for a family literacy coordinator. This position is responsible for developing and delivering training, developing resources, and providing support services to community organizations and other groups interested in family literacy. Deadline for applications is June 18, 2010. To view a job description visit <http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/index.htm>

A Detailed View of Aboriginal Literacy

As a group, Aboriginal adults are among the most diverse in Canada. This diversity means that there are dramatically different levels of literacy amongst Aboriginal adults and very different economic and social demands for literacy skill use, depending on where and how one makes a living. Come and hear Scott Murray's talk about what his recent research means for communities, literacy instructors and individuals **Tuesday, June 29** at the Baker Centre in Yellowknife from 9 am-noon. Please RSVP by June 24 to mbarton@bowvalleycollege.ca or 403-410-3198 or contact the NWT Literacy Council at nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca

Aboriginal Perspectives Workshop

A three-day Aboriginal Perspectives workshop will be of interest to teachers who have First Nations, Métis and Inuit students in their classrooms. Open to both elementary and secondary teachers, the workshop will be delivered in various Ontario locations this summer. To get more information on Ontario Teachers Federation programs click on Summer Program 2010 at www.otffeo.on.ca

Dr. Alan Middleton Workplace Literacy and Learning Award

ABC Life Literacy Canada is accepting nominations for the Dr. Alan Middleton Workplace Literacy and Learning Award. This national award will recognize an individual for their outstanding achievement in increasing workplace literacy and essential skills in their community. Canadians are encouraged to nominate individuals by July 30, 2010 online at <http://www.abclifeliteracy.ca>

TD Financial Literacy Grant Fund call for applications

This new fund will provide grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000 to qualified community groups for financial education. The deadline for applications is July 31, 2010. The first of its kind in Canada, the \$11 million fund will bring financial literacy skills to low-income and disadvantaged individuals across Canada. Charitable and nonprofit organizations interested in applying for grants are encouraged to review the fund's guidelines and application form at www.sedi.org/grantfund.

Canada Interactive Fund Call for Proposals

The Department of Canadian Heritage is launching a call for proposals under the new Canada Interactive Fund (CIF) for 2010-11. The application deadline is July 15, 2010. The fund supports the creation of online Canadian interactive content and applications developed by Official Language Minority Community (OLMC), Aboriginal, ethnocultural and other not-for-profit cultural organizations. The fund guidelines are available at <http://www.pch.gc.ca/fic-cif/index-eng.cfm>

National Family Literacy Conference

The National Family Literacy Conference is in Edmonton July 15 – 17th, 2010. The conference will profile the critical contributions of family literacy across Canada and around the world! For more information call (780) 427-5704 or email deborah.landry@gov.ab.ca

In the News

First Nations: Educators design programs to help eliminate learning gap

Telegraph-Journal, June 14

New Brunswick is promoting native languages and First Nations cultural identity as part of a new series of programs in its education system that aim to decrease the gap in achievement between aboriginal students and non-aboriginal students across the province. For more on this story visit <http://telegraphjournal.canadaeast.com/front/article/1093025>

How poverty shapes the brain

Globe and Mail, May 2010

Scientists hope bold new research will help poor children succeed. Using sophisticated imaging, Canadian James Swain will soon begin to peer inside the brains of people who grew up in poverty. Over the past four decades, researchers have established how poverty shapes lives, that low socioeconomic status is associated with poor academic performance, poor mental and physical health and other negative outcomes. This story can be downloaded

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/how-poverty-shapes-the-brain/article1579628/>

ABC Life Literacy Canada Debuts New Audio Podcast

ABC Life Literacy Canada has launched its debut episode of Life Literacy Radio, an audio podcast dedicated to literacy, education and lifelong learning. See more at

<http://village900.blogspot.com/2010/06/abc-life-literacy-canada-debuts-new.html>

Regular Bedtimes Linked to Better Language, Literacy, Math Skills, Study Says

Parents who take a more laid back approach to bedtime may be doing more harm than they think.

See more at [http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/slj/home/885218-](http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/slj/home/885218-312/regular-bedtimes-linked-to-better.html.csp)

[312/regular bedtimes linked to better.html.csp](http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/slj/home/885218-312/regular-bedtimes-linked-to-better.html.csp)

Workplace Family Literacy Project a success in Alberta

The Workplace Family Literacy Project by the Centre for Family Literacy in Edmonton involved employees at Lakeside Packers in Brooks, Alberta, and at Lucerne Foods in Taber, Alberta, participating in pilot programs delivered before work and at lunch hour. For those employees who participated in the programs, benefits included improved workplace communication; support for family learning; increased literacy self-awareness on the part of workers and greater understanding of the literacy skills of their children; and enhanced workers' attitudes toward the importance of family literacy.

<http://www.nald.ca/litweb/province/ab/wnab/2010/workplace.htm>

Resources and Websites

The Path of the Warrior Comic Book Study

This new NWT Literacy Council resource can be found at http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/adultlit_res.htm

Darkness Calls Comic Study

Look for this new NWT Literacy Council resource at http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/adultlit_res.htm

Journey of the Healer Film Study 120-130

This new resource from the NWT Literacy Council is at http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/adultlit_res.htm

Canadiana Crossword

<http://www.cbc.ca/diversions/crossword/>

Mental Health Resources for Parents

The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre, a children's mental health centre in Toronto, is developing an internet-based resource on children's and adolescents' mental health. Based on previous consultations with educators, we have already developed a resource for teachers on the mental health of children aged 3-14 years. The usability testing version of the resource is available at www.hincksdellcrest.org/abc.