

This Week in Literacy

June 24, 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

International Literacy Day
NWT Literacy Week

September 8
September 26 – October 2

Community Events and Information

A Detailed Analysis 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. Contact the NWT Literacy Council at nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca or 873-9262 for more information.

Certificate Program in Aboriginal Language Revitalization

Through a partnership of the En'owkin Centre and the Department of Linguistics and the Division of Continuing Studies at the University of Victoria, anyone interested in preserving Indigenous languages can earn a certificate or take individual courses for credit or non-credit. The registration deadline for the first course is July 5, 2010. For more information or to register call 250-721-8457, email calr@uvcs.uvic.ca or visit www.uvcs.uvic.ca/calr/

Family Literacy Funding for 2010-2011

You can apply for NWT Literacy Council family literacy funding for 2010-2011. Download the application and criteria for funding at http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/famlit_funding.htm or call Jill Vaydik at 1-866-599-6758.

Regional Literacy Funding

The NWT Literacy Council Regional Literacy Fund supports community literacy projects. To find out about the criteria and to download an application form go to

http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatsnew/regional_funding_application.pdf

2010 Alberta Early Years Conference Early Childhood: A Journey of Change is the theme for this conference October 4-6, 2010 in Enoch, Alberta. Book accommodation at the Edmonton Marriott at River Cree Resort, just 5 minutes from the West Edmonton Mall, by September 6, 2010 for the special discount rate. For more information go to <http://www.albertaearlyyears.ca/>

Webinar "Catching Confidence" June 29, 2010

The literature on workplace literacy and essential skills programs identifies increased self-confidence as a recurrent and significant "soft" outcome for participants. But can such an intangible be measured? The one-hour online presentation will highlight free web-based materials and present and demonstrate tools developed in the UK to explore and capture how learners feel about their confidence. More information is available at

<http://archive.niace.org.uk/Research/BasicSkills/Projects/Catching-confidence.htm>). Registration is limited. To register call (514)798-5601 or email info@centreforliteracy.qc.ca

New fellowship honours the late literacy champion, Peter Gzowski

ABC Life Literacy Canada (formerly ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation) announces the new Peter Gzowski Life Literacy Fellowship, created to increase public awareness of adult literacy in Canada and support one journalist with a financial contribution of \$2,000 in the development of a media story attributed to adult literacy. Full details, submission criteria and entry forms can be found online at <http://www.abclifeliteracy.ca> now through to August 27, 2010.

Canadian Heritage Aboriginal Peoples' Program

The Aboriginal Peoples' Program (APP) supports the full participation and cultural revitalization of Aboriginal People in Canadian society. It enables Aboriginal Peoples to address the social, cultural economic and political issues affecting their lives. Find resources and more at

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/pa-app/index-eng.cfm>

In the News

Study: Inuit language schooling brings long-term benefits

Nunatsiaq News, June 6, 2010

Long-term studies of school children in Nunavik show that students learn best and benefit from higher self-esteem when taught in their mother tongue. For the complete story go to

http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/98789_study_inuit_language_schooling_brings_long-term_benefits/

The bond's the key the second time around

Globe and Mail June 21, 2010

Teacher-student relationships are vital to success of 'students who slipped through the cracks the first time.' This story can be found at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/toronto/the-bonds-the-key-the-second-time-around/article1612559/>

Assembly of First Nations Releases Expert Report on Post Secondary Education

CNW Telbec, June 21, 2010

On National Aboriginal Solidarity Day, the Assembly of First Nations released a discussion paper entitled Taking Action for First Nations Post-Secondary Education: Access, Opportunity, and Outcomes. The paper was prepared by First Nations experts on post secondary education and sets out an ambitious and innovative agenda to strengthen and enhance First Nations education. For more go to <http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/June2010/21/c6408.html>

Infants, Toddlers and Precursors to Literacy

Babies and reading: It may sound ridiculous to put these two words in the same sentence. But as new studies uncover connections between infants' and toddlers' early experiences and their later reading success, people within the field of education are taking note of what kinds of social experiences and language interactions are best for very young children. See more at

http://earlyed.newamerica.net/blogposts/2010/infants_toddlers_and_precursors_to_literacy-33270

Pupils to study residential schools - Subject to enter grades 9 and 11 curriculums in a Manitoba first

Winnipeg Free Press, June 23, 2010

Manitoba high school students will become the first in Canada to study residential schools as a significant part of mandatory history courses. The province will pilot the new program, From Apology to Reconciliation, in schools this fall, and implement it in the curriculum province-wide in Grade 9 social studies and Grade 11 history in September 2011. To learn more visit

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/pupils-to-study-residential-schools-96958494.html>

Resources and Websites

Resources for Teaching Aboriginal Languages in the NWT

This annotated bibliography can be found at www.ece.gov.nt.ca/PDF_File/.../Introduction.pdf

Ages & Stages of Numeracy Development

A fact sheet from the Canadian Child Care Federation. http://www.cccf-fcsge.ca/docs/cccf/RS_95-e.pdf

CBQM available for viewing and purchase

Dennis Allen's documentary pays tribute to CBQM, the radio station that operates out of Fort McPherson. The radio station is a pillar of local identity and pride. Visit the National Film Board website at <http://www.nfb.ca/film/cbqm?ec=en20100623#>

The Cambridge Handbook of Literacy

This handbook marks the transformation of the topic of literacy from the narrower concerns with learning to read and write to an interdisciplinary enquiry into the various roles of writing and reading in the full range of social and psychological functions in both modern and developing societies.

<http://www.literacynews.com/2010/06/the-cambridge-handbook-of-literacy/>