

This Week in Literacy

Friday, December 21st, 2007

The board and staff of the NWT Literacy Council would like to wish you a happy holiday and all the best in the New Year!

We will close on December 21 and re-open January 2nd. The next Enews will be January 4th.

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Community Events and Information

January 27th is Family Literacy Day

1. Family Literacy Resources

Check out our website at www.nwt.literacy.ca for new resources for Family Literacy Day.

- Literacy Survivor How-to-Kit
- Baby Book How-to-Kit
- Supporting Literacy Development from Birth to 6 years
- Family Literacy Ideas for Your Community
- Fun Family Activities for Family Literacy Day

Get started on your Family Literacy Day plans now! These resource will be mailed to you early in the New Year.

2. Author Visit

Richard Van Camp will visit Yellowknife, Behchokö and Fort Smith in early January to celebrate family literacy. He will be launching his new

book *Welcome Song for Baby: A lullaby for newborns*. He will be at the Yellowknife Public Library Meeting Rooms on January 7th from 10:30 – 11:30. Parents and their babies are welcome to come. There will be songs, storytelling, snacks and lots of book prizes. In the coming weeks we will have his schedule for Behchokö and Fort Smith.

Literacy Matters: Understanding the Impact of Literacy Levels in the NWT

When: January 29 – 30, 2008
Where: Explorer Hotel, Yellowknife, NT
Time: January 29th – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
January 30th – 9:00 am – noon

The **Literacy Matters workshop** will be facilitated by Mr. T. Scott Murray, an international expert in youth and adult literacy. The workshop will bring together representatives from governments, industry, Aboriginal training organizations, education and the voluntary sector. Participants will learn about the NWT results from the recent International Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey (IALSS) and will have in-depth discussions about how to best respond to the challenges raised by the results. For more information go to our website at www.nwt.literacy.ca or contact Aggie Brockman, Workshop Coordinator at abrockman@ssimicro.com or 873-4588.

Call for submissions: Inspiring stories needed for International Adult Learners' Week 2008

There will be a magazine-style publication for **International Adult Learners' Week** in 2008. Included in the magazine will be human interest stories and information about successful programs and initiatives related to adult education and lifelong learning. Do you have an inspiring story or anecdote about lifelong learning that could be included in the magazine? Written stories, a few sentences or even information in point form would be welcome. Please send your contact information for the organization or individual involved so that permission can be obtained to print your story. Send your stories by **December 21, 2007**, to Nicole Fieger, Canadian Commission for UNESCO at nicole.fieger@unesco.ca.

In the News

Canada must establish a universal early childhood education system

Aging workforce and declining birthrate mean that the country's future prosperity necessitates a major investment in the next generation, says IRPP study. Read more at

<http://www.nald.ca/info/whatnew/headline/2007/universal.htm>.

New Resources and Websites

Christmas Carol Collection

Download your favourite Christmas song lyrics here:

<http://printables.familyeducation.com/tv/printables/calendar/SOPChristmasCarols.pdf>.

Iqaluktuurmiutat: Life At Iqaluktuuq by the Kitikmeot Heritage Society

The Kitikmeot Heritage Society has been working in partnership with Dr. Max Friesen of the Anthropology Department of the University of Toronto since the year 2000 to undertake Archaeological and Oral History research at Iqaluktuuq. The Elders have joined the archaeologist camp several times to tell stories of the history of the area, and to assist the archaeologists in interpreting artifacts and features. Together, the Elders and archaeologists have developed a detailed picture of historic and prehistoric life at Iqaluktuuq. To download this resource go to <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/iqaluktuuq/cover.htm>.

From Concrete to Abstract: The Benefits of Using a Guided Reflective Writing Technique with Adult Literacy Students: Research in Practice Projects by Leonne Beebe

In this report, Leonne Beebe explores how a writing activity that involves reflection and evaluation offers opportunities for learners to experience writing about course and personal content and about interactions with other students and with the teacher. To download this report go to

<http://www.nald.ca/library/research/ripal/concrete/cover.htm>.

NWT Literacy Council Membership?

Have you renewed your membership with the NWT Literacy Council? If not, why not take a moment and do so right away - that way you can stroke it off your New Year's resolution list! Donations are also gratefully accepted. A membership application form is posted on our web site at:

www.nwt.literacy.ca/aboutus/about.htm. It's halfway down the right hand column under "About Us." Memberships are \$10 for an individual, \$20 for families, and \$25 for organizations and businesses. You can print a copy of the form from our web site and mail in your cheque or money order. Or you can drop by our office at 5122 - 48th Street in Yellowknife.

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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.



NWT LITERACY COUNCIL