

This Week in Literacy

August 27, 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 - September 8

NWT Literacy Week - September 26 - October 2

Canadian Library Month - October

Announcements and Events

NWT Literacy Week Packages

Packages have been mailed to schools, libraries and other community organizations to help people prepare for NWT Literacy Week September 27th to Oct. 2nd. If your organization would like to be on our resource mail-out list, please contact us at nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca

Literacy is Something to Tweet About

International Literacy Day is September 8. Take part in a global TweetFest. If you don't already use Twitter, try it out by taking part in this [International Literacy Day project](#).

Essential Skills Day (September 23)

A new annual initiative by ABC Life Literacy Canada raises the awareness of workplace literacy and essential skills training. Check out [Learn at Work Week](#). The NWT Literacy Council's Essential Skills Fact Sheets can be downloaded from our website under [adult literacy resources](#).

Arctica's Writing Space Contest

Submit poetry, creative non-fiction and short fiction that explores the theme of space and the circumpolar region. Deadline is midnight April 1, 2011. Email entries to WritingSpace@ArcticaMag.ca or submit online to [Arctica Magazine](#).

World Literacy Canada Writing Contest

[Write/Right to Read](#) is a national bilingual writing contest creating global citizens in grades 4 - 6. World Literacy Canada is a grassroots non-profit organization that uses literacy to fight poverty and advance the cause of social justice.

Funding

Youth Homework/Tutoring Program

A new program provides funding to community-based organizations to deliver Youth Homework/Tutoring/Literacy Programs for out-of-school and in-school youth (Age 16-25). The deadline for 2010 applications is October 1. Guidelines and application can be found at www.nwt.literacy.ca/whatsnew.htm

Opportunities Fund

The Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities provides funding for national, regional and local projects that assist people with disabilities in preparing for and finding employment or self-employment. For more information go to: www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/

News

High School Graduation Rates Much Lower In Northern Canada

In some some regions of Northern Canada, almost half of all adults have not completed high school, compared to one in 12 in Southern Canada, according to the Centre for the North's "[High School Confidential](#)" map, the third in The Conference Board of Canada's *Here, the North* series.

The Benefits of Comics in the Classroom

Researchers are starting to reconsider comics as a potential positive teaching tool, especially for boys who tend to lag behind girls in terms of reading ability. Read more at the [Canadian Council on Learning](#). Then check out the NWT Literacy Council's new [Path of the Warrior](#) and [Darkness Calls](#) comic book study guides.

Improving Literacy Can Save Lives In The Workplace - Literally

Employers are more confident than workers or labour representatives in the ability of employees to understand health and safety policies, according to survey results published in [What You Don't Know Can Hurt You: Literacy's Impact on Workplace Health and Safety](#) by The Conference Board of Canada.

Resources and Websites

High Interest Low Vocabulary Books for Youth and Adults

[Suggestions from the NWT Literacy Council](#)

Our Voices, Our Stories

[First Nations, Metis and Inuit stories](#)

Imagineaction

[A student-driven social action program](#)

Ideas for Celebrating International Literacy Day

From the [International Reading Association](#)

New Family Literacy Resource

[1-2-3 Rhyme With Me Rhyme and Song Booklet](#)