

The Literacy Connection

Yukon Literacy Coalition

Friday July 2, 2010

The Yukon Literacy Coalition is a Yukon-wide literacy organization that is community governed and committed to supporting and encouraging literacy in all languages of the Yukon.



Greetings from the Yukon Literacy Coalition!

We hope everyone celebrated a marvellous Canada Day!! ... And hopefully stayed dry! And this will be our last newsletter for the summer – you'll hear from us again on September.3rd!

Important Literacy Dates

International Literacy Day	September 8
World Teachers' Day	October 5
National Family Week	October TBA
Yukon Literacy Week	October 12 – 17
Human Rights Day	December 10

TD Canada Trust Family Literacy Centre (FLC) – 2nd floor Canada Games Centre

FLC Drop in hours are 10:00 – 5:00 Monday - Friday with some exceptions for programming. Check out the full schedule on the YLC website <http://www.yukonliteracy.ca/flc.htm> or phone 867-668-8698.

Some Regular Activities in July:

Stories with Samantha

A wonderful opportunity for parents and children to share the wonder of books and make a craft together with our very own craft expert Samantha.

When: Every Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 am

Leaping Literacy

Drop-in Ages 0-3 & their parents. Brothers and sisters are welcome

A morning program for parents and their tots that encourages learning through play, physical activity and early language.

When: Every Tuesday from 10-12am

Super Summer Theatre

Ages 10 – 12. Act out fun with kids' theatre - characters, scenes and exploration of northern and children's tales, and maybe write your own play!

Leader: Nancy Turner

When: Every Thursday July 8 - August 5
11am - 12:30 (before the afternoon swim session)

English as a Second Language

Fun, Interactive, real-world based English Development for Beginner and Intermediate Adult Learners.

When: Monday Nights 6:30 – 8:30pm

Literacy on the Lawn

Summer reading on the front Lawn of the Canada Games Centre for all Ages. Stretch outside for stories and interactive reading while at the Canada Games Centre - for tots, kids, youngsters and their grown-ups.

When: Every Thursday and Friday morning, all summer, weather permitting
10:30am -noon

Treasure Chest Tales

Free

Ages 4 - 7

Stories explored in games and crafts, ranging from Animal Masks to Treasure Hunts to

Peppy Puppets

When: 4 Tuesdays 6 - 7pm, July 13 - August 3

Leader: Alisha Rosenberger

Come join the fun!

What's New?

Leadership, education and wellness opportunities for Yukon Aboriginal women

WHITEHORSE – The Women's Directorate supports the implementation of the recommendations arising from the Yukon Aboriginal Women's Summits (YAWS) held in Whitehorse and Watson Lake.

<http://www.gov.yk.ca/news/2010/10-125.html>

Community News

CAMP WILD CHILD ECO-EXPLORATION

Camp Activities: Canoeing, Hiking, Birding, Plant Identification, Tracking, Navigation Skills, Multi-day Overnight Camping

Visits To or From: Teslin Bird Banding Centre, Beringia Centre, Yukon Wildlife Preserve, Parks Canada Presentation, Discussions with First Nation Elder, Fish Lake, Yukon River Fish Ladder, Chadburn Lake, Kusawa Lake

"Over the course of two weeks, this camp teaches principles of biodiversity, climate change, natural history and how the aforementioned concepts relate to conservation efforts in the Yukon. These concepts will be explored at length while participating in fun hands-on activities. Students will be encouraged to develop their creativity and critical thought skills, as well as new outdoor hard-skills. On the final day of the camp there will be a completion ceremony at which all students will be recognized for the unique way in which they contributed to the camp and students will showcase their learning through a final presentation to parents. (Parents are encouraged to attend) <http://www.cabinfeveradventures.com/wildchilditinerary.html>

MacBride Museum – Young Explorers Preschool Program

This program is designed for parents and children to explore the MacBride Museum's animal gallery together. Cost: Free for members / \$5 per parent and child. This program is run on a drop-in basis for children under 5.

Expanded Hours = The MacBride Museum is now open daily from 9:30am to 5:30pm.

Call 667-2709, ext.3, or visit our website at www.macbridemuseum.com for more information on these and other MacBride Museum programs.

Literacy in the News

Oscar-Winner Blames Tech For Decline In Literacy

Playwright Sir Tom Stoppard says he believes that technology is the cause of a decline in reading among children.

<http://www.itproportal.com/portal/news/article/2010/6/22/oscar-winner-blames-tech-decline-literacy/>

Help Your Kids' Literacy Skills Shine All Summer Long

Research has shown that children who don't read over the summer lose some of the literacy skills they learned during the year, and have a difficult time adjusting to school in the fall.

"Reading is like a muscle – if you don't use it, you lose it," says Margaret Eaton, President, ABC Life Literacy Canada. "It's important for parents to encourage children to read over the summer to keep their minds sharp. All it takes is 15 minutes a day of reading or engaging in a fun literacy activity to keep the mind active."

ABC Life Literacy Canada offers the following tips to encourage literacy and learning over the summer:

1. Be a reading role model! Children learn from their parents, so let them catch you reading.

2. Have your children create a map for your summer road trip and have them navigate by reading signs and billboards.
3. Hunt for words! Throughout your trip, have the family go through the alphabet, finding words on signs and displays that start with the letter they are given. Discover new words!
4. Don't forget to write! Send friends and relatives postcards from different places on your road trip, or better yet, send one to yourself as a visual reminder of your trip.
5. Support the literacy cause. Instead of buying a gift for your child's teacher, why not make a donation in their name to ABC Life Literacy Canada? Visit <http://abclifeliteracy.ca/en/donate-now>
6. Zoo outings and visits to museums and galleries can be fun and educational. Be sure to read all the descriptions on exhibits and displays.
7. Head to the beach with a good book! Check out this summer reading list for children of all ages: <http://www.hbook.com/resources/books/summer.asp> Parents, check out Oprah's summer reading list: <http://www.oprah.com/omagazine/Summer-Reading-List-Summer-Books>
8. Have a family picnic and make a delicious meal together! Following a recipe improves reading, math and comprehension.
9. Bring some board games up to the cottage for a family game night. Board games are a fun way to improve literacy skills!
10. On a rainy day, surf the Internet for information on your hobbies, or the latest summer movies.

For more fun literacy tips and activities, please visit www.abclifeliteracy.ca

Conferences, Workshops, and Awards

Dr. Alan Middleton Workplace Literacy and Learning Award – deadline July 30, 2010

ABC Life Literacy Canada announces that its call for nominations to the Dr. Alan Middleton Workplace Literacy and Learning Award is now open. This national award will recognize an individual for their outstanding achievement in increasing workplace literacy and essential skills in their community. The honour was established to recognize the outstanding contribution of ABC Life Literacy Canada board member and former Chair, Dr. Alan Middleton - a true champion for literacy. Canadians are encouraged to nominate individuals online at www.abclifeliteracy.ca
<http://www.abclifeliteracy.ca>

Funding Opportunities

2010 Aboriginal Education Incentive Awards!

It's been five years since the Aboriginal Education Incentive Awards (AEIA) became a vital part of Canada Post's nationwide scholarship program. Submissions will be accepted from May 1 to July 31, 2010. "Download our brochure (PDF format). It includes everything applicants need to know—from eligibility and submission criteria to program rules and much more. If you'd like printed versions of the brochure, please contact France Coulombe at france.coulombe@canadapost.ca."

Opportunities Fund for Persons With Disabilities

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, as well as acquiring the skills necessary to maintain that new employment. For more information go to:

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/funding_programs/opportunities_fund/index.shtml

Aboriginal Funding Tool

There are some deadlines for scholarships, bursaries, etc. that are coming up. Visit the Aboriginal Canada Portal at <http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/acp/site.nsf/en/funding.html>

Resources

AlphaPlus Pathfinders

AlphaPlus pathfinders are guides on specific topics that help you quickly find relevant websites and information to support your literacy practice. Find AlphaPlus at

<http://alphaplus.ca/newsupdates.asp?eventID=275>

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>

Canadian Parents for French (CPF) Yukon

To help you support your child's French learning, CPF Yukon is offering current and new members a half price subsidy towards adult French classes offered through either L'association franco-yukonnaise or the French Language Services Directorate. Spaces are limited to first-come, first-serve. For more information, contact yukoncpf@gmail.com or call 667-8611.

Canadian Council on Learning

The Canadian Council on Learning is a rich resource related to learning throughout all stages of life, from early childhood through to the senior years. Visit their site at <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/ccl>

CYFN Language Classes

The Council of Yukon First Nations is offering language classes FREE of charge to the general public. Contact Anna Fraser at 393-9200 for more information!

Healthy Aboriginal Network

Youth Comic Books for social and health issues. For more information go to:

<http://www.thehealthyaboriginal.net/>

Kaska Language Lessons

Liard First Nation Language Coordinator, Leda Jules will be offering language lessons every Tuesday and Thursday @ the Community Lunches located at the 2 Mile Community Hall in Watson Lake. So please come out and enjoy lunch served with free language lessons. Souga sin la! For more information please call 867.536.2912.

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>

The Training Policy Committee -- 2010 Training Program Handbook

This handbook identifies public, private and volunteer organizations that offer credit and non-credit training and educational opportunities for Yukon people. Contact the Training Policy Committee for copies at tpced@northwestel.net or 867-668-7812

The Vanier Institute of the Family

This site has some excellent resources for parents. Go to:

<http://www.vifamily.ca/library/resources/resources.html>

Daily Sudoku

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

Contact us if you have suggestions for our newsletter!

Yukon Literacy Coalition

100 Main Street, Suite 207

Whitehorse YT Y1A 2A8

Ph (867)668-6535

Fx (867)668-6518

yukon.literacy.coalition@northwestel.net

www.yukonliteracy.ca