

The Literacy Connection

Yukon Literacy Coalition

Friday March 26, 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!

Important Literacy Dates

Aboriginal Languages Month	March
International Children's Book Day	April 2
Yukon Education Week	April 12 – 16
National Volunteer Week	April 18 – 24
Global Action Week	April 19 – 25

Yukon Literacy Coalition

Next week at the TD Canada Trust Family Literacy Centre – 2nd floor Canada Games Centre

Magic Carpet Ride Storytelling, Crafts and Magic!

April 1, 2010

Time: 2:00 to 3:00 pm

Suitable for children 4 and up

Parents are invited to bring their children for an interactive storytelling of "The Boy With No Name", decorate and take home their own dream box and be entertained by our resident magician. Each child will also receive a free book provided by the Institute for Cross-Cultural Exchange.

What's New?

Canadians have their say on Financial Literacy

Canada's Task Force on Financial Literacy will be in Whitehorse April 27, 2010 as part of an extensive national consultation exploring key issues about how Canadians make financial

decisions. "Financial literacy is essential to all Canadians," said Task Force Chair Donald A. Stewart. "It has the power to enhance quality of life for Canadians and their families - at all income levels - and make Canada stronger, more competitive and successful." To find out more or to participate in the online consultation go to <http://www.financialliteracyincanada.com/eng/index.php?>

Teachers Make a Difference contest – deadline April 9 2010

"This campaign provides students with an excellent opportunity to reflect on how an educator has made a difference in their school life," Education Minister Patrick Rouble said. The campaign, initiated by the Yukon Teachers' Association (YTA) and sponsored by the Department of Education, Air North and CKRW radio, aims to celebrate current Yukon educators and promote reflection among students on how a teacher made or is making a difference in their school life. Students can enter by writing a paragraph or two about any current educator who has made a difference to them.

Public consultation on retirement income adequacy in Canada – Responses due by April 30 2010

Three out of four private-sector workers in Canada are not covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan. Yukoners are being asked to provide the Yukon government with comments on ways to strengthen Canada's retirement income system. Yukoners are encouraged to review the consultation package and submit their views on retirement income adequacy. The Public Consultation Package on Retirement Income Adequacy in Canada is available on the Finance department's website at www.finance.gov.yk.ca/retirement_consultation.html, from the inquiry desk at the Government of Yukon Administration Building on Second Avenue in Whitehorse or by contacting the Finance department.

Community News

Conversations & Collaboration towards Healthy Human Development – Whitehorse, May 26 - 27, 2010

Join a gathering of people invested & interested in early child development for purposeful conversations. This event aims to address questions such as why do the earliest times of a person's life directly affect their lifelong health, learning and behaviour; what are we doing well in the Yukon in government, community, and citizen investment; and what could we change to bring about programs and services that are more effective? For more information email: kswales@yukoncollege.yk.ca (preferable) or call 668-8794. The event is FREE.

Brave New Words & Whitehorse Poetry Society – Monday March 29th, 7-9pm. - BAKED

Featured writers: Randall Maggs & Clea Roberts

Featured Musician: BJ Maclean

CBC radio will be RECORDING this event.

Come and share your music, poetry and stories.

Let's step outside our comfort zones, habits, and challenge ourselves to branch into new behavior.

Let's build a fearless, creative, supportive, non-judgmental community together.

brave.new.words.yukon@gmail.com

truly,

Caitlin

Yukon Education Week – April 12 – 16th

Mark your calendars because it's almost time to celebrate Yukon Education Week - April 12-16, 2010. This year's theme is Partnerships: Supporting 21st Century Learning. Keep your eye out on the local newspapers for the different activities and events that you and your family can enjoy throughout the week.

You're invited to the Department of Education's annual Open House on Wednesday, April 14 from 4 pm to 6 pm to mark Education Week. This public event will feature a variety of displays featuring different educational opportunities available for all ages, some of which include: experiential education, apprenticeship, student financial assistance, special programs, curriculum, First Nations Programs and Partnerships, and information and displays from some of our partners in education. This event will be held at the department, 1000 Lewes Blvd, Whitehorse. All welcome.

Special Events at Yukon Learn 2010 PGI Golf Tournament

The 2010 PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy will take place on June 26, 2010 at Mountain View Golf Course. The PGI Steering Committee is looking for new members. If you are an experienced golfer who would like to volunteer some time to help raise funds that goes toward Literacy Services and Programs for Adult Learners, give us a call at 668-6280 ext. 222

And ...

March 15th – April 1st, 1-4pm and April 12th – 29th, 1-4pm: You Can Compute! New Horizons for Seniors

April 12th – 16th, All day: Yukon Education Week

Contact Yukon Learn at 668-6280 or e-mail admin@yukonlearn.com for more information.

EXTRA EXTRA! LDAY Camp Registrations are now available!

AND.... Camp has a new name! Introducing: **Camp Raven** where campers spread their wings to reach new heights!

You can email Camp Raven Staff at ldaycampraven@gmail.com or phone 867 668-5167.

Baby Animals Preschool Program-

This program is designed for parents or caregivers and kids to have fun at MacBride together. Explore a different animal each week with games, crafts and hands-on learning.

Cost: \$5/Family, Free for members

Review of Yukon College Liberal Arts Programs – deadline March 31st

Yukon College is reviewing its Liberal Arts programs and your input is needed even if you have never taken Yukon College courses, or you don't know much about what the College offers. People in the arts and heritage communities, in non-profits, in schools and in various government departments are being asked for input. Please visit

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/yclacommunity2010> to complete a brief (5-10 minutes) confidential survey. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Dawn Macdonald, Yukon College Institutional Research and Planning Officer, at dmacdona@yukoncollege.yk.ca

Literacy in the News

Environmental Literacy: No Child Left Indoors

No Child Left Inside would encourage integrating environmental education across existing subjects. This would counteract an opposite trend since the 2001 passage of No Child Left Behind, which pushed many subjects out of the classroom as teachers focused on preparing for reading and math standardized tests. For more information visit <http://www.miller-mccune.com/politics/environmental-literacy-no-child-left-indoors-11299/>

***For Economics and Decency's Sake, Let's Help our Indian Students
Globe and Mail, March 15, 2010***

Despite years of effort and billions of dollars spent, aboriginals continue to fare worse than all other Canadians on almost every social and economic indicator. Education, particularly higher education, is undeniably one of the keys to fixing this iniquitous state of affairs. According to one study, if aboriginal Canadians were able to increase their educational attainment to the level of other Canadians, our cumulative economic output would grow by an additional \$179-billion by 2026 and government tax revenue would be \$3.5-billion higher. That would be good for aboriginals and all Canadians. For the rest of this story go to

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/for-economics-and-decencys-sake-lets-help-our-indian-students/article1501388/>

Contests

Canadian Aboriginal Writing Challenge – deadline March 31, 2010

This writing contest is for a young Aboriginal or Inuit writer with a story to tell – for more information visit <http://www.our-story.ca/youthWriting.html>

The Great Questions Essay Contest – deadline May 7, 2010.

A writing contest for Canadian high school students – for more information visit

<http://www.greatquestions.com/e/bulletin.html> (English)

http://www.greatquestions.com/f/gcq_regles.html (français)

The 2010 Canada Post Community Literacy Awards – deadline May 21, 2010

This is your opportunity to nominate a deserving adult learner and/or educator from your community for a prestigious award that recognizes personal achievement. Nominations open March 22nd. For more information visit

http://www.canadapost.ca/cpc_email/Literacy/literacy_2010_1.htm

FASD Conference – April 14 – 17, 2010

The Fourth National Biennial Conference on Adolescents and Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder -Facing the Future Together: Where Do We Go From Here?- is taking place in Vancouver, BC. Information can be found at www.interprofessional.ubc.ca

Aboriginal Education Research Forum – April 13 – 15th, 2010

The sixth annual forum is scheduled for April 13 – 15, 2010 in Winnipeg. The deadline for the call for papers is January 30. For information go to <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/aerf/>

Annual Summer Science Program – Deadline to apply: Friday, May 7th

The Institute for Aboriginal Health at UBC in partnership with the First Nations House of Learning is offering a one-week cultural, health and science program for Aboriginal students in grades 8-11.

Students who have completed grades 8-11 and are of Aboriginal Ancestry, are encouraged to apply. Contact the University of British Columbia, Institute for Aboriginal Health - Phone: 604.822.1795 or 604.822.6612 or check out www.iah.ubc.ca

2010 Summit on a People Centred Economy – May 30 – June 1st, 2010

The 2010 National Summit on a People-Centred Economy in Ottawa will bring together leaders and community representatives to build a common agenda and mobilize action for a secure, sustainable economy that puts people and the planet first. For more information visit www.ccednet-rcdec.ca/en/summit

National Family Literacy Conference – July 15 – 17th, 2010

For the first time in over a decade, a National Family Literacy Conference is set to take place 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

Funding Opportunities

Students on Ice Arctic Expedition – deadline April 15th, 2010

Here is a great opportunity for high school or home school students to join an expedition to the Arctic, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for youth to expand their knowledge about the circumpolar world, and to gain a global perspective of the Arctic, its wonders, and its present and future challenges. The scholarship includes all travel expenses from home to the Arctic and return. If you are an Aboriginal youth between 14 and 18, you can find the scholarship application form at (<http://www.inuit2010.ca/soi/> or <http://studentsonice.com/index.php?content=friends>), or check them out on FaceBook: <http://tinyurl.com/SOIScholarships2010> . For more information, contact Niki Trudeau, Participant Coordinator at apply@studentsonice.com or call Toll Free: 1-866-336-6423

New Horizons Seniors Community Participation and Leadership Funding Deadline: April 16th, 2010

Community Participation and Leadership Funding provides one-time, start-up grant funding for community-based projects that enable seniors to play an important role in their communities. It encourages seniors to contribute their skills, experience, and wisdom in support of social well-being in their communities, and helps to reduce their risk of social isolation. For more information go to: http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/community_partnerships/seniors/nhsp/cpl/index.shtml

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

Resources

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>

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!

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