

# **The Literacy Connection**

Yukon Literacy Coalition

**Friday April 1, 2011**

*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 Dates:**

**National Volunteer Week**  
**Yukon Education Week 2010**  
**Canada Book Day**

**April 10-16, 2011**  
**April 11-15, 2011**  
**April 23, 2011**

**TD Canada Trust Family Literacy Centre (FLC) – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Canada Games Centre**

### **Open Drop-In**

Each week, the centre welcomes all ages to come to the centre to tell stories, make crafts, do a puppet show, teach a song or have a quiet (or not-so-quiet) read.

Mondays to Thursdays: 12pm to 4:00pm

Saturdays 2-4pm

### **Leaping Literacy**

This drop-in program for parents and tots age 1-3 encourages learning through play, physical activity and early language. We start at the Family Literacy Centre with songs, games and poems, and finish playing on the indoor fields at the Canada Games Centre.

Thursdays starting April 14 to May 2 10:00 to 11:30am

**April Saturdays** are going to be packed with fabulous projects for children and families!!!

Stephanie Parker, with many years experience leading educational arts projects in Northern Schools, will facilitate 3 Art & Story projects.

Saturdays through March and April. Ages: 8-12, with parents. 12 – 2 pm

### **Peace Banners**

April 2, 9

What is Peace? What does it look like, and what do you want to say about it? We'll explore stories of Peace around the world, and collaborate with the group to create a future World Peace. Paint your own wall-hanging Peace Banner with words and symbols for Peace.

### **On the Land Block Print Poster**

April 16, 23, 30

Show your stories on the Land and learn how to print! Block printing opens a world of words, images, collage and creativity. Carve your own printing blocks with words and symbols about being On the Land, and print your own On the Land poster.

**Please register for these free programs by calling 668-8698.**

Check out the full FLC spring schedule on the YLC website <http://www.yukonliteracy.ca/flc.htm> or phone 867-668-8698.

## **What's New?**

### ***The Council of the Federation 2011 Literacy Award***

Nominations are now being sought for recognition in achievements in literacy. The award includes family, Aboriginal, health, workplace and community literacy and recognizes the excellence of educators, volunteers and learners. Deadline is June 10, 2011. For more info:

[http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/advanceded/pdf/2011nomination\\_info\\_pckg.pdf](http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/advanceded/pdf/2011nomination_info_pckg.pdf)

## **Community News**

### ***Yukon Learn - Computer Schedule for April***

Introduction to Computers will give students the fundamentals of computer use, including turning one on, the basics of Windows, and organizing files and folders.

Introduction to MS Word will give students the basics of the popular word processing program, including formatting text, templates, and using images in your documents.

Introduction to MS Word: April 11 – 14, 1 – 4 pm

Introduction to Computers: April 18 – 21, 1 – 4 pm

Contact them at 867-668-6280 or <http://www.yukonlearn.com/> or drop by our office at 107 Main Street.

## ***The Japanese Village Festival***

Help raise funds for the Japan Earthquake/Tsunami Relief effort.

Sunday, April 3 from 1 to 4pm at Mount McIntyre Recreation Centre.

Admission is \$5 per person and the accompanied children are admitted free.

## ***ArtShare Fundraiser***

Thursday April 14th 5 to 7pm – Old Fire Hall

Proceeds will go to:

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library - a Yukon Family Literacy Program in partnership with Yukon Literacy Coalition – <http://www.yukonliteracy.ca/library.htm>

and the Shelter Box – International Disaster Relief <http://www.shelterboxcanada.org/index.php>

## ***Literacy in the News***

### ***Mandela Foundation promotes youth literacy***

The Nelson Mandela Foundation wants to instil a passion of reading amongst children during the lead-up to International Nelson Mandela day this year. The foundation plans to set up a container library in each province to encourage youngsters to read.

<http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/article992224.ece/Mandela-Foundation-promotes-youth-literacy>

### ***Literacy tool gets French translation***

MONTREAL - With a wave of the magic wand, French-speaking elementary schoolchildren will now have access to a literacy program developed at Concordia University. The Abracadabra software program that has been a hit with English schoolchildren since 2009 will be translated into French, with help from the Quebec government.

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/life/Literacy+tool+gets+French+translation/4512858/story.html>

### ***Literacy program helps kids who are visually impaired***

Seven-year-old Blake Thornton learned to write his name this year.

It was a feat made possible with help from his vision resource teacher Jennifer Elgie, who was connected with Thornton through a program helping blind and visually impaired children.

<http://www.canada.com/Literacy+program+helps+kids+visually+impaired/4514674/story.html>

## ***Contests***

### ***Yukon College Photo Contest***

Why I love the Yukon! Yukon College is holding a photo contest on the Yukon College Facebook page. Capture an outstanding image of why you love Yukon for your chance to win. Entries will be judged by a 4 person panel, including guest photographer Cathie Archbould. Prizes will be awarded to the top three photographs.

Entries will be accepted up until Friday, April 15th, 2011 at 4 p.m.

Winners will be announced April 22nd, 2011 on the Yukon College Facebook page.

Prizes:

1st place: Sony W570 Cyber-shot Digital Camera - \$200 value

2nd place: \$100 iTunes gift certificate  
3rd place: \$50 Yukon College Bookstore Gift Card

How to Enter:

Step 1: Go to the Yukon College Facebook page, become a fan and post your photo with the statement, Why I love Yukon

Step 2: Complete the entry form provided at [www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/whyiloveyukon/](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/whyiloveyukon/).

Step 3: E-mail the entry form and photograph to [collegerelations@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:collegerelations@yukoncollege.yk.ca), before April 15, 2011, by 4pm.

Please place Why I Love Yukon in the subject line of your email. You will receive a confirmation of your submission within one to two business days. (Please be sure to read the rules!)

## **Conferences, Workshops, and Awards**

### ***The Guided Autobiography Method – UBC Summer Institute***

Adult Learning and Meaning-Making

July 4-21, 2011

Join UBC this July for an innovative summer institute designed for individuals interested in using autobiography to explore the adult transitions and transformations that have shaped and are shaping their lives. Exploring life narratives as a way of understanding major transitions and transformations of adult development, this program will benefit adult educators and helping professionals interested in lifelong learning, including social workers, community health practitioners, counsellors, and ministers who work with people confronting major life events.

LEARN MORE:

<http://eplt.educ.ubc.ca/gab>

### ***The 2011 Canada Post Community Literacy Awards - Make your nomination!***

Nominations are now being accepted!

Entries must be received in Ottawa by midnight (EDT), Friday, June 3, 2011.

Mail your submission to:

2011 CANADA POST COMMUNITY LITERACY AWARDS

2701 RIVERSIDE DR SUITE N0890

OTTAWA ON K1A 0B1

For more information about the 2011 Canada Post Community Literacy Awards, including the latest news, [click here](#).

### ***NALD Innovative Technology Award: Nomination phase extended to April 15, 2011***

The award recognizes outstanding achievement in developing and implementing a technology initiative that contributes to the advancement of adult literacy and essential skills. For more information on the NALD Innovative Technology Award, read the [nomination criteria](#) and the [application form](#).

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **Call for proposals: Global Citizens Program International Aboriginal Youth Internships Initiative**

The deadline for submissions is 14:00 PST (Pacific Standard Time), April 8, 2011.

The objective of this call is to support projects that will provide opportunities for Aboriginal youth to increase their awareness of international issues and deepen their understanding of international development through internships in developing countries. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/acdi-cida/ACDI-CIDA.nsf/eng/ANN-2215633-RL7>

### **Take Advantage of the NOLS Local Scholarship Program!**

The National Outdoor Leadership School, is a non-profit organization that offers expeditions teaching leadership, wilderness skills, technical travel skills, and environmental studies.

Available this 2011 summer:

- 1) 2 x \$3000 scholarships to Yukoners under 30 years of age toward one of the following courses:
  - 30-day Backpacking
  - 30-day Backpacking and Canoeing
  - 30-day Outdoor Educator Backpacking and Canoeingfor descriptions go to: [www.nols.edu/courses/locations/yukon/](http://www.nols.edu/courses/locations/yukon/)
- 2) numerous \$500 and \$1000 Scholarships (potential for more depending on funding) toward:
  - 21-day Yukon Youth Wilderness Leadership Summer Camp (ages 14-18)

APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15TH

E-mail [yukon@nols.edu](mailto:yukon@nols.edu), or contact BYTE: [info@yukonyouth.com](mailto:info@yukonyouth.com) or the Boys and Girls Club of Whitehorse: [daveblottner@gmail.com](mailto:daveblottner@gmail.com) for information and application forms.

### **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](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>

### **New First Nations Literacy Resources**

For more information go to: <http://firstnationliteracy.com/>

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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**

**[communications.officer@northwestel.net](mailto:communications.officer@northwestel.net)**

**[www.yukonliteracy.ca](http://www.yukonliteracy.ca)**