

# The Literacy Connection

Yukon Literacy Coalition

**Monday June 20, 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 Aboriginal Day**

**June.21**

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

### **Literacy on the Lawn**

We're taking words to the street and literacy on the lawn all summer at the Canada Games Centre and downtown on Wednesdays. Join us for games, stories, crafts and family activities for all ages.

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri starting June 20

2-5pm                      Outside At the Canada Games Centre Entrance

Wednesday starting June 22 - August 17th

12-1pm                     Arts In The Park at LePage Park

2-5:30pm                 Rotary Park Gazebo

### **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.

Summer Schedule: Thursdays July 14 through Aug 25 10 to 11:30am

### **Storytelling Hour**

Each week join us for free lunch-time family storytelling featuring children's favourites such as Eric Carle and Robert Munsch. Hear tales from around the world, stories of the Yukon and more. Tuesday and Friday 1:00-2:00 starting May 31st.

### **Parents and Preschoolers Book Club.**

For parents, guardians and children aged 3-6 who want to bring home play with learning. Join us every week for story and craft activities, and grow your family confidence with reading and writing. Each week families will receive a free book and activity kit to take home. Snacks will be provided. Limited space available, call for more info.

Wednesdays 4:30 - 6:00 June 22 - August 24

### **Family Literacy Support**

Every Wednesday evening drop in to the Literacy Centre to meet other parents and families to discuss ideas or ask questions about reading and education with our staff. Children welcome.

Wednesday 7-8:30.

### **Playbuilding**

Write, create and perform an original play outdoors in one week! Come together with other youth and have fun with inspiration and creativity as we work to build a play from diverse youth experiences. Explore theatre, speak with your unique voice, experiment and play! Held at the Canada Games Centre.

July 11-15 Mon-Fri 1-3pm

Ages 13-16

### **Your words to the street**

Using media, collage, photocopiers and storytelling, in this 1 week workshop we will take your words & messages to the street. We'll create posters and postcards that together tell young peoples' stories and voices, and take them all over town. Get your story out there!

July 25-29 Mon-Fri 1-3:30pm

For teens

### **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?**

### **Three Sessions for Writers**

#### **The Lives of Writers**

Ever wondered what you'd say to a famous writer? Hear how it's done by one of Canada's top interviewers, Eleanor Wachtel. The CBC host will be giving a talk on The Lives of Writers at 11 am to noon on Saturday 25 June at the Old Fire Hall, Whitehorse.

#### **Tips for New Writers**

Get pointers on how to become a writer from a panel of successful, published and very different authors. Writer Patricia Robertson will be leading a discussion with Elizabeth Bachinsky, David Seymour and Yukon's own Clea Roberts. Join them at the Old Fire Hall in Whitehorse at 11 am to noon on Sunday 26 June.

#### **The Poet's Craft**

What exactly is involved in writing a poem? Poet Erling Friis-Baastad will lead a discussion on the craft of poetry with Miranda Pearson, John Pass and bill bissett at the Old Fire Hall in Whitehorse at 3pm to 4pm on Sunday 26 June.

Tickets are available at the Arts Underground, the Yukon Arts Centre and [yukonartscentre.com](http://yukonartscentre.com). All three events are part of the 2011 Whitehorse Poetry Festival taking place from 24 to 26 June. A pass for the entire festival costs \$41.

Find out more about the festival at [www.whitehorsepoetry.com](http://www.whitehorsepoetry.com).

## **Community News**

### **Book Launch**

Boreal Bounty: the food and health uses of berries, blossoms, roots and leaves that grow in the Yukon boreal forests. Bev Gray has spent years studying and working with the food and health uses of berries, blossoms, roots and leaves that grow in the Yukon boreal forests. Gray says the event will include readings, a discussion by editor Nadine Pederson (of North Vancouver's Black Swan Services) about how a book containing this breadth of information was developed. And of course there will be delicious snacks.

The book launches Monday, June 20 5pm at the Old Fire Hall.

### **Arts in the Park**

LePage Park, 3rd & Wood, Monday – Friday (Noon – 1 Pm)

Admission: FREE

Wednesday performances are geared for kids! - Wednesday, June 22 – The Big Band “swing into summer with a big brass band”

## **Berton House Writer**

Current Berton House writer in residence Jeanne Randolph will present a free reading & discussion at the Whitehorse Public Library on Wed June 29 at 7:30 pm

BIO:

Jeanne Randolph, is one of Canada's foremost cultural critics who spends her waking moments pondering technology, advertising, visual culture and ethics. A practicing psychiatrist, Randolph is also known as a performance artist whose extemporaneous soliloquies (on topics varying from cat curating to boxing to Barbie Dolls to Wittgenstein) have been performed in galleries and universities in Canada, England, Australia and Spain. She is the author of *Symbolization and Its Discontents* and *Ethics of Luxury*, and, most recently, *The Critical Object*. She brings an unholy multidisciplinary approach to the analysis of the visual arts and other cultural practices. Randolph lives in Winnipeg and is working on her sixth book, *Art and the Godliness of Goods*.

## **Literacy in the News**

### **Culture Days September 30 - October 2, 2011**

Culture Days is a collaborative pan-Canadian volunteer movement to raise the awareness, accessibility, participation and engagement of all Canadians in the arts and cultural life of their communities. Are there opportunities in your community to celebrate literacy, art and culture all at the same time? Check out [www.culturedays.ca](http://www.culturedays.ca)

### **Reading, writing and running around**

School will soon be out for summer, but that doesn't mean the learning should stop...it's a good idea to establish a new set of three Rs for the summer: Reading, writing and running around...[Read more](#)

### **More Inuit language instruction a key: Nunavut Literacy Council**

The Nunavut Literacy Council says the federal government's support for bilingual education in Inuit regions, called for by the new Inuit education strategy released this past week by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, is "critical."

[http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/20998\\_more\\_inuit\\_language\\_instruction\\_the\\_key\\_nunavut\\_literacy\\_council/](http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/20998_more_inuit_language_instruction_the_key_nunavut_literacy_council/)

### **Literature of love**

A teacher for the past 38 years and a member and past president of the Reading Association of Trinidad and Tobago, Noel said her work continued away from school, as her passion was for literacy and helping people to improve themselves.

<http://www.newsday.co.tt/features/0,142522.html>

## Contests

### **Register for a 3 Day Novel Writing Contest!**

Contest dates: Labour Day weekend, September 3–5

Early-bird registration deadline: August 5, \$50 fee

Final registration cutoff: September 2, \$55 fee

More info [www.3daynovel.com](http://www.3daynovel.com)

### **The Jack London Short Fiction Contest**

The contest is open to all, and the winning story will be published in the September 2011 issue of Up Here. Along with publication, the first-place author will win \$750, second-place wins \$250.

<http://uphere.ca/node/693>

## Conferences, Workshops, and Awards

### **Dr. Alan Middleton Workplace Literacy and Learning Award**

Nominees can reflect individual employees, management, union, government and literacy professionals involved in workplace literacy and essential skills. Visit

<http://abclifeliteracy.ca/workplace-literacy-and-learning-award-accepting-nominations> for more information.

## Funding Opportunities

### **Girls' Fund Grants**

The Canadian women's Foundation offers grants to non-government, non-profit organizations in Canada that support the building of strong, resilient girls. Applications will be accepted until November 2011, and grants can be for up to \$25,000.

[http://www.cdnwomen.org/EN/section07/2\\_7\\_1-how\\_to\\_apply.html](http://www.cdnwomen.org/EN/section07/2_7_1-how_to_apply.html)

### **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

### **Read Every Day. Lead a Better Life.**

<http://scholastic.com/readeveryday/>

### **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/>

### **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!

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