

**Welcome back** to the classroom! I hope that each of you enjoyed a happy and *safe* holiday—especially for those who traveled to the East or have loved ones in the tsunami-affected regions of South Asia. As of today, as many as 5,000 Americans and 150 Canadians are still unaccounted for and 15 Americans and 5 Canadians are confirmed dead. Much attention in your classrooms is undoubtedly being paid to the catastrophic events of last week. FYI, for a global perspective of relief efforts, the World Bank has pledged 250 million US dollars for immediate relief, France has offered 3 million euros (about 4 million dollars), President Bush has pledged 350 million in aid (which represents the entire US foreign disaster assistance budget), and Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin offered at least 80 million Canadian dollars (about 66 million US dollars). Hopefully the assistance is already impacting the millions of displaced and injured people.

As you put together your teaching units for the New Year, I hope you will also find some of the new resources on Canada identified below to be useful. If you know of other resources of interest to teachers of Canada, please let me know so that I can share them in future resource notices. Best wishes for 2005! Tina Storer

- 1 **CANADIAN HISTORY NEWS – YOUR CANADIAN HISTORY DAILY** – Northern Blue Publishing, creators of History of Canada Online and the Civics Channel, are now offering a new *free* daily journal all about Canadian History. It's also available as a Weblog so you can subscribe to it *for free* and get notified of additions and changes. Visit <http://northernblue.ca/cblog> to explore its ad-free features such as:
  - ***Canada***, a daily digest of events that happened ***On This Day in Canadian History***, plus today's ***Great Canadian Birthdays***. News events and stories relating to Canadian history and the teaching of social studies.
  - Can be subscribed by an RSS reader.
  - Daily Canadian current event feeds from CBC and other sources around the world, updated on the half hour.
  
- 2 **GLOBAL MEDIA – GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES:** Wouldn't it be a terrific exercise for building students' global perspectives to have them compare views as reported in a variety of newspapers of a single news event? You can easily do this by visiting one website for access to English language newspapers from around the world. Be sure to visit <http://www.thebigproject.co.uk/news/index.htm> for worldwide news in English. (Thanks to Ruth Writer for drawing my attention to this excellent resource!)
  
- 3 **WATCH CANADA'S POPULATION CLOCK** - Do you know how fast Canada's population is growing? Check out the updated population clock at [www.statcan.ca/english/edu/clock/population.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/edu/clock/population.htm) and you'll find out how often there is a birth, a death or a net migration gain of one person in Canada. You can also link to the world population clock. From the main *Learning Resources* opening page, scroll down and click on "Canada's Population Clock."
  
- 4 **CANADIAN MUSEUM OF NATURE** – Thirty-four free publications are available to educators! Visit [www.nature.ca/prodserv/neotoma\\_e.cfm#targ1](http://www.nature.ca/prodserv/neotoma_e.cfm#targ1) and choose the topics that you would like to have mailed to you.
  
- 5 **THE CANADIAN WARTIME EXPERIENCE: LEGACY OF CANADA AT WAR** - The University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections has launched a 10,000 image website documenting Canada's wartime participation covering the Red River Resistance, the Boer War, World War I and II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The digitized documents, photos and publications cover a wide variety of topics. It also has an educational site consisting of interactive teachers' guides and student activities for Grades 4, 6, 9, and 11. Visit the site at [http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/canada\\_war](http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/canada_war).

**6 HUMAN ACTIVITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT: 2004 UPDATE ON ENERGY** - Canada produced 45% more energy than it consumed in 2002, even though the nation's energy consumption per capita reached a record high. Find out more in the report entitled "Energy in Canada", part of the 2004 Update to *Human Activity and the Environment*. This update also contains data on a variety of topics, such as natural resources, ecosystems and environmental practices. It is available free in E-STAT (<http://www.statcan.ca/english/Estat/licence.htm>) At the E-Stat table of contents, select *Articles*, then *Environment*. For a summary of the report, see *The Daily* of Oct. 27, 2004 at [www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/041027/d041027a.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/041027/d041027a.htm).

**7 ACSUS CALL FOR PAPERS: 18<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES IN THE UNITED STATES** - ACSUS welcomes proposals for papers, roundtables, and poster exhibits, at the 18th Biennial Conference to be held at the Millennium Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri, November 16-20, 2005. All proposals must have a definite Canadian focus, even if on a comparative subject. The conference presents an opportunity for academics and other professionals involved in the study of Canada to present their research to peers, to learn about new developments in Canadian studies, to hear prominent Canadians, and to visit with publishers of books and periodicals relating to Canada and Canada-U.S. relations. Submissions are being sought for the following sections: Anthropology & First Nations / Arts - Visual & Performing / Business & Economics / Gender, Identity, & Social Issues / Geography, Environment, & Resources / History / International Relations & Defense / Literature in English / Literature in French / Politics & Government / Public Policy / Quebec & the French Presence in North America (includes a special feature on the Fur Trade) / **Teaching Canada**, Technology & Communications.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES - All proposals for papers and roundtables-whether by individuals or as part of a pre-organized panel-must be accompanied by an ABSTRACT of 200-400 words, typewritten and single spaced on the appropriate form available at [www.acsus.org](http://www.acsus.org). The abstract should state the thesis or significance of the submission, its methodology, and goals. We would appreciate that proposals, forms, abstracts and bios be sent by e-mail to [info@acsus.org](mailto:info@acsus.org). Bios should be 250 words or less. All materials must be received no later than FEBRUARY 15, 2005. Acceptances will be mailed to participants by May 1.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS - Every participant must be a 2005 ACSUS member. Secure on-line 2005 membership forms are available at [www.acsus.org](http://www.acsus.org) for your convenience. Full submission guidelines and forms are available at <http://acsus.org/display.cfm?id=386>.

**8 RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF ADULT FICTION** – In lieu of writing a review for this issue, Ruth pointed out an article from *The Toronto Star* (December 15, 2004) that announces the selection of nine Canadian novels as *modern classics*. "Penguin's Canadian president Ed Carson and publisher David Davidar announced that nine Canadian books — by Alice Munro, Mordecai Richler, Timothy Findley and Robertson Davies — will join *Penguin Modern Classics*, a uniform international series that includes books by Evelyn Waugh, D.H. Lawrence, Anaïs Nin, Saul Bellow, Paul Bowles, F. Scott Fitzgerald and John Steinbeck, among others." These well-known novels are "just the beginning" of Canadian additions to the series. The nine novels below could receive no better recommendation and we both hope that you have an opportunity to read some of them:

**Alice Munro** (2): *Dance Of The Happy Shades*; *Lives Of Girls And Women*

**Timothy Findley** (2): *Famous Last Words*; *The Wars*

**Mordecai Richler** (2): *Solomon Gursky Was Here*; *The Apprenticeship Of Duddy Kravitz*

**Robertson Davies** (3): *Fifth Business*; *The Manticore*; *World Of Wonders*