

Greetings! A hearty welcome to the many educators who joined this listserv by attending sessions on Canada or visiting the National Resource Centers for Canada exhibit at the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) conference in San Diego. The meeting offered more than 500 sessions and events that served to professionally develop and inspire teachers. Canadian Studies was featured in sessions (attended even by Sandra Day O'Connor, herself!), poster presentations and a screening of short films from Québec at the NCSS International Film Festival (with thanks to the Québec Government Office in Los Angeles for their sponsorship). Please also see Item 2 below to view the films shown!

If you could not attend this year, I hope you will flag your calendars for the 2008 NCSS conference to be held November 14-16 in Houston, Texas. Canada will be showcased there as never before. Even if you don't usually attend the conference, you can still gain a lot through the many publications that NCSS offers to members as well as access to a variety of online "communities". By joining the Canada Community or the International Activities Community, you can connect with teachers who have similar interests in International and Canadian Studies. If you're not already a member, I hope you will consider joining this 25,000+ member strong organization that advocates for strengthened social studies in the curriculum.

Now on to the resources...enjoy! Happy holidays, too! Tina Storer

Reply with "Please remove my name from the Canada Listserv" should you no longer wish to receive notices. Resource notices are available at www.k12studycanada.org under K-12 News.

K-12 STUDY CANADA represents shared outreach by WWU's Center for Canadian-American Studies & UW's Canadian Studies Center that jointly form the Pacific Northwest National Resource Center for Canada, funded by the US Department of Education (Title VI). The Government of Canada provides additional outreach support.

1) CANADA YEAR BOOK 2007 - ONLINE VERSION NOW AVAILABLE! - The Canada Year Book 2007 offers several short overview articles on 31 current topics. Almost every article is illustrated by a chart with a link to a related data table. Topics and articles include: Aboriginal People: "Aboriginal Women Face a Paradox"; Ethnic Diversity and Immigration: "Becoming Canadian"; International Trade: "Diamonds in the Ice"; Society and Community: "Converging Gender Roles"; etc. This is a fabulous easy-to-teach resource for intermediate-senior classrooms. Visit http://www41.statcan.ca/ceb_r000_e.htm

2) DIGITAL DIVERSITY (SHORT FILMS ON IMMIGRATION & DIVERSITY IN QUEBEC) - Michel Coulombe, film critic for Radio Canada, introduced NCSS participants who attended the International Film Festival to a series of documentary and fiction short films from Québec that were part of a competition (in English or French) for 18 to 35-year old directors. Although the Digital Diversity competition is now closed, the films can still be viewed online at <http://rcinet.ca/rci/en/concours.asp?pauseatstart=1> (select "click here to launch the competition"). The films shown at NCSS included: *Being Iraqi*, *A Brief History of Life*, *A Good Student*, *Candid Camera*, *How to Say Hello in Ten Steps*, *Arab Maple Syrup*, *Lien's Memoirs*, *Trees of Life*, and--though not part of the competition--the National Film Board of Canada production, *The Sweater*. All can be used to teach students more about issues in the province of Québec.

A curriculum resource packet called "Using The Sweater in Your Classroom & Teaching About Québec" was distributed to teachers who attended the screening. Please contact me and I will gladly send a pdf copy of the 9-page document to you.

3) TEACHER'S KIT: 100 YEARS OF CANADIAN SOCIETY - <http://www.statcan.ca/english/kits/100yearskit.htm>
Statistics Canada offers such wonderful resources that I couldn't resist including another one in this bulletin. This teacher's kit includes seven articles from Canadian Social Trends magazine that chronicle the dramatic changes in Canadian society during the 20th century. The accompanying lesson plan offers ideas on how to use these articles in the classroom. Teachers may photocopy any part of this kit for educational use in the classroom. Of special interest to some of you will be the article "One hundred years of immigration in Canada" by Monica Boyd and Michael Vickers because it looks at the changes in immigration to Canada during the 20th century. The article originally appeared in Canadian Social Trends, Fall, 2000.

4) TRACKS TO FREEDOM: URR RESOURCE - <http://www.canada.com/ottawacitizen/features/freedom/index.html>
Yet another wonderful resource is available online for teaching about the Underground Railroad and following American history into Canada. Additional sites are provided under Resource Links at www.k12studycanada.org.

5) CANADIAN RECIPE OF THE MONTH - Here's a tempting twist to warm up the morning over the upcoming holidays. Bon Appetit!

Vanilla and Poppy Seed French Toast [from The Canadian Cookbook: History, Folklore and Recipes with a Twist (Edmonton, AB: Lone Pine Publishing, 2006)]

What we call "French toast" has different names elsewhere; in England, for example, it is called "poor knights of Windsor," after a military order founded in the 14th century. French toast apparently originated in Ancient Rome, where it was made with the finest bread- frequently paired with the costly spices and almond milk - as a treat for the well-to-do. In France, this recipe acquired the name "pain perdu" (lost bread) after it became a popular method for using stale bread, and French immigrants likely brought it with them to our country. During the frugal times, French toast was much appreciated by the Canada's pioneers as a way to use up scrapes of bread and keep bellies full. In Québec, it is now usually found on the menu as "pain doré" (golden bread). Savory versions of French toast are often served with ketchup.

Ingredients:

6 eggs, beaten
¼ cup milk ¼ cup heavy cream
½ cup poppy seeds 3 tbsp brown sugar
1 tsp cinnamon 1/8 tsp cardamom
½ vanilla bean (seed scraping only)
Pinch of sea salt
1 cup spelt or kamut flakes
Unsalted butter for frying
8 Slices fairly stale bread
Fresh berries & maple syrup for serving

Directions:

Whisk together eggs, milk, cream, vanilla & salt until frothy.

In a separate bowl, mix together spelt or kamut flakes, poppy seeds, brown sugar, cinnamon and cardamom.

Place a nonstick skillet with a dab of butter on medium heat. Dip a bread slice in egg mixture, allowing it to soak up a bit of liquid, and then dredge in flake mixture. Fry until golden, repeat with remaining slices and serve with berries and syrup.

6) LESSON PLAN: EATING YOUR WAY ACROSS CANADA - Ruth Writer, teacher from Buchanan H.S. (Buchanan, MI) and regular contributor to this resource bulletin, recognizes how food in the classroom invigorates the study of just about anything! She has kindly shared a wonderful lesson about the regional cuisine of Canada that I have posted on our website at http://www.k12studycanada.org/resources_lesson_plan_links.shtml. The link is at the bottom of the alphabetical list under "Ruth's Cuisine of Canada". (You may need to open your Adobe Reader first.) Have fun with it in your own classrooms while learning about Canada.

7) RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF CANADIAN LITERATURE - Mariana Gosnell. *Ice: The Nature, the History and the Uses of an Astonishing Substance*. New York: Alfred a. Knopf, 2005. [ISBN 0 679 42608 6] 501 pages.

In light of the recent and highly publicized events of recent months concerning the ownership of the Arctic region, Ice becomes a "must read" for Canadianists. It is a non-fiction selection this month but, since we are all affected by global warming, facing uncertain winters, and know of at least seven nations interested in the Arctic, Gosnell's book should be of interest to us all. She is a former Newsweek reporter who researched, visited, and became an expert on the ice we use every day. Solid water is becoming a hot topic for the future of the planet.

While a few pages are somewhat technical and scientific, Gosnell presents a variety of ways to view ice. She included chapters of lakes, rivers, glaciers, icebergs, sea ice, ground ice and other forms of ice including that found in the atmosphere and space. She spanned the globe in her search for ice including visits to the Great Lakes, Antarctica, the Alps, the Arctic and the multitude of other areas impacted by frozen water. She also spanned time with an in-depth look at the Ice Ages. Additionally, she will lead the reader through a study of the various plants and animals associated with ice-clogged regions. Of particular interest, the chapters on games and other uses of ice provide a pleasant break from the technical information. Readers will find fascinating information on ice-skating, ice fishing, ice climbing and ice castles. After the recent History Channel series on the ice truckers of Canada, booklovers can also find additional information on those ice roads leading to the diamond mines. Finally, Ms. Gosnell leads readers through the human uses of ice and the future of specialty ice cubes from pristine glaciers and Polar Regions.

An excellent addition to any library, Ice will fit right in with books that focus on one common topic such as the books on cod, water, salt, coal, trees, and the multitude of other special focus topics. Who knows what will be the next fascinating book on the common place and overlooked commodity?

Enjoy the wintry conditions, if you live in the northern regions. If you enjoy fun in the sun, merely dream of a white, icy December. - Ruth

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