

April 2008 K-12 STUDY CANADA Resource Notice

Greetings! We have certainly been experiencing effects of climate change here this winter/spring with 3" of snow falling here in the temperate PNW last weekend, so I've included some interesting resources about Climate Change and Canada in this month's notice as well as other excellent resources to consider as you plan your curriculum for the remainder of the school year. Since decisions about summer are also at hand, I've included some exciting opportunities for both teachers and students to consider.

I also wanted to let you know--and no, it's not an April Fool's trick--that significant travel support is being offered by several Consulates of Canada across the US for registrants of the **30th Annual STUDY CANADA Summer Institute** (June 22-27, 2008). I'm hoping that funding will also be available to those of you who have held back from registering by cost issues. Please contact me soon if you'd like to receive \$100-\$300 in travel support!

The following Consulates (and the states within their territory) are actively supportive and I will check with additional consulates once I hear back from interested teachers so don't be alarmed if your home state is not yet listed. *I'd like to note that, although the US Department of Education funds our Center as a National Resource Center for Canada in the US, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, the Embassy of Canada, and individual Consulates of Canada have always been strong supporters of our outreach and their assistance is much appreciated!*

- Consulate General of Canada, Seattle - **WA, OR, or ID** teachers (\$100 or more)
- Consulate General of Canada, Los Angeles - **Southern California** teachers (up to \$300)
- Consulate General of Canada, Denver - **CO, MT, WY, or UT** teachers (up to \$300 - to be determined)
- Consulate General of Canada, Atlanta - **GA, AL, MS, NC, SC, or TN** teachers (up to \$300)
- Consulate General of Canada, Minneapolis - **MN, IA, NB, ND, or SD** teachers (up to \$300 - to be determined)

Should Consulate support not be available in your region this year, our Center is able to offer at least \$100 in travel support if you are not already being sponsored by your school/district. More details about the 3-credit/40-clock hour course are at www.k12studycanada.scsi/asp. Have a great month! Tina Storer

Reply with "Please remove my name from the Canada Listserv" should you no longer wish to receive notices.

1) QUÉBEC'S 400th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Québec City will mark its 400th birthday in 2008: an exceptional year for an exceptional city that can justly claim to be the cradle of French civilization in North America, the jumping-off point for continental exploration and a major gateway for European immigration. Recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, the city will celebrate four centuries as a vital and influential presence on N. American soil. This summer, people from around the world will gather to celebrate the history and culture of Québec across the province. If you've never visited this beautiful and unique part of Canada, now is a great time for teachers and/or students to do so! Language teachers will especially appreciate the reminder that French is Canada's founding language. Taking place at the same time will be events such as the 4th World Youth Congress, the 73rd World Library and Information Congress, the World Men's Hockey Championship, and the 12th *Sommet de la Francophonie*. To view an event calendar, visit <http://monquebec2008.sympatico.msn.ca/MonQuebec2008/?lang=en-ca>. To make travel plans, explore www.bonjourquebec.com/gc-en/accueil0.html, the official tourist site.

2) GAP YEAR or SUMMER EXPERIENCE IN CANADA FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

Work Canada is a program authorized by the Canadian Government to allow US college/university students aged 18-30 to work and travel in Canada for up to six months. The Canadian sponsor is SWAP, Student Work Abroad Programs. While you are in Canada, SWAP provides on the spot backup and support. Advise students interested in gaining an international experience that's close to home, but decidedly different, to visit www.bunac.org/usa/workcanada or contact BUNAC, P.O. Box 430, Southbury, CT 06488 USA Tel: (203) 264-0901 or 1-800-GO-BUNAC Fax: (203) 264-0251 Email: info@bunacusa.org

3) TRADITIONAL CANADIAN MUSIC COLLECTION AT UW

Just yesterday, the the University of Washington's Canadian Studies Center and Libraries introduced the public to the *Canadian Traditional Music Collection* with a performance by master Canadian fiddler, Lisa Ornstein, and lecture on ""Four Hundred Years of French Music in North America." The special collection, created in 2007, comprises over 200 items ranging from CDs and DVDs to books and LPs. For regional teachers interested in learning more about the collection, please visit http://jsis.washington.edu/canada/resources_music.shtml. Both the collection and event were made possible from a U.S. Department of Education Title VI grant and a Program Enhancement Grant from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada.

4) PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN ISSUE RE. CANADA-US BORDERS

“Bottlenecks along the U.S.-Canadian border resulting from the terrorism scare are hampering economic growth in the Great Lakes region and should be a front-burner issue in the presidential campaign, says a report being released Sunday.” To read more from this March 23, 2008 article in *The Toronto Star*, visit www.thestar.com/printArticle/349913. [Thanks, Ruth, for sharing the article with me.]

5) GR. 2-12 OLYMPIC GAMES CURRICULUM

Are your classrooms thinking ahead to the Beijing and Vancouver Olympic Games? The Canadian Olympic School Program has posted new Beijing 2008 Olympic Games curriculum at www.olympicschool.ca. Access to these resources is free—simply enter your email address into their log-in system. Elementary curriculum features a series of Olympian stories that focus on the Olympic values of excellence, fairness, personal growth, respect and leadership. Each story is written at three different reading levels (grades 2-3, 4-5, and 6-7), and include language arts focused learning activities for each level. Secondary-level curriculum is comprised of cross-curricular project packs where students solve real life Olympic Games problems. Each project pack contains handouts, teaching tips, an evaluation rubric and a list of links to provincial learning outcomes that are readily applicable to states’ curriculum guidelines.

6) GLOBAL WARMING IMPACTS: CANADA

Climate change is a huge issue worldwide and, because our northern neighbor is so close to polar ice caps, drastic changes to Canada’s environment are already apparent. A great way to consider impacts of global warming is to use **Canada’s Top Weather stories from 2007** as a classroom tool. I know that Ottawa, the nation’s capitol, was surprisingly still buried under 13’ snowbanks just last week. Visit www.ec.gc.ca/doc/smc-msc/m_110/toc_eng.html and students will see real effects of global warming in Canada—from the melting polar ice caps to floods, droughts, snow, and tornados.

7) CANADA'S FIRST PRIME MINISTER

The Civics Channel and Northern Blue Publishing recently created an open portal dedicated to the life and career of Canada’s first Prime Minister, Sir John Alexander Macdonald. It gives users a narrative of Macdonald’s life, as well as a growing slate of supporting textual and image resources that can be used for student projects and book reports. Chapter content and texts are locked against changes, but users are encouraged to share resources they think appropriate.

The file tabs along the top of the portal offer an impressive collection of learning material: Articles → Biographies → Gallery → Features → Quotes → Bios → Timeline → Library → Links → Input. All can be accessed, without ads, by classrooms for free; however, to contribute (Wikipedia-style) or discussion board, a UserID and Password needed. Visit [www.canadachannel.ca/pm/index.php/Welcome to the John A. Macdonald Portal](http://www.canadachannel.ca/pm/index.php/Welcome_to_the_John_A._Macdonald_Portal).

8) INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR SHARING LIFE STORIES

The international network of the Museum of the Person invites you, on **May 16th 2008**, to join people around the world who are gathering in community halls, classrooms, public parks, theatres, auditoriums, as well websites, email exchanges, and virtual environments to hear each other’s stories. I thought you might appreciate advance notice of this special day to develop related curriculum so that your classes can experience a sense of global connection. For more information, please visit website www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=160352, or send an email to Mr. Marc-André Delorme at madelorme@museedelapersonne.ca.

9) CANADIAN RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Crêpes [from *The Canadian Cookbook: History, Folklore and Recipes with a Twist* (Edmonton, AB: Lone Pine Publishing, 2006)]

A crêpe by any other name—well, is still a crêpe. Crêpes originated in Brittany, but they can be found in many other cuisines. In Hungary, they are known as palacsinta, in Italy as cresoelle and in Russia as blinchiki, but they are always paper thin and make with an egg-based batter. How crêpes are folded and the fillings they contain reflect the local customs and traditions of the countries in which they are served. They are sometimes even cut into thin strips and served like a fresh pasta in soups. This versatility was best described by a Polish chef who said that *nalesniki* are like envelopes—you can fill them with anything. In France, it is customary to make a wish holding a coin while touching the handle of the crêpe pan and turning the crêpe, although we recommend a great deal of crêpe-making practice before attempting this trick! Crêperies are now found pretty well across Canada, with two of the most renowned ones in Québec City and Montréal.

Ingredients:

2 cups all purpose flour
½ tsp sea salt
12 whole eggs lightly beaten
3 cups whole milk
1/3 cup vegetable oil, plus additional
for cooking

Directions:

Sift flour and salt into a large bowl. Add eggs and whisk.
Gradually add milk, whisking continuously to make a smooth batter.
Whisk again and refrigerate for up to 24 hours, until ready to use.
To cook: Preheat a crêpe pan over medium-high heat and pour
batter into it, swirling to coat bottom; for a 9 inch crêpe pan, use
about ¼ cup of batter. Cook until barley-browned, turn and cook an
additional 10 seconds.
Transfer crêpe to plate and continue cooking remaining batter, stacking
cooked crêpes on top of each other.
Add filling as desired, fold and serve.

10) RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF CANADIAN LITERATURE FOR ADULTS

Elle by Douglas Glover (Fredericton: Goose Lane Editions, 2003). ISBN 0-86492-315-5

In October 2006, I reviewed Joan Elizabeth Goodman's novel for youth, *Paradise*. Douglas Glover's novel, *Elle*, is the adult version of the same story and was awarded with the Governor General's Award for Literature in Canada. *Elle* is a true gem of a novel—a wonderful historical story for adults who are not offended by bawdy tales of another era. The basic premise of being a survivor in the Canadian wilderness on the Isle of Demons intrigues and captures the imagination of all readers. As mentioned in the prior review, a young wayward girl along with her servant and would-be suitor become the sole inhabitants of this God-forsaken island in the mouth of the St. Lawrence River.

Glover poses the question:

“What do you do with a headstrong girl? Always a difficult question.

“Kill her, maim her, amputate limbs, pour acid over her face, put out her eyes, shave her head, put her in a brothel, or a nunnery, or simply get her pregnant and marry her. Better yet, maroon her on a deserted island lest she spread the contagion of discontent to other girls or even men, though men are generally impervious. Keep her away from shops and books and looking glasses and friends and lovers. Forget her.

“This was the General's solution.”

I laughed out-loud at the adult humor at times, yet at other moments, I could sense the terror a young girl must have felt left alone.

One editorial review stated: “A 16th-century belle turned Robinson Crusoe, a female Don Quixote with an Inuit Sancho Panza -- this is the heroine of the novel... Elle is a lusty, subversive riff on the discovery of the New World, the moment of first contact. Based on what might be a true story, the novel chronicles the ordeals and adventures of a young French woman marooned on the desolate Isle of Demons during Jacques Cartier's ill-fated third and last attempt to colonize Canada. Douglas Glover's carnal whirlwind of myth and story, of beauty and hilarity brings the past violently and unexpectedly into the present. His well-known scatological realism, exuberant violence, and dark, unsettling humour give his unique version of history a thoroughly modern chill.”

I fell in love with the young adult version of this tale when I read *Paradise*; Glover has created a new eye-opening view of the same tale. Reading both versions allows an interesting comparison. Glover ends his novel with a unique updated version of the story in 2003. It provides yet another view of the mythology surrounding women regardless of the era and proves very interesting to read.

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