

DECEMBER 2008 K-12 STUDY CANADA Resource Notice

Greetings Teachers! Like the students in your classrooms, I am excited about the upcoming holidays but even more so about what transpired at the **2008 Annual NCSS Conference** a few weeks ago in Houston. I liken the experience to Cinderella's arrival at the ball and was proud to have led the effort with Betsy Arntzen as a joint National Resource Centers on Canada initiative. NCSS welcomed "Team Canada" warmly and I was impressed to see the pan-Canadian group benefit from their interaction to such an extent that--within only a few days--they took steps to organize nationally within the History Education Network and, what's more, to propose joint inter-national curriculum with NCSS that will, I think, transform social studies classrooms in both countries!

Canada is Coming to NCSS! delivered several lasting outcomes but none would have been possible without a strong partnership with the National Council for the Social Studies, external funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Ottawa) and supplementary support for NCSS events by the Quebec Government Office (Atlanta) and the Province of Alberta. Sometimes it takes more than a village...it takes funding.

The audience for this monthly email has grown over time from recent graduates of our annual **STUDY CANADA Summer Institute for K-12 Educators** to almost a thousand educators across North America who appreciate the shortcuts to resources and ideas offered for teaching Canada. I wanted to explain this to the many new educators who signed-up at NCSS so they realize why the tone strives to be personal despite reaching out to so many. Please know, too, that I welcome your feedback, questions and resource tips *always*. I hope you'll find this monthly resource notice useful for building curriculum connections to Canada. Fortunately, state social studies supervisors have grown increasingly aware that it is, indeed, important to include Canada in the curriculum and the history and economics curricula/resources below drive home that point. Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season! Tina

Please ensure your server accepts group messages and notify me if you are receiving duplicate notices in error.

Reply with 'Please remove from the Canada Listserv' to end direct notification to your inbox.

Western Washington University and University of Washington jointly perform K-12 STUDY CANADA outreach as a US Department of Education-funded National Resource Center for Canada in the US. Annual Embassy of Canada grants also provide support.

1) COLONIALISM IN N. AMERICA: LOOKING AT THE DEERFIELD RAID OF 1704 [Thanks to Ruth Writer (MI) for the tip!]

In 1704, a coalition of French and Aboriginal people raided the English settlement of Deerfield, Massachusetts on the outskirts of the recently settled British colony. The event is only a "blip" in history when viewed from a broad context but it serves remarkably well for teaching about this formative time in Canada-US history and understanding the multiple perspectives of 5 cultural groups (Aboriginal, British and French) as they struggled to keep their place in North America. **Raid on Deerfield: The Many Stories of 1704** [<http://1704.deerfield.history.museum/home.do>] is an absolute *gem-of-a-website* and a testament to what community efforts can accomplish on the Internet. I commend the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association (PVMA) / Memorial Hall Museum for having crafted such a scholarly, inviting, and interactive site. Best of all, a wonderful teacher's guide offers a series of middle and high school lesson plans (even a few have been created for elementary-level classrooms!)

2) NCEE LESSON - TRADE IN COLONIAL AMERICA / NAFTA

The National Council for Economic Education (NCEE) have developed a virtual textbook at the www.econedlink.org website that includes a series of lessons that make non-specialists feel comfortable teaching economic concepts. They are a terrific set of lesson plans, most frequently suited to Grade 9-12 classrooms. I will feature several of them over the next few months in my resource notice. Today's is a two-part recommendation since, in order to better understand modern trade relationships, it is essential to look at the history of trade in North America. That said, teachers should first visit www.econedlink.org/lessons/docs_lessons/567_colonial1.pdf to download the lesson on colonial trade at from *Eyes on the Economy* and teach it in the classroom. Students will then be prepared to consider current trade agreements like NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement. The NAFTA lesson at www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.php?lesson=EM567&page=teacher helps students understand the purpose of tariffs, quotas and subsidies and clarifies the role and effect of NAFTA in the Mexican and U.S. economies. I strongly encourage all high school teachers to explore the terrific resources made available by the NCEE, especially in regards to the Canada-US trade relationship--the largest in the world.

3) DEAR SWEETHEART: GLOBE AND MAIL HISTORY PROJECT

Although November marked Remembrance/Veteran's Day in both Canada and the US, I wanted to bring this history project to your attention now. *The Globe and Mail*, Canada's national newspaper, has produced **Dear Sweetheart: Letters Home from a Soldier**, a collection of letters from a father and husband who served with the Canadian military

in World War II. The letters serve to place modern students in back in time when a million young men were marching off to risk their lives. One of them, David K. Hazzard, was separated from his beloved wife Audrey, but soon found a way to fight the loneliness – with his pen. He wrote hundreds of letters that are a riveting account of what he went through.

The letters ran in the paper each day but the series is posted in blog style as well with the first letter posted at bottom. There website's supplementary material is extensive with video-streaming documentaries, a photo gallery, a blog of the letters, and even a facebook group. The series can be found online at www.theglobeandmail.com/dearsweetheart .

4) GREAT UNSOLVED MYSTERIES IN CANADIAN HISTORY

Congratulations to Merna Forster, one of the Canadian contingent at NCSS and Executive Director of the Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History project, who received the 2008 **Pierre Berton Award** for popularizing Canadian history. You, and your students, will quickly discover why the award was merited when you visit <http://www.canadianmysteries.ca>.

Everybody loves a murder mystery! Nothing has quite the same impact as discovering an innocent person hanged or a guilty person going free. Taking full advantage of the non-linear and graphic features of the Internet, the following cold-case mysteries serve to lure students into "doing" history: *Where is Vinland?; Torture & the Truth; Jerome; Heaven & Hell on Earth; We Do Not Know His Name; Who Killed William Robinson?; Who Discovered Klondike Gold?; The Redpath Mansion Mystery; Death on a Painted Lake; Aurore!; Explosion on the Kettle Valley Line; Death of a Diplomat.*

When students are actively involved with the "raw materials" of history -- primary documents -- they are more engaged with and enthusiastic about their history courses. In this series of sites students are invited to use historical research and thinking skills to solve a mystery by studying the wide range of primary documents available within each site: newspaper clippings, court depositions, signed confessions, witness statements, photographs, maps, diaries, artists' reconstructions, and a variety of written narratives relating to each of the "case files." The website, activities, and teaching materials use pedagogy based on the active learning approach of "Document Centred Inquiry" (DCI) [see www.canadianmysteries.ca/teachers/foundationalideas/indexen.html].

There is LOTS of support for teachers available online at <http://www.canadianmysteries.ca/teachers/indexen.html>, including a series of scaffolding activities and briefing sheets to introduce students to key concepts in historical thinking; short, student-oriented MysteryQuest lesson plans; a detailed Teachers' Guide for each of the mystery sites; access to the password-protected 'historians' interpretations' portion of the websites; a summary of the foundational ideas of history teaching that informs the Mysteries Project; a lesson plan exchange; and printable posters for all mysteries.

5) INTERESTED IN CANADIAN TEXBOOKS?

Did you ever wonder what textbooks are recommended for Canadian educators? If you'd like to know, visit <http://www.curriculum.org/csc/resources.shtml> to explore Curriculum Services Canada (CSC) links that to approved textbooks for all Canadian provinces and territories as well as supplementary classroom resources (including a catalog of titles that have met CSC standards), and **free** teacher-developed resources like the "**Exploring Aboriginal Art in Canada (Grade: 9-12)**" downloadable curriculum package. You can also participate in the online workshop about how to choose a textbook for teaching about Canada.

[Curriculum Services Canada (CSC) is a not-for-profit standards agency to ensure quality learning products and programs for educators across Canada. It provides services including development, implementation, evaluation, and accreditation of teaching and/or learning resources, and the delivery of web-based professional learning opportunities across Canada and internationally. The organization works closely with the Ontario Ministry of Education and many of its initiatives related to curriculum and to student success.]

6) TEACHER FEATURE: ANTON SCHULZKI (Colorado Springs, CO)

Anton Schulzki is the AP Coordinator at William J. Palmer High School and teaches an IB History of the Americas course as well as IBMYP Government. A member of long-standing in the NCSS Canada Community, I was happy to attend a session he offered at the conference called "Embrace the Future: Comparing North American Governments - A Look at the Constitutions (Canada, Mexico & United States)". I was bowled over by the sophisticated content in his courses and by the Hands-on-History (H-O-H) and Hands-on-Government (H-O-G) approaches used in his IB classrooms. The latter are described in greater detail by Susan Pojer at www.historyteacher.net. Not only did Anton's session model how to teach the material, he shared access to material he uses and posts online for students and others, like us, with access to it. Visit www.d11.org/palmer/social_studies/teachers/schulzki/index.html to find links to his NCSS presentation and all materials including the Constitutions with the warning by Anton that the Mexican Constitution is 100+ pages! I hope you find all the information and resources as amazing as I did!

7) CANADIAN RECIPE OF THE MONTH: CANADIAN MAPLE BARS

This month I relied on the Internet for a worthy recipe and discovered this Christmas treat that can be shared with classrooms by any teacher-bakers who are so inclined....It looks tempting enough, I think, to at least try with your families over the holidays. *Bon appétit!*

INGREDIENTS:

Coconut-Graham Layer:

1 ¼ C graham-cracker crumbs
1 ¼ C finely ground pecans
1 ¼ C shredded sweetened coconut
1 ¼ C semisweet chocolate pieces
6 T [¾ stick] unsalted butter at room temp

Maple-Cream Layer:

3 C confectioners' sugar
½ C [1 stick] unsalted butter at room temp
1/3 C maple syrup

Chocolate Topping:

8 - 1 oz squares semisweet chocolate, chopped
1 C heavy cream
2 oz white chocolate, chopped

INSTRUCTIONS:

Graham Layer: Combine crumbs, pecans, coconut, chocolate and butter in bowl. Press evenly over bottom of 13 x 9 x 2-inch baking dish. Refrigerate 30 minutes.

Maple-Cream Layer: Beat confectioners' sugar, butter and maple syrup in bowl until smooth and creamy. Spread evenly over graham layer. Refrigerate until firm, about 2 hours.

Topping: Melt semisweet chocolate in cream in saucepan over low heat. Cool to room temperature, about 20 minutes. Pour evenly over maple layer. Refrigerate until firm, for about 3 hours.

Melt white chocolate in small saucepan over low heat. Cool slightly. Pour into paper cone; drizzle over Chocolate Topping. Refrigerate until set, about 10 minutes.

Cut into 24 two-inch squares; cut each square in half for 48 bars. Freeze or refrigerate.

Note:

Makes 4 dozen cookies but that still might not be enough for a hungry classroom and such a yummy treat!

8) RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF CANADIAN ADULT LITERATURE

In lieu of a review by Ruth Writer this month (she was busy helping with the NCSS outreach effort in Houston), Ruth directed me to the following offering about the winners of this year's top literary prizes in Canada: the 2008 Governor General's Literary Awards. Two four-time winners are among the list of awardees announced last week by the Canada Council for the Arts. The awards are given in the categories of fiction, poetry, drama, non-fiction, children's literature (text and illustration) and translation, in English and in French. Winners and titles of their works are listed at: www.canadacouncil.ca/news/releases/2008/ep128714281236840064.htm. I hope you'll have a chance to read one over the holidays!



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