

January 2008 - K-12 STUDY CANADA Resource Notice

Ready (or not), I wanted to welcome you back and share news with you about exciting resource and upcoming professional development opportunities. As educators interested in teaching about Canada, I hope you'll find this month's 10-item e-notice helpful. I'd like to make special mention here, for the 2007 NCSS attendees of the session "2 Borders, Three Nations: Learning about Our North American Neighbors," as promised, the PowerPoint presentation given by Dr. Paul Storer can be viewed/downloaded at: http://www.k12studycanada.org/resources_lesson_plan_links.shtml.

I look forward to your feedback, ideas for future notices, and meeting some of you at the annual STUDY CANADA Summer Institute! Happy New Year and best wishes teaching Canada. Tina Storer

Reply with "Please remove me from the Canada Listserv" should you not wish to receive notices (also available at www.k12studycanada.org). K-12 STUDY CANADA represents shared outreach by WWU's Center for Canadian-American Studies & UW's Canadian Studies Center, a US Department of Education-designated National Resource Center for Canada. Additional outreach support is given by the Government of Canada.

1) 2008 STUDY CANADA SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR K-12 EDUCATORS (CIAM 410) – STUDY CANADA has provided educators from across the USA with a strong foundation for teaching about Canada for the past thirty years. **2008** will be a great year to attend and **now** is a great time to register! Subtitled ***Experience BC from the 5 Themes of Geography to the 2010 Olympics: Hot Topics from a Not-So-Cold Climate!***, the 3-credit/40 clock hour course begins and ends in Vancouver, BC, June 22-28, 2008, with three nights spent in Whistler. I'm admittedly biased about the program but others clearly think highly of it as well--participants rated STUDY CANADA a remarkable 4.96 out of 5!

The registration cost of \$550 per participant/companion *includes* tuition, expert instruction, 5-nights hotel accommodation, 5 breakfasts, round-trip Vancouver-Whistler transportation, and a wealth of resources for teaching! There are several scholarship and travel awards available to registrants so be sure to gather more details about this excellent professional development opportunity at www.k12studycanada.org/scsi.shtml.

2) MINNESOTA WORKSHOP - THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD: CANADA & THE U.S. – This 2-day workshop, presented by the Minnesota Humanities Center and the Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education with support from the Consulate General of Canada, Minneapolis, will be held on January 14-15 at the Minnesota Humanities Center in St. Paul, MN. The workshop will help dispel misconceptions about Canada while enhancing lessons in geography, history, and economics. Presenters will include representatives from the Consulate General of Canada, area educators with ideas for incorporating information about Canada into the classroom, and Nadine Fabbi, Assistant Director of the University of Washington's [Canadian Studies Center](http://www.cscs.washington.edu/). The \$145 cost includes materials, continental breakfasts, lunches, and overnight accommodations. To learn more about this professional development opportunity, please visit www.minnesotahumanities.org/Teachers/seminars.htm.

3) ALL CLASSES THROUGH GLOBAL GLASSES (7TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL STUDIES SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE) – This conference, held at the Westin Northwest Chicago on February 7-9, offers a wonderful opportunity to learn more about a wide variety of critical global issues for classroom study. The two National Resource Centers for Canada (Tina Storer, WWU, and Betsy Arntzen, UMaine) will present a session called "North American Stewardship: Canadian and American Approaches". Please visit <http://www.du.edu/issa/2008ISSAConference.html> for program, hotel, and registration details.

4) IEPS INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FORUM – On February 22-23, the US Department of Education, International Education Programs Service, will host leading professionals from around the country at a conference that will discuss issues and explore solutions to some of the key challenges facing the international education community. Representatives from federal, state and local government, business leaders, educators and administrators from all levels will attend the forum at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, Washington D.C. For online registration or more information please visit <http://www.iepsforum.org>.

5) NEW NCSS NETWORK - THE "CANADA COMMUNITY" - Did you know that the National Council for the Social Studies has an exciting new way for its members with common interests to connect? "NCSS Communities" draw together educators with similar interests and, by subscribing to one or more, educators like you can interact with others to discuss current topics, seek advice and share knowledge. Visit <http://communities.ncss.org> to subscribe to the Canada Community (and other groups that may interest you like the International Activities Community, World History Community, or Curriculum Community. NCSS "Special Interest Groups" and several former committees are now part of the Communities structure. *Please note: You **must** be a member of NCSS to register for a user account.*

The step-by-step process to join the NCSS Canada Community is:

- 1) Go to <http://communities.ncss.org/communities/canada>
- 2) You will note on the grey-colored navigation bar to the left, it reads "You must register/login in order to post into this group." Click on "register" to set up a "user account" (but then login on future visits). You will need to have your 5-digit NCSS membership number on hand to enroll.
- 3) Once you have registered for an account, the NCSS Communities Team will email you a one-time login password that you will change to a permanent one.
- 4) Please note that when you re-set your password, you can also personalize settings to include a photo and select preferences that allow you to minimize (always/never/selectively) the number of email notifications that get sent to you.
- 5) Once you have re-set your password, visit the Communities Page and click on "subscribe" to join any/all groups that interest you. Once you've subscribed to the Canada Community, you will be sent a brief message by my colleague and friend, Betsy Arntzen, University of Maine, to welcome you to the group.

6) SERENDIPITY 2008 - CELEBRATION OF FIRST NATIONS WRITERS & ILLUSTRATORS OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS - We are excited, and hope you will be too, about Serendipity 2008, the Celebration of First Nations Writers and Illustrators of Children's books. The form is also available on the VCLR website <http://www.library.ubc.ca/edlib/table/>

7) SIX NEW NFB FILMS BY ABORIGINAL FILMMAKERS - Six NFB films premiered at the 2007 Dreamspeakers Film Festival in Edmonton. *Aboriginality*, an innovative new film which combines live-action and animation; *His Guidance*; *Hooked Up: NDN's On Line*; *Walking Alone* and *Two-Spirited* (produced through the Northwest Centre's *First Stories: Alberta* program, a training initiative for emerging Aboriginal filmmakers); and *Flight From Darkness*, the story of Dene man Percy Paul and his dazzling rise and fall as a brilliant mathematician. Visit the National Film Board of Canada's website at www.nfb.ca to learn about these and other films about Canada and communities of First Nations people.

8) RESOURCE GATEWAY TO LEARNING ABOUT CANADA'S ABORIGINAL PEOPLES - This updated page brings together the most useful articles, maps, reference material and external links on Aboriginal peoples in Canada. <http://www.statcan.ca/english/kits/courses/abst1.htm> or <http://www.statcan.ca/english/edu> > Quick links: Resources by School Subject > Aboriginal Studies

9) CANADIAN RECIPE OF THE MONTH - This recipe considers Canada-US history and offers a nice way to warm-up winter mornings. Enjoy!

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

The first leavened breads rose through the actions of yeast naturally occurring on the grains and in the air. Before the advent of modern yeast packaging methods, people wanting to bake bread would keep a "starter" containing a proven yeast strain. Prospectors in the San Francisco Gold Rush discovered that their starters were unusually tangy, and the term "sourdough" was born. The name was soon applied to the prospectors themselves, and they brought both their starters and the name along to subsequent gold rushes in Canada. The conditions of the Klondike were so harsh that the North-West Mountain Police would not allow anyone over the Chilkoot Pass without a year's worth of provisions. Because it could breathe life into the most meager supplies during a time when food was even more important than money, sourdough was extremely valuable to these prospectors, and it is still popular as a leavening agent today.

Ingredients:

Quick Sourdough starter:
1 cup (250 ml) water
1 cup (250 ml) unbleached flour
½ tsp (2 ml) active dry yeast

Sourdough Hotcakes:

2 cups (500 ml) sourdough starter (see above)
1½ (375 ml) unbleached or whole wheat flour
2 Tbsp (30 ml) sugar, maple syrup, or honey
3 Tbsp (45ml) oil
2 eggs
½ tsp (2ml) sea salt
1 tsp (5ml) baking powder
1 tsp (5ml) baking soda diluted in 1 T water

Directions:

Quick Sourdough starter: The night before you plan to make hotcakes, mix ingredients well and set out on a countertop in a draft-free area, allowing starter time to develop its characteristic sour taste.

(Remaining starter can be left on counter for future use; it is best stored at 65 to 77°F (18 to 25° C). To strengthen and "feed" starter, and ¼ cup (60 ml) water and ½ cup (60 ml) flour every second day.)

Sourdough Hotcakes:

Preheat griddle or pan to medium-high heat.
Mix ingredients, except soda, together.
Gently fold in soda and cook cakes right away so as to not lose soda's leavening effect.
Serve hot with your favorite condiments [...maple syrup, of course!]

10) Ruth Writer's Canadian Literature Review: Michael Crummey. *The Wreckage*. Toronto: Anchor Canada, 2005. [ISBN 0 385 66061 8] 356 pages.

This novel by the author of *River Thieves* [reviewed here in November 2005] is an intriguing look at how prejudice, love, hatred, and war can intersect and shape individual lives. Crummey uses a remote Newfoundland outpost and World War II as the focus for this absorbing novel.

There are three main characters whose lives intertwine. Mercedes, known as Sadie, is a Protestant young girl living on a remote Little Fogo Island off Newfoundland in a traditional fishing village. Aloysious and his boss Hiram visit her village. The two men earn a living by showing popular films in outports of Newfoundland, which was not yet part of Canada. The third major character is Nishino, a Japanese Canadian from British Columbia. How these three interact in a story that spans over fifty years is *The Wreckage*.

Aloysious, commonly known as Wish, is Catholic. He had Sadie fall in love during a brief but intense encounter in the summer of 1940. Prejudice and tragedy interrupt their relationship, finally severed due to World War II. Crummey leads the reader through events near Nagasaki in 1945 where Wish and Nishino collide in a POW camp. We also learn of the events on Newfoundland during the same years. American servicemen such as Johnny Boustani and their Canadian counterparts live, love, and work on this last stop before crossing the Atlantic.

Sadie left her village, rejected her family, and moved to St. John. There she waited for her love, Wish, who had joined the British army. She waited only to learn of Wish's death at the end of the war. She then begins a new life with Johnny and moves to Boston.

Fifty years later Sadie visits her homeland for the first time since she departed to spread her husband's ashes. There she discovers Wish had not died, nor did their love.

Crummey's novel is a raw look at a time and place far removed from Canada today. Very readable and enjoyable, I highly recommend *The Wreckage* on a list of Canadian fiction for your holiday reading.

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