

MARCH 2009 E-RESOURCE NOTICE

Greetings!

I hope this month's resource notice finds you all turning the corner in terms of both local weather and classroom progress. I've identified several new resources and opportunities below that I hope will assist with topics that connect to Canada (and Québec in particular this month),

I also wanted to remind you in advance of registration deadlines about **two** fabulous professional development opportunities this summer. I have previously mentioned the **31st Annual STUDY CANADA Summer Institute** in Vancouver and Whistler, BC, (June 21-26) but I wanted to also draw your attention now to the "**Lake Champlain: Charting a New North America**" Summer Institute for K-12 Professionals organized by the Northeast NRC on Canada (July 5-11). Details about both programs are identified (with further links) on the K-12 STUDY CANADA calendar at www.k12studycanada.org/calendar.asp.

Please contact me [tina.storer@wwu.edu] regarding STUDY CANADA or Betsy Arntzen [barntzen@umit.maine.edu] regarding the Lake Champlain workshop. Both of us would be glad to hold a spot for interested registrants from this listerv. Best wishes to all. Tina Storer

Please ensure your server accepts group messages and notify me if you are receiving duplicate notices or wish to be removed from the Canada Listserv. WWU and UW jointly perform K-12 STUDY CANADA outreach as a US Department of Education-funded National Resource Center on Canada in the US. Annual Embassy of Canada grants also provide support.

1) **EXPLANATORY MAP OF CHAMPLAIN'S JOURNEYS**

They Would Not Take Me There; People, Places and Stories from Champlain's Travels in Canada, 1603-1616
[ISBN 978-0615-23159-4]

This exciting new color map, produced by the Canadian-American Center at the University of Maine, illustrates the travels of Samuel de Champlain as he explored Canada between 1603 and 1616. During those thirteen years, Champlain made seven trips into the interior, forging trade alliances with multiple tribes, accompanying them in their wars against the Iroquois, building Québec, and collecting geographic information for his maps and journals. Although Champlain's attention encompassed a range of economic, religious, and colonial interests, his written accounts suggest a personal passion for finding the connection between the St. Lawrence River and what is now James Bay. He was never taken there, however, by his native contacts and was instead drawn further into Canada's interior.

Drawing on Champlain's journals, Bruce G. Trigger's ethno historical Huron study, ***The Children of Aataentsic: A History of the Huron People to 1660***, and numerous linguistic and geographical references, this cartographic work weaves together Native and non-Native experiences, negotiations, and strategies in the years before the creation of Québec City and New France. Unlike regular maps, this one invites viewers to follow the blue ribbons of his routes, upriver and over land to read stories told through a combination of Champlain's voice from his journals, Native voices in an imagined dialogue, and the cartographers' voice. Contemporary, French, and Native place names from the Cayuga, Montagnais, Algonquin, Western Abenaki, Mi'kmaq, and Wendat named places are also included. Five sequential cartographic insets tell stories with greater depth for Tadoussac, Québec City, Montreal, Morrison Island, and the Penatanguishene Peninsula.

The map has English on one side and a *version français de l'autre côté*. The large color folding map measures 39" x 59" (flat) and is available rolled or folded to an 8" x 10" size. For additional details and ordering information, Visit www.umaine.edu/canam/cartography/Champlain.html.

Please consider attending the workshop in July as well! Contact barntzen@umit.maine.edu.

2) **NEW FRANCE LESSON PLAN**

Dive into the history of New France! Learn about the role of New France as an integral part of Canadian heritage and, consequently, an important component of Canadian history. This lesson plan is designed for social studies students in intermediate grades 6-9. The lesson aims to develop an understanding of the roots and culture of French Canada during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries including Native-French relations. Students get to use primary sources, research methods and apply concepts and skills in various contexts. Check out the full lesson plan here: http://epe.lac-bac.gc.ca/100/205/301/ic/cdc/history_units/kat-nfra/nfra_intro.htm

3) FILM NEWS: THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE

Ce qu'il faut pour vivre Directed By: Benoit Pilon (Canada, 2008, 102 minutes)

Oscar-nominated best foreign film, *The Necessities of Life*, is a beautiful film portrait of the life of an Inuit man, named Tivii. Afflicted with TB, Tivii is torn away from his home above the tree line and taken to a sanitarium in Québec to recover. Tivii feels isolated and alone. Unable to communicate with those around him, he has all but given up on life. Concerned about Tivii's health, a nurse arranges for an orphaned Inuit boy named Joseph to be transferred to the hospital to help keep Tivii company. They become fast friends and Joseph helps Tivii adjust to hospital life and living in Québec by often serving as a translator. Tivii returns the favor by teaching young Joseph about traditional Inuit customs and myths to reconnect the young boy with his own cultural heritage. The film gives an in-depth look at interesting and provocative issues relating to culture-clash in Canadian life.

4) VOICES OF CANADA TEXTBOOK

Voices of Canada: People, Places, and Possibilities, Pearson Education Canada, 2006 [ISBN 978-0-13-198718-0]

Voices of Canada is a wonderful new series of textbooks available for Grades K-6 that were specifically written to align with Alberta Education's curriculum guidelines. Alberta's curriculum, as evidenced at the NCSS conference in Houston last November, exhibits cutting-edge pedagogy that applies critical inquiry approaches to learning and considers multiple perspectives of Canadian peoples. *Many Voices* is a flexible, and multi-component resource that can work well in American classrooms, too.

Visit www.pearsoned.ca/school/manyvoices/index.html to access grade level links to see the supporting documents provided for this series as well as the Grade 8 textbook **Worldviews: Contact and Change**. Year plans, web links, combined grades, and religious values documents are just a click away! Choose your grade of interest from the menu offered on the left and consider the potential usefulness as an addition to your classroom and school or district library.

5) OUR CANADA MAGAZINE

Canadians have a magazine called **Our Canada** published by Reader's Digest that celebrates their nation and the people who proudly call it their home. Every issue brings Canadians from across the country together in it's pages to share stories and pictures, memories and recipes...everything that makes them and their little piece of this country who and what they are! A one-year subscription to *Our Canada* (6 bi-monthly issues) sent to the US costs \$39.96 CAD including postage and handling. Unfortunately, there is no *free* online version as there is for *Canadian Geographic* [a favorite of mine that I've mentioned before – see www.canadiangeographic.ca/magazine/jf09/default.asp]

If interested, you can send a request by fax to the Foreign Subscriptions Department at: 514-940-3637. To learn more about the magazine and its contents, visit <http://space.canoe.ca/group/ourcanada/>

6) 2010 OLYMPIC LESSON PLANS

The British Columbia, Ministry of Education has set up a wonderful website chalk full of lesson plans and other resources for Teachers interested in teaching about the 2010 Olympics. The data base can be searched by subject, keyword, and grade, and is therefore an awesome resource for all teachers. You can even submit your own lesson plans for others to use. The website includes lesson starters, student webcasts and much more! www.sharingthedream.gov.bc.ca/search.php

7) TEACHER RESOURCES FOR 2010 OLYMPICS

The city of Vancouver has compiled a list of On-line teacher resources related to Olympic and Paralympic Games, as well as the three Vancouver 2010 pillars of sport, culture and sustainability. All of these useful resources have been compiled with Educators in mind, and make great supplements to units or lessons on the 2010 Olympics. www.vancouver2010.com/en/culture-and-education/education/useful-resources/-/33984/qreycs/index.html

8) ARMCHAIR EXCURSION TO CANADA

"Armchair Excursions to Canada" are regularly featured in *Our Canada* Magazine at www.ourcanada.ca/2008/12/happy_trails.php. I will include samples occasionally within this resource because

they can inspire learning about Canada's regions and connect to students through the activities discussed on the website each month. Activities include a wide range of events that let you explore Canada's landscape such as cave spelunking in Alberta, white water rafting in Saskatchewan, or visiting the flow edge in Nunavut. The Excursions are not just limited to explorations of nature; you can also experience culture and history through attendance of a powwow in Ontario, a historical boat ride in Nova Scotia, or visit a historical site like Grosse Ile in Quebec. These excursions are good launching points for teaching about many important aspects of Canadian regions, history and culture....

Québec - Grosse Île, the island near Québec City where thousands of immigrants were quarantined before being allowed to enter Canada, was officially recognized as a National Historic Site in 1984. Today you can visit its historic buildings and sites, and get a sense of the immigration experience during the island's 100-year history as this country's main port of entry.

Colonial authorities set up the quarantine station at Grosse Île in an attempt to stop disease from spreading. In the mid-19th century, immigrants began arriving in unprecedented numbers, many of them fleeing the potato famine in Ireland. Already weak from hunger and sickness, many died on their way across the Atlantic, while many more died in quarantine on Grosse Île. A giant stone Celtic cross, on the highest point of the island, honors the memory of those who perished during the typhus epidemic of 1847, the worst year in the island's history. Visitors to the island can also seek out their ancestors' names on the Irish Memorial. Erected in 1998, the memorial bears the names of all the people buried on the island that officials were able to identify. The history of Grosse Île, at once both grim and fascinating, is a chapter in Canada's history well worth revisiting. Explore Grosse Île and the Irish Memorial National Historic Site further at www.pc.qc.ca.

9) **CANADIAN RECIPE OF THE MONTH**

Mom's "Famous" *Sucre à la crème* (Recipe by Noella Lafond - From the family cookbook *Blessings* by Yvette Sabourin)

This month's recipe was shared by Connie Wyatt Anderson (Canadian teacher in La Paz, MB and board member of the CCGE). The recipe has been a '*secret de famille*' of the Sabourin family of Ste. Jean Baptiste, Manitoba, for many generations. I am honored that Connie procured the recipe from family members for me to share this way.

Background: Connie's sister is married to a French-Canadian and they live in southern Manitoba. Connie pointed out that, as a matter of interest, Manitoba has a significant percent of French-Canadians ("Franco-Manitobans") clustered in several small towns south of Winnipeg. [See http://www.franco-manitobain.org/index_eng.html to learn more about them.] Every year Connie's sister's mother-in-law sends a tin of carefully packaged *sucre à la crème* as a Christmas gift and it is a real treat. According to the mother-in-law, the recipe has been privately passed through generations of their family. Now that the secret is out to this quintessential French-Canadian recipe, I hope you all try it and appreciate this simple but absolutely delicious winter treat!

Ingredients:

6 cups brown sugar
Pinch of salt
4 cups whipping cream
2 tsp. vanilla
6 heaping tbsp. corn
syrup
1 ¼ cups Spanish
peanuts

Directions:

- Put all the ingredients above in big saucepan except for vanilla and peanuts. Bring to a boil, bring down heat to medium low, but keep it boiling. Stir often.
- To check if it is cooked...take a small bowl & fill it with cold water. Add a tsp. of mixture and, if it holds together, it is ready.
- Put saucepan in the sink and beat with a hand mixer until the mixture gets thicker. It will be shiny at first and then it will quickly change texture (it will lose its shine and will become more granular to the taste).
- Quickly add vanilla & Spanish peanuts with a wooden spoon. Just mix and put in greased 9"X13" pan.
- Cool and serve.

10) **RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF CANADIAN LITERATURE**

Champlain's Dream by David Hackett Fischer (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2008). ISBN 1-4165- 9332-2

As I look out the window, more snow is accumulating on the foot of snow we got yesterday and I hear snow blowers clearing the drive. We need to get some groceries at the nearby one-stop store since the forecast calls

for sub-zero temperatures and substantial winds. Having just finished *Champlain's Dream*, a biography of Samuel de Champlain, all of these tasks and concerns seem quite trouble-free and undemanding.

Champlain's Dream provides incredible insight to the world of the Father of New France. Fischer delves into the family history and explains the unique relationship between Champlain and King Henri IV. Champlain's family welcomed his birth in Brouage, a vital center of Atlantic trade. There he grew to love the sea and the stories brought by those who journeyed beyond the horizon.

Champlain crossed this Atlantic horizon twenty-seven times as he pleaded for support from the rich, powerful, and famous of France. Prior to exploring the New World, Champlain served as a soldier in Brittany. Then he spied for France in the Spanish colonies using his expertise as a cartographer.

His first exploration of Acadia in 1603 was quickly followed by an early but ill-fated settlement at Sainte Croix. Always the explorer, Champlain sought a better venue for future settlement as he traveled southward along what was to become the New England coast. Upon his recommendation, the French men founded Port Royal in 1605, staying in this Acadian area until 1607.

The following summer Champlain founded Québec at the narrowing of the St. Lawrence. Fischer recounts the harrowing winter where neither Goretex nor Thinsulate or even snow blowers existed. This past summer Québec City and the entire province fêted its four-hundredth birthday with a huge celebration.

For the next twenty-seven years Champlain would build New France, lose it to the English, only to realize his dream after regaining the colony. Hackett writes of these years with compassion and unique perspectives. Readers will come to understand the relationship Champlain had with his peoples of Québec, the land, and the river itself. Fischer sheds new light on the bond between the forty-year-old founder and his pre-teen bride.

David Hackett Fischer won the Pulitzer Prize for *Washington's Crossing*. In *Champlain's Dream*, he writes a wonderful, readable description of life in early New France. He includes a diversity of biographies in addition to Champlain's by including the story of the first farm family that of Louis Hebert as well as Etienne Brulé and other young teens sent into the wilderness to learn of the Native culture. The encounters with Natives receive rich description as well in this excellent biography of the Father of New France. It is much appreciated that Fischer directed his pen to pivotal moments in Canadian history that strongly impacted the development of North America.