

## SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2009 E-Resource Notice

**Welcome** back everyone, especially all educators new to this listserv. I hope that by sending this resource notice a bit later than usual, you are settled in and ready to dig into the resources identified here. The number of emails that teachers receive can be overwhelming so I have decided to send these messages out only once every two months. Rest assured, however, that you will receive just as many tips as before. If new to this listserv, you can also view past resource notices at [www.k12studycanada.org](http://www.k12studycanada.org) (under the K-12 News tab). I'd like to announce a few items before you get to the list of resources though.

First, I wanted to point out that the K-12 STUDY CANADA website now offers a search tool to find specific topic-related information on the site thanks to our current webmaster, Lucas Naylor. Perhaps you'd like to sign up to use one of our teacher loan-kits or view curriculum created by STUDY CANADA Summer Institute participants? The search tool will help you explore all the resources that our National Resource Center on Canada offers online.

I'd also like to announce that the **2010 STUDY CANADA (Experience BC From the 5 Themes of Geography to the 2010 Olympics)** will be the last program held in Vancouver and Whistler, BC. If you've been hoping to attend while offered in these locations, this is your last chance. If interested, let me know and I will add you to my shortlist for the 20 available spaces. Registration opens on **November 1** and we are expecting it to fill quickly since we are offering a reduced registration fee of \$500 and making Canada in the Classroom Awards of \$100-\$400 available to teachers nationwide. These new details and registration forms will be uploaded soon online, too.

And finally, I wanted to mention two calendar items you might not be familiar with. One is that October 1 marks the beginning of Women's History Month in Canada. Merna Forster's book **100 Canadian Heroines: Famous and Forgotten Faces** can help carry the celebration over into your own classroom. For an indication of how inspiring the stories are for middle/high school students, visit [www.heroines.ca/about/100canadianheroines.html](http://www.heroines.ca/about/100canadianheroines.html). The other news is that the Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) begins today through October 16. An impressive 377 movies will be screened, including 89 Canadian films! It's a wonderful opportunity to view world cinema for those who live in the Pacific Northwest.

**Please ensure your server accepts these notifications as bouncebacks are eventually dropped.  
Please notify me if you receive duplicate notices or wish to be removed from the Canada Listserv.**

**Western Washington University and University of Washington jointly perform K-12 STUDY CANADA outreach as a US Department of Education-funded National Resource Center on Canada with additional support from the Embassy of Canada.**

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### **1) FIFTH ANNUAL QUÉBEC WORKSHOP FOR FRENCH TEACHERS**

*Culture, politique et diversité du Québec comme sources d'inspiration dans la didactique de la langue française*

This workshop will be offered on Saturday, October 24 (9am-3:30pm) in the University Club conference room at the University of Washington in Seattle. Presentations will be conducted **in French** and attendance is open to educators and students in teaching certificate or French-language programs. Presenters include Dr. Thierry Giasson (Université Laval), Karen Boschker (University of Washington), and Louis Léger, an elementary school teacher expert in French-Canadian traditional music. The non-refundable registration fee is \$45 (\$20 for University of Washington students) and includes continental breakfast, lunch, parking / bus passes, materials, and six (6) clock hours. For additional information, please visit <http://jsis.washington.edu/canada> or contact the UW Canadian Studies Center at [canada@u.washington.edu](mailto:canada@u.washington.edu) / (206) 221-6374.

### **2) UPCOMING K-12 STUDY CANADA RESOURCE EXHIBITS**

I will be attending the following conferences this fall and invite all to stop by the K-12 STUDY CANADA exhibit table to say hello and gather many of our resources on site. I hope you can attend presentations\* on Canada by myself, other NRC outreach staff and K-12 STUDY CANADA teacher-associates.

- o Friday, Oct. 9: Oregon Council for the Social Studies (Salem, OR) [www.oregonsocialstudies.org](http://www.oregonsocialstudies.org)
- o Friday, Oct. 9: Canada-America Society: Canada Gala (Seattle, WA) [www.canada-americasociety.org/Gala.html](http://www.canada-americasociety.org/Gala.html)
- o Sat., Oct. 10: Washington State Council for the Social Studies\* (Edmonds, WA) [www.wscss.org](http://www.wscss.org)
- o Nov. 13-15: National Council for the Social Studies\* (Atlanta, GA) [www.socialstudies.org/conference](http://www.socialstudies.org/conference)

### 3) [K12STUDYCANADA.ORG'S TOP TEN LINKS](#)

We recently updated our own "Top Ten" resources [see [www.k12studycanada.org/links.asp](http://www.k12studycanada.org/links.asp)] to include one of the sites I mentioned to you last year:

- The Great Mysteries in Canadian History site at [www.canadianmysteries.ca](http://www.canadianmysteries.ca). The award-winning site invites students to join a team of historians who been trying to solve some REAL historical "cold cases" -- old crimes in which the guilty ones walked, and even more insidious crimes where a whole village may have been complicit. There are other mysteries too, about unusual cases from the Viking age to the Klondike Gold Rush. There are currently 12 cases to choose from and I have yet to see a more enticing way to get students involved in history!
- The Canadian Social Studies Super Site at [www.ualberta.ca/~jkirman/](http://www.ualberta.ca/~jkirman/) offers a limited annotated list of quality websites for Canadian social studies educators, and those interested in Canada [like you]. All sites are carefully examined for their quality and use. This is also the companion website for the textbook *Elementary Social Studies: Creative Classroom Ideas* by Dr. Joseph M Kirman (University of Alberta). I am pleased to introduce this gateway to Canadian educators to American educators as well!

### 4) [HISTORY vs GEOGRAPHY](#)

Be sure to bookmark <http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/Atlas> where Canadian Geographic and the Atlas of Canada Online have created a wonderfully packaged storehouse of information on Canada that asks users to consider how History believes Canada would be a vast wasteland without him while Geography insists he provides the natural building blocks on which Canada was founded. Of course, the two are intrinsically connected but, now that History has been added to all the maps, geographical themes, feature articles, games and quizzes on the site[and information about "The People" at <http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/Atlas/themes.aspx?id=first&lang=En> ], it's a fun way for students to explore Canada.

### 5) [GEOGRAPHY CURRICULA FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS](#)

[http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/learningresources/lesson\\_plans/index2.html](http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/learningresources/lesson_plans/index2.html) offers a downloadable collection of 39 lesson plans, for junior, middle and senior levels, designed for use with *The Atlas of Canada's* freely available online maps and resources. All lesson plans are based on provincial and territorial curricula and the Canadian Geography Standards of the Canadian Council for Geographic Education.

### 6) [FRENCH QUARTER AT THE 2010 WINTER OLYMPICS and OLYMPICS FOR YOUR](#)

Those of you lucky enough to attend the Olympic Games in Vancouver/Whistler next February will be delighted to know that part of Granville Island will become a lively French Quarter celebrating francophone culture. There will be tourism exhibitions, street entertainment, a farmers' market and a long lineup of French-Canadian entertainers. See the article at [www.vancouversun.com/business/French+Quarter+Granville+Island/2027563/story.html](http://www.vancouversun.com/business/French+Quarter+Granville+Island/2027563/story.html) .

In related news, I hope your classrooms/schools are planning something special for the event. Some ideas and curricula can be found at the following sites:

- **Canadian Olympic School Program** [www.olympicschool.ca](http://www.olympicschool.ca)  
Presented by RBC, this site offers free downloadable lesson plans, interactive components, contests at various levels and stories about Olympians. This Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) initiative engages students between grades 2 and 12. Elementary curriculum focuses on literacy (through a series of Olympian stories) and numeracy (through a financial literacy project pack). *Our Olympian* stories focus on the Olympic Values of excellence, fairness, respect and leadership. Secondary 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.
- **Canadian Paralympic Committee, It's The Real Deal** [www.paralympiceducation.ca/Content/home.asp](http://www.paralympiceducation.ca/Content/home.asp)  
This site has a variety of education resources behind a free, secure login. It includes a teachers-only discussion board and extensive sets of printable lessons by age level and subject area.
- **International Olympic Committee** [www.olympic.org](http://www.olympic.org)  
As the official website of the Olympic Movement, this is a great source for engaging materials and information items. The site presents up-to-the-minute news feeds and permanent files such as Olympic Express, an 'e-journal' for young people worldwide.
- **K-12 STUDY CANADA Lesson Plans about 2010** [www.k12studycanada.org/resources\\_lesson\\_plans.asp](http://www.k12studycanada.org/resources_lesson_plans.asp)

- **Canada Games!** [www.canadagames.ca/Content/PathWays/Canada%20Games%20Days.asp?langid=1](http://www.canadagames.ca/Content/PathWays/Canada%20Games%20Days.asp?langid=1)  
This site offers detailed instructions and handy tips on how to plan and host a Canada Games Day - a full day of sporting activities mirroring the excitement, challenge and camaraderie of the Canada Games. Geared for 4 -14 year old participants, teams represent Canada's provinces and territories while playing unique sport activities, entertaining Canadian trivia and earning special awards. *Catch the Spirit - Canada Games Day Kit* (\$19.95- \$10 if ordered online!) You can use this model to host the Olympics at your school.

## 7) **FUN GAMES AND WORKSHEETS ABOUT CANADA** (Elementary - Middle School)

Histor!ca and teAchnology are two sites that offer K-12 educators fun ways to learn about Canada through games. When looking for the occasional diversion or reward, visit their sites for ideas: [www.histori.ca/default.do;jsessionid=B084DFEA351884D7B4E4A626C960C264.tomcat1?page=tl\\_games](http://www.histori.ca/default.do;jsessionid=B084DFEA351884D7B4E4A626C960C264.tomcat1?page=tl_games) and [www.teach-nology.com/worksheets/country/canada](http://www.teach-nology.com/worksheets/country/canada).

## 8) **CANADA YEARBOOK ONLINE** (intermediate – secondary)

*The Canada Year Book 2008*, is now online at [http://www.statcan.gc.ca/kits-trousses/edu01a\\_0000-eng.htm](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/kits-trousses/edu01a_0000-eng.htm). It is a fabulous reference tool for information on Canada's society and economy, written in accessible, plain language. Its articles, which include links to charts and tables, describe the latest trends in 31 current topics, including population, children and youth, families, energy, government, health, as well as ethnic diversity and immigration. *The Canada Year Book* is popular with secondary students and a useful reference for teachers of intermediate grades. If you prefer a print version of the *Canada Year Book 2008*, a 30% discount for educators is available at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/ads-annonces/11-402-x/6000477-eng.htm>.

## 9) **POSTER ACTIVITY: WHAT IS A CANADIAN/AMERICAN?** (Middle-High School)

Exploring how the media represents Americans and Canadians around the world is an excellent way for middle and high school students to deconstruct national stereotypes and explore bias. A Canadian teacher named Kate Woods designed a collage activity for her Grade 12 English Media class and shares it online at [www.lessonplanspage.com/LAOArtWhatIsCanadianOrAmerican-CopeWithTerrorism-FlagIndependenceDay712.htm](http://www.lessonplanspage.com/LAOArtWhatIsCanadianOrAmerican-CopeWithTerrorism-FlagIndependenceDay712.htm). It is a 5-day activity that can be part of any media or Canada unit or offered as an extension of study.

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

*The Day the World Came to Town* by Jim Defede (New York: Regan Books, 2002.) ISBN 0-06-051360-8.

I have visited Ground Zero in New York City, the Pentagon and a lonely windswept field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. I recall the first plane over my home when flights resumed. I will always remember 9-11 and how I responded on a personal level. Although, like me, all adults recall the tragic events of September 11, 2001, few students remember that day. Current students in their final year of high school were only in fourth grade that day. They need to be educated on the way the world came together in the hours following the eventful day.

Jim Defede has written a wonderful account of over three dozen planes crossing the Atlantic when word came to land in Gander, Newfoundland. Since U.S. airspace closed quickly, Gander was their best option. A town on an island reaching into the Atlantic, Gander was little prepared for the thousands of visitors who came to town.

"Newfoundlanders live like a people under siege. Isolated on an island and powerless against the harshness of the weather, they have learned to count on one another for survival," wrote Defede. They knew well how to open their homes and community to those also seeking survival that September day.

Over 40,000 people were diverted to airports across Canada, but Gander's 10,000 welcomed over 6,500 to their town. This is the story of their hospitality. It is the story of those who were traveling home and those traveling to new lands, those on business and those who were vacationing, and the people who were doing their routine duties on a Tuesday morning. It is the story of sharing homes, schools, meals, and friendships which will last a lifetime.

By reading this account, one will be warmed by the outpouring of support by the small town. We well know many of the stories in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Shanksville. *The Day the World Came to Town* will allow readers to share in one of the more positive events of 9-11.