

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2011 E-RESOURCE NOTICE

Welcome back to school (and *welcome aboard the Canada Listserv* for those who signed up at the NCGE conference in Portland last August)! Now that you've settled into your classrooms, below are some suggested resources, information and curricula that will help you teach (and students learn) more about Canada.

Just as there was a National Resource Centers on Canada Exhibit at NCGE, there will also be an exhibit booth at the upcoming National Council for the Social Studies conference in Washington, D.C. (December 1-4). Please be sure to say hello to us in Booth #532 in "International Alley". The conference will also offer many opportunities for teachers to enhance connections to Canada in classrooms and for social studies supervisors to recognize the importance of including Canada in state curricula. A full schedule of "Canada at NCSS" sessions/meetings/events is available to view/download at [www.k12studycanada.org/files/calendar/Canada at NCSS Schedule 2011.pdf](http://www.k12studycanada.org/files/calendar/Canada%20at%20NCSS%20Schedule%202011.pdf). Advance registration for a special pre-conference clinic is mentioned in Item 1 below.

I look forward to seeing many of you at NCSS and--as always--I hope the following resources prove to be both useful and inspiring! Best wishes. Tina

Please ensure your server accepts messages and notify me if you receive duplicate notices or wish to be removed from the Listserv. Western Washington University and University of Washington jointly perform K-12 STUDY CANADA outreach as a U.S. Department of Education-funded National Resource Center for Canada in the US. Annual Embassy of Canada grants also provide support.

1. REGISTER NOW FOR THE CANADA CLINIC AT NCSS

You are cordially invited to register for the NCSS pre-conference clinic "Canada: Looking Beyond the 49th Parallel" being hosted by the Embassy of Canada (501 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC) on Thursday, December 1 (8:30am-3pm). This full-day clinic will provide educators with an opportunity to gain insight on Canada and methods for teaching about our closest ally and partner in the world's largest trading relationship. Content will focus on history, geography, government, economics and culture with instruction and curriculum resources provided by US National Resource Centers on Canada and Embassy of Canada officials. Presenters include: Dr. Daniel Abele [Embassy of Canada], Dr. Christopher Kirkey and Amy Sotherden [SUNY Plattsburgh], Betsy Arntzen [University of Maine], Tina Storer [Western Washington University], Dean June [SUNY Geneseo] and Ruth Writer [Michigan State University]. The cost to register is \$15 for members/\$25 for non-members. Refreshments, lunch, and 8 clock hours are included. To register, please visit www.socialstudies.org/conference/clinics.

2. STUDY CANADA 2012 and TEACHER ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

It was a great experience hosting the 2011 STUDY CANADA Summer Institute --"A Capital View of Canada: Nations within a Nation"--in Ottawa, ON last summer. It received an "A" grade from the 22 participants from across the U.S. who attended and a full "report card" on the experience is available for viewing at www.k12studycanada.org/files/SCSI_2011/2011_Report_Card.pdf. I encourage anyone who has considered participation to register during the winter break as enrollment will be restricted to 20 teachers next year (July 3-7, 2012). Information about the program and registration forms are now posted at www.k12studycanada.org/scsi.html. Some travel and scholarship support is usually available to registered participants but is not yet confirmed for 2012. Check back as news will be posted online.

I'm also pleased to note that 18 of the 2011 program participants have offered to serve as K-12 STUDY CANADA Teacher Associates. Their names and contact info will be added soon. All of the teacher associates listed at www.k12studycanada.org/resources_teacher_associates.html are delighted to hear from others interested in teaching and learning about Canada and, since almost all are past participants of STUDY CANADA, will be glad to discuss their own workshop experience. Several will also be presenting at upcoming events such as the Colorado Council for the Social Studies fall conference (where the Consulate General of Canada, Denver, will also exhibit) and the South Carolina Middle School Conference. I hope many of you will have a chance to stop by and/or attend sessions to learn more about Canada from them.

3. **WAR OF 1812 TV SPECIAL AND LESSON PLANS**

2012 will mark the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 and to help prepare teachers for new historical perspectives of an event where both sides claimed victory, I will be sharing new curricula and resources all year.

The War of 1812: A small but bitter war – that forged the destiny of a continent will premiere on Monday, October 10 at 9 p.m. ET on PBS. It is a new 2-hour program for public broadcasting that explores the nearly 200-year old conflict. For two and a half years, Americans fought against the British, Canadian colonists, and native nations. In the years to come, the War of 1812 would be celebrated in some places and essentially forgotten in others. But it is a war worth remembering – a struggle that threatened the existence of Canada, then divided the United States so deeply that the nation almost broke apart. Some of its battles and heroes became legendary, yet its blunders and cowards were just as prominent. With stunning reenactments, evocative animation and the incisive commentary of key experts, *The War of 1812* presents the conflict that forged the destiny of a continent. [Visit www.pbs.org/wned/war-of-1812 to learn more about the show.]

To coincide with the TV program, I am pleased to recommend a set of lessons created by Katy Lapp (Social Studies Methods Instructor at Colorado College) after attending STUDY CANADA for the second time last July. “*The War of 1812: A Multiple Perspective Approach for the Bicentennial (Grades 6-12)*” is posted under “History” at www.k12studycanada.org/resources_lesson_plans.html. These lessons (3-4 classes) help students understand that there are “multiple perspectives relevant to the causes, conduct, and results of the War of 1812. The lessons...provide a way for student groups to engage in an in-depth investigation of the parties involved in the war and then as “experts” discuss relevant issues via a simulated interview following the Treaty of Ghent.”

4. **ATTENTION ELEMENTARY TEACHERS:**

Make exploring Canada fun in your classroom by visiting <http://colourcanada.com> [note that “colour” is not a typo]. I have listed some of the “colouring books” available on the website (below) as well as some of the QuickTime streaming videos. What a great way to transport students at any level to Canada (if only for a few minutes)! I also recommend viewing the digital photo collection at <http://colourcanada.com/gallery.html> or consider having students play the games at <http://colourcanada.com/games.html>. They enrich lesson plans and increase the “fun factor” for work well done. ☺

Coloring Books http://colourcanada.com/studio.html	QuickTime Streaming Videos http://colourcanada.com/video.html	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British Columbia • Alberta • Saskatchewan • Manitoba • Ontario • Quebec • New Brunswick • Nova Scotia • Prince Edward Island • Newfoundland • Yukon • Northwest Territories • Nunavut • Special Days • Maps • Greeting Cards • Project Central • 2010 Olympic Series • Festivals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mackenzie King Estate, Gatineau, QC 2.5 Mb • Cape Spear, Newfoundland 1.5 Mb • Bell Island Iron Mine, Newfoundland 2 Mb • Whistler Mountain, B.C. 3.2 Mb • Stanley Park, Vancouver, B.C. 3.8 Mb • Vancouver, British Columbia 6.2 Mb • Tofino and Ucluelet, B.C. 3.9 Mb • Cathedral Grove, B.C. 2.9 Mb • Canada Day 2010 Ottawa - 3.9 Mb • Sunbathing Turtles Ontario - 1.9 Mb • Sugar Bush (Maple Syrup) Ontario - 3.9 Mb • Fall Rhapsody Quebec - 1.6 Mb • Niagara Falls Ontario - 1.5 Mb • Canada Day Fireworks July 1, 2009 - 4.6 Mb • Canada Aviation Museum Ottawa, ON - 2.7 Mb • Walk in the Woods Ottawa, Ontario - 2.2 Mb • Hog's Back Falls Ottawa, Ontario - 1.2 Mb • Le Massif Charlevoix, Québec - 1.7 Mb 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Diefenbunker Carp, Ontario - 2.7 Mb • High Falls Algonquin Park, Ontario - 1.5 Mb • Ice Sculptures Winterlude - 1.6 Mb • New Year's 2007 Ottawa, ON - 2.8 Mb • Skating on Rideau Canal Ottawa - 1.2 Mb • L'Anse aux meadows Vikings, NF - 1.2 Mb • Whale Watching St. Anthony, NF - 2.6 Mb • Signal Hill St. John's, Newfoundland - 4.4 Mb • Gros Morne Newfoundland - 1.6 Mb • Louisbourg Nova Scotia - 2 Mb • Covered Bridge Hartland, NB- 4.6 Mb • Old Fort Henry Kingston, Ontario - 2.9 Mb • Parc Safari Hemmingford, Quebec - 5.2 Mb • Biodome Montreal, Quebec - 2.5 Mb • Quebec City Quebec - 2.1 Mb • Saguenay Region Quebec - 1 Mb • Gaspésie Quebec - 1 Mb • Ottawa Canada's Capital - 2.4 Mb

5. **VANCOUVER IN THE MOVIES**

Visit www.vancouversun.com/news/Video+Vancouver+filming+hotspots/5445262/story.html to learn about the top ten buildings used in movies filmed in Vancouver, B.C. (also known as “Hollywood North”). I thought this article would be of particular interest to those who have visited Vancouver before and/or attended STUDY CANADA when it was held in B.C (2006-2010). If you have never visited Vancouver, you will appreciate the videos that can be watched online...the next best thing to seeing all in person. Now everyone will notice Vancouver when watching TV series like *Smallville*, *The X-Files* and *V* as well as films like *Night at the Museum*, *X-Men* and *Double Jeopardy*.

6. **BEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD?**

Canadians are notoriously modest about their homeland but I'll gladly draw your attention to a recent study by the Reputation Institute that identifies Canada as the “best country” (followed by Sweden, Australia, Switzerland, and New Zealand) based on results from 42,000 respondents who assessed overall Trust, Esteem, Admiration and Good Feelings the public holds towards these countries, as well as their perceptions across 16 different attributes, including a *good quality of life*, a *safe place to live* and a *strong attention to their environment*.” It's interesting to note, too, that there was a “significant decrease in the average score of all countries measured, suggesting a growing cynicism people have towards countries, possibly due to recent developments in the world economy and a general loss of faith in politics worldwide.” You can read the full report at http://www.reputationinstitute.com/events/27_Sept_11_PR_Country_RepTrak_Results.pdf

7. **PROCESS OF WRITING HISTORICAL FICTION: THRESHOLD GIRL**

I was contacted this summer by Dorothy Nixon who has been researching background to 1910 era letters from a Quebec Family. She has completed the first draft of a book that re-imagines events in the letters by intertwining the mundane with the political in the life of a young girl in high school and invites others to read and respond to her work. *Threshold Girl* covers issues such as child labour laws that are still relevant though the setting is exactly 100 years ago. It is the first instalment of a three-part series—the other two other stories will be from the point of view of the central character's sisters... “covering eugenics and the Child Welfare Movement, the kind of stuff not found in history books.”

A pdf in ebook form is posted at www.tighsolas.ca/page10.pdf.pdf and it offers a rare opportunity for students to witness the writing process in action—especially since the original letters are posted online and students can read the original sources for Ms. Nixon's fictional work. Even when polished to perfection, the author will continue to offer it “Free for Classroom Use”.

8. **CANADIAN RECIPE OF THE MONTH: A REAL TASTE OF HISTORY**

This year, the recipes here will have a historical twist to them now that, to mark its 100th anniversary, Parks Canada has launched a mobile phone application, *Heritage Gourmet*, which offers more than 70 recipes tied to the country's historical landmarks, some dating back to the 18th century.

The “app” became available for FREE on July 28 at the iPhone App Store and the Android Market. A version for BlackBerry devices was expected to be released soon after. It allows users to search for recipes by ingredients, region of origin and time period (which is particularly useful if you're interested in throwing a 18th- or 19th-century-themed event in your classroom). Recipes are accompanied by photos and stories, and information about the historic site and people related to it. [Note: Recipes can also be accessed on the Parks Canada website, www.pc.gc.ca, but you may have to do a bit more searching to find them as I did.]

A special thanks to **Bill Belsey**, a middle school teacher outside Calgary, AB who first brought this news to my attention through a *Globe and Mail* article at www.theglobeandmail.com/life/food-and-wine/trends/trends-features/parks-canada-recipe-app-gives-you-a-real-taste-of-history/article2102534.

See this month's tempting recipe on the next page!

Orange Marmalade

This marmalade from Woodside National Historic Site in Kitchener, Ont., is also known as King Family's Marmalade, after the family of William Lyon Mackenzie King, in whose recipe collection it was found. It is especially tasty when made with Seville oranges. The recipe was tested by Chef David Fairbanks, Algonquin College School of Hospitality and Tourism. This recipe makes 1½-2 quarts (1½-2 liters).

Ingredients:

- 7 Seville oranges
- 2 lemons
- 8 pounds (3.7 kilograms) loaf sugar
- 8 pints (4 litres) cold water

Method:

- Cut the fruit into thin strips, removing only the pips.
- Put the fruit into a large mug or basin, cover with water and leave it until next day.
- Boil until the fruit is soft enough for the head of a pin to go through easily; add the sugar and boil until jellied – about 1 hr.

9. RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF CANADIAN LITERATURE

Note: The following titles concern the Acadian Expulsion of 1755 and referenced in Ruth's review which follows.

Evangeline: A Tale of Acadie by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (Fredericton, NB: Goose Lane Edition, 2004). Free online!

Evangeline: A Novel by Ben Farmer (New York: Overlook Press, 2011). ISBN 978-1590204375

Acadian Reminiscences: The True Story of Evangeline by Felix Voorhies (Boston: The Palmer Co., 1907) Free online!

Bones to Ashes by Kathy Reichs (New York: Pocket Star Books, 2007 - Originally published in 1992).

Evangeline: The Novel by Richard Mullins (Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing, 2010).

Perhaps one of the most famous women in Canadian history is Evangeline Bellefontaine, known only by her first name. Ironically, however, Evangeline is a fictional character [like Anne Shirley of Green Gables fame] though her character has been interwoven into the culture and history of Canada.

Longfellow first wrote of Evangeline in 1847 in his epic poem describing the Acadian Expulsion and the lives of those dispersed throughout North America. According to Yale historian John Mack Farragher, author of ***A Great and Noble Scheme: The Tragic Story of the Expulsion of the French Acadians from their American Homeland***, "[T]he poem struck a spark igniting a cultural and political renaissance among the small Acadian middle class that began to emerge in the second half of the nineteenth century." www.hwlongfellow.org/works_evangeline.shtml.

It has been almost 260 years since the British arrived at Grand Pré in Nova Scotia to carry out their plan to deport all Acadians due to their French heritage and culture. "*Le Grand Dérangement*" is now often taught as an infamous example of ethnic cleansing in a North American context. Although the exact number of expelled Acadians remains unclear, the British forced perhaps as many as seven thousand people to leave their homeland of more than a century and a half.

Ben Farmer's ***Evangeline: A Novel*** is the most recent look at these events and he fleshes out of the story originally told by Longfellow. Both Evangeline and the love of her life, Gabriel Lajeunesse, are among the exiles but separated. Evangeline searches for Gabriel for more than a decade. In Farmer's tale, she finds Gabriel in a far different world than she did in Longfellow's poem. I found it to be a great read and one that I encourage others to enjoy as well.

My interest was so piqued that I also decided to learn more by reading Voorhies' 1907 book, ***Acadian Reminiscences: The True Story of Evangeline***. His book is available on the web for free at: www.archive.org/stream/acadianreminisce00voorrich#page/n9/mode/2up. His work describes the lives of the Acadians in Louisiana and includes further description about the infamous oak tree where Evangeline and Gabriel share a kiss. Several years ago while visiting St. Martinsville, Louisiana, west of New Orleans in Cajun country, I saw this tree myself. A young couple was saying their wedding vows under this same tree...clearly appreciative of the romantic lives of the fictional Evangeline and Gabriel.

Finally, I read still another book that offers connections to Evangeline’s story, this one by popular mystery writer, Kathy Reichs. While working on another skeleton discovery, the central character recalls a childhood friend named Evangeline who suddenly disappears. As in other works, Reichs weaves Canadian history into a modern mystery with tales of teenage abductions and murder.

If you have not been exposed to the story of Evangeline, I encourage you to discover this tale of lovers torn apart by reading any of the works listed above. Perhaps you could also try Richard Mullins’ *Evangeline: The Novel* (Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing, 2010). It is still another book on my “must read” list.



[Photos taken by Ruth Writer]

10. MORE READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Stephen Beupre (Meriden, NH), a participant in the 2011 STUDY CANADA Summer Institute, also wrote me to recommend the following books for teachers like him with an interest in the history of Canada:

- *Liberty's Exiles, American Loyalist in the Revolutionary World* by Maya Jasanof (New York: Alfred A Knoff; 2011);
- *Bartlett: The Great Explorer* by Harold Horwood (Toronto: Doubleday Canada Limited; 1977);
- *Golddiggers! Striking it Rich in the Klondike* by Charlotte Gray (Berkeley: Counterpoint Press, 2010);
- *Mrs. King: The Life and Times Of Isabel Mackenzie King* by Charlotte Gray (Toronto: Penguin Books Ltd.; 1997);
- *Sisters in the Wilderness: The Lives of Susanna Moodie and Catharine Parr Traill* by Charlotte Gray (Toronto: Penguin Viking, 1999).

Stephen next plans to read *The Navigator of New York* by Wayne Johnston as well as Charlotte Gray’s biography of Alexander Graham Bell called *Reluctant Genius* (New York: Arcade Publishing, 2006).

[Note: Ms. Gray was a keynote speaker at “STUDY CANADA” and I’m delighted that her talk—and even more significantly, her books—have so inspired Stephen to learn even more about Canada and its history.]