

July 30, 2008

Volume 7, Issue 18

Notable & Upcoming

August 1- 4, 2008
Festival 150
(BC150 Celebration)

August 15, 2008
Deadline for
feedback on Early
Childhood Learning
Agency's all-day
kindergarten and
pre-kindergarten
programs has been
extended.

**Amendments to
School Act Sections
2.1 (2)(a), (5) and (6)**
will come into effect
on January 1, 2009

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B.C. Literacy Champion Honoured by Premier



Premier Gordon Campbell congratulated librarian Janice Douglas on July 17 as the recipient of British Columbia's fourth annual

Council of the Federation Literacy Award.

Douglas was a founding member and past chair of the Word-on-the-Street festival, and a founding partner in establishing Family Literacy Week in British Columbia. She has created several successful literacy programs for children in Vancouver, including the Mother Goose program and Man in the Moon. She is also an advocate of adult literacy.

"Through her years of dedication and her commitment to literacy, Janice has brought books and reading to thousands of people in British Columbia in her lifetime," said Premier Campbell. "Janice has made a difference in the lives of so many people, and it's fitting that we honour her contributions to the community today."

For information on the Literacy Award, visit http://www.readnowbc.ca/council_fed_literacy_award.html.

Minister Visits China to Build on Education and Economy



(Left to right) Independent school inspector Susan Penner, Minister Shirley Bond, Deputy Minister James Gorman greeted by the Mounties at the BC Pavilion in China.

The Deputy Premier and Education Minister Shirley Bond, Deputy Minister James Gorman and independent school inspector Susan Penner visited China from June 22 to 29 to build relationships with Chinese education officials and share best practices in education. Their visit also aimed to support existing offshore schools, attract more international students to B.C., and promote the province as a choice destination for business, investment, trade and tourism.

"International education is expanding globally and, as Canada's Pacific Gateway, B.C. is well positioned to benefit from this expansion," said Bond.

The Minister's mission included an official opening for Education Days at the B.C. Canada Pavilion and a ground-breaking for a second Dalian/Jinshitan high school campus. The delegation also participated in the 10-year anniversary celebration of the Dalian Maple Leaf International School, B.C.'s first and biggest offshore program.

Amendments to the *School Act*

Changes to sections 82.1 (2)(a), (5) and (6) of the *School Act*, made by the School (Student Achievement Enabling) Amendment Act, 2007, will come into effect on January 1, 2009. An Order in Council, which set the effective date for the amendments, was approved on July 10, 2008.

The current version of the *School Act* may be viewed at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/legislation/schoollaw/revisedstatutescontents.pdf>

The Order in Council also created the Specialty Academy Criteria Regulation, which will come into effect on July 1, 2009. The Specialty Academy Criteria Regulation may be viewed at: http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/legislation/schoollaw/d/bcreg_219-08.pdf

New Integrated Resource Packages

The BC Ministry of Education is pleased to provide new Integrated Resource Packages (IRP) for the following areas of study:

- Application of Physics 11 and 12 (2007)
- English 12 First Peoples (2008)
- English Language Arts 8 to 12 (2007)
- Home Economics: Family Studies 10 to 12 (2007)
- English Language Arts 8 to 12 (2007)
- Home Economics: Family Studies 10 to 12 (2007)
- Home Economics: Foods and Nutrition 8 to 12 (2007)
- Home Economics: Textiles 8 to 12 (2007)
- Math 8 and 9 (2008)
- Physical Education 8 to 10 (2008)
- Science 10 (2008)
- Science and Technology 11 (2008)
- Sustainable Resources 11 to 12 (2008)

The new IRPs will be distributed in hard copy to schools throughout the province in September. IRPs and an implementation schedule outlining the optional and full implementation dates are also available online at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/imp_sched.htm

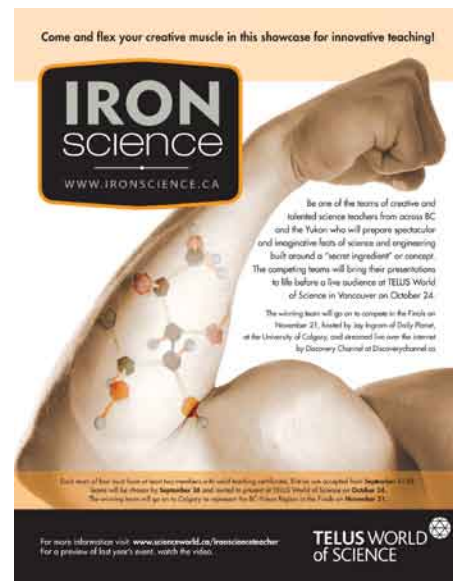
In September, additional copies of the IRPs can be ordered from Queen's Printer Publication Services, 563 Superior Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 9V7. Phone (250) 387-6409. Fax (250) 387-1120. Toll free 1-800-663-6105.

Iron Science 2008

Get ready for a battle of wits by science teachers!

Educators from B.C. and the Yukon are invited to showcase their creativity in teaching at the 2008 Iron Science competition,

presented by TELUS World of Science in partnership with the Discovery Channel and the University of Calgary.



Similar to the *Iron Chef* television series, teams of educators from across Canada will face the challenge of designing a ten-minute presentation which must include interdisciplinary lessons. The ingredient will be easily accessible to encourage teachers to draw on the presentations and apply them in the classroom.

Contestants will engage in initial playoffs at local science centres and one winner from each play-off round will compete in the finals for a chance to win the Iron Science title and over \$5,300 in prizes.

B.C. and the Yukon teachers must register by September 22 to compete in the playoff on October 24 at the TELUS World of Science in Vancouver. For more details about the event, including contest guidelines and entry form, visit http://www.scienceworld.bc.ca/school_resources/justforteachers/iron-science-teacher-2008.html

Summer Reading Club for Kids and Teens

School is out and it is a great time to relax in the shade with your favourite book in hand.

The Summer Reading Clubs (SRC) for kids and teens are in full swing with reading materials for everyone.



West Vancouver Memorial Library 2007 Kids Summer Reading Club winners (left to right) Hunter Welsh, Matin Rostamabadi and Khalil Essabar with West Vancouver mayor Pamela Goldsmith-Jones

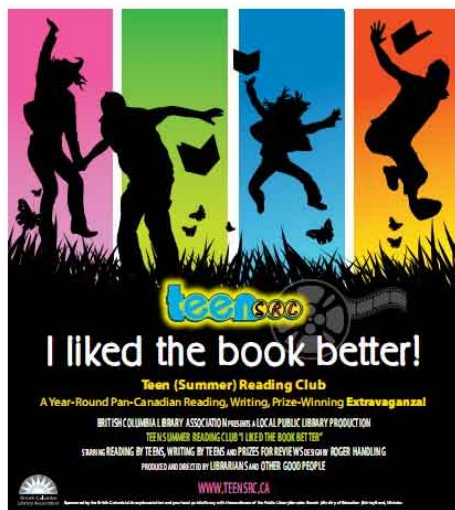
This year's theme for the Kids' Reading Club is "Read All Over the Map," in celebration of B.C.'s

150th birthday as a crown colony. Children up to 12 years old are invited to join and read more about the province's culture, history and geography. In addition to book-related events at local libraries, the Kids SRC website also has weekly quizzes and interesting activities at <http://www.KidsSRC.ca>.

The online Teen Summer Reading Club (TeenSRC) is calling for teens ages 13 to 18 to participate in reading activities with their peers across Canada. This year's theme is "I liked the book

better!", a movie tie-in chosen by the teen advisory group. Club members can write book reviews, take part in discussions and author chats, as well as have a chance to win some cool prizes. To find out more about the Teen SRC, please visit <http://www.TeenSRC.ca>.

Please visit your local libraries for more information on summer events for kids and teens.



BCELC & Interactive Innovations

ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING WEBCAST

Going Deeper

Following a successful 2007 / 08 series, you are invited to join internationally recognized BC Assessment for Learning experts in a series of WebCasts. Explore and learn with colleagues across the province.

Assessment For Learning
A WebCasting Series in Three Parts

Back to School with AFL
Going Deeper with Descriptive Feedback & Grading
Pulling It Together with Ownership
More information to follow in September

Mark Your Calendars

October 1, 2008
January 14, 2009
April 1, 2009
All sessions will be held 3:30—6:00

The Ministry of Education is regrouping all WebCast services under its umbrella of Interactive Innovations. BCELC is pleased to be providing this component of Interactive Innovations.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Education.

Sustainability Toolbox Summer Program

The Powell River Board of Education has developed a student leadership in sustainability course that will be offered in a residential camp setting from August 20 to 28.

The Sustainability Toolbox Summer Program is a four-credit Board/Authority Authorized Course and will bring students from school districts across Vancouver Island together at Rainbow Lodge on Powell Lake. Students will explore concepts relating to environmental stewardship while developing strategies to help their schools and communities become more sustainable.

Each school district on Vancouver Island has been invited to enroll two students who will be entering to Grade 11 in September. There is no charge for students to attend this course.

For further information about the program and specific course content contact Ryan Barfoot at rbarfoot@sd47.bc.ca