

# Literacy This Week

Feb 26, 2015

## In This Issue

[Literacy Dates](#)

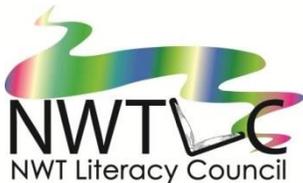
[Our Blog](#)

[Announcements  
and Events](#)

[Funding](#)

[News and Research](#)

[Resources and  
Websites](#)



We're the family, youth and adult literacy and essential skills centre for excellence.

We support literacy and essential skills in all the official languages of the Northwest Territories.

We're also plain language specialists.

[Check out our website to  
learn more](#)

## Literacy Dates

Freedom to Read Week - February 22-February 28  
NWT Aboriginal Languages Month - March

## Our Blog

### **New pan-northern skills project receives funding**

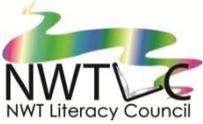
The NWT Literacy Council is thrilled to announce a pan-northern project that brings new skill-building opportunities to northerners...[Read more](#)

## Announcements and Events

### **Behchokò family literacy event**

Richard Van Camp told stories and children played hand games at the family literacy night in Behchokò, this week. The event attracted 90 people. Way to go, Emily and the Behchokò Library!

## Support Literacy



You can support literacy in the NWT

- [Make a donation](#)
- [Join the Council](#)

Take part in literacy activities in your community

### Connect With Us!

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on twitter

View our videos on YouTube

### Contact Us

NWT Literacy Council  
Box 761  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2N6

Phone: 873-9262  
Fax: 873-2176  
Toll Free:  
1-866-599-6758

[nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca](mailto:nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca)

[www.nwtliteracy.ca](http://www.nwtliteracy.ca)

If someone forwarded you this email, you can

[Join Our List](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



### Our annual general meeting is March 7

Join us for our annual general meeting at noon on Saturday, March 7 at the Explorer Hotel. There will be elections for president and secretary. A light lunch will be served. For more information contact [nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca](mailto:nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca)

### Helen's retirement party is March 13

We're hosting a party for our former executive director, Helen Balanoff on Friday, March 13. It's from 4-7 pm at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre Museum Cafe in Yellowknife. Helen is leaving the Council staff after helping with the transition to a new executive director and working on special projects. We're celebrating her time with the Council and her long career in education in the NWT. If you can't come but would like to pass on well wishes to Helen, or to RSVP, contact [katie@nwtliteracy.ca](mailto:katie@nwtliteracy.ca)

## Funding

### **Funding to reduce waste and promote recycling**

The NWT [Waste Reduction and Recycling Initiative](#) provides up to \$25,000 to communities, schools, organizations, businesses and individuals. Projects must reduce waste and recycle materials not already collected through a NWT recycling program. The deadline to apply is April 15, 2015.

### **Mitacs opens research funding to not-for-profit organizations**

[Mitacs](#), a national, not-for-profit organization that designs and delivers research and training programs in Canada will now fund eligible not-for-profit organizations for research collaborations with universities. Projects must relate to economics or productivity, such as creating jobs, reducing costs, or increasing productivity.

## News and Research

### **Creative Cree workshops spread message of wellness**

*Northern Journal, February 23, 2015*

"We're like a braid of sweetgrass," says

Veronica Johnny, a

musician, mother and strong advocate of traditional teachings as a way to bring wellness to Northern communities...[Read more](#)



### **Aboriginal literacy pilot project dramatically improves test scores**

*Globe and Mail, February 24, 2015*

In 2010, elementary students at a pair of First Nation reserve schools in Ontario were struggling badly on basic literacy

tests. Five years later...their test scores have improved dramatically...[Read more](#)

### **The talking cure**

A program called Providence Talks is one of the most ingenious of several new programs across the U.S. that encourage low-income parents to talk more frequently with their kids...[Read more](#). A related story talks about the 'word gap' among American early childhood educators and the need for literacy testing and professional development to meet pre-kindergarten plans...[Read more](#)

### **Bilingualism benefits the brain at any age**

Learning and actively using a second language, whether done from childhood or later in life, can not only improve language processing but benefit the brain in a more general sense...  
[Read more](#)

### **How smartphones hurt sleep**

The answer to the question "How'd you sleep?" has, for most of human history, been "not too well." Even before the advent of electric light, people slept two or three to a bed, next to a chamber pot, and with a warmth-giving-yet-high-maintenance fire threatening to burn out a few yards away ...[Read more](#)

## **Resources and Websites**

### **Social media for teachers**

[Edutopia resources and ideas](#)

### **Money management tools for newcomers**

[Prosper Canada](#)

### **What will it take?**

[Family violence video and workshops](#)



**FREEDOM TO READ WEEK**  
FEBRUARY 22–28 2015 → [www.freedomtoread.ca](http://www.freedomtoread.ca)  
censorship freedom of expression access to information

[Inspiring Freedom to Read Week video](#)

## **7 self-care strategies**

[For teachers \(and the rest of us\)](#)

