

February 11, 2021

Literacy Dates

Indigenous Languages Month- February
Black History Month- February
International Book Giving Day- February 14
International Mother Language Day- February 21
Freedom to Read Week- February 21-27

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Blog



Ḏone Yatì is our Lifeline

Guest blog written by Stacey Sundberg

Dene languages in the North are our lifeline. We must continue them here for our children and their children, so they have a better quality of life. With our Dene culture and languages intact, we show that we, the Dene, will succeed in anything we do here in society. Our culture and languages are essential for survival -- for communicating, between the past and present, the important traditional knowledge we need to uphold in our communities. We have an opportunity here to teach our way of life to our future generations, and we have all the resources around us to do so...[Read more](#)

Announcements and Events

Poverty in the NWT

Alternatives North will be presenting their 2020 [Northwest Territories Poverty Report Card](#) findings. [This meeting](#) will take place on Zoom, February 17 from 12:05 PM to 12:50 PM. Limited in-person seating is available. Register by emailing info@alternativesnorth.ca.

Second Annual Liidlii Kue Film Festival

The Second Annual Liidlii Kue Film Festival has a "Northern" Theme again this year. Check out the [event poster](#) for films. Films will be shown daily. Tickets by donation, recommended \$10 per ticket. Limited tickets due to COVID-19 capacity limits. Visit [Eventbrite](#) to view the film options and purchase tickets.

Indigenous Voices Reading Series with Richard Van Camp

EVENT Magazine and Douglas College present the annual Indigenous Voices Reading Series, featuring Douglas College's 2021 Indigenous Writer-in-Residence Richard Van Camp, with guest readers Jessica Johns and Garry Gottfriedson, hosted by Molly Cross-Blanchard. This event will take place on February 25 at 6 PM and is free to attend via Zoom! Please [reserve your free ticket](#) to receive the webinar link.

National Indigenous Physical Activity and Wellness Virtual Conference - May 1 and 2, 2021

This is the [nation's largest conference](#) on Physical Activity & Wellness for First Nations, Métis and Inuit people, created for all of those with an interest in sports, recreation, fitness, and traditional activity or others interested in the promotion of health and wellness through physical activity.

Funding

The main goal of [this program](#) is to work with a lot of different people and organizations across Canada to move forward accessibility standards research. Eligible organizations can apply for up to \$250,000 per year per project (with a maximum of \$750,000 over 3 years).

NWTLC Youth Literacy Funding

Community facilitators who have taken NWTLC's Skill Builders for Youth training since 2013 are eligible to apply for funds to run a youth literacy program in your community. Visit our [website](#) for applications.

NWT Arts Council funding application period extended

The application deadline for NWT Arts Council grants has been extended to April 15, the territorial government said on Tuesday. Grants fund a range of artistic projects in the Northwest Territories, both by individuals and organizations...[Read more](#)



News, Research, Opinion

Reinstate NWT Language Bureau, legislative committee recommends

The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly should close down if one of its members wishes to speak in one of the territory's official languages, and no interpreter is available. That's the suggestion from the standing committee on rules and procedures after examining a situation that arose in the legislature last March...[Read more](#)

Controversies Around Endangered Indigenous Languages in the Canadian Arctic (Part I)

The state of Indigenous languages in Arctic countries is critical. The International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL) in 2019 raised hope to strengthen the appreciation of their importance and their links to identity, culture, and human rights. In a two-part series, I will explore the situation of Indigenous languages in Arctic countries... [Read more](#)

Vancouver Public Library's new Indigenous storyteller in residence goes virtual

The Vancouver Public Library's new Indigenous storyteller in residence is re-imagining the role during the pandemic, but believes storytelling is as integral to connection as ever. Kung Jaadee is a traditional singer, drummer and storyteller -- and former Yellowknife educator -- who has performed for hundreds of audiences across Canada and the U.S. sharing stories and legends from her birthplace of Haida Gwaii...[Read more](#)

How one Indigenous doctor is tackling vaccine hesitancy, starting with her own mom

Dr. Ojistoh Horn is trying to help people in her community make informed decisions about whether to get the COVID-19 vaccine — beginning with her own family. The Mohawk physician is one of several health-care workers and elders providing vaccine education to Indigenous communities with long

histories of being mistreated, abused and experimented on by Canadian institutions... [Read more](#)

TD Bank Group launches new cyber literacy program

TD Bank Group (TD) has launched the Cyber Suite (C Suite), a new cybersecurity literacy platform that will offer a variety of digital learning forums, including daily cyber safety tips, podcast episodes with some of the world's leading cyber experts, blog posts, webinars, job fairs and a cyber skills accelerator for future cyber specialists... [Read more](#)

Spotlight on Board Members



Melani Adams, Secretary and Beaufort Delta Region Representative

Melani serves as the Secretary for the NWT Literacy Council Board of Directors and as Regional Representative for the Beaufort Delta region. She first became involved with the Literacy Council through taking family literacy training before joining the board in 2013.

Melani lives in Inuvik with her ten-year old son. After working at the Inuvik Centennial Library for several years, she joined Aurora College as a Librarian/Student Success Coordinator. In this role, she assists staff and students to access information and coordinates student academic supports. Melani is passionate about lifelong learning and is proud to help support the Literacy Council in their efforts to promote literacy in the territory.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading, cooking, and starting (and sometimes even finishing) home improvement projects.

Resources and Websites

Resources for International Book Giving Day/Valentine's Day

[Book Giving Day](#)

[Snuggle Up Together- Books for Newborns to Preschoolers](#)

[Books for Children by Indigenous Authors Poster](#)

[How to Kit: Book Making](#)

[20 Valentine's Day Books for Kids](#)

[Love Bug Valentine Bookmark](#)



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