

Literacy Dates

International Book Giving Day - February 14
 World Day of Social Justice - February 20
 Freedom to Read Week - February 24-March 2
 NWT Indigenous Languages Month - February

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Blog



Teacher Leadership

Two weeks ago, I had the privilege of attending Aurora College’s professional development sessions on Teacher Leadership. Developmental studies instructors from the three college campuses and community adult educators from all NWT communities attended. It was a time to re-engage with old friends, meet new colleagues, and learn together. Often at northern meetings we bring in southern scholars – ‘experts’, leaders in their field – but this meeting was different; the ‘experts’ came from amongst us. [Read more...](#)



Announcements and Events

PGI Bowl-a-Thon postponed

The Bowl-a-Thon has been postponed. The new date is April 27. Register for the PGI Bowl-a-Thon for Literacy to book your lane and time, and get your pledge sheets. Check out the [facebook event](#) to keep up to date on the fundraiser. We're raising money for supplies that the Bison Bus Mobile Family Literacy Centre can take on the road this summer. Come bowl, have fun, win prizes, and help the Bison Bus reach NWT families.

Frozen Prose: A writer's open mic at the Snow King's Castle

Join NorthWords NWT for a chance to share your new story, poem, spoken word piece, or creative non-fiction on Saturday, March 30. At this [community open mic](#) you will have the stage for three minutes to read your chosen piece of writing. There will also be surprise performances by locally published authors.

NorthWords NWT Youth Write Workshop

Join writer Gail Sidonie Sobat and explore practical writing techniques to get your creative juices flowing as you dabble in setting, plot, character and voice! Suitable for writers of any genre and ability. Open to youth from 10 to 17 years old. Register for free at the Yellowknife Book Cellar. The [Youth Write Workshop](#) will be held March 2-3 at the North Star (new UNW) Building at 4910 53 St, Yellowknife.

Community Connections family literacy programs

Join the NWTLC's Community Connections program each Thursday morning for family literacy programming. Each week, they read a story, learn new vocabulary and do a craft related to the story. There is also time for parents to connect and discuss parenting practices during the program. The program is targeted at new immigrant parents with pre-school aged children. They meet from 10am to 12pm at the Cavalry Community Church. Email karen@nwtliteracy.ca for more information.



Funding

Got an arts project that needs support?

You have until February 28 to apply to the [NWT Arts Council](#) for money to support your artistic project. The project can be in the visual, literary, media, and performing arts, or on issues and policies related to the arts and artists.

Bursary program encourages female researchers

[Sistering Indigenous and Western Science](#) is a bursary and mentoring program that supports women currently enrolled in post-secondary institutions in the 2018-19 school year. Awards will be given to pairs of women, one of whom must identify as Indigenous, while the other is non-Indigenous, to complete a summer research project in a topic that supports Indigenous public interests. The deadline to apply is February 18.

Language revitalization funding

The [Language Legacies](#) grant program supports documentation and revitalization efforts throughout the world. It is open to community members and researchers from any country. Grants are for one year and average around \$2,000 (US). The deadline to apply is March 15.



News, Research, Opinion

How to be a Book Giver

Book fairy? Book ninja? Call it what you will, but stealthily leaving books out in the wild for little people to find is hands down my favourite way of gifting books on February 14... [Read more](#)

How a skills program is changing lives for young people in Nova Scotia

Just three months ago, Emily Steen said she felt "hopeless" and her days were filled with "despair." But the 25-year-old Wolfville woman, who has relied on income assistance to survive for the past four years, has a new part-time job, and her outlook on life is no longer bleak. She credits a pilot project called Edge, which is funded by the Nova Scotia government.. [Read more](#)

Young people are drowning in a rising tide of perfectionism

We recently conducted one of the largest-ever studies on perfectionism... Pursuing perfection — a goal that is intangible, fleeting and rare — may result in a higher rate of failures and a lower rate of successes. This leaves perfectionists more likely to neurotically stew about their imperfections and less likely to conscientiously pursue their goals. [Read more](#)

'This is for the children': Arctic Inspiration Prize winners look to the future

Derrick Hastings, manager of the Tr'ondek Hwech'in Teaching and Working Farm, says he found out in December that the farm was selected as an Arctic Inspiration Prize winner — but he had to keep it secret until Tuesday night. The farm in Dawson City, Yukon, was one of several winners announced on Tuesday in Whitehorse. It will receive \$500,000 to build a cold-climate greenhouse on Tr'ondek Hwech'in territory... [Read more](#)



Resources and Websites

Language arts lessons

[Critical Indigenous literacies: selecting and using children's books about Indigenous peoples](#)

University of New Brunswick - Mi'kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre

[Supporting Indigenous language and cultural resurgence with digital technologies](#)

United Nations General Assembly

[International Year of Indigenous Languages](#)



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