



# Literacy This Week

June 11, 2020

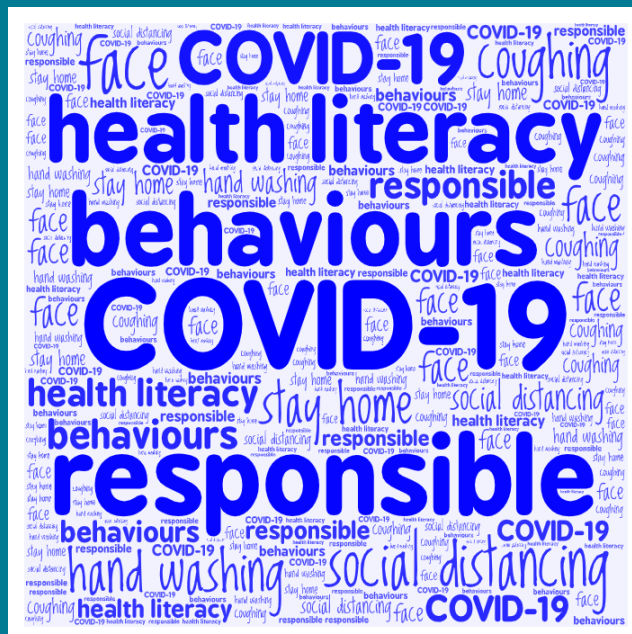
## Literacy Dates

International Pride Month - June  
 National Indigenous History Month - June  
 World Refugee Day - June 20  
 National Indigenous Peoples Day - June 21  
 Father's Day - June 21

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## Blog



### Health Literacy and COVID-19

Health literacy is a critical skill, as we weave our way through the COVID-19

pandemic. So, what is “health literacy”? Health literacy is how easily people can access information that affects their health, how well they...[Read more](#)

## Announcements and Events

### NWTLC Family Literacy Program Evaluation

Do you do work relating to literacy in the NWT? We want your feedback! Those who participate will be entered in a draw to win a \$100 gift card from the Book Cellar. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey [here](#), and best of luck!

### Yellowknife Takeout Week 2020

Win a \$1,000 gift certificate by grabbing takeout from local restaurants during the first-ever Yellowknife Takeout Week, starting June 10 and running until June 17. See the details [here](#) and help these small businesses stay open!

### GNWT Emerging Wisely (COVID-19)

Phase 2 may begin as early as mid-June. Nothing is returning to ‘normal’ until there is an effective vaccine. Everyone will still need to follow rules as restrictions are eased. Please see the GNWT's plan via info-graphic [here](#).

## Funding

### NWTRPA launches new grant program

This is a unique grant program for June that will help keep your community Active, Resilient, and Connected. If you need assistance or have any questions, contact Stefanie, by [email](#) or call 867-669-8379. Details [here](#).

### Rising Youth grants

Priority will go to grant applications that respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. They encourage you to consider having your event or activity offered virtually via online social media and conferencing tools. Find out more [here](#).

### GNWT - ITI entrepreneur support (SEED)

NWT businesses and entrepreneurs are eligible for up to \$25,000 per year to help with startup funding, capital asset acquisition, market and product development, and more. See the full details on the fund's page [here](#).

## News, Research, Opinion

Yukon government announces schools will open in the fall

The Yukon government announced students in kindergarten to Grade 12 will return to school in the fall. The news came during the territory's update on COVID-19 in the territory on Tuesday afternoon. Minister of...[Read more](#)

### Acclaimed Fort Smith-born author wins literary award

Acclaimed Fort Smith-born author Richard Van Camp has been named the recipient of an Alberta Literary Award for *Moccasin Square Gardens*, a collection of short stories published last year by the Tłı̨chǫ...[Read more](#)

### Watch: Take a tour of a makeshift YK bike park

Just off Yellowknife's School Draw Avenue, young residents have built their own temporary bike park. Cabin Radio's AJ joined them to check out the circuit – with play-by-play from Luke Pontin...[Read more](#)

## Spotlight on Adult Educators



### Thomas Gagnon-van Leeuwen, Yellowknife

Thomas Gagnon-van Leeuwen is the Instructor at the Literacy Outreach Centre in Yellowknife, a partnership between the Inclusion NWT and Aurora College. Born and raised in Montreal, Thomas graduated on the Dean's Honour List with a law degree from McGill University. Building upon his capacity as a lawyer, Thomas pursued his passion for education with a particular focus on empowering others through lifelong self-directed learning experiences.

In 2017, he moved to Ulukhaktok to volunteer as the e-Learning Monitor at Helen Kalvak School, supporting students both inside and outside the classroom for the next six months. He then taught English as a second language in Vancouver before coming to Yellowknife as an Education Assistant at École William McDonald Middle School, where he worked to foster a caring community for students to explore their interests.

In his free time, you can find Thomas organizing for climate justice, sitting by the woodstove with a good book and skiing the beautiful land around Yellowknife.

# Resources and Websites

## Resources for the month of June

[National Indigenous Peoples Day: 10 ways to celebrate \(ICT Inc.\)](#)

[Handouts, brochures, and toolkits \(Rainbow Coalition of Yellowknife\)](#)

[Making the Connections: Violence and Learning \(NWT Literacy Council\)](#)



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