



Sessions Still to Come This Year!

A number of districts are organizing June workshops for grade 4 and 7 teachers and also admin sessions to work on implementation plans. Watch the NRLC website for sessions to get involved in these.

SUMMER INSTITUTE: K-3—Off & Running

Grande Prairie, August 15 & 16 \$50

Facilitator Sheri Long, EPSB

Teachers in grades K-3 can register for a two day workshop in August (\$50 registration fee will cover hosting costs for the two days). Expect to work on a variety of activities including the Online Guide. This workshop will extend your knowledge of the curriculum and provide you with hands-on examples for your classroom in September.

Understanding the New Social Studies Curriculum

(with a focus on grades 4 and 7)

Grande Prairie, August 15—No Charge

Facilitator Wally Diefenthaler

What do you need to know about the new Social Studies program? Spend a day being highly engaged in a wide variety of activities designed to assist you in understanding and teaching this exciting new program. Investigate teaching and planning techniques to help students construct meaning through active inquiry and critical thinking. This session is a pre-requisite for the two day summer institute.

SUMMER INSTITUTE: Embedding Critical Thinking into Social Studies (focus on grades 4 & 7)

Grande Prairie, August 16 & 17 No Charge

Facilitators Wally Diefenthaler & Garfield Gini-Newman

These two days will focus on Critical Thinking strategies focusing on grade 4 and 7 Social Studies. This session will accommodate participants who are new to Critical Thinking as well as those who have some experience with the TC2 Critical Thinking model. Teachers will be provided with “hands on” opportunities to learn about applying critical thinking in their classrooms. Participants will be grouped according to their level of experience and will work on a variety of activities that will deepen their understanding of the elements of Critical Thinking and hone their ability to implement it as a method of teaching Social Studies.

SUMMER INSTITUTE: SOCIAL STUDIES

Focus on Grades 5, 8 and 10

Edmonton, August 21-24 No Charge

A varied line-up of great speakers and facilitators will be on hand for this year’s summer institute. Be sure to register early as spaces are very limited. Ask your district curriculum contact for further information on registrations.

Social Studies Council Annual Conference

Kananaskis, Oct. 13-15, 2006

“Coming Together—

Stories of Experience & Promise”

Registration for the conference is open—please visit www.socialstudies.ab.ca for more info about registration, accommodation, or to participate as a speaker.

Parkland Institute ‘06 Annual Student Essay Contest

Students registered in any high school, postsecondary undergrad or graduate program are invited to write an essay of approximately 1000 words on the following topic:

In the past 12 months we have seen a number of high-profile labour disputes in Alberta, such as those at Lakeside Packers and Telus. We have also seen the Alberta government lower the working age to 12 and increase the minimum wage to \$7/hour. Now the government is conducting a review of Alberta’s Labour Standards Code. In light of these developments please answer the following question: How should workers’ rights be protected in Alberta? Answers should include reference to the role, if any, of the provincial government and of labour unions in the process.

Students should feel free to write about any aspect of labour legislation or workers’ rights that is of interest to them. The student with the best essay in each of the three categories will receive \$500 and one of the three winning essays will be published in *Alberta Views* magazine. Educators are encouraged to assign the essay as class work. **Deadline is May 31, 2006.** Electronic submissions are appreciated.

Send submissions to:

Parkland Institute
11045 Saskatchewan Drive
Edmonton AB T6G 2E1
Phone 780 492 8558
Fax 780 492 8738
Email: parkland@ualberta.ca
www.ualberta.ca/parkland



To see last year’s topics and winners visit www.ualberta.ca/~parkland/programs/EssayContest/2005EssayContest/studentessay2005.htm



URLs of Interest

(Websites from FOCUS Newsletter of the ATA Social Studies Council, April 2006, Page 8; and other sources)

COPY WEBSITES & PASTE IN BROWSER

Online learning guide for new Alberta Social Curriculum

<http://onlineguide.learnalberta.ca/default.aspx>

This is an Alberta Education service. While the specific teaching resources and ideas found here are currently for specific outcomes for the K-3, the program vision and foundations for Alberta's new curriculum are common for all grades. Grade 4 & 7 outcomes will be up and running by September. This site offers detailed explanations of the overarching foundations of the program of studies, as well as some great video clips of experts in various elements of the curriculum. If you don't have your school's log in and password handy, log on as a guest.

Canadian Geographic

www.canadiangeographic.ca

This website has a new online map-maker tool that allows you to create a map of a country or region, and layer various human and physical features on it.

ATA Social Studies Council

www.socialstudies.ab.ca

This is always a great source of information on social studies—there are many great links to other sites.

Media Awareness Network

www.media-awareness.ca

This website has lesson plans, pictures and other resources of teaching about media literacy.

Global Exchange

www.globalexchange.org

This website is dedicated to promoting environmental, political and social justice.

New Internationalist

www.newint.org

This website is a good source of information on global issues.

Media Channel

www.mediachannel.org

This website has outstanding media criticism and the best of the overseas press.

Musee McCord Museum's EduWeb

www.mccord-museum.qc.ca/eduweb

This is an accessible website that is full of useful images, information and teaching strategies. Set aside time to explore it.

Google News

<http://news.google.ca>

Get today's news from multiple news sources. Click on "Search News" to get current events directly from other countries, and in multiple languages.

Batir un pays (French Site)

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/confederation/jeunesse/h2-6050-f.html>

Ce site fait partie du Site Web de la Bibliothèque Nationale du Canada. Cela donne des plans de leçon au sujet de la Confédération. Les plans utilisent le site « Confédération Pour Enfants », où l'on a ramassé des documents sources primaires. Les tâches incorporent les habiletés tels que l'écriture des discours et l'analyse des différentes perspectives et les biographies des divers gens impliqués dans la confédération.

Other French websites are contained in a separate document on the NRLC website.

Aboriginal Perspectives

Please see separate document on this website for an extensive list of websites that are related to the Aboriginal perspective.

Websites on Citizenship & Identity

A number of great websites (including places where you can order many items for your classrooms at no charge or download in pdf also at no charge) - please see separate document with this title.

Social Studies Coordinator

For further information or to ask questions or make suggestions related to the implementation of the new Social Studies curriculum in Zone 1, please contact **Leslie Snyder**, Zone 1 Coordinator.

Email: snyderl@prsd.ab.ca

Phone: 780 836 3660

Fax: 780 836 3608

Cell: 780 836 5287

