

Hello Teachers!

It has been a busy six months since our last edition but we hope you are eager for the curriculum and resource ideas introduced in this issue. Our focus is elementary level teachers although many teachers will still find benefit from knowing more about Canada's national anthem and symbols.

Since our last edition, we introduced teachers from across the USA to a wide variety of curriculum and resource ideas for teaching about Canada through workshops and displays. Our annual *STUDY CANADA Summer Institute: Experience BC from the 5 Themes of Geography to the 2010 Olympics* was a resounding success and, in celebration of the workshop's 30th anniversary in June 2008, we anticipate that the best is yet to come! It is never too early to register, so we hope you'll learn more about the program by visiting www.k12studycanada.org/scsi.shtml.

The Jackson School of International Studies Title VI and Outreach Centers held their annual Summer Seminar entitled, "Teaching World Religions" at the same time. Participants were introduced to Canadian aboriginal spirituality and culture by Professor Charlotte Coté, who gave educators an insight into the *Nuu-chah-nulth* whaling traditions on Vancouver Island.

And, last spring, Visiting Northwest Québec Scholar, Dr. Thierry Giasson, Université Laval, offered the annual professional training to UW in the High School French Educators. *Enseigner le français: La société québécoise comme outil didactique* trained Washington State educators for teaching UW accredited high school courses and was a great success. It featured presentations by UW Canadian Center graduate affiliates Natalie Debray, Tim Pasch and Cody Case and included a special visit by Denis Turcotte, Québec Government Representative in L.A.

K-12 STUDY CANADA outreach has been growing. If you attend the 2007 National Council for Social Studies Conference in San Diego, for example, you will find K-12 STUDY CANADA represented in the International Alley of the Exhibit Hall, in a Sunday workshop session, at the International Film Festival (where a series of short films from Québec—including *The Sweater*—will be featured). We have also been working closely with NCSS to increase Canada's profile with its general membership so you can expect an even higher profile at the 2008 NCSS Conference in Houston.

Additional regional outreach is ongoing—from Washington to Texas and New Hampshire to Minnesota—via our network of K-12 STUDY CANADA Teacher Associates. Having regional teachers give presentations on Canada

and serve as local contacts for educators interested in teaching about Canada is an invaluable extension of our own work. A full list of "T-A's" is online at the www.k12study-canada.org site but we'd like to thank the newest "recruits" for joining our network: Richard Delamater (Windermere, FL), Kay Geiger (Lubbock, TX), Jan Hertel (Hastings, MN), Jessica Winkelaar (Minneapolis, MN), Deb Blake (Hampton, NH), and Karen Boschker (Issaquah, WA). We'd also like to congratulate Karen Boschker, French language teacher at Liberty High School, for receiving a 2007 *Summer Scholarship to Québec* award from the American Association for Teachers of French, funded by the *Ministère des Relations Internationales du Québec*.

And finally, we also encourage teachers to make regional connections with the Embassy of Canada in Washington, DC or one of the twenty Consulates General or Consulates of Canada offices <http://geo.international.gc.ca/can-am/washington/offices/default-en.asp> for the complete list]. The Government of Canada is supportive of outreach to K-12 teachers and can share many useful resources for the classroom with you. We all hope that, as global awareness grows increasingly important, we can help American students be more knowledgeable about our northern neighbor.

Tina Storer, Western Washington University
Nadine Fabbri, University of Washington

The National Anthems of Canada and the U.S. – Teaching History through Music

by Nadine Fabbri

The U.S. national anthem has a significant connection to Canada-U.S. history. In 1812, near the end of the Napoleonic Wars in Europe, the U.S. declared war on Great Britain and struck out at Britain's only possession on the continent – Canada! The U.S. was frustrated with Britain's heavy-handedness on the high seas (Britain, in an effort to stop supply ships to France, intercepted many non-French ships, particularly American ones). This, in part, led to the War of 1812 and the inspiration behind the "Star-Spangled Banner."

During the War of 1812, British and Canadian troops attacked Washington, D.C., burning the White House to the ground. The next month, in September of 1814, the troops moved into Baltimore to attack Fort McHenry. The night of the attack a D.C. lawyer, Francis Scott Key, was aboard a British ship negotiating for the release of a civilian prisoner. When he awoke the following morning he was surprised and deeply moved to see a huge American flag raised over the Fort. He pulled a letter out of his pocket and on the back of it wrote a poem, "The Defense of Fort McHenry" that would later become the "Star-Spangled Banner." Congress passed a law making the song the official national anthem on 3 March 1931.

Canada's first "national anthem" (it was never official) was "The Maple Leaf Forever." It was written under much less exciting conditions than "The Star-Spangled Banner." In 1867, the year that Canada was founded, a patriotic contest was held for a national poem. A school principal from Toronto, Alexander Muir, wanted to submit an entry but he was at a loss for an inspirational idea. Just days before the competition closed, Muir was out walking with a friend, George Leslie, when a maple leaf floated down from a tree and stuck to Leslie's coat sleeve. 'There Muir! There's your text! The maple leaf is the emblem of Canada! Build your poem on that,' exclaimed Leslie. (The maple tree that shed that famous leaf still stands in Toronto and is now part of a city park.)

Like Francis Scott Key, Muir, in a moment of considerable inspiration, composed his poem almost "on the spot," submitted it to the contest and "The Maple Leaf Forever" became Canada's celebrated song. Until the early 20th century "The Maple Leaf Forever" and "God Save the Queen" vied for first place as the nation's anthem. However, neither was popular in French Canada – "God Save the Queen" for obvious reasons and "The Maple Leaf Forever" because it mentioned the Conquest of New France by the British.

NATIONAL ANTHEM/HYMNE NATIONAL O CANADA

O Can - a - dal Our home and na - tive
O Can - a - dal Ter - re de nos ai -

land True pa - triot love in
eux, Ton front est ceint in de

all thy sons com - mend With glow - ing hearts we
fleu - rons glo - ri - eux! Carton bras sat por - ter Fé -

see thee rise, The True North strong and free! From
pé - é - e, Il sait por - ter la croix! Ton his -

far and wide O Can - a - da, we stand on guard for thee.
toire est une é - po - pé - é - e Des plus bril - lants ex - ploits

God keep our land glo - rious and free!
Et ta va - leur, de foi trem - pé,

O Can - a - da, we stand on guard for thee.
Pro - té - ge - ra nos foy - ers et nos droits.

O Can - a - da, we stand on guard for thee.
Pro - té - ge - ra nos foy - ers et nos droits.

Instead, "O Canada" would emerge as the most popular national song beginning in Québec.

In 1880 the Lieutenant Governor of Québec wanted a special song for the June 24th Saint Jean-Baptiste celebrations in Québec City. He asked composer Calixa Lavallée to write the music for a poem by Sir Adolphe-Basile Routhier. The song was entitled, "O Canada!" In 1901 "O Canada" was sung for the first time as the national anthem by a group of school children welcoming the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall to Canada (later to be King George V and Queen Mary). The lyrics were originally written in French and, while there were several English translations, the one that "took hold" was written by Robert Stanley Weir in 1908. (Like Scott Key, Weir was a lawyer and amateur poet.) By the mid-20th century "O Canada" was accepted as the national anthem and officially adopted on 1 July 1980 (Canada Day).

It is interesting how interpretations of the national anthems have impacted culture and history in both countries. For example, there have been many creative interpretations of "The Star Spangled Banner." These include the bluesy rendition by Jose Feliciano and the rock version by Jimi Hendrix, both performed in the 1960s, and the more recent 1991 Super Bowl interpretation by Whitney Houston that put the national anthem on the pop charts for the first time in history.

An historic "first" occurred in Canada just this last February when a 13-year-old Cree girl from Alberta sang the national anthem in an aboriginal language at a National Hockey League game. Traditionally the singer will alternate between French and English to acknowledge the linguistic duality of the country. But

in this case, Akina Shirt opened the game with a fantastic rendition of "O Canada" in Cree to a sold-out crowd at the Saddledome in Calgary. The performance was also viewed by hundreds of thousands of Canadians tuned in to *Hockey Night in Canada* on television and was a hit across the country.

Exploring the history of our national anthems can tell our students much about Canada-U.S. relations (the War of 1812), how inspiring moments created enduring symbolism (Scott Key and Muir), and how a nation sees itself (in the various renditions of the anthems – all available on YouTube!). National symbols or songs are an excellent starting point for teaching students about history and culture in North America.



Fall 2007 Presentations and Displays on Canada

World Affairs Council: Classroom on the World Trade & Immigration with Mexico and Canada
October 9 (4-7pm) at Bates Technical College (Tacoma, WA)

Washington Association for Language Teachers
La Langue, La Culture et la Société Québécoises
October 11-13: Coast Wenatchee Center (Wenatchee, WA)

Washington State Council for the Social Studies
Canada in the Classroom
K-12 STUDY CANADA Exhibit
October 13: Edmonds-Woodway HS (Edmonds, WA)

Texas Council for the Social Studies
What Do You Know About Our Neighbor to the North?
Oct 19-21: Marriott Hotel (El Paso, TX)

New Hampshire State Council for the Social Studies
National Resource Centers for Canada Exhibit
October 30: Center for New Hampshire (Manchester, NH)

Association for Canadian Studies in the United States
NRC Outreach and Building a Teacher-Training Network in the US
November 14-18: Westin Harbour Castle (Toronto, ON)

National Council for the Social Studies
2 Borders; 3 Nations: Learning about our N. American Neighbors
National Resource Centers for Canada Exhibit (International Alley)
International Film Festival (featuring short films from Québec)
November 29-December 2: Convention Center (San Diego, CA)

MN Humanities Commission/Consulate General of Canada, Minneapolis
Canada's Cultural Mosaic
January 14-15: (Minneapolis, MN)

International Studies Schools Association
North American Stewardship
February 7-9 - Westin Northwest Chicago Hotel (Itasca, IL)

Canada in the Classroom: K-12 Resources

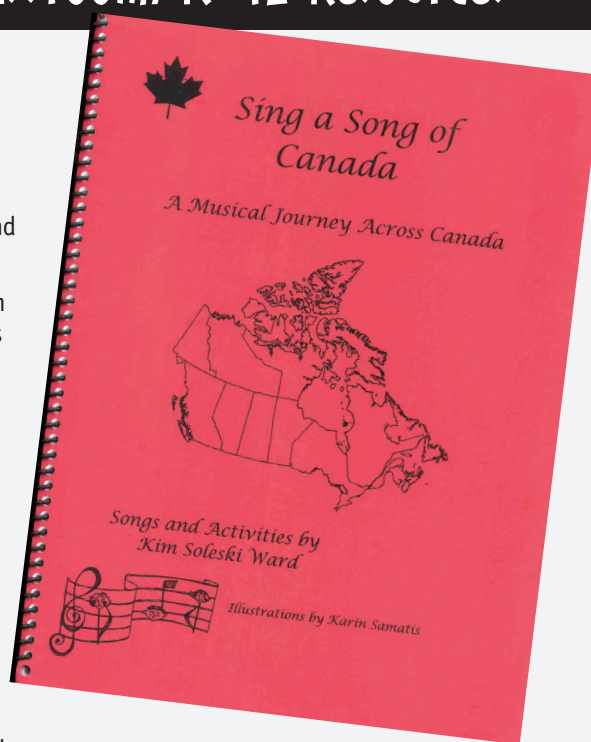
A Musical Journey Across Canada

by Canadian songwriter and teacher Kim Soleski Ward

Sing a Song of Canada (songbook with activities and CD with 26 songs)

Sing a Song of Canada is a wonderful classroom tool for teaching Canada through music in Grades K-6. Kim Soleski Ward (a Canadian who teaches music at Gates and Merriam Elementary Schools in Acton, Massachusetts) created it at the request of a 4th grade teacher to help with the social studies unit on Canada mandated in state curriculum guidelines.

Ten years in the making, *Sing a Song of Canada* draws upon Kim's background in both music therapy and music education. Kim earned both a B.A. (Music) from the University of Kansas and M.Ed. from Cambridge College and worked as a Registered Music Therapist before becoming a classroom teacher. Even when she moved into traditional music education where music knowledge and skills are the primary objectives, Kim always incorporated *extra-musical* objectives in curriculum. Thus, *Sing a Song of Canada* has a two-fold design—for the music teacher, the music improves skills such as singing, playing instruments, writing musical symbols and reading notes; for the classroom teacher, the lyrics help teach the history, geography and culture of Canada and songbook activities reinforce learning



through drawing, writing, puzzles and various forms of musical expression.

All of the students in Kim's school district now learn the names of Canada's provinces, territories and capitals by singing "Can Can Canada" in their social studies classrooms while music specialists expand on the material musically with Orff arrangements and recorders as instruments. What a fun way to teach to learn! Other titles include "First Among Equals" (about the prime ministers of Canada), "Train Dogs" (based on a poem by Canadian First Nations poet Pauline Johnson), and "My Dewlap" (a fun look at the annual life cycle of the moose).

The compilation offers up a complete curriculum unit. The CD makes the music come alive and teachers can reproduce the activity pages and sheet music in the songbook. The CD includes 21 original compositions by Kim, 4 Canadian folk songs, and the Canadian national anthem. Because *Sing a Song of Canada* has been kid-tested in music and social studies classrooms (and can cross-over into other curriculum units such as habitats, Native culture, and French language), we have added it to our K-12 STUDY CANADA Resource Valise loan-kits and are happy to recommend its purchase for your own classroom!

To order: Email moosikim@aol.com or write to Kim Soleski Ward, 5 Crescent Lane, Sudbury, MA 01776.

Cost: \$30 Songbook; \$10 Music CD; \$3 Shipping.



K-12 STUDY CANADA is a biannual publication of the Pacific Northwest National Resource Center for Canada (NRC) - a joint center linking the Canadian Studies Center, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington to the Center for Canadian-American Studies, Western Washington University. The NRC offers quarterly workshops on specific Canadian topics; the annual, week-long STUDY CANADA seminar held the last week of June, and; an extensive Resource Library for the use of local educators. The NRC is funded through a Title VI Grant from the U.S. Department of Education and an annual Program Enhancement Grant from the Canadian Embassy, Washington, D.C.

K-12 STUDY CANADA



WESTERN
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

University of Washington
Canadian Studies Center
Jackson School of International Studies
Box 353650
Seattle, WA 98195-3650

Return Service Requested