

Dear Educators,

We are delighted to welcome Dr. Marcia Ostaszewski to the University of Washington as our 2010-11 Canada-U.S. Fulbright Visiting Chair. Marcia has had an incredible impact on educational programs in Canada and the U.S. via her work in Canadian history and ethnomusicology. Marcia will be a presenter at the Washington State Council for Social Studies (WSCSS) Lake Chelan Retreat in March and provides a wonderful overview to some of her projects below.

In the last few months our Pacific Northwest National Resource Center on Canada (NRC) has worked with a number of associations, schools and organizations to enhance Canadian content in the K-12 classroom. We look forward to representing both NRCs on Canada at upcoming conferences in Charleston SC (NCHE) and in Portland, ME (NCGE) this year. Connecting with teachers at NCSS in Denver and at state-level education conferences in the past few months has continued to build our national network of teachers motivated to include in their curriculum.

Mike Papritz, who teaches human geography at Kentridge High School (Kent, WA), is an excellent example. Mike regularly teaches about Canada and has shown a long-standing commitment to special lectures on Canada by the

NRC at his school each year. Last December, one of the interesting issues that Kentridge students learned about was cross-border social welfare practices in a lecture provided by University of Washington affiliated faculty, Morna McEachern.

In early February Nadine worked with Tese Neighbor at the World Affairs Council (WAC) providing a workshop on the Arctic with Zeta Strickland, educational manager at the Pacific Science Center. WAC created a 40-page resource packet for the workshop now available to educators on the WAC and NRC websites.

Another way we reach educators is through resource newsletters to our "Canada Listserv" with information written by Tina about new and interesting resources for teaching Canada. She now also writes a regular "Connecting Classrooms to Canada" column for the National Council of History Education's History Matters! newsletter. Interested educators can access these articles online at www.nche.net/resources/online_publications.html and can view past resource news at www.k12studycanada.org/index.php?a=news_resource_notices, if not already on our listserv.

We're both looking forward to the 2011 STUDY CANADA Summer Institute for K-12 Educators to be held in Ottawa, ON with a daytrip to Montréal, QC. Subtitled "A Capital View of Canada: Nations within a Nation", the program this year will provide unique opportunities to learn about core social studies and added insight into the role of multiculturalism and language in Canada. There are multiple \$300 travel awards available as well as five full scholarships (two for WA state teachers courtesy of the Canada-America Society of Washington). Please visit www.k12studycanada.org/scsi.asp to learn more and to register. Space is still available!

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Teaching and learning about Canada: Histories, communities, music and culture

—By Dr. Marcia Ostaszewski with Dr. Richard MacKinnon and Catherine Arseneau

My experiences conducting research, teaching and giving presentations about music, dance, history and culture, in numerous communities and several universities across Canada, has provided me a unique perspective on diversity and difference in this vast country. These communities have included steelworkers and miners in the Maritimes, prairie farmers, urban-based professionals, families and musicians of joint Aboriginal and Eastern European ancestry, to name a few. I have traveled from coast to coast countless times in the last few years alone – each time experiencing new places, and oftentimes the same places in new ways. From these experiences, I have learned that every place, region, community, family and person in Canada can only be understood from within their own context of time, history, place – and particular intersections of people. I have come to understand that each place in Canada, each person's experiences, are characterized by a distinctive set of relationships and cultural practices. In my research and teaching, and all opportunities I have to engage with others, I focus on the specificity of experience that characterizes the lives of Canadians and their communities.

Two web-based teaching and learning resource sites available free via the web for in-class or home study and enjoyment are described below so that you can learn more about Canada, too. These sites exemplify the idea that all people in Canada have distinctive experiences and particular histories – based on regional and group perspectives, and the life stories of individuals who have played significant roles in their communities. Developed by leading Canadian scholars and educators, in partnership with educational communities and heritage institutions, these teaching resources have also been endorsed and supported by various regional, provincial and federal offices in Canada.

The Learner's Portal

(www.learnersportal.com) This online gateway focuses on Canada's cultural diversity. In acknowledging the importance of our nation's aboriginal roots, for example, the site expands the time horizon of Canadian history from a mere 500 years to well over 10,000 years. This expanded view of Canada's history brings into focus the importance of the relationship between culture, climate and the geography of Canada. The interrelationship between these three dynamic elements provides an enduring theme in the history presented in the Learnersportal. Adopting a culturally inclusive approach to the teaching and learning of Canadian history also involves the use of culturally specific teaching resources and strategies. A curriculum that includes aboriginal content, for example, should stress the importance of oral narrative as a source of historical evidence and valuable supplement to other forms of recorded history. The suggested activities--such as story telling and learning circles--serve effectively as culturally-based learning strategies for any classroom.

Graham Reynolds, Chair of History, and Richard MacKinnon, Canada Research Chair in Intangible Cultural Heritage at Cape Breton University, in partnership with award win-

ning teacher Ken MacDonald and Folkus Atlantic Productions in Sydney, Nova Scotia, produced *learnersportal*. The site incorporates much of the work of *The Peopling of Atlantic Canada* CD ROM and the *Peopling of Canada* web-based activity and resource center. Both of these projects were developed through grants from the Department of Canadian Heritage, Canadian Studies Program. *The Peopling of Atlantic Canada* CD ROM is being used by the Nova Scotia Department of Education in Grade 9 social studies classes.

Music: Cape Breton's Diversity in Unity

(<http://beaton.cbu.ca/diversity>) Canadian musical heritage is rich and diverse – and it is integral to the country's cultural landscape. *Music: Cape Breton's Diversity in Unity* allows learners of all ages to appreciate the important role that music has played, and continues to play, in Cape Breton, specifically. This educational website explores the four culturally significant artistic traditions distinct to Cape Breton Island—Acadian, Gaelic, Mi'kmaq, and coal mining song traditions—and contains over 110 song tracks with accompanying lyrics (in language of performance) and scores (lead sheet style) by 55 artists for whom biographies have been prepared. The audio recordings are complemented with over 150 images, a bibliography, and links to related information. For educators, four Resource Guides contain supplementary material for elementary and secondary programs, including sheet music, and lyrics in English, Gaelic, French and Mi'kmaq languages. The suggestions for teaching, learning and assessment have been adopted from the Nova Scotia Curriculum and draw upon the site's featured songs and learning resource material.

The Beaton Institute (Cape Breton Island's regional archives), in partnership with the local community, researched its archival music holdings to create this online resource. The project was made possible through the support of Department of Canadian Heritage's Canadian Culture Online Partnerships Fund, the Mi'kmaq College Institute and the Tompkins Institute of Cape Breton University.

In my research and teaching projects, I am privileged to work closely with research participants, community and cultural institutions. I seek to integrate a variety of perspectives, facilitating conversations among 'doers' and 'knowers,' changing the way knowledge is produced and represented and stimulate the involvement of students and scholars as social and cultural activists. I hope that these online resources - which draw out the vibrancy and uniqueness of histories, places, people, cultures and communities in Canada - will provide inspiration and support for you on your own journey of teaching and learning in classrooms and communities.

Dr. Marcia Ostaszewski is the Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Canadian Studies at the University of Washington. She wrote this article in collaboration with Dr. Richard MacKinnon (Canada Research Chair in Intangible Cultural Heritage, Cape Breton University) and Catherine Arseneau (Manager, Beaton Institute at Cape Breton University).



Caption: Dr. Marcia Ostaszewski in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia (summer of 2010)



Upcoming Educator Workshops & Activities

March 5th, 2011

Arctic Sovereignty

Nadine Fabbi, Edmonds Community College, Creative Retirement Institute, Winter Quarter Classes Program/Registration Details: http://www.edcc.edu/cri/Winter11_Classes.php

March 11-13, 2011

WSCSS Leadership Retreat

Campbell's Resort & Conf. Center - Lake Chelan, WA
• Dr. Paul Storer will present on "Teaching about the World's Largest Trade Relationship"
• Dr. Marcia Ostashevski and Dr. Doug Reid will present "Resources for teaching and learning about Canada: Histories, communities, music and culture"
• Tina Storer will exhibit K-12 STUDY CANADA resources

Program/Registration Details: http://www.wscss.org/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE_user_op=view_page&PAGE_id=16

March 31-April 2, 2011

2011 National Council for History Education Conf.

Tina Storer will exhibit National Resource Centers on Canada teaching materials and workshop information. Program/Registration Details: <http://www.nche.net/conference>

April 20th, 2011

2001 Canada-US Visiting Fulbright Chair Annual Lecture (UW Seattle)

"Métis, mixed-ness and music: Aboriginal-Ukrainian encounters and cultural production on the Canadian prairies," by Dr. Marcia Ostashevski Program/Registration Details: <http://jsis.washington.edu/canada/outreach/>

July 3-8, 2011

2011 STUDY CANADA Summer Institute for K-12 Educators (Westin Hotel Ottawa, ON)

\$500 registration cost includes choice of 3 undergraduate quarter credits (WWU C/AM 410) or 40 clock hours, 5 nights' hotel, breakfasts, activity fees and RT transportation to Montréal, QC for a daytrip. Multiple \$300 travel awards and five full \$500 scholarships available! Program/Registration Details: www.k12studycanada.org/scsi.asp

August 1-7, 2011

2011 National Conference on Geographic Education (Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront, OR)

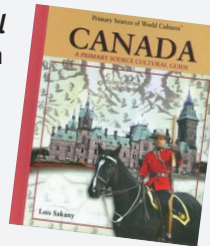
Tina Storer will exhibit National Resource Centers on Canada teaching materials and workshop information. Program/Registration Details: <http://www.ncge.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3318>

Canada in the Classroom: K-12 Resources

The publications and websites below are recommended for teaching about Canada's history and culture. A few favorites mentioned in previous issues are also worth repeating: *The Spirit of Canada: Canada's Story in Legends, Fiction, Poems, and Songs* (All Ages); *The Story of Canada* (Grades 6-9); and *M Is For Maple: A Canadian Alphabet* and additional titles by Sleeping Bear Press (Ages Pre-K-Grade 3). K-12 STUDY CANADA Teacher Loan-Kits also include great resources that can bring Canada to life in your classroom. Both the "Student Novel Collection" and "Resource Valise" (filled with nine units of multi-media and print materials) can be borrowed for four-week periods. Look at the green "Resources" file folder and "Loan Kits" at www.k12studycanada.org to learn more!

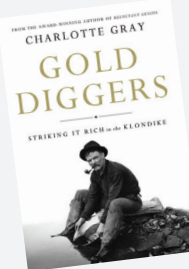
Canada: A Primary Source Cultural Guide

by Lois Sakany (Toronto: Rosen Publishing Group, 2004). Use of historic photographs, engravings, paintings, maps, and artifacts helps support classroom learning about the peoples of Canada and their culture is explored by examining Canadian myths and legends, folklore, national recipes, dance, art and music. (Educator Resource)



Gold Diggers: Striking it Rich in the Klondike

by Charlotte Gray (Toronto: HarperCollins Publishers Ltd., 2010). Filled with photos and images of primary documents, this book is one of the "top 20" Canadian history titles from 2010. When you read the fascinating stories of six extraordinary men and women whose biographies recall the boom and bust days of the Yukon Gold Rush (1896), you and your students will appreciate why... it's a great read! (Grade 9+)

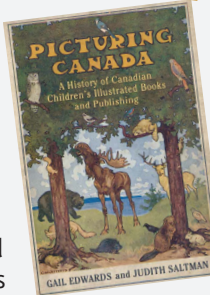


<http://booknews.bookcentre.ca/index.php> - The annual periodical Canadian Children's Book News is a wonderful source for information on new Canadian publications for children and youth and past editions are now available for free online. (Educator Resource)



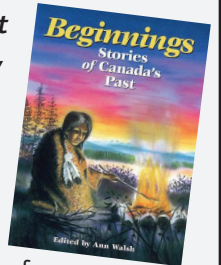
http://ccib.arts.ubc.ca/CCIB/Welcome.html

- As part of an intensive research project that resulted in the recent publication of *Picturing Canada: A History of Canadian Children's Illustrated Books and Publishing* (Studies in Book and Print Culture) by Gail Edwards and Judith Saltman, electronic resources and a searchable database of award-winning Canadian children's illustrated books was also made available online for free. The "resources" section is invaluable for deciding what books your students will love reading. (Educator Resource)



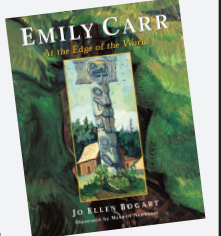
Beginnings: Stories of Canada's Past

edited by Ann Walsh (Vancouver, BC: Ronsdale Press, 2001). Walsh, a popular Canadian writer of historical fiction for youth, gathered a wonderful collection of stories by similarly accomplished authors for this historical anthology. There is also an appendix with substantial accounts of the historical context of each story. (Grade 7+)



Emily Carr: At the Edge of the World

by Jo Ellen Bogart with illustrations by Maxwell Newhouse. (Toronto: Tundra Books: 2003). Wonderful full-color reproductions of Carr's art face every page of text and both serve as an excellent way to introduce students to this renowned Canadian artist. It would make an excellent companion book to *A First Book of Canadian Art* (Wow Canada!) by Richard Rhodes in any school library, too. (Grades 5-8)



Mythspring: From the Lyrics and Legends of Canada

edited by Julie Czerneda and Genevieve Kierans (Markham, ON: Red Deer Press, 2006). This anthology of original short stories will intrigue students with its interesting mix of genres including fantasy, science fiction, and horror—all uniquely inspired by Canadian song, folktale, myth, or other cultural sources. (Grade 7+)



Her Story: Women from Canada's Past

(and *Her Story II* and *Her Story III*) by Susan E. Merritt http://www.amazon.com/Her-Story-Women-Canadas-Past/dp/1551250004/ref=sr_1_194?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1298187220&sr=1-194 (St. Catherine's, ON: Vanwell Publishing, 1993, 1995 and 1999 respectively). Merritt's series of books have graphics that add to the stories' appeal and allow students to look at the history of Canada through the experiences of diverse women who experienced both triumphs and tragedies. (Grades 5-10)



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Return Service Requested



In February the NRC worked with the World Affairs Council to offer a dynamic workshop on the Arctic.