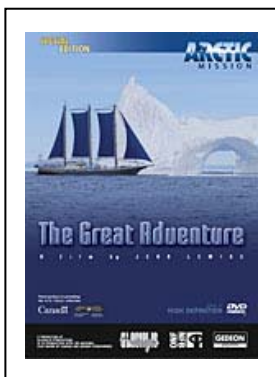


Happy Holidays Everyone! Although Thanksgiving is past, the winter holiday season is fast-approaching and I'm certain it's a busy time in all your classrooms! I am excited to share *eight* important new resources for you to use when teaching about Canada in the future—I hope you have the time to explore/order those that suit your needs best. I also want to take time to thank each of you for your continued interest in Canadian Studies. As you know, many educators do not make the effort to include Canada if not state-mandated to do so. I was heartened by the increased teacher participation at sessions relating to Canada when I was in Baltimore for the annual National Council for Social Studies conference and am hoping there will be more teachers like you joining our network. Perhaps Jesus Garcia's call for increased inclusion of Canada, Africa and Latin America in the curriculum (see the *President's Message* on page 3 of October's issue of *The Social Studies Professional*) impacted the increased attendance. His *Opening Address* also brought welcome attention to these too-often neglected areas for international and comparative social studies. Here's hoping that each of you have a safe and happy holiday and that 2005 opens new curriculum doors for teaching Canada in the US! Tina

1. **@ CANADA: A TEACHER'S GUIDE** - The Canadian Embassy has launched informative new webpages for teachers of Canada at: www.canadianembassy.org/education/index-en.asp as part of International Education Week. **@ Canada** is designed for teachers from across the US who are interested in adding Canadian content to their curriculum. It uses a variety of Internet resources to help teachers and students learn more about Canada and to discover how history, culture, government, and international roles in a post-9/11 world have shaped and strengthened the relationship between Canada and the United States. It also has useful links to "Teaching about Canada" sites.

The contents of **@ Canada** can be downloaded for easy printing (permission has been granted to use all material). Most of the pages are from official Canadian government websites, while some are Canadian university pages and encyclopedias. At the end of every document, there is a link to its original website where you and your students can continue doing research on related topics. If you would like to receive additional information, there is a place where you can provide contact information. I hope you add this as one of your bookmarked sites!

2. **PARLIAMENT IN THE CLASSROOM - THE CIVICS CHANNEL** – Visit <http://www.civicschannel.com/programs/pclass.php> to use excellent resources designed to help students better understand the workings of parliament, Canadian provincial legislatures and local government - how they work, their members and leaders - and the public policies they produce. Although more in-depth resources are available to members, the core resources and material are available online without cost.



3. **THE GREAT ADVENTURE – A NEW FILM FROM CANADA'S NFB** - *The Great Adventure* unveils the beauty of the Arctic and makes us keenly aware that climate change is seriously jeopardizing a fragile ecosystem. Filmmaker Jean Lemire and his crew undertake a five-month, 21,000 km. voyage from Montreal to Vancouver to record the impact of global warming on the Arctic. We watch as the crew navigates a three-masted sailing ship through the legendary Northwest Passage – a treacherous, ice-choked route that has captured the imaginations of great explorers for centuries. This compelling scientific and personal adventure is set against the backdrop of breathtaking scenery of Canada's North. Survival is a daily struggle in the Far North, and the *Sedna IV's* crew faces unusually cold weather that makes navigation exceptionally perilous. Home Video Price \$29.95

Produced in 2004, the DVD features choice of English/French soundtrack; filmed in high-definition *HD* NO. 153E9304148

[Click here](#) to learn more about this and four other films that are part of the Arctic Mission documentary series. [Click here](#) to visit the NFB Store.

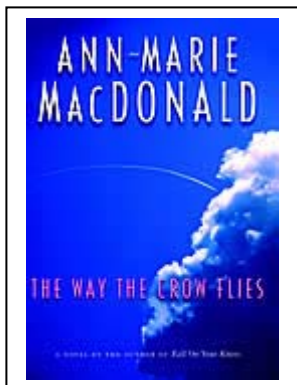
4. **CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC (NOV/DEC 2004, VOL 124, #6)** – If you are not already a subscriber, I highly recommend getting a hardcopy of this special 75th anniversary issue titled “Global Citizen: Our Evolving Role in a Changing World.” This issue includes a 3'x4 double-sided map of *Canada and the World* and the feature stories show how Canadians increasingly see themselves as global citizens by advancing a wider sense of community around the world. As the lead article notes, “Canadians have always had an advantage in that they live in a country held together by shared values rather than shared roots.” Great writing topic, right?

Fortunately, the magazine is also accessible online. Download the *Adobe SVG Viewer* and you will find much of the hardcopy material and additional resources at the following sites:

- www.canadiangeographic.ca/worldmap - offers 1) an interactive world map focusing on international development, and 2) an interactive world map, with interesting factoids on science and culture.
- www.canadiangeographic.ca/magazine/nd04/indepth - allows access to the issue's feature articles
- www.canadiangeographic.ca/Magazine/nd04/resources.asp - expanded resources links
- www.canadiangeographic.ca/75best - Throughout their anniversary year, *Canadian Geographic* is showcasing the 15 best places in each of five Canadian regions (see map). The page offers a travel sweepstakes for submitting places that belong on that final list of Canada's 75 Best! You could win a trip for two to the featured region! There's a new region and a new trip to win in each upcoming issue.

5. **THE NEW GLOBAL CITIZEN – THE CIVICS CHANNEL** – Visit <http://www.civicschannel.com/programs/global.php> to see materials that correlate well with the *Canadian Geographic* materials identified above.
6. **NEW STATS CANADA RESOURCES** – Contact me with shipping information and I will gladly mail you a copy of three new publications by Statistics Canada:
- ***Statistic Canada's Learning Resources Newsletter*** - describes a variety of programs and tools available to K-12 educators in Canada and the US.
 - ***Census at School Poster*** - 8,000 Canadian students in Grades 4 to 12 participated in last year's Census at School at www.censusatschool.ca and the results are both online and in a newly published poster. Both serve as interesting points of comparison for American students. For Canadian students, for example, moving to high school means more electronic gadgets - cellphone use almost triples. Check these and other results collected from some Click on "Data and results" to access tables of Canadian data and to request sample records from the international random data selector. New learning activities (Grades 4-12) are also found online.
 - ***Canada At A Glance 2005*** – A handy 24-page pocket reference tool that provides statistics on Canada and its people.
7. **CANADA-UNITED STATES – TRADE AND SECURITY PARTNERSHIP MAP** – Visit <http://www.canadianally.com/ca/news/map-en.asp> to request your own copy of this map that provides a state-by-state look at the world's largest trade and security relationship. Makes a great classroom poster that brings your own state's relationship with Canada into focus.

8. **RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF ADULT FICTION** – MacDonald, Ann Marie. *The Way the Crow Flies* (New York: Harper Collins Publishers Inc., 2003). 810 pages \$14.95 ISBN 0-06-058637-0



If readers enjoy a great murder mystery and historical fiction, *The Way the Crow Flies* is an excellent read for the winter months. While the murder of Claire McCarroll is loosely based on the 1959 Lynn Harper homicide, the novel goes well beyond the typical murder tale. It is a sweeping story of families recovering from the events of World War II and coming to terms with their backgrounds both in Germany and Acadia.

Stephen Truscott, age 15, was found guilty of the 1959 murder of twelve year old Lynn Harper and was sentenced to hang. In the almost half century since the murder, Truscott had his death sentence commuted and was then released on parole after ten years with a new identity. Since then there has been much debate in Canada regarding what has been termed a miscarriage of justice in the Truscott case. After living in relative anonymity until 2000, he and his family decided to go public with his life story after other wrongful convictions made headlines in Canada such as the David Milgaard and Donald Marshall cases. In October of 2004, Stephen Truscott was again in a court room. This time he hoped to learn of his vindication and possible compensation. It may take many more years to learn of Truscott's final outcome of the appeal.

While Macdonald uses the Truscott case as her inspiration (as did Pierre Berton's poem "Requiem for a Fourteen Year Old"), this novel is an interesting examination of the nature of lifestyles and issues in the Cold War era. It offers a fascinating look at the relationship between Canadians and Americans during the year of the Cuban missile crisis of the early 1960s. The reader can recall the popular culture of that era, if old enough to remember the early 1960s. Set among the homes and community of an air force base near London, Ontario, and the U.S. border, the characters survive that fateful fall on into the next spring when the murder of a nine year old American girl rocks the core of the base. There is great detail on the sexual misconduct of one of the teachers at the base school upon several of the students. Still another focus is the espionage, covert operations, and a web of dark secrets involving former Nazi war criminals and the U.S. space program.

After the sensational murder trial of Ricky Froelich, a fifteen year old Metis foster son of family living on the base, the novel focuses on the adult life of Madeline. After being a key witness in the murder trial of Ricky, Madeline goes on to become one of the stars of "After-Three TV," a comedy show on Canadian television. As an adult Madeline begins to uncover the truth of the molestations, her friend's murder, and discovers her own family's secrets. The ending is both shocking and poignant.

This is Ann-Marie Macdonald's second novel. Her first, *Fall on Your Knees*, was a New York Times bestseller, the 1997 Commonwealth Prize for Best First Fiction, and on the shortlist of *The Giller Prize*, the Chapters Canada *First Novel Award* and the *Orange Prize for Best Novel by a Woman Writer*. She has also won the *Governor General's Award for Drama* with her play *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*. Even though the eight hundred pages may seem daunting, this is a great novel to read. I would then recommend to those who enjoy great Canadian fiction to select *Fall on Your Knees*, about the Piper family of Cape Breton Island.