

**Greetings! The latest news about educator workshops, curriculum ideas, Internet sites and recent publications is offered below. This month there are six items that I wanted to bring to your attention. As usual, I hope there's something of interest to everyone. You may also want to visit the <http://k12studycanada.wvu.edu> website.**

- **2004 STUDY CANADA SUMMER INSTITUTE** - Each year during the last week of June, social studies teachers and supervisors from across the US travel to the Center for Canadian-American Studies at Western Washington University to attend the *STUDY CANADA Summer Institute for K-12 Educators*. It is a small but vital migration that has fostered teaching Canada in US schools for the past twenty-five years. Situated 20 miles south of the British Columbia border, the program allows teachers unique opportunities to visit and learn more about our neighbor to the north. Teachers like Lisa Iverson, an Oregon teacher, write to tell us, "I have attended many great workshops but the *STUDY CANADA Summer Institute* was excellent. Each session was an engaging mosaic of Canada, applicable for immediate classroom use."

The 2004 program will be held June 20-25 and will offer increased university quarter credits (3 instead of 2) or provide teachers with 40 clock hours directly, if preferred. A new tiered fee structure reduces costs for early registrants if they apply before April 1. The curriculum project that participants develop during the course of the workshop will expand their personal teaching portfolios and be shared online with other teachers through the teacher-dedicated website at <http://k12studycanada.wvu.edu>. [Click here](#) to learn more or reply to this email to indicate your interest.

- **THE ECONOMIST ON CANADA** - <http://www.economist.co.uk/countries/Canada/> provides great information for the middle and high school classroom. A country profile, survey information and links to recent *Economist* articles are available on one page. In particular, you may want students to read the December 18<sup>th</sup> article on Canada's new government: "Paul Martin's Balancing Act".
- **TEACHING WITH DEAR CANADA** – (ISBN: 0-7791-1385-3) I have mentioned the best-selling and award-winning *Dear Canada* series of historical fiction diaries in earlier email notices and discovered that a teacher's guide has been written. The fictional diaries provide a springboard for exploring different periods in Canadian history and the informative teaching guide uses the first four titles — *Orphan at My Door*, *A Prairie as Wide as the Sea*, *Footsteps in the Snow*, and *With Nothing But Our Courage* — to develop children's understanding of historical concepts and build important social studies and language arts skills.  
Teaching With *Dear Canada* begins with an overview of teaching social studies through historical fiction and a timeline of Canadian history. Then, for each of the four *Dear Canada* novels, the guide provides a summary and themes for classroom discussion. Cross-curricular activities, ready-to-use reproducibles and an extensive bibliography for each book make this guide an invaluable resource for teachers. Using *Dear Canada* books in the classroom is sure to pique students' interest in Canadian heritage.  
Author Amy Von Heyking is a professor in the Department of Elementary Education at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, where she conducts teacher workshops on the use of literature to teach social studies. She is also the lead author of *Social Studies through Literature K-3* and the series *Social Studies through Literature 3-6*.
- **THE STORY OF EVANGELINE** – 2004 marks the celebration of the *Acadian World Congress – le Congrès Mondial*. If you teach at the elementary level, you may be interested in a newly-published coloring book that bilingually re-tells Longfellow's poem. Written and published in Nova Scotia, the authors invite you to share this part of Canada's history. Call 1-800-NIMBUS-9 or email [dsoucoup@nimbus.ns.ca](mailto:dsoucoup@nimbus.ns.ca) for more information.

- **STATS CANADA RESOURCES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES TOPICS** - The 2000 online edition of "Human Activity and the Environment" has a wealth of information on Canada's environment, suitable for intermediate and secondary levels. It is easy to read with printable tables, charts and maps. It's

available in the E-STAT research tool (there is no cost to register). Visit <http://estat.statcan.ca>, click on "Accept and Enter", then on "Environment".

The online manual covers extensive topics, including ozone depletion, biodiversity, climate change and much more.

- A link to the Periodic Table of the Elements is available on each page by clicking on the Information menu ("i" icon) in the top navigation bar. <http://estat.statcan.ca/HAE/English/Home.htm>.
  - Two annual updates (in print PDF format) are also available in E-STAT's environment section, containing revised data tables and a feature article:
    - "Air Quality in Canada" in the 2002 update
    - "Fresh Water Resources" in the 2003 update. (See *The Daily* of Dec. 3, 2003 at [www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/031203/d031203a.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/031203/d031203a.htm)).
  - "Greenhouse gas emissions": On a per capita basis, each Canadian produced roughly 18.3 tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2000, one of the highest levels in the world. This was 30% higher than the average for member nations of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. See *The Daily* of September 16, 2003 <http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/030916/d030916b.htm>.
  - See also dozens of lesson plans and more articles and data in "Resources by Subject" on the "Teachers" page under "Environmental Studies" at <http://dissemination/english/kits/courses/environment.htm>.
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- **CBC'S CANADA READS 2004** - You may be interested to know that CBC recently held its third annual *Canada Reads*, a week-long discussion of Canadian literature which culminates in the selection of one book that their panel decides all Canada should read. This year Guy Vanderhaeghe's *The Last Crossing* was selected. The five books discussed this year were *The Love of a Good Woman* by Alice Munro; *Barney's Version* by Mordecai Richler; *The Heart is an Involuntary Muscle* by Monique Proulx; *Green Grass, Running Water* by Thomas King. For more information, go to <http://www.cbc.ca/canadareads/>.

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