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**CONFUCIUS
INSTITUTE**
IN EDMONTON

通讯

(Tōngxùn- newsletter)

06/04/2014
issue 01

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Events to Come

- 2014 YCT & HSK Scholarship Award Ceremony**
 - 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm, Thursday, June 5, 2014
 - McCauley Chamber, Center for Education, Kingsway 1, Edmonton
- CIE Summer Camp**
 - June 30 - July 4, 2014
 - Confucius Institute in Edmonton

3. Confucius Institute Day

- September 27, 2014
- Photo Exhibition, Culture Workshops, Taste of China, Mini-Culture Performances
- Formal Performance
- Center for Education and Eva O. Howard Theatre



The 7th Alberta Chinese Bridge for Schools - 2014

The Confucius Institute successfully ran the 7th Alberta Chinese Bridge Competition for School Students on May 31 at the Confucius Institute. This year, over 100 students from Grade 1 to 12 participated in the competition, with some coming from as far away as Calgary.

The Chinese Bridge is a demonstration of language and cultural learning. It consists of 3 components, A "Knowledge Contest" of China and Chinese Culture, a demonstration of Chinese Language Speech ability and a Talent Competition.

The CIE has received an extensive support from schools, teachers and community in helping to organize this event. Without their support, this event would not have been possible.



Visit from Delegation of 28 Universities of China

On May 27, 2014, a delegation from the University of Alberta paid a day long visit to the Confucius Institute. The delegation consists of 38 administrators and leaders from 28 different universities of China. They are completing a 3 month special training program at the University.

The delegation toured the CIE facilities, including the Chinese library and teachers' offices, And then they were given an overview of the operations of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton, and an introduction to the Chinese Bilingual program presented by Dr. Li and Mr. Wachowicz. The presentation also included an overview of the administration of k-12 systems in Alberta, as a number of the delegates had questions on school operation in Alberta. The many achievements made a deep impression on the delegation.

After visiting the CIE, the delegation toured

Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Diana Bolan, Consul Qiao Zhengshun from the Chinese Consulate in Vancouver, and Mrs. Doreen Poon-Phillips were the special guests at the event and presented speeches. Many principals and teachers attended as well showing their support. Principal Cameron Mah, speaking on behalf of the schools participating, congratulated the students on their achievements.

This event was attended by more than 400 students, parents and supporters.



Attending CLIEF 2014 Symposium at Santa Clara

Dr. Mian Xie and Dr. Wei Li attended the 2014 CLIEF Symposium at Santa Clara May 10 - 12. The symposium highlighted the Chinese immersion program of San Francisco United School District, reviewing its history, program standards and curriculum. The programs from other school districts were also shared at the symposium. Dr. Xie and Li gave a brief introduction of the Chinese Bilingual Program in Edmonton, as well as providing information on the use of YCT and HSK tests and what our students have achieved on these assessments. The information was well received at the meeting.

Kildare School, which is home to the largest Chinese Bilingual School in the city. During the visit, the delegation listened to the history of the school and its Chinese program. The highlight of the visit was observing the operating classrooms. They were impressed at the level of Chinese language proficiency possessed by these young students.

The delegation expressed their thanks for this opportunity.



Professional Development for Chinese Teachers - ACTA

On May 15, Alberta Chinese Teacher Association organized a professional development session at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. The CIE was the sponsor for this event. More than 25 teachers attended the sessions. Two special guest speakers were invited: Mr. Dong Hegang and Mr. Sheng Xiaoqian from Calgary. Their presentations were:

1. The Strategies Teachers Could Take to Protect Their Voice
2. The Integration of Drama and Speech Skills in Chinese Language Teaching

After the presentation, a discussion followed. The response from the teachers to this PD was very

The CIE has been invited to give a presentation on Edmonton's Chinese bilingual program at another conference in 2015.



positive and many felt that the ideas presented were very practical and useful in their classroom teaching.



Culture Sessions to Schools

In May, CIE teachers were busy providing many culture sessions to different EPSB schools. The sessions included Tai Chi, Chinese Dough Art, Paper Cutting, Chinese Knots and Chinese Tea Ceremony. Among the schools that benefited from the CIE culture program, were Londonderry School, Kildare School, Winterburn School, Centennial School and M.E. LaZerte School.

The CIE teachers were working very hard to provide sessions that are informative, interesting and memorable for students, providing them with a good introduction to a number of aspects of Chinese culture. The culture sessions were well received by the students and teachers.

CIE Support to Math in the Chinese Bilingual Program

CIE teachers and librarians provided strong support to the teaching of mathematics in the Chinese bilingual program. Mathematics is taught in Chinese in a number of the bilingual schools. A few months ago, the CIE helped purchase hundreds of Chinese math resources from China. This was to help address the shortage of Chinese math references for teachers. This was done in partnership with the Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education (IISLE). CIE teachers and Dr. Mau Lao, the CIE librarian offered the help to catalogue these books so the teachers will be able to borrow and utilize these resources.



Successful Trip to China For Londonderry Confucius Classroom

Londonderry School organized a group of students to visit their Chinese partner school in Qingdao, Shandong Province. Twenty students and 4 teachers, as well as the principal made the trip. This proved to be a great learning experience for the students, of whom for many it was their first time in China.

Spending a few days in their partner school, the students also experienced a home stay with Chinese students and enjoyed a taste of everyday Chinese life. Students also participated in many exchange activities with their Chinese counterparts. Our students had the opportunity to use their Chinese language they have learned at the school and also provided English modelling for their new Chinese friends.

Returning through Beijing, the group visited many historical and cultural sites gaining an appreciation of the richness of Chinese culture and history.

Hanban kindly sponsored all the expenses in China in support of the Londonderry Confucius Classroom.



Great Learning Experience in China for the Parkview Confucius Classroom

A delegation of students from Parkview School's Confucius Classroom made a trip to their Shandong partner school in Jinan, Shandong Province. Parkview sent 30 students, 3 teachers and principal, as well as 7 parents to China. The response to this trip has been fantastic as participants realized the value of this learning experience. For many students was their first time to travel to China and their first time away from family.

Their partner school is Jinan Foreign Language School which served as a most gracious host for the delegation from Canada. The Jinan school organized a variety of the activities for the students to enable them to get to know each other and exchange ideas and aspects of life in China and Canada. Students from both schools exchanged ideas in both Chinese and English showing the value of their years of language learning.

Returning through Beijing, the Parkview students experienced a number of exciting historical and cultural sites, such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven and the

Summer Palace. The delegation also had the opportunity to taste the most famous dish in Beijing - Beijing Duck.

Hanban generously covered all costs incurred in China, as part of the support provided to Confucius Classrooms.

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