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**CONFUCIUS  
INSTITUTE**  
IN EDMONTON

**通讯**

( Tōngxùn- newsletter )

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# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



HolidaysWishes.net

**Wish You All a Happy Chinese New Year!**

**祝大家羊年喜气羊羊，  
幸福美满，事事如意！**

**Upcoming Special Event:**

**The registration for the 4th Alberta Chinese Bridge Competition for University Students has started. If you are interested, please go to [www.confuciusedmonton.ca](http://www.confuciusedmonton.ca) for details.**



**Mandarin Class for Parents  
at Meadowlark School**

The Confucius Institute is pleased to have started the first Mandarin class for parents at Meadowlark School. With the strong support from the principal and at the request of parents, the CIE has commenced offering the first session of Mandarin language classes for



**2015 CIE Mandarin Classes for  
the Community**

On the 29th of January, the CIE winter session for Mandarin classes commenced. There are six courses presently offered, two classes for Level 1(Beginner Mandarin) and one class each for Level 2, 3 and 4 Mandarin. Another Mandarin class is for Cantonese speakers. The classes run two evenings each week for a total of 3 hours per week. More than 40

about 20 parents. The parents involved have their children enrolled in the Chinese bilingual program at the school and also wish to learn Chinese. We truly believe that the students' learning of Chinese will be enhanced and encouraged by the parents also being involved in language learning. It will help create the Chinese language learning environment at home.



## CIE Cultural Courses Commence for the 2015 Winter Session

The CIE cultural classes for the 2015 winter session started again on January 30th. This is the 6th year for CIE to run such classes. A variety of cultural courses are being offered, including Calligraphy, Tai Chi, Tai Chi Fan, Yangqin, Er Hu and Guzhen. More than 50 students are in attendance.

Yangqin class has become one of the most popular cultural course at the CIE. This semester, two Yangqin classes are offered with more than 10 students each. The students from the Yangqin classes formed a CIE Yangqin Performance team which will perform at the Chinese New Year celebration at West Edmonton Mall on the 8th of February.

students registered for these classes. Some of the students have studied Mandarin here at the CIE for more than 3 years. Over the years many students have expressed how grateful they are for the high quality of instruction and how these courses have provided a great opportunity for learning Chinese in a pleasant and enjoyable way,



## Chinese Cultural Sessions in Schools

The visiting teachers of the CIE continue to provide cultural support to schools by offering free workshops and sessions for students. In January, CIE visiting teachers offered a variety of cultural courses to Coronation School, Caernarvon School, and Winterburn School. These included Chinese dough art, paper cutting and Chinese painting. Such cultural experiences are well received by the students, teachers and parents.

Every year, CIE visiting teachers go to about 40 different schools to offer this free cultural program and annual they bring lessons in Chinese art forms to more than 10000 students a

year.

These cultural workshops and sessions provide the opportunity for our students to appreciate Chinese traditional art and to develop a better understanding of Chinese culture helping them to have a broader understanding of the world.



## 2015 Chinese Bridge for University Students

The 4th Annual Alberta Chinese Bridge Competition for University Students will be held on March 22nd at University of Alberta. This year, the Chinese Consulate General of the P.R. China in Vancouver is the main organizer, with co-organizers being the U of A, U of C, China Institute, MacEwan University, Mount Royal University, Concordia University College of Alberta and the CIE.

On the 28th of January, the first planning meeting for this event was held at the CIE, attended by the representatives from the involved institutes.

The Chinese Bridge competition was initiated and sponsored by Hanban (Office of Chinese Language Council International). Since 2002, Hanban has successfully hosted the final world



## Training for CIE Visiting Teachers

On the 28th of January, the CIE organized a monthly training session for all its 16 visiting teachers. At the meeting, all of the teachers shared their experiences in which they spoke of events at schools and at the CIE, which led to successful learning results for students. At the same time, they explained some of the challenges and issues they encounter and discussed how these can be best resolved. Many of them expressed their appreciation of the support received from schools and the CIE to help them overcome challenges, especially for those who have just arrived at Edmonton. All the visiting teachers indicated that they felt fortunate to have the opportunity to work at the CIE and they felt very much at home.

competition in China every year. It has become a very popular event around the world for university students as a platform to learn Chinese and Chinese culture.



## Support for International Day at Concordia University College of Alberta

On the 12th of January, Concordia University College of Alberta celebrated their first International Day. The CIE was invited to provide the support for this event. Several of the CIE's visiting teachers provided demonstrations of Chinese Dough Art, Chinese Knots and Paper Cutting. In addition, the CIE also provided the opportunity for the university students and staff to have a taste of Chinese traditional food, including onion cake, spring rolls and dumplings.

Many other ethnic groups were also involved in this event, including Indian, Dutch and Spanish. The CIE visiting teachers were invited to dance with Dutch ethnic dance group. All agreed it was

At this moment, CIE has 16 visiting teachers, 6 working at the CIE and 10 working at 10 different schools. Many schools highly value the support they are receiving from the visiting teachers who are assisting with their Chinese programs.



## Visit from The China Club of Concordia University College of Alberta

Concordia University College of Alberta recently established the Concordia China Club, which is a student organization to promote Chinese language and culture on campus. On the 23rd of January, Dr. Zeuch, the vice president international of Concordia University and 3 executive directors of China Club visited the CIE. They toured the facilities and learned more about the CIE's operations..

At the meeting, some potential cooperation was discussed. The CIE will provide support to the China Club which will include the offering of Mandarin language and cultural sessions. Some

a most worthwhile event and one that brought people together fostering harmony and understanding.



### Visit to Walter and Gladys Hill Public School in Fort McMurray

The CIE was invited to pay a visit to the Walter and Gladys Hill Public School at Fort McMurray to discuss ways in which support may be provided for a potential new Chinese program at this school.

Mr. Stuart Wachowicz and Dr. Wei Li visited the school and met with the principal Ms. Annalee Nutter and the assistant principal Mr. David Parsons. James Wang, the president of Chinese Community, also attended the meeting. Mr. Wachowicz gave the presentation on the CIE. Mrs. Annalee Nutter explained their interests to establish the Chinese program at her school, to help meet the needs and requests of the local community. The school appreciated the sharing of the experiences of the development of Edmonton Chinese programs and will be moving forward to consider further development of the initiative.

other supports will also be available for future the events that will be organized by the Concordia China Club.



### CIE New Visiting Teacher Arrived at Ecole La Verendrye School

Ecole La Verendrye School in Lethbridge is a new established Confucius Classroom. This Francophone School has commenced the offering of the Chinese language instruction and also plans to provide the Chinese language and Chinese cultural courses to the local community.

The CIE has identified a French speaking visiting teacher, Ms. Xie Li, to provide the support to this school as well as the community. Ms. Xie arrived in Lethbridge 3 weeks ago and her support to the school and the community has been well received and welcomed. Ms. Xie is also a graduate of the University of Lyon and is excited to be able to commence Chinese language learning in Lethbridge.

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