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**CONFUCIUS
INSTITUTE**
IN EDMONTON

通讯

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



**CIE Principal Delegation
Pays a Visit to
Hanban/Headquarters of Confucius Institutes in Beijing**

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Visit to China by CIE Principal Delegation

At the beginning of October, a CIE Principal Delegation paid a visit to China. The main purpose of the visit was for the principals and school district leaders to experience Chinese culture and also build a stronger relationship with our partner schools. The delegation included 5 principals and 2 trustees. During the 9 days, the delegation had opportunity to visit the Hanban/Headquarters of Confucius Institutes, the Shandong Ministry of Education as well as the Shandong partner schools of the Confucius Classroom schools from Edmonton. Through the visit, the delegation built a better understanding of the needs of their partner schools which will serve to enhance a long term, positive partnership. The deputy minister of the Shandong Ministry of Education and the Hanban leaders met the delegation and enjoyed a good exchange of ideas.



During the visit, the delegation also had



CIE Principal Delegation Visit Partner Schools

During the visit to China, the CIE Principal Delegation had opportunity to visit our Shandong Partner Schools. Five principals and 2 trustees spent almost two days visiting their respective partner schools. Two are in Qingdao City, one in Shouguang City and two in Jinan City.



The delegation received an extremely warm welcome by the principals, teachers and the students and they toured their school facilities, watched the students' performances, visited their classrooms, as well as meet with their principals and staff. A good discussion developed about the collaborations and partnerships, as well as exchanges between the schools on both sides. Some creative ideas came out from the meetings. Everyone acknowledged and appreciated the importance

opportunity to visit some of the culture highlights in Beijing, like Great Wall and the Forbidden City, as well as the modern city of Shanghai. The high speed train to Shanghai made a great impression on the delegation members.

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CI Director Training at Xiamen

During the third week of October, Dr. Wei Li attended the CI Director Training Session at Xiamen University. This training is organized by Hanban and hosted by Xiamen University. Seventy two CI directors from many different countries from all over the world participated in the training session.

The vice president of Xiamen University, Dr. Zhan Xinli, gave a speech at the opening ceremony welcoming all the participating directors to Xiamen. The deputy director general of Hanban, Mr. Xia Jianhui, delivered a presentation at the session and also answered questions from the directors along with other Hanban officials.

The training sessions were every effective and fruitful. All the participating directors had a chance to share their work and experiences, as well as have a good discussion on some concerns and ideas to improve the CI work. During the training sessions, all the delegates had the opportunity to

of such relationships that will enhance the education programs and benefit all involved students.

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Presentation on Confucius by Professor Wang Xinguang

Dr. Wang Xinguang, from Zhengzhou University of China was invited by the Confucius Institute in Edmonton to provide a presentation on Confucius life and his philosophy, as a part of professional training for Chinese teachers. Dr. Wang has spent years researching and studying Confucius and has established his new understanding hand explanation of Confucius Analects.



Professor Wang did the first presentation for more than 20 Chinese visiting teachers at CIE on October 4. He elaborated on “Time” and “Benevolence” by quoting the “Book of the Poem” and “The Analects of Confucius”, which are the core ideas of Confucius philosophy, and pointed out that Confucius’

visit the famous culture city, Quanzhou, that is the harbor city which is considered as the starting point of the silk-road of the sea, initiated hundreds of years ago. and led by one well-known Chinese Admiral named Zheng He.

At the end of the training, Dr. Roger Lord, the Canadian piano prodigy, put a concert for all the director, students and teachers from Xiamen University.

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Chinese Dough Art in an Athabasca School

Three CIE visiting teachers were invited by Landing Trail Intermediate School at Athabasca in northern Alberta, to provide the Chinese culture support to one of their annual international festivals, known as 'Fly High'. This is an annual program of this school and the CIE has offered this support for the last 6 years.

thought was developing over time. After his presentation, there was a very good discussion and Dr. Wang answered a number of questions from the teachers. This is the first time Dr. Wang did his presentation in Canada. His ideas were well received. Dr. Wang has already made several presentations in US.

Professor Wang will also give his presentation to another group in Edmonton as well as at the Confucius Institute of Saskatchewan University.

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Book Donation from the Local Community

The CIE recently received a large book and picture donation from Mrs. Patricia Senych, who is a retired lady living in Thorhild, Alberta.

Mrs. Senych and her husband Mr. Michael Senych, traveled to China for many times and grew fond of Chinese culture and Chinese people. During all their trips to China, they had collected a large amount of books, pictures and art. Mr. Michael Senych was an MLA for many years in Alberta and also served as the mayor of Thorhild until 2002, when he



On October 6, CIE teachers, Song Jia, Wang Jin and Deng Jitao drove more than 200 kilometers to share their skills in Chinese dough art, one of the most famous and traditional Chinese art forms, with about 100 students and teachers. All the students were worked very hard to learn how to make the lovely dough figure "Bee". Some of the students were amazed about what they could do with the Chinese dough. Looking at all the bee figures they made, the students were very proud of their achievement. Some of the students, had worked with dough art previously and could still remember the Chinese names of what they made.

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passed away because of the car accident.



This year Mrs. Seynch was ready to move into senior housing in Edmonton and she was wondering what to do with all the books and pictures they collected. She thought of the Confucius Institute, since she heard a lot about the Institute providing strong support for Chinese language and culture education in the schools and community. She decided to donate all their collections to the CIE for the best use of this resource.

The support from Mrs. Seynch is very much appreciated and we are sure that their collection will help more people and students appreciate China and Chinese culture in the future.

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Chinese Culture Classes for Schools and Community

Starting in October, the CIE visiting teachers were getting busier providing Chinese culture classes to many schools and community organizations.

Up to this moment, more than 15 schools have sent the requests to the CIE asking for Chinese culture workshops and classes, such as Chinese dough art, calligraphy, Chinese painting, Tai Chi, Chinese dance, Chinese paper cutting, etc.



Some community organizations have also requested the above culture courses and workshops. The CIE visiting teachers have started a program for a senior group at the ASSIST Community Services Center, with a series of culture classes in Chinese dough art, Chinese paper cutting and Chinese knots.

As we come closer to Christmas and Chinese New Year, the CIE teachers will get busier and busier in providing these workshops and activities to the schools and the community.

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2016 Fall HSK Test

The CIE organized the 2016 fall HSK test on the 16th of October at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. This was the third time the CIE has hosted an HSK writing this year.

It is notable that the Chinese HSK Test has become increasingly desirable and popular. This test is the Chinese equivalent of the English TOEFL, and is the only Chinese language test considered as an international standard and provides a recognized credential honoured worldwide. If students want to apply to study in China or to apply for a scholarship to study in China, the HSK is the credential needed for the application. In addition, the HSK is also quite useful as an indicator of one's Chinese language proficiency when applying for employment where Chinese language skills is considered an asset or requirement.

In 2016, the CIE delivered the YCT (Youth Chinese Test) and the HSK test to more than 1400 students. Most of them came from the schools and universities, but some were from the community. The CIE has become one of the largest and most recognized HSK testing centers in North America.

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