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通讯
(Tōngxùn- newsletter)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

03/13/2017
issue 01



Chinese Culture Experiences

A Gala by Lanzhou University Art Troupe to
Celebrate Chinese New Year and the 150th
Anniversary of Confederation

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Performance from Lanzhou University Art Troupe

On February 12, the CIE hosted a gala 'Chinese Cultural Experience' at the Myer Horowitz Theatre in celebration of Chinese New Year, the Lantern Festival, as well as the 150th Anniversary of Canada. This gala was performed by the Lanzhou University Art Troupe. Hanban/Headquarters of Confucius Institutes was the sponsor for this performance.

The performance was extremely successful. Many special guests attended the gala, including Deputy Consul General Wang Lei from Chinese Consulate of Calgary, Deputy Premier of Alberta and Health Minister Sarah Hoffman, MLAs Denise Wollard and Thomas Dang. Deputy Minister of Alberta Education, Dr. Curtis Clarke also attended along with the Director of International Education Services of Alberta Education, Waldemar Riemer, Trustee Bridget Stirling and an acting Executive Director Nancy Petersen from Edmonton Public School Board. were also in attendance.



Lanzhou University Art Troupe Visited Three Confucius Classrooms

On February 13, the Lanzhou University Art Troupe spent a day visiting 3 Confucius Classrooms in Edmonton, Edith Roger School, McNally High School and Rosslyn School.

During their visit, they put on a one-hour performance for the students and teachers at each school. The amazing performances received much applause from the students and teachers. The beautiful Uyghur dance and martial arts were especially popular. They also performed a Tai Chi demonstration and some students tried learning some movements of Tai Chi. At the end of the performance, both sides exchanged the gifts.





The gala included a variety of performances such as dancing, performances of Chinese musical instruments, singing, martial arts, drama and calligraphy accompanied by music. CIE teacher Du Jinjin and students from Ottewell Confucius Classroom also performed a Chinese dance named “North & South of China”.

The performance was well received by the audience. The 700-seat theater was packed. It was a wonderful opportunity for Edmontonians to enjoy Chinese culture and performing arts and to celebrate the Canadian multiculturalism.

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Visit from Canada China Business Council

McNally High School Confucius Classroom provided lunch for the visitors. During the lunch, the McNally students had the opportunity to chat with the members and exchange stories of school life and study. McNally students performed a lion and a dragon dance for the visitors. Within a short time, they became good friends. It was encouraging to see such real and spontaneous interaction among the students and visitors.

The school visit has enhanced the learning of the students and also enabled our students to have a better understanding of Chinese culture and enabled the development of a strong relationship between the students from Canada and China. The principal of McNally High School wrote a thanks letter to the CIE to express her appreciation for such an opportunity for their students.

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Grand Opening Ceremony for the Confucius Classroom at

The CIE became a member of the Canada China Business Council in 2016. On February 9, the Executive Director of CCBC, Mrs. Sarah Kutulakos, paid a visit to the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. She toured the CIE facilities and then sat down and had a good discussion with Mr. Stuart Wachowitz, the Chair of CIE Board of Directors, and the CIE director Dr. Wei Li.

Mrs. Sarah Kurulakos listened to the brief introduction about the establishment and development of CIE as well as the work and achievements the CIE has made during the last 8 years in supporting and promoting Chinese language and culture program in Edmonton Public Schools and the surrounding community. Mrs. Kutulakos was very impressed with what the CIE has achieved to enhance the language program and to improve understanding of China and its culture in Alberta.



It was also discussed that there would be a lot of potential for cooperation and partnership between the two organizations in support of exchange programs between the two countries in the areas of education, culture, business and trade.

The CCBC hosted a lunch seminar in Edmonton on the same day, inviting Consul General Wang Xinping from Calgary and Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Government of Alberta Deron Bilous.

Walter and Gladys Hill Public School

On February 16, Walter and Gladys Hill Public School of Fort McMurray hosted a grand opening ceremony for their Confucius Classroom. More than 500 people attended the ceremony. Among them are Mr. Jeff Thompson, Board Chair of Fort McMurray Public Schools, Doug Nicholls, Superintendent of Fort McMurray Public Schools, MLA Tany Yao, Lily Gu, Vice President of Fort McMurray Chinese-Canadian Cultural Society, Dr. Wei Li, Director of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton.

Principal Annalee Nutter welcomed the guests and presided over the opening ceremony.

The students from Walter and Gladys Hill Public School sang “Jingle Bells” and “Happy New Year” in Mandarin and performed Tai Chi. Local Chinese artists from Fort McMurray Chinese-Canadian Cultural Society and students from the local weekend Chinese school showed their support and performed Chinese cultural performances in celebration of the event.

Walter and Gladys Hill Public School started their Mandarin program in 2015. This year the number of students learning Chinese has increased to about 500 with more than 20 classes from Kindergarten to grade 6. The board chair Mr. Thompson and the Superintendent Mr. Nicholls

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Chinese New Year Potluck Lunch at Woodcroft

On February 3, the CIE staff provided an annual Chinese New Year lunch for all the staff working at the Language Centre at Woodcroft and all the staff of IISLE, in celebration of the Year of Rooster.

Most of the food was home made by CIE staff and teachers, including many Chinese New Year traditional dishes such as Jiao Zi, fish, chicken, Wonton Soup, Spring Rolls, etc.

This event has become a tradition at Woodcroft. It is very popular and many of the consultants and people expressed their enjoyment of the delicious food and warm atmosphere, as well as their appreciation of all the hard work from the CIE staff to provide this very

indicated in their speech that there will be a huge potential in the development of Chinese program for this school and other schools in Fort McMurray Public School Board.

Mr. Deng Jitao, the visiting teacher from CIE, has done an amazing job in teaching and developing the program at the school as well as in the community.

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Alberta Chinese Teachers Celebrate Chinese New Year

The CIE and the Alberta Chinese Teacher Association hosted a dumpling party for Chinese teachers to celebrate Chinese New Year, the year of Rooster on February 3.

This is an annual event. More than 30 Chinese teachers attended this party, including the CIE visiting teachers.

The dumpling is the traditional Chinese New Year food, especial in the north part of China. All the attending teachers work together to make the dumplings. Some were making the dough, some making the filling and some cooking the dumplings. It was an enjoyable time, especially for those

special Chinese lunch.



In addition to the delicious Chinese food, it is more important that people from different cultural background gets together to share and to have fun renewing friendships.

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new visiting teachers who just came to Canada not long ago. This party made them feel at home.



After finishing eating the dumplings, the teachers were divided into groups to have some singing competitions. It was a great opportunity for them to show their talents.

All the teachers had a good time at the party and they appreciated the organizers and gave them this unforgettable time.

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Start of the Winter Session of CIE Mandarin and Culture Classes

At the beginning of February, the winter session of the CIE Mandarin and culture classes started. The CIE offers two sessions every year. The fall session has 10 weeks and the winter session has 15 weeks of instruction. This is the eighth year the CIE provides such classes to the public and the community.



Chinese New Year Celebration at Fukienese Association of Alberta

On February 17, Dr. Wei Li was invited by Fukienese Association of Alberta to their Chinese New Year celebration and also to bring a greeting on behalf of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton.

The CIE offers 5 levels of Mandarin classes with more than 40 students registered. The number registering in beginner classes has increased so Two beginner classes have been offered.

In addition to the Mandarin class, the CIE also offers the Chinese culture instruction on Saturdays, including Tai Chi, Chinese dance, calligraphy, Chinese painting, Yangqin and Erhu.

All the teachers have worked very hard to provide the students the best learning experiences. Among the students, some of them have studied at CIE for many years. They appreciate and value the opportunity CIE provided to them.

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The celebration was started with fire-crackers and dance. A variety of performances followed in which Chinese class students demonstrated their skills and artistic skill. These students came from a number of community organizations. More than 200 people attended the event. Among them were MP Kelly McCauley, MLA Bob Turner and other leaders of the local Chinese organizations.

The Fukienese Association of Alberta has a long history and they have worked very hard to maintain awareness of Chinese culture and heritage. With much effort, they offer different levels of Chinese to the children of their members and the public. At present, they have about 150 students registered to learn Chinese at their Chinese School.

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