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CONFUCIUS
INSTITUTE
IN EDMONTON

通讯

(Tōngxùn- newsletter)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

05/18/2018
February,
2018



**In Memory of Dr. Brian Evans,
Confucius Institute in Edmonton Hosted
the Book Donation Ceremony
to Acknowledge his Contributions
to the CIE Chinese Library**



Book Donation Recognition Ceremony

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton hosted a book donation recognition ceremony on April 26 to acknowledge the contribution of Dr. Brian Evans to the Chinese library of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. More than 50 people attended the ceremony, many of them are professors of the University of Alberta and community leaders who were Dr. Brian Evans' former colleagues and friends.

At the ceremony, Dr. Evans' friend, Dr. Patricia Prestwich delivered a speech about the book donation and shared memoirs of Dr. Brian Evans' relationship to and passion for China and Chinese people as well as the local Chinese community. The Board Chair of Edmonton Public Schools, Michelle Draper, sent a written message expressing appreciation and thanks for the book donation. In memory of Dr. Brian Evans, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton presented a plaque to his family in recognition of his contribution.



Panda Photo Exhibition

Four lovely pandas have moved to the Calgary zoo as their new home. In order to welcome them to Calgary, Alberta, the Chinese Consulate in Calgary set up a Panda photo exhibition in Calgary's City Hall. The grand opening of this photo exhibition was held on April 27, and was attended by more than 200 VIP's including many officials from all three levels of government.



The Confucius Institute was invited to display the traditional Chinese dough art of Panda at the ceremony. It has drawn many people's interest. The CIE teachers were kept busy for the entire ceremony, making and demonstrating the dough art pandas. The little and lovely dough pandas were so cute that many people old and young wanted to

We believe that all the books donated by Dr. Brian Evans will benefit our students and community members by fostering a better understanding about China and helping build a stronger relationship between China and Canada.

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Delegation Visit from Universities in China

On April 13, the Confucius Institute welcomed a delegation of 54 people from different universities in China. The delegates are attending a special three-month training program at the University of Alberta.

The delegation toured the CIE facilities including the CIE Chinese library, offices, culture centre, classrooms and the visiting teachers' office. They also looked at the photo displays in the hallway. They then attended a presentation by Dr. Wei Li on the development of CIE and its operation and programs to support Chinese language education and to

have one to keep. The CIE teachers made more than one hundred pandas to give away. Many appreciated such a lovely gift from the Confucius Institute.



CIE Hosted A New Book Launch

On April 27, the CIE hosted a book launch supported by Audrey's Books and Canada China Friendship Association of Edmonton (CCFAE). The new book is a Chinese translation by Dr. Leilei Chen from University of Alberta of an English book named "Nationalism: A Very Short Introduction" by famous scholar Steven Grosby.

The book launch was well attended by more than 50 people. Among them were Lesley Cormak, Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Alberta, and Christopher Lupke, Chairman of the Department of East Asian Studies of University of Alberta.

Dr. Lupke delivered a speech to introduce Dr. Leilei Chen and to share his thoughts on the

promote the Chinese culture.



In the afternoon, the Confucius Institute arranged for the delegation to pay a visit to Caernarvon School, one of the six Chinese bilingual elementary schools in the Edmonton Public Schools district. During the visit, the principal provided a brief introduction about the Chinese program. The students from grade 4 to 6 sang songs to welcome the delegation, and the delegation also had the opportunity to observe some of the Chinese classes.

Although the visit was short, CIE's many achievements and the Chinese bilingual program left an unforgettable impression for the delegation.

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book. Ms. Chi Wenrong, President of CCFAE also provided her reflection and comments on the book and related her understanding of 'Nation' and 'Nationalism'.



Lastly, Dr. Leilei Chen spoke about her book and shared the how and why she decided to translate this book. The book provides deep thoughts and understandings about the notion of 'Nationalism' and how it will help people to build a mutual respectful and multicultural society around the world.

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Chinese Culture Day for Edith Rogers School Students

On April 12, the CIE hosted a group of 17 students and two teachers from Edith Rogers School for a Chinese cultural day experience. After a brief introduction on CIE by Mr. Jinjun Wang, Chinese director of the CIE, the students were divided into two groups to experience Chinese knots and dough art. With the teachers' instruction and demonstration, all the students learned how to do the bracelet and the dough figure dog which has a special meaning as 2018 is the Year of Dog.



This is the third year for the students from Edith Rogers School Confucius Classroom came to visit the



Visit from CIs at University of Saskatchewan and University of Regina

On April 11, a delegation of 15 people from Confucius Institutes (CIs) at the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina paid a visit to the CIE. The delegation was led by Dr. Li Zong, Director and Dr. Ning Liu, Chinese director of the CI at the University of Saskatchewan, and Ms. Li Liu, Operations Director and Lu Gan, Chinese Director of the CI at the University of Regina.



During the visit, the delegation toured the CIE's facilities. They showed a great interest in the library, courses and services CIE provided as well as the hallway gallery. After a Chinese work lunch, Dr. Wei Li, director of the CIE, gave a brief introduction on the development of CIE. The teachers from all

Confucius Institute. Although the field trip was short, it provided a good opportunity for the students - especially those students in the English regular program - to learn and experience Chinese culture and to become motivated to learn Chinese.

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton offers cultural programs such as these for any interested schools. Schools from outside of Edmonton as far as Red Deer and Calgary also bring their students to the Confucius Institute to learn more about China.

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three CIs had good communication sharing their work and life experiences in Canada. The CIE teacher also shared the techniques for making the dough and the dough figure dog. During the break, the teachers demonstrated Chinese handkerchief dance, martial arts, Guzheng, Erhu and piano.

The visit was a good experience for all the teachers and they learned a lot from one another.

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Celebration of 35th Anniversary of ECBEA

On April 7, a gala to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association (EABEA) was held at the Eva O. Howard Theatre. Approximately 700 people attended the event. Among them were government



Student China Trip

In March and April, four Confucius Classrooms arranged for student delegations to visit China. Approximately 90 students and teachers paid a visit to their Shandong partner schools as well as Beijing and Xian. During the trip, students had opportunities to experience rich Chinese cultures as well as exchange activities with the students

representatives, EPSB Trustees, principals, teachers, students and parents. The CIE teachers, staff and families also attended the event. The CIE dance team was invited to perform at the gala.

This was a very special performance since most people in the team are teachers from Chinese bilingual schools. CIE also organized the students from three Confucius Classrooms to perform.



ECBEA has been dedicated to promoting and supporting Edmonton's Chinese Bilingual Program since it was established in 1983. So far, "the best Chinese language program outside of China" has over 2,000 students in 13 Edmonton Public schools. In the past 10 years, the CIE has worked closely with ECBEA, attending ECBEA monthly meetings, participating in the annual Chinese New Year celebration organized by ECBEA, and sponsoring EABEA scholarships. In the future, the CIE will continue to work hand in hand with ECBEA to promote Chinese language and culture and the Chinese bilingual

from their partner schools. They practiced their Chinese language skills, had Chinese culture activities and games, visited the Chinese students' homes and visited the local culture sites. In Beijing, they visited Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters and also some historical sites such as the Great Wall, Forbidden City and Summer Palace. The students also had the opportunity to taste a variety of Chinese food.



Some of the students and teachers have shared that they really enjoyed their trip, learned a lot about Chinese culture and saw the modern China. Their experience really opened their eyes and helped them get to know China much better.

Hanban provided the financial support for the trip for the four delegations, and the Confucius Institute in Edmonton and Shandong Education Department also offered strong assistance and support in coordinating the delegation's trip.

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program.

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China Alive - A Project with University of Alberta

At the invitation of Dr. Natalie Kononenko of the University of Alberta, the CIE has been involved in the development of the China Alive website. The website is intended to promote Chinese culture in the schools and community. The project has been under construction for a few years and is now ready for use.

The CIE provided support by arranging for the U of A students to introduce the China Alive website to grade 3 and 4 classes at different schools.



Chinese Bridget for University Students at University of Calgary

On March 17, the 7th Alberta Chinese Bridge Competition for university students was held at the Hotel Alma in Calgary. It was organized by Chinese Language Teaching and Research Association.

This competition was attended by approximately 30 students. The majority of students were from the University of Calgary, and some were from the University of Alberta and Concordia University of Edmonton.





On April 9, the CIE was invited to attend the formal presentation of China Alive website at the University of Alberta. In recognition of the contributions of the students to this website, CIE presented a thank you card with a gift to all the students involved in this project.

The China Alive website presents a variety of information on China and Chinese culture including such topics as city life and village life in China, China's festivals and traditions, Chinese crafts, shopping and transportation in China. It is easy for students to access Chinese culture and to have a glimpse of China by browsing this website. It is a great resource for students to learn about the Chinese culture and China.

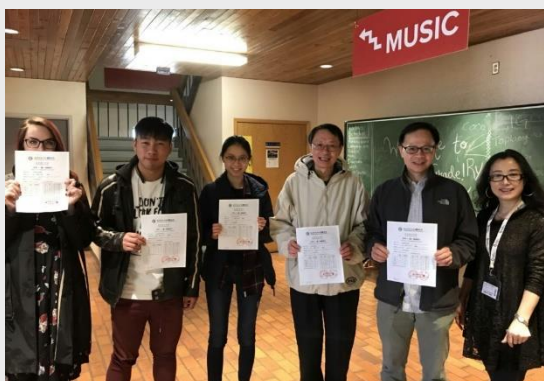
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This is a Chinese language speech competition and all the participants told some stories about their experiences about China. Some of the stories were very impressive.

This competition was supported and sponsored by the Chinese Consulate in Vancouver as well as CIE.

Consul Fu from Chinese Consulate in Vancouver attended the award ceremony, as did Consul Bai and Consul Li from the Chinese Consulate in Calgary, and Dr. Wei Li and Mr. Jinjiun Wang from CIE.

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HSK Test for the Public and Community

The CIE held the HSK test on March 19 and April 22 for students from the public and community. Sixteen students from the universities and community took different levels of the HSK test. During the last few years, CIE has received more and more inquiries and requests for the HSK test. One of the reasons is that an increasing number of students have indicated an interest in studying or working in China. The HSK test is the language requirement – similar to English international tests such as TOEFL and IELTS.



CIE normally offers the HSK test only two times a year. Now CIE has increased the



The 14th Canadian Chinese Teacher Conference

On April 28, the 14th Canadian Chinese Teacher Conference was held in Vancouver. Approximately 70 teachers across Canada attended the conference. Counsellor Yu and Consul Fu from the Education Office of the Chinese Consulate in Vancouver also attended the opening of the conference and brought greetings.

The Chinese teachers included teachers from the universities and also the schools. A variety of presentations were shared at the conference on different topics related to Chinese language learning.



Dr. Liang Tian, special Chinese advisor for

number of opportunities for the public and community. In 2018, CIE has already offered the test four times and there will be two more opportunities in May.

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Alberta Education, and Dr. Wei Li, the director of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton, attended the conference and gave a presentation on 'Impact of Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Program on Career Development'. The presentation was based on a survey study on the graduates from the program. The studies received a lot of attention from the audience.

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