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通讯  
( Tōngxùn- newsletter )

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

06/07/2018  
May, 2018



**The 11th Alberta Chinese Bridge Competition for School Students was Held on May 26, 2018 at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton.**

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## CIE successfully organized 2018 Spring HSK/YCT Tests

On May 1 and 2, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton organized the 2018 Spring HSK/YCT tests. Approximately 1300 students from 18 schools in Edmonton, Calgary and Fort McMurray wrote the tests.

In order to make the tests successful, the CIE, school teachers and administrators put in a lot of time and effort to set up the test including registration, test administration and arrangements as well as preparing the students for the test. On the testing days, the CIE also sent all the visiting teachers to schools to help administrate the HSK/YCT tests.



## Grand Opening of Panda Passage House at Calgary Zoo

On May 7, the Calgary Zoo, China National Tourism Administration and Hainan Airline hosted the grand opening of the Panda Passage House at the Calgary Zoo. The opening was the start of the official exhibition of Pandas to the public. Ambassador Lu Shaye of China's Embassy to Canada attended the opening along with officials from all three levels of government. The local media reported extensively on this event. After the ceremony, hundreds of people visited the Panda Passage House to see the pandas.

The family of four pandas lived in Toronto for 10 years and were recently moved to the Calgary Zoo as their new home.



The CIE also offered the HSK/YCT tests to the public including community members and students from universities. On March 24, April 22, May 12 and May 19, approximately 90 people took the YCT, HSK and HSKK tests. Most of them were from the community, universities and schools near Edmonton such as Red Deer, Fort McMurray and Lethbridge.

YCT & HSK are internationally recognized standardized tests on Chinese language proficiency similar to English TOEFL and IELTS. People can use the credentials received to apply for scholarships to study in China, and to create opportunities to find jobs. The tests also help our students to build their confidence, to increase their motivation to learn Chinese and they help our teachers to improve their teaching.

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Representatives from the Confucius Institute in Edmonton were invited to display Chinese dough pandas at the ceremony. Five CIE visiting teachers and staff along with three volunteers drove the 300 kilometers from Edmonton to Calgary. They shared demonstrations with the public by using Chinese traditional dough to make pandas at the site, and the demonstrations drew the interest of a lot of people. More than 150 pandas were made to be given away to people as gifts.

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## CIE Hosted 11th Alberta Chinese Bridge Competition for School Students

On May 26, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton held the 11<sup>th</sup> Alberta Chinese Bridge Competition for School Students. More than 150 students participated in the contest this year - a record high. Among them were some students from Calgary. CIE invited 30 judges and 20 high school student volunteers to help with the competition. In addition, many local Chinese teachers and all the CIE visiting teachers volunteered their weekend time to help this event. Due to the large number of contestants and audience members, the competition took place at two sites, CIE and Dovercourt School.



## Graduation Ceremony for CIE 2018 Winter Session of Chinese Language and Culture Classes

On May 28, the graduation ceremony of the Chinese language and culture classes of 2018 Winter Session was held at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. More than 100 students and their families and friends attended the ceremony.

In the welcome remarks, Dr. Wei Li praised the efforts and hard work shown by all the students to learn Chinese language and the Chinese culture. Some of the most exciting news was that some of the Chinese language students passed the HSK Level 2 and 3 tests in May. This was a great achievement.





After nearly three hours of competing in the Chinese knowledge test, speech contest and talent contest, 11 students won gold medals, 20 students won silver medals and 25 students won bronze medals. An additional 15 students received special awards.



The award ceremony was held at CIE and more than 300 people attended with many special guests. Among them were Trustee Nathan Ip, Dr. Lorne Parker, Assistant Superintendent of Edmonton Public Schools, Consul Chief Yu Changxue and Consul Fu Yunan from the Chinese Consulate in Vancouver, as well as Mr. Waldemar Riemer, Director of International Education Services of Alberta Education, and Dr. Heather Jane Au, Vice President of ECBEA. They all brought greetings to congratulate the participants for their excellent performance during the competition. Dr. Tian Liang, Special Chinese Advisor of Alberta Education, also provided comments and feedback on behalf of all judges.

The Chinese Bridge Competition has become a brand name and annual event to encourage students to learn more Chinese and the Chinese culture.

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At the graduation ceremony, students from the different classes showcased what they learned in the class. The language class students exhibited varying performances such as singing and drama. The culture class students demonstrated calligraphy, played Guzheng, Erhu and also displayed their Chinese fan paintings. Lastly, the Chinese dance class performed a very beautiful and traditional dance. All the students tried and worked very hard to prepare the showcase and they all took it very seriously.

At the end, CIE presented graduation certificates to the students. One student representative during his speech expressed thanks to all the teachers for their hard work to make the classes enjoyable. He appreciated that the Confucius Institute provides such good opportunities for students to learn the Chinese language and culture.

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## Grand Opening of Paul Kane High School Confucius Classroom

The grand opening ceremony of Confucius Classroom at Paul Kane High School was held on May 29 at the school. This is the 21st Confucius Classes affiliated to the Confucius Institute in Edmonton.

Paul Kane High School is under the St. Albert Public School Board. With the strong support of the school board and school district administrators, Paul Kane High School worked closely with the Confucius Institute in Edmonton to put the application together. The application was approved by Hanna/Headquarter of Confucius Institutes last November.



## The Delegation of Qilu Normal University Visited CIE

The four-person delegation of Qilu Normal University paid a visit to the Confucius Institute in Edmonton on May 29, 2018. The delegation was led by Ms. He Yan, the Director of International Exchange Cooperation. The others were Mr. Liang Chengfeng, Director of Academic Affairs, Professor Liu Zhenggang and Ms. Cao Xiaorong, Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering.



The delegation paid a visit to CIE after they attended the grand opening of the Confucius classroom at Paul Kane High School. The delegation had a quick tour of the CIE facilities and listened to a brief history on the 10-year development of CIE. They visited the Chinese

The ceremony was attended by many special guests including: Consul Bai Jie and He Dongyang from the Chinese Consulate in Calgary; Kim Armstrong, Chair of St. Albert Public School Board along with Trustees Cheryl Dumont and Stanley Haroun; Barry Wowk, Superintendent of St. Albert Public Schools; Dr. Lorne Parker, Assistant Superintendent of Edmonton Public Schools and Dr. Liang Tian, Chinese special advisor of Alberta Education. The Vice President of ECBEA Dr. Heather Au also attended the ceremony. Qilu Normal University is the Shandong partner for Paul Kane High School and the university sent a special 4-person delegation to attend this ceremony and sign the MOU between the two institutions.

The St. Albert Public School Board hosted a dinner to celebrate the success of the event as well as to welcome and farewell the delegation from China.

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library, photo hallway, culture centre, visiting teachers' office and the meeting room.



During the visit, the delegates had the chance to talk to CIE staff and they were very impressed about what has been achieved at CIE. Before departure, the delegates and CIE staff posed for a group photo and exchanged gifts. We all hope that our partnership will be successful and fruitful.

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## Visit from the Affiliated Middle School of Jining Institute

On May 17, a delegation from the Affiliated Middle School of Jining Institute in Shandong province, China, paid a visit to the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. The delegation consisted of 11 students and 4 teachers.

During the visit, the delegation learned about the work and activities the CIE has been doing in promoting Chinese language and culture education in Canada as well as its close cooperation with Shandong schools.

They visited the CIE Chinese library, visiting teacher offices, Culture centre, board meeting and classrooms. One of the most exciting moments was when they visited the office where two of CIE visiting teachers worked who were from their schools.



The Affiliated Middle School of Jining Institute is the Chinese partner school of Ottewell School's Confucius Classroom. The students from the two schools have visited each other

## Calgary and Red Deer Students Enjoyed Chinese Cultural Experience at CIE

On May 18 and 23, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton hosted the Chinese Culture Day for students and teachers of two schools from Calgary and Red Deer. The visit was to provide opportunities for them to learn about the Confucius Institute in Edmonton as well as to experience some Chinese culture activities.



One of the groups was from Colonel Irvine Junior High School in Calgary with 47 students and three teachers as well as their assistant principal. All the students were from the Chinese Bilingual Program, and started learning Mandarin since kindergarten. Visiting CIE was part of their field trip to Edmonton. In addition, they visited Londonderry Junior High School to learn about the Chinese program there and to exchange activities with the students from Londonderry School's Chinese bilingual program.



annually over the past five years. These visits provide good opportunities for students to enhance their Chinese and English and to promote cultural exchanges and understanding. They also build the bridge of communication between two schools.

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The second group of 40 students and teachers was from Hunting Hills High School in Red Deer. The CIE teachers provided the students with a series of cultural activities, including Chinese dough art, Chinese painting and Chinese knots. All the students were amazed by the charm of traditional Chinese arts. They worked very hard to make their own works.

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