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## **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**





"A Night of Wushu & Culture"

# Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton!





# 2018 CIE Principal Delegation to China

In October, 2018, CIE organized a principal delegation to visit China. The delegation included principals and leaders from Edmonton Public Schools. The purpose of the visit was to provide the opportunity for new principals from Edmonton Public Schools which offer Chinese programs to pay a visit to their partner schools in China, and to discuss and plan their exchange program and projects. During the school visit, the principals had the chance to talk to the leaders from their partner school to build the relationship and friendship between the two schools. In addition, the principals visited the different kinds of classrooms to learn how the students are doing and learning. Many students were very active and interested in talking to the principals in English, and they tried to showcase what they learned at the school.



During the trip, the delegates also experienced the Chinese culture and witnessed the fast development of China. They visited many places that highlight modern China and the rich cultures, such as Shanghai Yu Garden, Shanghai Bund, Great Wall and Forbidden City.

Although the trip was short, the principals were left with a deep impression of their partner schools as well as the rich culture and modern China.

# Agreement Renewal Signing Ceremony in Beijing and Shandong

This year is the 10th Anniversary of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. With the strong support from Hanban, Shandong Education Department and Edmonton Public School Board as well as the local government and community, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton has made great achievements and contributions to the school system and the community. The strong relationship has enhanced Chinese language learning and cultural understanding, as well as built a stronger relationship between Canada and China.



In October, the agreement renewal signing ceremony was held in Beijing and Jinan respectively, with Hanban and Shandong Education Department. Mrs. Michelle Draper, Chair of Edmonton Public School Board, and Dr. Lorne Parker, Assistant Superintendent, signed the agreement on behalf of Edmonton Public School Board.

Before the signing ceremony, Deputy Director
General Jing Wei and Deputy Minister of Shandong
Education Department Bai Hao met with the
delegation and expressed their thanks and
appreciation to the Edmonton Public School Board
for their strong support to CIE, and to confirm their
continuing support to the Confucius Institute in

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### A Night of Wushu & Culture

On October 27, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton and Ji Hong Wushu & Tai Chi College hosted a gala "A Night of Wushu & Culture" to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Confucius institute in Edmonton and the 30th Anniversary of Ji Hong Wushu & Tai Chi College. More than 200 artists, students and teachers from 8 CIE affiliated Confucius Classrooms participated in the performance.



More than 700 people attended the gala along with many special guests, such as the Government of Canada's resources Minister, the Deputy Consul General, an MLA, Edmonton's Mayor, the Chair of EPSB and the Assistant Superintendent. Many

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## CIE Culture Session at Athabasca

In October, two of CIE's teachers provided Chinese dough art sessions to the students at Landing Trail Intermediate School at Athabasca, small city located 150 kilometres north of Edmonton. It was the 7th year that Landing Trail Intermediate School invited CIE to be involved in their event. More than 80 students experienced the Chinese dough art workshop. They learned how to make pandas, and students were also given the opportunity to create their own dough art products. It was amazing how the students used the Chinese dough to create their own art. The students really enjoyed the workshop and they hoped that they would have such opportunity again next year.



special guests could not attend the gala but sent their greetings. These special guests were the Prime Minister of Canada, Alberta's Premier, the Consul General of Chinese Consulate in Calgary, and the Minister of Alberta Education.

The Chair and Superintendent of Edmonton Public School Board, Hanban and Shandong Education Ministry also sent their greetings for the gala.

A few special artists from Vancouver and USA were invited to provide their support to the performances. They included the famous young Beijing Opera performer Wong Hongxiang, well-know singers Chloe Hurst and Pau, Peggy Yu (the only oversea student of Beijing Opera Master Mei Baojiu).

The entire performance was very successful and we have received a lot of positive comments.



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## **Mandarin Hockey Night**

On October 19, the CIE and affiliated Confucius Classrooms were invited to perform at the Mandarin Hockey Night hosted by the Edmonton Oil Kings at Rogers Place, the newest and most modern ice arena in Canada.

Dance teams from Ross Sheppard High School Confucius Classroom and the Rosslyn Junior High



#### China's National Day Celebration in Edmonton

On October 1, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton participated in a banquet organized by the Edmonton Chinese community to celebrate the 69<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the People's Republic of China at the Dynasty Century Palace Restaurant. More than 400 people attended the event. Among them were some special quests, which included Deputy Consul General Gao

School Confucius Classroom performed the following Chinese dances before the hockey game started: Dream Chaser, Charm of Umbrellas and Music of Beauty. With the elaborate movements of the dancers, the vivid whirling of umbrellas and fans and the ethnical costumes, the audience were brought into an oriental world and given a glimpse into an ancient and unique culture. The students from M. E. LaZerte High School Confucius Classroom also demonstrated Chinese Yoyo during the intermission. Their wonderful flying, catching and spinning skills received warm applause from the audience.

This is the second time that Oiler King invited the Confucius Institute in Edmonton to perform at Roger Place and thousands of people attending the hockey games had a great time to experience the Chinese dances and other performance.

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Zhenting from the China Consulate in Calgary, Minister of Transportation of Alberta Brian Mason and City of Edmonton Councillor Tony Caterina.



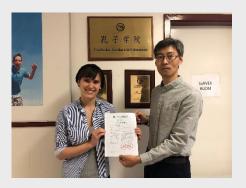
CIE provided full support to the event and two CIE teachers were invited to be the Master of Ceremonies (Macs). They did excellent work as MCs and received positive feedback from the audience. CIE also arranged for two Chinese dances -Dream Chaser and Charm of Umbrellas - to be performed by students from Ross Sheppard High School Confucius Classroom. Their excellent performance received the warm applauses from the audience. Mr. Michael Lee, President of the Chinese Benevolent Association and the event organizers of highly praised the wonderful performances appreciated the support provided by the CIE.

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#### **HSK Fall Test**

On October 14, the 2018 fall HSK test was held at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. Seventeen candidates from schools and the community wrote different levels of HSK and HSKK tests. As one of the largest Chinese test centres in North America, the CIE provides a full range of Chinese test services for schools and community, including promoting HSK/YCT tests, providing information, responding to all kinds of enquires about the tests, organizing HSK/YCT administration certification training and offering HSK/YCT tests. There are also a lot of test books and textbooks for HSK, YCT and BCT in CIE's library. The CIE is now holding the multi-time HSK test every year in order to meet the growing needs for the test.



In 2018, CIE offered different levels of HSK and YCT tests for approximately 1400 students from schools in Edmonton, Red Deer and Calgary, as well as students from universities and the local communities. Demands for writing the test have been increased significantly during the last few years as it provides many opportunities for students to apply for scholarships, to study in China and to develop their business and aid in their career development.

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#### CIE Was Awarded "School/Community Initiative Partner of the Year"

On October 11, the third annual Partners in Education Reception was held at Shell Place in Fort McMurray. The CIE was awarded "School/Community Initiative Partner of the Year" by the Fort McMurray Public School District (FMPSD) in recognition of CIE's work to support Chinese language and culture program at Walter & Gladys Hill Public School and the Community.

More than 100 people attended the ceremony, including Mayor of Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Don Scott, Ms. Linda Mywaart, Board Chair of FMPSD, Mr. Doug Nicholls, superintendent of FMPSD, principals and many other community leaders and organizations.



Deng Jitao, a CIE teacher, working at the CIE affiliated Confucius Classroom at Walter & Gladys Hill Public School in Fort McMurray since 2016, received the award on behalf of the CIE, and presented a message of appreciation on behalf of Dr. Wei Li, Director of the CIE - who was not available to attend this event. The message conveyed thanks for the hard work by Principal Annalee Nutters and for the strong support from the leadership of Fort McMurray Public Schools as well as from the teachers at the school.

Since the establishment of the first Confucius Classroom at Walter & Gladys Hill Public School in 2015, the Chinese language and culture program has been doing very well. It has received positive responses from students, parents and teachers, and has added to the enrolment at the school. CIE will continue to provide support to the Chinese language and culture programs at the school to help the students be well developed into global citizens in the future.

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### Visit from Jinan Foreign Language School

On October 3, a delegation from Jinan Foreign Language School in Shandong Province visited the CIE. The delegation consisted of 7 students and 1 teacher accompanied by two teachers from the local partner school, Parkview Junior High School Confucius Classroom.

During the visit, the CIE provided a pizza lunch. After lunch, the delegation toured the CIE facilities and listened to a presentation on the development of CIE in the last 10 years. The delegates were impressed by the achievements of the CIE.

Parkview Junior High School Confucius Classroom is one of the 21 Confucius Institutes affiliated with the



# Visit from Confucius Institute in New Brunswick

From Oct 27-30, a delegation from the Confucius Institute in New Brunswick (CINB) visited the CIE. The delegation consisted of 2 Chinese visiting teachers and Ms. Jing Teng, Director of CINB. During the 4-day visit, delegates attended the "A Night of Wushu and Culture" gala organized by the CIE to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CIE.

The delegation also visited two bilingual schools – Caernarvon School and Londonderry School - to learn about our Chinese program. They had a good visit to these two schools and received the first-hand ideas about the Chinese bilingual program.

Confucius Institute in Edmonton. Parkview School has a close relationship with Jinan Foreign Language School, and they established an extensive exchange program among them. In the past 6 years, both schools have sent student delegations to visit each other and to participate in exchange activities.

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They also saw how the students were doing in the school. They were very impressed with what the students have achieved.

The delegation also spent time sharing their working experience in Canada with the CIE's visiting teachers. The delegates were excited about observing CIE's evening Mandarin adult language classes.

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