



CONFUCIUS  
INSTITUTE  
IN EDMONTON

通讯

( Tōngxùn- newsletter )

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

03/04/2014  
issue 01, 2014



### *Upcoming Events*

- Beijing Opera Spectacular - East Meets West
- Weekend Story Telling - Traditional Stories
- Winter Session Courses
- New DVD to Promote Chinese Language

- Project for Teaching Mathematics in Chinese

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### **Coming Soon** **Weekend Story Telling**

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton will hold a series of weekend story-telling events for elementary age students. Classical Chinese stories will be presented by the experienced teachers. Participants also have the chance to browse the rich Chinese library collection. The event is Free of Charge.

**Location:** Confucius Institute in Edmonton (13750 Woodcroft Ave.)

**Date and Time:**

Saturdays (from February 22 to March 15)

10:00-10:40 Chinese story telling in Mandarin

11:00-11:40 Chinese story telling in English

**Contact person:** Man Luo

**Phone number:** (780) 970-5233

**Email:** man.luo@confuciusedmonton.ca

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### **Upcoming Event**

### **Beijing Opera Gala – East Meets West**

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton and the Edmonton Beijing Opera Society are pleased to present a **Beijing Opera Gala – East Meets West** on **February 22 at Myer Horowitz Theater at 7:00 pm**. The Confucius Institute in Quebec is a major sponsor for this event. The performance will be presented by a troupe of a group of Caucasian artists from Montreal, as well as artists from Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver. It will be a great opportunity to learn the art of Beijing Opera. Some tickets are still available. Please contact Brenda Chan (780 970 5233). It promises to be a night to remember.

The full poster can be found at:

<http://confuciusedmonton.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Poster-revised-2014-1-21.pdf>

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## Presentation at the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce

On January 20<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Stuart Wachowicz (Chairman – CIE) and Mr. Sijun Wu (Chinese Director) had the privilege of meeting with Stephanie Jaffray (General manager- Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce) and Bill Halley (Business Innovation Services- Alberta Innovates Technology Futures). The meeting was also attended by Ms. Sandrine Coronat , Principal, École La Vérendrye, which is developing a Chinese language initiative , and Morgan Guo of the Lethbridge Chinese Community.

Discussion centered on how implementation of Chinese language and culture can serve to provide long term advantages to the economic, educational and cultural potential of the Lethbridge region.

The meeting was very fruitful, sharing many ideas for future and promising initiatives.

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## Coming Soon New Video to Promote Chinese

The CIE has contracted the services of Urban Video to produce a short but powerful DVD that can serve to promote the learning of Chinese language in schools and community. The video will be completed



## Support for Teaching Math in Chinese

Starting on February 6<sup>th</sup>, a subcommittee of the *Alberta Chinese Language Consortium* will hold a series of three meetings. These meetings are intended to design a project that will help support the teaching of mathematics in Chinese, for the Chinese Bilingual Programs of Edmonton Public Schools and the Calgary Board of Education. The Confucius Institute in Edmonton (CIE) currently chairs the Consortium and is sponsoring these meetings. The CIE will accept the project proposal resulting from the meetings as a request for funding. The project will then be submitted in the CIE's annual budget plan for implementation in 2014.

It is hoped this process will enable the CIE to help address specific needs identified by teachers, in their effort to improve instruction in Chinese language.

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**Coming Soon**

by April 2014, and copies will be available from the CIE. Streaming of the video will also be available from the CIE website and through Facebook. The DVD will demonstrate the value of learning Chinese today and provide examples of Albertans who have benefited from acquiring the Chinese language.

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## Workshops and Training at Alaska University

CIE Director, Dr. Wei Li, was invited by the Confucius Institute of Alaska, at the University of Alaska, to provide workshops on Chinese Dough Art as part of their Chinese New Year celebration. The two days of workshops and training sessions were very successful. Six Chinese instructors from the University of Alaska attended the morning training session, learning the techniques to make the special dough and to learn how to make simple figures. Two workshops were also provided to University of Alaska faculty members and a group of school age and adult Chinese language learners from a Chinese school. Over 80 people attended these two workshops, with most having no Chinese background and this being the first time to see Chinese dough art. The workshops received rave reviews.

## Winter Session Courses

The CIE's winter session courses in Chinese language and various Chinese cultural arts will commence in February. Join the hundreds of community members who have been learning Chinese language and Chinese cultural arts. You can check the courses available and also register at: <http://confuciusedmonton.ca/learn-more/courses/>

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## Chinese Teacher Training on "Chinese Plus"

Recently, the CIE purchased for Edmonton Public Schools, a district license for "Chinese Plus" – an advanced program, developed by Bider Technology, to assist with Chinese language instruction in the classroom. The program provides many useful tools and functions that the Chinese teachers will be able to apply in their lesson planning and teaching.

On January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, the CIE provided professional training in "Chinese Plus" for all EPSB teachers of Chinese. Mr. Jianmin Chen, General Manager of Bider Technology, was invited to Edmonton to provide the PD sessions. During these two days, Mr. Chen visited several schools to help teachers solve problems using the software program. The CIE also organized the two PD sessions, one for elementary teachers and the other for secondary teachers of Chinese.

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## Chinese New Year Celebration

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton (CIE) has participated in several local community events to celebrate Chinese New Year – the Year of Horse. On January 18 and 19, the CIE operated a booth at West Edmonton Mall displaying traditional Chinese cultural arts such as Chinese Dough Art, Chinese Paper Cutting, Chinese Knots and Calligraphy. Chinese Dough Art and Chinese Knots received a particularly warm welcome from the audience. In addition, the CIE also organized a performance from the Meyonohk Confucius Classroom consisting of “the little lion dance”, a Chinese folk dance and Chinese songs. On January 24, the CIE also participated in a celebratory event organized by Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association. Teachers from the CIE demonstrated the technical skills of Chinese Dough Art and Chinese Knots. Their beautiful art work aroused a great deal of interest.

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More than 40 teachers benefitted from this opportunity.

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## 2014 Ice on Whyte

The Confucius Institute was once again invited by the “Ice on Whyte Festival” to provide cultural workshops on January 26<sup>th</sup>. Although the weather was cold, the CIE teachers were excited to demonstrate many traditional arts garnering much attention from children and parents alike. Many children had the opportunity to make Chinese dough art and a paper cutting. This was a great opportunity for the local population to have a taste of Chinese culture and also to celebrate Chinese New Year.

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