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APRIL 2014

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Upcoming Events

The CIE will host a Chinese painting presentation given by guest speaker Professor Wang Xiaoyin from Shanghai Normal University. It will be from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on April 16 at the CIE. Everyone is welcome. The presentation

will be in English with some Chinese translation.

On April 24, a group of students from Calgary will pay a visit to the CIE for a Chinese cultural experience and a visit to a bilingual school.

On April 29 and 30, about 1100 students from Edmonton Public Schools and schools in Calgary will write the 2014 YCT and HSK Chinese language proficiency tests.

On May 10, the CIE will host the HSK test for the general public. Registration is still open so if interested contact the CIE.

The 7th Chinese Bridge Competition in Chinese language for school age students will take place towards the end of May. Details will be released soon.



3rd Chinese Bridge Competition for Alberta University Students

The 3rd of Alberta Chinese Bridge Competition for University Students was held at the University of Alberta on March 15th. This competition was hosted by the Confucius Institute in Edmonton with the support from the Department of East Asia Studies of U of A, Asia Pacific Business Program of MacEwan University, the University of Calgary and the China Institute.

About 40 people attended this competition and



Visit from Chinese Consulate General in Vancouver

Towards the end of March, Consul Xue, Consul Yu and Consul Du from the Chinese Consulate General in Vancouver paid a visit to the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. The consuls toured the CIE facilities and met 7 the visiting teachers from Shandong. Mr. Stuart Wachowicz, Chair of CIE Board of Directors and Advisory Board, gave an overview of the work of the CIE to the visitors and discussed

5 students participated in the 3 competitions, China Knowledge, Speech Competition and the Talent Competition. The student from U of A who placed first has studied Mandarin for less than a year. Dr. Dunch, Chair of East Asia Studies Department, Dr. Wei, Chair of Asia Pacific Business Program of MacEwan University and Dr. Li, Director of the Confucius Institute spoke at the award ceremony and emphasized the importance of learning Chinese.

It is hoped that this competition will encourage and motivate students to learn Mandarin and culture. Last year, Heather McGee, a student from U of A, was selected to attend the International Final Chinese Bridge Competition in China.

upcoming developments, and then enjoyed a meal together, in honour of Consul Xue, who is returning to China. Consul Xue has provided very strong support to the CIE over the past few years.

The day before, the consuls visited all the visiting teachers of the CIE as well as hosting the directors of Alberta Chinese Teacher Association to a dinner, at which they expressed their appreciation for all the work done to support and promote Chinese language and culture education.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Consul Xue and also our best wishes to her. At the same time, we would also like to welcome Consul Yu who will replace Consul Xue.



Mandarin Course for Nexen Corporation of Calgary

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton recently offered a 5 week beginning Mandarin course for senior administrators of Nexen in Calgary.



CIE Participates in the 17th Annual Harmony Brunch Organized by CMEF

On March 23rd, 2014, the Canadian Multicultural Education Foundation (CMEF) held the 17th Harmony Brunch to celebrate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial

Nexen is an upstream oil and gas company responsibly developing energy resources in the UK (North Sea), offshore West Africa, the United States and Western Canada.

Ms. Joanna Cheng, the instructor, has done amazing work and made this course very successful. The five week course has been completed and Nexen has requested that the course be continued. The CIE will work with Nexen to set up another course series which will commence in the near future.

As a result of the growing awareness of the value of Chinese language in a global economy, the demand for learning Chinese is increasing dramatically in schools and business sectors. This is a trend that will no doubt continue. CIE will provide strong support to meet this need.



Successful Mandarin Classes for Parents at Schools

Since the beginning of the year, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton has offered beginner Chinese classes for parents at two of the EPSB Chinese bilingual schools, Caernarvan

Discrimination. The Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited to this event to share Chinese culture with participants from many different culture backgrounds. The CIE sent four teachers and set up a booth which provided an introduction to the CIE and Chinese culture (especially dough art). The Chinese dough art demonstration drew lots of attention and was very popular. Many attendees showed an interest in Chinese culture and what the CIE is able to offer. During the event, our Chinese teachers made many dough art figures as gifts for the attendees which were happily received.



Students from Two Edmonton Schools Pay a Visit to China

About 60 students, principals, teachers and

and Devercourt. the classes were established at the request of the schools and their parents, to help introduce Chinese language, and help parents become better able to encourage their children who are also learning the language.

The classes have gone very well and first 10 week course was completed at the beginning of March. The second round will continue to run until the middle of May.

CIE teacher Robert Kong, has put a great deal of effort into these classes to help ensure a successful outcome for parents in learning Mandarin. For most it is the first time they try to learn this language.

The principals and Chinese teachers at these two schools have provided strong support for these classes. Hopefully, the learning of Chinese by parents will be a great support for parents, students and the schools.

parents from two EPSB junior high schools (Confucius Classrooms) Londonderry and Parkview, paid a visit to Beijing and their partner schools in Qingdao and Jinan in Shandong Province.

This is the first time schools organized a visit of this kind which was sponsored by Hanban. The students only needed to pay the international air fare and Hanban covered all the expenses in China.

In Beijing, the students had the opportunity to see all the major cultural sights and also visited the Hanban offices and the Confucius Institute Headquarters. Their Shandong partner schools in Qingdao and Jinan arranged a variety of activities to help students experience the local cultures and interact with the local students on language and cultural topics. This has proven to be an unforgettable educational experience for these students.

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