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## **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**





**CIE Open House** 

**Celebration of 3rd Global Confucius Institute Day** 



# Celebration of Mid-Autumn Festival

On Saturday September 4, the CIE participated in the celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival, organized by the Northeast Edmonton Business Association, with support from the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. Many special quests attended the event, MP Kerry Diotte, MP Michael Cooper, MLA Chris Neilson and City Councillor Tony Caterina. During the ceremony, the CIE introduced the Mid-Autumn Festival and its traditions. The CIE also presented a variety of performances and culture activities at the event, including a lion dance, Chinese traditional dances, singing and Tai Chi performances. In additional, the CIE teachers also shared and displayed the Chinese traditional handcirafts and games like dough art, Chinese knots, paper cutting, Chinese Checkers and Chinese Yoyo. About 200 people attended the event who enjoyed the Chinese culture as well as other ethnic group performances which also highlighted a fashion show and dances. The special quests visited CIE booths and talked to the CIE teachers and were included in group photos.

The CIE, in addition, participated in the celebration of the Mid-autumn festival at Churchill Square and Chinatown.

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## **Visit from University of Alberta**

On September 21st, the Confucius Institute hosted a visit from a delegation of 52 people from different universities in China who are attending a three-month special training program in the University of Alberta. During the visit, the group toured the office, library, teachers' office and other facilities. They also attended a presentation by Dr. Wei Li on the operations and development of CIE, the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Program and the Alberta's education system. The delegates had the opportunity to meet with 16 Chinese visiting teachers of the CIE.

After lunch, the delegation paid a visit to
Dovercourt School, which is one of the six
Chinese bilingual elementary schools within
Edmonton Public Schools. The principal, Dr.
Gerry Falk, assistant principal Brenda Braun and
Chinese teacher Lisa Yip welcomed the delegates
and provided an introduction about the school
and the Chinese bilingual program. A lion dance
performed by students impressed the delegates
deeply. They visited 5 classrooms, observing
instruction and talked to some students and

The visit was short, but the delegates learned a lot about Confucius Institute in Edmonton and the Chinese bilingual program.

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## Open House: Confucius Institute in Edmonton

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton hosted an Open House on September 24 to celebrate the third global Confucius Institute Day. More than 350 people experienced a variety of activities centered on Chinese culture and arts.

The day started with a warm welcome from Dr.
Sandra Stoddard, an Executive Director of EPSB.
Alberta Premier Rachel Notley sent written
greeting for this event. Special guests who
brought greetings were Trustee Bridget Stirling,
Trustee Nathan Ip, MP Michael Cooper, MLA
Lorne Dach, City Councillor Bev Essillinger, Mr.
Waldemar Riemer from Alberta Education, Dr.
Gerald Krispin, the President of Concordia
University of Edmonton, Dr. Manfred Zeuch Vice
President of Concordia University of Edmonton
and Mrs. Dorren Poon Phillips, former President
of ECBEA.

After the greetings, a wonderful performance was presented by CIE teachers along with students from five Confucius Classrooms, including a Chinese lion dance, folk dances, Chinese musical instrument



### **CIE Movie Night**

On September 26, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton successfully hosted the CIE Movie Night at the Stanley A. Milner Library, with the support of Alberta Chinese Outdoor Adventure Club. The event is part of celebration of the third Global Confucius Institute Day.

This is the first time for the CIE to organize a movie night. After a brief greeting from Dr. Wei Li, the director of the CIE, Dr. Mianmian Xie delivered a presentation on Chinese Films, which drew much applause from the audience.



After the presentation, the movie 'You and Me' was played and this movie has won the 25th Golden Rooster Award for best Director and Actress and the 18th Tokyo International Film Festival for Best Actress. The audience was

performances, Tai Chi, singing and a dragon dance.

The highlight of the day was a two and a half hour cultural session and traditional games, which included Chinese massage and acupuncture, Chinese dough art, Chinese knots, Chinese painting, Chinese paper cutting, Chinese Calligraphy, handkerchief dance, fan dance, Tai Chi, table tennis, Chinese checkers, chopstick game, Chinese chess, Majiang, Chinese 7 puzzles. and a photo booth where people could try on different traditional Chinese costumes. Many people took part in these activities. During the event, people had the chance to taste samples of Chinese food as well.

The event was very successful and all the participants had a great time experiencing and learning Chinese culture.

deeply touched by the emotions and friendship the film demonstrated between two ordinary people.

About 240 people attended the event and many of them hope that CIE could continue the movie night in future.

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## **Arrival of New Visiting Teachers**

CIE had 17 visiting teachers from China last school year. Among them 6 were working at CIE and the rest were in the schools that are Confucius Classrooms. This summer 8 visiting teachers completed their terms and returned back to China. Towards the end of November, 4 more visiting teachers will return back as well.



# **Start of CIE 2016 Fall Session of Chinese Language and Culture**

The CIE has provided Mandarin classes and Chinese culture classes to the public for the last 7 years. The 2016 fall session has started.

The Mandarin classes started on September 26 and the Chinese culture classes started on

To replace those returned teachers, CIE recently received 14 new visiting teachers from China. Most of them will be assigned to different schools offering Chinese language and culture program, which are designated as Confucius Classrooms. The main job for these visiting teachers is to provide support and help to the Chinese program as educational assistants and also help the culture program at the schools.

The teachers were recommended by the Shandong Education Ministry and Hanban. The CIE conducted interviews with all the candidates and then made the final selection based on the needs and requirements of our programs.

We are very confident that these new teachers will continue to work hard to support our schools as well as our communities. All their contributions are much appreciated and welcomed by the schools, parents and communities.

Last Sunday, Consul Chief Yu cam to Edmonton and met all the visiting teachers.

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CIE Attended the Official Launch of the Centre for Chinese

September 29.

The CIE offers different levels of Mandarin courses from Level 1 to Level 4 as well as the Mandarin class for Cantonese speakers.

The Chinese culture classes include musical instruments such as, Yangqin and Erhu, and Chinese painting, Chinese calligraphy and Chinese Taichi.

The CIE Chinese language and culture classes are welcomed by the community and some of them have taken the various classes for many years and some studied at CIE for more than 5 years, building a considerable capacity in Chinese language skill.

The CIE also offers the HSK language proficiency test for those students and some of them have passed HSK levels 2 and 3.

The CIE not only offers the classes at our offices, but also delivers the services to different organizations, such as senior organization and many others, including businesses.

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**Visit from Qilu Normal University** 

## Studies at Concordia University of Edmonton

On September 29, Mr. Stuart Wachowicz, the chair of Board of Directors & Advisory Board of Confucius Institute, Dr. Wei Li, the director of Confucius Institute, as well as 9 visiting teachers were invited to attend the official launch of the Centre for Chinese Studies and the Centre for Chinese Teacher Development at Concordia University of Edmonton.

The Centre has been established to offer studies in Chinese language and culture as well as to provide continuing education and training for Chinese language teachers in Alberta and Canada. The CIE provided a variety of supports to enable the establishment of this new program at Concordia University of Edmonton.

A delegation from Qilu Normal University of Shandong Province, led by the vice president, attended the ceremony and participated in presenting a paper in a panel discussion on innovation in teacher education.

During the launch ceremony, CIE visiting teacher Jinjin Du performed a traditional Chinese dance which received much applause from the audience.

On September 29, a delegation from Qilu Normal University paid a visit to the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. This delegation included five people and was led by Professor Zhang Fujian, the Vice President.

The delegation came to Canada to attend the official launch of the Centre for Chinese Studies at Concordia University of Edmonton, which is partnered with Qilu Normal University. Although their schedule was very tight, they wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to visit CIE.

Dr. Wei Li toured the delegation around CIE facilities and provided them with a brief introduction about CIE's history, development and its future direction. Some discussions followed the presentation. The delegates also had the opportunity to meet with Chinese visiting teachers of CIE.

During the visit, the CIE dance teacher Jinjin Du displayed a Chinese dance accompanied with accordion music played by professor of music He Yan, from Qilu Normal University.

All the delegates were impressed with the CIE's achievements in the past nine years.

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# The CIE - Invited to Attend a Banquet to Welcome Premier Li Keqiang in Montreal

On September 23, Dr. Wei Li, the director of CIE, was invited to attend a banquet to welcome Chinese Premier Li Keqiang for the first time to visit Canada in Montreal.

More than 700 people attended the banquet including many community leaders from different cities across the country.

Premier Li made a speech recalling the history of friendship between Canada and China and addressed the recent economic development of China.

The official visit of Premier Li to Canada will enhance the friendship and partnership between China and Canada.

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# New CIE Visiting Teachers attend ECBEA Barbecue

The Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education
Association (ECBEA) organized a volunteer
appreciation barbecue on September 18 at
Victoria Park. more than 10 CIE visiting teachers
were invited to participate in this activities.

Since all the visiting teachers had just arrived in Canada it was their first experience with a western barbeque. They were very excited and greatly appreciated that they were invited to participate in this event.

The new visiting teachers enjoyed the barbecue. They had opportunity to meet many parents, students and volunteers helping them learn more about Edmonton and Canada. They also played a variety of games. It was a great experience for all of the new visiting teachers.

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