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CONFUCIUS
INSTITUTE
IN EDMONTON

通讯
(Tōngxùn- newsletter)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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新年快乐，吉祥如意，身体健康

**Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous Year of
Rooster!**

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Chinese New Year Celebration at West Edmonton Mall

From January 14 to 15, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton participated in the Lunar New Year celebration at West Edmonton Mall. This was one of the biggest celebrations for Chinese New Year celebration in Edmonton.

During the two days of celebration, the CIE set up booths to demonstrate traditional Chinese arts, such as Chinese Dough Art, Chinese Knots, Calligraphy and the Chinese Handkerchief dance. The displays and demonstrations attracted a large crowd of interested people.



CIE teacher, Du Jinjin, and two dance teams from Rosslyn School and Ross Sheppard Confucius Classrooms performed four Chinese



CIE Dance Group at Roger Place

On January 19, the dance group from the Confucius Institute was invited to perform at a hockey game hosted by Edmonton Oil Kings at the new built hockey arena, Rogers Place, located right in the city center of Edmonton. This hockey game was dedicated to Mandarin Schools in Edmonton. In addition, Kildare School Confucius Classroom performed a lion dance and a Chinese folk dance. Hundreds of people attended the hockey game and watched the performances.



The principals of the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Schools were invited to help drop the first puck to start the match between the Oil Kings and Victoria Royals. This was the great honor for the Chinese program. Hockey is a big part of the culture of Edmonton and Canada. It was very special and unique for Edmonton Chinese program to have

dances, representing four ethnic groups in China – Han, Dai, Uyghur and Mongol.

Many of the CIE teachers are new to Canada and this was their first time to celebrate Chinese New Year outside of China. They were happy to have this opportunity to share Chinese culture with Canadians.

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Lunar New Year Celebration for Seniors

Partnering with the Canadian Multicultural Education Foundation, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton hosted a one-day Chinese New Year celebration for seniors in Edmonton on January 25. More than 100 seniors participated in this one day Chinese culture experience recognizing the Chinese New Year. Most of the seniors were of non-Chinese heritage and for many it was the first time to have a taste of a Chinese New Year celebration.

such opportunity. During the two intermissions, the CIE dance group and the dance group and lion dance team from Kildare School Confucius Classroom provided entertainment.

The performances were very successful. The audience showed their appreciation for the performance and the beautiful costumes and music in celebration of Chinese New Year, the year of Rooster.

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CIE Culture Sessions & Workshops at Schools

January is usually a busy month for the CIE visiting teachers. This is especially true because the Chinese New Year this year is in January. The CIE has received a large number of requests from many different schools to help celebrate the Chinese New Year by offering a variety of Chinese traditional cultural workshops and sessions, such as Chinese dough art, paper cutting, Chinese knots, Chinese calligraphy, Chinese painting and Chinese Tai Chi.



The day started with a warm welcome from the CIE, followed by a series of cultural workshops which included Chinese massage, a Chinese medicine consultation, Chinese dough art, Chinese knots, Chinese paper cutting, Chinese Calligraphy, Tai Chi and Chinese Yoyo. All the seniors showed great interest in learning these different and ancient Chinese arts. A traditional Chinese lunch was also provided to the seniors who really enjoyed the delicious food.

The highlight of the day was a one hour performance in the afternoon which included a Chinese lion dance, as well as folk dances, performances on Chinese musical instruments, Tai Chi and singing. The performers were students from Dovercourt School Confucius Classroom, along with artists from the CIE and local community.

All the seniors had a wonderful day at the CIE and many of them expressed their sincere thanks to all the teachers and volunteers who made this day so special for them. They all hope that they will be able to come back next year. Some seniors also wrote cards to CIE to express their appreciation.

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In addition to helping with many different events in the evenings and weekends, CIE visiting teachers were heavily booked for different events at many different schools and they needed to go to schools almost every day.



All the support and help from the CIE visiting teachers for the celebration of Chinese New Year at the schools was well received by the teachers, students and parents. Their hard work enriched culture programs and enabled the students to learn more Chinese cultures.

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Chinese New Year Celebration at Bonnie Doon Mall

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton participated in the Chinese New Year celebration at Bonnie Doon Mall on January 21.

This is an annual event organized by the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association and the Confucius Institute in Edmonton provides support for the celebration of Chinese New Year in the large Bonnie Doon community.

The CIE teachers worked hard to share their cultural talents with participants, in Chinese traditional dough art, Chinese paper cutting and Chinese knots. The Chinese Yoyo station drew a lot of attention from the younger students and many of them were trying to learn how to make the yoyo work.

Several special guests also attended the event and showed interest in the Chinese traditional arts displayed by the CIE teachers. Among them were MLA Marlin Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education and MLA Denise Woollard.



CIE Teachers Participate in the International Culture Festival Celebration at Concordia University of Edmonton

On January 23, Concordia University of Edmonton organized an annual International Culture Festival at their campus. The Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited to participate in that event. In addition, students from the Ottewell School Confucius Classroom were also invited to perform at the event.

A variety of other cultural groups participated in the event, such as Dutch, Indian, Ukraine, Korean, Spanish and Italian.

The CIE teachers shared Chinese traditional art crafts with the students and people from other cultures, and also they had opportunity to learn some dances from other cultures as well. It was a great opportunity for different cultures to share their uniqueness.

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Chinese New Year Celebration at Confucius Classroom of Dovercourt School

The Confucius Classroom of Dovercourt School had a big Chinese New Year celebration on January 26. All the students and teachers were involved.

The Confucius Institute was invited to attend the event. Dr. Wei Li was honored to be asked to open the celebration. Some CIE teachers were also invited to provide Chinese cultural workshops to students.

The Dovercourt School lion dance team gave a stunning performance. The highlight of the day was a Chinese dance performed by both the English and Chinese teachers of Dovercourt School together with the dancers from the Confucius Institute.

The dance group from the Confucius Classroom of Rosslyn School were also invited to provide two beautiful Chinese dances for the audience, which showed their appreciation for all of the skill the dancers displayed.

In addition to the performances, Chinese food was provided to the students and staff. A variety of workshops on Chinese cultural arts rounded out the day.



Chinese New Year at Londonderry Mall

The Edmonton Northeast Business Association hosted its second annual celebration of Chinese New Year at the large Londonderry Shopping Mall. The Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited to participate in this celebration.

Many special guests attended the celebration, including a member of parliament, members of the legislature and school trustees, as well as the Mayor of Edmonton.



Ten CIE teachers set up four booths to display traditional Chinese cultural arts, such as Chinese dough art, Chinese knots, Chinese paper cutting and Chinese traditional games. Chinese dough art was very popular, especially the figure of rooster, since this year is the year of the Rooster.

There were many performances at the event, such as Chinese dance, music, and

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acrobatic show. The event drew hundreds of people.

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