

K-12 STUDY CANADA

University of Washington • Western Washington University

Fall 2003



This issue of *K-12 STUDY CANADA* is dedicated to Dr. Douglas Jackson who directed the Center at UW for the majority of the last 15 years retiring from the position this summer. Doug founded Canadian Studies at the UW and joined with WWU in 1988 to form one of only two National Resource Centers for Canada in the US. Doug has always had a keen commitment to educators participating in many workshops over the years.



Dr. Douglas Jackson is honored for his years of service as founder and director of the Canadian Studies Center by Consul General, Roger Simmons.

While he will continue to teach, he will be missed in his role as director.

As we bid farewell to Doug, we warmly welcome Dr. Kim England as the new director of the UW Canadian Studies Center. Kim is with the Department of Geography and teaches urban geography, geography of inequality, women and the city, and feminist geography. Having lived and taught in Canada for 10 years (at the University of Toronto), Kim brings a wealth of knowledge to the Center and a surge of energy and enthusiasm. Welcome Kim!

Meanwhile, *K-12 STUDY CANADA* has been very active this past spring and summer in bringing the study of Canada to almost 200 local educators and student-teachers.

This last spring, *K-12 STUDY CANADA* invited Drs. Ann George and Robert Balas (Seattle U) to present the **Atelier on the Use of Québec Documentary Film** in Seattle. It provided a wonderful opportunity for French language educators to work in French and to learn about videos appropriate for their classroom use. A second spring workshop, **Whales in First Nations Art and Culture**, was offered in conjunction with the Burke Museum bringing together presenters from the arts and native whaling communities. Both events received such a positive response that they will be offered again in Spring 2004.

Our summer outreach began memorably with the 25th anniversary of the **Annual STUDY CANADA Summer Institute for K-12 Educators**. Teachers from five states - Washington, Colorado, Arizona, Texas and South Carolina - attended the program and celebrated



This year was the silver anniversary of the *K-12 STUDY CANADA Summer Institute*. Educators from across the country traveled to Vancouver, B.C. as part of the Institute.

its silver anniversary with a dinner cruise on the Burrard Inlet during the Vancouver field trip.

UW participated in the annual **Jackson School Summer Seminar** on conflict and challenges in the 21st century as well as co-hosted a two-week Canadian Geography Institute with Portland State University and the Oregon Geographic Alliance. Educators from across Oregon participated in the Geography Institute enjoying a presentation on the four Inuit homelands in Canada by Nadine.

Finally, we want to recognize this year's winners of the **2nd Annual Washington State Canadian History Day Award** (co-sponsored with the Canada-America Society). Three 7th grade students from The Option Program at Seward (TOPS) won in the Junior Division for their group performance entitled, *The Acadian Exile: The Rights Denied*. Catherine Means, Miriam Schwartz and Claire Simon all worked with TOPS teacher, Karen Hart, to create and present their project at the competition in Ellensburg.

We urge all of you to take advantage of our online resources and campus programming (see reverse). Tina has just completed and launched our new teacher-dedicated website, k12studycanada.www.edu which we hope will provide resource support to you and thousands of other educators.

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Canadian Government and Politics

K-12 STUDY CANADA has many unit modules and lesson plans available for educators on its website. A series of educational modules entitled **Linking: Connecting Canadian History to the US** were written by Nadine Fabbi specifically for American educators and students. The modules assume very little background knowledge in the subject and provide as many comparisons to the US as possible.

Below are excerpts from the module **Canadian Government and Politics**. For a complete copy of the module and for access to various other essay topics, see our website at: k12studycanada@wwwu.edu.

Introduction

Canada, like the US, is a democracy. In both countries there are provincial or state governments that take care of local concerns and federal governments that take care of national business. At the national or federal level, the governments in the two countries differ substantially. Canada's parliamentary system is based on the British parliamentary system which includes three fundamental elements — the Monarch, the upper house which reviews legislation (the Senate), and the House of Commons. To this system Canada added elements of the U.S. federal



Using coinage from both countries immediately illustrates much about the difference in governance between Canada and the US. Both countries feature their heads of state on much of their coinage — the Queen in Canada; past presidents in the US.

system wherein different levels of government (federal and provincial/state) are given differing powers and responsibilities. Given how the parliamentary system operates, the government has a fair amount of power in Canada whereas the head of state has less than her/his American counterpart. This difference is best summed up by comparing the *raison d'être* of the two countries. In Canada, "Peace, Order and Good Government" is the

motto, whereas the US Constitution reads, "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness". The Canadian system is more oriented towards collective rights while the US system emphasizes individual rights.

Heads of State

The Queen of England and the President of the United States are both heads of state in North America: the President, of course, is the Head of State for the US and the Queen is the head of state in Canada. The head of state is the person who represents all of the people of the country, not just those in a particular area. If there were ever a need to go against the wishes of the government, to override a particular vote, or to act in the case of an extreme emergency, this person — the head of state — could do so. Today the Queen's role in Canada is mostly symbolic — she would never seize control of the government — but nonetheless she holds that important title.

The head of state is the most celebrated position in the two countries. For example, all coinage in both countries celebrates the head of state: former presidents appear on one side of American coinage while Queen Elizabeth is featured on all Canadian coins. Prime Ministers do appear on several of the paper money denominations, but not on the coinage. Both countries also have civic holidays to celebrate their heads of state: Presidents' Day is a national holiday in the US while the Queen's Birthday (Queen Victoria) is a May holiday in Canada. Former Prime Ministers do not have a holiday in their honor.

Since the Queen doesn't live in Canada and can't be at all of the functions or daily running of the government, she has a representative. The Governor General is the Queen's representative in the federal government. The provincial governments also have a royal representative called a Lieutenant Governor. The Governor General, like the President of the United States, has the final say in any legislation; performs ceremonial roles such as greeting foreign dignitaries; and presents medals of honor to outstanding citizens.

The Parliament buildings in Ottawa, Ontario.



Here is a fun fact — the Queen of England is not able to visit Canada because, the moment she sets foot on Canadian soil, she becomes the Queen of Canada!

Canada has no Vice-President

Canada has no such thing as a Vice-President. At the party conventions a leader for the party is chosen but no vice-leader or vice-prime-minister is chosen. There is just one party leader. In the States, if anything happens to the President, the Vice-President takes over. Who takes over in Canada? If anything happens to the Prime Minister the Speaker asks the government (the party with the most votes) to select the member of government they think would best handle the leadership position until a new Prime Minister is chosen. This person will take the role of Prime Minister temporarily or until another leader is chosen at the next party convention.

Canada is the first country in North America to have a woman Prime Minister

Did you know that Canada has had a woman Prime Minister? Kim Campbell wasn't Prime Minister for long — just a few short months in 1993 — but nonetheless she is the first woman to be a head of government in North America. The Right Honourable Kim Campbell was Canada's 19th Prime Minister. In her maiden speech she said, "I am honoured to have been entrusted with its leadership and to be able again to make history for women and for our party."



Upcoming Presentations and Displays on Canada

Washington State Council for the Social Studies
Fall In-Service

Saturday, October 11th, 7:30 am-3:00 pm,
Edmonds-Woodway HS

Information: Jim Meadows, wscss@foxinternet.net

Includes Nadine Fabbi's presentation *An Introduction to Canada's Far North: The Four Inuit Homelands in Canada*.

4th Annual Vancouver International Writers Festival Field Trip - \$225

Thursday, October 23rd-Sunday, October 26th

Information: Canadian Studies Center,
(206) 221-6374 orcanada@u.washington.edu
canada@u.washington.edu

Includes festival sessions and presentations by Tina Storer, Dr. Nancy Pagh & Nadine Fabbi.

4th Annual Documentary Film Workshop:
Teaching Diversity and Cross-Cultural Understanding through Film - \$40

Saturday, November 8th, 8:30 am-4:30 pm,
UW Campus

Information: Canadian Studies Center,
(206) 221-6374 or canada@u.washington.edu

Includes a presentation by Nadine Fabbi on Canadian documentary film.

83rd National Council for Social Studies Annual Conference

November 14th-16th, Chicago

Information: <http://www.socialstudies.org>

Includes a 2-hour presentation entitled *A Novel Approach to Geography: A "Case" Study of Canada* by Tina Storer and Nadine Fabbi.

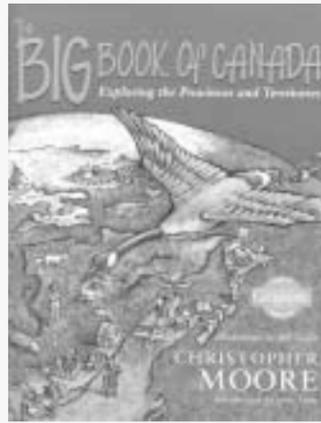
17th Biennial Association for Canadian Studies in the U.S. Conference

November 19th-23rd, Portland, Oregon

Includes several panels on teaching Canadian Studies at the K-12 level.



Canada in the Classroom: K-12 Teaching Resources



The Big Book of Canada: Exploring the Provinces and Territories by Christopher Moore (illustrated by Bill Slavin; ISBN 0-88776-457-6) This weighty classroom resource, published by Tundra Books of Northern New York, guides students province-by-province

through the landscapes, important moments, locations, people and cultures of each region. As Janet Lunn states in the introduction, the student-friendly text "is not intended to be a comprehensive geography or history of the country" but instead adds "those quirky bits that we all treasure about places we live in, visit or just read about." I like these cultural tidbits in particular. Students will love to learn how to write their names in Cree or discover that a bumblebee is a 'dumbledore' in Newfoundland.



From Far and Wide: A Canadian Citizenship Scrapbook by Jo Bannatyne-Cugnet (illustrated by Song Nan Zhang; ISBN 0-88776-443-6) Colorful illustrations honor the day that Xiao Ling Li and her parents become Canadians. It's a sweet tale, a useful resource regarding the process of immigration in Canada (remember that approximately 20% of Canadians are new immigrants) and a wonderful starting point from which to examine the diversity of Canada's population. (A related favorite is Paul Yee's *Tales from Gold Mountain: Stories of the Chinese in the New World*, published by Groundwood Press - ISBN 0-88899-098-7.)



K-12 STUDY CANADA Teacher Loan-Kits

Teachers can learn all about K-12 STUDY CANADA's loan-kits (including contents and availability) online at <http://k12studycanada.wvu.edu>.

To make a request for either the **Resource Valise** or the **Student Novel Collection**, simply send Tina an email message with your contact/mailling information. Be sure to specify the loan period you wish to book and which loan-kit you would like to use. In the reply, your dates will be confirmed, you will be asked to complete a loan agreement form and you will be given mailing information so that you can ship the resources forward to the next teacher. Shipping the loan-kit forward is your only cost.

For more information about the resources contained in each loan-kit, visit our website and look under "Teacher Resources".

HCO

Attention Grade 7-12 Teachers of Canadian History

HCO is Canada's first full-scale history text available online and it makes full use of the medium - meaning it is clickable, browsable, searchable, printable, interactive, "googlish". **Preview Units** can be viewed at www.ottres.ca/hconline/chapters/index.html and **FAQs** at www.ottres.ca/hconline/entry/FAQ.html.

Consider it for your school library: the list price is \$39 Cdn per single terminal standard license (based on total number of seats per library) and discounts are available for joint purchases and multi-year licenses.

Please contact Northern Blue Publishing (infonauts@sympatico.ca) for other educational, departmental or institutional pricing and any questions you may have.

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Every year about 200 elementary school children travel to the Canadian Studies Centers to learn about Canada. Here is one enthusiastic bunch from Seattle's Lowell Elementary!