And, last spring, visiting Northwest Quebec Scholar, Dr. Thierry Giasson, Université Laval, offered the annual professional training to UW in the High School French Educators. Enseigner le français: La société québécoise comme outil didactique trained Washington State educators for teaching UW accredited high school courses and was a great success. New Canadian Center graduate affiliates Natalie Debray, Tim Pasch and Cody Case and included a special visit by Denis Turcotte, Quebec Government Representative in LA.

K-12 STUDY CANADA outreach has been growing. If you attend the 2007 National Council for Social Studies Conference in San Diego, for example, you will find K-12 STUDY CANADA represented in the International Alley of the Exhibit Hall, in a Sunday workshop session, at the International Film Festival (where a series of short films from Quebec—including The Sweater—will be featured). We have also been working closely with NCSS to increase Canada's profile with its general membership so you can expect even higher profile at the 2008 NCSS Conference in Houston.

Additional regional outreach is ongoing—from Washington to Texas and New Hampshire to Minnesota—via our network of K-12 STUDY CANADA Teacher Associates. Having regional teachers give presentations on Canada and serve as local contacts for educators interested in teaching about Canada is an invaluable extension of our own work. Visit www.canstudy.org or contact us on the website and we’d like to thank the newest “recruits” for joining our network: Richard Delamater (Winderemere, FL), Kay Geiger (Lubbock, TX), Jan Hertel (Hastings, MN), James Jaconi (Winnipeg, MB), Dan Lawton (Nashville, TN), and Karen Boschker (Issaquah, WA). We’d also like to congratulate Karen Boschker, French language teacher at Liberty High School, for receiving a 2007 Summer Scholar- ship to Quebec from the American Association for Teachers of French, funded by the Ministère des Relations Internationales du Québec.

And finally, we also encourage teachers to make regional connections with the Embassy of Canada in Washington, DC or one of the twenty Consulates General or Consulates of Canada offices. http://geo.international.gc.ca/can- am/washington/offices/default-en.asp for the complete list.

The Government of Canada is supportive of outreach to K-12 teachers and can share many useful resources for the classroom with you. We all hope that, as global awareness grows increasingly important, we can help American students be more knowledgeable about our northern neighbor.

Tina Storer, Western Washington University Nadine Fabbi, University of Washington

The National Anthems of Canada and the U.S.—
Teaching History through Music

by Nadine Fabbi

The U.S. national anthem has a significant connection to Canada-U.S. history. In 1812, near the end of the Napoleonic Wars in Europe, the U.S. declared war on Great Britain and stuck out at Britain’s only possession on the continent—Canada! The U.S. was frustrated with Britain’s heavy-handedness on the high seas (Britain, in an effort to stop supply ships to France, intercepted many non-French ships, particularly American ones). This, in part, led to the War of 1812 and the inspiration behind “The Star-Spangled Banner.” During the War of 1812, British and Canadian troops attacked Washington, D.C., burning the White House to the ground. The next month, in September of 1812, 200 American troops entered Baltimore and captured Fort McHenry. The night of the attack a D.C. Lawyer, Francis Scott Key, was aboard a British ship negotiating for the release of a civilian prisoner. When he awoke the following morning he was surprised and deeply moved to see a huge American flag raised over the Fort. He pulled a letter out of his pocket and on the back of a letter written to his fiancé, he wrote a poem, “The Defense of Fort McHenry” that would later become the “Star-Spangled Banner.” Congress passed a law making the song the official national anthem on 3 March 1931.

Canada’s first “national anthem” (it was never official) was “The Maple Leaf Forever.” It was written under much less exciting conditions than “The Star-Spangled Banner.” In 1867, the year that Canada was founded, a patriotic contest was held for a national poem. A school principal from Toronto, Alexander Muir, wanted a national anthem by a group of school children well-coming the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall to Canada (later to be King George V and Queen Mary). The lyrics were originally written in French and, while there were several English translations, the one that “took hold” was written by Robert Stanley Weir in 1908. (Like Scott Key, Muir was a lawyer, not an amateur poet). By the mid-20th century “0 Canada” was accepted as the national anthem and officially adopted on 1 July 1980 (Canada Day).

It is interesting how interpretations of the national anthems have impacted culture and history in both countries. For example, there have been many creative interpretations of “The Star-Spangled Banner.” These include the bluegrass rendition by Jose Feliciano and the rock version by Jimi Hendrix, both performed in the 1960s, and the more recent 1991 Super Bowl interpretation by Whitney Houston that is the national anthem on the pop charts for the first time in history.

An historic “first” occurred in Canada just this last February when a 13-year-old Cree girl from Alberta sang the national anthem in an aboriginal language at a National Hockey League game. Traditionally the singer will alternate between French and English to acknowledge the linguistic duality of the country. But in this case, Akina Shirt opened the game with a fantastic rendition of “O Canada” in Cree to a sold-out crowd at the Saddledome in Calgary. The performance was also viewed by hundreds of thousands of Canadians tuned in to Hockey Night in Canada on television and radio. Exploring the history of our national anthems can tell our students much about Canada-U.S. relations (the War of 1812), how inspiring moments created enduring symbolism (Scott Key and Muir), and how a nation sees itself (in the various renditions of the anthems—all available on YouTube!). National symbols or songs are an excellent starting point for teaching students about history and culture in North America.
Fall 2007 Presentations and Displays on Canada

World Affairs Council: Classroom on the World
Trade & Immigration with Mexico and Canada
October 9 (4-7pm) at Bates Technical College
(Tacoma, WA)

Washington Association for Language Teachers
La Langa, La Culture et la Société Québécoises
October 11-13: Coast Wenatchee Center
(Wenatchee, WA)

Washington State Council for the Social Studies
Canada in the Classroom
K-12 STUDY CANADA Exhibit
October 13: Edmonds-Woodway HS (Edmonds, WA)

Texas Council for the Social Studies
What Do You Know About Our Neighbor to the North?
October 19-21: Marriott Hotel (El Paso, TX)

New Hampshire State Council for the Social Studies
National Resource Centers for Canada Exhibit
October 20: Center for New Hampshire (Manchester, NH)

Association for Canadian Studies in the United States
NRC Outreach and Building a Teacher-Training Network in the US
November 14-18: Westin Harbour Castle
(Toronto, ON)

National Council for the Social Studies
2 Borders; 3 Nations: Learning about our N. American Neighbors
National Resource Centers for Canada Exhibit
(International Alley)
International Film Festival (featuring short films from Quebec)
November 29-December 2: Convention Center
(San Diego, CA)

MN Humanities Commission/Consulate
General of Canada, Minneapolis
January 14-15: (Minneapolis, MN)

International Studies Schools Association
K-12 STUDY CANADA Exhibit
November 29-December 2: Convention Center
(Wenatchee, WA)

Canada in the Classroom: K-12 Resources

A Musical Journey Across Canada
by Canadian songwriter and teacher Kim Soleski Ward

Sing a Song of Canada (songbook with activities and CD with 26 songs)

Sing a Song of Canada is a wonderful classroom tool for teaching Canada through music in Grades K-6. Kim Soleski Ward (a Canadian who teaches music at Gates and Merriam Elementary Schools in Acton, Massachusetts) created it at the request of a 4th grade teacher to help with the social studies unit on Canada mandated in state curriculum guidelines.

Ten years in the making, Sing a Song of Canada draws upon Kim’s background in both music therapy and music education. Kim earned both a B.A. (Music) from the University of Kansas and M.Ed. from Cambridge College and worked as a Registered Music Therapist before becoming a classroom teacher. Even when she moved into traditional music education where music knowledge and skills are the primary objectives, Kim always incorporated extra-musical objectives in curriculum. Thus, Sing a Song of Canada has a two-fold design—for the music teacher, the music improves skills such as singing, playing instruments, writing musical symbols and reading notes; for the classroom teacher, the lyrics help teach the history, geography and culture of Canada and songbook activities reinforce learning through drawing, writing, puzzles and various forms of musical expression.

All of the students in Kim’s school district now learn the names of Canada’s provinces, territories and capitals by singing “Can Can Canada” in their social studies classrooms while music specialists expand on the material musically with Offf arrangements and recorders as instruments. What a fun way to teach! Other titles include “First Among Equals” (about the prime ministers of Canada), “Train Dogs” (based on a poem by Canadian First Nations poet Pauline Johnson), and “My Dewlap” (a fun look at the annual life cycle of the moose).

The compilation offers up a complete curriculum unit. The CD makes the music come alive and teachers can reproduce the activity pages and sheet music in the songbook. The CD includes 21 original compositions by Kim, 4 Canadian folk songs, and the Canadian national anthem. Because Sing a Song of Canada has been kid-tested in music and social studies classrooms (and can cross-over into other curriculum units such as habitats, Native culture, and French language), we have added it to our K-12 STUDY CANADA Resource Valise loan-kits and are happy to recommend its purchase for your own classroom!

To order: Email moosikim@aol.com or write to Kim Soleski Ward, 5 Crescent Lane, Sudbury, MA 01776.

Cost: $30 Songbook; $10 Music CD; $3 Shipping.

K-12 STUDY CANADA is a biannual publication of the Pacific Northwest National Resource Center for Canada (NRC) - a joint center linking the Canadian Studies Center, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington to the Center for Canadian-American Studies, Western Washington University. The NRC offers quarterly workshops on specific Canadian topics; the annual, week-long STUDY CANADA seminar mid-summer; a fall seminar; a week-long STUDY CANADA seminar mid-summer; and, a comprehensive Resource Library for the use of social educators. The NRC is funded through a Title VI Grant from the U.S. Department of Education and an annual Program Enhancement Grant from the Canadian Embassy, Washington, D.C.