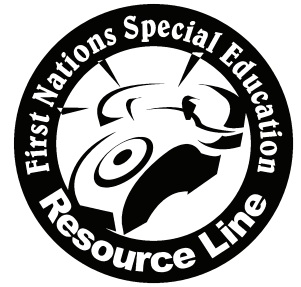


First Nations Special Education CONNECTIONS



Newsletter of the First Nations Special Education Toll-free Resource Line Vol. 9, Professional Development Feb. 2009

Do you work with First Nations students in British Columbia?

Do you have special education questions?

If so, you are invited to contact the First Nations Special Education Resource Line! The Resource Line is a free service for BC educators and parents.

The Resource Line is designed to help you brainstorm approaches, guide you toward helpful resources, help you to understand assessment documents, and share the latest information on special education.

When you call, you will reach the Resource Line Coordinator, Holly Smith. Holly is available to answer your questions, Monday to Thursday, 12:30 to 4:30 during the school year

Contact the Resource Line:

Toll-free 1-877-547-1919

hollys@fnesc.ca

Connections is the newsletter of the Resource Line. Back issues of *Connections* are available from

www.fnsa.ca/resource-line.htm

The Resource Line is a collaborative project of the First Nations Education Steering Committee and the First Nations Schools Association, made possible by financial assistance from the Department of Indian Affairs.

Special Professional Development Issue Spring 2009

FEBRUARY 2009

February 13-14, Surrey. Children: The Heart of the Matter Child Care Conference. A conference about caring for, protecting, and educating children. For more information call 604-527-8032 or visit www.childcareoptions.ca/pdfs/Final_brochure_CHOM_2009.pdf

February 20, Victoria. Reflections... From Community to Classroom. A wide variety of offerings for teachers of all levels and in all subject areas. www.claremont-school.ca/lrc/reflections_feb_2009.htm

February 20, Vancouver. Literacy, Learning, Achievement - Relevant & Responsive Education for Boys. Presented by Barry MacDonald, author of *Boy Smarts-Mentoring Boys for Success at School*. In our rapidly changing technologically complex society, schools are being asked to educate the most diverse student body in history to higher and higher academic standards. Some students – disproportionately boys – are bored and underachieving. www.mentoringboys.com/pdfs/BoysSmartsFeb20_09.pdf

February 20-22, Delta. Advanced Intensive Training in Glasser's Lead Management. For registration forms and prerequisites call Educere Consulting at 604-946-1967 or djclifton@dccnet.com

February 27-28, Richmond. The BC Teachers' Federation is hosting its 12th Annual New Teachers' Conference designed specifically for new teachers, those in their first five years of teaching, and for student teachers. bctf.ca/NewTeachersConference2009.aspx

MARCH 2009

March 6, Prince George. Educational Spring Fling: 5th North Central Zone Conference. Featuring: Ian Jukes (keynote & presenter,) Adrienne Gear, and Gary Anaka. Excellent variety of workshops for all grades and subject areas. Venue: Prince George Senior Secondary School. Brochure and presenter information will be available December 2008 at www.bctf.ca/NorthCentralZone. Contact Deb Vandal at dvandal@sd57.bc.ca or 250-562-7214

March 7-8, Delta. Therapy and Choice Theory Training. For registration forms and prerequisites call Educere Consulting at 604-946-1967 or djclifton@dccnet.com

March 12-13, Vancouver. Special Education Association's 34th Annual Crosscurrents Conference will be held at the Westin Bayshore Hotel. Keynote: Martin Brokenleg, Circle of Courage. Workshops/Exhibitor tables for Regular and Special Educators. Online information/registration: www.bctf.ca/sea Contact sfewster@telus.net.

March 28, Surrey. The Adult Educators' (AEPsA) "Meeting Adult Students Needs" conference will be held at the Surrey Conference Centre. Contact Victor Guenther at victoriojameseducation@hotmail.com.

APRIL 2009

April 3-5, Delta. Basic Intensive Week Training in Glasser's Choice Theory and Lead Management. Learn how knowing internal motivation theory can take the stress out of any classroom, administrative, or personal problem and help you to be creatively part of the solution. Call Daphni at Educere 604-946-1967 or djclifton@dccnet.com.

April 16-18, Coquitlam. Coquitlam Encompass Conference, 2009 Celebrating Social Justice to Creating Safe and Caring Schools and Communities. Keynote Speakers Dr. Donna Beegle, Kathy Lynn. Featured Speakers: Dr. Kim Schonert-Reichl, Dr. Shelly Hymel, Dr. Lee Brown, David Bouchard, Ivan Coyote, Katy Hutchinson, Eekwol and a host of others. Contact Chris King at pd43@bctf.ca or 604-936-9971.

April 15, Victoria. A Neurodevelopmental Perspective on Differences in Learning with Dr Mel Levine. Brain function is key to learning, yet children who have problems learning are often labeled lazy (or worse). This workshop will focus on those brain processes and what can be done to improve outcomes. www.jackhirose.com/brochures/BC-Levine-Victoria-April15-2009.html.

April 18-19, Delta. Basic Intensive Week Training in Glasser's Choice Theory and Lead Management. Learn how knowing internal motivation theory can take the stress out of any classroom, administrative, or personal problem and help you to be creatively part of the solution. Call Daphni at 604-946-1967 or djclifton@dccnet.com.

April 24, Whistler. "Practical Strategies to Support Struggling Students in Reading and Math" 4th Annual Mini-Conference: Understand your students better and learn sensible, easy-to-use strategies that can be implemented in your classroom immediately! Spend the day with Mary Moody, Verna Duckworth, Liz Barrett, or Greg Sharpe. Learn about ESL, math, and disorganized students in your classroom, and the learning styles of boys and girls. Enjoy beautiful Whistler Village during the Ski and Snowboard Festival! For Classroom Teachers, Learning Assistance Teachers, Principals and Education Assistants. Early bird registration \$95. For details, deadlines and online registration please go to www.pita.ca. For information contact Ray Myrtle at president@pita.ca.

April 24-25, Vancouver. First Nations Schools Association Annual Conference and AGM, Realizing the Potential of Each Student: Approaches that Work. Classroom-tested strategies and workshops spanning a wide-variety of subjects and grade levels are offered. Keynote address by David Rattray and featured workshop by Kagan Cooperative Learning. Visit www.fnsa.ca or call toll-free in BC 1-877-422-3672.

April 30, Abbotsford. PITA's Year of Professional Support Program for early career teachers. Workshop, Evaluation, & Celebration. Why prepare alone? Workshops to help you be more prepared and confident as you begin teaching. We provide practical strategies, 'ready to go' materials and web-based help. These workshops illustrate good teaching and strategies that are useful to all teachers. To sign up to receive more details go to www.pita.ca or contact Ray Myrtle at president@pita.ca.

MAY 2009

May 2, Vancouver. Investigating Our Practices 2009 12th Annual Conference. Teachers from different educational contexts convene at UBC to share their investigations, understandings and questions. Deadline for proposals March 6, 2009. Registration fee \$25 (\$15 for students.) Lunch and refreshments included. Scarfe Education Building 2125 Main Mall UBC. For more information, contact Judy Paley 604-822-2733. judy.paley@ubc.ca or visit www.eplt.educ.ubc.ca/workshops/iop/iop2009.htm.

May 3-6, Winnipeg. DreamCatching 2009: Hands-on Workshops in Math and Science for Teachers of Aboriginal Students Theme: Connecting the Dots: Building a Pathway to Career Awareness through Excellence in Math and Science held at the University of Manitoba for more info visit www.dream-catching.com. Early bird registrations rates are available until February 15, 2009. Student rates available.

May 14-15, Vancouver. All The Rage: Helping Adolescent Girls in Crisis. Dr Martha Straus. Many adolescent girls today are in a crisis of rage and despair. How can mental health professionals/educators become more effective with this volatile population? This highly practical workshop will explore fifteen vital principles underlying effective practice with adolescent girls. It will offer concrete strategies and methods for helping girls in crisis and examine the limitations of old standards of care, such as self-harm contracts and confidentiality rules. Learn what it takes to stay connected to these struggling adolescents as you help them become competent, inter-dependent young women. Visit www.jackhirose.com/brochures/BC-Straus-Vancouver-May14-2009.html.