

News

The Official News Bulletin of the Federation of Independent School Associations

Issue: 185

June 2008

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SOCIAL SERVICE TAX REBATE

The FISA sent information on the application process for the social service tax rebate to independent schools for the Parent Support Groups in April and June 2008. Parent Support Groups are reminded that the deadline for application submission, with receipts, is July 31, 2008, for the 2007-2008 school year.

DIRECT ACCESS GRANTS

Parent Support Groups of Group 1 or 2 independent schools which intend to apply for Direct Access Grants are reminded the deadline for application for the 2007-2008 year is June 30, 2008, with grants deposited by September 30, 2008. The form Application for PAC/DPAC Direct Access Funding may be downloaded from: www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/gaming/index.htm

FRENCH LANGUAGE GRANTS

In April 2008 a total of \$298,339 was distributed to independent schools for core French. A portion of a further \$80,000 for Special Purpose grants is being distributed as the applicants for 2007-2008 submit receipts. Applicants who have not yet submitted receipts are urged to do so by the end of June.

ARTISTS IN EDUCATION GRANTS

Application forms for the Artists in Education Grants were sent by E-mail to FISA member schools on June 3, 2008. The applications are due in the FISA office by 4.00 PM Monday September 15, 2008. The FISA thanks the BC Arts Council and the Vancouver Foundation for making it possible for performing artists to take live productions to enhance the Fine Arts component of education. The \$17,500 grant is highly appreciated.

GOVERNMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

Office of the Inspector of Independent Schools

Teachers who hold independent school certificates are reminded that certificates must be renewed as a result of legislation passed in 2007 requiring that criminal record checks be carried out every five years and attaching that requirement to the issuance of an independent school teacher certificate.

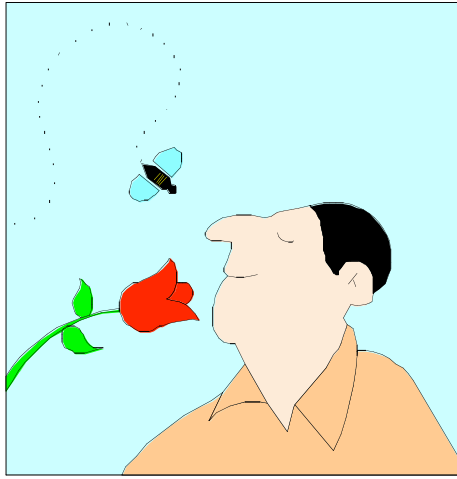
The Legislature

The BC legislature began the Spring sitting on February 12, 2008 and adjourned for the summer on May 29, 2008. Last year the Government passed five Bills impacting independent schools, but this year there were no pieces of legislation that affected them.

The focus of work in the 2007-2008 year has been at the Ministry of Education level involving implementation of the legislation passed in the Spring of 2007. The re-issuing of independent school certificates is the first item underway. The public registry of independent school certificates holders should be on-line sometime this summer, to be followed by a registry of independent certificate holder employment in the Fall.

The document Student records: Requirements and Best Practice Guidelines for Independent Schools issued in 2002 (see "Reporting Requirements and Data Collection" in the BC Guide to Independent Schools) has been updated to reflect legislative changes of the last four years. The revised document is scheduled to be released this June.

The Independent School Teacher Certification Committee has formalized standards for teachers who hold independent school certificates by producing written standards that parallel the written standards of the BC College of Teachers. Some adjustments in wording have been made to reflect governance of independent schools. It is anticipated the document will be issued this summer.



*We wish
all independent
school students
and staff
a happy and safe
Summer*

AIM WORKSHOP – VICTORIA

Monday August 25 and Tuesday August 26, 2008

In June 2004, a revolutionary new program using the Accelerative Integrated Method (AIM) was introduced in Canada. In just three years, AIM has transformed the way French is being taught: Students are achieving amazing levels of fluency in both core French and beginning immersion classes!

COST OF WORKSHOP

Includes continental breakfast, coffee break and full lunch.

1 day workshop rate (either Monday or Tuesday): \$165.00+GST = \$173.25

Early bird registration (before July 3, 2008), save \$10: \$155.00+GST = \$162.75

2 day workshop rate

\$300.00+GST = \$315.00

Early bird registration (before July 3, 2008), save \$15: \$285 + GST = \$299.25

ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL GOALS WITH IMAGINATION

Before you go off to your well deserved summer plans, the SFU Imaginative Education Research Group invites you to join them July 7 – 9, 2008 at the Delta Vancouver Airport Hotel, Richmond. A variety of workshops are offered which focus on educational practices that come to the fore once one takes the imagination seriously as a major learning tool. The second day of the event will include presentations from around the world, as well as some research focused sessions.

Registration information: include discounts for groups of 5 or more associated educators. Delta Vancouver Airport Hotel has reserved a rate of \$139.00 per night for conference attendees. For more information: On the SFU Centre for Imaginative Education and its well-known Imaginative Education Research Group: <http://www.ierg.net>

