

Freedom Involves Secure Alternatives Federation News

The Official News Bulletin of the Federation of Independent School Associations

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VANCOUVER FOUNDATION AND BC ARTS COUNCIL

Application forms for the Arts in Education grants were e-mailed to schools in June. The application is also available on our website www.fisabc.ca for FISA member schools. The forms are due in the FISA office September 15, 2008. The FISA extends its sincere thanks to the Vancouver Foundation and the BC Arts Council for their support of the performing arts and for granting \$17,500.00 to the independent schools for this program.

FISA FACT SHEET

The FACT SHEET is being mailed, pre-printed with data submitted by your school last year. Please return the FACT SHEET with your updated information to the FISA office by October 3, 2008 in order that we may serve you, and others with the correct information.

FISA MEMBERSHIP

Invoices for FISA membership fees will be mailed for ISA and AMG schools, with the exception of SDA schools within the AMG. Invoices for ACSIBC, SDA, CIS and SCS schools will be sent to the Provincial association offices. The fees for 2008-09 are \$4.75 per student in Grades 1-12 and \$2.50 in Kindergarten using September 30, 2008 enrolment figures on the FISA FACT SHEET. Kindly remit fees by October 24, 2008 **with a copy of the invoice**. Thank you.

WEBSITE HOT LINK AND E-MAIL

The FISA updates its website based on the information submitted by your school on the FISA FACT SHEET. Please check the accuracy of your website and e-mail address carefully. We believe this service will enhance your ability to provide information to potential clients.



GOVERNMENT AND INSTITUTION NEWS

LEGISLATION

DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Effective July 3, 2008, Section 4(1) of the Educational Standards Order was amended by adding daily physical activity as a required offering for grades 1 to 7. Section 4(3) was similarly amended for grades 8 and 9.

The Graduation Program Order was also amended July 3, 2008 in sections 1 and 4, requiring physical activity as set out in the Daily Physical Activity Planning and Resource Guide Kindergarten to Grade 12. The Graduation Program Order addresses the educational program requirements for grades 10 through 12, and is applicable to both public and independent schools.

BOOSTER SEATS

Effective July 1, 2008 drivers of vehicles must ensure children in their cars who are over 40lbs, and under 9 years of age, unless they have reached a height of 145 cm. (4'9") tall, use booster seats. For details consult www.childseatinfo.ca Schools will need to adjust their policies for drivers for field trips to reflect this new requirement made by amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act Regulation.

FIRST NATIONS

The Independent School Act has been amended as a consequence of the passage and implementation of the First Nations Education Act. The Independent School Act now includes definitions for First Nations schools, and clarifies that authorities of independent schools may make agreements about educational matters with First Nation schools that operate under the First Nations Education Act. They may also made agreements with the First Nations Education Authority.

GOVERNMENT

CABINET SHUFFLE

On June 23, 2008 Premier Gordon Campbell announced several cabinet changes. The Hon. Shirley Bond, Minister of Education and Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy and Deputy Premier retained her current portfolios. The FISA is pleased with the ongoing stability this creates for education and looks forward to continuing the good working relationship the FISA has established with the Minister's office.

NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY CRITIC PORTFOLIO SHUFFLE

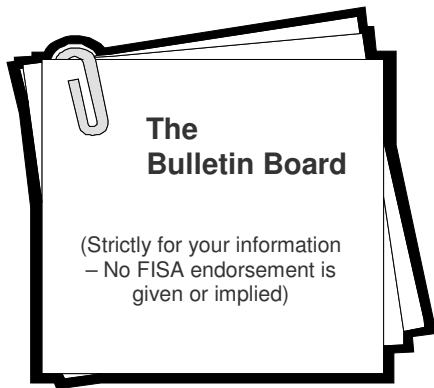
On August 6, 2008, Carol James, Leader of the Opposition, announced changes in portfolio critics. Mr. David Cubberley, MLA for Saanich South, stepped down as Education Critic since he will not run in the next election. Mr. Norm Macdonald, MLA for Columbia River-Revelstoke was appointed as the new Education Critic. The FISA looks forward to discussing educational matters with Mr. Macdonald as the year progresses.



ASSOCIATION NEWS

The FISA is pleased to welcome six schools which have joined the FISA in the 2007-08 year, all in the Associate Member Group (AMG). The FISA represents 92% of independent school enrolment, some 63,600 students in 282 schools.

SCHOOL	LOCATION	FOUNDED	GRADES	ENROLMENT	GROUP
Bodwell Academy	North Vancouver	2006	8-12	54	AMG
Guru Nanak Elementary School	Vancouver	2006	K-6	81	AMG
Mountain View Christian Academy	Terrace	2003	K-10	45	AMG
Purpose Independent Sec. School	New Westminster	1983	10-12	111	AMG
Roots and Wings Montessori School	Surrey	1990	Pre-K & K-6	46 & 43	AMG
Sun Haven School	Roberts Creek	2001	K-6	50	AMG



MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Message from the museum:

This is to let you know that from September 2, 2008 to March 3, 2009, the Museum of Anthropology will be closed for renovations.

Although we will not be offering school programs onsite during this time, our Outreach Kits – including *My Ancestors Are Still Dancing Kit*, *Residential School Kit*, and *Nunavut Kit* – will still be available for rental. We will also continue to offer online educational programs such as *The Spirit of Islam*; *Experiencing Islam through Calligraphy* and *The respect to Bill Reid Pole*, plus two brand new resources to be launched this Fall:

- *Returning the Past: Repatriation of First Nations Cultural Property* (secondary-level program focusing on repatriation as experienced by four BC First Nations Communities)
- *ESL Resource Guide* (offers ESL teachers and students of all ages activities, worksheets, and background information on First Nations of the Northwest Coast, collecting, and museums)

MOA education staff are currently developing new programs for introduction in the Spring. Bookings for these and other onsite programs scheduled from March until June 2009 will be accepted as of January 2009. For more information contact www.moa.ubc.ca/programs/k12.php. To reserve an Outreach Kit, e-mail bookings@moa.ubc.ca

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

The National Research Council of Canada is pleased to invite your students (Grades 9-12) to enter our contest to win one hour of observing time on the Gemini 8-metre telescopes.

Just send us a description of the target celestial object: a galaxy, a nebula, a star cluster or a planet Anything in the universe. Important: Please explain why you would like to observe this object.

- Deadline for entries: December 15, 2008
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- One entry per school
- For more details, please visit website: http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/hiacgo/contest08_e.html

