

- 1. The 2013 Chinese Bridge Summer Camp for Canadian students was held in Beijing and Harbin, China.** The purpose of this summer camp was to provide the opportunity for the students to improve Chinese language and get a first hand experience of Chinese culture. Alberta Education provided \$1,000 towards each selected student's round-trip airfare to China. Domestic costs in China such as accommodation, food, transportation, and site-seeing were subsidized by Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters. 19 Alberta students participated in this Student Summer Camp in China: eight female eleven male; four Grade 9 students, one Grade 10 student; six Grade 11 students, eight Grade 12 students. 8 school communities were represented: 1 from Athabasca , 1 from Brooks, 10 from Calgary, 1 from Eaglesham, 3 from Edmonton, 1 from Edson, 1 from Lethbridge , 1 from Vermillion. Students felt they learned about a new culture and met new people; learned Mandarin or improved Mandarin proficiency; expanded their personal outlook on the world and global view on the differences in culture, language, and society; learned more about their home country and that there are so many opportunities outside of Canada; gained a better direction of where their life is going and can now find focus and new determination from their success and failed attempts during the summer camp; felt renewed with a deeper sense of purpose.
- 2. Fenghua Cup Chinese Speech Competition in Nov.** The 4th Fenghua Cup Chinese Speech Competition for Elementary, Junior & Senior High School Students in Calgary will be held on Nov. 30th. With the support of Chinese Consulate General in Calgary and Alberta Education, Calgary Chinese Private School, Calgary Chinese Culture Center Chinese Academy, Calgary Chinese Culture Center, Chinese Academy and Yufeng Chinese School have been cooperatively organizing the Fenghua Cup Chinese Speech Competition for Elementary, Junior & Senior High School Students in Calgary ever since 2010. This year will be the 4th year for this city wide speech competition. The purpose of this event is to provide an opportunity for the students from elementary, junior and high schools to showcase their Chinese language proficiency ability, talent and the knowledge of China and Chinese culture. It also provides an opportunity to share and encourage them to learn Chinese language and culture as well as to enhance more understanding about China. For more information, please contact Dr. Xinxin Fang at [Xinxin.fang@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Xinxin.fang@gov.ab.ca).
- 3. Chinese Writing Competition in Oct** The 5<sup>th</sup> Chinese Writing Competition will be held in Oct. This provincial event is organized by the Chinese Journal and Confucius Institute in Edmonton. The writing topic this year is "Chinese Culture", students from k to 12, university students who are registered at language courses and adults are all welcome to participate. More information can be found on the Chinese Journal.
- 4. Professional Development:** Annual SLIC conference from Oct. 25 to 26. Presentation of Teaching Learning Strategy and Communication Strategy in class.
- 5. Delegates:** Liaison between Hanban, CIE and professors in China regarding inviting Chinese teaching pedagogy experts visit Alberta in Nov. The expert will give lectures at Confucius Institute in Edmonton, CBE and Confucius Institute in Montreal from Nov. 16 to 21<sup>st</sup>. The first lecture will be delivered by Prof. Lin, Xiuqin, from Capital Normal University, introducing the different types of errors students will make during their Chinese language study and discussing with teachers how to do error analysis and make

related strategies to support Chinese teaching. The second lecture will be delivered by Dr. Mian Xie, from EPSB, discussing how body actions can help develop language skill and understanding, and how body movements can animate language study. Using the tried-and-true activities drawn from years of work on different Chinese language levels, in different age classes, at different schools, the presenter will introduce a model of language pedagogy which will enliven our classes so that students engage and enjoy more in the linguistic and cultural journey of their Chinese language study.

6. **HSK and YCT test at U. of C testing center:** Nov. 16 YCT testing will be held at the U. of C. testing center. Dec 1 HSK testing will be held at the U. of C. testing center.
7. **The World of Splash Ink: Painting and Calligraphy by Professor Fan Zeng, An educational programming at University of Alberta Museums.** Exploring the World of Chinese Splash Ink Painting and Art Galleries in a Global World are two curriculum-linked, educational outreach programs for Grades 5-8 and Grades 9-12 respectively that engage students in object-based research onsite at The World of Splash Ink exhibit in the University of Alberta Enterprise Square Galleries. Students engage in a 2.0 - 2.5 hour guided, interactive program, complete with Curatorial Notebook and the creation of their own art exhibit. The overall objectives of the programs are for students to 1) develop an appreciation for contemporary Chinese splash ink paintings and 2) develop an understanding of the role of art galleries and museums in fostering intercultural exchange, global citizenship, and civic and social engagement. Programs will run from October 2nd to 25th, 2013, twice per day, at a cost of \$10 per student. There is a limit of 35 students per group. With current staffing and gallery hours, 28 slots for school programming are available. Ten of the available times are reserved for classes from schools located outside of Edmonton.

UPDATE for the educational program: There was great uptake from surrounding school districts to participate in the available 10 slots reserved for rural schools -- and they filled very quickly. In total, 316 students from four school districts will be attending. The bookings were equally divided between the intermediate (5-8) program and the advanced (9-12).

There was small amount of funding, but collaboration from a number of departments and sectors was the key:

Teachers very much appreciated the support government was providing to help create equitable access. For many, not having to worry about the cost of the bus and the materials fee was the deciding factor in booking the program. According to University of Alberta museums, this was a very successful initiative in increasing rural student access to the exhibit.