

S'olh Shxwlèlì Siya:ye

*"Our
Places"*



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Aboriginal Access Services Newsletter

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Pelóqes

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Indigenous Studies Speakers Series

Aboriginal Access Services (AAS) and the Faculty of Arts are pleased to announce the Indigenous Speakers Series to begin Thursday, January 5, 2009.

In planning for an Indigenous Studies program to be offered at the University of the Fraser Valley, AAS has invited several Indigenous academics

to lead important dialogue in this area. Invited are:

- Taiaiake Alfred (January 15 2009)
- Michele Pidgeon (January 22, 2009)
- Verna Kirkness (TBC)
- Lorna Williams (TBC)
- Rauna Kuokkanen (TBC).

Leading off the Indigenous Studies

Speakers Series will be Taiaiake Alfred on January 15, 2009.

Taiaiake will be having lunch with the students in the Aboriginal Access Centre (G building-Chilliwack Campus – 12:30 to 2pm) and providing a public presentation (2:30 to 4:30 –location TBA). Please mark this date in your calendars and be sure to join us.

G. Taiaiake Alfred

Gerald Taiaiake Alfred is an author, educator and activist who is committed to Indigenous peoples' dignity, freedom and nationhood.

Taiaiake is a Professor of Indigenous Governance at the University of Victoria and is known for his leadership and groundbreaking research in the fields of Indigenous governance,

philosophy and history, and also for his incisive social and political criticism. He is one of the most prominent Indigenous intellectuals in North America, and has been awarded a Canada Research Chair, a National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the field of education, and the Native American Journalists Association award for best column

writing. Mr. Alfred completed his studies at the Department of Government at the prestigious Cornell University in New York where he completed his Master of Arts and his Doctorate.





Need help with your studies? Tutoring is available. Let us know and we will set it up for you.

Also...Laura Smith is available to help with writing assignments. In January she is available in Abbotsford on Tuesday's, and in Chilliwack on Wednesday's.



Writing Centre - Chilliwack

The writing centre appreciates the number of Aboriginal students who are accessing their services at both Abbotsford and Chilliwack.

This semester seven workshops are offered at the Chilliwack campus Aboriginal Access Services G130, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

- Jan. 13 - Learning definitions and

other factual material

- Jan. 27 - Summarizing
- Feb. 10 - Writing an outline / Starting your writing assignment
- Feb. 24 - Writing an essay
- Mar. 3 - Adding references
- Mar. 24 MLA/APA documentation
- Apr. 7 - Exam

checklist/ writing under pressure

Contact Josephine or Laura for further information at 795-2835. Contact Laura Smith for other topics and/or writing concerns for future workshops.

We appreciate the cooperation the writing center staff has shown us in planning these workshops.

Inuk and the Sun

The second production of the UFV season of theatre is *Inuk and The Sun*, a captivating fable for audiences of all ages, by Canadian playwright Henry Beissel.

Inuk and The Sun follows the quest of a young Inuit hunter in his heroic pursuit of the retreating Sun. A coming of age, tale set in the realm of both the

reality and fantasy of Inuit life, this classic Canadian play features numerous mythical characters and bold adventures, as Inuk combats monsters and elemental forces in his search for The Sun and the spirit of his dead father held captive in the Great Hall of the Iceberg.

Inuk and The Sun opens Friday, Jan. 16 in the

Chilliwack campus theatre and runs Jan. 17, 19-24, 29-31 at 7.30 pm, with two reduced - price previews Jan. 14 and 15 at 7.30 p.m. Matinee performances are: Sunday, Jan. 25 and Feb. 1 at 2 pm and Jan. 22 and 26 at 12 pm. Ticket prices range between \$8 and \$17. For tickets and information call: 604-795-2814 or email: theatre@ufv.ca

Aboriginal Employment and Career Fair

The 2009 Aboriginal Employment and Career Fair theme is "Building a Future."

This event will take place February 6, 2009 from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM.

Location: Landing Sports Centre (Ag-Rec Centre), 45530 Spadina Avenue, Chilliwack.

Guest speakers, career booths, employers, morning coffee, fruit and muffins, and a

lunch will be provided.

To register call Penny Joe at 604-858-4741.

For further information contact Luwana Williams at 877-847-3288 local 672.

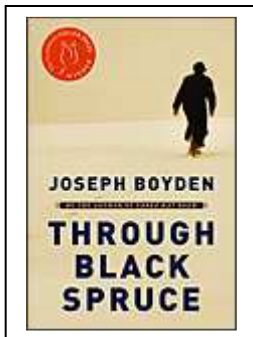
Giller Book Prize Awarded to Metis Author

Joseph Boyden Wins the Giller Book Prize with *Through Black Spruce*.

Each year the Scotia Bank Giller Prize awards \$50,000 to the author of the best Canadian novel or collection of short stories published in English. This year the winner is 38 year old Joseph Boyden a Canadian with Irish, Scottish and Métis roots who grew up in Willowdale, Ontario. His winning novel, *Through Black Spruce*, is the follow-up to Joseph Boyden's bestselling first novel, *Three Day Road*. Today he divides his time between Northern Ontario and Louisiana, where he teaches Canadian literature and creative writing at the University of New Orleans.

For his first novel, *Three-Day Road*, Joseph was inspired by the life of Ojibwa Francis Pegahmagabow, the legendary First World War sniper and by the war experiences of his grandfather and father.

This mesmerizing tale of two young Cree men who become snipers in the First World War depicts the conflict between native and European culture and values. Boyden also argues that the native story has gone missing from Canadian chronicles of war, especially given that so many native men signed up to fight. "Native soldiers are not recognized for their accomplishments."



Joseph Boyden Wins the Giller Book Prize with *Through Black Spruce*.



Giller Prize cont'd

When you look at the number of native soldiers that actually volunteered for World War I and World War II, it is an incredibly high rate. Oftentimes full reserves were cleared of eligible aged men." Boyden has his own theories as to why. "You must also remember that 1914, '15, and '16 was a very low, low point for native people. They had been forced onto the reserves not so long before. They had lost everything. They had lost touch with what

they were ... which often involved a warrior tradition."

http://www.quillandquire.com/authors/profile.cfm?article_id=6573

Through Black Spruce, Joseph Boyden's second novel, is woven through two narrative voices, Will Bird, a former bush pilot, and his niece Annie. At the outset of the novel, Annie's younger sister Suzanne, a model in New York City, has disappeared. Annie's quest to find her sister is a study in cultural politics, and identity formation. One

underlying theme within *Through Black Spruce* is the death of traditional ways of life. As Annie points out, the Cree have "gone from living on the land ... hunting, trapping, trading in order to survive, to living in clapboard houses and pushing squeaky grocery carts up and down aisles filled with overpriced and unhealthy food." They have, in terms of a colonial mindset, become "civilized."

Taken from review by Mark Callanan, *Quill and Quire*, September 2008

You can find Boyden's books in our UFV library.



Carving Class



This winter semester UFV and Aboriginal Access Centre will continue the carving courses on the Chilliwack campus Tuesday nights and on the Abbotsford campus Friday and Saturday's. This course is taught by Master Sto:lo carvers Francis Horne and Rocky LaRock.

The three classes are:

VA 141 First Nations Design and Technology: Special Topics II. This course provides an opportunity to combine traditional technology and design within a contemporary context. Students will learn

how to work with the basic principles of traditional First Nations designs and how to apply their own designs to a functional and aesthetic object of their own making.

VA 142 First Nations Art and Design in Context.

This course provides students with the opportunity to practice and refine skills learned in traditional and contemporary First Nations design and technology. Practice will be informed by students' research into the cultural context of these practices, with specific reference to Northwest Coast cultures.

Carving Class cont'd

VA 143 Indigenous Art and Professional Practice. This course is taught by instructors steeped in the reality and experience of

indigenous art practices, VA 143 offers an introduction to the broad principles of building a professional art practice. Students will

be taught a range of skills important in succeeding as a professional creative artist or in related occupations and fields.

Students will learn about balancing cultural integrity and traditional knowledge with cultural industry demands.

Thoughts on Starting a New Semester

Keep organized.

For each course:

Purchase a notebook, duotang, or a file folder for all notes, handouts and course material.

Day timer/Student agenda:

Carry a student agenda with you to all classes to record class dates, assignments deadlines and study schedule. Check your student agenda every night before you begin studying.

Time management:

Class times: 1 hour in class = 2 hours at home. This is the assumption instructors make when assigning readings, reviews, and reports. Skip a class and you double your workload.

Study schedule: Use a new calendar to set up a daily, weekly and monthly study schedule which includes study times for at least 6 days of the week. Note the length of time required to prepare for

assignments and review for exams. Include personal time for other commitments so you are not stressed by expectations of family and friends. Stick to the schedule, making minor adjustments as required.

To do list: At the beginning of each week write out a list of all tasks in order of importance. Include a goal for the week. Check off all tasks as soon as you have completed them.



University of the Fraser Valley

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Stories and Protocols



The *Stories and Protocols* Student Art Exhibition took place on the Abbotsford campus from December 12-17. Friday, December 12 was the opening night with stories shared and refreshments being served.



We would like to acknowledge the following website for some of the clipart we used:
http://www.firstpeople.us/FP-HTML-Clipart/NativeClipart_pg1.html

Halq'emeylem

The Sto:lo have Halq'eyelem words to describe different times of the year. These words correspond to our current calendar.

January is called *Pelóqes* which means torch season. This is a time when torches, *peló:qel*, are made out of dried sockeye salmon heads and used at night

when spearing fish from canoes (torchlighting). The fish can be seen by the light reflecting from their scales when the water is very clear, as it is in the end of January.

Later pitch torches or lanterns were used.

Scholarship

The BC Scholarship Society is accepting applications for the BC Aboriginal Student Award. Approximately 250 scholarship will be awarded in 2009.

Awards are \$1,000-\$3,500. For more information:

<http://www.bcscholarship.ca/web/aboriginal/apply>



*Special One Time
Métis Health Career*

Bursary Award

*Deadline to apply to
the National
Aboriginal
Achievement
Foundation is
February 13, 2009.*

*For more info
contact the
Education Dept. of
NAAF.*

*Phone: 1-800-329-9780
Email: education@naaf.ca*



Student Luncheon

*You are all invited to
our welcome back
student luncheon.*

The first one in **Chilliwack** will take place on **Friday, January 16, 2009** from 12:00 noon to 2:00 PM. The luncheon will be in

Room G120.

Joining us will be the students enrolled in the Trailblazers program, Social Work, General Studies, etc.

The **Abbotsford**

luncheon will be on **Tuesday, Jan. 13** in Room A221a from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm.

*Please come and
meet our staff!*

Happy New Year

Craft Night

When: Tuesday's
Time: 5:00-8:00 PM
Where: Chilliwack campus, Aboriginal Access Center, Building G120.

We have various arts and craft material which include:

- Leather
- Beads
- Fabric material

- Wool/yarn
- Sewing machine

You are also welcome to bring your own material if you like, or bring your crafting talent to share with others.

Please join us Tuesday nights on the Chilliwack campus. We hope to see you there!

Health

The Honour Your Health Challenge will begin the first week of classes, January 5th. The main focus of this program is the Walk for Health challenge. Pedometers will be given to those who want to be a part of this program. They can be picked up from Judy or Megan at the Abbotsford campus. Chilliwack students can see Josephine. Join us in this journey to become healthier!