

Literacy Dates

National Indigenous History Month - June

Senior Citizens' Month - June

National Indigenous Peoples Day - June 21

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Blog



School's out and the summer slide starts!

Summer slide? It's not a new game, nor something you find in a playground. It's the brain drain that happens during the holiday months when kids are out of class. Academic skills tend to slip away during the summer if students aren't actively engaged in learning. Math, spelling, and reading skills suffer the most...[Read more](#)

Announcements and Events

Last *Literacy This Week* until the fall

We won't be emailing *Literacy This Week* again until the fall. The NWT Literacy Council board and staff members wish you a wonderful, safe, and happy summer.

Literacy Matters is online

The spring issue of [*Literacy Matters*](#), our twice-yearly newsletter, is online. We have stories to mark the International Year of Indigenous Languages and updates on our activities. Tell us what you think. Send your feedback to nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca

Children's book contest deadline soon

The South Slave Divisional Education Council [Children's Storybook Contest](#) deadline is June 30. All NWT residents are welcome to submit entries. The prize is \$500 and publication of your book in three languages. For information or to submit your entry contact spruys@ssdec.nt.ca



Funding

Two new programs support youth leaders and improve accessibility

The [Enabling Accessibility Fund Youth Innovation Component](#) is looking for youth volunteers to create greater awareness about accessibility needs and encourage organizations to apply for funding to address existing accessibility barriers.

The [Social Development Partnerships Program – Disability: Building a stronger foundation for leadership of youth with disabilities](#) funds partnerships between national disability organizations and groups that actively engage youth.

Apply for a youth community service grant

[TakingITGlobal](#) is looking for young people with ideas and who are ready to take action through youth-led community service projects. Grants range from \$250 to \$1,500. Apply by June 30.



News, Research, Opinion

Kids learning a latte at student café in Whatì

A unique program at Mezi Community School in Whatì is helping kids on the road to success — one cup at a time...[Read more](#)

A child's brain develops faster with exposure to music education

A two-year study by researchers at the Brain and Creativity Institute at the University of Southern California shows that exposure to music and music instruction speeds up the brain development of young children in the areas responsible for language development, sound, reading skill, and speech perception....[Read more](#)

Fort Smith medical student propels youth to 'dream bigger'

Nicole Labine, from Fort Smith, spent many years away from her community on her journey to become a doctor. She just graduated from medical school at the University of Alberta, and is embarking on a five-year surgery residency in Saskatoon. After that, however, Labine plans to move back north...[Read more](#)

Social determinants of health: What medical students need to know

Whether a person has graduated from high school or obtained a higher degree, had access to quality early childhood education, and a person's literacy level all affect health outcomes. Understanding literacy levels can help doctors present information in a way their patients understand...[Read more](#)

Columnist pens memoir

Antoine Mountain hopes his story will help Canadians, as well as an international audience, wrap their heads around what happened to Indigenous peoples in this country...[Read more](#)



Resources and Websites

5 actions to take on National Indigenous Peoples Day

[From the activist's toolkit](#)

8 LGBTQ-positive children's books

[Stories of same-sex families or gender diversity](#)

14 books to read for Indigenous History Month

[CBC Books](#)

Indigenous geographical names

[The power they hold](#)



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