# Speak! Winter 2018

2018 Conference Re-Cap

ACTFL 2018 New Orleans

**BCTF Teacher Inquiry Project** 

VSB Franco-Fete 2018

Japanese Teacher Spotlight





# President's Message · Rome Lavrencic

BCATML has much cause for celebration this year. Very few may be aware, but BCATML is celebrating its 60th year as a Provincial Specialist Association (PSA). In fact, in 1958:59, the BCTF created eleven PSAs, including the BC Association of Teachers of Modern Languages. However, BCATML existed long before dating back to 1936, and was known as a Subject Section. In May 1962, BCATML saw the inaugural publication of LINGUA, its professional journal. In the words of Bruce Waters, LINGUA's first editor, the goal and purpose of a professional newsletter is "that modern language teachers in the province will make use of their journal to share with other teachers the results of their varied teaching experience. Articles on successful teaching techniques, the use of new devices, linguistic studies, and personal experiences in foreign countries would be appreciated. The criterion for suitable articles should, I think, be relative permanence of value. Our newsletter aims to keep teachers informed of current happenings, the journal aims to stimulate thought and promote professional competence." Nearly 60 years later, BCATML's newsletter, Speak! has kept with this tradition. We invite teachers from both elementary and senior divisions to submit lesson ideas, cultural experiences, and teaching reflections with respect to teaching of second languages in BC. Feel free to submit articles to msagarcia@gmail.com or psac51@bctf.ca. I encourage to take a moment over the holidays to read the many lesson ideas submitted by teachers, like you, and by your Language Representatives on BCATML's Executive



At this year's Annual General Meeting, BCATML revived one of its old traditions, the BCATML Lifetime Honorary Membership Award. We felt that it was time to recognize some of the amazing work and efforts of those advocating world languages in the field. This year's recipients are two of BCATML's past presidents. Both Diane Tijman and Dr. Wendy Carr have been innovative leaders in their own right and continue to strive to make improvements for the teaching of world languages not only in BC, but across Canada, and beyond. BCATML thanks each of these remarkable women for their tireless commitment and advocacy for second language teaching. As well, the AGM saw some new faces join the Executive and others take on new roles. We are thrilled to welcome Tanya Campbell (Elementary and Middle Years Rep), Cindy Lister (Web Manager), and Andrew McFayden (Other Languages Rep). You will find a short biography about each of our new members to the Executive in this edition. At the same time, we are saddened to see Jacqueline Alvardo Cruz and Stacia Johnson retire from the Executive. BCATML thanks them both for their dedication and service over the years.

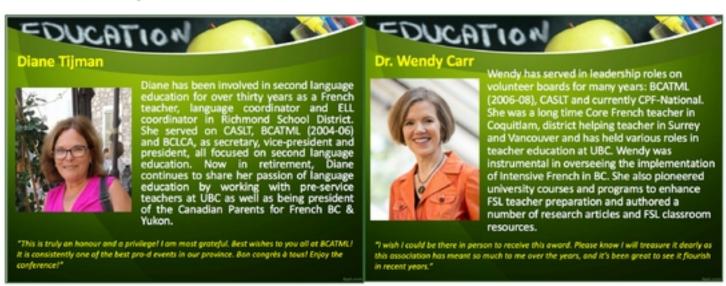
Shortly after our Celebrating Languages Conference, BCATML's Conference Committee met to begin planning next year's signature event. Mark your calendars and save the date for Friday, October 25, 2019. The Conference Committee would like to thank those who submitted their feedback experience about this year's conference. Plans are already under way for next year. We are happy to report that we were successful in rebuilding our membership to well over 400 teachers strong and thank you for your continued support and encouragement. We hope you found the Celebrating Languages Conference as much of a success as we did, and that it allowed you to expand your professional learning network while exploring new techniques and ideas. I invite you to review some of the highlights found in this edition.

Lastly, BCATML's Executive is hard at work on a number of partnerships focused on resource development, assessment, inquiry, and curriculum. BCATML continues to advise the Standing Committee On Language Articulation (SCOLA) with developing a placement assessment tool with college and university language instructors. As well, BCATML is conducting a BCTF Inquiry Project investigating the importance and effectiveness of technology and apps in language acquisition. BCATML continues to engage with the Ministry regarding the work that remains to be done for a Languages Template for those languages without a Ministry curriculum. And finally, BCATML continues to advocate for the creation of a companion document linking the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) with BC's redesigned curriculum for second languages. We hope to have an update about these projects in our next edition of Speak!

For now, may your winter break be a joyous one and may it provide you with a well deserved break. I invite you to read through the many wonderful ideas found in this edition. We welcome your feedback, as well as submissions for our spring edition (psac51@bctf.ca). The deadline is March 1, 2019.

### BCATML Lifetime Honorary Members Rome Lavrencic

It has been ten years since BCATML bestowed a Lifetime Honorary Award. This prestigious award recognizes an individual's outstanding contribution to BCATML and its members, as well as their passion in promoting the teaching of second languages in British Columbia. At this year's Celebrating Languages Conference, BCATML's Executive Committee honoured two former presidents of BCATML: Diane Tijman and Dr. Wendy Carr. Both these educators have fostered improvements and made noteworthy contributions to second language teaching. Both Diane and Wendy are exceptional educational leaders who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment towards second language education, not only in British Columbia, but also across Canada.



Diane Tijman and Dr. Wendy Carr served on BCATML's Executive Committee in a variety of roles, including president between 2004-2006 and 2006-2008, respectively. They have also served on the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT), as well as Canadian Parents for French (CPF). While neither could be in attendance at this year's Annual General Meeting, both expressed their gratitude and heartfelt thanks for this award, and were with us in spirit throughout the day tweeting from the Canadian Parents for French National Convention. These remarkable women join a list of previous recipients of the BCATML Lifetime Honorary membership award.

Timma Blain Monique Bournot-Trites Dr. Wendy Carr John Erskine Britta Gundersen-Bryden Rachel Halverson Joanne Jenkins Cynthia Lewis Elizabeth McAuley Diane Masschaele Daniel Miles Sally Rehorick Lorraine Richard Richard Russell

Brian Svenningsen Nancy Taylor Nicole Thibault Diane Tijman Geoff Williams





### 2018 BCATML Conference Re-Cap

Annual This vear's Conference. Celebrating Languages, was one of the best ever! Sylvia Duckworth set the tone for the day with a compelling, clear, and detailed keynote presentation. The workshop presenters were all highly appreciated, providing our members new ideas, strategies, and pedagogy, with they could return to which their educational settings. Exhibitors had lots of new resources and educational opportunities to share. The AGM highlighted many of our past year's accomplishments, awarded honorary memberships to Dr. Wendy Carr and Diane Tijman, and elected new members. executive Delegates in attendance recieved many great prizes! Each member went away with a 2018-2019 BCATML Monumental Calendar, as well as a BCTF Aboriginal Ways of Knowing and Being Poster translated into German, Japanese, Mandarin, Spanish & Punjabi. The Bhangra dancers from Surrey School District, and the Flamenco performers, Peter Mole and Susana Abreu, were the highlight at our delicious luncheon. The BCATML Executive was thankful to have the help of the volunteer students from Richmond Secondary School, as well as the amazing service provided by the Executive Hotel Vancouver Airport staff, without whom we could not have put on such a successful conference. received a lot of positive feedback about the venue, so we may be back there again next year - stay tuned! Finally, the 2017-2018 BCATML Conference Committee thanks everyone involved for such contributing to an conference! We look forward to planning next year's conference.

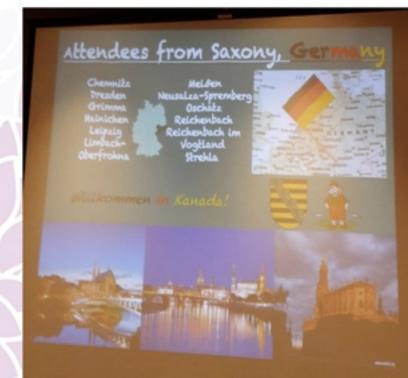
Stacey Sveistrup and Kindra Harte 2017-2018 Co-Conference Chairs

# Saxon Teachers from Germany take part in this year's BCATML Conference

Hello, my name is Heike. I'm one of 20 Saxon teachers from Germany who took part in this year's BCATML Conference. The conference was part of our educational trip - organized by the Saxon Department of Education - which had started in Alberta on October, 1st and which continued in Vancouver. Our programme in Vancouver was full of fascinating, unforgettable impressions. We met indigenous people, visited a High School and spent our free time cycling around Stanley Park and whale-watching.

The BCATML conference was a very useful experience for us since we could choose different workshops according to our interests. Thus we learned about Cooking in the Language classroom, Interactive Grammar tools for French, Sketchnoting or the Usage of iPad for Language learning. During the break, while enjoying the delicious Buffet style lunch, we lively talked about the presentations we had seen and the new methods we had got to know. I'm sure many of us will use ideas from these workshops for their teaching back home in Germany.

On behalf of our group I'd like to express my thanks for getting the opportunity to participate in the conference. None of us would have thought that the name of his tiny Saxon hometown would ever appear on the welcome screen of a Canadian language teachers' conference.



### **BCATML Welcomes Two New Executive Members!**

Andrew McFayden teaches French and Spanish at Prince George Secondary School, where he has been teaching since 1998. He was president of the local modern languages LSA for 8 years. When thinking about why he wanted to be on the executive, it is something that he has always thought about doing. He has been a member of the Association for much of his 23 years of teaching and really wanted to give back to it. He is currently the "Other Languages" representative on the executive of the BCATML. Although he primarily teaches French and Spanish, he has developed a Board Approved Course model called Language For Travel that not only teaches four languages in a travel and tourism theme, but also focuses on the Lesser-Used, and Endangered languages as a central theme. In this course, he teaches French, Spanish, Italian, and Scottish Gaelic. Scheduling permiitting, he invites First Nations elders and teachers into his class to teach the class some of the local Dakelh language. As well, as part of his Masters thesis research, he developed a language revival model that brings together community, home, and school. He focused his research on language revival efforts that are going on in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia for Scottish Gaelic, an endangered language that he speaks fluently and has taught from time to time in the school system.





Welcome andrew & Cindy!

Cindy teaches French Immersion at Bayside Middle School in Saanich, on Vancouver Island. Originally from Québec, she completed her University studies at Faculté St-Jean in Alberta. Living now in Victoria with her family, she enjoys cycling, running and swimming. Mostly, she loves going to local coffee shops to connect with friends and plan out her next traveling adventure. She is looking forward to be working with the dynamic BCATM team this year!

### Beautiful British Columbia - Rome Lavrencic

One of the many advantages of serving on the BCATML Executive is learning about the different happenings that occur throughout this great Province of ours. The work of the Executive has allowed many of us to meet and collaborate with teachers from different parts of British Columbia. Together we are able to develop, review and share lesson ideas and padagogical strategies. Most importantly, we have been able to learn from you, our members. BCATML's Executive would like to invite you to share a piece of your part of the Province in a dedicated section of our newsletter called Beautiful British Columbia.

In 1964, the government of British Columbia adopted this famous catch-phrase as our license plate slogan. BCATML wants to do the same by asking you to capture a part of BC you think stands out! Upload your photo submission along with a short description to BCATML using the entry form at www.bcatml.org/beautiful-british-columbia.html or email it to psac51@bctf.ca prior to the next newsletter's deadline. If your picture is selected, it will be included in our spotlight section of the next edition of Speak! and you will receive a \$25 gift certificate in the mail for iTunes, Apple store, or another pre-selected publisher.

#### Guidelines and how to enter:

- Upload your photo at www.bcatml.org or email it to psac51@bctf.ca prior to our next newsletter deadline (March 1st, August 1st, and November 1st).
- Limit of one (1) entry per person per edition. In the case of multiple entries, only the first entry will be considered.
- 3)Photos must be owned by you and cannot be submitted from another source such as a website, professional calendar, magazine or the like. Photos must adhere to FOIPPA.
- 4)Entries will be declared invalid if they are late, illegible, incomplete, damaged, forged, photoshopped (filters are permissible), mechanically or electronically reproduced.
- 5)Photos must include a short description including the following information:
- Your first and last name;
- Your contact information (email, street address, city, and postal code);
- Location in British Columbia; including an acknowledgment of Indigenous Territories (https://native-land.ca);
- e. Any additional information you would like BCATML to publish with your photo.



Photo by: Rome Lavrencic

Location: Birkenhead Lake, on the Stl'atl'imc and Lil'wat Indigenous Territories, near Pemberton

### ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages!) 2018

A group of us from our BCATML Executive was very fortunate in being able to attend the ACTFL 2018 World Languages Conference in New Orleans! We are super excited to share with all of you what we saw in this beautiful city and all of the incredible workshops which we attended during the conference. We highly encourage all of you to attend the ACTFL conferences if you have the opportunity. Honestly to be in a room with 7,000 other language teachers was an incredible feeling. ACTFL was founded in 1967. ACTFL strives to meet the changing needs of language educators and their students with innovation.

The conference was high-energy with so many incredible sessions to attend that the biggest challenge was fitting them all in. Each day was long and full but so worth it! Enjoy the pictures of the famous beignet which helped us to keep our energy up! These taste like nothing I have ever tasted before....you will also see a few photos of the famous Mardi Gras floats. We were able to take a tour one evening at Mardi Gras World to see where the floats are designed, created, and stored. It is a full year of production and creation. New Orleans is a very friendly city with a rich history and culture.

Upcoming conferences with ACTFL are:

Washington 2019

San Antonio, TX – November 20-22, 2020

San Diego, CA - November 19-21, 2021

Over the next few months we will be working extra hard to share resources, ideas, and inspiration from this conference with our BCATML members. Please be sure to keep an eye on our BCATML website for updates. Just to give you a little sneak preview be sure to visit: http://www.livenupyourlanguageclass.weebly.com for amazing ideas and inspiring activities shared by two teachers, Valerie Greer and Wendy Mercado.

#### Who We Are

Valérie Greer (French teacher) and Wendy Mercado (Spanish Teacher) have been teaching together since 1998. Their teaching has evolved in conjunction with the evolution of technology. Even when they had little to no access to technology, they managed to find ways to incorporate it into their lessons. They love trying new things and collaborating with other foreign language teachers.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!



## Award of Excellence 2018! This year's topic "Robotics and Innovation"



Participate in this year's Award of Excellence and become a winner! This year's topic is "Robotics and Innovation"! The Award of Excellence is an annual contest dating back to 1991. Every year a short video is created that portrays some aspect of German life. Students then complete a quiz on the video.

A fantastic prize awaits our lucky winners: An all-expenses paid, three-week chaperoned trip to Germany including flight, a German language course, meals and accommodations! These four steps will bring you closer to winning:

- -Carefully read and accept the terms and conditions;
- -Closely watch the video;
- -Answer the questions online;
- -Provide us with your information!

### Good luck!

Copy and paste the following link into your browser to enter our contest.

http://www.goethe.de/ins/us/saf/prj/stg/ger/awa/enindex.htm

### The Vancouver Christmas Market

opens its gates this year at the Jack Poole Plaza (site of the Olympic Cauldron) in Vancouver on November 21st and welcomes you daily from 11:30 am to 9:30 pm. Experience the magic of a European Christmas in a festive atmosphere guaranteed to get you in the Christmas spirit. Spending an afternoon or evening down at the Vancouver Christmas Market with friends, family and classmates will be a highlight of the holiday season. Enjoy!

Cut and paste the following url into your browser to find out more:

https://www.vancouverchristmasmarket.com/





# Andrew McFayden, Other Languages Rep.

As teachers we are very creative people by nature. Sometimes we get focused on delivering the Ministry curricula that we forget or just do not know that there are other ways to teach languages as well.

Over a decade ago, I think it was closer to 13 years ago, I had a conversation with a colleague that changed my teaching path. She and I were talking about ways in which I could teach my ancestral language, Scottish Gaelic, in the school system without having to create the full Ministry Curriculum IRP. She suggested creating a language survey course to introduce students to the basics of the three other languages that I speak besides English, as well as a fourth. At that point, the idea clicked, and I ran with it.

My colleague was a native Italian speaker and encouraged me to put Italian in the course alongside French, Spanish, and Scottish Gaelic to make it an even four. I have conversational Italian, but I am not fluent. I began to hammer out ideas, and the idea for Language for Travel was born.

This is a course that is constantly evolving. There is no textbook, and all resources were developed or found by me. The process has been very rewarding and one of the most intense professional undertakings that I have ever put myself through.

Since I created the Board Authorized Course document and had it enthusiastically passed by the Prince George trustees in 2006, I have taught the course 9 times since 2007, and have presented workshops about it at the local, provincial, national, and international levels. This course helped me out in many ways. It became a theme or focus of study in work I did for my Masters, and for my TLITE Graduate Diploma through SFU.

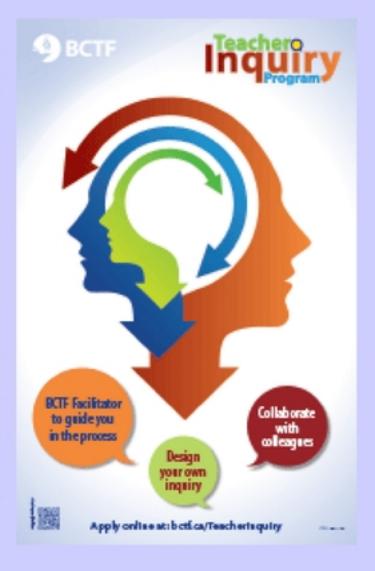
If you are interested in investigating the possibility of adopting or adapting Language for Travel, or creating your own Board Approved Course for another language elective, I am happy to provide any advice or encouragement. I also offer a BCATML workshop that I would be pleased to give for Pro-D in your School District.

Tìr gun chànan, tìr gun anam. A land without a language is a land without a soul.

# **BCTF Teacher Inquiry Project**

Hot off the press!! We have exciting news to share! A group of teachers applied to the BCTF Teacher Inquiry Project and we were approved! We have met once to begin our inquiry journey. It has been very exciting so far and we will continue to keep you up to date. We highly encourage all of you to apply for this opportunity with BCTF. We have an amazing facilitator who led us through the first steps of the journey and we all left feeling so energized and inspired. We are exploring the use of technology and iPads to see the impact on student proficiency in second languages. We will share our journey with you and we will be both proud and excited to share our findings at our fall conference for BCATML in October 2019!! Stay tuned!!

Kindra-Project Lead BCATML TIP



# VSB Franco-fête By Trish Kolber

In May, Vancouver School Board #39 Modern Language Coordinator Stacey Sveistrup and her team of Core French Secondary teachers held the second annual and incredibly successful grade 10 Franco-fête. This year, this French language festival was expanded to be a 2 day event to accommodate 700 participants. The activities included French trivia with Kahoot, "Speed-dating" style conversations, Mardi Gras mask making, a highly aerobic dance session to world music. Two food trucks provided all the crepes and poutine that the kids could hope for. Workshops were held completely in French with a conversational component included in activity. Student feedback universally positive. They found the cultural components compelling, the culinary components delicious, and the conversational component challenging but rewarding. Over the course of the year, our committee members will be developing a "how to guide" for planning a full day language festival which can be used for any target language in your learning community.



### News from your French Rep - Trish Kolber

### Summer French experiences

All students could benefit from a French immersion experience and luckily there are four fantastic opportunities for them depending on their age, their first language, and their personal goals. Encourage your students to put their French to work in an authentic context and reap the benefits in your students' attitude and abilities.

### For full time students who have finished grade 11 and more – Must apply by February 15, 2019

Students have been "Exploring" for over 35 years across Canada. There are 5 week programs in almost every province offering an unforgettable French learning experience. Mornings are dedicated to increasing language proficiency and afternoons are spent applying those new competencies in fun and engaging ways. The student pays a deposit as well as for their return travel and spending money. Instruction as well as room and board in addition to cultural activites are provided by the host institution. Students spend the summer with like minded youth from across Canada during what proves to be an unforgettable experience.

### For students in grade 10 or 11 - Applications will be accepted until March 15, 2019

If money is an issue, the YMCA work exchange is a fantastic option. In this reciprocal exchange, a Quebec student and your student exchange homes for 6 weeks. Both students will be given a full time job in their second official language and activities are organized for them every weekend. The full cost of the program is the deposit of \$100 as the return flight is paid for by the YMCA. The students gain valuable work experience while living and working in their second language. It is quite the adventure!

### For francophone students in grade 8 or 9 - Must apply by March 31, 2019

For a variety of reasons, francophones living in BC enrol their students in English programs and those students sometimes end up in a Core French classroom. They might feel like they are the only person in Canada speaking French at home but English the rest of the time. Well, Destination Clic is the experience for them! The summer after grade 8 or 9, students can enrol in a 3 week immersion experience. The students live on a university campus with students the same age who also speak French at home but live outside of Quebec. It is so reassuring to the participants that they are not alone in their experience and it gives new value and relevance to being bilingual.

### Students who have finished 1 full year of college or university - Must apply by February 28, 2019

For students looking for something completely different for an year, Odyssey is a great adventure. This is a paid position as an English language helper in French schools and community centres in Quebec. For students planning a career in Education, this will be an invaluable opportunity to gain work experience in an educational setting and improve their French at the same time. Language Monitors are beloved members of all the school communities who are lucky enough to work with them as they bring authentic English to their educational experience.



https://www.myexplore.ca/en/

http://my.ymcagta.org/netcommunity/page.aspx?pid=536

https://www.destinationclic.ca/en/

https://www.myodyssey.ca/en/page/?eligibility

# Opportunities for French Teachers Submitted by Trish Kolber

Are you looking for a two-week summer adventure? Do you want to brush up on your French? Have you ever visited les Îles de la Madeleine off the coast of PEI? Well we've found the program for you! This program was conceived to provide a full French immersion experience for teachers of any level of French competency. Mornings are dedicated to studying and the afternoon is reserved for cultural and outdoor activities. Participants live with a family ensuring a full immersion experience. Don't forget to apply for financing from the Teacher Exchange and Mobility Award as soon as possible. If you are a successful candidate, the entire cost of your stay may be reimbursed. The suggested deadline for application is December 17, 2018.

Website: http://www.istorlet.com/linguistic-sessionteachers



# NOW OPEN: BC STUDENT AND TEACHER EXCHANGE AND MOBILITY AWARDS

For BC grade 8-12 school groups and BC K-12 teachers

Did you know that you are eligible for more than your District's professional development funds to maintain or improve your language skills? The Teacher Exchange and Mobility Award will subsidize professional development activities for Language teachers including travel to a number of international destinations in order to foster exchange possibilities and authentic language interactions. One student or teacher from each BC school is eligible to apply for this award. It is strongly suggested to apply by December 17, 2018.

### M. Bean au parc

- 1) Visionner la vidéo <M Bean au parc> une première fois.
- 2) Réviser le vocabulaire ci-dessous
- 3) Visionner la vidéo de nouveau et les étudiants numéroteront l'ordre des actions de M Bean
- Réviser les temps du passé ou les adverbes de temps.
- 5) Finalement, les étudiants rédigeront l'histoire telle que présentée dans la vidéo.

	NOMS		VERBES	
un	accoudoir	armrest	ajouter	to add
les	anchois	anchovies	assembler	to assemble
un	banc	bench	beurrer	to butter
un	bas	sock	boire	to drink
le	beurre	butter	couper	to cut
une	biberon	baby bottle	échapper	to drop
une	bouchon	bottle top	enlever	to take off
une	bouillotte	water bottle	éternuer	to sneeze
une	carte de crédit	credit card	faire tourner	to spin
les	ciseaux	scissors	frapper	to hit
un	contenant	container	insérer	to insert
un	coude	elbow	laisser secher	to leave to dry
un	dîner	lunch	laver	to wash
une	feuille de laitue	leaf of lettuce	manger	to eat
une	fontaine	fountain	offrir	to offer
les	genoux	knees	perdre	to lose
les	graines de poivre	pepper grains	préparer	to prepare
un	imperméable	raincoat	remuer	to mix
un	mouchoir	handkerchief	sortir	to take out
un	pain français	french bread	tremper	to dip
un	parc	park	tuer	to kill
une	poche	pocket	verser	to pour
un	sachet de thé	teabag	46.8	
un	sandwich	sandwich		
un	soulier	shoe		
une	tranche	slice	THE STATE OF THE S	

Prendre les notes ici https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtqpuYvOfHY

# Mountains, Mochi, Movies & More by Grace Ho, BCATML Japanese Rep

Firstly, I have to say that the Celebrating Languages Conference was amazing! There were many incredible workshops, and I wished that cloning existed so that I could take them all in! We had a few that directly involved the updated curriculum for Japanese, which I would like to compare to climbing mountains. Stacia Johnson's workshop on Delving into the new Japanese Curriculum was like exploring the mountain before climbing it; we examined the Know, Do, and Understand (KDU) framework and the Big Ideas, Curricular Competencies, and Content for each grade level. My workshop on Professional Project Production was like putting everything together to climb the mountain; we witnessed how students fused Technology, Language, and Culture together to produce projects like a pro! Other workshops such as Yoshifumi Murakami's Autonomous Learning as a teacher using "Zoom Cloud Meeting" showed us how we can reach new heights and connect with teachers climbing other mountains via online workshops (aka the cloud)!



Do you remember the Winter 2017 Newsletter and the Mochi Man? Well, get ready for Mochi Man 2.0! Using the same recipe and Lego Minifigure molds, I split the class into two teams and had a competition – Iron Chef Style! Students worked together to create some colourful figures!



Well, microwave mochi might be easy fun for the class, but for some real excitement, you must encourage your students to attend a MOCHITSUKI TAIKAI (Rice Cake Pounding Event) in their community! Here are some upcoming dates for events in the Lower Mainland:

Sunday, December 9, 2018 at the Vancouver Buddhist Temple

https://vancouverbuddhisttemple.com/

Thursday, December 27, 2018 at the Vancouver Japanese Language School

https://vjls-jh.com/blog/2018/08/27/event\_calendar/

Saturday, December 29, 2018 at the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre

http://centre.nikkeiplace.org/events/mochitsuki/

Alovely movie to show your students that captures the bond between Canada and Japan is Japan Into the Future with Canada. The full video can be found on YouTube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ju7sO4QfcuE

Although this year is almost over, 2018 marked the 90th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Canada. I was most touched by various efforts and events that took place across the country such as the We Heart Canada + Japan 90 short film project. The Vancouver Asian Film Festival (VAFF) partnered with the Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver and the Japan Foundation, Toronto to tell the stories of the people and organizations involved in connecting Canada and Japan. The Kyudo Association of Canada in Vancouver of which I am a member, was one of those organizations showcased! It was breathtaking to see KYUDO – the Japanese art of archery or the "way of the bow" – documented on the big screen!





Meanwhile, Japanese language students had an opportunity to enter the 2nd Canada Japanese Video Contest supported by the Japan Foundation, Toronto! BC high schools had winning entries in several categories last year! Making movies to tell stories seem to be the way to go!

Teachers who would like to learn more about the experiences of Japanese language teachers in other school systems may be interested in joining a future information exchange meeting hosted by BC JALTA (Japanese Language Teachers Association of BC) and CAJLE (Canadian Association for Japanese Language Education). The last meeting was held on Sunday, October 28, 2018 at the Vancouver Japanese Language School, and I was especially thrilled to chat with educators at the post-secondary level and find out that they were teaching my former students! Check www.bcatml.org regularly and follow me on Twitter @VancouverGrace to keep up to date on these and many other community events and programs such as the Fall Bazaar and Parallel Nippon.



Next year will be monumental as Emperor Akihito of Japan is set to abdicate on April 30, 2019, marking the end of the Heisei Era. Crown Prince Naruhito ascends the throne just before the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics followed by the Osaka-Kansai Japan Expo 2025. So, remember to use your BCATML Monumental Calendar to mark down some of these monumental dates!

皆様、楽しいクリスマスと良いお年をお迎えください。

MINASAMA, TANOSHII KURISUMASU TO YOI OTOSHI O OMUKAE KUDASAI. Everyone, here's to an enjoyable Christmas and an excellent New Year!

# The Value of an Award by Grace Ho, BCATML Japanese Rep

Post-secondary education costs so much these days that some may argue that there is no point applying for scholarships that one may not even get. There may be some logic to that viewpoint, although as language teachers, we are also aware that there is benefit in exercising both sides of the brain. I remember receiving the Language Department Award when I graduated from high school. My prizes were an unbelievably heavy French-English, English-French dictionary and a dictionary of Japanese culture. It has been nearly three decades and I still remember getting the award. Should it be a surprise then that I am teaching languages, serving on this PSA, and writing about scholarships? There is a value of an award that cannot be measured. Regardless of its monetary value, the self-reflective process of applying for an award is hugely beneficial, and the incredible effects that receiving an award has on one's future is immense. Therefore, please encourage those future leaders – those students who may someday become language advocates like us – apply for the BCATML Student Scholarship Award!

Congratulations to the 2018 BCATML Student Scholarship recipients: Lianne Strother, Izabela Krahelskaya, Cindy Zhang, and Markus Meyer!

2019 BCATML Student Scholarship Award Information

To help promote the study of a second language and culture in British Columbia at a post-secondary level, the BCATML is offering a scholarship for language students. The scholarship provides up to four (4) \$500 awards for BC students who are continuing with second language studies at a post-secondary institution. Priority will be given to applicants who best meet the following criteria with supporting documentation:

Canadian citizen or permanent resident;

Currently enrolled as a Grade 12 student at a public or independent school in BC;

Completed a Modern Language course at the Grade 11 or 12 level in BC;

Current secondary school transcript provided;

Evidence of registration in a Modern Language course in a post-secondary institution.

All documentation should be sent to psac51@bctf.ca by May 1, 2019.

Please visit http://www.bcatml.org/scholarships.html for more info.



### JAPANESE TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

# By Satoko Hashigasako, Japanese Teacher at Eric Hamber Secondary since 1990

I still remember my first trip to Indonesia. I was 19 years old, and I was going to spend one month with a group of Indonesian and Japanese students on an exchange trip. It was my first trip outside of Japan and I was a little apprehensive. Everything was so different. For example, there were many different languages being spoken representing the various ethnic groups making up the rich culture of Indonesia. At one point, we were greeted by a swarm of children enthusiastically trying to sell us everything imaginable. It was the first time I realized, that even being in my second year of university, I knew almost nothing about these people, and they knew almost nothing about us. I knew something had to change.

Marshall McLuhan once said we live in a "global village". However, despite such things as exchange trips and the internet, there is still a lot that we have to learn about each other. Perhaps this is in part because of our fear of the unknown or that we expect others to hold similar values to our own. And when people fail to meet our own cultural expectations, we sometimes consider them as the "other". Given this, I decided that I would dedicate my life to helping bridge cultures by teaching people about Japan. That's why I decided to become a Japanese language teacher – because learning another language unlocks their culture and values.

Learning a second language is vital to helping people become closer. That's because learning another language is not just learning words in a language textbook or memorizing a conversational gambit; when you learn another language, you are learning about a people's history, culture, and world view.

The best example of how learning another language expands one's understanding of the world is that over the years, many of my former students have continued to study Japanese, have also visited and worked in Japan, and have become bridges between Canada and Japan. I am very grateful that I was given the opportunity to be a language teacher at Eric Hamber Secondary School.

(Note from Grace Ho, BCATML Japanese Rep: This Spotlight story is especially meaningful to me because I started learning Japanese in 1990 at Eric Hamber with Satoko Hashigasako Sensei. I am one of her many former students who continued to study Japanese, who visited



# Japanese Students Visit Burnaby North Secondary by Jasper and Ellianna; edited by Juliana with special thanks to Japanese 12 students:

With the creation of new technologies, such as the Internet, the blend of cultures has been increasing. The students of Nichidai Tsuru Gaoka, a Japanese high school in Tokyo, had the opportunity of visiting Burnaby North Secondary School this year. This was a chance to experience Canadian school life and culture, while Canadian students experienced Japanese culture. The last time students of Nichidai Tsuru Gaoka came to Burnaby was in 2016. Burnaby North was happy to welcome them again this year! The principal of Nichidai Tsuru Gaoka school coordinated sixty-seven grade 11 Japanese students to visit our school. "It was pretty cool to talk about the differences between Japanese and Canadian high schools," said Daniel Lee, a student from Burnaby North. Sky Wang commented that he "had a great time with Kayo San", one of the Japanese students. Ellen Leong said, "it was a fun experience learning about their culture." Many Burnaby North students found the experience both educational and interesting. At the same time, the Japanese students also had much to say about the experience. Aya, a Japanese student who was partnered with Alison said, "I really enjoyed being with Alison, and she taught me a lot even if it was only for one day." Mayu Ebisawa claims that she "had a lot of fun and would love to come back!" Japanese students had comparisons to make between Westen and Eastern schools. Nanami said that in Japan "Japanese schools have their own classrooms, where they study various school subjects." She thought it was completely different, also, everyone in the class is free! "I do not eat rice or [look at my] mobile [phone] when I am in Japan." Both parties learned much from one another about the differences in both Japanese and English schools.

The day was well-planned. At the start of the day, students were arranged in the gallery and were given a presentation from both students and teachers. Later, Japanese students were guided around by the Canadian students for a tour of the school. Each student was assigned a partner and was given the chance to experience a Canadian class. During lunch, many students began exchanging gifts and contact information. Finally, for the last part of the day, the Japanese students created games and activities in the north cafeteria. After a while, it was time to go and the Japanese students boarded the buses to leave. Juliana, a student at Burnaby North describes, "overall, it was intriguing, although it was difficult to communicate as they didn't speak much English. But the event was well-planned, and I found it quite enjoyable." In conclusion this student exchange is a testament on how traveling overseas is a wonderful educational experience and should ultimately be done more often!



### Experience China (Beijing & Guangzhou) 2019 Spring Break Chinese Language & Culture Program



Organizer: Coquitlam Confucius Institute (http://legacy.internationaled.com/confucius/index.shtml)



Sponsor: The Canadian Teaching Chinese as a Second Language Association (http://www.canadiantcslassociation.ca)



Host: South China Normal University, Guangzhou, China (www.scnu.edu.cn/)

Dates: March 16th to March 29th, 2019

Participants: Minimum 15 Grades 10 to 12 students from the Greater Vancouver Area, with or without Mandarin learning experience

### Program includes\*:

- Learn Mandarin
- Experience Chinese culture and customs
- Visit well-known sightseeing places
- Interact with local students
- \*There will be two teacher leaders. The group will also be accompanied by "language buddies"- students from South China Normal University for activities.

### The following cost is covered by the organizer:

- Tuition, workshops and activities
- Shared accommodation and meals
- Sightseeing in Beijing and Guangzhou
- · Group airport transfers to & from the hosting institutes
- Local transportation

### Participants are responsible for:

- Airfare, visa fee and group travel & medical insurance
- Personal expenses and/or immunizations

First 5 applicants can enjoy a \$150 subsidy per person.

For registration and information of the program, please go to: http://canadiantcslassociation.ca/2019spring/

### Providing Mandarin Students with Opportunities for Real-World Transfer Ping Li BCATML Mandarin Representative

BC's new Mandarin curriculum emphasizes the importance of "engaging with the Mandarinspeaking and Chinese communities" since such an engagement enriches all aspects of Mandarin learning. This fall, Metro Vancouver is not short of community-engaging opportunities for Mandarin students.

Right before the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival in late September, there were many Chinese language and cultural events, one of which was the 2018 "Confucius Institute Cup" for Chinese Classical Poetry Recitation Contest, hosted by the Confucius Institute in Coquitlam and co-organized by eight Confucius Institutes in Canada. Each participating student was required to choose one Chinese classical poem, practice reading the poem and then record reciting the poem. This contest drew over 200 K-12 Mandarin students from British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, and Quebec, and they competed in different categories from heritage and non-heritage groups. In the end, 50 contestants won first and second place awards and prizes. At the award ceremony on Sept. 29th, the Dean of the Confucius Institute in Coquitlam, the Director of the Education Bureau of the 43rd District, the Mayor of Coquitlam, and the Consul General of the Chinese Consulate General in Vancouver and other guests presented the award certificates and prizes to the winners, who also staged a poetry recital of "Prelude to Water Melody" by Song Dynasty's poet Su Shi and won the audience's warm applause.

To incorporate such a good opportunity in my daily lesson and to honour the occasion of the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, I compiled a collection of Chinese classical poems about the moon for my Mandarin 11, 12 and AP classes and asked students to choose a poem, do research on the poem and its author, and practice reading the poem until fluent. Before they recorded their recitations for the contest, I set aside a block for a poetry recital session for each class, in which students took turns to recite their poems while enjoying mooncakes. Some students even provided background music and images while reciting their poems. Afterwards, I encouraged students to talk about their understanding of their poems, particularly the symbolic meaning of the moon in each poem. On the day of the ceremony, I took my student winners to attend the ceremony. They had another opportunity to interact with other winners, and practised and rehearsed the "Prelude to Water Melody". My students were excited not only about winning the awards and prizes but also about using their language skills at a cultural event. They wanted to participate again in the future!

On the same day of Sept. 29th, on the other side of Vancouver in Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, the Confucius Day celebration was taking place. It is an annual cultural event hosted by the Confucius Institute at BCIT and well attended by visitors as well as K-12 and university Mandarin students and teachers. Some of my Mandarin 11, 12 and AP students spent a day there using their Mandarin skills to lead Chinese cultural workshops and activities such Chinese painting, calligraphy, tea ceremony, papercutting, sugar painting, etc. Some acted as ushers at the entrance or guides inside the garden. They felt very proud of themselves since they were able to interact with Mandarin speaking visitors and demonstrate how to do different Chinese cultural activities.

Last but not least, another exciting opportunity for an even larger community engagement is around the corner! The Canadian TCSL Association and the Confucius Institute at Coquitlam are collaborating to organize a Chinese language and cultural program in Guangzhou and Beijing next spring break. This is a program for BC grades 10 to 12 students to learn Mandarin, experience Chinese culture and customs, visit well-known sightseeing places, and interact with local students. Without any doubt, a great experience it will be!



# Partition 1947/ Pinjar: The Cage Punjabi 12

Knowing one's heritage and history is crucial part when it comes to teaching a second language. I am a teacher at Queen Elizabeth Secondary school. We know that students take classes to enhance their knowledge about the culture/history related to the language they take. Likewise, students at our school are not different from yours. Punjabi 12 at Queen Elizabeth invested their time in learning about the partition 1947 that took place in India. Due to partition, India was divided into two parts. Pakistan and India. People were divided using religion as a result Pakistan became the country where Islamic values/religion was to prevail and India (Hindustan) was created where people who followed Hinduism were meant to stay. All the other minority religious groups were chosen to migrate to India with the promised that they will be allowed to freely practice their beliefs such as Sikhism, Buddhism, Christianity to name a few.

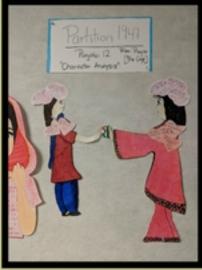
In our class, we did a case study on a film called, Pinjar: The Cage: The woman is preparing to wed a man of her parents' choosing, when she becomes the innocent victim of an unresolved feud between families and is abducted and held captive by a young Muslim, who is an enemy of her father. However, the whole story takes place when India was divided, during the time of migration of people. Following are examples of character sketches students did on the various characters from the study. They were able to discuss the pull and push factors of the migration and its impact on the regular people who went through the trauma of partition.

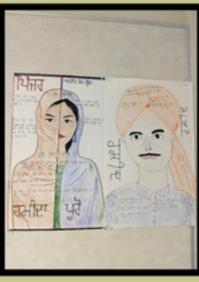
Students were expected to find 5 adjectives describing the character's thinking process and feelings. Later, they were to justify each reason given above with examples from the Pinjar. Students were able to use critical thinking, explaining, and justifying terms when they translated their reasons for each character in Punjabi.

Submitted by: Sarbdeep Kaur Johal Queen Elizabeth Secondary School District #36 (Surrey)









### Field trip to PICS- Senior Assisted Living

On Tuesday November 27th, Princess Margaret students from Punjabi 11 & 12 classes had the pleasure of visiting the PICS Senior Assisted Living Care Home. We had the opportunity to bond and connect with the lovely seniors and talk to them about their childhood memories. While they shared their stories, the seniors and children began to tear up as it was a very emotional experience. We were surprised to discover that our families were from some of the same villages as the Seniors.

Students performed for the residents with dancing and singing and they also played the dhol. The seniors sang and danced with us as well! The PICS seniors' home was a heartwarming and engaging place. We learned a lot about the activities they do at the Assisted Living Centre. It was wonderful to see how happy the seniors were spending time and interacting with the students. It was fulfilling, rewarding and satisfying for us all. They gave us so much love, respect and blessings. It was fun and entertaining to be a part of this event.

Many of the students committed to volunteer in order to spend more time with the elderly people. We are also invited to join their Christmas party on Dec 12th to bring cheer and celebrate with them. Our visit to PICS was, by far, the most rewarding field trip of my teaching career.

Mrs. Amandeep Chhina (Teacher)



### Diwali Success -2018

This year we celebrated Diwali, on November 6th, at Princess Margaret. Reflecting on our outcomes, this year was a huge success. What led to our accomplishments was most importantly, the help and support from our donors and vendors. We have an amazing team of helpers at Princess Margaret, including our organization crew, staff, students and fabulous parent volunteers.

Showcasing our culture to the whole school in the span of a lunch hour was quite a task! We had student volunteers perform cultural dances, such as Bhangra and Bollywood. Furthermore, we had teachers from diverse backgrounds participate as well in the dances. As teachers took a part in the event they gained a lot of knowledge about our Punjabi Culture.

For the backdrop to these exciting dances, we portrayed our Indian Culture through unique artwork. Students painted 'divas' and sent out invitation letters to all of the teachers. By doing this we created a more inclusive environment by welcoming everyone to the cafe to have a fun-filled experience that they will surely cherish for a lifetime! A big shout-out to our vendors who made this event possible. We had a variety of foods such as samosas, pakoray, spring rolls and many more ethnic foods. In addition to providing food to the whole school, approximately \$3,000 was raised for the PMSS Punjabi Language Community Student Scholarships. Lastly, what we feel made the atmosphere of this event greater was the support of our PM students and school staff who displayed their PM spirit by dressing in their Indian attire!



### Kindra's Korner!!!

¡Hola! I am so excited to be your Spanish Rep to the BCATML. I started my journey over 22 years ago as the Spanish Rep for BCATML, and now that I have returned to the position, I am super excited to work with all of you! My son will be 21 on December 21st and I joined the BCATML Executive way before he was born! It is hard to believe!

I recently attended the ACTFL Conference 2018 in New Orleans and I have the most life-changing news to share with Spanish Teachers!! Can you hear the drum roll? I have been teaching since 1991, always loved my job and was always excited to get up in the morning and go to work! But this conference that has given me Ninja-Level excitement!!

¡Gran Hotel! AND ¡Silvana Sin Lana!

Visit the website: www.edunovela.com to share this excitement with me!

Here you will see free episodes of the above two programs, with free teacher activities and resources! These are brilliant! A group of teachers created the resources using the incredible Gran Hotel and Silvana Sin Lana programs to bring Spanish to life in the classroom. These programs are highly engaging to say the least and now they are available to you as teachers to use as classroom resources for your students. They are classroom friendly, culturally rich and authentic. Many of the resources are free, and if you wish to explore further, the license fee is only \$10.00 which is the deal of a lifetime! Students are so engaged by these programs, they cannot get to class quickly enough. This is a great fit for Spanish teachers in BC as students explore the new curriculum. The programs expose students to authentic real-life situations and tasks. Be sure to check this out!! You may be up all night!! The plots are powerful and culturally engaging. Be sure to check this out!!

Another resource which I also referenced in my article about the ACTL Conference is :

### http://www.livenupyourlanguageclass.weebly.com

This website is created by two very inspiring teachers who teach French and Spanish. Check out their fantastic resources and ideas. There is something for everyone: high tech, low tech, or no tech. Some ideas you may already be using, while otheres are a good reminder of fun and engaging activities you may not have used in awhile. There were new ones too that I am eager to try! Enjoy this website! It is very well done by two hard working and very dedicated language teachers.

Hasta pronto.

Kindra



(Please cut and paste links into your browser)

#### BCATML Newsletter Guidelines

The BCATML Newsletter SPEAK! is the official publication of the B.C. Association of Teachers of Modern Languages, a provincial specialist association of the B.C. Teachers' Federation. Three issues are published each calendar year.

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The BCATML Newsletter SPEAK! is the professional journal of the BC Association of Teachers of Modern Languages. As such it:

- 1) acts as a communication vehicle for ideas, trends and new developments in the field;
- supports a professional network of Modern Language teachers who are committed to innovative teaching strategies;
- promotes the learning and teaching of additional languages through the BC curriculum.

Subscription to SPEAK! is included with membership in the BCATML. The 2018-19 fees are: BCTF members \$40, Subscribers \$68.25; students/TTOC/retired and community-based teachers \$15. Payment of fees by attenidng the annual fall conference includes the BCATML Newsletter, membership in CASLT (Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers) and information about conferences, workshops, projects, and other BCATML publications and activities. BCATML memberships run for 12 months from the time applications are processed by the BCTF.

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Submission Deadlines: November 1st, March 1st, Aug 1st

Submission topics: curriculum implementation, back to school, cultural festivals & celebrations, aboriginal ways of knowing and perspectives aligned to the curriculum, assessment & evaluation, reporting, use of technology in a second language classroom context, etc

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