



Collection of Texts

Class of 2008-2009

Message to our readers

This academic year was an eventful one. A new director was named for the Huntingdon Learning Center. Louise Richard replaced Carole-Anne Lachaine, who retired last fall. Louise has worked very hard «learning the ropes» and has been a source of support and encouragement to all of us.

The year started on a sad note as one of our learners was diagnosed with cancer. She has been following treatments and has spent some time in hospital. We admire her positive attitude and her continued interest in pursuing her studies at the Learning Center.

A very interesting and informative presentation was done by Fabiola Roman, a native of Peru, who has recently moved to our area. She spoke about her native country, Peru. The presentation was accompanied by photos and items from Peru.

A valuable addition to the curriculum this year was the introduction of a letter exchange with other literacy learners from Slave Lake Alberta, Virden Manitoba and Roblin Manitoba. This has proven to be beneficial to learners as it helped them to develop their reading and writing skills through a different channel. It also improved their knowledge of other parts of our country. They anxiously await letters from their correspondents. Teachers from the western provinces involved are also very pleased about this initiative. We hope to continue the letter exchange next session.

Many thanks to our volunteers: Lillian Forget-Stirling, Susan Gagnon, Mary-Ellen Matthews and Susan Mc Donald. They are appreciated by the Learning Center as well as the students.

Thank you, as well, to the personnel of the CRIC (Centre de Ressources Informatiques Communautaire) who were responsible in developing our students computer skills. Two super projects were presented by the students.

Another thank you to Sylvie Brazeau, staff assistant who did exceptional work on putting together this collection of texts.

We hope you enjoy reading the collection of texts that follow. Your comments are always appreciated.

Roger Bouthillier



Here we are together,
Together, together,
Here we are together,
Back at school again
There's Brian and
Darlene,
Wilfrid, and Mathieu,
Here we are together,
Back at school again.



REMEMBRANCE DAY



We went to Prince Arthur on Remembrance Day on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. At Prince Arthur Park I saw names of the fallen soldiers of our area who died in World War I and the Korean war. There are poppies around the monument.

I read a poem called Flanders field.
It was very cold.
I like Remembrance Day because my uncle Arthur was in world war I,
it is a reminder of how lucky we are thanks to the soldiers who fought and died for us.

Darlene Russell and contributions from the literacy class.



Peru

Peru is located in the central west of South America. Peru limits on the north by Ecuador and Colombia, on the east by Brazil and Bolivia, on the south by Chile, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean.



The official language is Spanish, and the native languages are Quechua and Aymara. We are a democracy, our coin is the Nuevo sol, and the population is of 28 million. We are basically a catholic country, a very religious country.

Peru, was the home of the Inca Empire; we have one of the new seven wonders, Macchu Picchu, the city of the Incas. It is situated in Cusco, it is just amazing. You have lots of ruins to visit, restaurants, or just go to the main square to have a walk. It is a very nice place. It is full of bars, pubs, restaurants, with typical dances; you can party from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. There you can find people of all the world. If you do not speak Spanish it is not a problem, people there speak English. To go to Macchu Picchu takes like 5 hours by train, crossing the mountains. The only way to go is by train or helicopter; there is no highway or road to access Aguas Calientes, that is the name of the town where is located Macchu Picchu. I really recommend a visit there.



In Peru the food is very different. We have a different way to cook. Here you eat a lot of mashed potatoes, there we eat a lot of rice. We have like 200 different kinds of potatoes and we are the number one country in exports of asparagus. The lowest temperature is maybe 10°C and the highest is 30°C, so it is not too cold and we are able to have fresh vegetables all year and fresh fish. Peruvian music has Andean, Spanish and African roots.

I am from Lima the capital of Peru. It is close to the ocean and a very crowded city, full of buildings, shopping centers, and historic places. We eat a lot of sea food. The typical dish is ceviche (fish cooked in lemon juice with onions and boiled corn). It is like sushi, and the typical drink is Pisco. I was born in Lima, I grew up there, I am a graphic designer and I moved to Canada last year. In 2005 I met a nice Canadian man, we fell in love, and we got married in Peru, in 2007. After all the documentation, I arrived in Huntingdon last year, just 1 day before my anniversary. Now I am working for the Hospital in Huntingdon and Ormstown. I like to live here, it is very different but I like it.



Fabiola Román-Smith

A story about Peru



Last Thursday a woman from Peru came in our classroom, to speak about her country. Her name is Fabiola. She spoke about the food they have. They have a lot of cereal and the corn kernels are bigger than ours, and a lot of fruit and vegetables. In the mountains, the weather is colder.

They have three animals to give the wool. Because the weather is colder in the mountains, they need warmer clothes so they use wool of Lama, Alpaca and Vicuno to knit warm clothes. I like to learn about her life in Peru.

Norbert Boulerice



MONT-ROYAL

Last weekend my friend and I were sitting at his place wondering what to do. I've just got a new car so Ryan suggested to go for a drive to Mont-Royal. He said there's a place to park there and you can see all of Montreal. I agreed and we got ready for the ride. I rolled up some cigarettes and Ryan grabbed some CD'S.

The drive wasn't very long; we listened to music the whole way. When we got there at two in the morning there were a couple of people already enjoying the view. The view was amazing, the city lights lit up the sky. After, we drove around looking at the houses on top of Mont-Royal. They were some of the coolest homes I had ever seen. I would love to own a house there, it would be a dream come true. I'm certain I will visit Mont-Royal again and I recommend you to visit it. Here is a picture of the view I saw. Enjoy!

Roy Brunner



My father and I

My daddy and I were more than daughter and father. We were best of friends. We did everything together like fishing, hunting, singing, cooking. We would cut cedars together to make cedar oil which we sold to make more money.

He told me that I was more than a daughter, I was a shadow. He would take one step, I would be right behind. If he turned around too fast he fell over me. I can remember when he was in the hospital to have his toes taken off, I was right there for two months. He told me to go home and get some sleep, I told him «I did when you were sleeping »... He told me I was a fighter as he was.

He would make us laugh when he told us that God didn't want him or that he would have to stay here until they were ready for him. It looks like mom and God came for him. And they took my dad away. I will always remember him, no one can take that from me.

Your loving Daughter

Darlene Russell

My tractor

I have a tractor. It's a Cub Cadet.
It's yellow and white, 12 horse power.
I cut grass and drive it around. I only drive it in the summer. I
bought it new last year. I do my own oil changes.

Dictated by **Wilfrid Henderson**



My trip to Newfoundland

In the summer of 2008 I went to Newfoundland. During those three weeks holidays, I took time to visit the plane crash site that occurred in Nut Cove at 4 a.m. on March 18, 1953.



This is a piece of aircraft recovered from the crash site

This quiet area is in eastern Newfoundland near the town of Clarenville.

The 23 American airmen that were in the 6 engines military B 36 bomber were killed.

The flight from Azores to South Dakota needed several hours across the Atlantic ocean and over Newfoundland.

According to what we know, the bad weather was the cause of that disaster. It is only speculating the bomber ran into bad weather at very low altitude : 800 feet, to fly right into the granite cliff of 896 feet.

Loggers working nearby heard the noise and quickly arranged a search. Our hike took 40 minutes up the mountain. We could walk through the debris spread over half a mile.

The American government used one part of the propeller to erect a monument in memory of those airmen.

The Nut Cove crash site is the cemetery of one of the biggest aircraft flown at the time.



Carl Vaillancourt
is a sculptor

This is a story about my dog name Coco

I have a dog. His name is Coco, he is 1 year old. He is brown. He likes to play and walk with me. I had him for 3 months now and I love him very much.

He loves to play with his toys. He has a cage.
He is a Lhasa Apso, a small house dog. He costs a lot of money at the vet.

Christopher Deschamps



I LIKE ...

I like to walk my dog. I like to play with my dog.
I help my mom with the dishes.
I take the garbage out.
I like to play my PS 2.
I like to help Donald and Bunny sell tickets.

BACKPACK

On my back a pack I carry
In it, all my treasures
It's what I need
So I can be
One class higher !

Crayons, ruler, scissors too,
And yes a little Elmer's glue
Paper, pencils, in my bag ...
Wonder what made mom so sad ?

Trapper keeper, nice and neat
Will it really stay this clean ?

On my back a pack I carry
In it' all my treasures !

Today I'll be
Just watch and see
One class higher !

Poem chosen by: **Brian Patenaude**

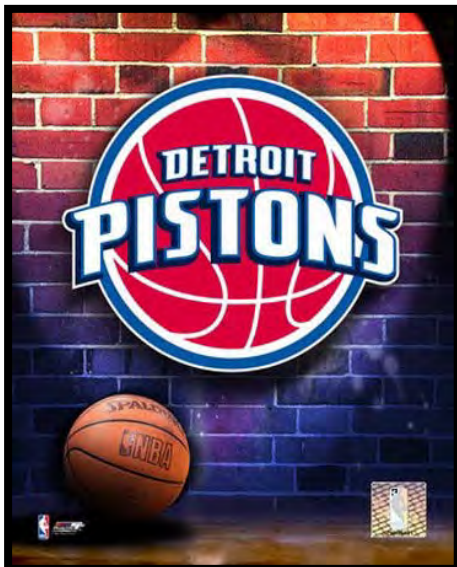
BASKETBALL

My name is Andrew Kerr. I am 18 years old. I like sports. For example NBA, it's basketball. I like this because it's fast. There are 48 minutes of play. It is 12 minutes each quarter. There are 30 teams.

And one Canadian team is Toronto Raptors, but it's not my team.
My favorite team is Detroit Pistons, NBA has 82 games,
16 teams make it to the play offs.

And it's the best of 7 just like hockey (NHL) but they do not do points. They have records like 40 wins and 42 losses.
I know at least 50 or more players. Do you like basketball ?

Andrew Kerr



PRIDE AND JOY

My grandchildren are my pride and joy. I love them very much.
I like to play games with my granddaughter on the computer.
We have lots of fun. We play with cars, blocks.

I am teaching him to play on the computer.
Sometimes we play the bowling game.

We go for walks to my house to see their grandpa. My grandchildren
like their grandpa very much, they play lots of games together.

When my son comes over to pick my grandchildren up to go home,
I feel very sad. I miss them.

My grandchildren's name are Aiden, he is one and Chloe is four.

Sheila Russell



My Pen Pal Connor

For about two months now I have been chatting with a pen pal named Connor who lives in Manitoba. Almost all our conversations were about where we lived. Here's a bit about Connor. Connor is 20, lives with his father in San Clara, Manitoba. Connor enjoys sports because it's outdoors and it helps keep him healthy.

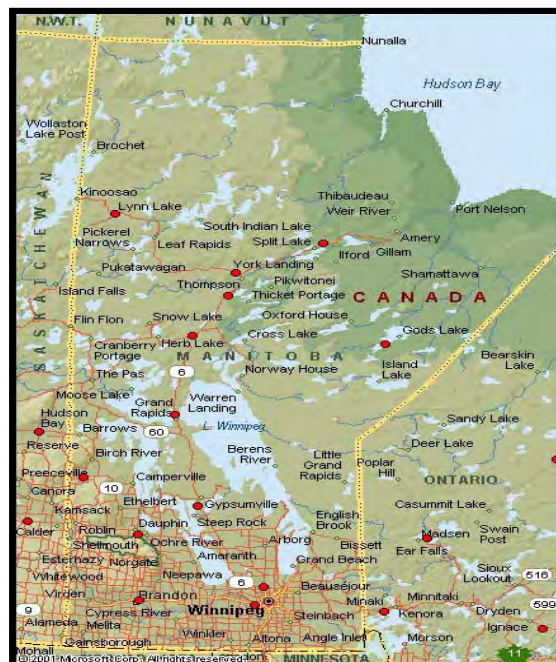
I have enjoyed chatting with Connor because it's nice to hear about other places besides Quebec.

Once while talking to Connor, Connor gave me a riddle to solve which I still can't seem to solve so I guess you could say his riddles are difficult. Connor and me both enjoyed talking about our hobbies which made the experience of a pen pal fun.

During Connor's Spring Break he visited his mom in his home town Flin Flon, which is borderline Saskatchewan and Manitoba. He visited his grandparents and went ice fishing.

Connor is the baby in his family and has 3 older sisters named Tiffany, Kristy and Stacey and will become an uncle around September or October. Connor has one Golden Retriever and a black Labrador/Husky. He is also taking care of his sisters. Thanks for letting us send letters to each other because it has been really nice.

Mathieu Cardinal



THE IMAX THEATER

«We left from Huntingdon at 8h15 and got to Montreal about 10h30. I watched two movies: one about three flies going in space in a space ship. They had a good time. One of them went out of the space ship and walked on the moon. It was a great movie; it felt like we were right in the movie.

The other one was about fish, the humpback whales, dolphins. It looked like the fish were coming right on you. We all had a great time, a day to remember.»



Darlene Russell

«Yesterday, I went to IMAX with five other peers. We left Huntingdon around eight o'clock and we arrived downtown around ten o'clock, just on time for the film.

We had two films, the first was «Fly me to the moon». That film related when the first man walked on the moon. His name was Mr. Armstrong, we saw his print on the moon, I think the print was the real Mr. Armstrong foot print. Because it was animated characters, they had three flies in the shuttle, their names were Scooter, IQ and Orbit.

The second film was Wild Ocean. We saw a lot of fish, sardines, dolphins, whales and sharks. I like the screen because in three dimensional it looks like if you were in the film.

The animals seem so close that you can touch them. After the film we had a good lunch in Châteauguay. It was very nice.»

Norbert Boulerville

Yesterday, we went to IMAX with my English class. For all of them it was the first time to go there. We must wear the special glasses to watch the movies.

When the movie began the picture was very near to my nose. Sometimes I was afraid, I shouted and burst out laughing. The first movie «Fly me to the moon», the second movie «Wild Ocean».

In «Fly me to the moon», Scooter ate all the time. He's very fat, sometimes he needs help to enter the spaceship to tight. IQ has always good ideas, he is very clever.

Orbit, he likes to dance with friends, I don't remember exactly what he did, but they were very nice.

«Wild Ocean», it's the wonderful fish who are predators. The pictures are very nice to see, but the predators must change the attitudes if we will see the wonderful fishes in the ocean in the future.

I like very much to see the movie in 3D. Thank you very much ! It was a wonderful experience, I'll remember that for a long time.

Carole Garneau

Message to the class of 2008-2009

Dear students,

Hopefully this has been a good academic year for you. Congratulations to those of you who have been present, punctual and have put forth your best effort throughout the year.

All of you have shown some progress; it's important that you continue your learning process. As we all shared our experiences and stories, we all learned from each other.

May you use your acquired skills in your everyday life. Some of you took advantage of the correspondence unit introduced in the course this year. It proved to be a very positive activity. Perhaps, you will continue your letter writing during the summer.

It was a pleasure for me to guide you in your learning process this year.

May you have a great and relaxing summer. Remember to keep up your reading. Hope to see you next session.

Roger

Acknowledgements

It is with great pleasure that I take this time to say thank you to everyone involved in making the Centre de Formation de Huntingdon Learning Centre a success.

In the name of all his students, the board and myself, I would like to say a very special thank you to Roger Bouthillier, a dedicated and wonderful teacher. This Collection of Texts is made possible in most part because of him. His passion for teaching and his commitment to the Centre are a gift to us all.

Of course, this Collection of Texts would be impossible without the participation of the students who got involved in this project. Congratulations and thank you to each and every one of them for their fine work and their continued interest in the learning process. We wish them all much success in their life projects.

We also want to say a special thank you to the volunteers who give their time and expertise with generosity week after week : Lillian Stirling-Forget; Susan Gagnon; Susan Russell McDonald and Ellen Mathiews.

Happy reading!

Louise Richard
Director