

PGI 2007

September 21st was an amazing day for READ Saskatoon! We held our first PGI and raised \$20,000! All money raised goes directly to supporting programming READ Saskatoon delivers to families and adults in Saskatoon.



Carm Michalenko, chair, READ Saskatoon's PGI Golf Tournaments for Literacy.

- music, a literacy quiz, the Learner award, Gzowski award and a Poet Laureate that closes the day;
- The PGIs have raised over 10 million dollars for literacy;
- Fun is an important part of the day!

The event started the evening before with a Celebrity Auction. We had some wonderful auction packages generously donated by several local celebrities.



Brent Loucks, aka Vitamin B, and Jonathan Torrens helped out at the auction

What is the PGI?

- It is more than just about golfing, it is a literacy event founded by Peter Gzowski in 1984;
- PGI's have raised over ten million dollars for literacy and have grown to include a PGI in every province and territory.
- The PGI is generally quite informal, with



Marlow Carigata was the first recipient of the Gzowski award. This award is presented to a golfer who upholds the spirit of fun, generosity and camaraderie.

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The event was organized by the Literacy Awareness committee chaired by Marielle Gauthier. Brent Loucks acted as the auctioneer and did a fantastic job helping to raise funds for our organizations.

Shelagh Rogers, host with CBC Radio's *Sounds Like Canada* and Jonathan Torrens, *J-Roc* from *Trailer Park Boys* were our special guests for the PGI. Jonathon helped Brent with the auction and was a "great spotter". Shelagh hosted the Awards dinner following the golf tournament. The highlight of the day, aside from the golfing and fun, was the presentation of the Cooperator's Learner Achievement Award to Barb Rahm.



Barb Rahm was the recipient of READ Saskatoon's first PGI Learner Achievement Award.

Finally, we need to thank all the volunteers and sponsors who made this event such a success!

Golfin for the PGI

(Italicized phrases are to be said in Shelagh Roger's voice)

I was trying to catch a dolphin in a lovely
billabong,
Paddling in my dingy to an old familiar
song,
When Shelagh up and called me: *You'd better
come along.*
*Bring your dolphin, but you're golfin
For the PGI.*

But but but but but but but...
But but but but but but what?
Codgers and dodgers
Rhyme with Rogers,
But I'm at a loss-ky
To rhyme with Gzowski.
*Do not be vexed by a rhyme gone awry;
Just open your mouth and let er fly.*
So I'm rhymin for the Gzowski, rhymin for
the Zoss,
I'm rhymin for the PGI.

Her words rang deep
inside me like a prayer I
used to pray:
*Come and be our laureate;
grab your clubs and play.*
*Strike a ball for literacy and
be our Laurier,*
*Or be a bloody lariat and
have it your own way!*
So I'm ropin for the PG,
ropin for the P,
I'm ropin for the PGI, eh?
I'm ropin for the PGI.



David Carpenter was our first PGI Golf Tournaments for Literacy Poet Laureate.

I think that I shall never see
A reader on the 14th tee
Read Yann Martel and Vanderhaeghe
And Proust and Hemin-wee,
Nor see a golfer golfing
In the public library.
But though for golfing I am loathe,

I'd come out here to see em both.
 Oh, I'm the poet lariat, the lariat am I,
 And I'm golfin for the PG, golfin for the P,
 I'm golfin for the PGI.

They're quite hypothermic and blue-lipped
 like me,
 But they're freezing their putts for literacy!
 And I'm the poet lariat, the lariat am I
 And I'm golfin for the PG, Golfin for the P,
 I'm golfin for the PGI.

The golfers they're out in the wind on the tee
 They tremble and shake like leaves on a tree.

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Supporters



National & Media Sponsors



Celebrity Donors and Friends of READ Saskatoon

Pic-a-tic, Margeway Holdings, Pesto's Restaurant, Cheryl Balzer, Brent Loucks, John Cross, The Giggle Factory, Saskatoon Public Library, Denise Balcaen, Diane Weber, Anthony Bidulka, Shari Beckton, George Gingras, Kathy Bond, Kathleen Podiluk, Kim Fontaine, Dave Scharf, Mark Loshack, North Saskatoon Business Association, Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce and numerous businesses and individuals who supported us with prize donations

Words in the News

Bears 'facing extinction'

Six out of eight of the world's bear species are threatened with extinction, according to the conservation organization, IUCN. Researchers say all bear species have declined in numbers and distribution due to human activities, but most urgent action is needed in Asia and South America. Sarah Mukherjee reports. Scientists at the IUCN say there are parts of the world where bears are **thriving** - for example, in North America, where, they say, there's an enormous amount of effort and **funding for conservation**.



But the researchers say that **contrasts sharply** with Asia and South America, where conservation funding is poor but the need **extreme**. For example, they point to Southern Asia, where bears suffer heavy losses from **poachers**. Bile from the bear's gall bladder is used in traditional Chinese medicine and their paws are consumed as a **delicacy**. However, in the last ten years enormous efforts in China have been directed towards the conservation of the giant panda, including **widespread reforestation programs**. Despite this work, the panda is still on the **endangered list**. Scientists say it's too early to tell whether the conservation work is having an effect on **populations**.

Activity: Match the words on the left with the definitions on the right

thriving
funding for conservation
endangered list
populations
contrasts sharply
extreme
poachers
delicacy
widespread reforestation programs

- big efforts to plant trees in areas where they were previously cut down
- list of the animal and plant groups that might soon not exist any more
- something to eat that is expensive or rare
- living very well
- people who illegally catch or kill animals
- very strong
- is very different from
- numbers (here, of bears)
- money to help save or protect animals and land (here, bears)

- This was retrieved last November 13, 2007 from http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2007/11/071112_bears.shtml

Thanksgiving in Canada

I have been in Canada for 6 years, and had 6 Thanksgiving celebrations. I like Thanksgiving because it is not only a feast with lots of good food that make my mouth water, but also a holiday for families to get together.



The first Thanksgiving is memorable due to the first turkey I have ever roasted.

I bought a “small” sized one but it was still a huge bird to me. I got a recipe from Maria who taught me English as well as Canadian cultural at school. I was not used to cook a meal by following a paper instruction. It seemed to cook in imagination. It was a big recipe that had several pages of procedures.

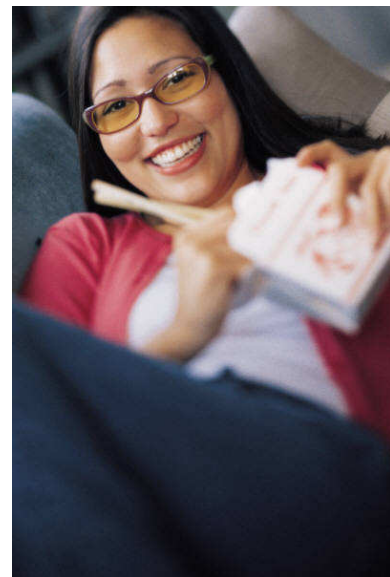
I read through very carefully and looked up the dictionary for all the words I didn't know. Only half understanding, I started with precaution. The bird was thawed, so I washed thoroughly and placed it on the board. As instruction said, dry and season the turkey. Dry was easy, but to season a turkey was a bit strange to me. I knew there were four seasons in a year, spring, summer, fall, and winter. How was I supposed to do

for a turkey with four seasons? The work was stuck when it hadn't started.

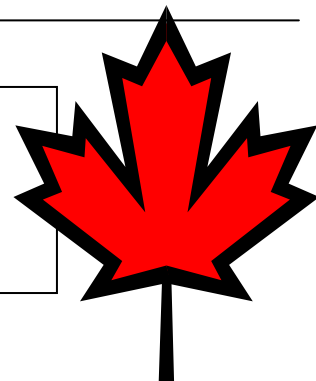
Since I had been in Canada for not long, I had only a few friends who have the same background. Neither of them knew how to roast a turkey.

My mind went blank. Suddenly, I thought of Mavis, my tutor, who must have roasted lots of turkeys in her life. I phoned her at home right away, and she explained “seasoning meat” to me and gave me extreme details for putting up the bird on the table. I am very glad that there are some Canadian friends who are there to help me in my life.

For my first Thanksgiving dinner, I put a roasted turkey and stuffing, mixed with Chinese cooking style, on the table. Wengang, Selena, and I enjoyed the first turkey, and we were happy because we were together, no matter where we were.



Did you know that Canada's coastline is 244,000 kms long and that the Trans Canada Highway is 8,000 kms long? They are the longest coastline and highway in the world.



Interesting Facts about Saskatoon

This information comes from the Local History Room - Saskatoon Public Library, retrieved November 13, 2007 from <http://www.saskatoonlibrary.ca/html/LHistoryfacts.html>

The indomitable one-legged figure skater

Norman Falkner grew up in Saskatoon living close to a skating rink, and became a proficient figure skater. He lost a leg in World War I, but refused to give up his chosen sport. After falling again and again, he finally mastered a technique for staying upright and performing figures on ice, although he had to be pushed onto the ice to gain initial momentum. On his return to Canada he wowed audiences throughout North America. He continued skating until he was an old man. Several photos, an autobiographical manuscript and a few seconds of moving footage remain as testimony to his incredible athletic feats. To learn more of Falkner's story, borrow the video "Heroes, Rogues and Adventurers" - or watch SCN for three-minute blurbs about Falkner and other amazing people in our history.



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First industrialist — a woman!

Saskatoon's first industry is said to have been the export of buffalo bones for the manufacture of fertilizer. That would make Grace Fletcher the city's first industrialist. Bones were shipped over the Old Bone Trail to Saskatoon, from where Fletcher sold railway carloads of them to the United States for manufacture. She was a prominent businesswoman, church leader and women's rights advocate, as well as a staunch temperance activist. She also ran a general store, a livery stable and a land agency.

The coffee house that turned down Joni Mitchell

Colin Holliday-Scott, co-owner of the Louis Riel Coffee House on Broadway Avenue, once turned down a gig by the then-neophyte singer Joni Mitchell, who lived and attended school here in Saskatoon. *(Later she did perform at the Louis Riel.)*



City of Saskatoon Archives 1003-444

Our Storysacks

Need You!

We are looking for interested volunteers to help us build 5 storysacks. We need sewers, crafts people and creative minds to build props and activities around children's books! If you think you might be interested call Desiree at 652-5448!



Book Signing and Brunch

Saskatoon Co-op is hosting a fundraising brunch for READ Saskatoon.

Sunday, November 18th, 2007

8th Street and 33rd Street locations

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

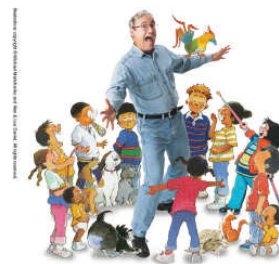
\$4.99 per plate

Carey Rigby-Wilcox will read from her new self-published book *My Mummy Couldn't Read*. Carey's story captures the rewards that can be achieved by embracing lifelong learning. She will be at the 8th Street Co-op from 10 - 2 p.m.

For further information call
READ Saskatoon at 652-5448.

Munsch at Home Contest

Canadian families who enter the Munsch at Home contest have a chance to win a visit from best selling children's author Robert Munsch to attend their Family Literacy Day celebration on January 19, 2008!



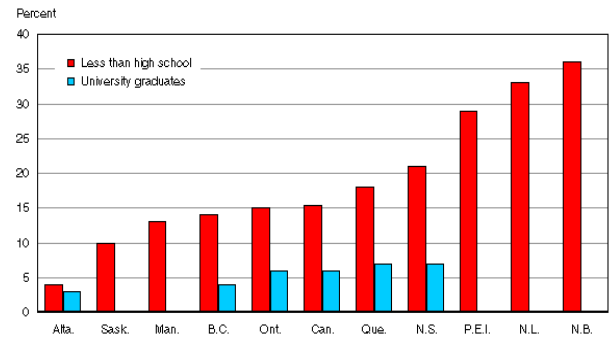
To enter, families download an application form from our website, write a short description on how they plan to celebrate Family Literacy Day and mail it to ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation. To be eligible, entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. EST on **December 14, 2007**. Submissions are judged on originality of ideas, and the winning family will receive a one-hour visit on Saturday, January 19, 2008, from Robert Munsch.

In addition, Mr. Munsch will make a special visit to the public library or literacy organization selected by the winner following the family visit. To celebrate the 10th year of Family Literacy Day the chosen family will also win a weekend visit, any time during 2008, to Great Wolf Lodge, the family resort located in Niagara Falls, Ontario. For more details and an application form, check out our Munsch at Home Contest web page at: www.abc-canada.org/fld/munsch_contest.shtml



Educational attainment and labour market outcomes are closely linked, except in Alberta and Saskatchewan

Unemployment rates are significantly higher for 25 to 29 year-olds with less than high school than they are for university graduates. This is especially the case for residents of Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick where the unemployment rate for high school dropouts was in the 30% range in 2005, compared to essentially nil for university graduates. At the other extreme is Alberta, where the unemployment rate for both high school dropouts and university graduates were very low, at 4% and 3% respectively. Clearly, Alberta's hot economy is driving demand for workers regardless of their education level. In neighbouring Saskatchewan, the unemployment rate was also relatively low for individuals with less than high school and was essentially nil for university graduates.



Unemployment rate of 25 to 29 year-olds, selected levels of education, Canada and provinces, 2005

Sources: Statistics Canada and Council of Ministers of Education, Canada. 2005.

[Education indicators in Canada: Report of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program.](#)

Catalogue no. 81-582-XIE. Ottawa.



Wrap with READ



For the past two years, McNally Robinson Booksellers has supported READ Saskatoon. Once again we will be setting up tables to create awareness about literacy issues in Saskatoon and our province, as well as gift-wrap for donations. If you are available to help out by taking on a three hour shift, call Sheryl at 652-5448. We require two people per shift; what a great way for you and your learner to do something a little different.

Volunteer requirements:

1. great with paper
2. fantastic with ribbon
3. can brag about the great work READ Saskatoon does in the community
4. not afraid to talk and gently harass strangers



Dates to help:

Thursday, December 20

Friday, December 22

Saturday, December 22

Sunday, December 23

Monday, December 24

READer Family Fun Page

Fall is in the air. What to do with the kids?
Here are some fun family ideas....

Plan a Scavenger Hunt!

Planning a scavenger or treasure hunt can be a fun activity for the family! Parents or older siblings can organize one for younger children, or older children who baby-sit can use it. Don't forget that children can have fun making them for their parents once they understand how they work.

- Decide what the treasure might be. It could be something small like a cookie, small toy or a board game for the family to enjoy together at the end!
- Write clues on small pieces of paper, or for younger children, draw a picture or cut pictures from magazines. Hide the clues around your house or if the weather permits, in your yard! Give hints as your child needs them!



Try making some Creative Dough

1 cup flour	1 teaspoon vanilla
2 teaspoons cream of tartar	optional
1/2 teaspoon salt	about 15 drops of food coloring, color of your choice
1 cup water	
1 tablespoon vegetable oil	



Cook all ingredients in a medium sauce pan, over medium heat, stirring real hard until mixture forms a ball, about 4 minutes. Remove from pan and let sit for about five minutes. Knead briefly and the dough is ready to use. Store in airtight container in refrigerator. Use half the recipe, and make two different colors.

With the cold weather approaching, bring the snow indoors with Whipped Snow:

2 cups warm water	Electric mixer
1 cup pure laundry soap or flakes	

Put water and soap in large bowl and beat with mixer until very fluffy. Add food coloring if desired. This can be molded into shapes and left to dry.

Recipes were retrieved from <http://www.familymanagement.com>

