

# GOOD NEWS

October 27, 2015

## ONE GREEN PLAYGROUND AT A TIME

Tree Canada revitalizes school playgrounds by providing grants to plant trees for shade, protection, and to add beauty. Second Street Community School was grateful to be a recipient of one of their grants. Community members, staff and students recently had the opportunity to join in the planting fun of BC native plants, shrubs and trees which were carefully selected for their school ground.

## WHAT TOTEMS LIE WITHIN THE CEDAR LOG

Brentwood Park Elementary staff, students and parents all have a deeper understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal traditions since Artist in Residence Jackie Timothy arrived in February 2015. He's been carving a totem pole for the school from a 600 year old cedar log and it's been exciting to see the animal totems emerge from it. In keeping with First Nations custom, a celebration was held for the completed totem pole prior to it being mounted just outside the school office. The artist was presented with an Aboriginal drum created by senior students and a bentwood box made by a parent in the school, Metis artist, James Michels.

## A MOMENT IN TIME

University Highlands Elementary kindergarteners have something to look forward to when they hit grade 7. They'll be opening up the time capsule that was recently installed in celebration of three anniversaries - 5 years for the school, 10 years for UniverCity and 50 years for SFU. Each classroom put a lot of thought into what they would contribute to the capsule and they did an excellent job presenting their items at a school assembly. They included play things, hand-drawn portraits of teachers, glass art, quotes to live by, and information on Terry Fox and the longest federal election. The Kindergarten students sealed the deal by putting their handprints in the wet cement.

## WHAT DID YOU READ ON MONDAY?

In celebration of National Public School Library Day on October 26, Burnaby Schools students were encouraged to grab a favorite book and meet out in the hallways, hang out in their classrooms or the school library where they Dropped Everything And Read. Most students and staff agree – everyday should be a D.E.A.R Day, for one can never get enough of reading!!

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## **TEACHERS GET TECHNICAL**

During the Provincial Pro-D day, 500 BC K-12 educators dedicated to promoting the use of technology in the classroom arrived at Byrne Creek to attend a day of learning. It was put on by CUEBC. Principal of Change blogger George Couros was the keynote and was followed by 30+ hands-on sessions for educators from all skill levels and backgrounds. CUEBC recognized the exceptional work of Burnaby Learning Technology educators Lucky Saina, Janet Chow and Livia Chan who spent hours prepping for the conference and ensuring everything ran smoothly. They were amongst multiple District teachers who had the opportunity to partake in a rewarding day of learning.

## **A COASTAL ADVENTURE**

Confederation Park Elementary received a Go Grant to bus the entire school to Belcarra Regional Park to learn about our coastal environment. Students participated in Critter Capers where they had to solve the mystery on how the cracked shell got to the forest. Eight investigative stations were set up and the student detectives eagerly explored animal tracks, range maps, food habits, and food webs to gather clues and solve the mystery. Students also participated in a scavenger hunt for leaves, bugs, and animal life and enjoyed spotting seals and listening to forest sounds along the way. It was a fun day of meaningful experiential learning!

## **STUDENTS EXPERIENCE CANADIAN CULTURE FIRST HAND**

Burnaby Continuing Education's Adult LINC classes (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada) go beyond language instruction, by providing students with a Canadian Cultural Immersion experience. In September students learned about Terry Fox and his efforts to run across Canada and raise funds for cancer research. They were so inspired they chose to partake in the Terry Fox Run and raised \$700 for the cause.

In October they participated in the Great BC Shakeout, where they learned how to Drop-Cover & Hold On in the event of an earthquake. They also engaged in Student Vote and then went to a polling station on election day to observe the process. Many were surprised that there were no armed police officers at the polling station, having come from countries where it is dangerous to vote - or not to vote. It makes one realize how fortunate we are to live in Canada.