



The Bark

Spring 2017

Upcoming Events

April 7 - [World Health Day](#)

April 22 - [International Mother Earth Day](#)

April 28 - [National Day of Mourning](#)

April 28-29 - [ATA Diversity, Equity and Human Rights Conference](#)

May 7 - [National Child and Youth Mental Health Day](#)

May 8-9 - [Remember lives lost in WW II](#)

May 13 - [World Fair Trade Day](#) (second Saturday of May)

May 15 - [International Day of Families](#)

May 17 - [International Day Against Homophobia](#)

May 21 - [World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development](#)

May 22-25 - [Aboriginal Awareness Week](#) (4 days after Victoria Day)

May 22 - [International Day for Biological Diversity](#)

May 29 - [International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers](#)

May 31 - [World No-Tobacco Day](#)

June 5 - [World Environment Day](#)

An update from Social Justice Grant recipient, Strathcona High School

By Taylor Rubin

Tansi! Oki Napi! Abawasheded!

Strathcona High School is proud to offer services for our First Nations, Métis and Inuit community. Our goal is to support students in order to enhance students' learning journeys by providing culturally relevant assistance and fostering relationships within our school community.

Edmonton is home to the second largest Indigenous population in Canada. Scona's Founding Cultures is a cultural exchange program that supports Urban Indigenous, marginalized, at-risk youth in building positive identities and sustainable futures through experiential learning. These experiences teach cultural competence and expose youth to community-based cultural resources.

We utilize traditional and contemporary cultural perspectives to seek balance and reconciliation, and navigate the world through a social justice lens. Through extracurricular programming, experiential learning and a focus on strengthening personal identity, Indigenous and non-Indigenous students came together through Scona's Founding Cultures to build relationships and strengthen community.

With the support of the Aspen Foundation, Scona's Founding Cultures has been able to expand our programming through the Orange Shirt Day Campaign, the creation of our club logo and sales of clothing featuring our club, a Métis Cultural Celebration and a Family Event for Strathcona High School as well as two of our feeder junior high and elementary schools.

What the students are saying:

"this club is a lot of fun and important to me"

"I feel a sense of belonging because I have clubs and friends which make me feel welcome"

"[I realized that] I can, and want to, work with at-risk youth [as a social worker to] help them re-integrate into society and I just can't wait to help out the youth and their families. [I am] so much more excited for my future."



Aspen Foundation for Labour Education



Resource Corner

Check out this [video](#), Race-baiting 101 by Matthew Cooke. For more video resources, visit our new [Video Resources](#) page. There, you will find videos, links, and descriptions for over 50 videos for educators and students readily available online.

We also have a new section on our website, [Books for Students](#) which will showcase book suggestions like [this one](#) from GeekMom, *13 Books to Teach Children about Protesting and Activism*.

PD: Engaging Students in Thoughtful Global Citizenship

This workshop will help school staff examine various approaches for undertaking meaningful social justice activities while engaging students in every step of the process. It provides ways for teachers to help students critically examine relevant issues and then take actions designed to promote principles of fairness, equity and social justice locally and globally. Exemplars, resources and opportunities to dialogue are built into this workshop experience.

To book a workshop, contact ATA Professional Development via telephone 1-800-232-7208 or e-mail pdworkshops@ata.ab.ca.

We are hiring!

We are hiring a Fundraiser and Outreach Assistant. [View the full posting](#) on our website and apply today!

Free bookmarks available

We've released some great new [bookmarks](#). Want some for your organization or your students? Contact Gary at afle@telus.net.

Aspen Foundation Feedback and Participation

We value your comments, please send them to us. If you would like to write an article regarding social justice work in the classroom, please contact Gary Hansen at afle@telus.net.

We believe that it is important that schools teach about building new, fairer, kinder, and more just workplaces and communities. Friends like you make our work possible.

Your support is key to offering Social Justice and Labour Education in schools

Aspen Foundation is a registered charity and provides **income tax receipts** to individual donors.

[Click here to support our work!](#)

Resources and Links

- ✓ Videos: [Inequality Media](#)
- ✓ Article: [Preparing Our Students to be Civically Powerful](#)
- ✓ [Video Resources](#)
- ✓ [Teaching Units](#)
- ✓ [Books for Students](#)
- ✓ PBS.org [Lesson Plan: Fake News](#)
- ✓ Book: [The Formative Five: Fostering Grit, Empathy, and Other Success Skills Every Student Needs](#)
- ✓ Article: [The Key to Post-Truth Teaching: Epistemology and Knowledge](#)

*Always review resources before using them in class.

Visit us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) for more resources



The Aspen Foundation for Labour Education

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