



Summer is just around the corner!

We at the Aspen Foundation for Labour Education hope that you are feeling refreshed and renewed by the longer, warmer days. We do!

Thank you for subscribing to the Bark. In this edition, you will find an invitation to our Annual General Meeting. RSVP if you'd like to attend!

In Today's Edition of **The Bark**

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During the 2015-2016 school year, Ecole Westhaven School in Edson, Alberta received a grant from the Aspen Foundation aimed to promote Indigenous learning in our classrooms. The money from the grant was utilized to create a tool-kit, which is available for all teachers to aid in planning and carrying out lessons regarding First Nations, Inuit, and Metis content. The toolkit is comprised of carefully selected books covering the topics of anti-colonial education and residential schools, as well as various cultural concepts which can be infused into daily teaching. The medicine wheel, talking sticks, and sharing circles have been adopted within some classrooms to demonstrate ways of learning, knowing, and doing.

Our school also created a school wide medicine wheel. Classes have contributed artwork to represent the various aspects of the medicine wheel, showing how all elements of life and nature exist in balance. Lessons regarding the seven grandfather teachings were created and have been carried out during circle of friends sessions, in which students are mixed within all grades and attend lessons by teachers which promote character education and citizenship. The materials in our school tool-kit have also aided in our participation in the "We Stand Together Enrichment Program" through We Day and the Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative. More collaboration between staff is occurring in order to incorporate diversity and equity topics into our lessons.

Our Aspen Foundation grant was a great starting point in increasing our coverage of anti-colonial, anti-racist, and Indigenous learning.

This year, the ATA Evergreen Local # 11's Diversity, Equity, and Human Rights Committee expanded upon this idea by distributing Indigenous themed picture books to each elementary school in the Grand Yellowhead Public School Division. The money for these books was provided by a grant from the Provincial ATA Diversity, Equity, and Human Rights Committee. The goal of the project is to provide teachers with the supports needed to meet the

Quality Standard. The books were chosen to augment the incorporation of Indigenous education, to affirm identities, and to challenge stereotypes.

The Aspen Foundation's 17th Annual General Meeting

Please join the Board and Staff of the Aspen Foundation for Labour Education's Annual General Meeting. Our keynote will be the fantastic Marco Luciano from [Migrante Alberta](#), who will be discussing the role of education in their work supporting workers.



Please RSVP to Laura at aspenfoundation@gmail.com by Thursday June 7th to join us for lunch!

June 11th, 2018

[Alberta Union of Provincial Employees \(AUPE\)](#)

10451 - 170 Street

11am - Lunch at [Jumbo's](#)

12pm - Keynote

12:30 - AGM

**Apply for grants for the
2018/2019 year!**

A graphic with a pink background and a green heart shape. The text "Social Justice Learning Grants!" is written in black. "Social Justice" is at the top, "Learning" is in the middle, and "Grants!" is at the bottom.

Learning Grants!

our website soon. The application deadline will be October 3rd, 2018.

UN Observances

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

May 12 – [World Fair Trade Day](#)

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

May 16 – [International Day of Living Together in Peace](#)

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

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

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

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

May 31 – [World No-Tobacco Day](#)

June 4-10 – [Canadian Environment Week](#)

June 5 – [World Environment Day](#)

June 8-14 – [Rivers to Oceans Week](#)

June 12 – [World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development](#)

June 12 – [World Day Against Child Labour](#)

June 14 – [World Blood Donor Day](#)

June 20 – [World Refugee Day](#)

June 21 – [National Indigenous Day](#)

June 27 – [Canadian Multiculturalism Day](#)

July 1 – Canada Day

We always value your feedback.

If you have questions, concerns, or would like to write an article for The Bark, please contact our Communications Coordinator Laura at aspenfoundation@gmail.com.



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