



REGIONAL UPDATE

Newsletter of the Tri-County Regional Centre for Education

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Celebrating TCRCE Pride



June is Pride Month and a cause for celebration at schools throughout TCRCE. We believe schools must be safe and supportive places where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

During the month, students learn to show kindness and respect, no matter who they love or their gender identity. These lessons are done in age-appropriate ways and throughout the entire school year.

Pictured above are students participating in the Shelburne Pride March. The top photo is from Lockeport Regional High School and the bottom photo, Shelburne Regional High School.



A Message from the Regional Executive Director

Congratulations, it's the end of the 2021-22 school year! Whether your student is completing their first year in the education system, or you have a high school graduate, there is cause for celebration.

I'd like to take a moment to thank our staff, students, and families for making this year a success. Student achievement is only possible with the support of you all.

This was a busy month as we were once again able to hold many events and celebrations in person. I had an opportunity to visit various schools throughout the region and saw the excitement first-hand as students participated in social activities, field trips, sporting events, and more.

June is Pride month and you'll see highlights of celebrations on the front page of this report. It's also National Indigenous History Month, and just as we do throughout the entire year, we are proud to recognize and honour the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of Indigenous People.

On June 17th, for the first time ever, our schools celebrated Black Excellence Day. We honoured the accomplishments, stories, insights, experiences and struggles of Black people, their families, ancestors, and communities. You will find photos of this milestone on the next page. Marking this special day is just one small step in our work towards anti-black racism. I recognize we have big steps ahead and we are committed to that journey. And speaking of journeys, Shelburne Regional High School students & staff (along with TCRCE regional staff) recently completed a 10.8-kilometre run/walk to signify the route and distance many of the Black Loyalists would have travelled each day for work. The Vanguard covered the story in this terrific article and I invite you to read more [here](#).

Finally, a special congratulations to the grads of 2022. The last few years haven't been easy but you've persevered and should be tremendously proud of your accomplishments.

Wishing you a happy, restful, and safe summer,

Jared Purdy

TCRCE Regional Executive Director



On June 21st, TCRCE students from Acadia and Bear River First Nation celebrated Indigenous Peoples Day at Kejimikujik. Thank you to everyone who participated in the day and celebrated L'nu culture.



MEET OUR TEAM

EACH MONTH WE INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR TCRCE STAFF MEMBERS



Winnie Bodden
African Nova Scotian Reading Mentor

Winnie has worked at TCRCE since 2008 and is currently a reading mentor at Yarmouth Elementary School.

Each year, Winnie reads with approximately 25-35 students who identify as African Nova Scotian. Her students range from primary to grade 5. Winnie says she enjoys reading books where the people look her students and learning about their accomplishments.

"I enjoy working with the students one on one. I am pleased to see how happy the students are to come and read with me everyday and the smile on their face when you tell them what great job they have done reading that day."

Recent Golden Turtle Recipients:

The Golden Turtle is being awarded to people in our schools who make a difference to student well-being.



Bonnie Daley
Child & Youth Care Practitioner

Bonnie works at Islands Consolidated School and received the Golden Turtle for her efforts to create safe and caring places.

People leave her space feeling heard and with a feeling of belonging, safety, joy and calm. Thank you for helping our students meet their full potential!



Tanya Rhyno
Teacher

Tanya Rhyno, who teaches Grade 1-2 immersion at Yarmouth Elementary School, was recently awarded the Golden Turtle in recognition of her contributions to a positive and inclusive school environment.

Tanya accomplishes this through her exuberant greetings that make students and adults feel seen and acknowledged. Her openness and willingness to listen has helped to support her colleagues throughout the year. She truly represents the promotion of well-being and collective efficacy.

JUNE 17

BLACK EXCELLENCE DAY

For the first time ever, Nova Scotia's public schools celebrated Black Excellence Day on June 17, 2022.

Students and staff were invited to wear black T-Shirts to celebrate and stand in unity in support of the success of Black students. Black Excellence Day celebrates Black Achievements, Black stories, Black Art, Black innovations, and Black people and their communities.

Nova Scotia's Inclusive Education Policy is a commitment to ensuring a high-quality, culturally and linguistically responsive and equitable education to support the well-being and achievement of every student. Black Excellence Day is an opportunity for students to see themselves represented, acknowledged, and celebrated and to grow understandings that create an inclusive education for all students.

Here are a few snapshots from around the region:



Staff at Digby Elementary School wear black to show support for Black Excellence Day.



Weymouth Consolidated School celebrates our first Black Excellence Day.

See inside our schools



Students in the 4/5 class at Islands Consolidated School brightened up the parking lot and playground by painting the cement dividers (pictured above).

A primary student at Hillcrest Academy proudly displays math work (pictured left).



Lockeport Elementary students have some photo fun, seeing how many students can fit into a lobster trap! (Pictured above).

Earlier this month, YCMHS held an official grand opening of their new gazebo. The purpose of the gazebo is to have a place for reflection. A special thanks to SAC members (both past and present), NSCC, the O2 class, and the NS Workit Grant (pictured left).

See inside our schools



Grade 8 students from Maple Grove Education Centre visit YCMHS for an orientation day before they become students there in September. (Pictured above).

Pre-primaries at Meadowfields complete daily affirmations by looking at their reflection when they enter the room in the morning or throughout the day and saying something they like about themselves (pictured left).



Music class at Port Maitland Consolidated Elementary School. (Pictured above).

Students at Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary School recently enjoyed a science presentation from the Discovery Centre (pictured left).

O2 Student Joins TCRCE IT Team

Options and Opportunities, (O2) is a program designed to help students work toward a career pathway that interests them. Part of the program involves co-op placements, like the one St. Mary's Bay Academy O2 student, Nya Randell, recently completed in the TCRCE Tech Dept.

Nya has an interest in computer programming and is planning on pursuing a degree in computer science. She gained valuable skills and knowledge during her co-op placement and her knack for technology, strong work ethic, and upbeat attitude directly contributed to work that positively impacted staff and students in the region. Through the Computers for Schools Internship (CFSI) Program, we are lucky to be able to add Nya to our team this summer.

Congratulations, Nya!



Serve It Up!

Congratulations to Brooke McCleave, Aja Bassett, and Alex Wright who were chosen to participate in a new culinary arts program this summer, called Serve It Up!

These three students were selected after an application/interview process and will be employed this summer with a Red Seal Chef. During this time they'll also be earning three high school Co-op credits.

This is the first time TCRCE has had students involved in this great opportunity to explore a career in the culinary arts.

Interested in learning more about Serve It Up!? [Click here.](#)



Brooke McCleave working at the Digby Pines Golf Resort & Spa



Aja Bassett working at the Wild Roots Restaurant



Alex Wright working at The Quarterdeck Resort

Summer Literacy Tips for Families

Studies show most students will experience a loss in their reading skills over the summer break. In order to limit this "summer slide" it is important to have your child(ren) continue to read (and write) as much as possible.

Here are 10 ideas to make reading during the summer months as fun and engaging as possible:

1. Read aloud together with your child(ren) every day: make it fun by reading outdoors, at the beach, during a picnic, or just under a tree!
2. Have lots of reading material around the home: let your child(ren) see you engaging with text, whether it be books, magazines, newspapers, etc., let them see you reading. Shut off technology for a period each day and enjoy text!
3. Have lots of conversations about the books that you are reading: always talk about what is happening in the story or what information they are learning from an informational text in a conversational way; try to avoid making this sound like a "quiz."
4. Read the print all around you: when going on a road trip or even for a walk in your community, make a game with the signs around you. Have your child(ren) pay attention to all of the letters and words that they see.
5. Children should have choice in what they want to read: many children enjoy reading graphic novels and magazines which are great texts for growing their reading skills.
6. Go to the local library as much as possible: if you don't already have a library card, this is a great summer to take advantage of your local library. You could make this a weekly outing!
7. Take advantage of free reading platforms on the internet: talk to your child's teacher to inquire about the programs that they use and have login information already available to them (ex. Raz-Plus and Epic!).
8. Encourage your child to keep a summer scrapbook: they could write about all of the wonderful books and other texts that they read and enjoyed over the summer.
9. For our youngest children, have a set of magnetic letters for the fridge, or a whiteboard: they can play with letters, make words, rearrange letters to make new words, etc.
10. Try to build reading and writing into everyday activities: try watching TV with the sound off and the closed captioning on, reading directions for games, writing the grocery list, reading words in the grocery store, etc.

PRE-PRIMARY REGISTRATION BUS DEADLINE: AUGUST 12, 2022

Have you registered your child for pre-primary yet? In order to guarantee bus transportation for your pre-primary student, the deadline for NEW 2022-23 registrations is August 12, 2022. Please note: this is only if you haven't yet registered for Pre-Primary. [Click here to register.](#)



Info or
apply at
nsisp@tcrce.ca

BRING THE WORLD HOME

When you host an international student
you may be surprised at how your family will grow

<https://www.tcrce.ca/nsisp>



\$725/month per student

