



**South Shore**  
Regional Centre for Education

# March 2020

## Monthly Report

I hope everyone will enjoy some well-deserved rest and relaxation as well as quality time with family and friends during March Break. With three months left in the school year, our collective energies are focused on the successful completion of the 2019-2020 school year and preparations for the 2020-2021 school year.

I would like to draw your attention to the upcoming South Shore Science Fair scheduled for March 26. This is a fabulous opportunity to talk with and learn from our students about their projects. You will certainly be impressed with the scientific achievements, creativity and innovation of our students.

I am proud how our schools embraced learning opportunities to discover and celebrate the rich culture of our African Nova Scotians and to learn about many significant contributions to our shared Nova Scotian history. It is encouraging to see how our educators are integrating these important lessons on African Nova Scotian Heritage into our literacy, visual arts, social studies and other classes throughout the year. The contribution of African Nova Scotians to Nova Scotia's history and present world is vast and impressive.

In April, we will also be recognizing and thanking staff as part of Education Week 2020. I will highlight this event in my April Report and I encourage you to keep an eye out for some of our school and regional celebrations in print, on our website, via the SSRCE Twitter and Facebook pages.

*Paul Ash*

Paul Ash  
Regional Executive Director  
South Shore Regional Centre for Education



### Two Liverpool Elementary Students Raise \$3000 For IWK

Bridgewater, NS, Canada / CKBW

Evan Taylor

January 24, 2020 04:44 pm

This fall two grade five students at Dr. John C. Wickwire Academy came up with the idea to start fundraising for the IWK Bed Campaign. This is a campaign that has a goal to purchase 95 Smart Beds, at a cost of \$15 000 each.

Carly Smith and Hannah Whynt were inspired to take up the cause by Keifer Huskins, a Liverpool high school student who spends many days at the IWK for treatment of his osteosarcoma.



Hannah Whynt (left) and Carly Smith helped raise over \$3000 for the IWK Bed Campaign.

Photo: Anette Burke

The two girls started their campaign on January 13th with an admirable goal of raising \$250. They've since gone on to smash their goal raising \$3,349.

In recognition of their achievements, the IWK has invited both girls to a special presentation, the date of which has yet to be announced.

### UPCOMING Events

- **March 5—Parent-Teacher Afternoon (P-12) (pm)**
- **March 11—Embedded CLT (90 minute early dismissal)**
- **March 13—T2 ends (P-9)**
- **March 16—20—Spring Break**
- **March 17—St. Patrick's Day**
- **March 26—Science Fair**
- **March 27—T2 Report Card Prep (P-9)**



**March 16 - 20, 2020**

**NO CLASSES FOR STUDENTS**

**ENJOY YOUR MARCH BREAK WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS**





## Greenfield Elementary School

On Friday, February 14, the students celebrated Valentine's Day by travelling to North Queens to participate in African Dance. Then they had a celebration in the afternoon with lots of fun activities. Thank you to Kaylin for all her dedication in planning and picking up supplies for the party and to all the students who helped out at the party.

Thanks to these special young ladies for making cards for our seniors and volunteers. Unfortunately, due to school cancellations, we were unable to travel to Hillsview as a school. But, cards were delivered to those residents and to others in our community.



**Greenfield Elementary School**  
31 mins

Congratulations to Melissa who goes above and beyond year after to support Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope. She has raised approximately two thousand dollars for a cause that affects all of us! So proud of your efforts Melissa.



Chester Area Middle School celebrated with some delicious food and drumming.



Bridgewater Elementary School Grade 4 Covey honouring Black History Month.



Quentrell Provo visited Hebbville Academy on February 24 to speak with the grade 5-9 students on bullying and what it took to get to where he is today. He is a motivational speaker who shares real life experiences both barriers and successes and is a great mentor for our youth we were grateful that he was able to come in to speak.



West Northfield Elementary School—Heather Jeffers Grade 1/2 WNES.



## Education and Early Childhood Development

Nova Scotia's pre-school program is growing. Starting September 2020, it will be offered throughout the province.

The pre-school program is game-oriented and offered free of charge to children in the year before they enter school. To learn more: [www.novascotia.ca/preprimary/fr](http://www.novascotia.ca/preprimary/fr)

To view the list of places or to register your child in the program, visit your Regional Education Centre or the provincial Acadian School Council website: <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/fr/pre-primary/registration>

School bus transportation can also be an option for some families: <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/fr/pre-primary/faq-transport-scolaire>  
If your child is enrolled in the kindergarten program in September and eligible for bus service, your Regional Education Centre or the Acadian School Council will provide you with the necessary information.



## SSRCE PRE PRIMARY PHOTO ALBUM

Follow us on twitter! @ssrcepreprimary







## Preventing the Spread of Infection

It is always important to take steps to prevent disease transmission but because of what is happening worldwide with the corona virus, people are likely more motivated to learn about and practice these techniques. Reminding students of these can also give them some sense of control during a time when the media, while keeping us informed on what is happening globally, may also be causing some anxiety.

Public Health suggest the following general tips to help prevent the spread of illness which can be promoted at any time:

- wash hands frequently (soap and water or hand sanitizer)
- cough or sneeze into your elbow or tissue (immediately dispose of tissue properly)
- stay away from people if you are sick
- avoid touching your face, especially eyes, nose, and mouth
- do not share things like utensils and water bottles
- clean surfaces like taps, doorknobs, and countertops often. <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/>



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Here are some tools that you are welcome to use to support your messages about the importance of hand washing and disease prevention.

Disease prevention poster  
<https://novascotia.ca/agri/documents/food-safety/factsheet-handwashing-poster.pdf>

Poster promoting good hand washing  
<https://bloximages.newyork1.vip.townnews.com/iffallsjournal.com/content/tncms/assets/v3/editorial/77/ca/7ca6b7be-aa78-5de5-b60b-02f7d03adada/5a81e0b23c115.pdf.pdf>

Various storybooks are available. contact me for a complete list.

Hand washing kits. These come with a powder or liquid substance that only shows up with the ultraviolet light. They can be used to demonstrate how easily germs can be spread and if hands are washed properly.

Contact me if you would like to borrow any of these for your class. [cbrown@ssrce.ca](mailto:cbrown@ssrce.ca) or 902-521-2097.



Dear Parents/Guardians/Students:

I am writing to update you on the current situation with regards to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) situation that you are probably hearing about in the media and through social media.

At this time of year many people and families are planning to travel during March break plus many schools are planning school trips outside of Nova Scotia. At this time, decisions regarding whether to travel or not remain the responsibility of families or schools. The COVID-19 situation is evolving rapidly with increasing global spread, so it is important that people have up-to-date information on COVID-19 to inform these decisions. Travel advisories based on COVID-19 can be found at:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice.html>

Schools and families are encouraged to visit the site to help guide their decision on whether to continue with or cancel travel plans. It is important to know that decisions made by travel companies, airlines and other countries may also effect your travel plans.

There is also an increasing risk of the spread of COVID-19 to and within Canada. The following steps are important in preventing the spread of common respiratory illnesses, such as influenza, as well as COVID-19

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. If using a tissue, immediately place it in a waste disposal and wash your hands.
- If possible, stay home when ill with fever or cough, if this is not possible, limit close contact with others.
- Limit touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Don't share items that may have saliva on them such as, drinking glasses and water bottles.
- Frequently clean surface like taps, doorknobs and countertops.
- Use of masks by the general public for respiratory illnesses such as influenza and COVID-19 have not been shown to be effective in preventing virus spread and are not recommended for prevention.

Further information on COVID-19 is available on the Nova Scotia government website  
<https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/>

Sincerely,

Robert Strang MD, MHSc., FRCPC  
Chief Medical Officer of Health

An 11-year-old student at Bridgewater Junior High has won the 2019 Young Citizens Award.

Valerie Sia's four-minute video story, *Railroaded: How the Chinese Railway Workers in British Columbia Were Treated from 1881–1885*, explores the legacy of the Chinese labourers who immigrated to 19th-century Canada to help build the railways. The video shows how the workers overcame discrimination and dangerous labour conditions to create better lives for their families.



"I feel very surprised and honoured, because there were so many good projects out there and I didn't expect to win," Sia said in a statement, and echoing a remark earlier in the year when she told *LighthouseNOW* that she didn't expect to make it into the qualifying round.

Winners of the Young Citizens prize will receive their awards during a special ceremony at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, Quebec, on January 19.

Sia chose her particular subject because of a personal connection to it, she previously told *LighthouseNOW*.

"I had ancestors from Malaysia that came over to North America and worked as rubber plantation workers," she said. "It was very similar to the Chinese railway workers that worked on the railway in the 1800s in British Columbia.

"The workers didn't get much pay because they were discriminated against because of their race. They didn't get much food and suffered from scurvy because they didn't get many fresh fruits or vegetables," she added.

Sia said they had to survive winter conditions in just a tent and pay for their own food. Hundreds of workers died during that time; it is estimated that four died for every completed mile.

The project took her some two months to complete. Sia examined letters, and referred to a number of primary source documents for research.

The Young Citizens program is a national contest that sees students create engaging and inspiring history videos, while vying for a trip to Ottawa to attend the Canada's History Forum.

Participants are selected from the thousands of students who each year take part in Heritage Fairs across the country. These students are invited to create a short video about an aspect of Canada's past, covering anything from the arts to sports, politics, war, science, immigration, famous people, community heritage, and more.

Sia joins five other student-winners: Caitlin Croskery of Nepean, Ontario, Sarah Laurin of Stratford, Prince Edward Island, Jonathan Lavalley of Southwold, Ontario, Penelope Siozos of Laval, Quebec, and Karen Yan of Vancouver.

"The stories of Canada reflect a diverse Canadian experience," Canada's History Society President & CEO Janet Walker said in a release. "It's tremendously inspiring to see the range of subjects and unique voices these Young Citizens use when they present us with the Canadian stories that matter to them."

Young Citizens is supported by Canada Life, the Government of Canada, and the McLean Foundation.

Courtesy of LighthouseNow



South Shore Regional Centre for Education  
69 Wentzell Drive  
Bridgewater, NS B4V 0A2  
Phone: 902-541-3000

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