

Education and Health Communiqué #2 – November, 2017

Education

The Truth and Reconciliation Report recommended including an indigenous perspective in the curriculum. Research has shown the following:

- Teaching from the Aboriginal perspective includes (re)telling stories, making connections to Aboriginal people and communities and having a sincere understanding of the students and their background (whether it be cultural or not). Teaching from this perspective plays an integral role in the inclusion of Aboriginal culture. (Blade et al.)
- Aboriginal students who had Aboriginal teachers were more likely to obtain a high level of education. The findings **do not coincide with this statement. In fact, any teacher can teach if taught from an aboriginal perspective. (Blade et al.)**
- It is important to have Aboriginal leaders visible to our Aboriginal students.
- Aboriginal content is not for Aboriginal students alone, it is for all students. (Elliott & Erlandson)

As we are all aware that there have been government budget cuts, \$52 million cut from health care and \$23 million from education.

Theodore Case Ruling

Did you know that Catholic education has been offered in the province of Saskatchewan for 125 years and that presently there are 8 school boards in this province? The government and the Catholic School Board Association (SCSBA) have made an appeal concerning the Theodore Case Ruling. With cutbacks to education, funding for an appeal is requested at this website <https://www.catholicedspirit.ca> Also see letters from Paula Scott, President of Saskatchewan School Board Association.

Gabriele Kalinck, sub-committee chairperson of Education and Health, is researching the current status of Catholic Education in all provinces and territories. Watch for the results of this survey in the near future.

Health

Let us continue to pray for Palliative Care, that the government amend the Health Care Act to identify **Palliative Care** as an Insured Health Service, Resolution 2016.04. In his address at the Bishop's conference in Saskatoon last May, Father Mark Miller stated that Palliative Care in Canada offers the opportunity for good, holistic care at the end of life, in which patients will be freed from pain, or at least unbearable pain. Palliative care is about living while you are dying. See *Finding the Gifts*, a short video filmed by timkip IMAGING at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon and funded by the Knights of Columbus.

Mental Health

By the age of 40 half of all people will have experienced a major bout of depression? Yet only 20% of people ever get the help they need. This is very sad – because 80% of people will experience depression again if they DO NOT get the help the first time they need it. (taken from The Caring Place Newsletter, see connect@thecaringplace.ca www.thecaringplace.ca)

Environment

Rita James, sub-committee chairperson of Education and Health, has written a Communique on *Water: A Basic and Essential Resource of Life*. See cwl.ca for a copy.

St. Francis befriended beggars, lepers, and other marginalized people. Do you want to prepare A Bag for the Homeless? Type in Bags for the Homeless. At this site you will find all kinds of ideas to include in these bags, what \$30 in the Dollar Store can purchase and what the homeless want.

It boggles my mind that St. Francis wrote *Canticle of the Creatures* in the 12th century which is pertinent for the environment today and every day.

Honor your mother

Saint Francis of Assisi praises God for the delightful family he has enjoyed in the creatures he calls Sir Brother Sun, Sister Moon, Brother Wind, Sister Water, and Brother Fire. His Prayer for Sister Mother Earth includes praise for the one who “sustains and governs us, and who produces varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.”

Resource

Tamara A. Chief has given her permission for use of this information.

A Thesis Submitted to the College of Graduate Studies and Research In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements For the Degree of Master of Education In the Department of Curriculum Studies University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon By TAMARA (TAMMY) A. CHIEF © Copyright Tamara (Tammy) A. Chief, April 2011. All rights reserved