

An Important Update about 2011 – 2012 Education Programming offered by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum

Dear Principals & Teachers,

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum is in its 40th year of collecting Canadian history in York Region. Each year we offer on-site and outreach programming that is consistently well-reviewed by teachers who tell us that our programs closely parallel their classroom study and curriculum requirements.

Last fall you received a letter announcing the big changes happening at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum. We told you about the construction of the NEW Museum Visitor/Community Centre that will be providing a new and welcoming space for you and your students to enjoy while you're on-site.

As of November, we are thrilled to welcome you and your students back to our site. We know that you'll be impressed by the new spaces - particularly the improved reception and gift shop areas, plus improved washroom facilities and overall improved accessibility. We are excited about the enhancements and can't wait to share them with you! We will continue to offer high quality, curriculum-based programming for you and your students.

Program offerings for 2011-2012

Please see the enclosed brochure, 'School Programs 2011-2012', for our full listing of Museum Programs. Our most popular program continues to be our full day program option. This program consists of 3 components to give your students a varied program that complements your curriculum needs. In addition to learning about the experiences of local early settlers, one of the main benefits of taking part in a School Program with the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum is that we offer programs to only one school per day. This means that on the day you visit, your class (or group of classes) will be the only school on-site so you have the full attention of our trained staff.

As an additional service to teachers, the Museum offers several **Outreach Programs** that can bring Museum staff and programming right into your classroom. For each one-and-a-half to two-hour visit, staff will bring artifacts, materials, and activities that can supplement your classroom instruction or serve as a prelude to your Museum visit. In 2009 we launched our Outreach Program: Discover First Nations: Archaeology, Culture, and Contact. This program has been created to supplement the Grade 6 Ontario Social Studies Curriculum. We were pleased with the feedback from teachers and students and we look forward to bringing it to you and your students. We also have (recently updated) **Education Kits** on several heritage topics that can be rented for classroom use.

The Museum will also be offering drop-in crafts for children ages 8–12 prior to the holidays on December 3rd and a family drop-in day during Family Day on February 20. For more information parents can visit www.townofws.ca/museum.

We would appreciate your sharing this information with any of your colleagues who may be interested in planning educational excursions – for any grade level. Feel free to make extra copies of these brochures if you wish. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the Museum if you would like additional information.

Sincerely,



Krista Rauchenstein,
Museum Education Programmer
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