

the history education network
THEN|HiER
histoire et éducation en réseau

**The History Education Network:
Research-Informed Practice and Practice-Informed Research**

**Penney Clark, Director
University of British Columbia**

The History Education Network (THEN/HiER) is a pan-Canadian organization with the aim of promoting dialogue and collaboration among the various constituencies involved in history education in order to achieve more research-informed practice (from kindergarten to graduate school) and more practice-informed research. These constituencies include practicing history and social studies teachers, academic historians, history education scholars in faculties of education, public historians in museums and historic sites, archivists, textbook publishers, and provincial curriculum policy-makers.

THEN/HiER has strong connections with OHASSTA, which is a partner organization. Your President, Jan Haskings-Winner has joined our Executive Board as a partner representative. Together with the Critical Thinking Consortium (TC²) THEN/HiER co-published *Exemplars in Historical Thinking: 20th Century Canada*, a collection of nine critical challenges developed by OHASSTA and OHSSCA (Ontario History, Humanities and Social Science Consultants' Association), another partner organization. We have 29 other partners, including most of the social studies, social science, and history teacher organizations in Canada: British Columbia Social Studies Teachers' Association (BCSSTA), Saskatchewan Council of Social Sciences (SCSS), Manitoba Social Sciences Teachers' Association (MSSTA), and Nova Scotia Social Studies Teachers' Association (NSSSTA). We also have

a number of museum partners including the Museum of Anthropology, UBC; Glenbow Museum; McCord Museum of Canadian History; Ojibwe Cultural Foundation; and Multicultural History Society of Ontario; as well as national organizations such as Canada's History Society, Association For Canadian Studies, Parks Canada, Canadian Historical Association, and Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History. Our two international partners are the Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres (France) and the National Centre for History Education (Australia).

Where to Find Us

We have recently launched our bilingual, interactive website at www.thenhier.ca. The design embodies the concept of an interface or meeting place for the



constituencies represented in history education research and practice. The design and function of the site reflect, first and foremost, this fundamentally collaborative process of knowledge exchange.

Use our website to:

- learn about the activities of THEN/HiER members, partner organizations, and graduate students in **About Us**.
- access the latest news about history education, find funding and job opportunities, and read archived THEN/HiER *Newsletters* and *e-Bulletins* in **News and Resources**.
- learn how to conduct your own research project and access a database of journals related to history education; article and chapter abstracts; and book, eport, thesis, and dissertation summaries in **Research**.
- read about best practices in history teaching and assessment and access primary source and literature databases in **Practice**. Of particular interest here is our newly revised Repertory of Primary Source Databases, which is a list of websites organized according to topics/themes common to curricula across provinces.
- click on the map of Canada in **Curriculum and Advocacy** to find curriculum documents for each province.
- view videos and podcasts and read about collaborative projects in **Make Your Voice Heard**. When you sign up as a member, you may also upload your own lesson plans, videos and podcasts, and participate in the online discussion forum and polls.

Events and Opportunities of Interest to Ontario History Teachers

- **Teaching Teachers: The Case of History and Social Studies Education.** This panel session at the joint OHASSTA/ACS Conference will take place on November 5, 10:45 to 12:00. Panel members are Penney Clark, UBC; Jan Haskings Winner, OHASSTA and OISE/UT; Ruth Sandwell, OISE/UT; and Amy von Heyking, University of Lethbridge. Panel members will describe their approaches to teacher education and engage the audience around key issues.

- **Approaching the Past: A Series Connecting People Teaching History.** This quarterly workshop series, organized jointly by THEN/HiER and Active History (www.activehistory.ca), will take place in historical settings around Toronto. The goal of the series is to create and strengthen ties between history educators working in a variety of contexts in the Greater Toronto area. We particularly encourage elementary, middle and high school teachers to take part. The next event in the series will take place on September 30 at Montgomery's Inn in Etobicoke. Mark it on your calendars.
- **Small Projects Grant Program.** We offer up to ten \$2500 grants each year to individuals or organizations who submit a plan for a project involving history education in schools or other settings. We encourage collaborative projects involving two or more constituencies involved in history education. A recent project which we funded was the **Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair 2010 Student Workshops**. This involved two workshops for student on storytelling and on honing historical inquiry skills. We also provided the **National Nikkei Museum and Heritage Centre Journeys Outreach Kits Program** with funding to revitalize these kits, which are collections of artefacts related to Japanese internment and redress, and make them available to schools. On our website, under "Practice" you can read about completed projects which may have possibilities for Ontario teachers of history.

For further information about THEN/HiER consult our website or contact:

Penney Clark, Director, at penny.clark@ubc.ca
Anne Marie Goodfellow, Manager, at
annemarie.goodfellow@ubc.ca

*THEN/HiER gratefully acknowledges funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), which is allowing this work to proceed.