

FINAL REPORT

Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair 2010: Student Workshops

In December 2009, THEN/HiER funds were secured to support the inclusion of student workshops at the 8th annual Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair that would engage students in developing their skills of historical inquiry. As part of the Heritage Fairs program, a bilingual educational initiative to encourage students to explore Canadian history and heritage in a hands-on learning environment, our Fair selected 60 projects from students across Richmond and Delta to showcase at the Richmond Cultural Centre from Friday, April 30th to Sunday, May 2nd. As with previous years, students presented their research to our panel of adjudicators and through the support of the local school boards and community groups, they also participate in history-related field trips and activities.



the workshop with a skill that could be applied to any research they do in the future.

For our 2010 Heritage Fair, our goal was to take history education to the next level and I am pleased to announce that we did just that. Through the THEN/HiER Small Projects Grant, we invited Max Tell (Robert Stelmach) to present a storytelling workshop. He demonstrated how he collected historical data to create his song "Old Curly", then led our students from Grades 4 to 9 through the process of transforming their own research into compelling stories. Students left



prepared to discuss historical significance and use of evidence with our adjudicators. This was a meaningful addition to our Fair that we wish to continue in the future.

For our intermediate and secondary students, we invited Tom Morton, a retired public school teacher and current instructor at UBC, to present a workshop on the Benchmarks of Historical Thinking. With his extensive background in the Benchmarks program, we were excited to have him speak directly to our students and encourage them to hone their skills of historical inquiry. The Benchmarks have long been the focus of the assessment rubric we used to evaluate Heritage Fair projects and students come to the Fair



For our primary students, the Tickle Trunk Players worked with the Educational Programs Coordinator at the Richmond Museum to develop a locally based interactive performance to highlight the cultural diversity of Richmond and Delta's history. The Richmond Arts Centre's Art Truck also provided two workshops to highlight Richmond's agricultural and equestrian heritage. The purpose of these workshops were to provide younger students with the opportunity to witness how historical research

could be presented as engaging stories and encourage them to explore local history in unique ways.

The positive feedback we received from all those who participated in these workshops encourages us to continue moving our Fair in this direction and we thank THEN/HiER for providing us with the financial support that allowed us to enhance history education at this event. One Grade 9 student suggested that we offer more workshops at next year's Fair because it provided her with important skills that she could apply both inside and out of the classroom. Our mission for 2011 is to continue to seek organizations or individuals who would be interested in offering student workshops at Heritage Fair.

On behalf of the Heritage Fair Organizing Committee, the Richmond Museum & Heritage Services, and the Delta Museum & Archives, I would like to sincerely thank THEN/HiER for supporting the Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair. Please forward any questions or comments to Emily So, Educational Programs Coordinator, Richmond Museum & Heritage Services, 604-247-8334 or museumed@richmond.ca.

Be Part of History



Original Image, City of Richmond Archives, Photograph 1978 15 18

Eighth Annual Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair

Saturday, May 1st & Sunday, May 2nd (10am-4pm)

What?

Come celebrate Canadian history and heritage with local Richmond and Delta students!

On Saturday and Sunday - Visit Minoru Place and the Performing Hall of the Richmond Cultural Centre to see history and heritage come alive with student project displays on their favourite Canadian heroes, legends, milestones and achievements.

On Saturday ONLY - Take part in family-friendly activities and multicultural performances and attend the Closing Awards Ceremony at 2:30pm in the Performing Hall.

Where?

Richmond Cultural Centre, 7700 Minoru Gate

Why?

Cost is **FREE!** Make this one of your many stops as part of Doors Open Richmond 2010
www.richmond.ca/doorsopen

For more information, phone 604-247-8334 or e-mail museumed@richmond.ca

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