

ESL News November 7, 2016

Remembrance Day, November 11th

Friday, November 11th is Remembrance Day. On this day, Canadians honour soldiers who died in wars. People wear red poppies to remember these soldiers. They also go to parades and ceremonies at cenotaphs or war memorials.

In Vancouver the largest Remembrance Day Ceremony is at Victory Square. It is at 200 West Hastings Street and Cambie Street, across from VCC Downtown. There is a parade before the ceremony. The parade starts at 9:45 am. The ceremony starts at 10:30 am. At 11:00 a.m. there are 2 minutes of silence.

There are also ceremonies in Burnaby, North Vancouver, Surrey, Coquitlam, New West Minster, Richmond, West Vancouver and at other war memorials around Vancouver.

It is a holiday in B.C. Government offices, schools and banks are closed.

Canada to Let in 300,000 Immigrants in 2017

Canada needs immigrants because many Canadians are getting older and retiring and young Canadians are not having many children. The Canadian government will let in 300,000 immigrants in 2017. Business people think this is not enough and it should be 450,000. Canada needs immigrant workers to help the economy grow.

Canada will let in 172,500 skilled workers, caregivers and business people. It will let in 84,000 family members. 40,000 refugees will come to Canada. This will be less than in 2016 when 55,800 refugees came to Canada. Many Syrian refugees came to Canada in 2016.

Diesel Spill in Bella Bella

The tugboat the Nathan E. Stewart crashed into rocks and sunk in the sea near Bella Bella in B.C. on October 13. It was carrying 220,000 litres of diesel fuel. 105,000 litres of this diesel fuel leaked from the tugboat. The fuel polluted the ocean. Some sea animals died and some are sick. A humpback whale, seals, crabs and a sea otter died. Animals are still getting sick from the fuel spill. The Heiltsuk First Nations Community needs shellfish to eat and sell. They cannot eat the shellfish now. They are angry the government and the tugboat company did not clean up the fuel spill fast enough.

Christmas Craft Fair Season

The Christmas craft fair season has started. The Circle Craft Christmas Market is this week, November 9-13th at The Vancouver Convention Centre West, 1055 Canada Place. It is Wednesday to Friday 10 am – 9 pm, Saturday 10 am- 7pm and Sunday 10am -5pm. Over 300 artists and craftspeople will be selling clothes, toys, purses, Christmas decorations, candles, handmade soap, jewelry, pottery, food, woodwork and artwork.

There are many craft fairs before Christmas at churches, community centres, halls, and schools. Some craft fairs are free to go into, but usually you pay an entrance fee or give a donation. The Britannia Christmas Craft Fair is November 18th and 19th, Friday 3:00-8:00 pm and 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday at Britannia Secondary School. Dunbar Community Centre has a Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, November 26th from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Record Breaking Number of Rainy Days in October

The weather in October was very rainy. It rained 28 days out of 31 days in October in Vancouver. It is a new record. The old record was 26 days.