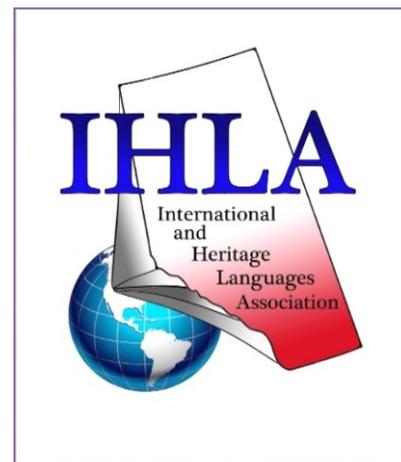


The IHLA Newsletter

Edited by Trudie Aberdeen

www.ihla.ca

Winner of the 2016 UNESCO Linguapax Award!



Dear Esteemed Member Schools and Friends of IHLA,

Happy Fall Season and New School Year! On behalf of the IHLA Board, I hope your respective fall season at your schools has been a good and enjoyable one. Along these lines, please welcome IHLA's new Board Members and returning Board Members:

Renata Krawczyk—Vice President
Krystyna Dembowski—Treasurer
Natalia Malinova—Secretary
Nedim Istemil—Board Member
Francis Wambugu—Board Member
Sona Grigoryan—Board Member
Josephine Pallard—Board Member
Jaspal Bansal—Board Member

At our First Principal's Meeting, Coordinator Trudie Aberdeen updated us on summer happenings, most importantly, the Modurnal Conference at which she presented two talks addressing the work IHLA does and has done on a provincial, national and international level.

This year we welcome new schools to IHLA and the start of the Slovak Heritage Language School's first year!

With the efforts of Coordinator Trudie Aberdeen, we look forward to continuing the good work that IHLA does via new, engaging and informative workshops for Teachers and Administrators, developing new opportunities for schools, including the IHLA *Mentorship Program* given its previous success, our *Mother Language Day Festivities* which will be celebrating its 15th Year, and *Principal Meetings* so that there is more communication and exchange of ideas between schools and the IHLA Board.

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A VERY, VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to YOU!

IHLA had a very successful fundraising event with our latest casino. We are truly appreciative of all that our volunteers do to help us.

My hope is that we continue to strengthen our relationships amongst our HL Schools and our government liaisons, recognizing the importance and necessity of supporting Heritage Languages Education in Alberta. As we move forward, I look forward to working with everyone on the IHLA Board and all Member Schools to increase our profile and to encourage more active participation on behalf of all our Heritage Language Schools and Programs.

As a means of keeping abreast of happenings at all our IHLA Schools, I sincerely encourage everyone to send in notices about events/happenings, or projects your schools are doing so that we may include them on our new website (www.ihla.ca), Facebook and within our quarterly newsletter.

Sincerely,

Antonella Cortese, President

The IHLA Casino

By Trudie Aberdeen

Organizing an event like the October 30-31 IHLA casino is no small feat, but it is crucial to the success of IHLA programs.

Approximately half of our funding comes from the AGLC. This funding allows us to provide important services such as the creation of this newsletter, advertise our program, pay for the rent of the IHLA office, pay for the hall for MLD, attend conferences, and so much more. The money we receive is the result of a lot of hard work

Information Sessions: Thanks to Antonella Cortese and Krystyna Dembowski for learning about the AGLC rules

Paperwork: Thanks to Antonella Cortese, Renata Krawczyk, and Krystyna Dembowski

Scheduling: Thanks to Trudie Aberdeen who created the schedule, ensured all the spots were filled in, emailed schools to make sure they had the opportunity to participate, called to remind everyone, and then filled in when necessary

Accounting: Thanks to Krystyna Demowski, IHLA's tireless treasurer, who makes sure that our finances and auditing meet AGLC standards.

Shifts: Thanks to IHLA's wonderful volunteers and supporters! IHLA needed 38 volunteer shifts to be filled to make the event possible.



Thank-you to IHLA's wonderful volunteers at the casino on October 30-31, 2017!

Comitato Pomotore della Lingua Italiana

Truong Lac Hong School

The Edmonton Korean Language School

Henryk Sienkiewicz Polish School

The Hindi Parishad School

St. George's Hellenic School

Gujarati School of Edmonton

Edmonton Iranian School

Gabriela Mistral

Armenian School of Edmonton

Russian Educational Centre

Gil Vicente Portuguese Language School

Gurukul Nepal of Edmonton

Ramgharhia Kalsa School

Kiswahili Learning Centre

Jan Pawel II Polish Bilingual Program

Maria Chrzanowska Polish School

Slovak Heritage School in Edmonton

Gujarati School of Edmonton

It's nice to be recognized!



ALBERTA
EDUCATION

Office of the Minister

SEP 18 2017

AR98982

Ms. Antonella Cortese
President
International and Heritage Language Association
12615 Stony Plain Road
Edmonton AB T5N 3N8

Dear Ms. Cortese:

I am pleased to inform you that the International and Heritage Language Association (IHLA) conditional grant funding for the 2017/18 school year has been approved for your requested amount of \$70,100.

Community-based heritage language schools in Alberta play a critical role in helping youth maintain their heritage, strengthen their cultural identity and build their language and literacy skills to prepare them for future careers and achieve fulfilment and success. Our government recognizes the benefits of proficiency in more than one language and the need for intercultural understanding and competency in our increasingly diverse society. Alberta Education is pleased to support the province's rich linguistic and cultural diversity that allows students to learn other languages or enhance fluency in their first language.

I wish you every success in continuing to offer language development, and I look forward to learning more about the positive outcomes created for students as a result of this opportunity.

Sincerely,

David Eggen
Minister

What's new at IHLA?

The MLD Book Contest

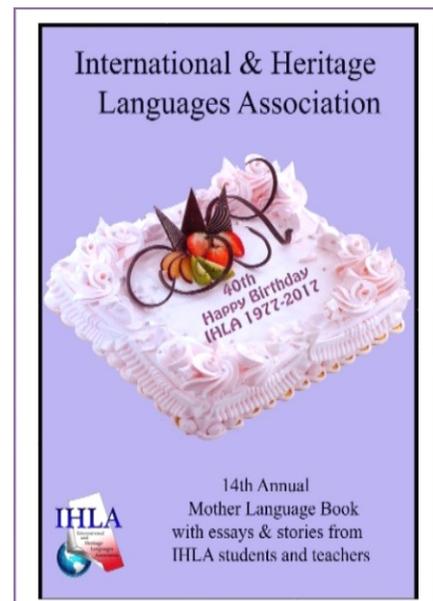
This year marks IHLA's 15th Annual MLD celebration! In order to mark this achievement, IHLA is hosting a special contest!

IHLA is asking students to design a cover for our annual MLD book. There are 4 categories: early childhood to Grade 2, Grades 3-6, Grades 7-9, and Grades 10 to adult. IHLA will select a lucky winner from each category to appear on the front and back, outside and inside covers. The winners will be selected based on three criteria: adherence to this year's MLD theme, originality, and personal expression. Schools will collect all of the entries and select one winner from each category. They will then email the winning entries from each category to edmontonihla2@gmail.com. Members of the IHLA Board will select one entry from each category from among those entries submitted. Winners will be announced at this year's MLD celebration on February 24, 2018.

The theme for the 2018 MLD Day and the 2018 MLD book is **Two Cultures Together**. This theme can be interpreted in many different ways. You can compare differences between your heritage community and Canada, You can share about how someone from your country made a difference in Canada or how a Canadian made a difference in your family's former country. It can be about your family's journey to Canada. You can share about the interconnectedness of our world. Really, your imagination is the limit!

The Mentorship Program

Right now IHLA is recruiting both mentor and mentee schools for the mentorship program. Selected schools will be matched to develop a project which leads to school improvement. Participants will receive a financial contribution to their schools. This wonderful project is sponsored through funding from Alberta Education.



About the contest...

4 categories

Early childhood to Grade 2
Grades 3-6,
Grades 7-9,
Grades 10 to adult

Submit your entry to IHLA by

December 15th

The winners will be announced at

MLD 2018!

Important Announcement

Apply online on the IHLA website for the Mentorship program.

The deadline to apply is **December 15, 2017!**

Digital Storytelling

November 19th and 30th at 6-9PM

Nebula Academy (12023-81 Street/ T5B 2S9)

During these workshops you will:

- Learn the benefits and practicalities of doing snapshot stories with your students
- Experience a story circle (great for listening and speaking)
- Get tips on how to conduct a story circle and record student stories
- Learn how to turn student stories into digital stories
- Explore the issues and ethics of using personal stories in the classroom
- Take away handouts on the processes we explore

Instructions:

Bring a photo, an object, or a piece of your own writing (maximum one page) connected your experience of the theme of the day. As part of the workshop, we will conduct a story circle in which you will be given two or three minutes to share your story idea and receive feedback from the group. It would be helpful, therefore, if you give some thought to the story you might like to tell beforehand.

Story Themes:

Tuesday, November 21st theme: A moment that changed my life for the better

Thursday, November 30th theme: My story of coming to and/or adapting to life in Canada

No other preparation is required for these sessions, just bring yourselves, a willingness to share your story, and something to jot down your thoughts and ideas. Handouts will be provided.

If you have any questions regarding preparation, feel free to contact us prior to the workshops. We look forward to seeing you there!

Karen Matthews and Judy Sillito

info@weaseltale.com

587 988-7493

About our facilitators:



Karen Matthews and Judy Sillito are founders of Weasel Tale (weaseltale.com), an Edmonton-based company that consults and offers workshops on digital storytelling. Both have taught ESL for many years, and trained in digital storytelling facilitation with Storycenter in Berkeley, California. Judy is past president of TESL Canada.

What is going on at IHLA Schools?

Nebula Academy Home Visits

By Fatih Sahin



Nebula Academy has established a successful teacher-home visit program. There are many goals for these visits including:

- bridging cultural barriers,
- reporting on academic progress,
- getting to know the student closer,
- enlisting parental support to increase academic achievement,
- and giving parents the tools to do so.

As Nebula Academy Faculty, we believe that Teachers always benefit from learning more about their students' interests and experiences and about parents' goals for their children.

There are limits to what teachers can perceive about each student in the classroom; by visiting the student's homes the teacher is able to gain an idea of the kind of home and community they grew up in and acquire new insights into the student's personality. By understanding family values the teacher gains priceless insight into what makes her students tick. As Nebula Academy, we think of education as a three-legged stool: student, parent and teacher. With all these legs intact, the student has a solid foundation, however if one of these "legs" is missing then the process is more challenging. Teachers, administrators, and parents must all be part of the foundation of student success and be willing to support the student in their academic career.



Coming Soon

Digital Storytelling Workshop

November 19th "Life Changing Moments"

November 30th "Coming to Canada"

IHLA Book Cover Contest

December 15th

IHLA Mentorship Program

December 15th

Due date for submissions to the next IHLA Newsletter

February 28th

Mother Language Day 2018

February 24th

We are the sum of our differences, and so we celebrate them.

Kathy Milanoski

A New School Year and Newsletters at The Edmonton Korean Language School

By Steve Kim



south side of Edmonton at 810 Saddleback Road.

With pleasing weather, the opening ceremony took place outside of the school where over 100 families and students gathered together to celebrate the new school year.



In previous years, the EKLS has worked hard to balance on both language portion as well as non-language portion such as history, art, music and wide range of cultural backgrounds. In addition to the existing curriculum, the EKLS has initiated special curriculum per Korean national holidays as well as worldwide holidays that both Canada and Korea shares.



The most certain test by which we judge whether a country is really free is the amount of security enjoyed by minorities.

Lord Dalberg-Acton

(English historian and theologian)



The most recent activity was the week before the Halloween. All classes planned to introduce Canadian Halloween as well as the Korean monster in myth called 'Do-Kae-Bee'. Activities in classes varied as per skill levels and ages. Some classes did colouring and painting masks of Do-Kae-Bee and other classes had students to make their own masks.



Also, the EKLS has initiated weekly newsletter from each classes to the parents. In the past, the school issued newsletters per semester or term, having time gaps in between publication. But this year, the formality of the newsletter has been set less formal but learning activity content focused. So that Instead of having large amount of papers being printed, the newsletters are paperless and sent to only registered parents of the EKLS. Feedback from the parents has been very encouraging and welcoming.



Coming Together and Collaborating: St. Georges Hellenic School and Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana – Italian School –
Maria Lekkos-Carrozza and Antonella Cortese



Coming Together and Collaborating: St. Georges Hellenic School and Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana – Italian School –
Maria Lekkos-Carrozza and Antonella Cortese

What a great morning and way to end the week with Signore Liza and Anna-Nikol on Friday, October 6th!! The CPLI Italian School and St. George's Hellenic School enjoyed a morning together of meeting and learning as these two IHLA Member Schools collaborated on resource sharing and classroom routines for our youngest heritage language learners. Both challenges to all of us teaching younger students, it was a great morning of conversation, observation and sharing ideas, resources and learning for all. We all look forward to continuing this collaboration and hope other IHLA Member Schools will come together to share and visit each other's respective schools to enjoy and learn from each other.



Signore Liza and Anna-Nikol taught us how to say "my name is" in Greek and CPLI students taught them to say it in Italian. Students also taught Signore Liza and Anna-Nikol how to make "tacchini" table decorations for Thanksgiving and songs being learned for the month. In the photo to the left, Marco is teaching Signora Anna-Nikol how to make a "tacchino" as a "centrotavola" and the "colori" he is using.

TO BE
COMPLEX DOES
NOT MEAN TO
BE
FRAGMENTED.
THIS IS THE
PARADOX AND
THE GENIUS OF
OUR
CANADIAN
CIVILIZATION.

Adrienne
Clarkson

We thank you, too, DKK!



Die Kleine Kinderschule
10304-81 St
Edmonton, AB
T6A 3X4
www.dkkplayschool.org

September 25, 2017

International & Heritage Languages Association
Dr. Antonella Cortese, President
12615 Stony Plain Road
Edmonton, AB
T5N 1V5

Re: Financial support for Die Kleine Kinderschule/Kindergarten Society

Dear Dr. Cortese:

On behalf of the board of directors, staff, families and friends of Die Kleine Kinderschule, I want to thank IHLA for the thoughtful donation of \$1,200.

This donation reaches our German-English preschool in a crucial moment. As you may be aware, over 70 three and four-year old children attend DKK out of three Edmonton locations. This is a crucial moment because we just relocated our South program by moving out of Rideau Park Elementary school into the German Canadian Cultural Association.

IHLA's donation helped DKK's advertising initiatives to not only maintain our presence in the Forest Heights and Rio Terrace community, but also, to bring the community to our new program at the German Canadian Cultural Association. For example, we were able to contract a road sign that was displayed for 6 weeks on 2 different strategic locations to draw attention to our program. We were also able to produce a roll-up banner that was used at the German pavilion during Heritage days. Attached are a few pictures of the products.

Thank you again for your generous gift.

Sincerely,

Ana Ulmer-Franco,
President
Die Kleine Kinderschule
www.dkkplayschool.org

As a special thanks, we included IHLA under "Friends of DKK" and publicly acknowledged your support on our website and annual report.



Die Kleine Kinderschule

German Bilingual Playschool



Very big news from a former IHLA student... By Krystyna Dembowski

Some of you may remember the very talented Kathy Milanoski who was a former student at Henryk Sienkiewicz Polish School. She had great experiences in her 12 years attending the school. She was once awarded with the great honour of being our emcee at Mother Language Day in 2014! She still puts those Polish skills to good use today. She now teaches Polish to 4 year old students every Saturday.

Kathy was selected as the winning entry for Historica Canada's contest of "What does Canada mean to you?" She created a winning stop-motion video and took home a \$10,000 prize! As she states in her video, "We are the sum of our differences, and so we celebrate them." Great work and congratulations, Kathy!

Here is the link to the video:

<http://www.heresmycanada.ca/videos/heres-my-canada-our-canadian-people/>

Links to news articles and clips:

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/canada-video-contest-winner-edmonton-student-1.4369712>

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/edmonton-student-wins-top-prize-in-my-canada-video-contest-1.3649277>

<http://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/edmonton-university-student-wins-10000-in-historica-canada-contest-to-celebrate-canadas-150th-birthday>

<https://www.folio.ca/arts-student-beats-out-10000-to-win-10000-in-national-video-contest/>

The way we were... about funding schools

By Trudie Aberdeen

Anyone who is involved in heritage language schools knows that our work can often seem thankless and underappreciated. The IHLA executive and the IHLA membership are aware of the struggles that individual schools face, and as such, work to make lives easier. One of our missions is to help support individual schools in their work. Essentially we know that it is much harder for you to do it alone. This is why we work communally—there is strength in numbers.

Our board seeks out funding which we in turn share with you through projects such as the Mentorship program, celebrations such as MLD, teacher training through workshops, and/or making financial contributions when possible. Currently IHLA has 4 sources of funding to help us meet our goals: 1) membership fees, 2) grants from the Alberta Association of Multicultural Education (AAME), 3) grants from Alberta Education (AE), and 4) funding from the Alberta Liquor and Gaming Commission (AGLC). Today, the money that we have to share with you is thanks to the hard work and dedication of the IHLA board who write grant applications and final reports, plan the events, and manage the finances as well as the tireless volunteers who consistently show up and lend a much needed hand be it for volunteering for the casino, sitting for a position on the board, welcoming guests at Mother Language Day, or so many of the other IHLA volunteer positions.

1986/87 LANGUAGE SUPPORT PROGRAM
CULTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION

NORTHERN ALBERTA

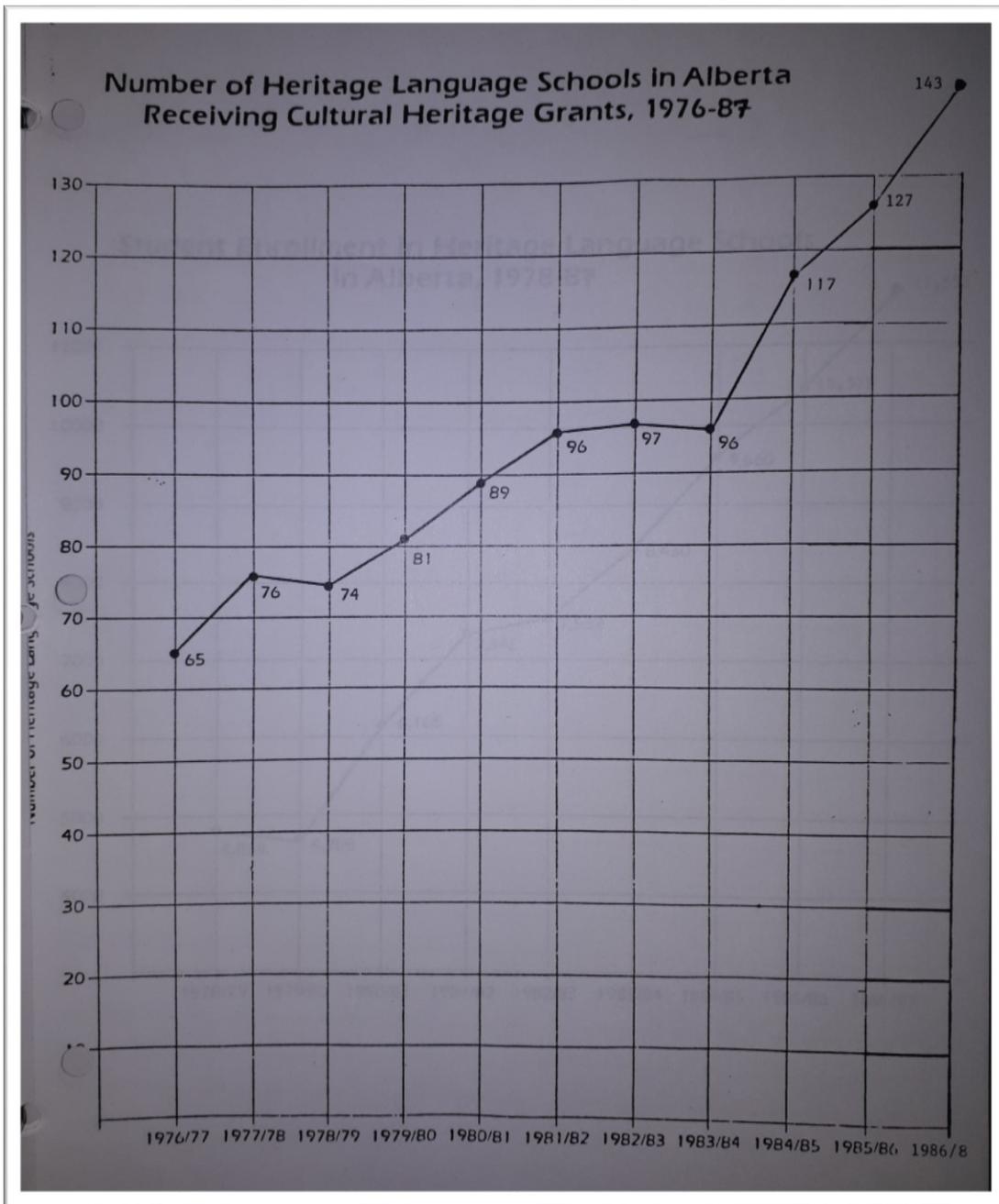
LOCATION	SCHOOLS	STUDENTS	TEACHERS	LANGUAGES
EDMONTON AND DISTRICT	71	5,399	586	28
PEACE RIVER	1	43	4	1
FORT McMURRAY AND DISTRICT	5	173	23	6
LAKE LAND	3	87	6	1
SUBTOTAL	80	5,702	619	28

SOUTHERN ALBERTA

CALGARY AND DISTRICT	49	5,484	382	34
SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA	8	213	31	6
SOUTHEASTERN ALBERTA	2	80	3	2
CENTRAL ALBERTA	4	73	4	4
SUBTOTAL	63	5,850	420	37
ALBERTA TOTAL	143	11,552	1,039	42

In the past, funding was provided through grants offered by the provincial and federal government. One such source of funding is shown in the picture on the left- Cultural Heritage. For schools to receive funding, they had to register and share their programs with us. Unfortunately this secure and stable funding to schools is gone. When this program ended, many schools unfortunately had to close or merge. Attached are some of

charts found at the Alberta Archives which highlight some of the numbers of schools that IHLA once had.



As of 1987, there were 143 known language schools in the province of Alberta. Although the reason for the creation of this graph is unclear, it demonstrates that schools, staff, and students flourish when there is adequate and sustainable funding.

From our friends in Modurmal, Iceland!

Six years of Czech for children in Iceland By Renata Emilsson Pescová

Iceland has over 300,000 inhabitants and about 10% are of foreign origin. The first or second generation of immigrants come mostly from central Europe and East Asia, but also from other Nordic countries, the Middle East, Africa, and the rest of the world. Altogether, about 100 languages are spoken in Iceland. Parents of bilingual children have always wanted to preserve their heritage languages for their children and they decided, twenty-three years ago, to establish heritage language groups to teach children their mother tongues. All five founding groups, Japanese, Russian, English, Lithuanian and Thai, are still active, and more than other twenty language groups joined them over the course of the time.



The society Czech in Iceland will celebrate six years since its establishment in the library of the elementary school Hlidaskoli, Reykjavik. Eight of the nine founding members still live in Iceland and are active in organizing and teaching Czech to our bilingual children. The member platform has grown to more than thirty names and the Facebook group counts over one hundred members. Children in the

oldest group have attended Czech classes on Saturdays for six years. Mothers from as far as the south of Iceland, Hveragerdi and Hvolsvollur, have driven to the Czech classes. In six years, children have learnt to speak, read, and write, and they have experienced many worthwhile moments. We have regular events, such as a St. Nicholas party, a Christmas class, a fairy-tale evening, a creative Easter class, and a reading competition. Apart from that, children have searched for treasures, created videos for children in an elementary school in the Czech Republic; they took part in the literary competition the Czech John. They created trash cans from recycled materials and took part in an ecological excursion with children from other heritage language schools in Móðurmál – the Association on Bilingualism. Our children also took part in a project of Czech Schools Without Borders “the Flying Lisa” and “Kasperle Pimprle”. Czech in Iceland has organized book collections and owns a large library with over 1000 titles for children and youth.





At this moment, the Czech society is serving multiple added purposes. It is a helping net for individuals and families, and sometimes tourists. It provides people with opportunities to get to know each other and assist each other. It is an informal partner of the Czech embassy in Norway who could otherwise hardly reach out to the island in the North Pacific. Artists and pedagogues interested in visits contact the Czech society and partner with it for a short or longer time, to give of themselves and benefit children here and there. Last but not least, the Czech society represents the Czech Republic here in Iceland at various multicultural events, and so next to Skoda, Czech Crystal, black rubber shoes with a white stripe, Good Soldier Sveik, the Mole, the Bee Maja, and the clumsy Pat and Mat characters, the Czech language and culture remain present and visible in Iceland for the years to come.

The Czech society, abbreviated ČENI in Czech, or TĚKÍS in Icelandic, is partially supported by grants from the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and through Móðurmál by the City of Reykjavík. Parents pay minor fees for schooling and member of the society pay a symbolic fee to get access to the library and events. Teaching is done on a volunteer basis and parents and other members contribute their work, when needed.

For the future we wish to continue with our work and to grow. However, older children need more time for school study and interests and they tend to drop out, and so we also need to find more ways to reach out to them and engage them. We would like to offer lower and upper secondary school students a program that would be recognized in credits, and generally we are eager to learn from colleagues and conferences how to do things. All of this is a lot of work for the few individuals who stand at the centre of the society, and we are very thankful to them for their engagement, time and energy. Without our volunteers, none of these wonderful things would be made possible.

