



# Chalk Talk

Greetings

Feature

News

Visit Ottawa!

**PLEASE SHARE CHALK TALK WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES!!!****Letter from the Editor**

Dear Educators,

"I have spent much of my career in the university world. As an educator and administrator, I have been privileged to spend much of my life around students, and I've often felt that I have learned from them. In my new role, I hope to work to serve as a bridge to the next generation." — His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston

History took place on Parliament Hill last Friday with the installation of Canada's 28th Governor General. Beyond the pomp and circumstance of the ceremony, it is important to understand the role that the Governor General plays in our Parliamentary system. It is more than tradition — it is one of the defining features of how Canada governs itself.

This was never made more clear than in the Fall of 2008, during the height of the economic crisis, when our Prime Minister requested from the Governor General that Parliament be 'prorogued'. For most of us, the role of Governor General is in large part a ceremonial one. At times we are aware that it is also one of process, as in the dissolution of Parliament which signals the call for a national election.



What happens in Ottawa on Parliament Hill is important. As citizens, understanding how our government works and participating in the democratic process is essential.

It is notable that our new Governor General, himself an educator at the university level, emphasized the

importance of education in his installation speech. This week's *Chalk Talk* features resources to help educators plan a school trip to our nation's capital where learning about our history is fun. CoEd Communications is dedicated to supporting the important work of teachers by providing information about free classroom resources and programs. We invite you to visit our website at [www.4edu.ca](http://www.4edu.ca) to view the many resources on offer.

[Let us know your thoughts.](#)

Mary Kovack

**Let Canada's Capital Be Your Classroom**

## Canada's Capital Region: Where Canada comes together!

The **National Capital Commission (NCC)** is a Crown corporation mandated to create a capital region that represents all Canadians. The NCC is also strongly committed to supporting young Canadians in discovering the incredible treasures, sights and institutions of their national capital through an outstanding array of activities and resources.



## Your class trip to Canada's Capital: Exciting, educational and easy to plan!

The NCC has partnered with many national institutions in the Capital to offer a **FREE** itinerary planning service for educators. In addition, the NCC has produced *Get Ready for the Capital*, a downloadable pre-visit kit designed to excite your students about their upcoming visit to Canada's Capital Region.

To access this resource, visit us at [Get Ready for the Capital](#)

Or call to make a booking at  
**1-800-461-8020**



National Capital Commission (NCC) — [canadascapital.gc.ca/education](http://canadascapital.gc.ca/education)



## New FREE program: Click! Photo Treasure Hunt

[Target age groups: Grades 7 and 8 (Secondary 1 and 2 in Quebec)]

Let your students picture themselves in the Capital! “Click!” is a fun, engaging program, co-developed by youth, which involves an activity that they already love doing: taking photos and sightseeing. It’s an exciting way for your students to experience the Capital, while learning about its social, historical and artistic treasures.

For more information visit us at [Click! Photo Treasure Hunt](#)

## Let your students be heard

The “[Raise Your Voices!](#)” [Banner Contest](#) is a national art contest and public art installation that is open to students across the country from Grades 5 to 8. Now in its second year, the contest encourages youth to bring their unique ideas to the nation’s capital through the creation of colourful banners.

We invite students to submit their banner designs to the National Capital Commission by **February 18, 2011**. The seven winning submissions will be professionally produced and will become part of a public art display in Major’s Hill park in Ottawa from May to October 2011.

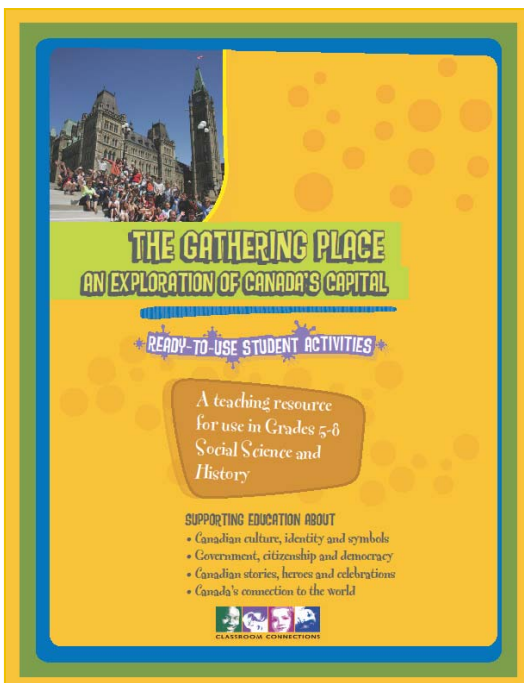


## A Great Way to Teach History

**The Gathering Place: An Exploration of Canada’s Capital** is a teaching resource that is recommended by Curriculum Services Canada for social sciences, history, language arts and visual arts curricula for use in Grades 5 to 8 (Elementary 5 through Secondary 2 in Quebec). Ready-to-use student activities are included that encourage critical thinking, problem solving, communications and social skills; step-by-step lesson plans exploring Canadian values and history reflected in the sites and symbols in the Capital.

Developed by Classroom Connections in collaboration with the NCC, this unique resource was written by experts in content and pedagogy, and pilot tested with youth across Canada. **The Gathering Place** has received great reviews from teachers.

To access these resources, visit us at [The Gathering Place: An Exploration of Canada’s Capital](#)





## The Source for Free Teaching Resources 5th Anniversary Edition — Now Available!



La  
The **Source**

The September 2010 print edition of The Source has been distributed. The Source is an annual printed reference guide that is chock full of information about FREE curriculum based, educational resources and programs sponsored and produced by some of Canada's finest organizations for use in the classroom

A **limited** number of extra copies are available to those educators of grades K to 12 who still wish to receive their own personal copy. Please send an email with your name, school, grade level, phone number, and mailing address to [info@coedcomm.com](mailto:info@coedcomm.com).

For educators who prefer a downloadable version, please go to [www.4edu.ca](http://www.4edu.ca) and click on **The Source**.

The Source  
for Free Teaching  
Resources

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### News — Canada's 28th Governor General, David Johnston



## The Governor General of Canada

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston

The Governor General

Role and Responsibilities

It's an Honour

Heraldry Today

The Residences

Media



[New GG brings sense of humour to office, vows to make education and family key priorities](#) — Tobi Cohen, Postmedia News, [Calgary Herald], October 1, 2010

To read more about David Johnston, Canada's 28th Governor General, who was sworn in on October 1, 2010, [click here](#).

To find out more about the history, role and responsibilities of the Governor General of Canada, visit the Government of Canada's [website](#) (splash page, above).

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We are the Company for Education Communications. We specialize in developing, producing and evaluating school resources and award programs. Working in conjunction with Departments/Ministries of Education, school district/boards, associations, teachers and subject specialists across the country; we provide free, curriculum-based educational resources to Canadian classrooms.

The opinions, conclusions and other information expressed in the preceding content do not necessarily reflect the views of and are not endorsed by CoEd Communications.

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