



The RISE Review

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RISE Project Update

The RISE Project is now happy to announce that Phase 2 is underway! We have installed video conference units at 18 of the Phase 2 libraries with the remaining to be installed by mid-September 2009. At the end of Phase 2, video conference units will be up and running in 80 libraries throughout Southern Alberta.

The installations have been going well so far, thanks to our technicians from MTS Allstream and your cooperation. The equipment is being constructed and hooked up to the RISE network by the Allstream technician; however, your RISE Consultant will also be present at your installation to provide some basic training and to answer any questions about the new equipment.

At each installation, library managers will be given a RISE Handbook full of tip sheets, contact information, basic “how to” information, and other useful documents. These handbooks will be left at each site to ease use of the equipment. All of the Pilot libraries have received these handbooks as well.

The new units have been received with enthusiasm and we’re all excited about the great programs and training opportunities that will now be readily available via video conference!

Remember to check out the RISE wiki as this is where information on programming, project updates and contact information can be found for RISE (<http://wikirise.pbworks.com>).

Upcoming Events

For more information on these events visit <http://wikirise.pbworks.com>

August 6, 2009, 1:30-2:30 P.M.— Award winning children’s author **David A. Poulsen** talks about being an author & reads from one of his books. This session is intended for a family audience. Hosted by Claresholm Municipal Library.

August 25, 2009, 2:00-3:00 P.M.—**Creature Theatre** presented by the Helen Schuler Nature Centre. This session is intended for a family audience. Hosted by Lethbridge Public Library.

RISE Coffee Breaks

The RISE Coffee Break is a weekly, informal training session to help RISE locations develop their skills with the RISE equipment. It’s also a great way to practice and ask questions.

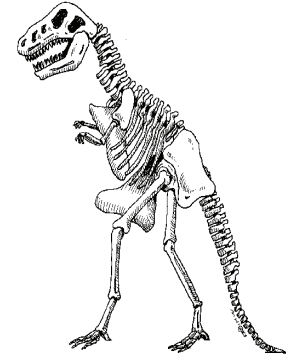
These sessions have been postponed until further notice. We are currently soliciting suggestions/comments regarding the timing of these sessions.

For all sessions contact your consultant to register.

RISE Success Stories – *Highlighting great uses of the RISE Network*

Brooks Public Library used their RISE video conferencing equipment, on Friday July 10th, to take 16 children on a virtual Royal Tyrrell Museum Tour. Children between the ages of 7 to 12 were invited to take part in the *Secrets of the Lost Quarry*. The children got to locate and discover one of the lost quarries in this interactive, multi-media, video conferencing program. They experienced the badlands, learned about fossil discoveries, and interacted with a paleontologist – all from within the Brooks Public Library!

Contact Shannon Vossepoel, the Head Librarian at Brooks, at 403.362.2947 or by email at shannon@shortgrass.ca for more information about this session. To learn more about video conference programs available from the Royal Tyrrell Museum, visit their Distance Learning webpage at www.tyrrellmuseum.com/programs/distance_learning.htm.



Create your own video conference content!!

Your equipment is up and running, you're learning how to place a call and use the directory; how to position the camera and adjust the brightness – are you also wondering what you can use your new equipment for?

The answer: let your imagination run wild!

There is all kinds of content available that is designed specifically for video conferencing (check your RISE Handbook for a list of places to look). While quite a bit of this content is intended for schools, many of the providers are more than willing to adapt their programs for a general audience. Also, remember that your RISE consultant is always available to help you find appropriate content.

However, you don't have to stick to content that someone else has created! You can create programs for video conferencing the same way you would any other library program. Video conference sessions are live and interactive, just like normal programs in your library. So, why not make your next library program available via video conference?

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Public lectures
- ESL training
- Puppet Plays
- "How To" sessions
- Green Living workshops
- Crafts
- Story time
- Book club
- Gardening or Photography workshops
- Health information sessions
- Etc.



For help creating video conference content and/or to talk about program ideas, please contact your RISE Consultant.
