

**ROBERT CAHILL** is a Canadian Arctic specialist. **He offers soapstone carving workshops and three distinct presentations: Climate Change and its impact on the North, Life in Canada's North, Inuit Myths and Legends. He will be visiting schools in your area February 20-24, 2012.** Your school can be part of his tour.

Please share this information on Mr. Cahill with your teacher-librarian, your staff, aboriginal contacts/coordinators, and fellow administrators.

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### **Arctic Topics come to life in BC schools ...**

Robert Cahill is an Arctic specialist. He lives part of each year in Nunavut and spends the rest of his time touring Canada and the U.S. **talking about climate change and its impact on the Arctic, making presentations on life in northern Canada, and offering hands on soapstone carving workshops. For 2012 he will also be offering a new presentation: Inuit Myths and Legends: An oral history of the Inuit.**

Over the last ten years Robert has made thousands of presentations and in the process has spoken to hundreds of thousands of students! **His presentations have always proven popular.** For example, when he was last in Kelowna in 2010 schools requested more than 40 sessions with Robert.

We can say from experience that Robert has a **wonderful manner with students and that his topics tie in well with BC's curriculum.** He is prepared to present to any grade, K-12, and is a master of connecting with each age group so that the presentations are meaningful and relevant. He has found that groups of 2-3 classes work best (50-75 students), but is prepared to present to as many as 100 students at a time. To cover his costs (he pays his own transportation, accommodation, meals and miscellaneous expenses) he likes to make three presentations in an area per day. Presentation descriptions and costs are noted below.

#### **Climate Change**

Mr. Cahill's 50-60 minute multimedia presentation on global warming and its impact on the North provides a clear and unique perspective on this often difficult to explain global phenomenon. It looks at the issue from the perspective of its impact on Canada's Arctic, its people and wildlife. This session illustrates why the Arctic is unique and why it is more sensitive to climate change than other parts of the planet. The presentation is followed by a question and answer session. **The cost for this session is \$300 (HST included).**

#### **Nunavut**

Robert's 50-60 minute multimedia presentation on Nunavut includes dozens of interesting pictures and facts about life in the North: why milk costs \$14 a jug, the joy of eating fish eyes and raw caribou meat, Inuktituk immersion, why all buildings are built on stilts, why the closest tree can be more than a thousand kilometers away, and more. The presentation includes a display of Inuit arts, crafts and clothing (which students are encouraged to touch and handle), and is followed by a question and answer session. **The cost is \$300/session (HST included).**

### **Myths and Legends: An Oral History Canada's Inuit**

When Inuit first settled in the Arctic over 1000 years ago, they dispersed into small groups to take maximum advantage of scarce Arctic resources and to harvest caribou, seal, fish and whale. They also developed various regional and local dialects of Inuktitut, their native language. However, until the late 19th century they had no written language and so Inuit history was passed on from one generation to the next through songs, stories, legends and myths. While perhaps not as accurate as written history, oral history has a unique richness which can not be found in other forms of communication. Robert's 50 minute multimedia presentation will examine how and why Inuit use oral history, and the cultural and practical significance of Inuit storytelling, myths and legends. The presentation will be accompanied by art work and artifacts which will help convey the themes and characters being discussed. **The cost is \$300/session (HST included).**

### **Soapstone Carving**

Over the years Mr. Cahill has learned the techniques of soapstone carving from some of Canada's top Inuit carvers. In the process, he himself has become a very proficient soapstone carver. Interested classes can book soapstone carving sessions with Mr. Cahill. Sessions last 1 1/2-2 1/2 hours (depending on the age of the students). **He provides all the pre-cut soapstone, all the tools** (nothing sharp for students and staff members to cut themselves on); **safety goggles, masks and gloves** (soapstone carving is a dusty process) and will lead the class through the history and process of soapstone carving. **These sessions cost \$500 (HST included) and are limited (for safety and instructional reasons) to approximately 30 students/session.** This session offers a unique opportunity for both students and staff.

### **Professional Development and Community Opportunities**

Robert is able to tailor all of his presentations to adult audiences and is therefore a popular presenter at professional days, at after school or weekend staff development sessions, and at sessions geared to the general community. Educators leave his sessions better prepared to cover these unique and complicated issues with their students. **The costs for professional development sessions are the same as for his student sessions PLUS a traveling allowance.**

For more information on Robert Cahill you can visit our website at [canadianauthorsandpresenters.com](http://canadianauthorsandpresenters.com), or his website at [huskydog.com](http://huskydog.com). To book a session with Robert Cahill please contact:

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