

TILT

WINTER 2010
NEWSLETTER

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

TILT TIPS

The Technology Integration Leadership Team

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<i>and their feeder schools</i>	<i>and their feeder schools</i>	<i>and their feeder schools</i>	<i>and their feeder schools</i>

Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists Technology Award Winner

For the past 13 years, **Rob MacIlreith**, Tech. Ed. teacher at Leslie Thomas Junior High, has been engaging students with real-world, hands-on projects combining curricular and technology outcomes within a service learning program.

As a result of his vision, mentorship, and completed projects, Rob was recently awarded the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists Technology Award. He was one of five teachers recognized nationally in 2009 and the first to be recognized in NS.

Rob's award is based on his work with students in service learning in conjunction with the Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum located at Stanfield International Airport. The projects are part of the permanent displays at the museum and include the International Airport diorama, an exhibit on the basics of flight, airfields of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Maritimes.

Take a look at the great work the students have undertaken. Visit this link to find out more about how Rob integrated technology with student learning - <http://www.ltjh.ednet.ns.ca/servicelearning.htm>



Leslie Thomas Junior High (LTJH) teacher Rob MacIlreith (right) accepts the Canadian Technology Champion (Grade 8 Category) Award from Louis LeBel (left), President of TechNova and the National Director of the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists (CCTT).

You to can create PDF & RTF Files! (Increasing student accessibility from home)

Many teachers are creating web sites containing comprehensive resources for students. These resources are often in the form of MS Word documents or MS PowerPoint. Our web sites are a great place to distribute these documents along with course syllabus, assignment and project outline, review documents and rubrics. By including this content on our web site we are providing access for students, parents, and even other teachers.

However, there is one problem, not everyone has access to the required software to open these documents. You are not likely to see the \$500 Microsoft Office suite included with the latest computer on sale for \$700. So, what are we saying to our students when we upload our resources to the web in MS Office format? If you have the money and if you support Microsoft, then you can have access to these resources. So what is the alternative?

Here are a few ways to make our online content more accessible to all our students.

1. Copy and paste the content from the MS Word document onto a web page. If you don't like how you lose most of your formatting go to the next options.
2. MS Word documents can be saved as Rich Text Format documents (.rtf). While this file format maintains primary formatting it too has some limits. (It is great at reducing file size and accessibility for a wide variety of software titles.)
3. MS Office documents can be converted to Adobe's Portable Document Format (PDF). Depending on how MS Office is setup on your computer this will be done through printing or a PDF Flash converter in the tool bar. The instructions below should help you.

Making the PDF version of the Microsoft document



1. Find the file you want to convert to .pdf and upload to your web site.
2. Open the file in MS Word, PowerPoint, or Excel (depending on the kind of file it is). Edit if necessary. Save.
3. This step depends on how your computer is configured. Some computers are set to do the conversion through a **printing option** while others will have a **shortcut icon in the toolbar**.
 - Select "File - Print". In the dropdown field that lists the printer name choose "Cute PDF writer", "Adobe PDF", or similar PDF writer. Once the printer selection has been changed, clicking "Print" will begin the saving process. If you don't see such an option in the dropdown then try...
 - In the toolbar, find the convert to PDF icon. There are a variety of appearances but it is usually red in colour and sits in the upper left or right toolbar area. It may also be named FlashPaper Convert to PDF.
4. You will be prompted to name and save this new file in the proper folder for later retrieval.

Once you have completed the steps above, you can upload the file(s) and link them on your website as you would with any other file. Remember to test the link to be sure it works!



News from the TILT Office...

TILT would like to welcome two new members to the team. **Alexander (Sandy) MacDougall** is replacing **Glen MacDuff**. Sandy is responsible for all Unit 3 schools (see contact info on page 1) and comes to us from Bedford Junior High where he taught English, Science and PDR. He has many years of technology experience, is on the Junior High Healthy Living lead team, and enjoys home improvement projects, cooking and gardening. **Scott Cameron** is replacing **Susan de la Ronde**. Scott is the Science and Math Department Head at Millwood High School where he taught Physics, Math, and is a Math Coach. Previous to this, Scott worked in Quebec for the ministry of education on provincial related curriculum implementation projects and taught in a middle school in Quebec City. He enjoys all outdoor activities, cooking and roasting his own coffee. Scott will be responsible for all Unit 4 schools.

ZIP Files

Have you ever wanted to send someone several files? Each one needs to be individually uploaded at your end and then downloaded at the receiving end. In many cases this is fine. However, there are times when zipping files and sub folders is the way to go.

One such example is if you wanted to send someone a folder and all its contents. Email will not accept a folder as an attachment. But if you ZIP that folder you can send it as a .zip file.

Recent versions of MS Windows will allow you to right click on a folder and from the menu that appears, select "Send to", "Compressed (zipped) folder". In a similar manner it is possible to create a zipped file by right clicking in a folder and selecting "New", "Compressed (zipped) folder" from the menu. You can then add files and folders to this zipped file by dragging and dropping them in it.

For those of you using Moodle as part of an online classroom extension, you can upload a zipped file into the file area of your course (one upload) and then unzip the file. The time savings provided by uploading and unzipping using this method can be quite significant depending on the number of files you have to upload.



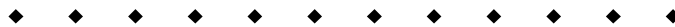
The Integration Spotlight

The grade 9 French Immersion class from **Bedford Junior High** has entered 9 videos in Citizenship and Immigration Canada's annual National Video Competition—"Racism. Stop It!" For the past 4 years, **Tony Bucci** and his DPS students have used technology available in the school and from the Board to complete their entries which meet both DPS (PDR) and ICT outcomes.

Starting in November, students create storyboards for their anti-racism messages, which can only be 45 to 60 seconds in length. Upon completion of filming their ideas, they get to explore either Windows Movie Maker or Pinnacle Studio 9. This step is always their favourite, with editing, adding effects and music, and refining their raw footage. They are also amazed at how long the process takes for such a short piece!

Last year, 2 entries, from BJH, made the Public Choice Award round. We are hopeful that we can have a winning video this year (which gets made into a commercial for television stations all over the country).

For more information on the contest, check out: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/English/multiculturalism/march21/contest.asp>



Canadian Network for Innovation in Education Conference

The Canadian Network for Innovation in Education invites you to join them from May 16—19, 2010 in Saint John, New Brunswick for their 2nd annual international conference, themed *Heritage Matters...Inspiring Tomorrow*.

Visit www.innovationineducation.ca for more information and to register

Interesting and Informative Sites and Links

[Statistics Canada Learning Resources Bulletin 2010](#)

[Natural Resources Canada: Atlas of Canada](#)



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