

Dear STIBC member,

We are very glad to present you the first TRANSLetter of the year 2013. It looks like we have all survived the alleged Mayan predictions of an impending apocalypse. Did you know that the Mayan script hadn't been deciphered until very recently? Other predictions concerning the trends in the translation industry may have more foundation and are of more concern to us. Read about this and other language-related articles in the January edition of the TRANSLetter below.

For even more information, articles, and discussions, you are highly welcome to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Linked-in](#), and [Facebook](#).

Best regards and happy reading,

Susanne, Carl, and Raymond

STIBC: Recent Events

There have been no events since the last newsletter edition. We are looking forward to reconnecting at our January Social on January 25th!

STIBC: Upcoming Events

Jan 19th @ Vancouver Community College (VCC), 250 West Pender Street (room 420)

- 10 am to 12:30 pm: [English Source Texts and Grammar for Translators](#)

Sometimes the writer seems to want to confuse the translator on exactly what they want to say, and this is before it is successfully translated to another language. This session will study different source texts, as well as review points of grammar and punctuation in English.

- 2 pm to 3 pm: [CTTIC Translation Exam – Preparation and Orientation](#)

This session is to review the CTTIC Candidates Guide for the written translation exam, and is offered at no cost for members who have registered for the CTTIC 2012 translation exam.

- 3 pm to 4:30 pm: [CTTIC Workshop – Specific Language Workshops](#)

After the presentation from 2 to 3 pm on CTTIC exam preparation, participants will split into groups according to their language combinations and work with a certified colleague on a sample translation

Jan 25th @ Vancouver Community College (VCC), 250 West Pender Street (JJ's)

- Come out and socialize with your fellow translators and interpreters on Friday, January 25th at JJ's (Vancouver Community College). There will be a full buffet dinner, games and prizes! The event starts at 5:30 pm and the cost is \$33 plus HST.

Jan 26 @ Seattle Children's Hospital, Wright Auditorium – organized by [NOTIS](#)

- Linda Golley, an experienced trainer of nurses and healthcare interpreters and currently the Interpreter Coordinator for the University of Washington Medical Center, will lead this intensive six-hour training in medical terminology, covering terms related to anatomy, physiology, pathology, treatment, providers and acronyms. Handouts will be provided. [Registration Details](#).

Feb 23rd @ Vancouver Community College (VCC), 250 West Pender Street

- If you have registered for the CTTIC exams, then you will be writing your exams on February 23rd. Those in Vancouver will write them at VCC's downtown campus. If you are participating, we wish you the best of luck. Remember to practise your translation and your handwriting skills.

Updates from our Groups and Members

Vancouver Island group – pictures from the last workshop have been posted to the [STIBC Facebook site](#).

Book Club – Our next meeting is at JJ Beans in Yaletown on Feb 7, from 5 pm to 7 pm and we are going to read *Eats, Shoots & Levaes* by Lynne Truss. The book deals with commas, semicolons and how wonderful and necessary these small things are. Using examples from literature, history, neighborhood signage, and her own imagination, the author Lynne Truss shows how meaning is shaped by commas and apostrophes, and the hilarious consequences of punctuation gone awry. You can [join the book club through this link](#).

TRANSletter Team – Susanne, Carl, and Raymond form the TRANSletter team who are responsible for producing this newsletter every month with support from Joann and John from the office. If you are interested in joining the team and want to either contribute to or edit our monthly newsletters, please contact the STIBC office at office@stibc.org. Please note that you

are welcome to send articles of interest to STIBC members to the office at any time for inclusion in the TRANSLetter.

The Scrivener – a quarterly magazine of the [BC Notaries Society](#) published an article authored by Fariborz Khasha, a STIBC certified translator and court interpreter. The article describes the important role of certified translators and certified court interpreters in the Canadian justice system. You can access both the magazine and the article by clicking either of the above links.

Kathryn German, President of [NOTIS](#) as well as STIBC certified translator for Spanish, recently visited a STIBC event held in Vancouver. The next newsletter to be published within the next few days and downloadable from the NOTIS website will contain an article about the STIBC workshop “The Translator and the Internet” as well as other articles of interest for translators and interpreters on both sides of the border. One of her goals as the new president of NOTIS is to strengthen the collaboration between our organizations, so stay tuned for more updates!

Featured FAQ

This section covers the questions that our office staff receives on a regular basis. In January, we plan to collect all applicable FAQs and post them to the website. If you want to help out with writing, contact the STIBC office.

How do I become a certified translator or court interpreter?

Certification can be obtained in one of two ways. Once you have passed the entrance exam and become an associate member of STIBC, you can either apply for certification by writing the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council (CTTIC) national certification exam, held in the winter, or by submitting a dossier for evaluation at any time. Please contact the office for more details.

Updates from the STIBC Board

Mock Exams – The first mock exams were conducted with interested members on Dec 17th. The exam candidates, the markers, and the organizers were highly satisfied with the results. More details on the next mock exams in preparation for the CTTIC exams in 2014 will be communicated later this year.

Membership Renewals and CE Form – Please remember to pay your membership dues and hand in your completed CE forms before Jan 31.

Community Interpreting – The STIBC Task Force has started its work and will report back to the membership at a later date.

Further Reads and Audios

The Mayan civilization began its rise in Mesoamerica around AD 250 and evolved into the greatest civilization in the Western world until it was unfortunately conquered by the Spanish. From approximately AD 250 to AD 900 (known as the Classic Period) the Mayan civilization consisted of numerous independent states. The Mayans wrote their own alphabet, comparable to the Egyptian hieroglyphs and scripts of other cultures, consisting of 27 sounds.

[Read More](#)

Listen to an [interview conducted with linguist-translator Robert Bradshaw](#) from the Summer Institute of Linguistics who has completed a grammar of a dying language. The language is Doromu-Koki, which is spoken by just 750 people in a dozen villages in mountains south-east of Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea and a similar sized community from the region whose members have moved to the capital in search of work. The first step to preserve this language is translating the New Testament in the Bible into Doromu-Koki.

Debate over the nature of translation has historically centered on two approaches: formal equivalence (or, "literal" translation) and functional equivalence (or, idiomatic translation). Yet communication through language is achieved not only through linguistic entities (words and syntax), but also through the body of shared assumptions between authors and receptors. This paper explores the issue of alterity, or "otherness" in translation theory. How much should differences in socio-cultural contexts and values be mitigated in the translation process? Should the receptor text retain the "otherness" of the source language text? To what degree should it be "domesticated" to facilitate communication in the receptor language culture? – One of our STIBC members attended a session and was able to get hold of the presentation slides. You can view these slides on our website: [Alterity Accessibility](#) and [Strauss Relative Merits of Alterity](#). (You need to log in to the Members Only section of the STIBC website.)

Words in the City

Jan 20th – Book Launch: *Insinuendo: Murder in the Museum*

- [UBC's Museum of Anthropology \(MOA\)](#) will be hosting the Vancouver debut of *Insinuendo: Murder in the Museum* by former MOA conservator Miriam Clavir. *Insinuendo* is a mystery novel in which the lead character, conservator Berry Cates, is

faced with the question why a visiting expert has died from arsenic housed in her lab! Meet the author and take a guided tour of MOA's Conservation Lab. Free with museum admission. (Event takes place from 1 pm to 2:30 pm.)

Check the [VPL Events Calendar](#) for more literary events this month.

Industry Updates

While searching for benchmark events in the translation industry in 2012, I came across interesting personal blogs from professional translators containing industry predictions for 2012. Check for yourself if the predictions of your fellow translators came true last year: [Blog from Rosa Polato](#), [Blog from Benato Benninatto](#), [GTS Blog](#), [CCJK Blog](#).

According to GALA CEO Hans Fenstermacher, the language industry will outpace the global economy in 2013. The global language industry is expected to grow by 12%. [Read more ...](#)

The end of the world for translation as we know it – The beginning of 2013 marks a new evolution in translation. Companies used to translate documents one at a time, but now the cloud will enable bulk translations and easy scalability – [Find this and more articles on our Facebook site](#).

Fifteen Helpful Google Search Operators – First came the World Wide Web, and then came the search engine (presumably to try and make the whole thing more accessible/manageable). And it wasn't long before one particular search engine proved to be the one to watch (and use): Google. Google has inadvertently revolutionized the way we work – we use it to find definitions, proper nouns and check context, research companies, prospective clients and colleagues. [Read more...](#) (If you are unfamiliar with internet search engines, consider taking one of the **FREE** courses at the [Vancouver Public Library](#). The next two courses ("Getting to know Google" and "Internet Basics") take place on Jan 20th from 12:30 pm to 2 pm and Jan 24th from 6 pm to 8 pm.)

With this, we will conclude this month's newsletter. Please let us know any comments you may have about the contents, what you like and what you don't, and what is missing that you would like to see in the future.

If you have interesting articles or videos to share or know of a noteworthy event in Vancouver, send us the information via email. Let's share and make this newsletter OUR newsletter!

Until February,

Your TRANSLetter team

This message is sent on behalf of The Society of Translators and Interpreters of British Columbia