

Dr. Wei Li, Director of Confucius Institute in Coquitlam, Attended an Interview with Confucius Institute Directors

Invited by <Guang Ming Daily> in December of 2020, the director of Confucius Institute in Coquitlam, Dr. Wei Li, attended an interview with other six directors of Confucius Institutes across the world (https://news.gmw.cn/2020-12/12/content_34456707.htm).

This interview took place during the 70th anniversary of international Chinese language education, which also happened while the world was fighting against the pandemic. The interview recognized that languages have played an important role as a ‘BRIDGE’ between countries. The Confucius Institute and other world language organizations and institutes have shown the value and positive impacts of strengthening and deepening the global exchange and communication to help solve many challenges and issues. Dr. Wei Li pointed out that knowing the Chinese language would be an important factor to enable students in being successful in the development of their future careers and would make great contributions to the exchange between Canada and China as ambassadors and messengers. For the topic on the localization of Chinese language education, Dr. Wei Li briefly overviewed Chinese language education in Canada and expressed that it is very critical and important to build an excellent local Chinese language teacher team to enable the sustainable development of international Chinese language education in Canada. One of the challenges that we face now is what effective strategies we should use to make the localization of Chinese language education successful in different regions in Canada. The current pandemic around the world has had a great impact on Chinese language teaching, and currently, online teaching practices have become very popular in international Chinese language teaching. Looking forward after the pandemic, all the directors indicated that we would face many challenges. However, we would also have many new opportunities at the same time. During the current time when the world is facing many complex challenges, the international Chinese language education will play an important and positive role in order to help build abilities to face all these challenges.