



National Capital Region Chapter of the
ACM Special Interest Group on Computer Human Interaction

Wiki as a Tool for Web-based Collaborative Story Telling in Primary School

A Case Study presented by **Alain Desilets** from the IIT at NRC
on Wednesday January 26, 2005 at **Adobe Systems Canada**

What?

Wikis are simple to use collaborative hypertext authoring systems. In recent years, these systems have caught the attention of the education community, because they embody many aspects of personal empowerment and communication between learners. To date, most work on Wiki in education has focused on use for information creation and sharing by students at the post-primary level. In this talk, we present a case study where primary level students (Grade 4-6) used a Wiki for collaborative storytelling. The paper reports on our experience with this activity in the course of 5 semesters since 2002, each semester comprising 9 hours of class time. We discuss observations on the collaborative and creation processes that took place during the activity. We also describe ongoing work on a more formal study of usability issues encountered by children during the activity. The talk concludes with recommendations for teachers and tool builders for how to best support web-based collaborative storytelling in the classroom.

Who?

Alain Desilets is a researcher at the Institute for Information Technology of the National Research Council of Canada. His main research area is the development, deployment and evaluation of Human Language Technologies (Speech Recognition, Computer Assisted Translation, Text Mining) in real work environments.

When and Where?

The meeting takes place on Wednesday January 26, 2005 at 7:00 pm in the Klondike Conference Room at Adobe Systems Canada in Ottawa, located at 785 Carling Avenue (near Dow's Lake, between Rochester and Preston streets) Ottawa, ON K1S 5H4 Canada.

- Free parking available on site after 6:00 PM; entrance is on Rochester Street.
- **Bus routes 6 and 85** pass in front of the Adobe Systems Canada office on Carling Avenue.
- **Bus route 3** stops on Preston St at Carling Avenue, near the Adobe Systems Canada office.
- **Bus route 4** stops on Bronson Avenue at Carling Avenue, near the Adobe Systems Canada office (10-15 minute walk)
- The **O-Train** stops at Carling Station; you can walk east long Carling Avenue from the station (3-5 minute walk).

Note: All attending will be required to register with security. Please arrive 5-10 minutes earlier to allow for registering.

The meeting fee is \$5 for non-members and free for CapCHI members (\$20/year). Membership is for the session period (September 2004-August 2005) - anyone can join!

Refreshments will be provided for the meeting.