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Career Connections is published by The Saskatchewan Career Work Education Association three times a year. The newsletter is designed and printed at the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation.

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IT'S CONFIRMED!

Career Education DOES have a role in the school

Submitted by Judy Behrns

Finally, Easter holidays had arrived. Don and I were heading to Fairmont, BC, hoping to do a little "flogging." That's "Behrnspeak" for "those who exhibit little or no golf skills but still enjoy the walks." It had been a long time since we'd taken a driving trip. I thought I'd use the opportunity to catch up on a little work. The Role of the School Final Report (166 pages) was among the documents I'd brought along.

First, a little history...in May, 1999 a 12-person Task Force was created. Wayne Sawka, Rod Lederhouse, and I presented to members of this group in March 2000. Our message focussed on authentic career experiences for students through community as well as the necessity for programs involving educators and parents/guardians. September, 2000, saw the publication of the Interim Report. Distribution of the Interim Report and soliciting feedback took place until December, 2000. The Final Report to the Minister of Education was released in February, 2001.

I found the Final Report to be comprehensive, interesting, and very readable. The task force has tackled complex issues, including structures, roles, partnerships, programs, and support. Twenty-four comprehensive recommendations are offered. One section of the report focuses on something near and dear to our hearts - Career Education. In recommendation #15, the Task Force urges: (from *Role of the School: Final Report*, Page 93)

- 15.1 That the Saskatchewan education community honor and act upon the request of students for enhanced career exploration and career education opportunities; and
- 15.2 That the experiential aspect of this learning opportunity be recognized and facilitated in whatever ways are possible; and,
- 15.3 That Saskatchewan Education consider whatever steps it might take to support and facilitate career education efforts throughout the province, and that it establish goals to which all school divisions might strive; and

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE



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- 15.4 That the colleges of education ensure that the teaching of career exploration and career education is included in the pre-service teacher education programs offered to their students, particularly in Secondary Education programs; and,
- 15.5 That wherever possible career exploration and career education opportunities be articulated with the academic program so that these curriculum areas and learning opportunities are mutually supportive, rather than competitive.

The report suggests that \$300,000 in 2001-02 and \$500,000 for each of the following three years be devoted to the implementation of these recommendations.

As we've known all along, career education DOES have an important role in the school. If you haven't already seen the report, School Plus – A Vision for Children and Youth can be viewed at www.roleoftheschool.com. Please take a look. Join us in informing colleagues and community members whenever the opportunity arises. The torch has been lit! It's up to career development practitioners like us to carry the message forward and to call for action.

President's Message

by Anna Fornal

The SCWEA Executive held its last meeting at the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Club. The setting was lovely, and the food, fabulous!

The Executive discussed the Role of the School Report and its support of career education. Each of us needs to be encouraged by this report to carry forward the career and work education message. In addition, the Executive discussed the department-edited version of Career and Work Exploration. The Executive expressed its concerns about this version, and a letter will be drafted and sent to the Department expressing these concerns. Safety concerns and the subsequent recommendations regarding Take Our Kids to Work were also reviewed.

The Executive is also busily planning the fall convention. Carrie Kiefer has done a fine job of planning, and other folks are contributing their



expertise as presenters. The Moose Jaw spa will be the place to be on October 4-5, 2001!

I want to thank all of the Executive members for their fine work this year.

Communications through the electronic medium of email has made my job much easier, and has certainly saved on paper, and money!

I want to wish all of you a well-deserved holiday, and a great summer!

Cheers,

Anna



YOUR EDITORS (l to r): Anna Fornal, Mary Lou Ast and Shelley Hosaluk wish you all a happy summer! See you at our Summer Short Courses in August!

Editor's Note: The Editors would like to thank the Saskatchewan Labour Force Development Board for providing materials for the last edition of Career Connections. The article "Saskatchewan Labour Market Trends" first appeared in the SLFDB's April/May, 2000 Newsletter.

Going for Gold Richmond, BC March 2001

An International Conference

Celebrating Excellence in Career Development and Counselling

by Lynn Peterson

The Going for Gold Conference was a jointly hosted by the Canadian Counselling Association, The International Association of Vocational Guidance, The Labour Market and Career Information of BC and The Association of Service Providers for Employability and Career Training.

These days, it's popular to give events an international spin, given the emphasis on globalization. Going for Gold actually was International with enthusiastic participation from several countries.

For me, the conference was framed in the context of Norm Amundson's keynote address entitled "Dimensional Living". What better way to blend the interests of all disciplines attending than to put counseling and career development in the context of a well lived life? Norm's laid back, funny but, oh so wise words about living life with joy, meaning and perspective resonated across the conference experience.

Sessions catered to a diverse audience. There were all kinds of philosophical opportunities, mainly constructivist given the conference location and the times, as well as practical "walks" through various counseling and career tools. A stroll through the many displays quickly gave one the sense that counseling and career development is a growing and innovative area of Canadian endeavor. And speaking of Canada;

it makes a person proud to observe first hand the esteem in which Canadian Counselling and Career professionals are held internationally and the extent to which Canadians have collaborated to participate in the evolution of paradigms that truly cross borders.

The Going For Gold Conference was a rejuvenating experience both because of the sunny and warm coastal climes and the high quality learning experiences. Ottawa in 2002 will have a hard act to follow!

Call for Nominations: SCWEA Awards

Each year SCWEA recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions in the area of Career and Work Education in Saskatchewan. The following awards will be presented at the Annual General Meeting on **Friday, October 5, 2001** in Moose Jaw.

The **Award of Excellence** will be presented to the SCWEA member who has made the most outstanding contribution to the development of Career and Work Education in Saskatchewan.

The **Friends of Career and Work Education Awards** will be presented to non-educators who have assisted in the development and promotion of Career and Work Education in Saskatchewan. A maximum of three awards will be presented annually.

The **Recognition of Service Awards** will be presented to members who have made recent and present contributions to Career and Work Education in Saskatchewan. A maximum of three awards will be presented annually. The SCWEA Executive invites nominations for the SCWEA Awards.

If you are nominating an individual or group, please include an introduction of the nominee, a summary of contributions.

Please send nominations to:

Wayne Sawka, SCWEA Past President
31 Park Crescent
Emerald Park, SK S4L 1B2

Take Our Kids To Work

The following is an excerpt from the Learning Partnership document "Recommendations for Strengthening the Health and Safety Aspects of the Take Our Kids to Work Program" developed by the expert safety panel for the Learning Partnership, February 12, 2001.

In Memoriam

On November 1, 2000, two young participants in the *Take Our Kids to Work* program were fatally injured in a workplace accident, as was a grandfather who had his grandchild with him for the day. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the families and friends of those who lost their lives that day. These losses are our incentive to strengthen health and safety aspects of the *Take Our Kids to Work* program so that we are

confident we are doing everything in our power to raise awareness about workplace health and safety.

The Expert Panel generated 14 main recommendations. These are as follows:

Recommendation 1: Continue to improve and enhance the *Take Our Kids to Work* program, with strengthened program elements relating to workplace health and safety.

Recommendation 2: Develop clearer information of health and safety in all *Take Our Kids to Work* materials, for every program audience—parents, teachers, students and workplaces.

Recommendation 3: Communicate the importance of health and safety through a variety of channels, to accommodate different learning styles.

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Learning to be Safe: "Job Shadow" Considerations

Shelley Hosaluk

The concepts of career education and life design/planning are multi-faceted and synonymous with change. The advent of the information age has created a multitude of opportunities for sweeping developments and growth for educators, counsellors, and administrators. The previous decade, in particular, has heralded exciting and unprecedented changes in the way in which we view work and career/life transitions for students. In an interactive world, increasing pathways to success for students is paramount. As we aim to provide students with positive options in academic and applied situations, safety messaging assumes a new importance.

In light of the recent tragedy in Ontario involving two students in the "Take a Student to Work" program, as a learning community, we grieve the loss of young life. Yet, through this experience, we pause to assess the programs, policies and processes currently in place.

How can unfortunate accidents be prevented? To what degree are these kinds of programs educationally sound? How can we best achieve desirable outcomes in career/life planning? What can we do to improve access to information, resources and quality experiences for our students? Questions such as these encourage informed professional discussion and offer a step in the healing process of our educational community.

The education/career connection is clearly evident as students continue from developing awareness to the exploratory phase during Job Shadow placements and mentorships. Job Shadows create opportunities for a variety of experiences which help to shape realistic student expectations and to offer a glimpse into a realm which exists outside the walls of the school. Let us remember that safety instruction prior to any Job Shadow or mentoring situation is crucial. Students who have access to information regarding their rights and responsibilities, labour standards, and current data and statistics can make knowledgeable decisions. Educators, parents, and business communities can collaborate to offer consistent messages and instruction regarding safety practices and aid in shaping positive Job Shadow experiences for our young people. Discussions regarding the roles of the parties involved, environments/places, policies, programs, and processes will help to better prepare every member of our learning community.

Recommendation 4: Enlist workplace health and safety experts to review the content and context of all materials produced for the *Take Our Kids to Work* program.

Recommendation 5: Incorporate a safety theme into the program material during 2001, to coincide with Ontario's implementation of "safety education" at the Grade 9 level, and enrich the program for subsequent years.

Recommendation 6: Post links from The Learning Partnership's website to organizations with workplace health and safety expertise and material.

Recommendation 7: Use the opportunity provided by Occupational Health and Safety Week in May to communicate *Take Our Kids to Work* program health and safety messages.

Recommendation 8: Develop informed consent forms that contain workplace health and safety messaging, signed by students and parents.

Recommendation 9: Encourage all participants in the *Take Our Kids to Work* program to commit themselves to a safe day. Include on forms a section demonstrating that students have read and discussed materials on health and workplace safety before participating.

Recommendation 10: Begin *Take Our Kids to Work* day at each employer with mandatory workplace orientations that focus on health and safety issues relevant to that environment. Workplaces should use the expertise of their Health and Safety personnel to assist with the orientation if possible. Where appropriate, there should also be a student Health and Safety representative for the day.

Recommendation 11: Encourage program participants to adopt a zero tolerance policy for ignoring health and safety guidelines communicated in program material.

Recommendation 12: Supervise student participants all day while they are at the workplace site. The student supervisor should be competent individual and there should be a set ratio of the number of students to each supervisor that is appropriate for each workplace.

Recommendation 13: Allow students to undertake only those tasks and experiences for which they have been properly oriented.

Recommendation 14: Encourage workplaces to create an environment where students feel free—in fact, encouraged—to speak about health and safety concerns, ask questions, and comment on situations they observed during the day. Workplaces should conduct an annual inspection prior to *Take Our Kids to Work* day with a view to Youth workplace safety.

Work Education Experience Becomes a Labour of Love

by Derek Holtom

Reprinted with permission of *The Humboldt Journal* (March 15, 2001)

The Work Education program at the Humboldt Collegiate Institute aims to introduce its students to the work force they will soon be entering. Trevor Lees, a Grade 12 student at HCI, had an idea about a job placement and approached his teacher, Bob Bellemy, about working at Humboldt Motors Body Shop.

"I asked specifically if I could work there," said Lees. "My initial goal was just to get some experience, but it kind of grew from there." Lees asked Humboldt Motors Body shop employee Mike Volk if it would be all right if he brought in his truck to work on. Volk agreed, and ever since, Lees has been hard at work. The budding artist is putting a custom paint job on his 1986 Chev truck, which he admitted has taken a lot of work so far. "There were lots of dents in it when I started, and the paint was all gone," said Lees.

After his Work Education class ended, Lees asked if he could continue to come in and work on his truck after school. Humboldt Motors once again agreed, and Lees is getting closer to completing his task.

"I hope to have it finished by April," said Lees.

He added he has put in more than 225 hours on the truck so far--and it shows. Lees said he is interested in custom painting for vehicles, but imagines he might paint other objects in the future.

"I really enjoy painting smaller stuff, like snowmobile and dirt bike helmets," said Lees. "Something where you can get into more detail."

SCWEA Membership List (March 2001)

If you are interested in becoming a member of SCWEA or for more information, please call:
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Judy Behrns 50 Pleasant Place Regina, SK. S4V 0C2	Carolyn Grimm Box 1617 Nipawin, SK S0K 3A0	Anthony Lau Box 702 Porcupine Plain, SK S0E 1H0	Fred Ozirney 3305 Ortona Street Saskatoon, SK S7M 3R7	Karen Seidle 303-139 St.Lawrence Ct Saskatoon, SK S7K 4H3
Robert Bellamy Box 493 Humboldt, SK S0J 0K0	Anne Guenther Box 57 Osler, SK S0K 3A0	Gilbert LeBlanc Box 906 Martinsville, SK S0K 4V0	Bill Pennefather 820-9th Avenue North Saskatoon, SK S7K 2Z2	Janis Stone SK Labour Force Dev. Board 202-2222 13th Avenue Regina, SK S4P 3M7
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Jennifer Bieber Box 1120 Indian Head, SK S0G 2K0	Linda Harvey 356 Battleford Trail Swift Current, SK S9H 4N3	Tony Linner 602 Trent Crescent Saskatoon, SK S7H 4T6	Linda Reynolds 702 Main Street Saskatoon, SK S7H 0J7	Helen Toth-Douglas 22 Killarney Way Regina, SK S4S 6X8
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Sandra Gilchrist Bromhead, SK S0C 0N0	Carrie Kiefer 1616 Marshall Crescent Moose Jaw, SK S6H 3G7	Dennis Moffat 87 Duncan Crescent Saskatoon, SK S7H 4K3	Wayne Sawka 31 Park Crescent Emerald Park, SK S4L 1B2	Moira Zunti 301 Campion Crescent Saskatoon, SK S7H 3T8
Lori Gonzalez 411-11th Street East Saskatoon, SK S7N 0E9		Nortep Library Box 5000 La Ronge, SK S0J 1L0		

2001: A Career Work Odyssey



SCWEA Conference

October 4 & 5 • Temple Gardens Mineral Spa

24 Fairford Street East, Moose Jaw S6H 0C7 Telephone: 306-694-5055

Thursday, October 4

- 10:00 - 3:00 Be Real Game Pre-Conference Session (see attached information and registration form on page 8)
- 6:30 Registration
- 7:00 - 10:00 Exhibits
- 7:00 - 9:00 Moose Jaw Tunnel Tours (pre-registration required)
- 9:00 Social

Friday, October 5

- 8:00 - 9:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 - 9:15 Opening Remarks
- 9:15 - 10:30 Keynote Speaker
Phil Jarvis of the National Life/Work Centre
- 10:30-10:45 Break
- 10:45 -11:45 Small Session #1
(Concurrent Sessions)
Multiple Intelligences and the Portfolio Process Destination 2020
- 11:45 - 1:15 Lunch/AGM
- 1:15-1:30 Break
- 1:30 - 2:25 Small Session #2
Ready for Work
Career and Work Exploration
Internet Sites
- 2:30 - 3:30 Small Session #3
Ready for Work (Continued)
Bridges.com Career Explorer

Registration Form

Registration fee: \$100.00

This fee includes Conference, SCWEA Membership, Thursday Social, Friday Breakfast and Friday Luncheon.

Don't delay! When making hotel reservations, please mention that you are with SCWEA. Conference rates are \$78.00-\$82.00.

For more information contact Carrie Kiefer at (306) 693-4631.

Make cheque payable to SCWEA Conference 2001.

Mail cheque and registration form to: Wayne Sawka, 31 Park Cr., Emerald Park, SK S4L 1B2

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

Name of Organization/School: _____

Position: _____

I am/am not participating in the tunnel tours. Please circle one. Tunnel tour fees are \$20.00. Add cost to registration fees.

SCWEA EXECUTIVE

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SCWEA PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

The Be Real Game: Grades 9 - 10

TEACHER INSERVICE

Thursday, October 4 10:00 - 3:00

Marg McIntyre Centre
Moose Jaw Public School Division
1075 - 9th Ave. N. W., Moose Jaw, SK.

Workshop Cost: \$40.00 per participant. Lunch not included

The "Be Real Game" is a learning and teaching tool. It is designed so teachers can use this creativity and integrate their knowledge of students to adapt the program to their own needs. As a life/work program, the Be Real Game allows students to experience, in role-playing situations, the issues and aspects of life that their parents/guardians, teachers and all adults face daily - issues they will soon face. This session will allow you to play parts of the game and learn to facilitate the Be Real Game in your classroom.

Mail cheque and registration form to: **Wayne Sawka, 31 Park Cr., Emerald Park, SK S4L 1B2**

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

Name of Organization/School: _____

Position: _____



Visit Our Website!
<http://www.scwea.com>