

CAREER★ CONNECTIONS

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SASKATCHEWAN CAREER & WORK EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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President's Report

Greetings! On behalf of SCWEA's executive, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our members. As I begin my first year as SCWEA's president, I am thrilled to be working with such a dedicated, enthusiastic executive.

Welcome to our new executive and advisory Council members, we are so excited and pleased to have you as part of our team.

I would like to thank Marlene Flaman-Dunn for her fantastic leadership as our president over the past two years. It is a daunting task to follow such vision and direction that Marlene has provided, but I will work very hard to keep up to the standards she has set. Thank

goodness I get to keep her as past president for two years!

Thank you to all who attended our conference this fall and thanks to the executive who put the conference together; job well done!

Lastly, thanks to our "long suffering editor", Leanne Merkowsky who works so hard to produce your newsletter – *Career Connections* that you will receive twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring.

I wish you all a great school year filled with success and joy, Cynthia Wright-Fulton

"Be generous and expert, trustworthy and clear, open-minded and adaptable, persistent and present."

Submitted by Cynthia Wright-Fulton

Career Connections is published by the Saskatchewan Career Work Education Association twice a year. The newsletter is designed and printed at the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation. Articles and letters should be sent to: Leanne Merkowsky, Editor
Email: Leanne.merkowsky@lskysd.ca



SCWEA Executive 2013-14



**Cynthia Wright-Fulton
President**

Cynthia Wright-Fulton is presently employed with the North East School Division at Tisdale

Middle and Secondary School. Cynthia has been working as a Career Academic Counselor/Career Work Education teacher for the past 28 years. This year, she accepted the nomination to take on the role of President and is very excited about this new venture. Cynthia lives in the country on 40 acres of forest and garden land, with her husband Jack. She spends lots of time in Saskatoon visiting her family of origin and her son Mackenzie, who is at the University of Saskatchewan studying Mechanical Engineering. Much of Cynthia's free time is spent on her favorite activities of swimming, curling, running, painting, yoga and going to the gym. This is a very exciting time for career development and Cynthia is looking forward to serving as your new President.



**Marlene Flaman Dunn
Past-President**

Marlene Flaman Dunn grew up in a farm family of ten children, in

Southey, Saskatchewan. She attended the University of Saskatchewan where she earned her B.S.P.E and B.Ed. degrees. Marlene then spent 24 years teaching in three different Saskatoon high schools, her first four years at Bedford Road Collegiate, 12 years at Aden Bowman, and then seven at Evan Hardy. Her primary area of teaching was Physical Education, with over two decades of coaching both volleyball and track and field. For the 1997-98 school year, the Dunn family moved to San Diego, CA, where Marlene completed a Master's degree in

Educational Leadership – it was also a fabulous experience for the whole family! In her final three years at Evan Hardy, Marlene took over the CWE 10/20/30 classes, became their Career Facilitator, and spent countless hours developing the "Academic Research/Work Placement Program", which offers highly academic students a choice of numerous excellent 10-week academic research/work placements on the U of S campus. In 2005, Marlene left the gymnasium and the classroom to accept the position of Program Leader for Career and Work Education for Saskatoon Public Schools, where she spent six years serving the teachers and students of her Division. In June, 2011, Marlene was promoted to the Coordinator position for Career Education for SPS. Marlene continues to be passionate about nurturing existing Career Education programs, expanding the Academic Research/Work Placement Program, fostering community partnerships, as well as providing a leadership and/or support role for new career development initiatives in Saskatoon schools such as delivering the new Middle Years (Grades 6-9) Career Ed. curriculum, and the new cutting-edge FuturePaths and myBlueprint career technology tools. Marlene has been on the SCWEA Executive for nine years and is excited about continuing to work with and serve career educators as she completes her two-year tenure as SCWEA's president.

Marlene is married to Ken and the Dunns have 3 boys, Jordan (28), Justin (25), and Mitchell (22), who are suddenly grown up and now busy pursuing career paths of their own! After years of hustling to the boys' soccer, football, basketball and baseball pursuits, Marlene and Ken are slowly adjusting to life as empty-nesters! They continue to love to travel across the continent and beyond, both with and without their boys, and especially

treasure their annual trek to the mountains for a week of skiing and snowboarding, as well as holidays spent with their rather large "extended family"!



**Cory Cochrane
Director**

Cory Cochrane is a Career Guidance Counselor and Career Work Exploration teacher

at Bert Fox Community High School in Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. He was born and raised in Fort Qu'Appelle and attended the University of Regina, receiving his B.PAS in 1997 and B.Ed in 2000. He is currently working towards his M.Ed in Administration.

This was Cory's first year attending the SCWEA Conference and found it very educational and beneficial. He looks forward to being on the executive and working with the dedicated personnel of the board to promote Career and Work Exploration. This is his first year on the board.

Cory is actively involved in many sporting activities: coaching soccer, volleyball, and skiing. He is married to Holly and has two children, Kenzie and Kaida.



**Gord Heidel
Director**

Gord grew up in North Battleford where his family farmed ten miles north of the city.

He began his teaching profession of over 25 years in Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan. In 1989, he moved to Regina where he married his wife Denise and was blessed with a beautiful, talented daughter, Mackenzie. Gord worked at Cochrane High School in Regina for 18 years as PAA Department Head, Core Leader,

Learning Leader and Work Study Coordinator. He also held the position of Career Development Consultant for Regina Public Schools for several years, before taking a secondment with the Ministry of Education as the PAA Coordinator for the province. In his current role as Executive Director of the Regina District Industry Education Council, he and his team are beginning the exciting process of establishing an Industry Education Council for the Regina District. In his spare time, he enjoys instructing kiteboarding and coaching alpine ski racing.



**Jocelyn Kennedy
Treasurer**

Jocelyn is currently employed as a Student Support Services teacher at Big River Community High School in Saskatchewan Rivers School Division. Her current teaching assignment includes working with a variety of students from Grades 7 through 12 that require unique academic programming. She also teaches Career & Work Exploration to Grade 11 and 12 students, while at the same time, is working towards completing her Master's Degree at the University of Saskatchewan.

Besides working, Jocelyn likes to travel, camp, and spend time boating with her husband and three children. She enjoys living near many family members so she can attend various family functions throughout the year.

Jocelyn has been a member of SCWEA for many years as a Director as well as the Treasurer for the past two years.



**Renette Edgar
Director**

Renette is presently employed with Prairie Valley School Division as their Career Education Consultant. Prior to this new position, she was an elementary school teacher for 16 years,

12 of which included travelling to numerous high schools as an itinerant Career Counselor where she guided students toward their dreams.

Renette lives in Regina during the week with her son Derek (Grade 10), and travels out to her farm near Wolseley, where her husband Rod and daughter Danean (Grade 12) live, on weekends. Besides juggling two households (city vs. country), she also loves to visit with family and friends, curl, downhill ski and travel to warm destinations.



**Vanessa Lewis
Secretary**

Vanessa Lewis is the Career Development Consultant for the Sun West School Division. Working in the area of career development in Saskatchewan for over 10 years, she has come to embrace a holistic definition of 'career'. Her career involves a multitude of roles and responsibilities. Her life/career has changed over time as she learns from mistakes, experiences new opportunities, makes decisions, furthers her education/training, meets new people, and develops new competencies.

Vanessa is passionate about career development and enjoys working with such an enthusiastic SCWEA Executive. She views her involvement with SCWEA as an opportunity to stay up-to-date on provincial initiatives and to network with a group of dedicated people in the area of career development. She looks forward to another year of service to this special subject council as the Secretary.

Vanessa is thankful to reside in the small, but vibrant, rural-Saskatchewan of Elrose with her husband and two sons. She values the incredible level of 'community spirit' in her local community and is grateful to be able raise a family in such a supportive and close-knit environment.



**Leanne Merkowsky
Editor**

Empowering and engaging students, parents and teachers to explore the wealth of opportunities available, as well as investigating the skills and abilities required for success is what she does. A Career Development Consultant is what she is. A leader in career development is what she strives to be.

Originally from the Battlefords (and never leaving), Leanne has been with Living Sky School Division for the past 17 years and as such, upheld many capacities. Starting as a middle years French teacher, growing into Practical and Applied Arts educator and eventually morphing into a Consultant, exposing her to the vast array of opportunities within the organization. It has also entrenched in her a desire for continuous growth and learning.

After completing a B.Ed and a M.Ed, she decided to return to school (she's a lifer) to continue studies in English as an Additional Language. Welcoming immigrants into our province and assisting with job placement and daily life situations is challenging, yet so much fun and rewarding.

In her free time, you'll catch her on the couch with a huge bowl of popcorn, watching her favorite reality television programming (Master Chef) or packing up for an excursion overseas in search of an adventure. She loves the great outdoors, especially when wildlife is present, and even more so, she loves supporting the local economy with her shopping addiction.

Leanne looks forward to another dynamic SCWEA year (her fourth) filled with knowledge, camaraderie and laughs. Being part of this organization has inspired her to be 'the best that she can be'... after all, she has the most amazing role models! Thanks team for all your support and encouragement over the years.

She leaves you with her favorite thought: "You have brains in your

head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go" (from 'Oh, the places you'll go!' by Dr. Seuss).



Kelly Bararuk
Vice-President

Kelly Bararuk grew up and spent most of his early life in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. As a kid he lived and breathed hockey. If he was not playing with the local minor hockey team, he was on the outdoor rink which was conveniently located right beside his house. After graduating high school from Riverview Collegiate, he was on a

journey to pursue a hockey dream. He played in the SJHL for two years with the La Ronge Ice Wolves. There, he would spend his extra time going into various schools helping with before and after school programs. This was enough inspiration to make him want to become a teacher. After the SJHL was over, he was fortunate enough to receive a full hockey scholarship to play NCAA Division I hockey in the U.S.A. So it was from the town of La Ronge to the big lights of New York for him. He spent four years pursuing a teaching degree and playing hockey for the Iona Gaels. Upon graduating from college, Kelly knew he wanted to come back to his roots and that's exactly what he did. Kelly's teaching career started as a substitute teacher for the former Saskatoon East School Division. He then went on to be an elementary school teacher in Hanley and then

Langham Elementary School. Today, Kelly is in his fifth year as a Career Development Facilitator for the Prairie Spirit School Division. His role includes teaching the in-class portion of CWE 30, setting the students up on work placements and also supervising the students while they are in the work place. Other roles include: facilitating professional development opportunities for teachers in the division as well as sitting on the Operations Committee of the SIEC. He is passionate about his work and is excited to be part of the SCWEA team. Kelly is married to his wonderful wife Danielle and has a beautiful daughter, Abigail, who is 2 years old and a son, Kaleb, who is a few months old. They enjoy spending time together, being active and trying to get to as many family functions as they can.

From the Editor

Leanne Merkowsky

Another year has come to a close, and with it comes many fond memories of the leaps and strides we have made in Career Development throughout the province. Learning opportunities abound, and in this edition, I'd like to share a few of them with you. You will find the pages ahead filled with highlights from our recent conference in beautiful Elk Ridge.

Career Connections keeps you up-to-date with happenings in and about the province. It welcomes input from you, our members, to keep it alive and thriving. Do you have an incredible lesson you would like to share? Do you have a talented student who would love to have his/her story, drawing or joke highlighted in a provincially distributed journal?

Are there any resources you would like to recommend? Hosting a career event? Let us know and we will highlight it! We are here to help spread the great word of Career Development, and with your help, we can be sure to highlight every corner of our vast province.

If you have an idea or comment to share, drop me a line any time at Leanne.merkowsky@lskysd.ca.

Lastly, I bid a fond farewell to my co-editor Christa LaPointe. I'd like to thank her for her dedication and contribution over the years. Due to life getting in the way, such as family commitments and new job assignments, she will no longer be with us in body, but will always be near in spirit. Christa, your energy, wit and charm will truly be missed.

Did We Miss You?

Unfortunately, we are missing some of our members' email address and have no way of getting our *SCWEA e-NEWS* to you! Have you been receiving our monthly newsletter? If not, please drop us a note at wright-fulton.cynthia@nesd.ca and we'll be sure to add you to our list.



Promoting Health Instead of Size

Presented by: Sydney Bell, Amy Pickering, Vicki Herman, Lynn Corbett, Shelly Weber and Leanne Houdek

Submitted by: Leanne Merkowsky

Many students struggle with weight issues, which can be stressful and depressing. In this session, a team of experts explored this health phenomenon and revealed some practical and experiential ideas for helping students face their fears regarding eating and body image concerns.



There is a current obesity epidemic that is working its way through schools. Although the problem seems big, there are ways to combat the situation and offer supports to these students.

Weight and shape are mostly determined by food consumption and physical activity. We all want to look after our well being, but for some of us, it is harder than for others. Fat is sometimes

unfortunately used as a character judgment. The thinner we have tried to become, the fatter, less well fed and less fit we have become. We have to teach kids how to build a relationship with healthy foods.

A number of resources were shared, many of which came from Body Image Health (<http://bodyimagehealth.org/>), and include lesson plans and downloadable resources.



The SK Career Development Web System Initiative

Presented by: Vicki Towriss & Janet Uchacz-Hart

Submitted by: Vanessa Lewis



Vicki Towriss and Janet Uchacz-Hart are two tremendously busy ladies in the area of Career Development. Janet Uchacz-Hart, Executive Director of Saskatoon Industry Education Council (SIEC) has been the Executive Director of the SIEC for the past 10 years. Prior to her role with the SIEC, she was a secondary business and career work education teacher with Saskatoon Public Schools for over 22 years. SIEC has worked with over 18,000 youth over the past five years and was instrumental in designing the FuturePaths (www.futurepaths.ca) site as a way in which to engage youth, parents, educators/career practitioners and employers in the Saskatoon and area. The site has been in existence since 2008 with expansion throughout the last five years. Janet also sits on the

Canadian Career Development Foundation Board of Governors and is responsible for *Relevance*, a career planning magazine and the Annual Career Practitioners *Contact Conference*.

Vicki Towriss has over 28 years of experience in career planning, organizational change and Human Resources. She has been a career and employment counsellor, having worked as the Youth Consultant for the Saskatchewan Region of Employment and Immigration where she supervised the student employment centres across Saskatchewan, coordinated CHOICES and other career assessment tools, and was a 'Specialized Youth Consultant' working with disadvantaged youth. As the Director of Youth Initiatives at the YMCA Saskatoon, she led over 13

employees in delivering youth employment, literacy, job finding clubs, mentorship programs and stay in school initiatives. She has held leadership roles in Human resources including being the Director of Human Resources at the Saskatoon Health Region, and working with the Public Service Commission of Saskatchewan. She is now the CEO and President of her own company - Towriss & Associates Workforce Solutions Ltd.

Vicki and Janet shared developments of a new Saskatchewan Career Development Web System Initiative with participants. This exciting new web-based project is geared towards youth, parents, employers, educators, and career practitioners. During this session, participants learned about why this initiative began, explored the results of Phase I, and participated in Phase II by providing advice and recommendations on key areas. Once completed, this website will provide Career Development related tools and resources to various stakeholders across the province with the focus being on Saskatchewan youth. Youth can expect a very youth-oriented experience as they engage in career and educational planning, create e-Portfolios, investigate Labour Market Information, and interact with Career Advisors. Janet and Vicki collected email addresses of participants interested in learning more as the project moves forward. Roll out of initial services is expected by July 2014...watch for details at skcareers.ca!

Cameco

Presented by: Russel Mercredi

Submitted by: Kelly Bararuk

Russel Mercredi has almost a decade of human resource experience, which includes recruitment, training, labour relations and administration. Graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce in 2004 from the University of Saskatchewan, Russel went on to work for Cameco's head office in a series of positions with increasing responsibility. Russel has Human Relations experience both at Cameco's head office and McArthur River mine site, and is currently working at their Northern Affairs office in La Ronge where he is responsible for various recruitment and training programs. As well, he is chair of the Mineral Sector Steering Committee, a joint training committee serving apprentices in northern Saskatchewan. At

the SCWEA conference Russel presented some facts and opportunities that are available through Cameco.

Facts:

- Cameco is one of the world's largest uranium producers
- It is Canada's leading industrial employer of aboriginal people
- There are six locations in Saskatchewan
- 1900 people are employed with an average wage of \$80,000
- 120 different career options are available within the mining sector
- 15,000 workers are needed in the next 10 years (millwright being the most sought after)
- Students need their Grade 12 or an equivalent to apply for positions
- Summer student opportunities start in November
- Cameco has a scholarship program and students do not have to be interested in the

mining sector to apply, so please encourage your students to apply.

- For more information please visit: www.Cameco.com/careers

You will find more information and as well as virtual tours of the mines.



Want to Work for Parks Canada?

Presented by: Kayla Brunner

Submitted by: Jocelyn Kennedy

Kayla shared her passion for her career as an Outreach Education Officer with Parks Canada, by offering strategies for teachers to use with their students who have aspirations of getting into various careers within the organization.

She encourages students to apply for student summer jobs, which opens many future doors to the numerous opportunities that exist for extending their career options.

At the present time, many jobs are being posted internally, however, within the next year or so, more jobs will be posted externally online through the Parks Canada website which is accessible to the general public.

Because several jobs within this organization are seasonal, subsidized housing is available in many of the communities with employment opportunities.

Her session was a great reminder that many employment opportunities exist in areas such as the trades (mechanic/electrical/carpentry), environmental studies, field-related work and tour guides/visitor services attendants.

Expose your students and new Canadians to the wealth of opportunities available through Parks Canada by visiting: <http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/index.aspx>.

Explore the World of Geocaching

Presented by: Kevin Gawletz

Submitted by: Leanne Merkowsky

Feel like playing hide and go seek?

Kevin Gawletz introduced us to the world of geocaching. Geocaching is, in its simplest form, using GPS coordinates to search for hidden objects. It is a world-wide 'sport' and boasts hours of fun and mystery. For our purpose at the conference, it was the attempt at

locating strategically hidden objects around Elk Ridge resort. In teams, we were sent out in search of the elusive marbles, which were placed in containers and hidden under stairs, in wood piles and under leaves. Some of never did find the yellow marbles ... hint, hint Cory!

Why geocaching? Geocaching is a wonderful, fun way of using

technology to build or enhance team building skills with students. Kevin plans an annual trip for the grade twelve class from his hometown, Rosetown, which is an opportunity to strengthen the class's teamwork skills and foster a strong unified group as they enter their last year of high school. They seem to enjoy the outdoor activity and much camaraderie is gained through the experience.

Want to learn more about geocaching?

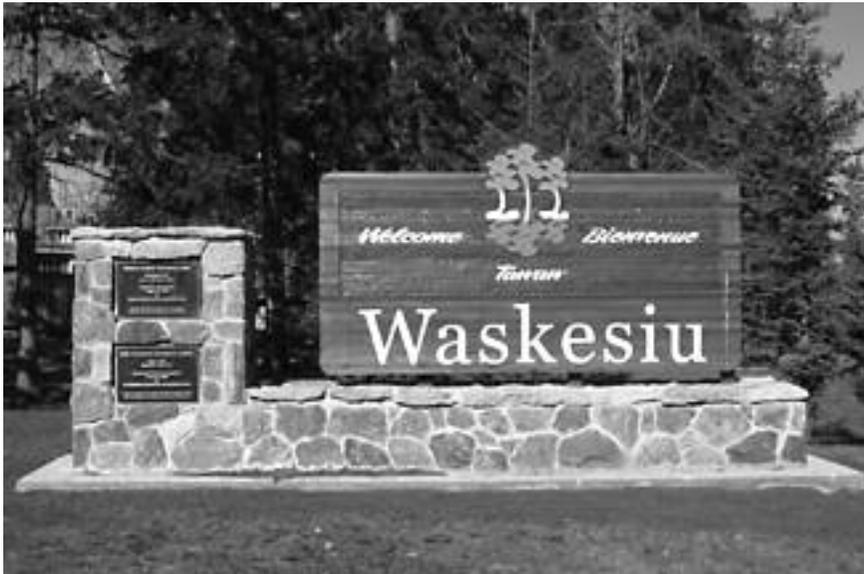
Visit <http://www.geocaching.com> for cool videos and ideas. Also, take a look at the following pages where Kevin shares part of his grade twelve Geoventure plan.



Looking for a Great Team Building Activity?

Check out Rosetown Central High School's Grade 12 Elk Ridge Waskesiu Team Building Field Trip

Submitted by: Kevin Gawletz



Each fall, RCHS provides an opportunity for our Grade 12 students to participate in a three day Team Building/Class Bonding Extra Curricular Field Trip at Elk Ridge/Waskesiu. We place all student participants into teams that compete in numerous teambuilding activities over 2.5 days. The activities are designed so that teams can utilize the strengths of ALL team members to succeed. Some team members use their intelligence or thinking skills, others use leadership, some use their athletic skills, while others use their logic or common sense skills. Teams that experience the highest degree of success are those that foster the strengths of the individual members for the greater good of the team.

The activity results are recorded throughout the 1st two days of the trip, to be used for advantage in the final culminating activity, "The

Final Rat Race", loosely based on the movie, "The Rat Race", which saw teams drive throughout the south-west U.S., racing against each other to find a large cash prize.



Preliminary Activities List:

Find The Picture: A laminated sheet with a dozen or more pictures of locations around the Waskesiu townsite is given to teams. With their teammates, students search for the locations on the photo sheet and they take the same picture with their phone cameras.

Frisbee Golf: Teams alternate throwers and scores are kept at the Frisbee Golf Course at Waskesiu.

Lawn Bowling: The game is introduced to students and scores are kept. This is played in Waskesiu at their lawn bowling facility.

Blindfold Frisbee Golf: Each team blindfolds a teammate and then the remaining students form a large perimeter on the grass where a supervisor will toss a Frisbee for each blindfolded person. The blindfolded students are to spin around a couple of times and then on a supervisors command the round starts and the blindfolded students are to find and grab as many Frisbees as they can. The teammates can direct their teammates with their voices, but of course there is a lot of yelling. Rounds continue until all participants have had a turn being blindfolded.

Stealth: This outdoor game is played in the dark in a big open park space. It is too difficult to explain, but it involves trying to sneak into an area guarded by teachers to receive individual letters for a word puzzle. The team that gets all letters and solves the word puzzle first wins the game. It is easily the most popular game of the trip.

GPS Activity: Students learn to find marked locations on handheld GPS devices to find coloured beads in containers.

Photo Scavenger Hunt: Students are given a list of items to photograph with their phone cameras. Some items are easy to find, others not so much.

School Trivia Quiz: A trivia question sheet asking questions about the staff, facility and history of the school generates lots of buzz.

How Well Do You Know Saskatchewan?: Many people have played a version of this game at parties. The sheet has phrases or words on it that describe a town, village or city in Saskatchewan and the students have to answer as many as possible in a limited time. Example: Flowery Settlement = Rosetown

Switch: Another hard to explain, but popular game, best played in a nice open area where all students can stand in a large circle with each

participant standing on a flat cone pylon. One student is selected to stand in the middle of the circle without a pylon. The teacher in charge will say something like switch if are wearing blue jeans. Any participant wearing blue jeans must move to a different pylon while the person in the middle tries to get to a pylon. The person without a pylon is eliminated and one pylon is removed from the circle. A member of the eliminated person's team takes the middle position and the game continues until all but one team is eliminated.

Waskesiu Final Race Steps

1. Teams have competed all weekend for points that are to be used for some advantage in the final race.
2. Each participant will be given a final race instruction sheet, a Waskesiu townsite map and a sharpie.
3. For each point earned each team will receive a letter from their envelope. The letters can be used to solve a word puzzle. Each letter also has a number on it, which tells them which word in the word puzzle it belongs to.
4. Once the race begins, teams get a letter every 30 seconds until they solve the puzzle. The last two teams to solve the puzzle will be

told the answer 90 seconds after the 3rd last team left.

5. The solved word puzzle tells the teams where they can go to find further instructions.
6. The next set of instructions tells the teams to find 6 locations around Waskesiu to find the combination digits for a combination lock.
ie. 1st digit of combination = How many swings are there on the swing set on the beach?
7. The instructions also tell them to report to the home base (bus) to get further instructions to find the combination lock that they now have the combination for.
8. These instructions come in the form of a different type of missing letter word puzzle.
9. Once they solve this puzzle they can proceed to find the tool box with the combination lock.
10. When they find and open this box, they get another set instructions, telling the teams to find another 6 locations around Waskesiu to find the combination digits for a 2nd combination lock.
11. The instructions also tell them to report to the home base (bus) to get further instructions to find the combination lock that they now have the combination for.
12. These instructions come in the form of a word search puzzle. The unused letters reveal a sentence telling them where to find the 2nd tool box with the combination lock.
13. When they open this tool box, each team will get 2 hand held GPS devices and a set of written instructions. These instructions will give them a waypoint to find the final hidden treasure.
14. As soon as 1 member from any team finds the treasure, their team is declared the winner.



Sun West Distance Learning Center & Dual Credit Classes

Presented by: Kurtis Heath and Brian Johnston

Submitted by: Jocelyn Kennedy

Kurtis Heath & Brian Johnston gave an overview of course offerings provided to the students of Sun West School Division as well as how these offerings have been extended to students throughout the province.

They provide programming in three basic streams:

Synchronous

These are live broadcast classes that use SmartBoard Technology & video-conferencing with Bridgit Software. The schedule of which courses will be offered during designated times is established prior to school start-up. Students are able to interact with the instructor at any time in the class. You can find a list of these on the following website:

www.sunwestdlc.ca

Asynchronous

This is the area that the majority of students follow. They offer on-going intake of students throughout the year. These courses are offered through Moodle and include full video instruction. Students can progress through these courses at anytime and any pace that works for them. Teachers are available for support via phone, email or Skype. A list of course options can be found at:

www.sunwestdlc.ca/asynchronous

Correspondence

These are traditional print-based courses. In some cases, the print-based courses work well for students looking for a very direct, linear based course. The options are can be found at:

www.sunwestdlc.ca/print

Dual Credit Options

Sun West School Division has entered into an agreement with the University of Saskatchewan to offer students with aspirations to attend the Edward's School of Business through the U of S to take an "Introduction to Business" class which is a first year university course that is currently being offered as a high school online course. By taking this course during the last year in high school, students are eligible for various scholarships. Further information for this program can be found at www.sunwestdlc.ca.

Sun West is also working with the College of Arts & Science to offer their first year course in the Early Start Program known as Learning to Learn. It is currently offered as a face-to-face option in several Saskatoon schools. Beginning in January, Sun West will be working with the College to run an online pilot of the course, with future plans to make it available across the province.

Sun West is also working with the College of Agriculture to offer a first year Ag course. A pilot is planned for January, with future plans to include a provincial wide program for the 2014-2015 school year. Stay tuned for more details with this program.



In addition to the U of S, Sun West is also working with Great Plains College to develop and offer Power Engineering, during the 2014-2015 school year. Initial plans include developing a Class 5 Power Engineering course, with Class 4 soon to follow.

In the areas of Health Sciences, the Distance Learning Centre is working with Great Plains and SIAST to offer courses in Continuing Care Aide and Early Childhood Education. Stay tuned for more details as these courses become available to high school students.

It was pointed out that Sun West does offer home-based study or home-bound study for students in Grades K-12, as well as summer school.

A complete list of information can be found at www.sunwestdlc.ca or by contacting the Distance Learning Centre at registrations@sunwestsd.ca (phone (306) 252-1000).

I'm Just a Tornado Hunter

Presented by: Greg Johnson
Submitted by: Vanessa Lewis



Greg Johnson, one of North America's top professional storm-chasers and severe weather experts, is also an accomplished photographer, speaker, and workshop leader.

Having graduated from Canada's renowned Acacia University, and after founding and building a leading successful communications, marketing, and advertising firm from the ground up, Greg decided it was time to devote himself full-time to pursuing his passion for capturing nature's most beautiful and deadly displays of severe weather.

With over 10 years experience, Johnson enjoys chasing classic prairie thunder and lightning storms, tornados, hurricanes, blizzards, and plans to continue traveling the world year-round to satisfy his appetite for capturing extreme weather.

When he's not storm-chasing, Greg enjoys life at home in Regina, Saskatchewan spending time with his wife and three children, and of course - cheering for his beloved Saskatchewan Roughriders.

A firm believer in the 'Bucket List' philosophy, Greg's mission is to inspire others to chase their own passions, while sharing and teaching the lessons he has learned from pursuing his. Through his dynamic presentation, Greg shared with SCWEA participants his belief in embracing change and following one's dreams. He mentioned the title of his presentation, "I'm just a Tornado Hunter" sound odd, but he titled it that for a reason. He stressed he does not like to hear people say, "I am just a ...". He feels people should be passionate about, take pride in, and work hard at what they do. Johnson referred to his favourite book, "Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell, and mentioned that anything can be accomplished with the "10,000-Hour Rule" and perfect practice. For more information about Greg Johnson or to tune into his live stream of tornado chases, visit www.tornadohunter.com.



Career Cruising

Presented by: Phil Jarvis

Submitted by: Leanne Merkowsky

Are you looking for an interesting, informative and current source of career information to share with your students and parents? Well, Career Cruising just may be what you are looking for!

Career Cruising is used by million of students and adults worldwide. It is an interactive career planning tool designed for all grade levels. With over 500 occupations to explore, students can gain a better understanding of the opportunities available and the accompanying skills required to be successful at the job. As well, the career matchmaker quiz and various tools, such as the resume builder and credit finder are useful and easy for students to navigate.

Now is the time to ask yourself . . .

1. Who am I?
2. What do I want to do in my future?
3. What opportunities are available for me?
4. What are my next-steps in realizing my dreams?

Career Cruising will help your students uncover some of the answers and alleviate some of the pressures about venturing out into the 'unknown'.

For more information or a free trial, visit their site at www.careercruising.com.



What CERIC can offer School/Career Counsellors

Presented by: Sharon Ferriss

Submitted by: Cory Cochrane

What Canadian Education and Research Institute for Counselling (CERIC) can offer School/Career Counsellors was the title of a presentation at the SCWEA conference this year. CERIC can help you succeed in guiding students to make more informed decisions about their study and work options. CERIC is also a place to help develop and expand the professional's community and learning network. The website provides a wealth of information – www.ceric.ca

- CERIC provides funding for research and education projects in career development
 - The research can focus on Practical & Academic Research or Professional Development & Ongoing Learning
- Low and no-cost professional development opportunities

- www.contactpoint.ca – the career practitioner-driven community
- CareerWise – free weekly roundup of news and views related to career counselling and career development - <http://contactpoint.ca/careerwise/>
- Presentations at the annual Cannexus National Career Development Conference – January 20-22, 2014 this year
- Many free resources and tools around essential skills, vocational assessment, experiential learning, career exploration, and working with parents. All these resources can be accessed on their website
 - Careering Magazine is one example

This was an excellent session to find out about funding programs, learn about current projects and discover free resources.

CERIC: Discover the new ContactPoint – Canada’s Online Community for Career Development Professionals

Presented by: Sharon Ferriss

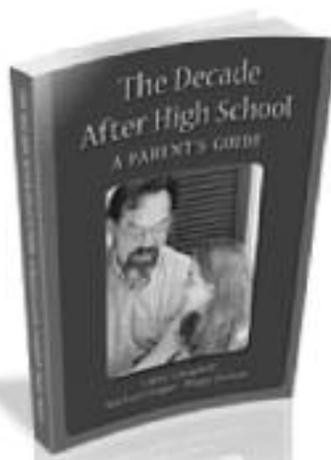
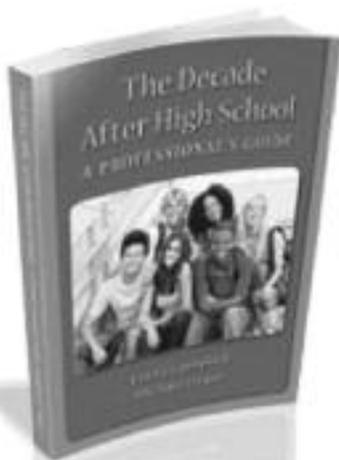
Submitted by: Jocelyn Kennedy and Leanne Merkowsky

CERIC is “a charitable organization that advances education and research in career counseling and career development”. Sharon Ferriss walked participants through the Canadian Education and Research Institute for Counselling website to highlight the various resources available to Career Professionals. Many great partnerships have been established that provide current research in such areas as the influence of parents and teachers on career development in children and

looking for ways to fix the ‘talent disconnect’ dilemma. The site is an invaluable source of information and well worth a visit.

Sharon also highly encouraged your participation in Cannexus 14, taking place January 20-22 in Ottawa. It is an opportunity for like-minded individuals to learn, network and have fun.

For more information and details about CERIC’s resources, please visit <http://www.ceric.ca/?q=en>.



Get your FREE download of these and other resources by visiting the CERIC site.



National Career Development Conference
Congrès national en développement de carrière
January 20 - 22 janvier 2014
Ottawa Convention Centre | Centre des congrès d'Ottawa

Where Dreams and Reality Mesh

Presented by: Mark Jaillet

Submitted by: Leanne Merkowsky



Kind of like a mixture of "Whose Line is it Anyway?" and "Til Debt Do Us Part", The Real Game offers students the thrill of designing their future and bringing dreams to reality.

The Real Game is a role playing 'event' where students become adult characters, with 'real' jobs, 'real'

bills, 'real' issues and 'real' challenges. They gain valuable insight into the possibilities that lie ahead as far as future career decision making and the impact these choices make.

This resource comes ready-to-use and is a definite asset for both students and teachers. You will find elements of the Career Education curriculum infused throughout, and students won't even know they're learning – as they will be having so much fun developing their characters and living vicariously through them.

Through The Real Game, students will discover the importance of education. They will experience how numeracy, decision making, communication, teamwork, continuous learning, organization, technology, time management,

financial management and budgeting will fit into their lives as adults and how early career exploration will assist in choosing future school courses and open doors to many life opportunities

The Real Game series is available for grades three through adulthood. If you are interested in learning more about this dynamic resource, please visit <http://www.realgame.ca/en/games/TRG/index.html>.



What do you Want to be When you Grow Up?

Braden Hoiseth
8 years old
Bready Elementary School
North Battleford

SCWEA Award of Excellence

Kevin Gawletz

The SCWEA Award of Excellence is presented to someone who demonstrates outstanding and ongoing dedication and commitment to furthering career development within Saskatchewan.

Our Sun West Team of Career Educators is honoured to present the SCWEA Award of Excellence to our colleague and friend, Kevin Gawletz.

Kevin has taught for 33 years and has been a Career Development Counsellor at Rosetown Central High School for 28 of these years. Kevin is well-respected at RCHS and, in addition to his counseling role, has taught Social Studies, History, and Physical Education. As well, he has been extremely involved in extra-curricular programs and volunteer endeavours in and around his home community. Coaching and community involvement are a big part of Kevin's life, and he has helped many students develop lifelong skills through his work as an educator, coach and mentor.



Kevin is passionate about his life's work and Career Development is one of his many passions.

Kevin is a long time SCWEA member and a true professional. His experience and expertise make him an essential part of our Sun West Career Development Team and of SCWEA. Kevin is always willing to share his knowledge, skills and experiences. His understanding of the wide array of opportunities available to our youth is outstanding, and he is always willing to share what he knows and mentor his colleagues.

Kevin has co-authored an activities package for our school division's Career Development Portfolios, has been actively involved in many career-related projects, shares his monthly Career Counsellor reports, collaborates with others by sharing ideas through a wiki and blog and, recently, after reflecting on ideas shared by last year's conference keynote, Denise Bisonnette, has developed practical Career Exploration Workshops for his students. As well, when asked to lead a team building session at this year's SCWEA conference, he was more than willing to participate.

Kevin is respected by his peers, students, and the educational community. He is an inspiration to our team. Whether or not you know Kevin, after just a short conversation, you can feel his passion for career education and youth.

Kevin is always seeking new ways to help students explore interests and make life/career related decisions. He embraces new ideas and challenges, finds unique ways to engage students in valuable work experiences, and is actively involved in administering Apprenticeship credits. Members from our team have come across many former RCHS students who all say Mr. G. has been very influential in their lives.

It is individuals like Kevin that are making a difference in the lives of our youth, and it is our sincere honour to present this prestigious Award of Excellence to Kevin Gawletz.

SCWEA Recognition of Service Award

Hamilton Greenwood

This year's SCWEA Award of Recognition is awarded to Hamilton Greenwood. Hamilton is a wildlife biologist and department head of the Natural Resource Technology Program at SIAST's Woodland Campus. He is a past award winner of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges Instructor of the Year Award, and of SIAST's President's Award for Teaching Excellence. Hamilton has been involved with SCWEA conference for many years. He always brings colourful tales (and photos) to his presentations and his enthusiasm and love for life are contagious. Hamilton is a committed environmentalist who has given up the gun for the camera. He supports hunting traditions and conservation programs. Hamilton has played an integral part of SCWEA conferences over the last many years. He has contributed to our conference by sharing his passion for photography and the environment. His beliefs and practices are very much in line with SCWEA objectives. Hamilton is always willing to share and, in fact, he donated some of his artwork for use at this year's conference. He is a very deserving recipient of this SCWEA Award of Recognition. Congratulations Hamilton!



Friends of SCWEA Award

Third & Main Receives Provincial Award

Third and Main received an award on October 3, 2013 at the provincial conference of Saskatchewan Career and Work Exploration Association Teachers' Conference at Elk Ridge Resort. The award is given annually, to a non-educator that contributes, in a positive way, to the development of students' skills in the area of career and work.

For the past 15 years, Third & Main has generously accepted students enrolled in the Career & Work Exploration Program from the Big River Community High School. Wanda and her staff welcome students who arrive with open arms and make them part of the "Third & Main Family." They work with the individual students and school staff to ensure that all students, including those with diverse learning challenges further develop their employment skills. Students always walk away from their work experience at Third & Main with more skills, but a new appreciation to the hard work and dedication it takes to operate a successful kitchen in the restaurant business!

It is through partnerships like these that our students are able to further develop workplace skills necessary to become competitive in today's labor market. Thank-you to Wanda, Ted, and staff for all that you have done and continue to do to help in making Career & Work Exploration a possibility for the students in our community!



Friends of SCWEA Award – Westeel

Their Moto is: On Six Continents the Trusted Choice is Westeel

Westeel prides itself on manufacturing grain storage products that are considered among the most innovative on the market today. The Company is one of Canada's foremost manufacturers of steel storage products, offering a wide range of on-farm and commercial storage solutions for today's agricultural industry, as well as custom storage solutions to meet the needs of the petroleum and industrial sectors.



Today, the company exports its products across North America and to more than 30 countries around the world. Their storage solutions are engineered to suit various applications: from smaller on-farm bins, to large-scale commercial systems. Personalized service, superior quality, innovation, design, and long term value signify the Westeel name.

Westeel is a great support for the Tisdale Middle & Secondary School. Through their generous donation of money to purchase six welding machines in 1997, TMSS was able to offer a pure welding class. Not only did they provide this donation to our new school they also very actively participate in the Career Work Exploration program and the Apprenticeship credits. Through both of these school programs, Westeel provides excellent skills training for welders and machinists.

Thank you Westeel for all you do!

SCWEA Award

In 2014 the Saskatchewan Career and Work Education Association will provide four awards of \$200 each to four graduating students. Two awards will be given to students nominated from the northern area of the province and two from the southern area. Members of SCWEA may nominate one CWEx student by May 1st. The SCWEA executive will perform a draw to determine the winners.

The winning students will be notified, and asked to submit a photograph of themselves and a media/photo release signed by a parent or guardian.

Criterion for the award will include the following;

- The student must have achieved or be enroute to earn a credit in a CWEX 10, 20, A30 or B30 class.
- The student must be graduating in the year the award is given.
- The student must have represented themselves well both in class activities and in their work placement.
- The student should have shown considerable development in the classroom and potential in regards to the foundational objectives of Career and Work Exploration with particular emphasis on:
 - Development of their personal goals and characteristics in understanding themselves and the changing world around them
 - Demonstration of personal accountability, communication and networking skills
 - Recognition of transferable and employability skills and the wide scope of career opportunities
 - Responsible participation in their work placement in a **safe** and healthy manner
 - Progress in the development of a career and/or work portfolio
 - Ability to interact positively and effectively with others in regards to career education

Thank You

Submitted by: Leanne Merkowsky

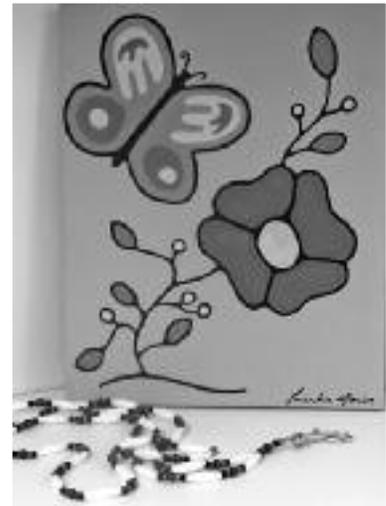
Many individuals contributed to the planning and delivery of the SCWEA conference. A sincere "thank you" goes out to everyone who has helped make it such a success. A special acknowledgment to Jon Yellowless for emceeing, Hamilton Greenwood for allowing us to share his photography and use it as presenter gifts, Barb Morin for the beautiful handmade beaded lanyards, Trisha Morin for her stunning artwork, Greg Johnson for sharing his amazing stories, displayers and presenters for taking time to share their knowledge, Flaman Fitness for their continuous

support of career development, everyone who contributed to our silent auction table and last but not least, our executive members, for their time and dedication to make this event such a success. Your devotion to career development is outstanding, and we thank you.

We'd also like to thank you, our members, for attending. Without your presence and participation, we

couldn't have pulled off yet another successful year.

We look forward to seeing you next fall in Moose Jaw.



Nobody Wants to Work with a Jerk!

Presented by: Brian Linn

Submitted by: Marlene Flaman Dunn

"Being a good person can take you places", claims Brian Linn, Career and PAA Consultant with Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division. Drawing from his personal experiences as a chef, welder, teacher and consultant, Brian humorously laid out how being 'nice' literally benefits one's life.

Brian discussed the 'jerk factor' and how we have all, at one time or another, been affected by one. He dispels the myth that 'the nice guy finishes last' and highlights the importance of working as a team, supporting one another, and exhibiting a caring attitude.

He also brought to our attention how entertainment has cashed in on the 'rude factor' with such characters as Hugh Laurie (Dr. Gregory House) on 'House', Gordon Ramsay on 'Hell's Kitchen' and Simon Cowell on 'America's Got Talent'. Realistically, doctors who are that rude are the ones who encounter the most problems. You seldom see a

'nice' doctor being sued, but those 'nasty' ones are in the news all the time. As well, on Chef Ramsay's 'Kitchen Nightmares', it appears that rudeness wins the game, but what they don't show is the 60% of restaurants that shut down shortly after the airing of the show. Rudeness is not the way to go!

Soft Skills are vital. It is easy to teach someone hard skills, but it is much more difficult to teach them 'attitude'. Employers want people who are responsible, reliable, punctual, happy and all round, nice. These are the employees that advance. These are the employees that make a difference.

We have a mandate to eliminate bullying! How do we do this? We instruct on empathy and kindness at all grade levels. Teachers model these behaviours. They model good social skills, even if it is something as simple as incorporating 'please and thank you' in everyday interactions. We use good manners.



We teach appropriate use of technology.

Canadians have a reputation for being nice – please help promote that status! As Clarence Thomas once said, "Good manners open doors that the best education cannot."

Visit our website!

www.scwea.com



SCWEA Displayers

Submitted by: Vanessa Lewis

SCWEA sends a sincere thank-you to the organizations that had set-up display booths at our recent SCWEA Conference. The displayers were:

- Canadian Forces
(including Interactive Navy Bus)
- CERIC
- Great Plains College
- Sun West School Division

This year's conference participants appreciated the ability to interact informally with displayers at various stations including the interactive

Navy bus featuring videos on trades and basic training. Conference planners included a session time in which participants could tour displays and speak directly with displayers and recruiters. This allowed for the sharing of information and ideas as well as the establishment of new contacts. The display booths are an important and integral part of our SCWEA conference. Thank you to both displayers and participants for making this time worthwhile.





According to the spring edition of the Canadian Construction Sector Council document: Construction Looking Forward 2013-2015 key highlights, "Economic growth in Saskatchewan has been leading Canada over the past decade, and Labour requirements for have exceeded the provinces workforce for most construction trades for many years". The report also goes on to state: "Construction employment hit a record low in 2008 and then increased in 2009. Growth since then has drained the pool of job seekers back to very low levels".

Where will the future construction trades workers come from and how will they plan to be a part of this exciting and rewarding career opportunity??

Partners with a vested interest in the construction trades have come together to develop Trade Up Saskatchewan, a website dedicated to providing all information on careers in the construction trades in one place.

Trade Up Saskatchewan takes people from high school to post-secondary to an entire career. It includes information on apprenticeship, all of the construction trades, related jobs, institutes, and programs available. It uses text, photos and video to provide information on construction in Saskatchewan.

The website also guides people through the steps to take in high school and beyond to find their places in their desired careers and also provides a map of technical training institutes and their program offerings throughout the province.

There is a page dedicated to each construction trade. Within that page, a listing of jobs for that particular trade is pulled in from saskjobs.ca to

provide job seekers with a one-click search. In addition, links take web users directly to partner websites for more information.

Information on grants and tax credits, Helmets to Hardhats, Worksafe Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Construction Association programs, and information for Foreign Workers are also included.

The site was launched at the second annual All Nations Job Expo, on Wednesday, September 25th at the Agribition Building at Evraz Place in Regina. This project was made possible through the partnership of the Saskatchewan Construction Association, the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission, the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Trades and Technologies, Saskatchewan Regional Colleges, the Dumont Technical Institute, the Regina Trades and Skills Centre, the Saskatoon Trades and Skills Centre, Merit Contractors Association of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Provincial Building & Construction Trades Council, the Saskatchewan Construction Safety Association, the Regina & District Chamber of Commerce, Skills Canada Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Heavy Construction Association, and the Government of Saskatchewan.

"What Do You Make" posters that promote the site and construction trades have been sent to your schools. For more information please go to www.tradeupsask.ca or contact Howard Jesse: howardj@scaonline 306.525.0171

Trade Up to a career with great financial rewards, an improved working environment, and training on the job.

Let's get Working!

Nomination Form for SCWEA Award 2014

- Each SCWEA Member may nominate one student.
- Nominations must be received by **May 1, 2014**
- Draw to be made by the SCWEA Executive by May 9th
- Only SCWEA Award Winners will be notified.

SCWEA Member

Name: _____
 School: _____
 School Phone Number: _____
 School Fax Number: _____
 City/Town: _____
 Email address: _____

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/Town: _____
 Postal Code: _____
 School: _____
 Highlight (or check off) CWEX to be completed by June 2014
 10 20 A30 B30

Nominated Student

Provide a 100-200-word paragraph indicating how taking CWEx has benefited you.

Please check the name of your school division

GROUP #1

- Christ The Teacher RCSSD. #212
- Creighton S.D. #111
- D.S Francophone #310
- Holy Trinity RCSSD #22
- Ile A La Crosse S.D. #112
- North East S.D. #200
- North West RCSSD #16
- Northwest S.D.#203
- Northern Lights S.D. #113
- Prince Albert RCSSD #6
- Prairie Spirit S.D. #206
- Saskatchewan Rivers S.D. #119
- Saskatoon S.D. #13
- St. Paul's RCSSD #20

GROUP #2

- Chinook S.D. #211
- Englefeld P.S.S.D. #132
- Good Spirit S.D. #204
- Holy Family RCSSD #140
- Horizon S.D. #205
- Living Sky S.D. #202
- Lloydminster RCSSD #89
- Lloydminster S.D. #99
- Prairie South S.D. #210
- Prairie Valley S.D. #208
- Regina RCSSD #81
- Regina S.D. #4
- South East Cornerstone S.D. #209
- Sun West S.D.

- Email completed nomination forms to Marlene Flaman Dunn: FlamanDunnM@spsd.sk.ca
- Nomination forms must be emailed by May 1, 2014.

SCWEA EXECUTIVE

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Ministry of Education
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PH: 787-6762

SCWEA Membership Form

Who referred you to SCWEA? _____

The following information will be used to contact members for renewal and membership drive purposes, to send out newsletters, to be included on the membership directory and to forward conference and professional development opportunities information.

First Name	Initial	Last Name
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Address (choose either your home or work address for preferred mailing):

Street	City/Town	Province	Postal Code
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Phone	Fax	Email
-------	-----	-------

Teacher's Certificate Number: _____

(to verify STF membership for the purpose of determining grants)

I would prefer to receive *Career Connections*

by email or by Canada Post

I hereby allow my photo to be used in educational materials and media releases

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SCWEA Membership Fees are:

Regular Members: \$25	Students: \$15
Institutional: \$25	Corporate: \$100

Please make cheques payable to:

Saskatchewan Career and Work Education Association

Submit membership form to:

Kelly Bararuk – Prairie Spirit School Division
Career Development Facilitator
Box 809
Warman, SK S0K 4S0

Phone: 306-683-2891
Fax: 306-934-8221

Visit Our Website!

www.scwea.com